Friends of the Animal Village

2015 Annual Report

FAVLR.org

IT TAKES A VILLAGE

Friends of the Animal Village

friendsoftheanimalvillage.org

A letter from the LRAV Director

Dear Supporter...

Year after year we find ourselves measuring successes by counting numbers: adopted, reclaimed, rescued, etc., when our actual goal is to create a city that is completely free of stray, unwanted or aggressive animals. Years ago, our efforts changed to an educational role from that of a reactionary Animal Control organization. Yes, we do answer complaints, pick up animals, and issue citations for violations, but we also help those we cite come into compliance. One way is through vouchers for low-cost spay/neuter services. Through CARE, we are able to offer owners who are not in compliance with some city ordinances a spay/neuter voucher that will help them come into compliance, having their pet vaccinated against rabies and meeting city license requirements, while also sterilizing another animal in our community so that we will not have additional puppies or kittens to find homes for in the future. Little Rock Animal Services, aka the Little Rock Animal Village, is unique in that our work only begins when a stray animal comes into the shelter. We work as hard getting animals out as we do enforcing Little Rock's ordinances, which often lead to us taking them in. This is important because the more animals we get back out sterilized and healthy, the fewer we will have come in the next year. I have always said that as long as someone can get a free animal out of the paper, we should be making it easier to come get a sterilized and vetted animal from us.

In 2015, we broke our all-time record of number of animals adopted, rescued or returned to owners. The real accomplishment was having the lowest intake number ever! With intake a little less than that of 2014, we see the success of our spay/neuter projects. I pray this trend continues because that is the real way to solve the overpopulation problem. Looking forward into 2016, we have doubled our efforts in helping rescue groups pull animals from us by providing services at a lower cost to them. Friends of the Animal Village's fundraising efforts allow us to provide sterilizations, initial vetting, heartworm treatment and other services at a reduced rate. We understand if we help the rescues, they will be able to save more and hopefully pull more animals from us.

Also in 2016, we will take on a monumental task in trying to solve the cat overpopulation problem. We are working on proposed changes to a few city ordinances to allow for community cats and the care for them inside the City of Little Rock. We had a record breaking year with our tame cats (adopting over 800) last year, but we need to find a place for the feral and community cats.

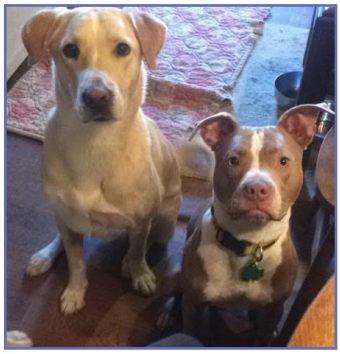
Friends of the Animal Village's fundraising efforts are more important now than ever as we look ahead at 2016 and as we hope in the future to continue the good work to save as many as we can. Your continued support will see results we could only dream about a few years ago. We have continued on the path we started years ago and will set new goals until we find and put in place every piece of this puzzle. My job is to give our citizens (both two and four-legged) the best shelter in this state and as good as any in this country.

Thanks for your continued support,

Tracy

Meet FAV'S Board of Directors

Being a board member for Friends of the Animal Village is incredibly rewarding, exciting and full of challenges. We thrive in breaking through barriers and lifting up the Little Rock Animal Village (LRAV) in every way possible. Our job is to give assistance wherever is needed to LRAV, whether it's supplying financial help, hosting and promoting events or volunteering. Our board members range in experience and professions, offering a spectrum of unique perspectives, which makes us a well rounded board. What unites us is that we are driven by our love for animals and our desire to help LRAV ultimately become a "no kill shelter". When you look through this year's Annual Report, we hope that you gain a better understanding of who we are, what we do and the impact that we have on the animals and people alike of Little Rock.



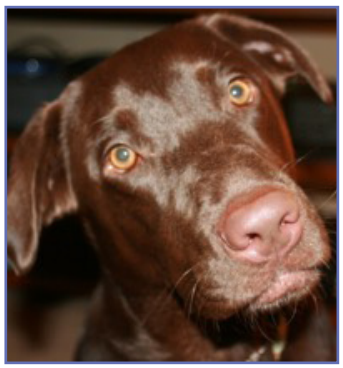
Betsy Robb
President/Treasurer
3 Years on the Board

