We have a building!

The building is up! Eden Animal Haven’s new home for its cage-free, no-kill cat shelter has taken shape. It’s only a shell now, but we hope to be able to move the 35 cats from the old barn to the new building by the end of December.

The bright red metal building is still only a shell of a shelter, but you can begin to see what it will become. The only thing keeping it from completion is money.

The next step will be installing the nine exterior doors and 16 windows, and framing the interior walls. We will need about $30,000 to get the shelter ready for the cats to call home, and another $20,000 to finish it according to our plans. It will be a much better place for our cats to live while awaiting their new homes, and a more pleasant place for prospective new families to meet these wonderful cats.

With the end of the year approaching, it’s time to consider tax deductions. You can deduct every dollar you donate to EAH! We are a 501(c)(3) non-profit.

You may want to consider sponsoring a room for naming rights or lifetime cat care: room naming rights start at $2000, with additional lifetime care options starting at $5000. See page 3 for more information.

Or you may wish to honor a beloved cat, or someone you cherish, by donating $100. Each $100 donor can have a pet’s or person’s name listed on a plaque at the new shelter.

If you support us but don’t have much cash, donations of $1 and up are welcome! We appreciate all of you!
Paw-some fundraisers bring in over $3000 for the new building!

Thanks to your online votes, EAH was honored to become the September recipient of a substantial donation from Youngblood Auto Group through their Local Charity Award Program. We are so grateful to both them and our Facebook friends for this donation to our building fund!

7C’s Winery already held a special place in our hearts: it’s where founders Leslie Sawyer and Bill Stoll got married! This fall 7C’s hosted a fundraiser for EAH at their Octoberfest—also donating a gift basket to raffle off along with other donated baskets. The event brought in much needed funds!

Chipotle donated 50% of their proceeds on the evening of October 14 to EAH. Our supporters must love their food as much as we do, because your dinners there that night led to a large donation from Chipotle, with more donated directly to EAH by individuals during the event. We thank you all!

“I’m not sure I can properly put into words how phenomenal an experience it was visiting this kitty sanctuary but I will try my best...Their animals are well taken care of and unbelievably well mannered... Every time you think you’ve seen every cat, another friendly face pops up for love and attention. Leslie and Bill were quick to offer information about every cat we made contact with .... I cannot recommend this place enough. If you’re looking for a cat of any age to bring home, please don’t make a decision until you’ve been to Eden Animal Haven. I guarantee you will thank yourself for visiting and leave with the happiest little ball of joy possible. Thank you again, guys.” —Vegas Dolan

Friend of the sanctuary: Betty Ridge

Betty Ridge has rarely been without at least one cat in her life. She and her husband, Tim, currently share their home with two ginger boys, Max (at left) and Ra.

Betty supports EAH by serving on the board of directors, writing stories for this newsletter, and helping with fundraisers, including arranging one at her church.

She and Tim sponsored a room in the new shelter, and recommend it to others who care about their own cats’ future, as well as cats in general.

“As we age, we become aware that someday we will no longer be able to care for our cats. Sponsoring a room at the new shelter was a wonderful way to ensure that whatever cats we have when that time comes will have a secure future,” she said. “It also will help countless other cats find a comfortable place to stay while awaiting adoption.”

Thank you for your support!
Black cat fever

For years shelters have forbidden black cat adoptions during October because of the belief these animals might be abused on Halloween. This year EAH has changed its policy on this, saying “We are no longer withholding black cat adoptions in October, but may be more selective on approving adoptions.”

From medieval times, some people have been superstitious about black cats. Yet many cultures view them as good luck, including Scotland and Japan.

Research on shelter cats shows that black cats often take much longer to be adopted. Other research has found that people hold definite opinions about the personalities of cats of other colors, but generally have no particular opinion about black cats—meaning they may simply overlook them in shelters. They are also a challenge to portray well in photos, so people may overlook them online as well.

For these reasons EAH doesn’t wish to reduce the chance of any wanted black cat being adopted—even in October!

Sponsor a room for paws-terity!

EAH offers room sponsorships in the new shelter. In exchange for a donation, you can name “your” room for a beloved cat, relative, or your company. Some donations include lifetime care for one or more of cats if they outlive you.

Naming & lifetime care:
- Lobby (4 cats): $15,000
- Large (3 cats): $10,000
- Medium (2 cats): $7,500
- Condo (1 cat): $5,000

Naming rights only:
- Laundry/storage: $2,000
- Quarantine room: $2,000

As our cat-ologue of rescued cats has increased each year, so have the accompanying expenses. Veterinary costs have tripled, although EAH has reduced some of them by ordering some treatments online and beginning simple in-house testing for FeLV. We also receive a rescue rate on spaying/neutering at the low-cost SAAF clinic.

Food, litter, and other supply costs have also increased. A donation of catfood and litter from the Nestle Purina PetCare Trust Fund helped lower these expenses this year, but those supplies are now exhausted.

These figures do not include other expenses such as gas and vehicle maintenance, license and regulatory fees, fundraising costs, and others. There are no paid staff at EAH.

Adoption fees offset these costs. And when you adopt from EAH, you can be sure you are welcoming a healthy and fully vetted cat or kitten into your family.

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On the catwalk: Kiki & her kittens

Kiki is a very special lady indeed! She was found as a very pregnant stray in Springfield, and EAH found her a safe foster home.

On Aug. 19, in the middle of the night, she had NINE kittens — all black, like her! It is very unusual for cats to have more than eight kittens since they only have eight nipples.

Sadly, four of the kittens died suddenly from an unknown cause. The surviving kittens were placed on antibiotics and fluids, and are now doing well. The four little girls and one boy will be ready to adopt in mid-November, after being spayed/neutered.

Meanwhile, someone has fallen in love with Kiki, and her adoption is pending once she is spayed. After doing such a wonderful job of mothering, she’s prepared to devote the rest of her life to being a happy cat in her new home.

Contact us if you would like to meet these beautiful kittens — or sponsor an adoption fee to help one of them find a permanent home!

Support EAH

Kiss my Glass Fundraiser
Sun. Oct. 22 – Sat. Nov. 4

Start your holiday shopping by selecting a gorgeous, unique piece of jewelry from Kiss my Glass! The artist will donate 25% of proceeds to EAH. Shop at the online store and mention EAH in the notes section when you check out!

www.kissmyglassart.com

Scratching posts and t-shirts for sale

Sturdy scratching posts are custom-made for EAH by the Goldbachs (next month’s featured supporters), $30 or 2/$50.

Our t-shirts come in heathered red and gray, youth and adult sizes, regular or women’s cut, $20.

Other ways to help:

♥ Set up a fundraiser or supply drive—at your church, school or scout troop, or to celebrate a birthday or other special occasion

♥ Does your company have an employee giving program? Tell them about donating to EAH! We can send information or make a presentation

♥ Do you know anyone in construction? We need donations of windows and doors, sinks and toilet, cabinets, paint, flooring, light fixtures, and labor!

♥ We also need donations of a washer, dryer and refrigerator.

♥ Is your area of expertise in accounting, non-profit law or fundraising? Consider applying for our board. Send us your bio!

Teresa Powell Coltrin coined this month’s “kitten smitten” caption for little Tink! Tink was just 4 weeks old when she was found in the engine compartment of a car, covered in oil—even in her ears! But now she is healthy, social and affectionate, loves the resident dog, and gets along great with other cats and children. She loves to play, but also enjoys snuggling in bed. She has beautiful bicolor gray and white markings, with a white ring around the base of her gray tail. Contact us if you are interested in making Tink a part of your family.