

The SPCA Serving Allegany County

# Paw Prints

Winter 2019



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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Pet-Tails • Memorials • How to Donate and Help

# Paw Prints ... Winter 2019

## The SPCA Serving Allegany County

Serving Animals and People in Allegany County of New York

The SPCA's mission is to attend to the needs of the abandoned, neglected, and abused animals of Allegany County. Change is constant at the SPCA shelter. Animals in great need of care and compassion continually arrive as others are adopted out into their forever homes.

*"The furry faces may change, but the need never goes away."*

**ONE-CLICK DONATIONS** You can also make convenient donations to the shelter or memorials online on our website — just click on Donation and PAYPAL!

**FIND US ON THE WEB!** [www.SPCAallegany.org](http://www.SPCAallegany.org)

**EMAIL US** [SPCAallegany@gmail.com](mailto:SPCAallegany@gmail.com)

**HOURS** Seven days a week noon to 4 p.m.

**LOCATION** 1374 State Route 19 South, Wellsville, NY 14895

**MAIL** SPCA Serving Allegany County, P.O. Box 381, Wellsville NY 14895

**PHONE** 585-593-2200

**Other important numbers**

**NEW SENSE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT**

Mike Hayden, 716-676-9161

**CRUELTY HOTLINE** - 585-268-9600

**NYS AG & MARKETS** - [www.agriculture.ny.gov](http://www.agriculture.ny.gov)

**DOG CONTROL OFFICERS (DCO)** - updated list on [www.SPCAallegany.org](http://www.SPCAallegany.org)

**WILDLIFE ABBIE-FREELAND WILDLIFE SANCTUARY**

Cheri Button-Dobmeier, (585) 466-7811



## LETTER FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Back in 2014 we shared the building news that we were breaking ground to build a much needed new shelter...and what a journey this has been! We can truly say we as a Board all feel very fortunate to be a part of this historical project and this is most certainly a very exciting time to be a part of the SPCA. It was at our 100th year anniversary of the SPCA back in 2011 that the Board alluded to in a press release our vision for the next 100 years...which was to build a larger shelter in order to help more animals in need and that our future shelter would be centrally located in our county...and we are happy to report our vision has come true.

So, let's address the #1 question that many inquiring minds have been wondering about: why did it take so long to accomplish building a new shelter? We knew this journey would be a long and challenging one. We wanted to make sure we did our homework; this was a major project and a new venture for all of us and was definitely going to be a learning experience. We started off with a conducting a lot of research by calling the ASPCA in NYC who then gave us names of other shelters that had recently built new facilities or were in the process of. We reached out to these organizations to learn more and visited many of these shelters. Next, came the planning & design of the new facility which took over a year of weekly meetings to finalize an appropriately sized shelter and during this time the SPCA worked with architects Clark Patterson Lee in Olean and Animal Arts in Colorado. We also collaborated with Alfred State College vet tech leader Dr. Mel Chambliss and Dr. Douglas Pierson for our spay/neuter clinic, as well as, the Cornell Shelter Medicine director Dr. Elizabeth Berliner for guidance and advice.

Our current shelter is 1,330 square feet and our Board had initially thought a new 5,000-8,000 square foot would be ideal. However, after working with Clark Patterson Lee and Animal Arts, we quickly learned we were wrong since we are truly building a shelter not just for our current needs but for the FUTURE needs of the SPCA. We all had to step back and re-evaluate and figure out how we would accomplish paying for the newly planned 15,000 foot shelter and be able to afford to pay the heating, cooling, and electric to run a building more than



**Find us on Facebook**

Stay linked in and follow all the happenings at the shelter, pets up for adoption and upcoming fundraisers and events! We are at:

[www.Facebook.com/SPCA.Serving.Allegany.County](http://www.Facebook.com/SPCA.Serving.Allegany.County)



10 times the size of our current shelter. The decision was made to build an energy efficient building. All aspects of efficiency needed to be considered including, the position of the building on the property, the structure using Insulated Concrete Form (ICF) blocks made out of Styrofoam and concrete, utilizing a geo-thermal system, which uses the earth to heat and cool our building and to install LED energy efficient light fixtures along with many windows to take advantage of natural light. We also plan on installing a solar array. All of these choices will help in keeping our operating costs at a minimum...both now and in the future.

Next came the biggest challenge of paying for the new building construction. Keep in mind we are a 501(c)3 charitable organization and we are run solely on donations, not taxpayer dollars, and we do not receive any governmental funding. Towards the end of 2014, we kicked off our capital campaign, called "Give Me Shelter" with the sole purpose of funding the construction of our new shelter. Over the next three years not only did we continue our fundraising efforts to keep our existing shelter running at \$250,000 per year, but we were also actively fundraising for our capital campaign to pay for our new shelter!

In November 2014 our 'Give Me Shelter' project went out to bid and our board had to evaluate every bid that came in and we narrowed it down to 3 contractors. Our final choice was Kinley Inc of Allegany for our project. Kinley made it very clear that they are about building relationships with their clients, and we can assure you this is true. They have devoted time with us to assist and plan, to ensure we are making the right choices for our new shelter. They have been very accommodating in working through any construction issues or decisions that had to be made or changed during the job. Building an animal shelter is no doubt a unique project, as we need to keep in mind we are housing not just a few animals under one roof, but hundreds of animals and we need to focus on creating a healthy, safe and sanitary environment for them and our staff. We also remain focused on reducing the stress of each animal in our care. To ensure we are maintaining our vision we had to carefully consider the drainage system, the air exchange system, the flooring and the choices in materials we use on the interior housing areas for our animals, to make sure they are easy to clean and sanitize and that can stand up to the wear and tear of housing so many animals.

The construction of our new shelter started in July 2015 and after years of planning, fundraising, community engagement and support we are happy to report we expect to be able to move in by the end of 2018! We are currently planning our move to the new shelter which includes the logistics of moving and transitioning all of our animals, as this will be no easy task, and not to mention the challenge of moving in the winter.

We are thankful of the support we have received from our community in donating not only to our existing shelter, but for making donations to help build the new shelter. We have some 'Angel donors' who have been instrumental in making this dream become a reality and we are forever grateful to them.

Our efforts do not stop here and our 'Angel Donors' are willing to pitch in again to help "Bring Us Home" by funding a Matching Challenge starting now until December 31, 2018, where they will match 100% dollar for dollar donated to the new shelter up to \$50,000. This challenge is critical as it will help to fund any additional items needed to complete the shelter before opening and into the new year. Every single dollar counts and this challenge is very doable when you think about our newsletter gets mailed out to 7,500 people. If each of our newsletter friends could donate just \$10.00 we would more than reach our goal to receive the matching funds!

When our Board looks back, many things have changed over the past 100+ years, but it is our love of animals that we share with those who founded our organization back in 1911 in Cuba, NY that keeps the SPCA moving forward to help even more animals in the future. We look forward to the next chapter in our history, one that will create a positive, long-lasting impact on our community for generations to come.

SPCA Board of Directors

Lynda Pruski - *President*  
 Steve Harriger - *Vice President*  
 Linda Walker - *Treasurer*  
 Susan Wrotny - *Secretary*  
 Kevin Habberfield  
 Deb Wright  
 Larry Clark  
 Abbie Pritchard  
 Lyndi Scott-Loines  
 Beth Grimes  
 Wendy Dresser Recktenwald



# \$50,000 MATCHING GIFT CHALLENGE

Let's Do This and BRING US HOME!!

The SPCA Serving Allegany County has been challenged by two of our donors to raise funds for the completion of our new shelter in 2018. For every dollar raised by our community, these donors will match UP TO \$50,000! Let's think about that for a minute. By achieving this goal we could raise \$100,000 that will go toward the final completion of our shelter and give our animals their new residence until they find their 'fur-ever' homes!

**Your donation of \$5, \$25, \$100, \$1,000, \$5,000 or more  
will be matched dollar for dollar!**

We're in the home stretch now and we need your help to BRING US HOME! We can't wait to move our furry animals into the new facility by the end of the year and open our doors! The shelter animals in our care will have ample space, a warm and welcoming environment, places to play and interact with potential adopters, as well as areas for education and medical needs.

The generosity of our donors to date has been overwhelming and this gift in particular has humbled us. Every single dollar will matter to reach this goal...and we need your help now more than ever.

**Are you ready for the BRING US HOME challenge?**

We hope so! Watch our Facebook page and website to see our progress...together we can do this!  
All donations must be received by December 31, 2018 to be counted in the Matching Gift Challenge!

Not only do we thank you...but our furry friends thank you.

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# A Gift Of Kindness

By Lynda Pruski

In my 10 years with the SPCA, I would have to say this story I am writing is one of the most difficult to write. I will never forget the strength, courage, compassion and kindness of a woman named Pat O'Brien....and I am writing this story in tribute to her.

