



Humane Society of Westchester

AT NEW ROCHELLE

from our home to yours

Spring 2017

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

John Feldtmose

We're all getting older, day by day. Whatever you age, you are older each and every day. Believe me, I'm **really** getting older! Of course, it's the same with our pets. Like us, hopefully they age with style and grace, and are faithful, loving companions to the end.

In this issue of our semi-annual Newsletter, we focus on older cats and dogs. We seem to get a lot of older pets, either found out on the streets or relinquished here at the shelter. It's truly heartbreaking to see an older animal abandoned by its owners. But at the Humane Society of Westchester, we welcome them with open arms, and we have been very successful in placing these senior animals in loving homes for the rest of their loving lives.

I love little kittens, but I have welcomed several older felines in our home in the last few years. I believe they truly appreciate that you are accepting them as they are – an elderly companion. Even though we know we will have a shorter time with these older adopted pets, we also know that they are in greater need of a loving home for the remainder of their lives.

So next time you're down at the shelter, take a look at our senior pets and seriously consider whether one (or more) of them would be right for your family.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, June 11th, 2017

Pet First Aid Discussion with Dr. Sara Sosnow – (10:30am - 11:30am)

Dr. Sara Sosnow from Miller-Clark Animal Hospital (<http://millerclark.com/>) will be leading a discussion about first aid for your pet. This program is for our two-legged friends only - please leave your pet at home.

Sunday, June 11th, 2017

Humane Society of Westchester Fostering Workshop - (12noon-1pm)

On Sunday, June 11th at 12 noon we will be holding a free one hour workshop describing the Humane Society of Westchester's foster care program. Learn about the animals that typically need foster care. Find out what type of fostering is right for you and how to get started. Humane Society of Westchester volunteers will also be on hand to share their fostering experiences.

Sunday, July 23, 2017

Humane Society of Westchester's 17th Annual Dog Wash - (10am - 3pm)

The Humane Society of Westchester is holding its 16th Annual Dog Wash on Sunday, July 23rd, from 10am – 3pm outside on the shelter grounds at 70 Portman Road, New Rochelle. It will be a fun-filled day of pet pampering, nail clipping, microchipping, good food, raffles & vendors. Rain date: Sunday, July 30th from 10am - 3pm

Sunday, October 29, 2017

Free Rabies Clinic - for Westchester Residents Only - (11am - 2pm)

This event, sponsored by the Westchester Department of Health will take place at the shelter.

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
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Dianne Heim
Carol Marinaccio
Melissa Romita
Lee Anne Veley
Diane Wade

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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 Rocco



Our rescues come in all sizes, from giant Great Danes to tiny day-old newborn kittens. They arrive found in backyards, in construction sites and in shopping malls. Newborn kittens arrive eyes not yet open, unable to walk and needing a warm body to maintain their body temperature. Providing immediate care is critical to their chances of survival.

Spring is a time of year the Humane Society of Westchester prepares to be ready to have supplies on hand to care for these babies: heating discs, cases of specially formulated kitten milk, bottles and most importantly foster homes.



On a typical day in late spring we will have an average of 45 kittens in foster homes. As the spring turns into summer, this number will double. Our foster homes play a vital role in insuring our kittens get the best care possible: for mother cats with kittens, kittens arriving without their

mothers needing to be bottle fed, five week old kittens eating on their own and the frightened kitten needing one on one handling. The length of time a kitten will need fostering can be anywhere from 1 week to 6 weeks.

At 12 noon at the shelter on Sunday June 11th several of our most experienced volunteers who foster kittens will provide information about our Foster Care Program. I hope you can find the time to come and learn about this program. Please bring your questions!



If you are unable to foster but still want to help our babies, check our Baby Registry on Amazon.com. Search under Gift Cards & Registry. Scroll down to Baby Registry and search for Humane Society of Westchester in New Rochelle, NY. And thank you very much!



