



Humane Society of Westchester

AT NEW ROCHELLE

from our home to yours

Spring 2016

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

John Feldtmose

Just in case you didn't hear or read about it, last fall we changed our name from the New Rochelle Humane Society to the **Humane Society of Westchester**.

When we began as the New Rochelle Humane Society in 1911, we cared for animals in New Rochelle only. But gradually over the years, we expanded so that now we do animal control and rescue for 19 communities in Westchester including: Ardsley, Dobbs Ferry, Eastchester, Elmsford, Greenburgh, Harrison, Hartsdale, Hastings, Irvington, Larchmont, Town of Mamaroneck, Village of Mamaroneck, New Rochelle, Pelham, Pelham Manor, Rye, Rye Brook, Scarsdale and Tarrytown. Our new name will ensure that residents all over lower Westchester County know that we are their animal shelter.

Though our name has changed, our commitment to serving animals has not. We have been, and will continue to be, 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.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, June 12th - Fostering Workshop - 11am - 12 noon

Dana Rocco will be holding a free workshop describing the Shelter's Foster Care Program. Find out what type of fostering is right for you and how to get started. HSW volunteers will be on hand to share their fostering experiences.

Sunday, July 17th - 16th Annual Dog Wash at the Shelter - 10am to 3pm

Besides getting your dog washed get his/her nails clipped and microchipped. Vendors, food, face painting and raffle prizes as well.

Sunday, Sept 10th or 17th - Dog Wash at the Rye Brook Fire Department - 10am - 12 noon

Check our web site next month for the date

Sunday, September 18th - 4th Annual New Rochelle Street Fair - 11am to 5pm

Visit our booth at this event

Sunday, October 9th - Hounds on the Sound Dog Walk/Festival Harbor Island in Mamaroneck - 10am to 3pm

See page 4 for more details. **MARK YOUR CALENDER TODAY!**

Monday, October 10th - It's Great to Live in Harrison Day Columbus Day Celebration - 10am to 3pm

We will be there with a shelter dog enjoying the day. Please come to our table and say hello.

Sunday, October 23rd - 11am to 3pm - Free Rabies Vaccination/Low Cost Microchipping Clinic - At the Shelter - 11am to 3pm

Coming in November (check our web site as we get closer to the month)

Howliday Shopping and Holiday Portraits

Mission Statement

The Humane Society of Westchester is a non-profit 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 - Honorary
Dr. Paul Amerling
Judith Elkin
John Feldtmose
Dianne Heim
Carol Marinaccio
Melissa Romita
Lee Anne Velez
Diane Wade

Humane Society of Westchester

70 Portman Road

New Rochelle, NY 10801

(914) 632-2925

FAX (914) 632-0445

humanesocietyofwestchester.org

E-mail: petadopt@verizon.net

Look for us on Facebook

Please visit our **Thrift Shop** at 54 Centre Avenue in New Rochelle to drop off merchandise or to search for bargains. The store hours are Tuesday-Friday 11:00 to 3:30 and Saturday from 11:00 to 4:00. There you can find clothing for women, including shoes and purses, men and children clothing, household items, jewelry and hidden treasures. Visit our web site for more information and pictures or the store's Facebook page.

FROM OUR SHELTER MANAGER

Dana Rocca



What if you have your heart set on a puppy of a particular breed that rarely comes into animal shelters? For every pure breed dog there are what is known as "Breed Rescue Groups." You can search on-line or call HSW for referrals for breed rescue groups.

What if you have searched shelters and breed rescue groups, and you still cannot find that Great Dane puppy, and no other breed or mix will do? If you are going to buy that puppy you want to seek out a reputable private breeder. How do you find a reputable private breeder? What is the difference between a backyard breeder and a reputable breeder? Why would a reputable private breeder never sell their puppies to a pet shop? Here are some answers.