I will always remember the day we received a phone call at the SPCA in October 2017 from Pat inquiring about needing some information from us as she was planning on making the SPCA a beneficiary in her estate. When I returned her call she informed me that she was only 50 years old, she had terminal cancer and that her doctors told her she would be passing away in the next few months, which left me stunned to hear and she was only a few years younger than I. She told me she was planning on leaving the SPCA some funds that she had hoped would help us to finish building our new shelter and during our call she had enthusiasm in her voice as she was talking about the new shelter. I asked her if she felt up to it I would love to meet her in person and give her a tour of the new shelter, a few days later I heard back from Pat and we planned a date to meet. Our tour started in our lobby and she had brought her partner Vicki and their black lab puppy dog Grace who happily was running around checking the place out and Pat and Vicki were just grinning from ear to ear while I told them about our journey to a new shelter. During our tour I found out that Vicki too was battling cancer...which was both sad and unbelievable to me. And despite those unfair cards they were dealt in life, they both were still vibrant, smiling, laughing and just full of excitement while envisioning what the future home for all our cats and dogs would be like. Both she and Vicki were true animal lovers and very familiar with our current shelter as they had been there many times as both volunteers and as adopters over the years, along with attending



our fundraisers. They both understood the SPCA vision and knew the reasons why we needed to build a new facility and they wanted to be a part of helping to build a new shelter for the future.

Over the coming months I got to know

both Pat and Vicki much better as they shared stories, pictures and memories of their many pets they had rescued over the years...and how each one of their cats & dogs wandered into their lives and they were each a special gift who touched their lives. Pat's current dog, a black lab pup Grace was whom she felt most connected to, she referred to Grace as her soulmate pet and her kindred spirit...which I believe to be true. Pat, upon seeing the

indoor dog play arena, immediately chose that room to be named after her, Grace and Vicki – she felt it would be ideal as it would always be filled with playful energy.

Although the prognosis for any hope was bad... Pat did have hope and did not give up, she made it beyond the 3 months she was



given to live and was able to visit the new shelter in the spring of 2018, unfortunately her partner Vicki passed away in early March and did not get to see the progress made over the past 6 months. Pat still had the spirit and determination to keep going on with life and to stay positive, but she also knew the reality that at some point she would not be able to take care of her pets. Her dog Grace went to live with her parents in Arizona and she now has a playmate named Ellie and her cats Melanie and Bonnie each went to go live with friends, and this was clearly a hard reality to face to have to give up your pets. Luckily, with technology to help her through this tough time, she made the leap from a flip phone to a smart phone and what an adjustment that was! We had many funny distress calls for help with her iPhone...and I received some funny distress calls for help with her iPhone. She was able to facetime with her parents in Arizona daily and was able to see her dog Grace running and playing with her new friend Ellie, which brought her comfort knowing her dog was well cared for and truly enjoying her new home and new dog friend. As the months passed, Pat surprised her doctors with her strong will to live and she tried to enjoy each day, whether it was going for a short run or walk, meeting with her clients or stopping over to Alfred University to work out. We tried to talk each day and we spent many hours talking about how much animals affect our lives and the strong bond we have with our pets...and if Pat needed a 'pet fix' I would stop over with one of my dogs for a visit. In our talks Pat could never understand how anyone could be cruel to an animal or abandon them and her heart went out to them... her compassion for all animals was evident in the many conversations we had over several months. Although difficult for both of us, we discussed frequently her wishes to name our SPCA indoor dog play arena after her, Vicki and their dog Grace.

Sadly, Pat passed away on June 6, 2018. I admire her strength, courage and compassion and commitment to helping animals and her generous gift to the animals will live on at our new shelter forever. I feel very fortunate and honored to have known Pat and to have become her friend...a friendship that ended way too soon.

# Community Engagement

By Hannah Mills-Woolsey

We've had an exciting year for community engagement at the SPCA! As much fun as this year has been, it's only going to get better, because when we move to our new location we will have some great things in store.

This year we had the opportunity to collaborate with schools and community groups on a number of events here at the shelter including JUMP Day for local middle school students, Alfred State University's Community Action Day, a day of community service for the Wellsville Central School Seniors, and Celebrate Service Celebrate Allegany with Alfred State.



SPCA staff and animals also participated in various events in the community including the Wellsville Balloon Rally, Scio Strawberry Festival, Andover Maple Festival, and Willing Fall Festival.

We regularly visited the students at Houghton College and the seniors at Manor Hills. As well as giving folks some much-wanted time to connect with animals, these visits

gave the shelter pets extra socialization experience in the community. When the time came for adoption for our animal participants, we were able to relay to their new adopters how well the animals had done at these events, which gave them an extra boost of confidence that the pets would adjust smoothly to their new homes.

In addition to our routine visits to the campus, we also brought some shelter pets to Houghton College's stress management fair and provided the students with information about the beneficial effects of companion animals on mental health and the therapeutic value of having an animal to care for.

We also had a chance to spend time with some much younger people. The David A. Howe Library graciously invited us to visit their children's program twice this year. We brought a friendly kitten to a story-time, and then returned a few months later for Crafts for a Cause, where participants created some homemade cat and dog toys. The shelter pets loved all the fun things the children made for them!

As always, we continue to have a lot of visitors at the shelter. We were pleased to have ARC visitors who cuddled kitties, walked dogs, helped clean cat rooms, and did crafts. They did a great job, and we really appreciated all the time they put in and their ongoing commitment to the animals! We had visits from the middle schoolers of JUMP Club and from several Alfred State organizations including the Newman Club and the Veterinary Technology program.

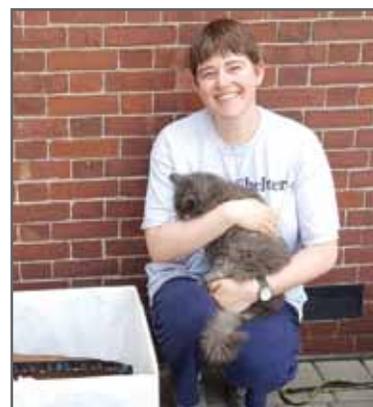


Once we are in our new location we have even more exciting ideas for how our volunteers can get involved and become partners in our mission. We plan to involve more community members as dog walkers, cat cuddlers, cleaners, crafters, and office

help - basically, if you have interest in any area of our shelter operations, we can find a place for you! We also hope to offer additional programs including Pet Meals on Wheels for seniors, crafting projects for children, increased participation options for people with physical and/or developmental disabilities, and a variety of age-appropriate educational programming for children and adults.

If you want to get involved as a volunteer or share your ideas, please get in touch! You can drop a line directly to the Community Engagement Coordinator at [spc HannahMills@gmail.com](mailto:spc HannahMills@gmail.com), or call the shelter during business hours at 585-593-2200. We look forward to seeing you in our brand new home!

We are deeply grateful for all the help our volunteers provided throughout the past year! Every set of hands makes a difference for our animals, and all of our volunteers deserve a heartfelt thank you from all of us at the SPCA!



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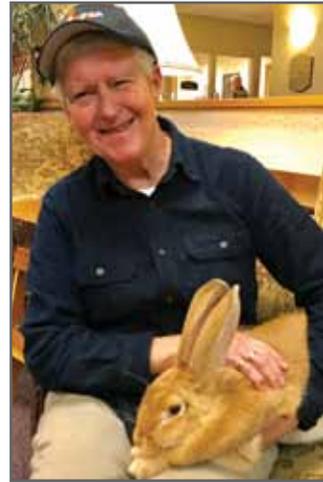
# VOLUNTEERS

Making A Difference For The Animals of Allegany County - By Deb Wright

In the 100+ years that the SPCA Serving Allegany County has been in existence there have been numerous individuals that have volunteered to help the animals. Naming names is tricky because we are sure to unintentionally miss someone. Some people volunteered long before those of us on the current Board of Directors were involved with the SPCA. We truly appreciate all of those who have given of their time, energy and talents to benefit the animals of Allegany County, we would



not be where we are today without the volunteers who came before us. My personal volunteer experience with the SPCA Serving Allegany County began in 1993 when my mother introduced me to Ruth Geffers. My first position on the Board of Directors was Treasurer, which I held from approximately 1993 to 1995. In 1995 I handed off the Treasurer duties to Carol Mead and she has been a hard working and faithful volunteer ever since.



You name it and Carol has been there and done that, from Treasurer, to cleaning cages, walking dogs, making repairs and of course working at the endless fundraisers and being an ambassador for the SPCA!! Carol always has a smile on her face and room in her heart and a vehicle to help the animals! Whether its cats...dogs...or rabbits who are near and dear to her heart, she has continued to help them year after year. Years ago, Carol brought her rabbits to Manor Hills and the nursing home for visits with the residents and today she still continues to bring joy to our seniors at Manor Hills and is now helping our youth at

Houghton college to learn how animals can reduce stress and bring joy to us humans!!! Thank you Carol for your dedication and big heart for animals, we can't wait to work with you at the new shelter!

## Fostered...Cherished...Chosen...Adopted

Please join the Wrotny Family as we celebrate the adoption of our latest furry family member!



Name: **Gertie Renee**  
 Date of Birth: **April 4, 2018**  
 Weight: **4 lbs. 6 oz. (currently)**  
 Eye Color: **Baby Blue**  
 Breed: **Calico**  
 Godmothers: **Misty, Linda & Lynda**  
 Spayed: **Of course!**

A great big "THANK YOU" to the Allegany County SPCA for giving us the opportunity to foster this pretty kitty and for making our family complete! We promise to be responsible and loving caretakers of this sweet kitten. Fostering is a wonderful way to help the Allegany County SPCA when they are overcrowded and in need of assistance from the community. We found the experience to be very rewarding!

