Leslie and Bill recently returned from the Petfinder Adoption Options conference in St. Louis, and will head to the Best Friends Animal Society national conference in Dallas next month. Among the takeaways from trainings like these are that cats can survive in almost any shelter environment, but to thrive they need high quality enrichments.

One that has been part of the Eden Animal Haven dream has begun to take shape—catios that will allow cats safe access to the outdoors! Concrete has been poured and cured, and roofing will be installed next, said Bill Stoll, EAH co-founder. The final step is fencing—Stoll is looking at chain link and other alternatives to determine which will provide the safest and most effective surrounding. Cat doors will allow kitties the option to come and go between indoors and outdoors, and human-sized doors will give cat caregivers the chance to go outside to spend time with the cats and clean the areas.

We also keep interesting structures and toys in our communal cat rooms to keep the cats mentally stimulated and exercised. See one of these creative options at the right!

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**Join us at our next fundraiser!** Donate a bag of clay litter or Purina dry cat food, get a free bingo card! Funds raised at this event will be matched!
We are so grateful for you’re a-meowzing support!

Our thanks for attending these fun events with us or raising funds in honor of your birthday. Our recent fundraisers included:

*Kitten Shower at Eden Animal Haven April 7
*Chipotle Burritos for Good May 11
*Fetch Pawdicures and Puppuccinos May 14

Recent birthday fundraisers brought in almost $500! Happiest of birthdays to:

Pamela Adelmann  
Traci Branch  
Ashley Ramsdell Fletcher  
April Patterson Gillogly  
Cora Gonder  
Mikayla Gresham  
Ric Lund

Tera Scharff and her family prove the value of good neighbors in many ways. They live near EAH and Tera’s husband, James, first encountered Leslie Sawyer trapping a cat in a ditch near their house. Thinking she had car trouble, he pulled over to help. Of course, she told him all about the cat rescue.

Tera and James have since adopted two cats from EAH and fostered many others. Both have served on the board, and Tera continues to do so. Their daughter, Frances, also eagerly participates in helping with events, visiting the shelter and socializing kittens and cats.

“I always wanted to help dogs and cats in need in some way. My heart had pestered me about this for many years,” Tera said.

Besides caring for cats, Tera has helped with the fundraisers and other EAH activities. She puts together the lovely baskets featured at EAH raffles and silent auctions, using items donated to the shelter.

“I hope to always be able to assist Eden in some way because I have seen stray cats suffer and I know there is a better way,” Tera said.

Special thank you to Petco Foundation

In March we received a second grant from the Petco Foundation in support of our lifesaving work on behalf of cats and kittens. Our deepest thanks to Petco for their generosity!

Friends of EAH:  
The Scharff Family

Our lifesaving work is proudly supported by:

Petco Foundation

Pamela Adelmann  
Traci Branch  
Ashley Ramsdell Fletcher  
April Patterson Gillogly  
Cora Gonder  
Mikayla Gresham  
Ric Lund  
Treva Hufft Lund  
Lauren Michely  
Keri Senter Morris  
Mandy Prosser  
Jes Scott  
Karen Kenny Sinderman  
Cassie Theis
Life-threatening “bobcat fever”

Bobcat fever (Cytauxzoonosis) has been spreading to domestic cats in this region and throughout the Southeast, with cases reported in Missouri, Oklahoma and Arkansas. Cats often do not survive but can recover if the disease is caught early.

The tick-borne disease is known as bobcat fever because its hosts are wild bobcats, according to Dr. Leah Cohn, a researcher at the University of Missouri-Columbia. Bobcats usually get a mild form of it and recover and carry the disease in their bloodstream. It is passed to domestic cats through tick bites, primarily the Lone Star tick.

Symptoms usually do not occur until nearly two weeks after the tick bite. They include excessive sleeping, refusing water and food, pale gums, fever, and liver failure. Once symptoms occur, most cats die within two or three days. If diagnosed early, treatment involves antibiotics and other drugs. They also are hospitalized and given IV fluids.

When the first cases came to light, about 90 percent of cats with bobcat fever died. Now 40 to 50 percent of cats survive. The treatment is expensive and difficult for the cat, so many owners choose euthanization instead.

Bobcat fever has been found in a growing number of states, mostly in the southeast. The peak season is March through September. The best way to prevent bobcat fever is to keep your cats indoors.
On the catwalk: Shyla

Sweet Shyla is our longest resident at Eden Animal Haven, having spent four years in our care.

She was discovered living in a drainage pipe under a busy road. After being trapped, it took her a while to trust people. Once she settled in at the shelter, she discovered she loves to be petted and cuddled, and loves snuggling with other cats.

As her name suggests, Shyla is often shy initially, but she warms up quickly. Shyer cats are often overlooked by prospective adopters who don’t realize their potential. She is a great example, since she is now known as one of the most affectionate cats in her large enclosure and is so ready for a fur-ever home!

Shyla’s adoption fee is only $25! Contact us if she could become your soul mate!