Jacquelyn King
Vice President
3 Years on the Board

Emily Edmisten
Secretary
1 Year on the Board

Leslie Taylor
Board Member
3 Years on the Board

Laura Calhoun
Board Member
1 Year on the Board

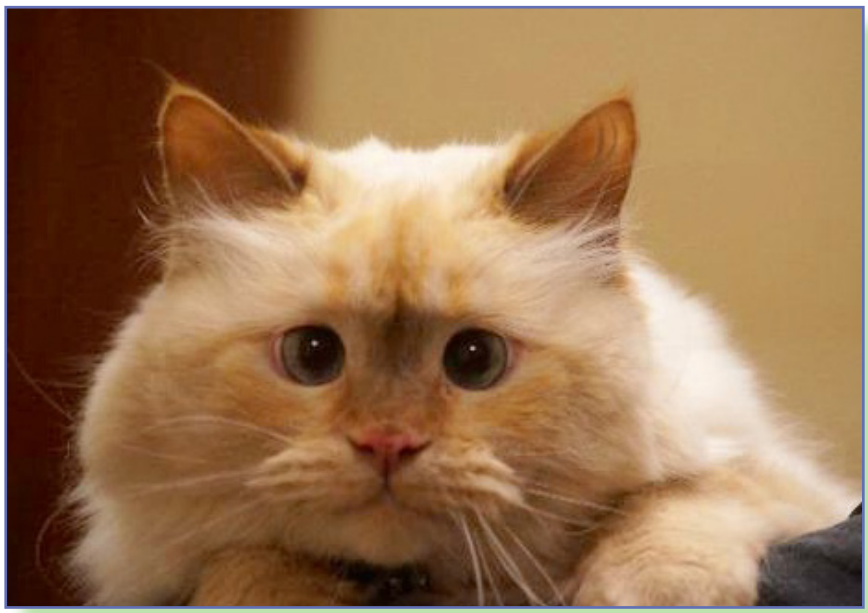


T.J. Tyndall
Board Member
1 Year on the Board

Cody Null
Board Member
6 Months on the Board

Our Main Goal: More Adoptions = More Lives Saved

Most people would agree that pets provide us with joy and unconditional love, but few know that there are actual health benefits correlated with owning a pet. The American Heart Association states that owning a pet, especially a dog, can help lower people's risk of heart disease. Similarly, the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention reports that pet owners tend to have lower cholesterol levels. Pets provide companionship and help to ease loneliness, often promoting activity and social interactions with others. The simple act of snuggling with a furry friend can help to lower blood pressure and increase levels of serotonin and dopamine, thereby reducing stress, anxiety, and depression. Children who grow up with pets are less likely to suffer from allergies and asthma, and many learn responsibility and compassion through taking care of their pets.



There are many important advantages to adopting from a local animal shelter like our fabulous Little Rock Animal Village! The first and most important is that when

Adopt Don't Shop

you adopt, you actually save the lives of two animals—the one that you take home, as well as the one that can now be rescued because of the space you helped free up in the shelter. Additionally, adopting a pet from LRAV is much less expensive than buying a pet from a breeder.

LRAV's $90 adoption fee includes all initial veterinary expenses, such as first vaccinations and sterilization (see page 13 for more details). By adopting instead of buying a pet, you ensure that you are not supporting puppy mills (i.e. factory-style breeding facilities), which will continue to operate as long as people keep purchasing pets from them. When selecting a pet, make sure to take into consideration your lifestyle, as well as your general activity level to ensure that you end up with the pet that's best for you. Consider the amount of activity you engage in—both indoors and outdoors—as well as if there are children, elderly folks, or other animals living in your home. One of the most important things to keep in mind is how much time you have to devote to a cat or a dog. All pets require time and attention, but some will require more than others.