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## What do you get when you adopt a dog from the SPCA Serving Allegany County? ALL THIS!

- 30 days pet insurance: \$10.00
- Distemper combo vaccine: \$32 per booster
- Microchip: \$25
- Physical exam: \$40
- Flea treatment: \$20
- Rabies vaccine: \$18
- Heartworm test: \$30
- First heartworm prevention: \$10
- Deworming & fecal: \$30
- Spay/neuter: \$250+
- Lifetime of love and companionship: PRICELESS

Our adoption fee for adult dogs (over 1 year) includes all this — a value of over \$465+ — for only \$100. For puppies, our adoption fee is \$150. Adopt a senior dog, 7+ years and older their adoption fee is only \$50.



## What do you get when you adopt a cat from the SPCA Serving Allegany County? ALL THIS!

- 30 days pet insurance: \$10.00
- Distemper combo vaccine: \$18 per booster
- Microchip: \$25
- Physical exam: \$40
- Flea treatment: \$20
- Rabies vaccine: \$18
- Ear mite exam & treatment: \$36
- Feline leukemia & FIV blood test: \$48
- Spay/neuter: \$175
- Deworming & fecal: \$30
- Lifetime of love and companionship: PRICELESS

Our adoption fee for adult cats (over 1 year) includes all of this — a value of \$420 — Adopt a cat from the SPCA for only \$50. For kittens, our adoption fee is \$85



## Working Together By Lynda Pruski

This summer we had back to back cruelty cases involving horses and one case involved 28 large breed dogs. Being the small shelter we are, this quickly became overwhelming and we had to think fast on how we could accommodate all of these farm animals and dogs in our care.

We were so grateful for all the good hearted animal loving volunteers who came to our aid! Volunteers came up to the Shelter to help walk the dogs, groom the dogs, clean up kennels, put up fencing, wash dishes, and the list goes on. Not to mention all of the donations we received of food, cleaning

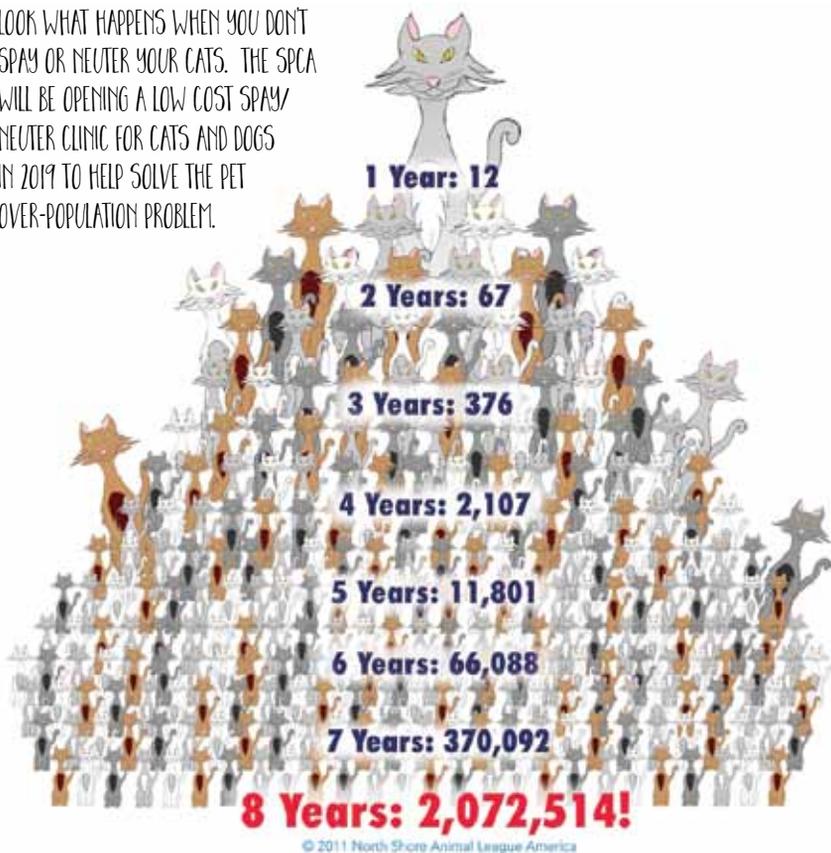
supplies and monetary donations. Not only did the animals need help, but our staff needed help and we were thrilled by the amount of people who pitched in to volunteer and assist us...we had our board members both past and present, along with families and even volunteers from other counties joined in to help. We also received assistance from other shelters, Erie County SPCA and Niagara County SPCA, as well as the Allegany and Cattaraugus County's Emergency teams, and the NYS Troopers.

We want to thank everyone who pitched in and worked as a team side by side with our staff. We truly appreciate your time, efforts, and commitment to helping the SPCA animals in their time of need.



# Feral Cats... Did You Know

LOOK WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU DON'T SPAY OR NEUTER YOUR CATS. THE SPCA WILL BE OPENING A LOW COST SPAY/NEUTER CLINIC FOR CATS AND DOGS IN 2019 TO HELP SOLVE THE PET OVER-POPULATION PROBLEM.



Spaying one female cat and neutering one male cat can prevent more than 2,000 unwanted births over four years. This number jumps to 2 million over 8 years. Studies have shown, the more cats that are spayed and neutered it then decreases the number of un-wanted and free-roaming cats.

According to Alley Cat Allies, feral cats have lived outdoors among people for 10,000 years and here in the U.S. for hundreds of years. Here are just a few facts you should know about feral cats.

- Trap-Neuter-Return improves cats' lives.
- Feral cats are domestic cats—the same species as pet cats. Unlike pet cats, they are unadoptable.
- Feral cats are typically wary of humans. They live content lives outdoors. Unlike stray cats—who were formerly pet cats, but are separated from their homes—feral cats are not socialized to people.
- Feral cats are just as healthy as pet cats.
- Feral cats thrive in all landscapes—from the most rural to the inner city. Studies show them to be as healthy as cats who live indoors. With Trap-Neuter-Return, cats are humanely trapped and taken to a veterinarian to be spayed or neutered, vaccinated, and eartipped (the universal symbol of a neutered and vaccinated cat). Healthy feral cats are then returned to their outdoor home.



- Unlike the failed, costly, and cruel catch and kill approach, Trap-Neuter-Return is effective because it stabilizes the population, improves the cats' health, and ends behaviors associated with mating, like yowling, roaming, and fighting. Trap-Neuter-Return is practiced in communities all across the U.S. and endorsed by national animal protection organizations.
- Animal shelters are no place for a feral cat.
- More than 70% of cats taken to animal pounds and shelters are killed there. For feral cats, that number rises to virtually 100% because feral cats are not candidates for adoption. Hundreds of millions of dollars are wasted every year on this pointless and cruel policy.

For more detailed information, visit [alleycat.org/FeralCat](http://alleycat.org/FeralCat).

# Perfect Imperfections

By Misty Fahrenfeld

Day to day we never know what we are going to encounter in the world of animal rescue. We deal with a variety of situations and take in a variety of animals -dogs, cats, small rodents and lately, farm animals. Some of the animals come to us in “perfect” condition -healthy, happy and ready to find a new home. Sometimes they need a bit of TLC -a bath, some food and a bit of training- to become “perfect”.

Then there are the “imperfect” ones- the dirty and emaciated, the ones missing eyes or limbs, the severely ill, badly injured or animals with other “defects”. The imperfect ones are the ones who often come to us in the most need of care. They have been neglected, abandoned, abused, unloved and unwanted. We know that they will require intensive care, time and effort and that the cost can sometimes be quite high, both emotionally and financially.

We have helped cats with severe eye infections even though they will be visually impaired for the rest of their lives. We have taken in dogs and puppies who are so fearful of people that they are untouchable, and we put in months of work to gain their trust and finally help them to move on to new homes. We have taken in severely injured stray cats who have required multiple surgeries, lengthy treatments and recovery times. We have taken in blind animals, animals born with deformities or who have lost a limb due to injury, deaf animals, kittens with Cerebellar Hypoplasia, kittens with Hydrocephalus, a kitten who has Megaesophagus, FIV positive cats, cats and dogs with special (and sometimes costly) dietary and medical needs, animals with cancer and senior animals who have no one left to care for them.

Each time we get a call and one of these animals comes to us we know that there is a long road ahead and that sometimes we lose the fight no matter how hard we try. Many others would decide that the animal was not worth the effort or the cost, but we choose to put in the effort because we believe that every life deserves a chance if we can give it. We look at the “imperfect” ones and see that they are “perfect” despite their differences. We rejoice in their healing and when they finally find a family to love. Some days it feels like we aren’t doing enough but then we look back at all the ones we have helped, and we know we have made a difference, done something good in a world that often seems too hard.

You too can help us make a difference by donating to help our special needs animals or volunteering to become a foster home. Every little bit makes a difference to the perfectly imperfect!



