

Fall 2011

From our home to yours

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT By Carlette Allen



100 years. A century. That is how many years a dedicated group of citizens have been caring for lost, abused, injured or neglected animals in our community.

Our main emphasis has been, up to now, caring for these creatures, which we will continue. BUT in the past families taught youngsters to love animals.

In today's society, what with all the distractions of organized sports, video games, ipods, instant communication with cell phones, etc., we have started educating the youngsters with visitations to schools, libraries, churches and synagogues.

We also host girl and boy scout troops and school groups at the shelter realizing that

if we introduce these children to the joy and responsibilities of pets, they will become the care givers of tomorrow, perhaps on into the next century and beyond.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### OPEN HOUSE - Saturday, September 17th - 12noon - 3:00pm

Shelter dog training demonstrations and "What Every Shelter Dog Should Know" class demonstration at 1:00pm.

### HOUNDS ON THE SOUND DOG WALK/FESTIVAL - Sunday, October 2nd - 10:00am - 3:00pm

See page 5 for details about our 3rd annual Dog Walk at Glen Island Park

#### HOLIDAY PET PORTRAITS - Sundays, November 6th and November 13th - 10:00am - 3:00pm

Celebrate the holidays with a photo of your pet. Christmas or Chanukah themed 5x7 portrait taken by a professional photographer.

#### HOLIDAY SHOPPING - Saturday, November 12th - 10:00am - 3:00pm

Shop for pet related gifts at the shelter for you animals or for friends

We are very anxious to get the word out that although our name is the New Rochelle Humane Society, our scope is so much larger. We pick up lost, stray, injured and abused animals from 16 other communities as well – Ardsley, Dobbs Ferry, Eastchester, Elmsford, Greenburgh, Harrison, Hartsdale, Hastings, Irvington, Larchmont, Mamaroneck (town), Pelham Manor, Rye, Rye Brook, Scarsdale and Tarrytown.

Unfortunately, people in many of these communities do not know we are their shelter, the place to come if their animal is lost, the place to come to adopt an animal, the place to bring blankets, sheets, towels and other things from our Wish List (see our web site) and the place to volunteer if you want to help our dogs and cats find loving homes.

We encourage shelter visits from school groups, scout troops and clubs as a way of educating the public about our shelter, our mission and the responsibility of pet ownership. The visits also give us the opportunity to show off the wonderful animals we have who are waiting for a second chance at a home of their own.

#### **Mission Statement**

The New Rochelle Humane Society is a nonprofit 501 (c) (3) organization dedicated to promoting the human/animal bond through the compassionate care and treatment of animals throughout the communities we serve in Westchester county and beyond. To that end, our goal is to create a living environment that is not just a shelter, but a transitional home for stray, lost, abandoned, injured, and abused animals, until they can ultimately be placed in loving permanent homes.

Through promotion of successful pet adoption, animal population control, and public education of animal welfare issues, we advance our belief that pet ownership is a lifetime commitment.

> **Services Adoptions** Animal Rescue Lost and Found Animal Welfare Education Spay/Neuter Certificates Dog Training Pet Therapy **Board of Directors** Carlette Allen John Feldtmose Annmarie Gordon Dr. Richard Goldstein Dianne Heim Gloria Shulman Lee Anne Veley Diane Wade

New Rochelle Humane Society 70 Portman Road New Rochelle, NY 10801 (914) 632-2925 FAX (914) 632-0445 www.newrochellehumanesociety.org E-mail: petadopt@verizon.net

In order to save money on printing and postage please let us know if you receive more than one newsletter or if you no longer wish to receive any. Write to: petadopt@verizon.net

Please donate household goods, clothing and jewelry to the Humane Society Thrift shop located at 311 North Ave. Call Lucia Kim for information at 633-7682

### FROM OUR SHELTER MANAGER By Dana Roco

Each night one of our staff goes home "on call" meaning that the employee will respond to any emergency call at any time from any of the 17 towns for which we provide animal rescue services. So when Tiffany, our "on call" staff, received a



call at 3:30 AM one August night, the police knew it would not be long before help would be on the way.



A fire had destroyed a shed behind a home in New Rochelle. Though the fire was extinguished, the firefighters' work was not complete. Firefighter, Lt. Bill Swanson heard the cries of three kittens unbelievably still alive, and dug them out from under the charred rubble. Tiffany rushed them back to the shelter to receive emergency

medical care. Though all of the kittens suffered from smoke inhalation, one in particular suffered burns over much of it's back, paw pads, face and ears. Despite intensive medical care provided by our veterinarian and our assistant manager, Anna-Lena, one week after the initial rescue, one kitten with the most severe injuries past away. The remaining two kittens eventually recovered from the smoke inhalation and were well enough to be placed in foster care until they were old enough for adoption. The loss of the badly burned kitten made the rescue bittersweet for the staff who worked so hard to save its tiny life.

