A PAWsiTIVE Partnership, Chapter 2

In our April/May/June Newsletter of 2006, we described the start-up of our PetsMart Charities Adoption Center. Here is an update on the PetsMart and HSWC Partnership in progress:

Since June 2005 when we began displaying our cats and kittens at the PetsMart store in Webster, 395 felines have found homes through adoptions taking place at that store! It speaks well for HSWC that PetsMart employees have adopted from us; our adopters include Laurie Nicholas (store manager), Norman Pulsifer, Ashley Sano, Michael Henshall, Samantha Pell, and Ryan Farnung. Also, one of our volunteers, Lauren Giardina, has adopted two cats, Shelly (re-named Stella) and Excia. The word is being passed among cat fanciers to check out the Wayne County kittens at PetsMart, and many people do just that.

Our Humane Society goal is to give every unwanted cat a second chance to find a loving home. Our friendly, personable, and stunning PetsMart cats generally get snapped up quickly. Then there are the shy, frightened, or stand-offish kitties who remain with HSWC for a while. Excia, a black and white chunky girl, called HSWC her home for more than eight months, traveling between the Shelter and PetsMart. Excia tended to act indifferent to everyone. Then, Lauren decided to give Excia a home of her own. Now Excia runs through the house, plays, and sleeps on Lauren’s pillow. According to Lauren, Excia “came out of her shell” within a few days of arriving home.

Another PetsMart success story is that of Doreen who was with HSWC for more than five months. Finally, a nice, understanding young lady decided to take a chance on Miss Doreen. Heather was fully aware that Doreen was not friendly and did not ever purr. However, Heather knew she could give her new cat, time, attention, and love. Doreen was adopted this January, and as of March, Doreen follows Heather from room to room, will sit on Heather’s lap, and Doreen purrs!

PAWsiTIVE Partnership, Continued on page 6

Charlie’s Fund Benefits Bella

Charlie’s Fund was established for shelter animals in need of special medical attention.

Bella came to the shelter because her owners were not taking proper care of her. She was only 4 lbs. when she arrived. She looked very much like she was part of that series of dog “art” that is so popular these days on binders and notebooks for kids; the ones where the photo has been changed to exaggerate the size of the dogs’ heads. But this was not trick photography or Photoshop fun, this was real life and Bella’s condition was very grave. She was suffering from weak muscles and no body fat. This little dog walked with a hunched posture and was prone to falling over. Bella needed extra care that the Humane Society could not give her. She found it through Charlie’s Fund.

Bella, Continued on page 7

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Our Mission:
The mission of the Wayne County Humane Society Animal Shelter is to provide a humane facility to shelter, feed and care for lost, unwanted and abused animals of Wayne County, New York and to provide a facility for humane education to citizens of Wayne County.

Shelter Hours

Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday:
10 am to 4:30 pm
Thursday: 10 am to 6 pm
Saturday: 10 am to 4 pm
Sunday & Monday: Closed

Telephone: 315-946-3389
Fax: 315-946-9132
Email: www.humane@usadatanet.net
Web: hswaynepets.org

Mark Plyter, Executive Director
Sandy Howell, Shelter Operations Manager

Board Members
Stephanie Cooper, President
Kimberly Donselaar, Vice President
Marianne DeBellis, Secretary
Marge Laws
Andrea Meyer
Fran Snyder
Carol Williams
Gretchen Wood

Programs and Services
Pet Adoptions
Shelter for lost, abused and unwanted domestic animals
Humane Education
Low Income Spay/Neuter Financial Assistance Program
Adult Companion Program
Foster Care Program
Volunteer Opportunities
Charlie’s Fund

All interested members are welcome to attend Board Meetings. Regular Board Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of every month at 7 pm. The meetings are held in the basement of the Charter One Savings Bank, at 711 West Miller Street, Newark, New York. To obtain a copy of board meeting minutes write to: Marianne DeBellis, c/o Humane Society of Wayne County, 1475 County House Road, Lyons, NY 14489.

“Actions Speak Louder than Words.”
A message from Shelter Director Mark Plyter

“Actions speak louder than words,” those words are spoken quite often, however, how many of us can really say that we live by this motto?

I know of a special couple who, for the last six years, has epitomized the true meaning of that infamous saying.

