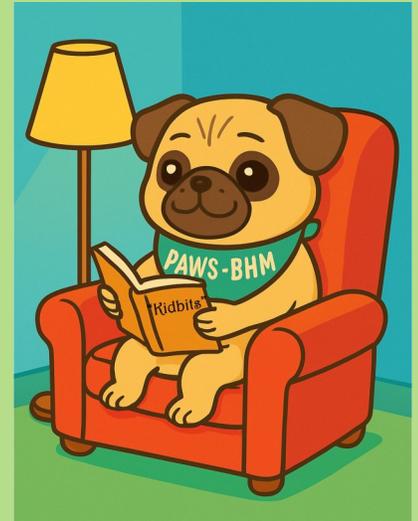


PAWS-BHM "KIDBITS" — Winter / Spring 2026

WELCOME
to
"Kidbits"
with
Berkley,
The Pug!

Our Kid's Korner is the perfect way to "stay in the know" on how kids can help shelter animals in the Birmingham area!



NEW YEAR'S FUN WITH BERKLEY!

HAPPY
NEW YEAR



A Message from Berkley the Pug:
Hey Kids!
Happy New Year!

Did you know New Years is the perfect time to team up with your pet for some paws-itive changes! Instead of making a resolution for just yourself, try making one with your furry best friend too! You could pledge to take your dog on a daily "sniffari" adventure for extra exercise, or commit to a few minutes of dedicated playtime with your cat and their favorite feather wand each day. You might even challenge yourself to teach your pup a brand-new trick, like high-five or shake! Working on these goals together is a great way to make sure this year is full of wagging tails and happy purrs!

2026

What's Inside This Issue?

Pet Friendly
Resolutions
- Page 1

PAW-sitive Kids!
- Page 2

Upcoming
Events
- Page 3

Cupid's
Heart Treats
- Page 4

Weather Safety
- Page 6

ST. PATTY'S DAY

Word Search
- Pg 5

Answer Key
- Pg 6

PAWS-BHM “KIDBITS” — Winter / Spring 2026

BERKLEY’S PAWS-ITIVE KIDS SPOTLIGHT!

As we flip the calendar to 2026, let’s look back at one of our favorite moments from 2025!

On December 23rd, Shelby Humane hosted its **6th Annual “Twas the Night Before Christmas”** event — a special, **student-led day** that made sure every shelter pet felt loved for the holidays. Led by **Parker V.** from Oak Mountain High School, along with **11 Student Ambassadors**, the team treated the animals to a warm, home-cooked meal, delivered toys, blankets, and treats, and spent the afternoon walking, playing, and giving lots of extra attention! And **PAWS-BHM** was there too, making sure that **every dog and cat received a special toy!**

During PAWS-BHM’s November and December Supply Drive, **40 brand-new cat toys, 25 brand-new dog toys, and 23 homemade rope toys** were collected, just for the shelter animals! But that’s not all! **72 handmade water-bottle sock toys** were also delivered to Shelby Humane, created from bottles collected during **PAWS 2 Recycle**. When PAWS-BHM asked the community to help, people went above and beyond — donating **316 empty water bottles and 390 pairs of knee-high socks!**

Because of this amazing support, PAWS-BHM will keep delivering more toys to Shelby Humane in the months ahead.



PAWS-BHM’s founder, Brandon P, shared, *“This is my favorite shelter event. It’s amazing to see how happy the animals are and how much they love the extra attention.”*

We are **SO thankful** for all the generous donors, the Student Ambassadors, and every **PAWS-ITIVE KID** who helped make this holiday unforgettable for shelter pets!

Ho! Ho! Ho!



PAWS-BHM “KIDBITS” — Winter / Spring 2026

UPCOMING EVENTS

Check out these fun winter and spring events for animal lovers!



SATURDAY, FEB 14th

CUP OF LOVE AT SHELBY HUMANE!

Sponsor a shelter pet to ensure they feel LOVED this Valentine’s Day! A \$5 donation provides special Valentine treats for one shelter pet!



MONDAY, FEB 16th 9 am — 4 pm

NATURE PAWLIDAY CAMP AT GBHS!

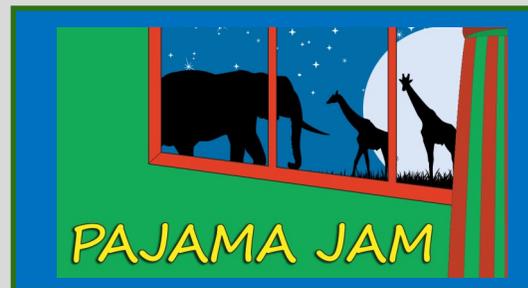
Greater Birmingham Humane Society is hosting a fun-filled Pawliday Camp for Nature Lovers! Ages 6—12. Registration is required; see website for details.



SUNDAY, MAR 8th 1—4 pm

PET PHOTOS WITH THE EASTER BUNNY!

Bring your furry friends to Myers Plants & Pottery for photos with the Easter Bunny, with proceeds benefitting Shelby Humane!



FRIDAY, MAR 13th 5:30 pm — 7:30 pm

PAJAMA JAM AT THE BIRMINGHAM ZOO!

Enjoy a magical evening at the zoo, dressed in your comfiest PJs! Includes train ride, scavenger hunt, story time, and animal encounters. Zoo “members only” event; Registration required; see website for details!



MONDAY, MAR 23rd 9 am — 4 pm

SPRING BREAK PAWLIDAY CAMP AT GBHS!

Greater Birmingham Humane Society is hosting a super fun-filled Spring Break Pawliday Camp! Ages 6—12. Registration is required; see website for details.

SPECIAL VALENTINE RECIPE FOR POOCHES!

