

New Rochelle Humane Society

From our home to yours

Spring 2015

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

John Feldtmose

Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds.

This is the unofficial motto of the United States Postal Service, but could easily apply to the New Rochelle Humane Society! A big shout-out to our staff and volunteers who came to the shelter every single day in the worst of this winter's horrible weather. They fed the dogs and cats, cleaned cages, took dogs for needed walks, plowed and shoveled the driveway so that our emergency van could get out to rescue animals in the fierce weather and made sure all of our charges were safe and sound.



Fortunately, we did not lose power at any time, but if we had, you can be sure our animals would have been comfortable because of our new emergency generator paid for by the many generous donors who sent contributions in specifically to fund the generator after our week-long outage during hurricane Sandy in 2012. Thanks to all of you – staff, volunteers, donors and friends – for your dedication and generosity.

I hope that by the time you receive this newsletter, the winter weather has finally passed and you are enjoying a delightful spring.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, April 18th - Mayor's Animal Action Network/White Plains Earth Day – 12 noon to 4pm

The City of White Plains is hosting its annual Earth Day celebration. The New Rochelle Humane Society is setting up an information table. Our doggie ambassadors will be there to Meet & Greet the public!

Sunday, May 24th - Westchester Country Club's Annual Pet Parade – 12 noon to 4pm

The Westchester Country Club is hosting its annual pet parade celebration. New Rochelle Humane Society will be there with information and our doggie ambassador.

Sunday, June 14th - Humane Society Thrift Shop Off-Site Outdoor Tag Sale - 148 Center Avenue, Mamaroneck - 10am to 4PM

Sale of electronics, clothing, houseware, collectibles and more to benefit our Feral Cat Fund.

Sunday, June 28th - New Rochelle Humane Society Fostering Workshop - 11am to 12noon

Dana Rocco will be holding a free one hour workshop describing the New Rochelle Humane Society'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. NRHS volunteers will also be on hand to share their fostering experiences.

Sunday, July 26th - New Rochelle Humane Society's 15th Annual Dog Wash - 10am to 3pm

It will be a fun-filled day of pet pampering, nail clipping, microchipping, good food, raffles & vendors. Stop by the "Ask the Trainer" booth, have your dog take the Canine Good Citizen Test, take a family portrait and more! Rain date: Sunday, August 2nd. For more information, go to www.newrochellehumanesociety.org

Sunday, Sept. 27th - Hounds on the Sound Dog Walk/Festival at Harbor Island in Mamaroneck - 10am to 3pm

See page 5 for more details. **MARK YOUR CALENDER TODAY!**

Mission Statement

The New Rochelle Humane Society 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
Dr. Paul Amerling
Judith Elkin
John Feldtmose
Dianne Heim
Carol Marinaccio
Elisabeth Pollaert Smith
Lee Anne Velej
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

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.

FROM OUR SHELTER MANAGER

Dana Rocca



When “Baby,” an elderly Chihuahua, arrived at the shelter last month grossly overweight and with an enlarged heart, we worried: Who would ever consider adopting this sad, reserved, little soul?

A few months ago, a retired woman had lost her beloved dog of 15 years and wondered whether she would ever be ready to welcome a new dog into her home. Mame’s heart melted when she found Baby’s photo and read her story on our website. “I’m a senior who needs to lose weight too,” said Mame to herself. “We need each other – we can do this together!” But the thought of the many medical bills that often come with senior animals made Mame hesitate.

This is exactly why we created the Silver Whiskers adoption program. Finding homes for senior pets has always been exceptionally hard. Typically, when we would finally find that incredible person who would even contemplate taking an older dog or cat into their home and heart, they would often change their mind after considering the medical expenses associated with caring for an older pet.

Our Silver Whiskers adoption program has removed the financial barrier between loving homes and senior pets. The Silver Whiskers program waives all adoption fees and provides routine and supportive medical care, free of charge, at the shelter. Yearly exams, laboratory tests as needed, and medications as indicated are all included. The Silver Whiskers adopter provides the pet’s food

and grooming and of course all the love the senior needs.