Bob and Gail Houghtaling of Walworth have quietly been the impetus behind the spaying and neutering of Wayne County residents’ pets. A number of years ago, Gail saw an article in the Humane Society’s newsletter that promoted Spay Day. In honor of Spay Day, the Society was giving away one free spay/neuter. Immediately, Gail thought that is not enough! She called the shelter and said that she wanted to help curb the overpopulation of animals in Wayne County. She and Bob assisted with 10 surgeries that year. They soon realized and recognized the need of preventing unwanted companion animal births in Wayne County. They started to fund the SNIF (spay/neuter incentive fund) program with additional money. Since January 2003, the Houghtalings have assisted with the spay and neuter of more than 650 animals in Wayne County.

Thank you, Bob and Gail, from the bottom of our hearts! You have prevented countless unwanted births, thereby reducing the number of animals coming into the shelter. Your help has also diminished the number of animals that may die horrible deaths from disease, cruelty and abandonment. I truly believe the quality of life for animals and people in Wayne County is improved because of your commitment and generosity. For you, Bob and Gail, actions DO speak louder than words.

The SNIF program of the Humane Society is an income based program. If you qualify, the cost of spaying or neutering your pet is split between the vet, the owner, and the Humane Society. Please stop by for an application.

Cookbook Correction

The correct contact information for Cookbook submissions is:

- stephspets@aol.com
- HSWC Recipes
  PO Box 293
  Williamson, NY 14589

visit us on the web: www.hswaynepets.org
Memorial and Honorariums

Thank you to the following friends who made contributions to our shelter between December 13, 2006 and February 28, 2007.

MICHAEL BAILEY
- Charles Jermy
- James & Katherine Lomoglio
- Gary Timmerman
- Thomas Moon

PHYLlis BUSH
- Gladys Debruyne

BARBARA COOK
- Marilyn Fletcher

WINSTON DOBBINS
- Anne Salerno & Stuart Smart
- Roger & Lorna Wilson

MARGE FULLER
- Janet Dingman

MARThA GRIFFIN
- Friends at the Nichols Team, Inc.
- Grace & Samuel Gaudino
- Magnus Precision Manufacturing, Inc.
- Arnold Fisher
- Gwendolyn Flynn

DEPUTY JOHN HECkLE
- Kathleen & Leo Blauvet Sr.

DONALD HYATT
- Ellsworth's Antiques
- The Bishop Family
- David & Frances Murdoch
- Kathy & Bruce Johnson
- James & Katherine Tagliamonte
- Diane De Volder
- Katherine Roffe

DOROTHY MADDEN
- Roland & Dora Talbo
- Isabelle Hartman
- Monroe Plan for Medical Care, Inc.
- Transportation Staff @ Lyons Central School
- Jacqueline Spiegel
- Janet Thomas
- Mary Tiballi

PATRiCa MaSCLE
- Williamson Post 394 American Legion Auxiliary

JOAN MORSEx
- Jean Carroll

CLARE "CURLy" MoUREY
- Sunshine Club BOCES
- Francis & Lillian Hudson
- Kathy & Evan Shussett
- Paula & Gregory Simmons
- Paul & Rosalie Rice
- William & Glenda Nash
- Marianne Stephan for Family Services Team II & Director Phil Gerhart
- Phyllis Minnamon

GEORGE SIBLEY
- Sodus Bay Ice Boat Club
- Ted, Tracy & Cathleen Lomonaco
- Chuck & Betty Thoms
- Elsie & George Parsons
- Joan & James Steger
- William & Mary Ann Zaretsky
- Alfred Miller
- Dick Brown
- Margaret Webber
- Shirley Reed

J. ROBERT SMALLEY
- Betty Smalley

MARCELLA SPARKS
- Robert & Linda Schneider

MONA TIMMERMAN
- Xerox Corp.

LETA WInNETT
- Jeffrey & Joi Washburn
Dog Bite Prevention Week is May 20–May 26, 2007

What You Should Know About Dog Bite Prevention:

Any dog can bite. Even the cuddliest, fuzziest, sweetest pup can bite if provoked. Most people are bitten by their own dog or one they know. From nips to bites to actual attacks, dog bites are a serious problem. Dog bite victims requiring medical attention in the US number approximately 800,000 annually. Countless more bites go untreated. Fortunately, there are steps we can take to address this problem.