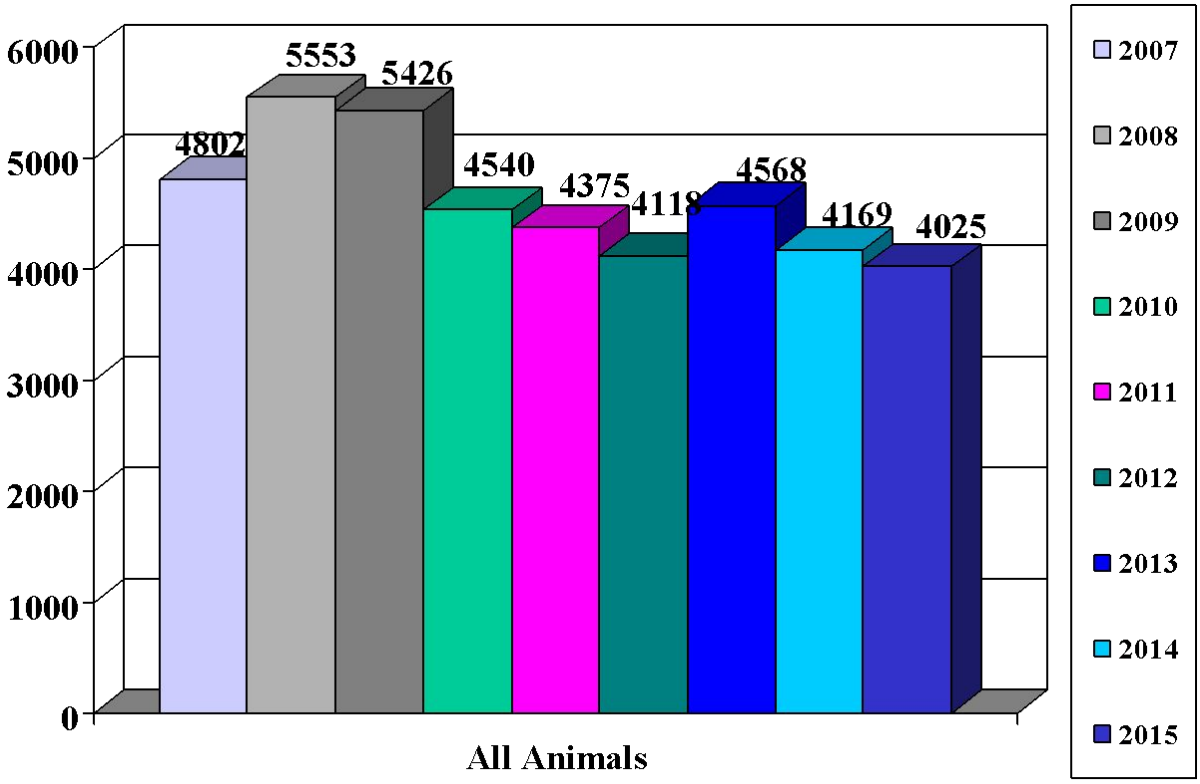
Our Mission Statement

Friends of the Animal Village (FAV) is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization. (Federal Tax ID# 300648659.) FAV's mission is to provide supplemental financial and promotional support to our local shelter, the Little Rock Animal Village. Through fundraising events, donations, and promotion, our ultimate goal is to raise awareness about the Village and increase adoptions.

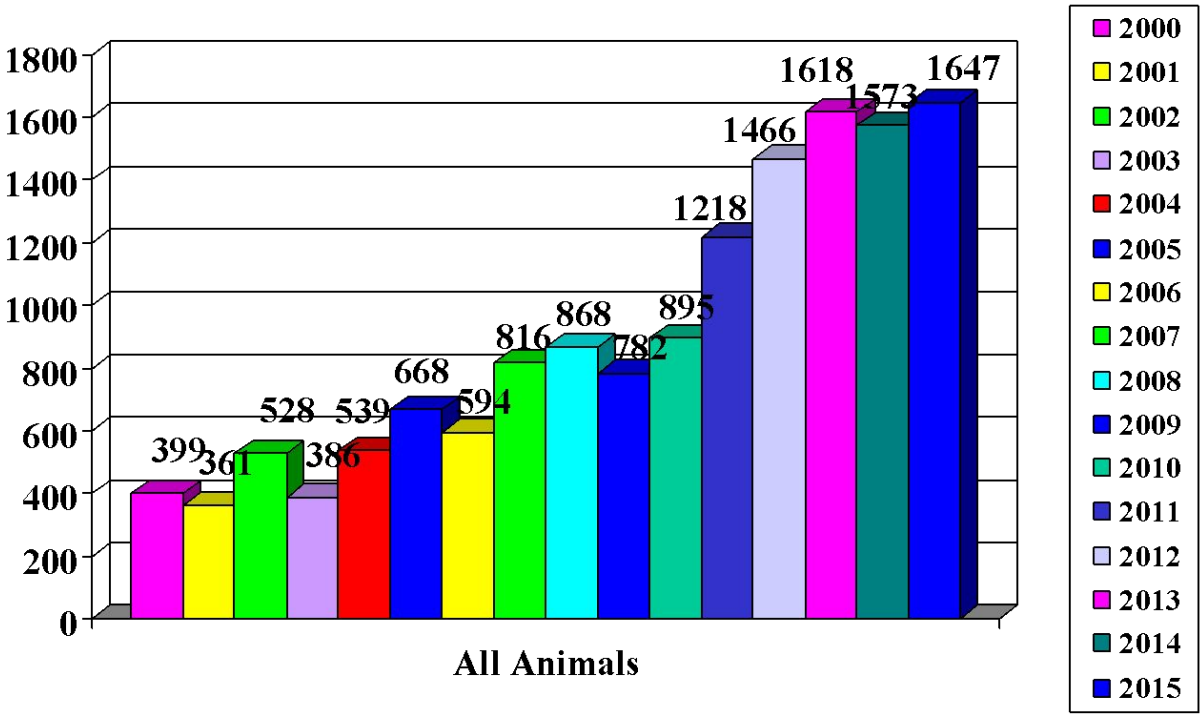
The Animal Village is performing valuable work to benefit animals and the betterment of our community, and it can accomplish even more with additional funding, as well as with community awareness of its animals and programs. That is why Friends of the Animal Village exists. We are dedicated to strengthening the support network that helps the Animal Village to thrive, broadening its activities, and seeing more animals find loving homes. We are comprised of a nine-member Board of Directors and have many regularly scheduled fundraising events throughout the year, a great merchandise store, and we stay actively involved in community events and efforts.