HAPPY TAILS Pablo

In 2014, Pablo was left, along with 13 other cats, in front of the shelter in the middle of the night. We have no idea what his history was, or where he came from, but it was clear that though Pablo liked other cats, he was under-socialized with humans.

Pablo Relaxing With Sweetums

It took a very long time for Pablo to adjust to life at the shelter, and even longer for him to find his forever family. In the three years since being abandoned at the shelter, Pablo was adopted and returned twice through no fault of his own. Then his real, true, forever family took him home with the promise to love him forever.

Pablo now has four cat siblings, one dog sibling and four humans to call his own! Even though he was well-loved during his time at the Humane Society of Westchester, he is very happy to live the rest of his life in his own home.

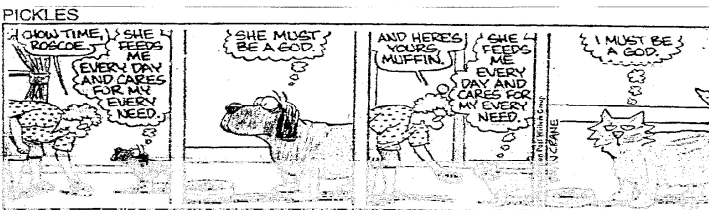


Poppy

Poppy was a cat found roaming around in the street on December 29, 2014 and brought to the Humane Society. No one ever claimed him although he was definitely not feral but very friendly. Three months later he was adopted. Unfortunately he was returned two months later when his adopter moved to a no-pet building.

For more than a year he was not adopted. Finally, in April 2016 Tom decided to foster Poppy since he was sad that Poppy was at the shelter for so long. Poppy got a break from living in a cage and was in a real house for four months.

Although Tom became very attached to Poppy his job required a good deal of travel and Poppy came back to the shelter. But Tom never forgot about Poppy and now that he is home more, in April, this year, Tom made it official and adopted Poppy. They are both so very happy now.

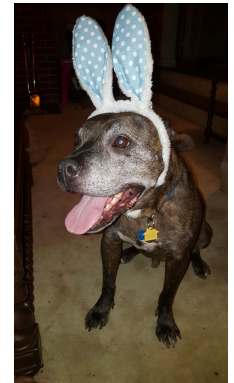


HAPPY TAILS

Rudy

Rudy, a senior pit bull came to us from another shelter since it was believed he would have a better chance of being adopted in New Rochelle. Rudy is a pit bull, a much maligned breed. Hopefully his story and pictures will show that such prejudice is unfounded as long as the dog is brought up in a loving environment. Here is what his new family had to say about him.

"We can't thank you enough for giving us the wonderful opportunity to have Rudy in our family. We love him very very much! He's an amazing companion, friend and family member. Although it's only been 3 weeks as of yesterday it's like he's been with us all his life. His genuine love for myself, my mother and my kids is unexplainable and his sweet nature and AMAZING doggy manners make him that much more incredible. His first bath was funny and definitely



memorable and Easter was such a fun day to celebrate with him. "HE'S ABSOLUTELY PERFECT."



Bud

Bud spent most of his eight years chained to a rusty truck in the backyard of a home in rural Ohio. He was there together with their 15 other dogs. The owner agreed to surrender the dogs to an animal rescue group but said he wanted to keep Bud.

Our shelter and the rescue group in Ohio chipped in, offered the owner \$200 for which he was glad to get rid of Bud who was in terrible shape when he arrived at the shelter. But with attention, good food and plenty of love he improved rapidly.

Even though his life had not been great Bud proved to be an extremely sweet dog, so sweet that he was introduced to girl scouts who visited the shelter where he got lots of hugs and kisses and enjoyed every minute of it.

Sarah had been looking for her perfect companion for a long time. When she met Bud it was love at first sight for both of them. We wish them a happy live together.



VOLUNTEERS WHO CONTRIBUTE SO MUCH

Our Fall 2016 newsletter contained an article giving thanks to some of our many volunteers. Since we could not include everyone we are giving thanks to others, again probably missing some. There are just so many of you who contribute so much to the smooth running of our shelter.