Statistically, the number of recorded dog bites is significantly higher in children than adults. CAUTION: never leave a baby or child alone with a dog.

What Can Dog Owners Do?

- Carefully consider your pet selection. Puppies should not be obtained on impulse.
- Make sure your pet is socialized as a young puppy so it feels at ease around people and other animals. Gradually expose your dog to a variety of situations under controlled circumstances; continue that exposure on a regular basis as your dog gets older. Don't put your dog in a position where it feels threatened or teased.
- Wait until your child is older. Because so many dog bites happen to younger children, it is suggested that parents wait until children are older than 4 years.
- Train your dog: The basic commands, such as sit, stay, no and come can be incorporated into fun activities which build a bond of obedience and trust between pets and people. Avoid highly excitable games like wrestling or tug of war. Always use a leash in public to control your dog.
- Keep your dog healthy: Have your dog vaccinated against rabies and preventable infectious diseases. Parasite control and other health care is important because how your dog feels directly affects how it behaves.
- Neuter your pet: It is a fact; neutered dogs are three times less likely to bite.
- Be a responsible pet owner: License your pet with the community as required. Obey leash laws. Dogs are social animals, spending time with your pet is important. Dogs that are frequently left alone have a greater chance of developing behavior problems.
- Be Alert: Know your dog and be alert to signs of illness. Also, watch for signs that your dog is uncomfortable or feeling aggressive and remove your dog from the situation immediately.

Other Helpful Tips:

- NEVER leave a baby or small child alone with a dog
- Always be aware and on the lookout for potentially dangerous situations.
- Start teaching young children--including toddlers--to be careful around pets.
- Children must be taught not to approach strange dogs. Teach children to ask an owner's permission before petting a dog.
- Don't run past a dog: dogs naturally love to chase and catch things, don't give them a reason to become excited or aggressive.
- Never disturb a dog that is caring for puppies, sleeping or eating.
- If a dog approaches to sniff you, stay still. In most cases, the dog will go away when it determines you are not a threat.
- If you are threatened by a dog, remain calm. Don't scream. If you say anything, speak calmly and firmly. Avoid eye contact. Try to stay still until the dog leaves, or back away slowly until the dog is out of sight. Do not turn and run!
- If you fall or are knocked to the ground, curl into a ball with your hands over your head and neck. Protect your face.

Dogs are wonderful companions. By acting responsibly, owners not only reduce the number of dog bites but also enhance the relationship they have with their dog.
HSWC Welcomes new Shelter Operations Manager

The Humane Society of Wayne County Board of Directors, its Executive Director and shelter staff would like to introduce our new Shelter Operations Manager, Sandy Howell.

Sandy spent the last two years working at an animal hospital before coming to the Humane Society. She brings with her a vast knowledge of animal health care. She feels the best thing about working with animals is the unconditional love and deep sense of fulfillment you receive in helping animals find a loving home.

She and her family have a wide variety of pets from dogs and cats to ferrets and even a horse. She enjoys spending time with her family, friends and horse back riding.

We feel very fortunate that Sandy has joined our team. Please stop by the shelter and wish her well in her new position.

Newark Elks Club Wish List Drive:

The Humane Society would like to thank the members of the Newark’s Elks Club whose idea it was to hold a Wish List fund drive. As you can see from the picture, it was huge success.

Thank you!

We would like to thank everyone who participated in the following events:

- Tree of Lights – a record year. We raised over $2,400.00
- Pictures with Santa – We received over a thousand dollars from PETsMART
- Spay Day 2007 – We were able to have 6 winners (everyone that entered) due to a matching gift donation.

Be Kind to Animals Week

May 6–May 12, 2007

The American Humane Association created Be Kind to Animals Week in 1915 to celebrate the unique bond between humans and animals. We are often asked “What can I do for the Animals?” and “What does the shelter need on a daily basis?”

Well, during Be Kind to Animals Week, we will:

- wash 70 loads of laundry
- use 4 gallons of bleach
- use 21 rolls of paper towels
- go through 270 pounds of cat litter

So, it’s true that it takes many of the same items to run the shelter as it takes to run your house. We just super-size.

Please consider these genuine needs the next time you’re making a non-monetary donation to the HSWC.