LRAV Adoption/Intake Statistics

Intake 2010 - 2015

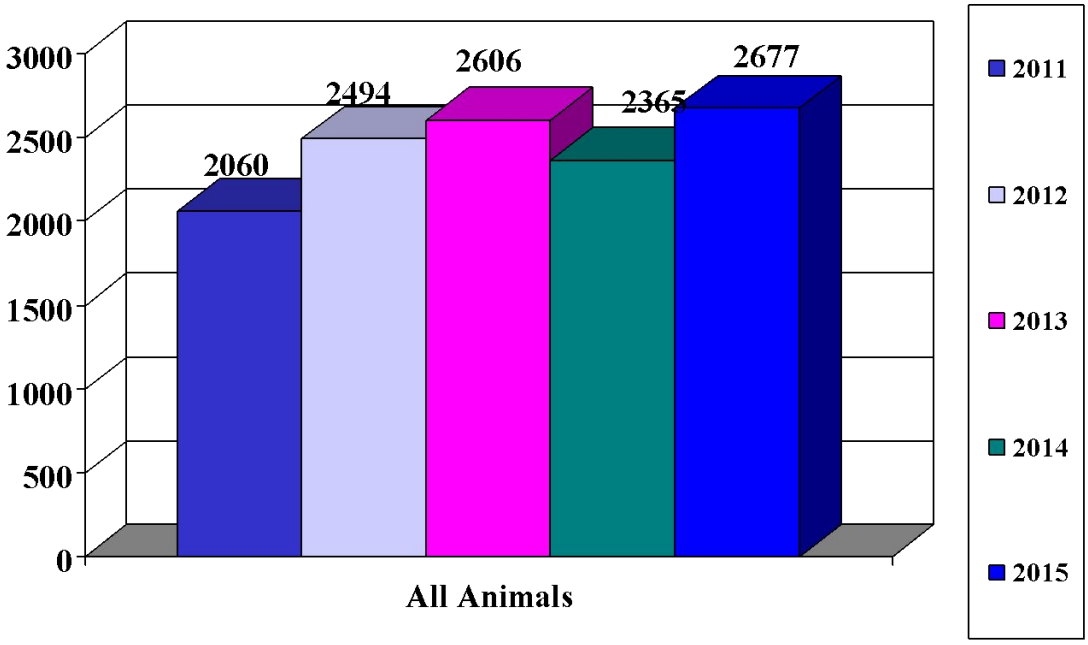


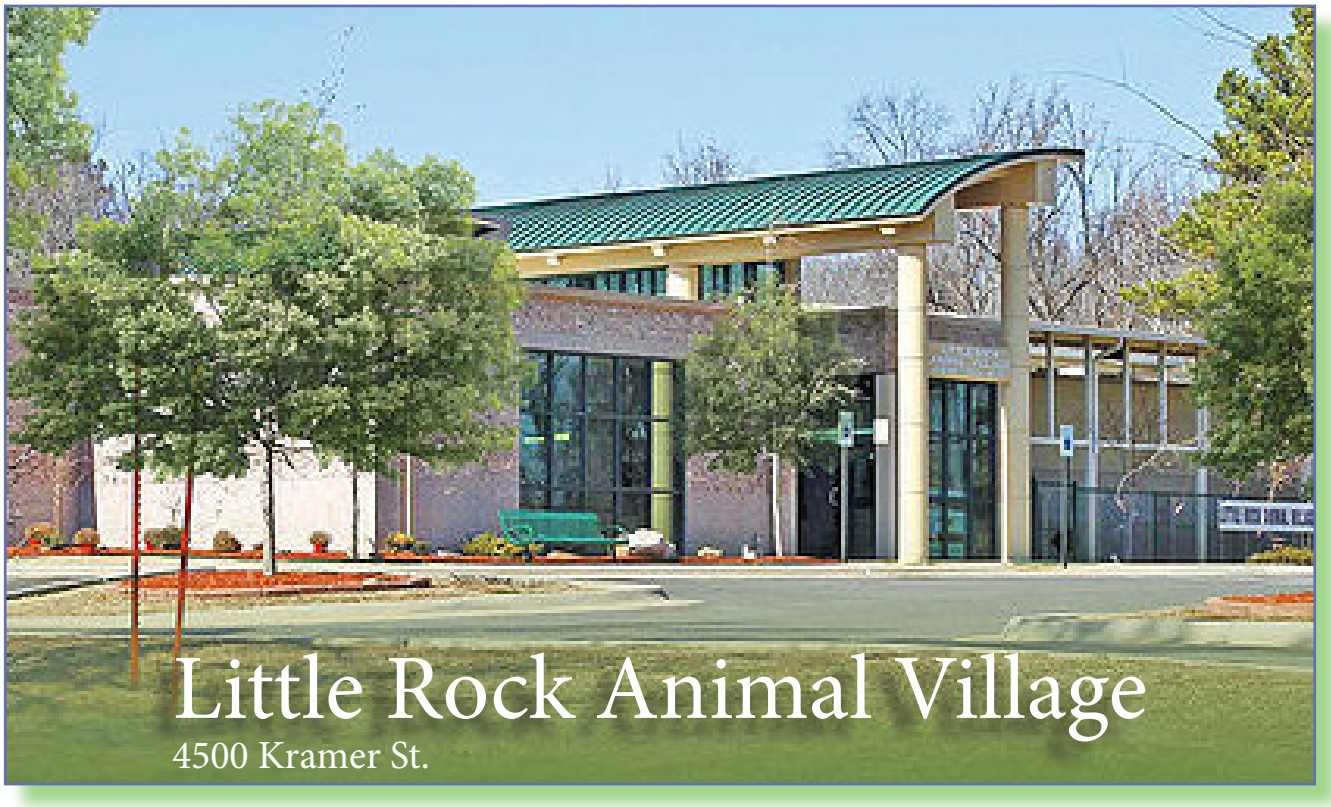
Adoptions 2000 - 2015



2015: A Record Breaking Year

Adoptions, Reclaims, Rescue Waggin and Rescues 2011 - 2015





2015 Financials

Friends of the Animal Village
2015 Summary Income Statement

Donations	$ 23,696.59
Heartworm Fund	400.00
Amazon Smile	157.45
Kroger Community Rewards	1,034.51
Joey's Play Room	15,049.11
Miscellaneous Income	1,607.60
Community Events	2,244.04
Paint for Pets	275.39
Bass Pro Shop Events	1,539.40
Doggie Paddle Day	1,317.00
Santa Paws	8,390.80
Bank & Merchant Fees	(1,575.53)
Website	(174.79)
Miscellaneous Expenses	(3,017.19)

2015 Disbursements to Little Rock Animal Village

Joey's Play Room	$ (10,000.00)
General Medical	(20,000.00)
Total 2015 Disbursements	**$ (30,000.00)**
Net Income	**$ 20,944.38**

We can't do what we do without your support.

Joey's Playroom

"What greater gift than the love of a cat?" Author Charles Dickens asked that question many years ago. As far as Friends of the Animal Village is concerned, there is none greater. That's why we have been raising money to build Joey's Playroom, a cat play area at the Little Rock Animal Village that will be named in memory of THV Channel 11's Joey the Garden Cat.

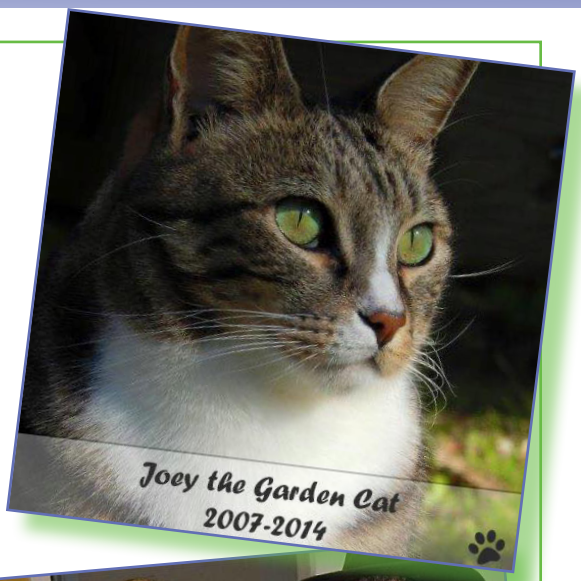
FAV began fundraising for Joey's Playroom in April of 2014, and Joey himself was helping raise money through his Facebook page. Tragically, Joey passed away on August 19, 2014. Theba Lolley, community relations director for THV 11/Joey's station "mom" and others in his THV family have continued the campaign in memory of their beloved Joey.

Joey became a part of the THV family in 2007 when he turned up as a stray in the station's outdoor weather garden coming to visit Larry, another cat residing in the station. Larry passed away in 2007 and Joey stayed on.

Joey quickly became a local and international celebrity with more than 500,000 likes on his Facebook page. He was often seen on air in THV 11 newscasts or helping meteorologist Tom Brannon forecast the weather. In 2012, he was featured in an Animal Planet segment.

As of March 1, 2016, more than $31,000 has been raised for Joey's Playroom. FAV's fundraising goal is $60,000. Thanks to the support of THV 11 and generous donors like Daniel Wren and the Wren Law Firm, we are halfway to our goal. When Joey's Playroom is completed, it will provide felines at LRAV with a place to not only stretch their legs and play but to interact with potential owners.

Donations to Joey's playroom can be made online through the FAV Paypal account at FAVLR.org.