## COLD WEATHER CARE

1. Keep your cat inside. Outdoors, cats can freeze, become lost or stolen, or be injured or killed. Cats who are allowed to stray are exposed to fatal infectious diseases, including rabies.
2. During the winter, outdoor cats sometimes choose to sleep under the hoods of cars, where it is warmer. Then, when the motor is started, the cat can be injured or killed in the fan belt. To prevent this, bang loudly on the hood of your car and wait a few seconds before starting the engine, to give a cat a chance to escape.
3. Never let your dog off the leash on snow or ice, especially during a snowstorm. Dogs frequently lose their scent in snow and ice and easily become lost. They may panic and run away. More dogs are lost during the winter than during any other season.
4. Thoroughly wipe off your dog’s legs and stomach when she comes in out of the rain, snow or ice. Check her sensitive paw pads, which may bleed from snow or ice encrusted in them. Also, salt, antifreeze or other chemicals could hurt your dog if she ingests them while licking her paws.
5. If you own a short-haired breed, consider getting a warm coat or sweater for your dog. Look for one with a high collar or turtleneck that covers your dog from the base of her tail on top and to the belly underneath. While this may seem like a luxury, it is a necessity for many dogs.
6. Never leave your dog or cat alone in a car during cold weather. A car can act as a refrigerator in the winter, holding in the cold. Your companion animal could freeze to death.



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# K9 TRAINING & REHABILITATION PROGRAM

By Hannah Choate

## WHAT'S IT FOR?

- To help our shelter dogs get adopted into homes through training and rehabilitation
- To improve the quality of life during their stay at the shelter through enrichment activities, socialization, and play time in the new dog arena
- To provide education for our community about dog training through workshops and consultations (i.e. "Getting Started" classes, "Basics to Agility" workshop, etc.)
- To help keep people and their adopted pets together
- When dogs are being adopted more frequently, we are able to take in & help more dogs!

## GOALS IN 2019

1. Work with current dogs on basic obedience and a training plan designed to fit their individual obstacles and learning styles
2. Create an evaluation test for new dogs coming in, to determine what "level" they are at in regards to temperament, reactivity, and basic training and then implement a training plan
3. Every dog's kennel will be labeled with various colored tags indicating personality type
4. Provide a free consultation to every adopter who may have questions or a specific issue
5. Host training workshops open to the public
6. Gather and train groups of volunteers who would like to help our dogs through their training process. They will go through an orientation and be advised how to help implement the training plan and log progress in a communal chart. It's a great way to get the community involved - they will love helping these dogs become more adoptable and into homes! Also, it's a win-win, it's a great way to socialize our dogs in training - and they will learn to accept commands from different kinds of people!
7. Eventually, we would be able to offer fun, advanced classes such as agility!



## In Memory of Sassy

One of the hardest parts of our job and say good-bye to one of our longer residents. Sassy spent nearly 2 1/2 years with us. Though she never got the chance at a home, we were her family and loved her even though her attitude made her difficult sometimes. We will miss the grumpy faces when we woke you in the morning, the grumbings when you decided you were displeased with us or just the world in general and your bigger than life personality!

Unfortunately your cancer was not one we could treat and the time came to let you go much quicker than we hoped. Run free old girl! Until we meet again..

WE MISS YOU SASSY!

- SPCA SHELTER STAFF -



EVERY ANIMAL DESERVES A COMFORTABLE PLACE TO CALL HOME

DONATE TO THE OUR CAPITAL CAMPAIGN AND HELP US FINISH OUR FUR-EVER HOME!

How Do  
You Like  
Meow!



USE THE ENVELOPE AND  
DONATE TODAY



# Memorials to the SPCA Serving Allegany County

Dec 4, 2017 through November 23, 2018

## In Honor of Pets

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<b>Abbey</b>	Maureen Cooper
<b>Beecher</b>	Warren & Connie Emerson
<b>Bella &amp; Beau</b>	Maureen Cooper
<b>Breezy</b>	Donna Szeluga
<b>Brittany</b>	Joel Anderson
<b>Buttercup</b>	John & Diana Embser
<b>Carma &amp; Butler</b>	Maureen Cooper
<b>Erland</b>	Debra & Joseph Borer
<b>Frank</b>	Irving Schoenacker
<b>Jasmine &amp; Lola</b>	Kenneth Porter
<b>Lucy</b>	Kevin Gildner
<b>Missy &amp; Elmo</b>	Judith & Louis Cornelius
<b>Rosie</b>	Kevin & Nancy Monroe
<b>Sam &amp; Dusty</b>	Gene & Mary Wilson
<b>Smiley</b>	Paula Vance
<b>Walker &amp; Jax</b>	Maureen Cooper

## In Honor of Persons

---

<b>Abbey</b>	Maureen Cooper
<b>Aimee Acton</b>	Don & Margaret Jefferds
<b>Joanne Allen's Birthday</b>	Thursday Night Dinner Group, Kay Eicher
<b>Almond Veterinary Hospital Staff</b>	George & Mary Harris
<b>Dolores Baker</b>	Bob & Cindy Baker
<b>Peg Burdick</b>	Leslie & Judy Todd
<b>Penny Canfield</b>	Ken Canfield
<b>Larry Clark</b>	John & Carol Flurschutz
<b>Class of 1960 &amp; Joe &amp; Lois Spinelli</b>	
<b>Judy Deck</b>	Warren & Connie Emerson
<b>Sue Decker</b>	Ann Hallett
<b>Sue Decker's birthday</b>	Ann Hallett
<b>Michele Dunbar</b>	Angela Baron
<b>Warren &amp; Connie Emerson</b>	Lynda Pruski
<b>Delores Fleming</b>	David Fleming
<b>Allen Foster</b>	Lisa Lentz
<b>Ann Hallett's Birthday</b>	Charles & Sue Decker
<b>Kenneth &amp; Mary Anne Harris, Denny &amp; Shannon Harris, Dana &amp; Linda Harris, Lacy &amp; Beverly Harris, Brian &amp; Tina Harris</b>	Bernice Harris
<b>Tracy Havey's Birthday</b>	Jennifer Havey
<b>Betty Herman</b>	Diana Sherwood

## In Honor of Persons

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<b>Jo Anne Hutter</b>	Lynda Pruski
<b>Judy Jackson</b>	Cattaraugus County Family Court Employees
<b>Carrie Jefferds</b>	Marsha Sick
<b>Anna Joyce &amp; Dave Drury Wedding</b>	Elaine Weatherford, Debbie Weatherford, Cheryl Weatherford, Laurence Fisher, Diane Wallace, Chelsea's Catering, Kathy Darrow-Holla, Melanie Jackson, Penny McKee, Holly Deusenberry, Pete & Marlee Brown, Margaret Walker, Rebecca Hogan, John & Joann Allen, Milton Jr. & Kimberly Tolman, Denise Richardson, Sandra Keough, Charles Yazak & Val Vreeland, Bob & Brenda Sobeck, Phil Burrows, Mark Haskins, Paul & Lorraine Axtel, Tarra & Alec Mize, Jeffrey Bird, Bradley & Teresa Joyce, Jared & Teresa Joyce, Shirley Stoller, Rich and Gwyn Shear, George & Kathleen Biondo, Thomas & Kandra Hirsch, Alexis Tolman-Davis, & Ryan Davis, The Scott & Vicki Middaugh Family, Elizabeth Joyce, Donald & Jillian Joyce, Lynda Pruski, Joseph & Cynthia Baker, Susan Baldoni Szczerbacki, Sharon Ricotta, Certified Safety Products of N.Y., Robin Turner, Eva & Kris Thompson
<b>Bob, Peter &amp; Heidi Mangels</b>	Warren & Connie Emerson
<b>Martin Matijas &amp; Mary Fanton</b>	Douglas & Janet Rhodes
<b>Carol Mead</b>	Lynda Pruski
<b>My Sixth Grade Class at Fillmore CSD</b>	Lindsey Seitz-Peters
<b>Barbara &amp; Walter Orlowski</b>	Lynda Pruski
<b>Janet Potter</b>	Warren & Connie Emerson
<b>Lynda Pruski's Birthday</b>	Aunt Marge & Uncle Carl
<b>Amber Salada's Birthday</b>	
<b>Brett and Megan Shear</b>	Gary & Kris Stoll
<b>Shear, Potter, Hoffman, Stoll &amp; Rosell Group</b>	Al Abbott
<b>Connie Shepp's birthday</b>	Martha Vossler
<b>Sidney and Sam</b>	Mom
<b>Tony and Holly</b>	Donna Mayba
<b>Linda Walker</b>	Eugene & Rita Ciezak
<b>Sherry Walton</b>	Lynda Pruski
<b>Deborah Wright</b>	Joseph & Trudy Fernandez, Marilee Wilcox