A good dog breeder breeds to improve their chosen breed. This means they are looking at not only the overall health of the dogs they choose to breed, but the temperament as well. A responsible breeder will have many questions for you. "Why do you want this breed?" "Where in your home will the dog be allowed to live?" Other questions they may ask are "Have you had a dog in the past and who was your veterinarian?" A good breeder wants to make sure you are aware of their breed's temperament traits and activity needs. They take not only great care in breeding the best puppies possible, but they also want to make sure the puppies they bred are going to live with families that will commit to quality care for the dog's lifetime. Just because you have the cash in hand to pay for a puppy, a responsible breeder will not sell you a puppy that they feel is not the right match for you.

Here are a few tips that will assist you in determining if you are dealing with a responsible breeder. They breed only one or two breeds of dogs and do not always have a litter of puppies available. They will have at least the mother, possibly the father too, on property and will encourage you to spent time with them. They will guide you in choosing a puppy from the litter, since they will know the personalities of each puppy.

It is critical that we educate ourselves to avoid supporting puppy mills by purchasing puppies from pet shops. Knowing how to identify a reputable breeder is critical. We at the Humane Society hope you visit us and consider our dogs first, but if you do not find your dog at a shelter, please follow the above information to find a responsible breeder and avoid supporting puppy mills.



From Our Home To Yours

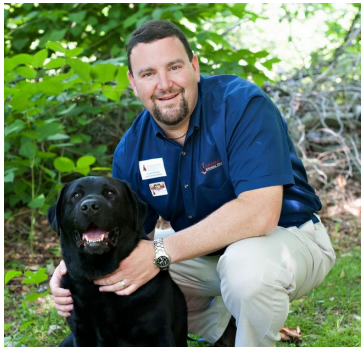
FROM THE VET

Paul Amerling, DVM

Too many times we see animals adopted by loving families who are often surprised at the cost of veterinary care after adoption. With all the challenges facing our pets these days, the regular fees for wellness visits, sick visits and parasite control can quickly overwhelm the average person. One mechanism that I have seen help people over and over is pet insurance. There are many providers out there, and some will cover up to 90% of the costs for veterinary care when your pet gets sick.

This is a viable option for managing the costs of pet ownership, and will allow a larger pool of adoptees to provide a forever home to one of our lovely animals. Your ability to afford high quality care will only enhance and extend the time you have together.

The May issue of Consumer Reports has an article about pet insurance, and goes into detail about three of the major plans.



HAPPY TAIL

Finn was adopted to a family where he will be the best buddy of a young boy. The boy was being bullied in school and really needed a friend that was not judgmental. Finn is the perfect match for this boy.

HUMANE EDUCATION

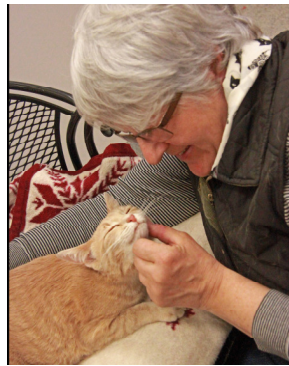
In the last few months we have had over one hundred children from scout troops and school groups visit the shelter. They come from many of the communities we service. At the shelter they learn about us, why we have dogs and cats, and what we do to make their stay as happy as possible. They learn why our motto is "From Our Home to Yours." They learn about volunteer opportunities, get to interact with a dog, and take a tour of our facility. They bring donations from our Wish List, toys they have made for the animals and money donations.

We have also visited two Temples to speak to children who need to do service prior to their Bar and Bat Mitzvahs. We have given talks to children at the New Rochelle Library and a Girl Scout house and we have gone to three schools, in Rye, Larchmont and Irvington. We speak about the shelter and have handed out over four hundred flyers letting their parents know that we are their shelter. We have also received Wish List donations from these places.

We think this is a win-win situation. Children get to learn about the care of pets both at the shelter and in their home, and we spread the word about our shelter so people will know where to come if their animal is lost or if they want to adopt one of our wonderful dogs or cats.