To acknowledge the common goal of rescue we share with our firefighters, the New Rochelle Humane Society has produced a terrific 2012 calendar. Beautifully photographed are 12 firefighters from many of the towns we service, each posing with one or more of our rescued dogs or cats.(see page 3) Don't you agree, the New Rochelle Humane Society and local firefighters make a great team providing rescue for animals in need?

Toni Calabrese Boelsen joined the Humane Society in November of last year as our first director of development. Formerly the director of community relations and development at Burke Rehabilitation Hospital, Toni serves as copresident of the Hudson Valley Association of Development Officers.

If you would like information on making a gift, please contact her at toni@newrochellehumanesociety.org.



# Firefighter Calendar 2012

The New Rochelle Humane Society has created a 2012 calendar

featuring firefighters from many of the seventeen communities which we serve. This is not your usual beefcake firefighter calendar—here they're in uniform, posing with our dogs and puppies, cats and kittens. You can get a preview by visiting our web site, <u>www.newrochellehumanesociety.org</u> and clicking on the "Firefighters and Shelter Pets" banner on the top of the page. At the same time you can order your calendar which can be picked up at the shelter or mailed to you.

These wonderful calendars will make great holiday gifts for you and for animalloving relatives and friends as well as helping support the shelter.





The pictures for this calendar were taken by Klara Hanincova, a professional photographer who lovingly gives her time as a volunteer to the New Rochelle Hu-

mane Society. You can see more of her work by going to <u>www.klarahanincova.com</u>.

## **Pet Stores**

Buying a puppy or kitten at a local pet store may become a thing of the past as more and more cities join a small but growing movement to ban retail pet sales. Animal advocates say pet store sales fuel the puppy mill industry, where dogs are bred and raised in cramped, unhealthy and inhumane conditions.

According to the Humane Society of the United States between 2 and 4 millions dogs are born in puppy mills each year, many of whom end up in retail pet stores. When Albuquerque, NM banned the sale of dogs and cats, adoptions increased by 23% and euthanasia decreased by 35%.

Please call or write your local, county or state representatives asking them to ban retail pet stores.



## **Centennial Gala**

The New Rochelle Humane Society celebrated its 100th birthday with a Centennial Gala held at the Wykagyl Country Club on June 9th.

More than 200 people helped celebrate, and what a grand party it was! The dozens of silent auction items kept people occupied while they sipped on wine, enjoyed passed hors d'oeuvres and listened to beautiful music provided by David Tobey, violist and Kirk Ehrenreich, pianist. Beautiful flowers were provided by The Flower Bar in Larchmont. Pictures were taken by Joe Frasciello of J. Frazz Photography.

A delicious buffet dinner was served inside and on the terrace. A short shelter video created by Diane Wade and Jody Rawdin—moved some of our guests to tears. You can view this video on our website. A live auction, run by Jay Prince, provided lively



Mayor Bramson, Suzi Oppenheimer Dana Rocco

bidding on a Mexican villa, an autographed Eric Clapton guitar and tickets to Macy's 2011 Thanksgiving Day Parade among others. Our array of guests included Maria Milito (our emcee), Prince Lorenzo Borghese, Rich Caran and Jilli Dog (the world's only poker playing dog), Grace Forster, Brandon Hannan, and Marie and Steve Shelto with Bocker the Labradoodle.



NRHS has been a part of New Rochelle for a century and now provides animal rescue to a total of seventeen communities in lower Westchester. We felt this certainly deserved a party and are glad so many of our friends felt the same way. Thanks to their generosity, we will be able to renovate our

and shelter animals

surgical unit and serve many more animals. We have already purchased a machine to monitor our animals when they are under anesthesia, making operations much safer.

Thanks to all our friends, guests, staff and volunteers for making this evening such a huge success. And special thanks to our generous sponsors: John L. Cecil, Judith Elkin, Haynes & Boone LLP, David J. McCabe and Jeff and Kathy Wiegand.

# **Children Who Care**

We are so delighted when children take it upon themselves to do things to help our animals. Mathew was one of these children. He lives in Connecticut, and when he comes to New Rochelle to visit his grandmother, she very



often takes him to visit the shelter since he is an animal lover, having a beautiful ridgeback mix himself.

Mathew's teacher asked the children in her class to think of and execute a project which would

help the community, and he decided to help us. He got a copy of our Wish List and sent emails to friends and relatives as well as knocking on his neighbors' doors. The result was bags and bags of food, treats, blankets and toys for our cats and dogs. Thanks to Mathew and others like him who are so caring.

# A Pit Bull Named May

With a personality like May's, she would have been adopted a long time ago if she were not a Pit Bull.

May came to New Rochelle from the Mount Vernon Shelter with her sister, April. Volunteers there thought she would have a better chance of being adopted at our shelter. They were



right when it came to April. She was adopted in short order, but May has not been so lucky.