Donations can be brought to the shelter during normal hours of operation or dropped off in any of the conveniently located dog house drop off spots throughout the county. Please call the shelter for further details. A current listing of items needed can also be found on our website: www.hswaynepets.org

Story Telling and Wine Tasting

Sunday, April 22nd
2 pm - 5 pm
Newark Elks Lodge
223 South Main St., Newark

What a great way to spend a spring Sunday afternoon!! Join us for some wine tasting and unique story telling.

Iroquois story teller Perry Ground will keep you spell bound with his energetic versions of traditional Iroquois legends and stories. Perry is a Turtle Clan member of the Onondaga Nation and has been telling stories for over 15 years as a means of educating people about the culture, beliefs and history of the Iroquois. Perry has given presentations all over the United States and in Europe. He has taught classes at many schools and at Syracuse and Cornell Universities. He promises us some great animal stories that will be fun for all ages.

Tickets are limited and can be purchased at the shelter or from a board member. Tickets will also be available at the door on the day of the event. Ticket prices for an afternoon of fun are $10.00 for adults or $6.00 for students and Seniors.

Join us for some great entertainment and to show your support for the Humane Society.

visit us on the web:  www.hswaynepets.org
Come One, Come All & Join the Fun!
Open House at the Humane Society
June 10, 2007
12:00-4:00

People to meet: Brightstar, German Shepard Rescue
Cracker Box Palace, Farm Animal Rescue
Habitat for Cats, Feral Cat Rescue
PETsMART’s Dog Trainer, Sara Pinkney
Wayne County District Attorney, Richard Healy
Wayne County Sheriff’s K-9 Unit Demonstration
Wildlife Rehabilitor, Kris Steffan with her birds

Tables to visit: Buy a “Paw” for your favorite pet or loved one.
Buy a “Go Fetch” Raffle Ticket
Pick up information about our Foster Care program
Invisible Fence, PETsMART and Science Diet Tables
Support your furry friends at the HSWC Membership table
Walk the grounds and meet the Board of Directors
The kids favorite “Duck Pond”, tattoos and new game “Poop Fling”

Treats & Treasures: Bake Sale
Flower & Plant Sale
Silent Auction Table
Hot Dogs and Soda & much more!

Visit some new vendors and some old friends. Don’t miss this special day to do something for our cuddly fuzzy homeless friends. You never know when you might find that friend for life.

The Community Education Event of 2007!

A PAWsITIVE Partnership, Continued from page 1

There are far too many happy-ending tales to mention here and PetsMart adopters often stop by the store to report on their adoptees. Additionally, PetsMart Charities donated $5 to HSWC for every adoption completed at the store. Now, as of 7/31/06, the corporation is contributing $10 to us for each store adoption. Further, we receive revenue from Pictures With Santa at the store...$755 for 2005 and over a thousand dollars for 2006. What else? On 5/22/06, we received a $5,000 grant from PetsMart Charities. We have been using this money to spay and neuter our Shelter animals.

Those of us who volunteer at PetsMart, caring for and cleaning for the cats, do this work in order to get a needed “cat fix”. This is not a chore, but rather an enjoyable time of interacting with many different cat personalities. Also, the accomplishment of a successful home-placement is very heart-warming.

For readers of this article who are interested in volunteering at PetsMart, kindly contact Roberta Mann at 331-7319.

HSWC Volunteer Helps Homeless Cats in Florida
How did you spend your winter? Snow Bird Dale Bridson proves good works don’t have to take a holiday, even when a volunteer does.

Spending the winter in South Florida, I don’t miss the cold and the snow, but I do miss volunteering to help take care of homeless animals. While visiting the local PETsMART, I noticed that there was a room of cats for adoption. Knowing how successful our Humane Society of Wayne County has been in adopting out kittens from PETsMART, I signed up to help. Yes, like most rescue groups, they needed volunteers. Soon I was instructed in the care and cleaning of the kittens and began to work there one morning a week.