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## Memorials for Pets

<b>Abbey, Missy, Minnie and Buddy</b>	Alice Hunt	<b>Lucy Jackson</b>	Lynda Pruski
<b>Abby Young</b>	Lynda Pruski	<b>Mack the Knife</b>	Jenna Meyer
<b>Abel</b>	John & Diana Embser	<b>Maggie</b>	Carol Mead
<b>Baby Cat</b>	Arthur & Joyce Klein	<b>Magic</b>	Kevin Gildner
<b>Bally</b>	Rick & Sharon Warner	<b>Marly and Charlie</b>	Dale & Cynthia Dutton
<b>Baron Jones</b>	Lynda Pruski	<b>Mary Eicher</b>	Ed & Kay Eicher, Carol Mead, Lynda Pruski
<b>Bella</b>	Joseph Chojnacki, Jr.	<b>Max</b>	Dominic & Donna Digirolamo
<b>Billy and Friends</b>	Al Abbott	<b>Miss Ramsey</b>	Gene & Mary Wilson
<b>Bobby Santora</b>	Larry & Deb Clark, Bob & Judy Loughlin, John & Cynthia Santora, Maureen Cooper	<b>Misty Shear</b>	Joan Rosell, Gregg & Stanny Shear, Jennifer Cole, Lynda Pruski, Megan Crowell-Shear
<b>Brandy</b>	Hilda Thompson	<b>Mitch</b>	Jack Carter
<b>Brandy, Misty, Elte and Odie</b>	Nancy Bart Kowiak	<b>Mittens</b>	Margaret & Mike Gomola
<b>Bro</b>	Carol Mead	<b>Mookie and Casey</b>	Charlie Parker Hetzel
<b>Brooke Regan</b>	Lynda Pruski	<b>Bear</b>	Stephanie Cretecos
<b>Buddy</b>	Rick & Sharon Warner	<b>Nikki</b>	Lori & Trevor Levitt
<b>Carhart</b>	Thomas Zilliox	<b>Nubs</b>	Mary jo Hubbard, Warren & Oscar
<b>Chai</b>	Sandra & Robert Burdick	<b>Oscar</b>	Connie Emerson
<b>Charity Pruski</b>	Linda Walker, Sue Dempsey, Lynda Pruski	<b>Otis and Ned</b>	Warren & Connie Emerson
<b>Chase</b>	Lauren Biddle	<b>Peaches</b>	Charles Woodford
<b>Chico</b>	Warren & Connie Emerson	<b>Peaches and Bear</b>	Geraldine Liuzzi
<b>Chipper</b>	Martin Aldrich	<b>PeeWee</b>	Adele & David Finnemore
<b>Conner</b>	Maureen Cooper	<b>Princess</b>	Walter & Joyce Bialkowski
<b>Dante</b>	Lynda Pruski	<b>Prudence Walton</b>	Lynda Pruski
<b>Electra</b>	Diane Willard	<b>Pudgie, Lady, Turner</b>	Geraldine Liuzzi
<b>Fluffy, Scruffy &amp; Bucket</b>	Nancy Cimbale	<b>Rosie</b>	Jeremy & Sara Donlon
<b>Frankie Pruski</b>	Lynda Pruski	<b>Sadie Stilson</b>	Lynda Pruski
<b>Ginger</b>	Allison O'Connor	<b>Sandy, Nardi, Laddie and Penny</b>	Vincent Marinera
<b>Grace, Harriet and Johnny</b>	Edwina Fendzlau	<b>Shayla</b>	Jill Nye
<b>Haley and Snickers</b>	Thomas Brown	<b>Shebia</b>	Edward Schaefer Trust
<b>Harley</b>	Linda Blank	<b>Shelby</b>	Marie Weber
<b>Heidi</b>	Sharon & Terry McGill	<b>Skittles Lewis</b>	Trever & Lori Levitt
<b>Henry</b>	Judy & Bob Loughlin	<b>Sophia Hutter</b>	Lynda Pruski
<b>Henry and Jesse</b>	Gerald & Heidi Miller	<b>TC and Sadie</b>	Ed & Kay Eicher
<b>Jade Brown</b>	Lynda Pruski	<b>Tigger</b>	Trever & Lori Levitt
<b>Jasmine &amp; Lola</b>	Kenneth Porter	<b>Tony</b>	Sarah Kennedy
<b>Jeter</b>	Joan Kottwitz	<b>Warrior</b>	Joseph & Laura Mead
<b>Junior Chapman</b>	Mitchell & Peggy Chapman	<b>Zorro</b>	Warren & Connie Emerson
<b>Juno and Duke</b>	Dennis & Betty Vespucci	<b>Zug and Pivo</b>	Carlyn Yanda
<b>Lily and Gracie Windsor</b>	Barbara & George Cretecos		
<b>Little Man Levitt</b>	Trever & Lori Levitt, Brett & Gail Lewis		
<b>Lucy Decker</b>	Ann Hallett, Nancy Wildman, Charles & Sue Decker, Maureen Cooper, Lynda Pruski		

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## Memorials for Persons

**Delores Ackerman** Diana Ackerman, Tom & Kandy Hirsch, Lynda Pruski  
**Beverly Knowles Abbott** Maureen Cooper  
**Debra Ackerman** Joe & Lois Spinelli  
**Terry Allen** Dick & Wendy Lanterman, Jill Weaver, Warren & Connie Emerson, Lisa & Timothy Szucs, James Kane, Paula & Tim Stockman, William Coombes, Jeanne Veno, Leighton & Carol Graham, Howard & Delores Miller, Janine Preston, Wayne & Colleen Robbins  
**Cheryl Anderson** Betty Short Herman, Joe & Lois Spinelli  
**Cheryl Bennett Anderson** Harry & Becky Campbell  
**Gary Arnold** Marilyn Arnold  
**Audine Ashline** Eugene Ashline  
**Tom Barnes** Joan Rosell, Gary & Kristina Stoll  
**David Barney** Carol Bledsoe  
**Marian Barney** Richard Culbert, Bonnie Ordway, Sherry Bledsoe, Ruth Olsen  
**Richard Beckerman** Maureen Cooper  
**Richard Bellows** Thomas & Kandra Hirsch  
**Lorraine Bliss** Warren & Connie Emerson, Clifford & Gloria Johnston, Wilma Waldradt Robinson, Centerville U.M. Church  
**James and Mary Bognar** Christine Bognar  
**Genevieve Dorothy Bogucki** Karen Bogucki  
**Harriet Bradley** Carol Bradley  
**Robert Brigham** Dennis & Gayle Clark  
**Chris Brown** Bonnie Hastings  
**Phyllis Burrows** Carol Bradley  
**Gerald and Mary Canfield** Mel & June Brandes  
**Ed Carlin** Joe & Lois Spinelli  
**Edward Cassidy** Warren & Connie Emerson, Richard Culbert, Boyd & Shirley Green, Wellsville K Mart, Kathy & Marty Madden, Scott Trowbridge, Sharon Olter, Ashley Olter Klepadlo & daughter Payge Figueroa, Marlene & Robert McDowell  
**Jean Cavanaugh** Warren & Connie Emerson, L.C. Whitford  
**Tom Chalker** Howard & Delores Miller, Sheree Gielow  
**Eugene Ciezak** Lynda Pruski  
**Bruce Clark** Joe Costello  
**Janice Clark** Donald & Gerry Pinney, Warren & Connie Emerson  
**Rodney Cole** Jacki & Fred Cole  
**Ralph Cox** Warren & Connie Emerson  
**Bill Culbert** John & Cindy Santora  
**Lisa Miller Cutten** Jane White  
**Joan Miller Dake** Marilyn Lester  
**Harriett Day** Warren & Connie Emerson  
**George DeBarbieri** Roger & Margaret Billings  
**Nina Decker** Warren & Connie Emerson  
**Dan Dempsey** Lynda Pruski  
**Dan Denner** George & Mary Harris  
**Zach Deschler** Christopher Doyle & Dechfest  
**H. Joseph Donlon** Sara & Jeremy Donlon  
**Rodney and Nancy Emerson** Warren & Connie Emerson  
**Charlotte Ennis** Stephanie Stein, Robert & Cindy Baker  
**Marjorie Erdmann** Warren & Connie Emerson  
**Lowell Fancher** Warren & Connie Emerson  
**Richard Fanton** Carol Mead, Pamela Sprague