Cupid's Heart Treats

Valentine's Day is a great time to make a special treat for your furry best friend!

WHAT YOU'LL NEED:

- 1 Egg
- 2 Cups Whole Wheat Flour
- 1 Cup **PLAIN** Canned Pumpkin
- ◇ *Make sure it's NOT pumpkin pie mix!*

LET'S GET BAKING! *(Ask a grown-up to help with the oven!)*

- **Preheat the oven.** Set the oven to **350°F** and get your ingredients ready.
- **Mix the wet stuff!** Put the pumpkin in a bowl. Crack the egg, mix it in, and stir 'til smooth.
- **Add the flour.** Stir in the flour until it turns into dough (kinda like PLAYDOUGH!).
- **Get hands-on!** Use clean hands to gently knead the dough. Be sure to sprinkle a little extra flour on the counter so it doesn't stick!
- **Roll it out!** Use a rolling pin to flatten the dough to about **½ inch thick**.
- **Make heart shapes!** Use a heart shape cookie cutter (or any shape you like!) to cut treats.

- **Bake!** Place treats on a baking sheet and bake for **30—40 minutes**.
- **Cool & Share the LOVE!**

The treats are ready when they're **golden brown and firm**.
Let them cool—then share with shelter pups or your furry Valentine!

★ Berkley's Baking Tip:

If the dough feels sticky, just sprinkle a little more flour — problem solved!



PAWS-BHM “KIDBITS” — Winter / Spring 2026



CAN YOU FIND THE ST. PATTY’S DAY THEMED WORDS IN THE WORD SCRAMBLE BELOW? WORDS ARE SPELLED FORWARD, BACKWARD, UP, DOWN, AND DIAGONAL!

W	O	L	F	H	O	U	N	D	Z	X	P	U	P	P	Y
H	R	E	A	L	E	A	S	H	M	Q	L	M	Q	U	B
I	X	I	J	G	O	L	D	B	O	N	E	X	I	R	C
S	Z	S	S	V	T	H	J	K	L	M	N	R	R	W	D
K	Q	H	O	H	W	L	T	R	E	W	Q	X	I	A	E
E	W	S	P	G	S	E	E	A	S	D	F	P	S	P	F
R	K	C	O	R	M	A	H	S	Z	X	U	V	H	N	M
S	E	T	T	E	R	E	P	W	S	R	X	W	S	E	R
T	Y	U	I	E	O	P	L	T	R	H	J	K	E	Z	X
G	R	E	E	N	C	V	B	N	T	E	R	R	T	E	R
A	S	D	F	G	H	J	K	L	X	E	Q	W	T	R	T
L	U	C	K	Y	P	A	W	S	Y	R	T	Y	E	I	O
P	L	K	J	H	G	F	D	S	A	Z	X	C	R	B	N
C	L	O	V	E	R	Q	K	I	T	T	E	N	E	R	T
M	N	B	D	U	B	L	I	N	V	C	X	Z	W	A	G

FIND THESE WORDS: CLOVER, DUBLIN, GOLDBONE, GREEN, IRISHSETTER, PAW, KITTEN, LEASH, LUCKYPAWS, PUPPY, PURR, SHAMROCK, WAG, WHISKERS, WOLFHOUND

Answer Key Follows!



This month’s WORD SEARCH focuses on our favorite furry friends PLUS a special holiday in March: **St. Patrick’s Day!** Here are a few fun facts about St. Patty’s Day:

- Saint Patrick lived during the **Fifth Century** and is the **Patron Saint of Ireland**.
- St. Patty’s Day is celebrated on **March 17th** each year.
- St. Patrick used the 3 leaves of a native Irish clover, the **Shamrock**, to explain a special mystery of the Christian faith: the **Holy Trinity**.
- St Patrick’s Legend of the Shamrock is why many people wear **GREEN** on St. Patty’s Day.

FUN FACT: The Chicago River is dyed **GREEN** each year for St. Patty’s Day to honor the heritage of Irish American immigrants in the United States. This practice began in 1962 and is still done today!



ANSWER KEY!

CAN YOU FIND THE ST. PATTY'S DAY THEMED WORDS IN THE WORD SCRAMBLE BELOW? WORDS ARE SPELLED FORWARD, BACKWARD, UP, DOWN, AND DIAGONAL!

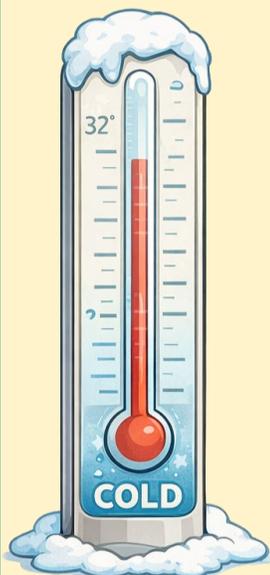
FIND THESE WORDS: CLOVER, DUBLIN, GOLDBONE, GREEN, IRISHSETTER, PAW, KITTEN, LEASH, LUCKYPAWS, PUPPY, PURR, SHAMROCK, WAG, WHISKERS, WOLFHOUND

SCAN
THE
CODE

to learn
more about
PAWS-BHM!



COLD WEATHER GUIDE FOR PET OWNERS



Above 45°F - Generally safe

Most pets are fine with normal playtime and walks.

32-45°F - Up to 30-60 minutes

Small, short-haired, or elderly pets should wear a coat; watch for shivering

20-32°F - About 15-30 minutes

Risk of hypothermia for smaller breeds.

0-20°F - 10-15 minutes max

Only heavy-coated breeds (like Huskies) should be out; monitor closely.

Below 0°F - Only quick potty breaks as needed

Dangerous for all breeds; frostbite can occur in minutes.

Keep pets safe
this winter!