FAV's Sponsorship Program

Anyone can have his or her name on a building, but how many people get to have their names on a pet playground? Friends of the Animal Village offers many unique opportunities to honor or memorialize that special someone, while also benefitting the many cats and dogs at the Little Rock Animal Village.

Naming rights for dog and cat kennels and dog park benches can be sponsored for only $1,000. Water fountains for two-legged and four-legged friends are available for $5,000. Naming rights to the LRAV education room are available for $80,000, and the Veterinary Clinic can be sponsored and named for $150,000. A $10,000 donation will pay for playground equipment for canines, a $500 gift will pay to sponsor a pet waste receptacle, and $100,000 will sponsor the purchase and naming of a new Mobile Adoption Unit.

Donations at all levels are also being accepted to fund Joey's Playroom, a $60,000 cat socialization room named in memory THV 11's Joey the Garden Cat. More than $31,000 has been raised so far for Joey's Playroom. A $100,000 gift from an anonymous donor will pay for construction of a building to house dogs being evaluated to participate in the PetSmart Charities Rescue Waggin' program.

LRAV is a shelter partner in the program that transports dogs and puppies from partner shelters in states like Arkansas, where the number of homeless animals is high, to areas where there are fewer pets available for adoption.

More information on the sponsorship program can be found at FAVLR.org.

Heartworm Fund

"Heartworm disease is a serious and potentially fatal disease in pets in the United States and many other parts of the world. It is caused by foot-long worms (heartworms) that live in the heart, lungs and associated blood vessels of affected pets, causing severe lung disease, heart failure and damage to other organs in the body." —American Heartworm Society

Too often, dogs that are brought into the Animal Village are found to be heartworm positive. Although the disease is easy to contract without a monthly preventative, heartworms are easy to treat. However, treatment can be quite costly, to the extent that the burden of treatment has traditionally been put on the adopter. This is often a deterrent to adoption for these dogs, because when faced with the decision between a healthy $90 dog and a dog that will require medical treatment costing hundreds of dollars, most people will understandably adopt a healthy dog. Thats where we step in.

FAV has funded the cost of treatment for 57 dogs (and thus enabling their adoptions) since its inception last year, and we hope to be able to increase that number exponentially in the coming months. If you are interested in helping this effort, you can designate your donation to go specifically towards the FAV Heartworm Fund. This is just one of the many ways that we can continue to help these animals find their forever homes!

Friends of the Animal Village Fundraisers

Santa Paws

Friends of the Animal Village was proud to host its third annual Santa Paws Holiday Party on Dec. 5, 2015. The event took place at Trapnall Hall and was a huge success. Guests enjoyed a silent auction, as well as live music performed by local duo Fret and Worry.

Complimentary beer and wine was provided by Stone's Throw Brewery, Grumpy's Too Neighborhood Bar & Grill, and Glazer's, as well as scrumptious desserts courtesy of Sweet Love.

Guests enjoyed participating in our first ever Wine Pull, which offered a variety of top-shelf bottles donated by several places around the city. During the event, FAV board members presented LRAV director Tracy Roark with a check for $10,000 to go towards Joey's Play Room. Friends of the Animal Village also presented Daniel Wren with our annual "Best Friend Award" for his dedication to raising money for LRAV throughout 2015.

Over $8,000 was raised, which was given to LRAV for our Heartworm Fund.

Doggie Paddle Day

Our Fourth Annual Doggie Paddle Day continued to grow on the tradition of the previous few with even more pups showing up for a dip in the pool. Around a hundred four-legged friends attended along with their two-legged parents. The event took place October 17th at the Jim Dailey Fitness and Aquatic Center — which offers the full sized pool for dogs to swim and play in, as well as their kiddie pool for the pups that need to practice their paddling skills before taking the plunge in the deep end. This year, we had the Second Annual Super Retriever-style amateur dock jump contest, which pitted canines against one another for some long distance jumps into the pool. Those not competing enjoyed running, chasing, swimming, playing, and just hanging around with their friends. The fall weather cooperated, offering sunshine and cool breezes for the dogs to enjoy.

The Power of Your Generosity

What you gain when you give to Friends of the Animal Village

Unconditional Love

The Little Rock Animal Village is able to provide high quality care to our city's homeless animals thanks to your donations.

Look how far your money can go!

- $25 will provide 4 animals with a microchip
- $50 will cover the required sterilization procedure for a cat brought to LRAV
- $65 will give 25 dogs or cats a booster vaccination
- $70 will cover the required sterilization procedure for a dog brought to LRAV
- $150 will cover full mange treatment for one animal
- $350 will cover heart worm treatment for one animal

IT TAKES A VILLAGE

Friends of the Animal Village

How You Can Help

Volunteer

With FAV: Volunteers are critical to our mission. Each FAV initiative relies on dedicated individuals to assist with events and programs that will raise funds and help increase adoptions at the Village. These events are always something simple and fun, such as walking a dog or helping set up a booth.