HAPPY CAT TAIL

On May 20, 2014 the Humane Society of Westchester removed 64 cats from a condemned house in Greenburgh. The cats lived for years imprisoned in small wire cages stacked in a small garbage-filled room.



Upon arrival at the shelter, each cat was provided veterinarian care. Many of the cat suffered from long-neglected medical conditions. Fortunately, moneys donated for their care covered most of their medical care. Slowly most recovered, though sadly many had advanced cancers and long neglected medical conditions that were untreatable.

Over the past two years one by one the cats were adopted into loving homes. Kit was one of the cats that was rescued on May 20th. After arriving he, like most of the rescued cats, hid in the back of his cage for weeks because he was so fearful. Leslie, a long-time volunteer and pet professional, began volunteering daily to work directly with this group of cats. Orange tabby females are Leslie's favorite, and so she was immediately drawn to Kit. Unfortunately, adopting Kit was not an option since Leslie was not able to take another cat into her small home.

Over the past two years, Leslie became more and more bonded with the little shy Kit. So when one of Leslie's senior cats passed away after a long battle with cancer, there was room for just one more. Kit now spends her days sitting in those sunny spots on rugs and the backs of sofas.





HOUNDS ON THE SOUND HARBOR ISLAND PARK, MAMARONECK

It's hard to believe that seven years have passed since the New Rochelle Humane Society and Pet Rescue started co-sponsoring the Hounds on the Sound Dog Walk/Festival. We were so happy with our new venue at Harbor Island Park last year that we are holding it there again this year.

It is a lovely location on Long Island Sound where you and your dog will enjoy a one-mile walk around the perimeter with water on three sides.



This event will take place on **Sunday, October 9th from 10:00am until 3:00pm**. Among the things to do before and after the walk will be face painting and crafts for the children, an agility try-out for your dog run by the Port Chester Obedience Training Club, shopping at our many vendors, and buying raffle tickets for great items. A photographer will be taking pictures of your family and pet with the Sound as a background, a nice reminder of a fun day. There will also be dogs and cats for adoption. And Walter's Hot Dog truck will be there as well as other food vendors.

Mark your calendar and join us at **HOUNDS ON THE SOUND** - for a day you and your dog will truly enjoy.

OVERSTRESSED? OVERWORKED? OVERWHELMED?

Come spend an hour in one of our decompression chambers!



Decompressing with our cats



Research has repeatedly shown that interacting with and petting a dog or cat can reduce stress, lower your blood pressure, and generally improve the quality of your life. Sign up to become a volunteer and see for yourself. Cost: FREE. Benefits: PRICELESS - both for you and for our animals.

DOGS - MORE THAN JUST PETS II

Our Fall 2015 newsletter (see the Publication section of our web site: humanesocietyofwestchester.org) talked about dogs who, besides being used as an aid for the blind, which they have done for a very long time, are now being used for other important jobs. The article talked about dogs being placed in homes of people with emotional, behavioral and learning issues. The dogs are also placed in court houses, nursing homes, hospitals and anywhere extra love and kindness are needed.



Here are some new jobs for dogs. Dogs have been placed in areas to sniff out hazardous materials like those used in bombs. Senator Chuck Schumer said dogs could be used, in increasing numbers, at airports as a way to shorten waiting time by sniffing out items which cannot be taken aboard planes.

An article in the paper recently entitled "Therapy animals help stressed students" describes animals and their owners who are visiting colleges during finals week, connecting with students who are tired and stressed out. There is growing research showing interacting with a dog can lower blood pressure and pulse levels elevated by stress.

In addition to being your best friends, dogs are also good for your health. **ADOPT ONE TODAY!**

PET STORES AND PUPPY MILLS

In our Spring 2014 newsletter, which you can find on our web site www.humanesocietyofwestchester.org under "About" and then "Publications," we wrote about the evils of puppy mills and the stores that sell these animals.