One of the jobs that experienced volunteers do so well is teach our orientation, dog training and walking classes and humane education. **Vanessa Vieux** runs our Junior Volunteer Orientation classes, **Karen Hessel** and her daughter **Annie** run the Family Volunteer classes.

Donna Ruskin and **Jamie** and **Stephen McKay** train our volunteer in our Green Dot and Yellow Dot classes as well as our Dog Training 101 classes. **Mary Cotter** helps with Dog Training 101 and works with our rabbits. **Carrie Moskowitz** does private in-home dog training sessions when HSW adopted dogs are struggling to adjust. **Terry Gilder** helps when school groups and scouts come to our Humane Education classes.

Another job experienced volunteers engage in is Community Events by manning tables and talking to the community about our shelter. Among these volunteers are **Adrienne Unwin**, **Masako Odami** and **Debbie Whitman**.

Two long term volunteers who deserve recognition are **Barbara Nelson**, who over the years has fostered close to 300 kittens and **John Pignini** who has walked dogs on Thursday nights forever.

Denise Pallet does laundry and organizes everything around the shelter including the linen closet, kitchen shelves and our dollar store including putting donated dog coats and sweaters in size-labelled bags. **Chris Satiro** washes all the dog and cat dishes every day and **Denis DeCola** cleans kennels almost every day.

To all of them we offer our sincere thanks. Our logo contains the words **"From Our Home to Yours."** It's our volunteers who help make our shelter seem more like a home to the animals in our care until they do find their **"forever home"** with our wonderful adopters.



A Special Thank You

Dorothy Matathia, a former shelter volunteer wrote a letter which she asked us to include in our newsletter. We are glad to honor her request.

"My grandson, Matthew Shearer when he was 13, along with his father, David, painted the shelter's staff breakroom and donated a sofa and curtains as a promise to render service in honor of his Bar Mitzvah.

On November 5, 2016 and into November 6th there was a five alarm fire on Palmer Avenue in Larchmont. Several fireman from surrounding areas came to fight the fire. Matthew, now a fireman, entered the burning building and rescued a cat. I am so proud of him and his devotion to saving life for all breathing souls."

We also want to thank Matthew and other brave firemen who not only risk their lives rescuing people but pets as well. A fireman also saved the life of a cat in the burning home of a shelter board member twelve years ago. That cat, who is now 15, is alive and well thanks to a New Rochelle firefighter.



THOR

Can you imagine driving from Northern Vermont to meet Thor, a dog who was living in our shelter? What if your dog and Thor hated each other and you had to drive back home without a companion for her?

Fortunately, that was not the case. It was love at first sight when they met. Now Thor, a

Great Dane/mix, (left above) who came from a high kill shelter in Ohio will have the time of his life in beautiful Vermont with his beautiful family and sweet-heart.

Ways To Help Our Shelter

Shop at our Thrift Shop.

Support our Help Heal or Trap/Neuter/Return Fund. Sponsor-A-Pet.

Buy a brick for our path or plaque for a dog kennel or a cat cage.

For more information on these and other ways to help go to "Donate" on our web site www.humanesocietyofwestchester.org.



SENIOR DOGS ROCK

Red

Red came into our lives much the same way as our previous dogs; we fell in love with him at the shelter and vowed to make him ours. The difference between Red and the others is that Red is somewhere between 8 and 10 years old and all of our previous dogs had been puppies or adolescents when they joined our family.

We had been without a dog for six months and even our cat was missing canine companionship when Red arrived at the Humane Society of Westchester from Ohio. He had been rescued from spending many years chained in a backyard where he had watched from a distance as his previous family had four children.

RED

He felt pain when they often forgot to feed him or care for him. On arrival at our shelter, Red was emaciated, positive for heartworm and had patchy fur due to years of severe flea infestations. One look at him and we knew he was our dog.

We are a German Shepherd family, and Red is clearly a shepherd mix - such a proud and noble dog. He immediately tried to head out into the world with us, but could not hold his legs up for very long because of muscle atrophy. He was not sure he was allowed into the door of the house with us when he first arrived and he had months of recovery to endure. He clung closely to us as he figured out who and what he could trust in his new, much bigger world.