**Gene & Mary Lou Fanton** Henry Reuning  
**James Fleming, Sr.** Warren & Connie Emerson  
**Lucie and Richard Freeman** Gloria Freeman Bayer  
**Judy and Joe Gauthier** Christine Bognar  
**Hattie Gavin** Paul & Mary Ann Whitehouse  
**Joyce Frances Gaylord** Felecia Biancuzzo  
**Joyce Gaylord** Rose Marie Scott  
**Gabe Gebelein** Gary & Kris Stoll, Stanny & Gregg Shear  
**Ashley Lynn Gelser** Hannah & Allison Betje, David & Diane Tuttle, Carolyn Gordon, Peter & Nancy Bryant  
**Elmer "Butch" Giles** Marilyn Lester  
**Jody Glass** Charles Thompson, Jr., Dale & Marsha Clark, Kay, Pippy & Jackie, Kathy & Sandy  
**Bonnie Golish** Maureen Holt & Ann Doyle  
**William Goodyear** Dale & Cynthia Dutton  
**Marian Graves** Florence Buckley  
**Bill Greene** Warren & Connie Emerson  
**Duane Griswold** Gary & Kristina Stoll  
**Nancy Haberer** Eleanor Reynolds, Robert & Sheila Linnecke, Frank & Colleen Linnecke  
**Lena Lucelle Cole Hackett** Marsha Sick  
**Barb Hardy** Michael & Lola Hardy  
**Bernice Harris** Stannards Water Inc., Dominick Petrelli, Kathy Madden  
**Geraldine "Gerri" Hills** Ralph Hills  
**Eleanor Howe** Roger & Margaret Billings & family  
**Robert Hutter** Warren & Connie Emerson  
**Rita Insley** Gary & Kristina Stoll  
**Bernie Jackson** Sue Dempsey  
**Lewis Jackson** Warren & Connie Emerson  
**Eugene Johannes, DVM** Warren & Connie Emerson, The Ryan Agencies, William & Dianna Lockwood, John & Cynthia Santora, Smith's Stock Farms, Inc.  
**Linda Johnson** Judy & Bob Loughlin  
**Lura Jordan** Maureen Holt  
**Helma Joyce** Carol Bradley  
**Dave Karl** Randy Raetz, Pamela Dixon, Warren & Connie Emerson, Jody & Jeffrey Spears, Brian & Nancy Jordan, Alan & Judith Silverman, Alfred University, Agnese, Nausicaa, Elisabetta & Chiyo from Rome, The Ryan Agencies  
**Scott Kehrer** Douglas & Barbara Lewis  
**Dr. David Dean Knight** Barbara & Rick Laverty, L. C. Whitford  
**Keith M. Kribloe** Warren & Connie Emerson  
**Bruce Krog** Barbara Hodges  
**Lucille Kyser** Warren & Connie Emerson  
**Mari Lou Lall** COLORS  
**Casey Lambert** Gregg & Stanny Shear  
**Howard Landries** Ken & Phyllis Maxson  
**Matthew Lemoyne** Stanny & Gregg Shear  
**Joan Levey** Warren & Connie Emerson  
**Connie Lewis** Joan Tucker  
**Henry Lindquist** Steve & Terrie Morrison  
**Tony Liuzzi** Geraldine Liuzzi  
**Curt Loper** Thomas & Kandra Hirsch, Kevin & Nancy Monroe

## Memorials for Persons

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**Lester Loucks** Thomas Smith, Mary Smith Cullins, Ruth Ann Smith  
**Michael Magnano** Linda Bernard  
**Wanda Makowski** Warren & Connie Emerson  
**John Manning** Joan Tucker  
**Jon Manning** IAM LL 1580, Julie Mitchell, Susan Horn  
**William Marshall** Harold & Jean Slocum RLT, Larry Mitchell  
**Penny Martin** Sue Dempsey  
**Joseph Mattison** Jan Mattison  
**Marion McCarty** Cynthia Dutton, Donna Bruckert, Daniel & Julie Dutton  
**Marian McClure** Tom & Kandy Hirsch, Glenn & Karen Ely, Robert & Cindy Bake, Anne Church, Dave Drew family, Kay Stefancic, Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Perry, Lois and Margaret Kemp, Susan Church-Jamesson, Les & Carol Miller, Ruth Olsen, Bonnie Ordiway, Tom & Ann Smith, Mary Smith Collins, Ruth Ann Smith, Lois & Rick Kure, Lisa Marie Kent, Roger & Nancy Godown, Ronald & Nancy Chretien  
**Ellen McGinnis** McGinnis and Wyrough families, Al & Susan Decaney  
**Harry McMurray** Warren & Connie Emerson  
**Bob McNinch** Warren & Connie Emerson  
**Dennis Miller** David Woodworth  
**Jeanette Mingus** Betty Herman, Joann Palmer, Mariellen Fienster, Julie & Debbie  
**Betty Howe Mitchell** Ellen Reesher  
**Betty Mitchell** Don & Lois Andrews, Bonnie Renaud, Mary Lois Denner & Patrick Reagan, Bolivar-Richburg Central School, Jon & Mary Ellen Manning  
**Terry Monroe** Bob & Glenda Fisk  
**Robert Moran** David Drew  
**Jerold Morey** Marie Follett, Kenneth Wright, Deb & Lin Bandmer, Don & Mary Wright  
**Pat O'Brien** Ruth & Adam Ohol, Mary-Lou & Jerry Cartledge, William Dibrell, Cynthia Haller  
**Pat O'Brien and Vicki Eaklor** Elizabeth Gulacey, Lynda Pruski, Karen Porter & Rex Olson  
**Dalton Osgood** Robert, Carol & Michael Brigham, Robert & Wilma Brigham  
**Joan Palmer** Carol Mead  
**Elma Pangburn** Warren & Connie Emerson  
**Douglas Perry** Groveland NYSCOPBA, Cutco Corporation officers, Steve & Terrie Morrison, Charles Thompson, Jr., Carol & Joe Szymkowiak, Blaine Kolisch, Bill & Niki Barnes  
 Phyllis Perry Dawn Ketchner, Eleanor Reynolds, Margie Dunford, Alfred University  
**Myrna Petrelli** Ken & Arline Canfield, GERALYN Gough, Warren & Connie Emerson, Maureen Cooper, Bernice Harris, Olean Wholesale Corporation, Thomas & Roseanne O'Grady, Stephen & Mary Ann Reitnauer, Patricia McEvoy, Dominick Petrelli and family  
**Sean Phelan** Maureen Kelly  
**Viola Phillips** E. Ward Phillips  
**Janice Raish** Ed & Kay Eicher  
**Joyce Reynolds** Ken & Arline Canfield  
**Lois Reynolds** Ann Hallett, Scio friends at The Store, Herman & Peggy Stone, Jon & Mary Ellen Manning

**Marcella Richardson** Carol Bradley  
**Carol Riehle** Josephine & Felecia Biancuzzo, Phyllis Rigby, Cuba Driftbusters  
**Jack Rosell** Joan Rosell  
**Barbara Roeske** Florence Buckley & Thomas Roeske, Warren & Connie Emerson  
**Diana Sandle** Judy & Bob Loughlin  
**Carl Schneider** Jody Spears, Denise Kamakaris, Mel Grundleger, Warren & Connie Emerson  
**Carl Schneider and Stella** Marilyn Lester  
**Bruce Schoenthal** Jones Memorial Hospital Operating Room, Warren & Connie Emerson  
**James Schultz** Wayne & Brenda Varga  
**Marilyn Scott** Dean Scott  
**John Setchel** Warren & Connie Emerson  
**Linda Sheffield** K.W. Sheffield  
**Bruce Smalley** Ann Gardner  
**Brent and Megan McClune Smith** James & Peggy Smith  
**Charles Smith** Josephine Biancuzzo  
**Kay Smith** Monica Cole  
**Betty Stebbins** Judy & Bob Loughlin  
**Carol Stevens** Otis Eastern  
**Norma Stuck** Jon & Mary Ellen Manning  
**Harley Sturdevant** Rose Cozzi  
**Gloria Swarthout** Bonnie Hastings, Brenda Brown, Bette Burger, Jim Swarthout  
**Wilma Swarthout** Wendy & Jim Barrett  
**Terry Sweeney** Thomas & Kandra Hirsch  
**Robert Sweet** Warren & Connie Emerson  
**Helen Tostanoski** Donald & Ruth Richmond, Richard Burton  
**Lois Truax** Warren & Connie Emerson  
**Jessie Van Name** Warren & Connie Emerson  
**Ronald Veno** Jeanne Veno  
**Virginia Vincent** Diana Embser  
**Linda Wagner** John & Gayle Brooks  
**Timothy Ward** Don & Jackie Comstock, Mark & Lonnie VanTyne, Bill & Cindy Engelder, Doris Macfarquhar  
**Robert & Celia Wasserloos** Daughters & grandchildren  
**Ron Webb** Peggy Gelser-Webb  
**Mildred and Walter Weirich, Sr.** Lois Halbert  
**Dede Novisher Whitwood** Diane & Tom Prouty, Lyn Muxworthy  
**James Wilcox** Warren & Connie Emerson, Rusty Tobin, Jackie Manis  
**Raymond and Shirley Wilkins** Patricia Kennedy  
**Bob Wonderling** Florence Buckley & Thomas Roeske, Ruth Bottoms, Paul Cozzi, Jr., Mr./Mrs. Dan Lounsberry  
**Mildred Woodward** Warren & Connie Emerson  
**Jeanne Yazak** Carol Bradley  
**Mark Zimmerman** Stanny & Gregg Shear

# Finnegan (Quentin)

By Susan & Lew Duttry

I am one of the many people out there that when they have lost a beloved pet have said: "Never again, I will never have another one. It just too hard when you lose them. They're a lot of work. I can't go through this again." The last time I said this was almost 4 years ago. My husband Lew and I had lost Rufus our Husky/Chow mix who was 14, and Tiger, Sassy and Phantom all within a year and a half of each other. Our hearts were broken. The only children we've have ever had have been four footed and furry.

After about a year, Lew was ready to adopt again. Not me. I had become used to not running the vacuum every day, spending a ton on Vet bills, and worrying about who would take care of them if we went away. Most of all, I was not going to go through that inevitable heartbreak again. Sure, we visited the local SPCA once and I always listened when we got word of someone needing a home, but I wasn't giving in. Eventually, I think Lew gave up, but then something happened. Maybe my heart had healed enough, maybe I knew how much he missed not having our "kids" or maybe as I believe God gives us signs. I started looking at adoption sights-but only looking! After hours and days and a few months of looking- and talking myself out of looking, there was Finnegan aka Quentin at the shelter. He was almost 3 hours away and in another state. His story broke my heart. He and his 4 siblings had lived with virtually no human interaction for the first 4 months of their life and then were dumped in a field. It had taken the SPCA almost a week to round them all up and they were terrified of humans. Finnegan had not been adopted and had been living at the shelter at that time about 6 months. He needed a quiet home with no children or other pets and humans with lots of patience. His picture showed a tiny black pup huddled in a corner looking so sad and frightened.