Mame brought Baby home, renamed her “Dixie,” and is greatly enjoying watching Dixie come out of her shell as she explores her new retirement home and makes overtures toward her newly acquired feline “sibling,” Pons.

Mame and Dixie can now be spotted taking daily walks along the shore of LI Sound, and Dixie is now happily following Mame from room to room

all around her home. “We’re both seniors, we both love taking walks, and we’re both losing weight!” says Mame.

If, like Mame, you are in a position to open your home to one of our Silver Whiskers pets, please ask us who is available. If you cannot offer a home to an animal at this time, consider donating to our Silver Whiskers program to help create new beginnings for our senior animals.

FROM THE VET

Paul Amerling, DVM

As I write this article and watch the snow falling on the first day of spring, I am optimistic that the true “spring” will be right around the corner. This brings to mind flowers, fresh mowed lawns and ample sunshine.

However, it also brings to mind ticks, fleas, heartworms, and intestinal parasites. Yes, the beautiful weather that is surely coming is enjoyed by all creatures great and small, both mammalian and parasitic. The warm, wet weather that accompanies spring is an ideal environment for the parasites that often afflict our beloved pets.

Spring is also the peak of tick season. Many of our intestinal parasites are transmitted by fecal-oral contact, so running through the dog parks is a perfect place for exposure. Cats hunting outside, or even walking through the yard, then grooming themselves ingest parasites eggs very easily. And who hasn't seen those pesky mosquitos invade our homes (especially the humid bathrooms), which transit heartworm disease to dogs and cats.

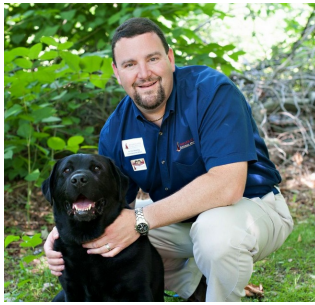
Spring is a time to start planting our gardens, getting outside for exercise, but it is also a time to be sure your pet's parasite prevention is optimal. This applies to both dogs and cats. Please talk with your veterinarian to be sure your four-legged loved one is as safe as possible.

WAYS TO HELP

Can't have a pet and wish you could.? Come and volunteer at our shelter or become part of our **Sponsor-A-Pet** program. For only \$20 a month you can sponsor a dog or cat, receive a picture and letter from your animal and be notified when he/she is adopted, at which time another animal will be assigned to you. The annual fee of \$240 can also be paid in one payment if you wish.

Another way you can help is by buying a brick in honor of, or in memory of, a relative, friend or a pet. This makes a nice gift for the person who “has everything” or to show someone you have placed a brick on the path in memory of someone they have lost – human or animal. The bricks are placed on the path in our dog park where volunteers and prospective adopters take a dog to just chill out or to get acquainted.

You can learn more about both of these programs by going to our web site and clicking on the large “Donate” button. There you can fill out a form and send it directly to our shelter.



IN MEMORY OF MURRAY MASSEVER



Murray was the kind of volunteer every shelter wishes they had. Murray never said no to anything that could help the shelter and its animals.

Not only did he walk dogs almost every day but he did so much more. He was part of our Train-to-Adopt

program where volunteers, who are instructed by a professional trainer, learn how to work with dogs who have some behavioral issues that might result in their not getting adopted or being returned when they got into a home. So many successful adoptions result from the work of this group, and Murray was a key player.

There was not an event which was held, on shelter grounds or away, where he did not help with the set-up, man a booth and then clean up. And the whole time he was there he extolled the virtues of our shelter to whomever would listen.

One winter morning, long before the shelter opened, the shelter manager saw him on our security camera at her home, cleaning our driveway with a snow blower. If she had not seen him, he probably would never have told her he was the one who had done it.



He dressed as Santa for our holiday photos and worked as chef at our annual volunteer barbecues.

He did it all with a smile on his face. He was doing something he loved, and we loved him for it. A brick will be placed on the path of our dog park in his honor. He is greatly missed by his 2- and 4-legged friends.