Last year when a pet store selling puppies opened on Mamaroneck Avenue in the Village of Mamaroneck many animal lovers were very upset. Contrary to what the owner claimed most, if not all, of the puppies sold in pet stores come from puppy mills, horrendous factories that breed dogs for profit. The breeding females spend their lives in cages and are bred as often as possible with complete disregard for whom she is bred with – father, son, or brother. This practice can cause genetic problems with her offspring who are then trucked to pet stores.

Many of you may have read about the truck filled with 70 puppies which spent the night in the truck outside of a pet store. The police who opened it said it was freezing inside and the cages were so small that many of the dogs could not stand upright. The owner was willing to leave them that way until the morning. Instead they were all taken to a Shelter where several required medical attention.

In addition to his link to puppy mills, the owner of the store in Mamaroneck had been arrested three times for animal abuse. People picketed outside the store, and the issue was promptly supported by Mayor Rosenblum who succeeded in having the Village Trustees pass a bill banning the sale of puppies not obtained from a Westchester shelter or rescue organization. The store on Mamaroneck Avenue closed soon after the bill was passed. Mount Pleasant quickly followed, passing a bill of their own. Over 100 cities have passed such a law in the United States including Detroit, Chicago, Los Angeles and Miami. New Rochelle is currently considering doing the same. It would be wonderful news if this happens.

Please do not buy a puppy at a pet store. Adopt one from a shelter, a rescue group or from a respectable breeder who cares about the dog's living conditions, and breeding and about finding good owners for their animals.

A VERY SPECIAL SHELTER DOG



Sweetums was adopted from the Humane Society of Westchester in June 2011, after being found as a stray, giving birth to 11 puppies and recovering from a broken hip. She became a perfect family member to her human siblings, feline siblings and many, many foster kittens.

Sweetums' new family quickly learned that she had even more love to give! So Sweetums and her dad Adam became a certified Therapy Dog Team and visit hospitals, hospices, and family service centers, where Sweetums can spread more love and cheer to people of all ages.

Sweetums is also a "Doggie Ambassador" for the Humane Society of Westchester. She has been the Grand Marshall at the shelter's annual Hounds on the Sound event, has visited school groups, scout troops, children at library programs and a mitzvah (good deed) group at a Synagogue. Wherever she goes, she brings smiles to the faces of the children who are eager to pet her, and she is very willing to accept their love.

She is truly an ambassador, not only for our shelter, but for all shelter dogs everywhere. People need to know that shelters are the places to go to adopt and give an animal a second chance. Just because someone did not want them or could not keep them, does not mean they are less likely to be sweet and loving animals who will bring years of love in their new home



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

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
White Plains NY
Permit No. 1795

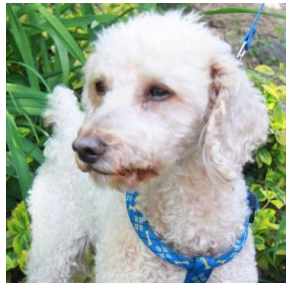
ADOPTION GALLERY - Dogs and Sunshine Cats

Bella



**New
Great Mom**

Johnny Cash



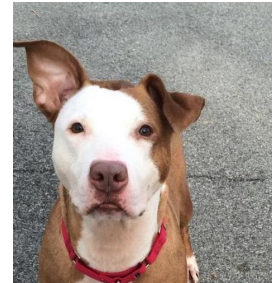
**Senior Likes
Cuddling**

Kiera



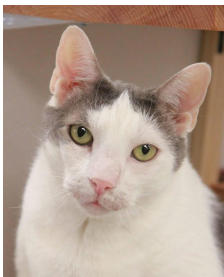
**Short Status
Tall Personality**

Billy Jean



**I Love
Tennis Balls**

Bam Bam



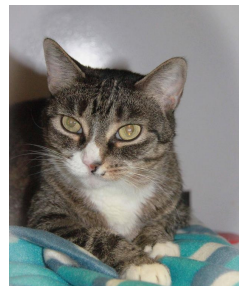
**More To
Love**

Sally



**Rare Red Taby
Female**

Rachael



**Very Sweet
Senior**

Poppy



**Handsome
Guy**