

Pets for Life

Volume 24 Number 4 ■ August 2022

7240 Wornall Road ■ Kansas City MO 64114

816.363.3665 ■ www.kcpetsforlife.com



Thank You,
Donna Amato!!!!



Donna and Roxi

It would take a whole newsletter to appropriately recognize Donna for her service and dedication to **Pets for Life**. She officially retired,

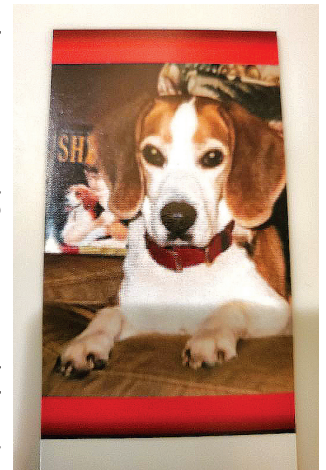
June 6, 2022 after many years of volunteering and presiding over the Pets for Life Board and Executive Committee. Donna was also Pets for Life's accomplished grant writer and lead on our annual Volunteer Appreciation Party.

Simply put, because of Donna's many years of leadership, Pets for Life became the "diamond in the rough" for so many Kansas City hospital patients, nursing home residents, READ children, domestic violence and hospice families, not to mention the staff at all of the facilities and Pets for Life volunteers who felt the rewards of our service. This year's Volunteer Appreciation Party is scheduled for Saturday, October 22, and I sincerely hope you will attend to thank Donna, for all she has done for Pets for Life.

Shared by John McGee

Reading Education Assistance DOGS!!

So, is **R.E.A.D.** just for DOGS? Well.....the Johnson County Library system had a special guest with LEO, an award winning Birman CAT, appeared in their midst to listen to the young library patrons read to him! And, what a treat he was! By popular demand, Leo became a regular at our Wednesday sessions.



The **R.E.A.D.** experience is successful for children because the participants actually view themselves as helping the pet learn and understand what is being read. All pressure magically disappears and is replaced by eager anticipation as learning occurs. Just the excitement of being with the animal companions is a joy to watch.

The **Pets for Life**, Inc. organization and its **R.E.A.D.** teams invite you to consider joining this fascinating, magical and rewarding animal-assisted therapy opportunity. For further information, please contact

Fran Lancaster fransdogs@kc.rr.com
Licensed **R.E.A.D.** Instructor

Or

The Pets for Life, Inc. Office
816 363 3665

P.S. Monty, a Sheltie, Daisy, a yellow Labrador, and Otto, a blue Standard Poodle were also guests in attendance at the Wednesday sessions, but they were just **DOGS!!!!!!**

Pets for Life Annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon

You and your Pets for Life certified therapy pet are invited.

Why? Because you deserve it!!!

Saturday
October 22, 2022
11:30 – 1:30

Sylvester Powell Community Center
6200 Martway
Mission, KS 66203

RSVP to Attend the Pets for Life
Volunteer Party.

We look forward to seeing everyone!!

There is still time to sign up!!

REMEMBER: *All pets attending must be certified and current on vaccines.*

If you have responded to previous emails,
no need to respond again.

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Welcome to Pets for Life's Newest Volunteer Team:



Carol Lunczewski and her visiting partner Lexi



Thank You for Your Support

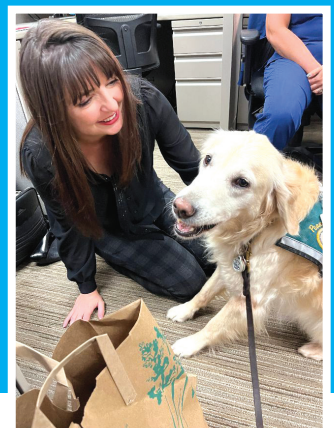
Elaine Feld Stern Charitable Trust	\$1,000
The Roetheli Lil' Red Foundation	\$1,000
The Breidenthal-Snyder Foundation	\$6,000
Fairway Animal Hospital	\$ 200

Pets Helping People

Shared by Richard Canida

It seems as if all of our visits are special. We generally make weekly visits to the hospital where we visit the nurses and people in the waiting rooms. Many people say that her visits "really made my day!" I think it is the best when people share their concerns and ask me to pray with them.