At LRAV: Volunteers are needed every day to care for the dogs and cats at LRAV, and it is a great way to show our wonderful animals how much you care. These volunteers help prepare the cats and dogs at LRAV for life in a forever home simply by spending time with them. Village volunteers provide countless hours of valuable service—hours that lead to more adoptable animals, more animals sent on the Rescue Waggin', and more opportunities to show the community how special our animals are. Volunteer training takes place at LRAV on the second Saturday of every month. You can find information about LRAV's volunteer distribution list, learn more about volunteering at the Village and sign up for training by reaching out.

Sign up today by emailing: VolunteersFAV@gmail.com

Foster

When you foster animals for the Little Rock Animal Village, you create space for more pets at the shelter. Fostering is the most direct way to help an animal—you are giving him or her a second chance at life. Fosters are needed for those going on the Rescue Waggin', typically for a weekend.

When you foster, you can help out a broad range of animals from bottle babies to senior pets, needing a reprieve from the shelter conditions. For more information, please email LRAV@LittleRock.org or call Skip at LRAV at (501) 376-3067.

How You Can Help

Help us help Little Rock animals by encouraging spaying/neutering throughout our community. This is one of the simplest ways to keep our shelter populations down. Some of the low cost spay/neuter programs in our area are listed below. To see the full list, visit the Resources & Articles section of our website (under "About"). FAVLR.org

ArkanPaws ANIMAL RESCUE

Three pages; page 1 of 3:
Low Cost, Reduced Cost or FREE Spay/Neuter Programs in Arkansas

List of Low Cost & FREE Spay/Neuter Programs and List of Animal Rescues/Adoption/Shelters/Wildlife Rehab/Animal Abuse Hotline are compiled and updated by ArkanPaws Animal Rescue in Conway, Arkansas. Updated lists are available online at facebook.com/ArkanPawsAnimal Rescue in photo albums. Please save ALL 3 PAGES to your phone photo albums and share!

Arkansans for Animals
Mobile Animal Surgical Hospital (MASH)
www.ArkansansForAnimals.org
No residency or income requirements for this service, and financial assistance may be available for those who qualify. Check website for dates, locations, local community scheduling contacts.
501-455-5400

Arkansans for Animals
Operation SAVE
Little Rock
www.ArkansansForAnimals.org
facebook.com/pages/Arkansans-for-Animals-Inc/130950890279758
11701 Hwy I-30 Little Rock, AR 72209
A full-time clinic in Little Rock—no income or residency restrictions to participate. Pricing $20-$65. Call 501-455-5400 for an appointment.

FuRR (Feline Rescue and Rehome)
Little Rock
www.TeamFURR.org
facebook.com/teamfurr
FuRR sponsors a monthly low-cost, spay/neuter clinic for cats only at Little Rock Animal Village.
PO Box 250567 Little Rock, AR 72225
For appointment call 501-661-0956
or email saveacat@teamfurr.org.

CARE for Animals, Inc
Central Arkansas Rescue Effort (CARE) for Animals
Little Rock
www.CareForAnimals.org.
facebook.com/pages/CARE-Central-Arkansas-Rescue-Effort-for-Animals/339706124892?ref=ts.
Rescues and rehomes cats and dogs. Operate monthly spay/neuter clinic at LR Animal Services for low-income LR residents only. If the pet is not currently vaccinated against rabies, vaccination will be given free of charge. Call 501-680-SPAY (7729) to leave a message or email clinic@careforanimals.org
HQ: 5516 Kavanaugh (Heights Area), LR
501-603-CARE (2273)
Spay/Neuter Clinic (LRAV Surgery Center)
for appointment: 501-680-SPAY (7729)

Maumelle Friends of the Animals
www.maumellefoa.org
Free or discounted spay/neuter services for Maumelle residents only.
501-851-7114

Fuzzy Hearts Animal Rescue
Van Buren County
501(c)3 non profit
www.fuzzyheartshome.webstarts.com
facebook.com/groups/fuzzyheartsrescue
Small breed animal rescue in north central Arkansas. Low cost spay neuter assistance and pet food pantry for those in need for Van Buren County residents. Rescue, rehabilitate, vet and rehome pets within our area. Work with local KILL shelters, other rescues and rescuers. Will courtesy post for individuals with limitations.

Out of the Woods Animal Rescue
Greenbrier, Morrilton, Little Rock, Stuttgart
www.ootwrescue.org
facebook.com/pages/OUT-OF-THE-WOODS-ANIMAL-RESCUE/159356152124
PO Box 7365 Little Rock, AR 72217
email: contact@ootwrescue.org
Rescue and rehome organization for dogs and cats in Arkansas. Their SNiP program assists pet owners in rural areas by providing pay-what-you-can spay/neuter services to residents in Greenbrier, Morrilton, Conway, Little Rock and Stuttgart.