TRAP/NEUTER/RETURN PROGRAM

Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) is a proven method to humanely reduce feral cat populations allowing the cats to live healthy lives in their communities once they are neutered and vaccinated. With the TNR program the New Rochelle Humane Society partners with the neighborhood to trap feral cats, bring them to the shelter for spay and neutering, and then release them back into the neighborhood where they can no longer reproduce. We have long advocated for this method because feral cats are

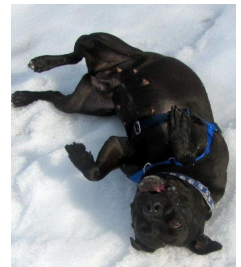
not generally socialized to humans but live content lives outdoors with help from their caregivers.

We trapped 457 cats in 2014 and continue to invest in this game-changing program. During the last three months of a harsh winter, our volunteers, working with the shelter staff and veterinarian, trapped 55 feral cats in two public works yards in New Rochelle. The yards are just one block apart and this extensive cat colony is a fact of life there and in the surrounding neighborhoods. There are multiple feeding points and sheltered areas maintained by cat caregivers throughout the area. All of these kind humans are a part of the TNR solution.

Neutering and vaccinating 55 cats has a profound impact: a vast decrease in kitten births, protection of the cats' health with vaccinations, and the elimination of noisy cat breeding behavior. Cat lovers throughout this New Rochelle neighborhood have already noticed the benefits and are thrilled with the results. Work continues to TNR every cat in this large colony, which likely will go into the summer months. In the meantime, the neutered cats are getting fatter and seem as happy as their caregivers that life is getting easier for them!

LOOKING FOR LOVE

All shelter animals are looking for love, but Pit Bulls, who want it so much, have the hardest time finding it. Many people come to the shelter with a preconceived opinion of these animals. They have heard and read stories of Pit Bulls who do terrible things but they don't know the reason for this is that many have irresponsible owners who breed and bring them up to be fighters. What people don't realize is that Pits are some of the sweetest animals at the shelter. Responsible pet owners with happy, well cared for dogs will find Pit Bulls smart, loving and eager to please. They love to be hugged, give kisses, watch TV, sit on laps and roll in the snow like any other family dog. The people who do adopt them send wonderful stories about how thankful they are to have this dog in their home.



They also are great artists as you can see in this picture done by James who was adopted from the shelter several months ago. Here is what his parents have to say about him and Pit Bulls in general:

"When our family was ready to adopt a dog I wanted a Pit Bull. My husband was not totally on board with the breed, but when we started looking for a dog that would fit into our family James the Pit Bull wagged his tail and shook his whole butt into our life. We know lots of different breeds of dogs and he is the most affectionate loyal snuggle bug we have ever met. He is so handsome with his white face and brindle markings. He is smart. He is energetic. He has such an expressive face. He is sensitive gentle and caring. He wants to sit as close as possible with you and if you move an

inch he moves with you. He also steals. He stole our hearts. He will sneak in and steal a kiss. He is also known to steal your seat on the couch if you get up! He is a companion and friend to the umpt degree. His smile and wagging tail makes everything better. He also loves Maximus his German Shepherd brother and his sisters Cheyenne, the Chihuahua, and Nyx the calico cat. Anyone looking for a friend for life a Pittie is the way to go. You won't get a better buddy than that."

HOUNDS ON THE SOUND

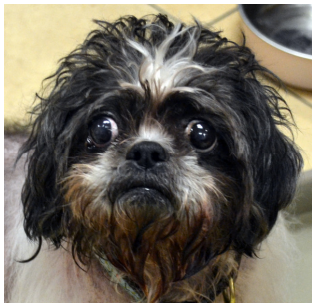


For the seventh year the New Rochelle Humane Society and Pet Rescue of Larchmont will host our annual Hounds on the Sound Dog Walk/Festival. This year it will take place on Sunday, September 27th. As in the past years it will be a fun-filled event with music, food, vendors and agility events — both to watch and for your dog to participate in. There will be a one-mile walk, crafts for kids, face painting, raffle prizes and much more. The only difference is that the event will be at **Harbor Island Park in Mamaroneck** instead of Glen Island in New Rochelle as it has been in the past.

