

the **heartbeat**

atlanta hu♥ane society

FOR FRIENDS OF THE ATLANTA HUMANE SOCIETY

SUMMER 2017



Our First Orphaned Puppy



Georgie was our first orphaned neonatal puppy this year. The days-old puppy had horrible, open wounds on her face. Her eyes weren't even open yet, and she was already experiencing life-threatening medical conditions.

Her wounds had become infected, and she needed immediate care. Our Shelter Medicine Team dressed them and provided Georgie medication to help her heal. Then, they took her home to nurse her every two hours

throughout the night and to keep her warm.

Without 24-hour care to ensure she stayed warm and fed, Georgie wouldn't have survived.

The next day, Georgie was placed into one of our baby brigade foster homes, where they continued bottle feeding her every two hours and made sure her wounds stayed clean. Day by day, she healed.

Pretty soon, our little Georgie was weaned off her bottle and started to scamper around. She came to work with her foster mom every day, where she learned to interact positively with

both people and animals. Once she was ready, Georgie was placed up for adoption. And it didn't take long. The next day, she went home with her adoring family.

During the summer, many orphaned animals like Georgie come to the Atlanta Humane Society. They need formula, baby toys, medical care and lots of love. Your kind support ensures Georgia's tiniest creatures can go on to experience a rich and wonderful life. Thank you!

Message from the President

Last year, your support helped save thousands of dogs and cats. Today, these animals are thriving with new, loving families, and that gives us so much joy! We're well on pace to save even more animals this year, and I'm excited to share some of the happy endings these animals are experiencing — all thanks to you!

In the following pages, you'll learn about Bella, whose heart condition was healed through lifesaving surgery... Dewey, who had a rare and painful birth defect... Sugar, who had specialized surgery performed on her leg... and others.

When you read these amazing stories of survival, please know that you made them possible. You gave desperate cats and dogs second chances. I cannot thank you enough — for caring, and for saving their lives.



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in white ink that reads "Cal".

Cal Morgan
President and CEO

Emergency Surgery for an Irregular Heart

Bella's heart could have failed at any moment. She needed emergency surgery . . . and a lot of love and care.

Bella had a rare heart condition. When she came into our care, she had irregular heartbeats that left her with a short life expectancy. Her heart could have failed at any time, and she needed lifesaving surgery immediately.

Thanks to the support of friends like you, the Atlanta Humane Society was able to provide Bella with that advanced, specialized surgery. After the delicate procedure, she rested in an AHS foster home and had regular checkups with our Shelter Medicine Team. They closely monitored her heart and her incision site. With a lot of love and rest, Bella healed.

Emergency cases like Bella's are common, especially as our intake increases during these summer months. We often don't have the time to ask for support or make sure there are enough funds in our Have a Heart Medical Fund. Sweet animals like Bella can't wait, and must be rushed into our Shelter Medicine Team's care. Your support ensures we're equipped to handle these emergency cases for animals in desperate need, and we can't thank you enough for your loyal compassion.



"Your support provides these animals with the specialized medical care and love they need. Your support provides them forever homes."

A Painful Birth Defect

Dewey was born without eyelids — a rare and painful birth defect that caused constant irritation. He had trouble blinking, and his eyes never received enough moisture, even with continual applications of ointment. As his health deteriorated, he'd sleep more and more. It soon became clear that Dewey's eyelashes would ultimately cause so much damage to his corneas that he'd go blind.

We knew we had a tough decision to make. And with little Dewey's best interest at heart, we removed his eyes. It was the only way he'd ever be comfortable. The Atlanta Humane Society Shelter Medicine Team performed the delicate surgery and then placed Dewey into a loving foster home.

Within days, Dewey had adapted to his new way of life. He became energetic and playful. We'd never seen him so happy. Dewey's pain was finally gone.

Today, he's exploring his world in a whole new way. He smells, listens and feels his way around. He has a loving human brother and a dog sibling whom he loves to playfully pounce on and snuggle with all day long. We couldn't be happier for Dewey and his new family.



Trapped Alone in a Sewer

Templeton was rescued from a sewer, but a massive flea infestation left him incredibly weak.



Templeton was trapped in a sewer when a passerby just happened to hear him crying for help. He was abandoned, no mom or littermates in sight. He was just a few weeks old, underweight and covered in fleas.

But Templeton was lucky. He had you to help rescue him. Within minutes of being brought into our care, he received medication that killed the fleas feasting on his tiny body. Then, he was placed in a soft bed with a warm bowl of Purina wet food. He desperately needed rest because the fleas had made him incredibly weak.

Our team kept careful watch over Templeton. And once he was stable, he was placed in an AHS foster home where he could rest and put on weight. There, he received frequent meals and had fun playing with his foster sibling, a loving dog. After a few weeks, Templeton quadrupled in size and was ready to find his new loving family. Thank you for saving his life!

Kitten with Developmental Disabilities Living Life Inspiring Differently-abled Children

Grant has Cerebellar Hypoplasia, a cognitive disorder that causes him to be a bit wobbly. But two-month-old Grant thinks he's just like any other kitten and loves to play. When Grant came to us, he needed a special place to rest, so we bought him his own playpen to safely bounce about in.

We provided Grant with medical care and a lot of love. But Grant needed a very special adopter — someone to be patient with him and keep him safe as his whole world was a little tipsy.

And then Grant met Emma. Emma is a musical therapist who works with children who have developmental disorders — just like Grant.

Emma had seen Grant on our website and knew that she was his special someone. She spent the night researching his condition, and when we opened at noon, Emma rushed in to adopt him. She told Grant she loved him and was going to spoil him rotten.



Grant is now living his life with his perfect match — Emma. She's sharing his story and bravery with her patients to inspire them, just like Grant inspires her.

Sugar Was Wandering the Dangerous Streets

This summer, puppies will be wandering the streets of Atlanta lost or abandoned. They'll be seeking cover from the heat and desperately searching for food and water. They'll be exposed to cars whizzing by, and animals like Sugar will fall victim to these vehicles.

When Sugar first came to us, her hind legs were injured and she could hardly walk. She had likely been hit by a car, and she was terrified.

Reviewing the X-rays, we first thought we would have to amputate both of her legs. However, when our Shelter Medicine Team did a less invasive procedure, we found that we were able to surgically repair both of them.

Sugar was placed in a loving foster home to heal and became stronger each day. She went through physical therapy and received regular checkups. Sugar became more confident on her legs and after a few weeks, she was cleared for adoption and found a loving home.