City of Cabot Animal Shelter
Low Cost Spay/Neuter Clinic
facebook.com/pages/City-of-Cabot-Animal-Shelter/186123151419651
There are no residency or income requirements for this service. Please contact the Cabot Animal Shelter to book your appointment.
Monday-Friday 8am-5pm
2951 S. 1st Street, North Little Rock, AR
501-843-2021

North Little Rock Animal Shelter/NLR Friends of Animals
501-791-8577
Program to help residents with spay/neuter services for dogs and cats in Pulaski County, and a voucher program for cats in Pulaski County north of the river. No income restrictions. Call for details.

To see the full list, visit the Resources & Articles section of our website (under "About"). FAVLR.org

Letter from the President: Be an Advocate

One of the things we hear most when talking to friends, family, coworkers, and neighbors about the volunteer work we do at the Little Rock Animal Village is, "I don't know how you do it, it would make me too sad to see the animals in the shelter." To this I always respond with two points. I tell them first and foremost that the Little Rock Animal Village is a modern adoption center, far from the old days of "the pound." It is a bright, open, welcoming facility—a happy place! The second part of my response is this: You can either ignore it and try to pretend they don't exist, or you can choose to do something to help those animals. Yes, YOU have the power to help.

It's estimated that over 7.6 million animals enter animal shelters in the U.S. every year. That's 7,600,000 dogs, cats, and various other animals who have found themselves in need of new homes, generally through no fault of their own. The Little Rock Animal Village takes in over 4,000 of these a year. In 2014, they took in 4,025, roughly one animal for every 50 people living in Little Rock. That means they took in an average of 15 animals a day every day that they were open. That's a lot of animals to take care of and find homes for, and the staff at the Little Rock Animal Village does everything they can to find homes for them all. In 2015, 2,677 animals found new homes thanks to the hard work of the staff and volunteers at the Little Rock Animal Village, a new record. Every year, we save more; more are sent to rescues and more are adopted out. For the most part, more are reclaimed by their owners, although that remains a stubbornly low amount.

You might be asking yourself, "If the staff are doing everything they can, what more could I do?" Easy—volunteer, and be an advocate. Volunteering at the Little Rock Animal Village is truly the most fun volunteer opportunity in the city. It doesn't entail cleaning cages or picking up poop. They simply need volunteers to come and spend some time with the animals outside of their kennels. Take a dog for a walk, teach one to sit, take a cat out of their kennel and snuggle with them for a while…it's that easy, and it's incredibly rewarding when you see an animal you've spent time with get adopted by a great family. The joy you'll feel is incomparable.

Can't volunteer? No problem. One of the single greatest needs of animal shelters everywhere is the need for advocates. People who help spread the word about why adoption should be your first choice when adding a furry friend to your family, as well as where they can adopt. Talk to your friends, family, neighbors, and coworkers about the Little Rock Animal Village. When you see an acquaintance post something on Facebook about their desire for a Chihuahua, you can be an advocate for the animals at the Little Rock Animal Village. When your neighbor tells you that their outside cat has gone missing, you can be an advocate for the Little Rock Animal Village. (Tell anyone who has lost a pet in or near Little Rock to check there, as many do not know that that's

Thank you for your support

where they should go first to look for lost pets.) When you overhear a coworker talking about getting a Siamese kitten for their kids, you can be an advocate for the Little Rock Animal Village. When your sister tells you about her search for a purebred black lab for her husband, you can be an advocate for the Little Rock Animal Village. With more than 4,000 animals coming in every year, there is no shortage of variety at LRAV. You might be surprised to learn it is estimated that 25% or more of the animals that enter shelters every day are purebred. Even more are highly sought-after "designer breeds," like Labradoodles and Maltipoos. Sure, the Animal Village also gets its fair share of mutts as well, but mutts are awesome and, to be honest, they're the true designer dogs. As fashion designer Isaac Mizrahi explained it, "A mutt is couture—there's only one like it, made especially for you."

Essentially, whatever someone is searching for in a new pet, they can find it at the Little Rock Animal Village. Help us spread the word, and become an advocate today. At any given time, the Animal Village has upwards of 200 animals in their care. Help us save just one.

Be an advocate.

Betsy Robb
President

Merchandise

Purchase a FAV t-shirt (pictured to the right)by emailing: FriendsoftheAnimalVillage@gmail.com.

Or visit our Zazzle store: www.zazzle.com/favlittlerock where a portion of the proceeds from all sales goes to FAV.

In our store, you will find a variety of apparel and merchandise promoting the Village and FAV. These items make great gifts for a loved one or yourself. Wear them with pride in knowing that you supported the LRAV!

PLEASE SPAY & NEUTER YOUR PETS

www.friendsoftheanimalvillage.org

IT TAKES A VILLAGE
Friends of the Animal Village

LIKE US ON facebook

Insta

Friends of the Animal Village @FAV_LR @FAVLR