You will get more information in our fall newsletter as well as on our web site (www.newrochellehumanesociety.org) and on the Hounds on the Sound website (www.houndsonthesound.org) as we get closer to the event. We urge you not only to come and have a great day, but perhaps to become a sponsor, a donor or a friend of the event. Forms for these will be available on the above sites.

MUPPET

Muppet came to us when police responded to a domestic violence complaint and saw her sitting in the corner when they arrived at the apartment. She was in such bad shape that they seized her and brought her to the shelter.



Muppet, a senior citizen, had open abscesses all over her body. She was almost hairless, had a very bloated stomach and was unable to

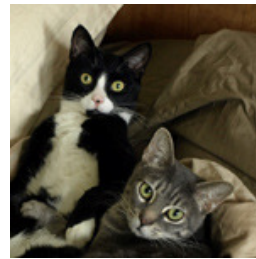
walk. Multiple surgeries were performed to remove growths and heal the many abscesses that covered her body. Blood tests found she had Cushing's Disease. Her inability to walk was caused by her bloated belly which was so heavy she could not get up. Her muscles had atrophied.

Muppet has been on medication to treat the Cushing's and now has a cart to enable her to walk. Our hope is that she will regain the use of her back legs shortly. She loves her little wagon and can now scoot around so fast it is hard to catch her. She spends her days behind our front desk with her people and dog friends and seems very happy. Her quality of life is so much better and she is able to behave like a real dog once again. She is up for adoption as a special needs dog to the right person who can deal with her health issues.



HAPPY CAT TAILS

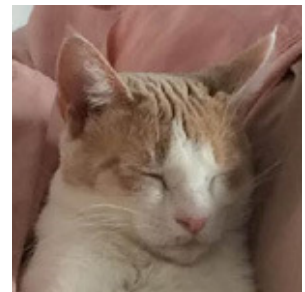
We wanted to share with you a couple of wonderful cat stories received from adopters.



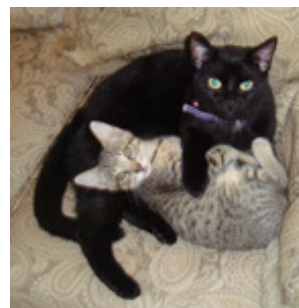
"It has been 5 years this week that we adopted Cameron and Trent from the NRHS. We wanted to send you some pictures and let you know that the boys are healthy, happy, well-loved-- and yes, very spoiled. We adopted the two of them because they had met and bonded at the shelter, and they are still inseparable to this day. Thank

you so much for bringing these two wonderful kitties into our lives. They really complete our little family!"

"Just wanted to send a quick hello to all of my friends at the NRHS, where my forever home mom was able to find me! As you can see I am quite happy and tend to fall asleep in some most awkward positions! But I would not change any of it for the world! Thank you to everyone who took care of me during that difficult time in my young life. Love, Foxy



"Just to let you know Cody is doing great in his forever home. He has a big sister named Bella also from you. They eat, sleep and play together all the time. Special thanks to Dana. We are so happy to have Cody and Bella in our family. They have made a great addition. Thanks again for all you do for these precious animals."



New Rochelle Humane Society
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

Cowboy



**Active and
Adventurous**

Zeus



**Young and
Exuberant**

Bud



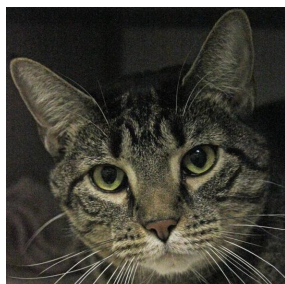
**Goofy
Playful Guy**

Tammy



**Adorable
Cuddler**

Corky



Big Mush

Buddy



**Handsome
8-Year Old**

Muffy



**Big Time
Cuddle Bug**

Stanley



**Favorite
Lap Warmer**