She is a beautiful animal who just loves to play. She never tires of fetching, dropping the ball at your feet and waiting patiently until you throw it again and again. In between she doesn't mind a bit of loving before the ball is thrown once again. She loves our kiddy pools and frequently

goes in to cool off her feet.

Hopefully, May will be adopted before you get this newsletter. If so, there will be other wonderful pit bulls waiting for someone to overlook the unfair publicity which this breed receives and to see most of them as the sweet, loving and intelligent animals which they are. Remember, Petey from the Little Rascals was a pit bull.



## **Sweetums**

On a cold March night two dirty and injured dogs were left in the pen in the front of the shelter. Both dogs appeared to have lived outside perhaps as yard dogs for a commercial business. Once

inside our shelter, bathed by staff and cuddled by volunteers, we quickly discovered two very sweet, very gentle, and very beautiful dogs. We wanted to

capture their personalities with special names for both, and so we chose Sweetums and Fozzy Bear after two of the adorable Muppets from Sesame Street. Little did we know at the time that we would be searching for 11 more Muppet names soon.



Both dogs were limping badly. Fozzy Bear had a deeply infected cut on one of his toes. With good care and medicine, his toe healed rapidly and he was quickly adopted. Sweetums' limping had a much more serious cause— a dislocated hip. Because the hip had been dislocated for so long, just putting it back in place was impossible. Sweetums needed the help of an orthopedic surgeon to remove the head of her femur. Thanks to funds from the New Rochelle Humane Society "Help Heal Fund" we were able to afford the expensive surgery to correct the problem.

We cared for Sweetums over the next few weeks, which included warm and cold compresses for her surgery site to alleviate the pain. Slowly Sweetums



began to put weight on her leg and slowly we noticed weight gain - particularly in her belly. Hmm. A quick exam by our veterinarian confirmed what we already suspected.

Sweetums was expecting!

Less than a week later Sweetums gave birth to 11 puppies: Curly Bear, Baby Bear, Cookie Monster, Grover, Rosita, Zoey, Elmo, Abby Cadabby, Oscar, Bert and, of course, Ernie.

Sweetums was a loving and attentive mother while her pups nursed and grew. Eight weeks passed quickly, and the 11 puppies were all adopted into wonderful homes. The happiest ending to the story came when Sweetums found her own new home with a loving family. In their own words "Sweetums is an AMAZING dog – we are so blessed!"





# Third Annual Hounds on the Sound Dog Walk/Festival - Sunday, October 2nd

Our last two dog walks were so successful that we are going to do it once again and hopefully for many years to come. This event will again be held at Glen Island Park in New Rochelle, a lovely island located on

Long Island Sound. It will take place on Sunday, October 2nd and will include a 1.5 mile walk around the island. Last year more than 400 dogs participated

with over 800 human walkers. In addition to the walk there will be lots of shopping to be done with over

forty vendors selling all kinds of dog related and people related products. A DJ will play music while you sample delicious food from our food vendors offering a variety of fare.

The children will not be left out. There will be crafts for them as well as games with their four-legged friends including musical chairs and relay races. They may also be interested in our K9 and agility demonstrations and might like to try the course with their dogs as well. Face painting and magic tricks will also be on the program. Dogs and cats will be available for adoption.





This will be a fun event for dogs, adults and kids and will take place from 10am until 3pm rain or shine on October 2nd—preferably the latter. The event will be hosted by the New Rochelle Humane Society and Pet Rescue of Larchmont, with a percentage of the proceeds going to help the animals at the Mount Vernon Shelter also.

You can register to walk by going to the Hounds web site,

www.houndsonthesound.com. At this site

you can not only register to walk, which costs \$25 for an individual and \$40 for a family, but you can also set up your own web site and email your friends and relatives to ask if they would like to sponsor your walk which will help the three organizations find loving and "forever homes" for hundreds of dogs and cats who need a second chance.





# Dog Wash

Once again dozens of dogs lined up on a hot July day to get bathed at our 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Dog Wash. Nails were clipped, micro-chips inserted and several dog who passed their Good Citizen test got diplomas. There was food, face painting, a K9

demonstration, a magician, science experiments, vendors, kid crafts, lots of great raffle

prizes and more to ensure that everyone — dogs, adults and children — had a great time.

It was also wonderful seeing so many happy-looking dogs who were adopted from our shelter come to the event with smiling people who adopted them. It's also great seeing dogs who come to the wash year after year. If you missed it there will be a 12<sup>th</sup> wash in July 2012



New Rochelle Humane Society 70 Portman Road New Rochelle, NY 10801

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### **Current ADOPTION GALLERY**

Joanie



**Friendliest Dog Ever** 

Abner

#### **Betty Boop**

Lovable

Lap Warmer

Calvin

With Calvin's Eyes And Your Love

Life Will Be Purr-fect For Abner

**Bernadette** 



**Rescuer Breed Needs Rescuing** 

Ariel

**Lifelong Friend** 

### Josephina



I Promise To Love You





**Dreaming Of** A Home



Looking For