When Penny sees me get my Pets for Life shirt on and my dress slacks, she seems to know that it's time to go on her mission to make somebody's day better.



Many Will Miss Pets for Life's

Shared by Emily Holt



My dog **Bennett's** favorite thing to do in this world was to interact with people and make those special connections. As a therapy dog, he was able to do just that. **Kansas City Pets for Life** provided him that opportunity to reach out to others who needed that unique love that only an animal can provide. Bennett was a six year old Bernese Mountain Dog who unfortunately passed away this last April, unexpectedly. Before Bennett passed, we were able to volunteer at Marillac Children's Psychiatric Hospital. Interacting with the kids was his absolute favorite!! He was able to run around and have the kids chase him or lay down and roll over for some belly rubs, he was in heaven. I am so very grateful for the memories that we made there. I will never forget the joy that not only the kids had interacting with Bennett, but also the moments of pure bliss that Bennett experienced being there. Mental health is very important and one of the most valuable things we need in life. For me personally, being at Marillac wasn't just special for my dog, but was also significant for me. I was a patient there, myself, when I was a child at the same facility. So, for me to come back around full circle, now as an adult, meant a lot to me. The therapy dog program was not something that I experienced during my time there and as a young child it was hard for me to be away from home. Being given the opportunity to come back and bring a piece of my home to these kids was something truly valuable to me. Listening to the patients tell me about their pets at home and everything that they loved so much about their family was priceless. They loved to ask questions about Bennett and guessing his weight was always a favorite game. My time with **Kansas City Pets for Life** and volunteering with my dog was not only rewarding, but was also something that I will forever hold dear to me. It gave me a sense of pride and provided my dog with some of the happiest moments of his life. Thank you **Kansas City Pets for Life** for allowing Bennett and me to volunteer with your organization. It was an honor and I hope to return someday with a new fur baby!

Facilities Needing Volunteer Teams

St. Anthony's Behavioral Hospital
14200 West 134th Place, Suite 400
Olathe, KS 66062

This is a small facility with a maximum of 22 residents. It is a spacious building and all visits will be escorted and will take place in the common area. Masks are required and the mandatory Covid documentation and temperature check is required at every visit.

Each volunteer is required to have the following:

A background check and a Covid Vaccine record or exemption with a negative test each time they come to visit. St. Anthony's shares the building with the Nottingham, an assisted living facility.

Visits would be Monday through Friday. Possible visit times would be between 10:20 and 11:20 on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday, 11:00 – 12:00 Tuesday and Friday or between 2:00 and 3:00 Monday through Friday.

Shawnee Town Dog Days

Pets for Life will have a booth at Shawnee Town Dog Days on Saturday, August

13 from 10:00 – 12:00. Bring your pet and stop by and visit with Pets for Life Volunteer Teams at our booth.



Crittenton Children's Center 10918 Elm Avenue Kansas City, MO 64134

Crittenton Children's Center is requesting volunteers on the last Wednesday of each month from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Phoenix Hospice

Phoenix Hospice is requesting volunteer teams to visit their hospice patients at nursing homes around the Missouri and Kansas Metro area. They will provide you locations close to your home. A TB test and background checks are required, as well as, Onboard Training.



Don't forget to like our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/pages/Pets-for-Life-Inc. We post lots of fun PFL updates and trivia, and occasionally we have giveaways! Stay in the loop,



<https://www.instagram.com/petsforlifekc/>



<http://www.kcpetsforlife.com>

Remember our New email address is:
petsforlife@kcpetsforlife.com

<http://www.kcpetsforlife.com>

Pets for Life, Inc., Executive Committee: President: Joni Roeseler, Secretary: Marty Letourneau, Treasurer: John McGee; Member: Donna Amato, Volunteer Coordinator: Mary Gorman.

Pets For Life newsletter is published monthly in Kansas City, Missouri, by Pets For Life., a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation: all donations are tax deductible. Pets For Life, receives no government funding and relies solely on your gifts and donations. Additional copies of our newsletter are available by calling us or contacting our web-site.