I looked at that picture and read that story for probably a week before I showed Lew. Even after I showed him I fought with myself for another week telling myself and Lew why we shouldn't consider adopting him. But something deep inside me kept telling me I needed to call the Allegany County SPCA. I called the SPCA and talked to Lucas who told me all about the pup called Quentin. When we got there Misty greeted us and took us to Quentin. He was sitting in the corner looking like that sad picture online. He was bigger now and shaking so bad it was like he was ready to have a seizure. Misty got us a blanket and we went into his kennel and sat with him. She coached us on what was the best way to make him comfortable with us and talked a lot about what we could or could not expect if we decided to adopt him. Near the end of our visit Quentin came over to within 2 feet of me and laid down and closed his eyes. Misty said she had never seen him that relaxed. Another sign for me?

Misty told us she knew taking on Quentin and his special needs was a big decision and she knew we would need to discuss it - to take our time and let them know. I think both of us felt overwhelmed at what might be ahead of us if we did take him. On our trek home we stopped to use the restroom and wash our hands. That's when my next sign came. While I was at the store the clerk asked if she could help me. I explained we really just needed to use the

restroom and wash up; we were just coming from the SPCA. "Oohh are you getting a new pet?" she asked. I explained the fact that I just wasn't quite sure I was ready to adopt again and face heartache down the road. She quickly shot back her story. She said she felt just like I did after the loss of one of her pets. While talking about it with her grandmother, her grandmother said, "You are so selfish!" You could give a dog or a cat a good loving home but you will deny them a quality life for their time on this earth and leave them in a shelter because it's too hard on you when they are gone." All I could do was hang my head.

We talked on the drive home about what to do, but still didn't have a resolution. Monday came and I got a phone call from Lucas at the SPCA and I could not believe it... We were the only people in all the months Quentin had been there that had shown any interest in him. Now in less than 48 hours they had gotten a phone call from a couple in Boston that saw Quentin's story. They had recently lost their dog who had come to them with a background similar the Quentin's. They wanted to come and adopt Quentin immediately without even meeting him. My heart sank, I called my husband in a panic. What if we didn't get him? Final sign....decision made...we wanted Quentin!

For the next 2 months while the wonderful crew at the Allegany SPCA was working to get Quentin used to a collar and a leash and get him ready to be taken to be neutered we made the 6 hour round trip every other weekend to visit. We would sit in the kennel and quietly talk with him, the staff were amazing, they never rushed us with our visits. They talked with us on how to best handle his fears and let us know there were no guarantees he would spend time in the same room with us when he came home or for that matter even allow us to pet him.

Finally, we brought him home. He didn't know how to walk up the steps to the back door, he was afraid to stand on the grass, he didn't understand how to play with the toys we had bought him, was terrified of the leash when we tried to potty train him, hated the crate that was to be his safe place, and hid from us. He loved to see other dogs but hated seeing people. It's been a long road and there is still a ways to go but this journey has already taken us farther than we ever thought we would come in so many ways. Our new family member is no longer named Quentin, he is Finnegan. He's still afraid of the dark, terrified of school buses and large loud vehicles, only wants to eat when someone is in the room with him, when it's dark out he runs to the garage to use a potty pad, and takes time to warm up to new people. He is extremely smart and requires a lot of mental and physical stimulation. He is very vocal and tries to demand things his way, even though he doesn't always get it. He's anxious, and a bit OCD. He jumps up and down the steps, loves to lay in the grass, play with his toys and run in his newly fenced in yard. He visits with all the neighbors he has gotten to know on our walks. He likes hugs, to have his belly scratched, hang out with Mom & Dad and occasionally likes to be held like a lap dog. He gives love and he is loved.

On one of our visits we were speaking with the President of the SPCA, she gave us a copy of their newsletter and said, maybe someday you will be able to write a success story for us. For anyone who thinks they can't adopt one more time, for whatever reason, here's your sign. It's work, it's not always easy and sometimes you may say, "what was I thinking?" but there can be a happy ending, just ask Lew, Finnegan and me.



# Froggy By Hannah Mills-Woolsey

In April, a community member found a stray kitten and brought him to the shelter. It was immediately obvious that he had some significant health problems, so he was taken to the vet and was diagnosed with megaesophagus, an enlargement and lack of motility in the esophagus that causes the animal to have difficulty swallowing food. This disorder had caused him to aspirate food into his lungs, so when he first arrived at the shelter he was also suffering from a severe case of pneumonia. He was not expected to survive, but we wanted to give him a chance.

I thought he would be happier in a home than in the shelter, so I decided to foster him. I named him Froggy, and he settled into a care routine at my house. Because of his megaesophagus, Froggy has to eat frequent small meals of liquefied food. After each meal, he has to be held upright for twenty minutes to make sure the food gets to his stomach. Two of his five daily feedings fall during work hours, so he started going back and forth with me to the shelter every day. Froggy adjusted quickly to his new home and family. Against the odds, he recovered from his pneumonia. Days turned into weeks, which turned into months. I decided to keep Froggy permanently, but I didn't expect to be able to adopt him because the vet felt that neutering him was too risky.

In August, I found a growth in Froggy's mouth. It grew quickly and was causing him difficulty with eating, so the vet felt the best course of action was to remove it despite the risk from anesthesia. The surgery went well and the growth was determined to be benign. While he was anesthetized, the vet was able to neuter him also, so Froggy became eligible to be adopted. Although he was already a member of the family, I was glad to be able to make it official by adopting him.



Froggy is a very sweet, friendly, loving cat who enjoys life. He loves to play with his brothers and sisters, and chases toy mousies and strings like a pro. When I have to travel he generally goes with me; so far Froggy has visited four states and Canada. His medical condition and care routine will be lifelong, but he doesn't let it get him down. We have no way of knowing how long Froggy's lifespan will be, but for as long as he's here, he has a loving home.



## Special Thanks!

A special thank you to Bonnie & Don Baldwin from Wellsville Hardware! We were fortunate enough to be allowed to use their building for the Theme Basket Auction setup and preparation!

We appreciate your generosity!  
**PAWS UP TO YOU!**

## SHELTER NEEDS

- Dish soap
- Wood pellets
- Dog & cat treats
- Dog & cat toys
- Catnip
- Paper towels
- Garbage bags
- Dry Kitten food
- Canned dog, cat and kitten food
- Collars & Leashes
- Towels & washcloths
- Blankets
- Hand Sanitizer
- Laundry Detergent
- Wood chips or straw for outdoor kennels

ALSO - Dollar General, Tractor Supply, or gas station gift cards

Monetary donations are welcome also!

THANKS



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# Farm Animal Cases

This past year has definitely been the year of the horse and farm animals for the SPCA. Normally people think of dogs and cats at the SPCA, but that is not the case - we take in farm animals too and it makes sense due to us living in a rural area.

We started our summer off with bringing in a donkey, a mule and 2 young horses, along with a young female calf as a result of a neglect case. Next, we had a case involving a full size horse and 3 miniature horses. It was then followed by one of our stranger cases involving a rooster who showed up uninvited and crashed a back yard baby shower and it was reported he was being a bit disruptive; and catching him was no easy task. Actually it was quite comical and I am sure it was a baby shower to remember and undoubtedly it made it onto facebook. The rooster was eventually caught and brought to the shelter and he was very underweight. On the good side, he did make friends with our underweight calf and they ended up rooming together and playing together.

And soon after we had another case involving 2 more horses. We luckily have worked with some great fosters over the years that have barns and horse trailers and they were willing to help out by allowing us to house some of our farm animals in their barn. When we ran out of space in the foster barn, we ended up repurposing some of our SPCA property into a fenced in area for some of the horses. We had numerous people that helped us along the way, some gave their time, and others did some serious shopping at Tractor Supply for the horses, and some eventually became adopters. Together we were able to nurse everyone back to health so that they could be adopted. So in closing the SPCA would like to thank those who helped out with our large animals and we appreciate your time and efforts.



