

Helping homeless pets

It was a litter of homeless kittens outside of Schnucks-Dardenne that put Lisa Harris on a path that would become her passion.

For two years now, Harris has given her time as a volunteer with the Heartland Humane Society of Missouri, a non-profit group that gives homeless abandoned, abused and unwanted animals another chance at finding permanent homes through an adoption program.

“I was walking to my car after work and saw these little kittens huddled behind some evergreen bushes next to the store,” said Harris, a checker at the store. “My heart went out.”

Harris went back into the store, bought a can of food for the six kittens and continued her feedings until she found homes for all but one.

It was like it was meant to be, Harris said.

“I couldn’t find anyone to take this last kitten, so I went to PetsMart where a Heartland volunteer took it in,” Harris said. “When I saw the cages and the girls sitting there with cats in crates, cleaning and working to find homes for them, I knew I wanted to help, too.”

Until the animals are adopted, Heartland volunteers like Harris serve as foster parents, and make sure the animals are kept in clean, safe surroundings.

Harris says her co-workers help her with pet food coupons and other donations, and Schnucks Markets allows her to hold bake sales to raise money for the shelter.

“Schnucks has been great, and with the help of other fosters, families and friends, everybody bakes and I’ll sit there and sell,” Harris said.



HARRIS