Despite a longer adjustment period, Red has made our family whole again and fits us perfectly. He is now strong and healthy having gained 15 pounds to cover his bony frame and has recovered from heartworm. His coat is full and shiny and he loves to walk and meet other dogs. He is always up for a car ride or movie night on the couch. He loves the cat. Red is learning to enjoy the backyard in the way that all dogs should - with his family on a sunny day as we garden or sit with snacks and drinks - he really likes it when the grill is going!

We appreciate that Red is weathered by life - we recognize a bit of ourselves in him. We have found new joy with an old dog and feel satisfied that life brought us together for a very good reason. We know we will not spend as many years with Red as we did with our puppies, but this time is rich and sweet and we wouldn't trade it for anything.

Hank



HANK

It's been a little over a year since I said goodbye to my constant companion Spot, a handsome Dalmatian/Pit mix. We were together for fourteen years, since he was nine weeks old. And I never thought I'd live through the pain of saying goodbye. I was devastated. Spot was cremated and I wasn't able to retrieve his ashes, the sadness of reliving the loss all over again was more than I could bear.

Through the time of grieving I've been inspired to take an entirely new path in life. I am compelled to rescue unwanted senior dogs and give them the best sanctuary I can, to live out their lives with dignity and love.

I saw Hank, a distinguished yet sad 12 year old Lab mix who had been a stray and brought into the Humane Society of Westchester. Hank was emaciated, his fur a mess and at this point, unadoptable. I had to have him. He is the first rescue into what will eventually be called "Hank's Sanctuary."

The angels at Westchester, Dana and Beverly, gave Hank a bath and sent us home with two dog beds, a de-shedding tool, a new leash, microchip, bag of senior dog food, all his shots and medications he needs to treat his thyroid and kidney conditions. Truly a miracle! We said a brief goodbye, then Hank and I were on our way.

Hank was completely shut down emotionally and wasn't improving. We had a good vet visit and all things considered, Hank was doing well. We went to visit a friend where Hank meet and played with her dog. The next day Hank was trotting and bounding and for the first time barking!

We visited another friend at Blue Star Equiculture and 57 pound Hank made friends with a 2,200 pound Shire draft horse. Tears came to my eyes. Hank has a new animal friend.

The beauty and love that has flooded our lives since adopting Hank, I could not have predicted. The universe certainly conspired to bring us together. I received another beautiful gift. With Hank's love I was able to summon the courage to bring Spot's ashes home. It was truly bittersweet but I couldn't have done it without Hank. I never know who one of God's angels is going to be, and today, Hank is my angel.

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

Alice



Beautiful Gal

Harley



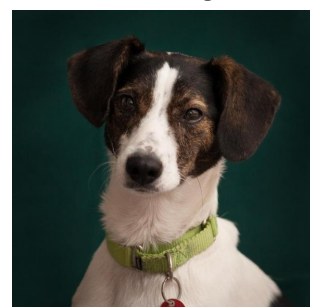
A People Dog

Romeo



True To His Name

Kacey



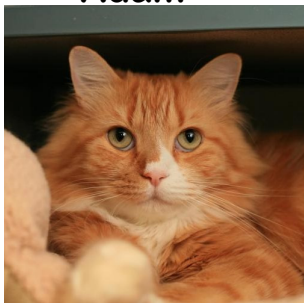
Super- Smart

Watson



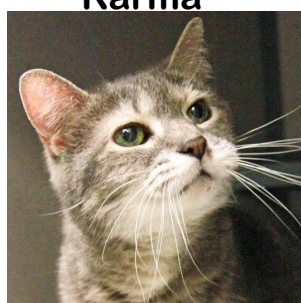
**Soft and Sweet
Senior**

Adam



**Handsome Golden
Boy**

Karma



**10-Year Old
Beauty**

Misty



**12-Year Old
Cuddler**