## DID YOU KNOW...

- When you shop online at Amazon Smile, Amazon will donate to the SPCA Serving Allegany County.
- The average length of stay for a kitten in a shelter in NY State is 37 days, for adult cats over 1 year of age it takes at least 88 + days for them to be adopted.
- The SPCA Serving Allegany County - does NOT receive tax payer dollars nor do we receive any government funding, we run solely on donations, grants, bequests and fundraising.
- Did you know if you see a neighborhood stray cat with a portion of it's ear missing that means the feral cat has been spayed or neutered....ear tipping is a universal sign of an altered feral or community cat.
- We continue to collect Giant Food Mart receipts and for every \$500 in receipts and Giant will donate \$\$\$ to the SPCA. Receipts must not be older than 1 year and they can be dropped off at the shelter or mailed to us.
- Did you know you can help the SPCA with returnable pop cans & bottles, by dropping them off at the Wellsville Redemption Center on 69 West Hanover.
- Did you know the SPCA accepts donations of old towels, washcloths and blankets for the animals.
- Did you know we have been using for years 'wood pellets' for kitty litter - we have found it is more economical and environmentally friendly...it lasts longer and cuts down on odors.
- The SPCA has spare change donation jars at the Texas Hot, Modern Diner, Pizza King, Shawnee's restaurant, Park Plaza, Short's, Music Alley, Marion's Auto, The Store in Scio, Fillmore Pharmacy and Charlies Place in Cuba and collectively the spare change collected amounts to thousands of dollars that goes directly to the care of the animals.
- We are always looking for new fundraising ideas - and we want to hear your idea!
- Did you know dogs running at large, need to go through your local dog control officer.
- Do you know what to do if your pet goes missing? If it's a dog, call your local dog control officer in your town...the complete list of DCO's is on our web-site <http://www.SPCAallegany.org>. Share pictures of your missing pet on Facebook, also share it to our Facebook page...email or call the SPCA, call your local radio station.
- Our Cruelty Hotline is available 24/7 - Just call 268-9600

# Five Ways to Help Local Homeless Animals When Adoption Is Not an Option

By ASPCA President & CEO Matt Bershadker

Many people think animal rescue mostly involves adopting homeless animals. But while the 3.2 million shelter adoptions taking place each year are a critical part of helping these vulnerable animals survive and thrive, that's certainly not the only way to make a lifesaving difference.

Animal welfare organizations, for example, take many different approaches depending on their reach and resources, including relocating animals to places where their chances for adoption are higher, rehabilitating victims of cruelty and neglect to make them more adoptable and helping low-income pet owners keep their pets by making veterinary services more affordable and accessible.

But individuals and entire communities can also impact at-risk animals in ways that don't require a permanent commitment, so please consider and share some of the wide-ranging ideas below to help animals in need.

**1. Fostering** - Fostering animals—working with local shelters to take these animals into your home and care for them on a temporary basis—serves many goals. It eases the animal care burden on shelters, helps socialize young animals, protects animals from potential diseases and stress and exposes them to new networks of potential adopters. Fostering is also a good way to try out pet ownership without the life-long commitment.

Fostering is especially important during kitten season, the annual high-breeding period that runs through spring and summer, and even individual impact could be huge. We estimate that one foster home could potentially save 20 kitten lives over the course of a single season.

Each shelter may have unique fostering procedures and expectations, so ask about their programs in advance to ensure a good match for your situation.

**2. Volunteering** - If you have free time during the week or weekend, ask your local shelter how you can help. Meaningful support can include anything from walking and reading to animals, to cleaning cages and helping with office work, social media and adoption drives. Many shelters need help with adoption events they host on weekends. Children above a certain age can also volunteer their time individually or as part of community organizations—animals will always appreciate extra affection.

**3. Donating Supplies** - Whether your local shelter is large or small, staff there will appreciate contributions of vital supplies including food, towels, toys, blankets, newspapers and crates. Call ahead (and check their social media sites) to discover what items are most in demand so you're offering the greatest assistance given their specific and seasonal needs.



## 4. Advocating for Animals

- According to a survey we recently published, local animal shelters and rescue groups are increasing their use of social media to promote their animals and mission, and seeing higher levels of community support as a result. You too can also harness your own social platforms to be an effective advocate for animals, shelters, and animal welfare issues.



Take inspiration from this month's designation as Adopt a Shelter Dog Month and find a dog (or cat) available for adoption at your local shelter (it may already be one of the more than 500 groups participating in our #FindYourFido national campaign). Act as his or her publicist by posting photos, descriptions, and videos.

You can also learn about key local, state and federal animal welfare issues and legislation by visiting our ASPCA Advocacy Center, where you'll find ways to support measures that help at-risk animals survive and thrive, as well as fight actions and proposals that put them in further jeopardy. There may even be important animal welfare proposals on the ballot in your district during the elections.

**5. Financial Support** - Because caring for homeless animals can quickly drain a shelter's limited resources, local shelters rely on their communities for financial support. You can help by donating funds, hosting a funding drive or turning celebrations and events into charitable opportunities for local animals. Many people support local shelters and animal welfare organizations by asking for donations in lieu of birthday or other gifts.

Local and national organizations serve very different purposes and have different capabilities, so investigate each and offer support in a way that has the most meaning to you.

**The Bottom Line** - Approximately 6.5 million companion animals enter U.S. animal shelters nationwide every year, of whom approximately 1.5 million are euthanized. That number is thankfully dropping, but at-risk animals in your community still need your help. Every act of fostering, volunteering, advocacy and support can make a difference, so whether adoption is in the realm of possibility or out of the question, I hope you connect with a commitment that's right for you and best for an animal in need.



## PAWS UP

We owe special thanks to many businesses, groups, organizations and individuals including but not limited to the following:

LaForge's  
 Dr. Bruce Kaplan  
 Vet Care of Cuba  
 Lakewood Veterinary  
 Alfred Vet Tech School -  
 Dr Pierson & Dr Chambliss  
 Alfred Vet Tech students  
 Cornell Veterinary Hospital  
 Allegany County Sheriff Dept  
 & 911 Dispatchers  
 Allegany County Area Foundation  
 OTIS Eastern  
 Steuben Trust Company  
 First Citizens Community Bank  
 ALCO Credit Union  
 Richard Lichter Foundation  
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 Warren & Connie Emerson  
 Don & Bonnie Baldwin  
 Groomers: E. & C. Pet Parlor &  
 Jackie May  
 Brand Name Appliance  
 Peter Mangels Photography  
 Wellsville Daily Reporter, Cuba Patriot &  
 Olean Times Herald  
 Erie County SPCA  
 Niagara County SPCA  
 BOCES - Media Communications  
 ARC  
 ProAm Charities  
 Alfred Community Chest  
 Middaugh Realestate  
 Junior Green - B & R Trucking  
 Trout Run Campground  
 Jones Pond Camp Ground  
 Cattaraugus & Allegany County  
 Emergency Services  
 Purina Pet Food  
 Siemans - Dresser Rand

## FUNDRAISING EVENTS CALENDAR

- February - NEW! Show the SPCA some love
- March - Bowl-a-palooza
- April - Paw Prints: Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Month
- July - Wellsville Balloon Rally
- August - Scramble 4 Animals Golf Tournament
- October - Theme Basket Auction
- November - Radio-thon 103.5 WJQZ
- December - Holiday Cookie Sale & Pet Pics with Santa

# Cosmo By Sarah Kennedy

Growing up we always had a dog but once I had my own place I didn't have the option of having a dog because I was renting. Once I purchased a house I knew adopting a dog was next on my list. I looked at many dogs online, met a few in person, but didn't find the right fit. Then I saw pictures of Bandit. He was a 10 month old 60lb yellow lab...not exactly what I had in mind but his sweet eyes caught my attention. I went to the shelter to meet him he was wearing the "cone of shame" after having surgery which made him more awkward than he naturally was. After meeting him I quickly decided to adopt him...I went to put Bandit in my car but he immediately made his dislike of the car known by refusing to get in. One of the SPCA staff had to lift him into the car and I started to wonder what I had gotten myself into? Bandit quickly made himself at home and I knew I made the right decision the next day when he was laying in the middle of the living room on his back with his paws up in the air relaxing.



I couldn't help but feel that Bandit wasn't the right name for him. It didn't capture his goofy personality and awkward mannerisms. After going through many names I settled on the name Cosmo Kramer from Seinfeld which seems to fit him well.

Cosmo's life now consists of daily walks, regular trips to the dog park and generally being spoiled. Adopting him was one of the best decisions I have ever made. Seeing his excitement when he greets me at the door or when we go for a walk makes every day better. I often wonder how I was so lucky to find such a great dog and hope that he feels just as lucky to have found a home with me. I can't thank the SPCA Serving Allegany County for finding me my perfect dog.



# Senior Love By Benjamin

Hi, I'm Benjamin and I really love my new Mom. She fell in love with me the day she came to meet me and adopted me that same day. I was a little thin and shy since the veterinarian had to take all my teeth out. My new mom fattened me right up and I love to follow her around the house and go outside in the back yard. She even made me my own bed in her bedroom, but sometimes I like to sneak up and sleep next to her. I even steal some of her blankets if I think I might be cold. We sit in the chair and watch TV together and I always let her know when I need to go out or when someone is at the door. I love her so much, I have made myself her protector. A few weeks ago she went outside to get some firewood to keep us nice and warm. She was outside for a really long time and I was starting to worry and howled away until a friend

brought her in the house. I knew something was wrong but she kept telling me it was okay. It was then that I first met the ambulance crew... I was really scared and thought they were trying to hurt her so I kept getting in between her and everyone else. I forgot that I didn't have any teeth and growled and tried to nip at them. My mom just laughed at me and told me it was okay, and 'what did I think I was going to do with just my gums?' Mom was able to stay home with me after they made sure she was ok, after the firewood pile had fallen on her. She said she was proud of me and I can be her protector all the time! I received lots of hugs and she called me her best little man and told me I am the best thing that ever happened to her!



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The SPCA Serving Allegany County

# Paw Prints

WINTER 2019

[www.SPCAallegany.org](http://www.SPCAallegany.org)