Getting to know the cats was rewarding. Some liked to spend their “out of cage time” being petted, some liked to play, some liked to be groomed. There was one older pair, however, who didn’t seem to care about much. Eleven year old littermates, they had been surrendered to the rescue group when their owner went to a nursing home. Snuggles and Smokey were brown tabbies, not nearly as pretty as some of the other cats, and certainly not kittens anymore. To make matters worse, Snuggles was covered in benign tumors; not dangerous the vet had told us, but surely not attractive. Smokey was wearing bald spots on his hind end from sitting in one position in the cage. Other cats came and were adopted out. Snuggles and Smokey stayed and became more depressed. God help me, I began to wonder if euthanasia would be more kindly to this pair than to live their lives in a small cage.

One morning, I noticed a woman looking through the book of dogs for adoption. I asked if I could help. Although I really knew nothing of the dogs, I could get her an application. We began to speak and when she asked about the cats, I blurted out the story of Snuggles and Smokey. They were the ones who most haunted my thoughts. She asked if she could come in and see them and soon she was stroking them with tears coursing down her face. She told me she was a veterinarian with her own practice and wanted them right away to be her “clinic kitties.” Several phone calls and faxed paper work later, she was approved and the next day, Snuggles and Smokey went to their new home. Dr. Singer will take care of the tumors and she and her staff will spend their days enjoying the company of these pleasant elderly cats.

Dale Bridson
HSWC Membership
Lollypop Farm Pet Peeves dog counselor
SADSAC (Save a Dog; Save a Cat) cat caretaker
**PAWS FOR A CAUSE**

Plans are underway for our annual May “Paws for a Cause” campaign. Paw prints will be sold at various locations throughout the county for $1. Paws can be purchased to honor a person or a pet. The paws will be displayed at the HSWC shelter or at the Veterinary clinic where they were purchased.

As always, we need volunteers to represent the HSWC at the participating locations. Our goal is to have a very noticeable and frequent presence at all locations throughout the month of May. We need a good “crew” of volunteers to accomplish this—to talk with people and sell Paws. Traditionally this fundraiser is fun and successful. With your help this year can be even better!

Please help if you can! To volunteer, call Andi Meyer at 986-1287 or Marge Laws at 986-4320. New to volunteering for HSWC? Not to worry! New volunteers will be teamed with the more experienced. Come out and help the animals!

**Add a little Cattitude to Your Life!**

*June is Adopt a Cat Month!*

Cat lovers know there is nothing quite like the company of a cat. They also know that each cat is an individual and there are as many distinct cat personalities as there are cats! As a species, cats have the reputation of being aloof. Who hasn’t heard the phrase “dogs have masters—cats have staff”? This notion that all cats are aloof may stem from the domestic cat’s sense of independence. But it’s this sense of independence that often makes cats a better choice as a pet. Although all cats need the time and affection of their human companions, on the average they require far less company to be happy, than say a canine companion. Cats are also highly adaptable to different living situations and usually require less room. These traits, among others, have made cats a perennial favorite for people on the go, people whose schedules are constantly changing and people with limited space.

There are, of course, cats who break all the stereotypes and dote on their humans to an extent that would put the most devoted dog to shame! Playful to pensive, shy to sociable, there is a cat who’s personality will fit perfectly into your household. Whether you are looking for a cat that is gracious and gregarious or regal and reserved, you can find your purrfect companion at the Humane Society of Wayne County.

**Why choose an adult cat over a kitten?** While true most kittens are more rambunctious and playful than adult cats, they also require more care and supervision. Choosing an adult cat may give you a better glimpse into your new pet’s personality; although many animals behave differently while in shelters or around strangers, the shelter staff will be happy to guide you. Kittens are only kittens for a short time, so consider an adult cat—after all, you’re choosing a friend for life!
The Society Page is a labor of love published by the Humane Society of Wayne County

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To submit an article to The Society Page:
The Society Page,
c/o The Humane Society of Wayne County
1475 County House Road
Lyons, New York 14489
Email: societypage@usadatanet.net

Please note: All articles must include the name and telephone number of the author to be eligible for publication.

Humane Society of Wayne County
1475 County House Road
Lyons, New York 14489

Special thanks to Bill Flick who has been transporting animals usually 4 times a week. Bill has been a huge asset to the shelter! Thanks Bill!

Wish you could do more to help the animals? You can!
Become a volunteer. The animals will thank you!
Call the HSWC shelter for details: 315-946-9132

HWSW Calendar of Events:

April 22 -- Story Telling & Wine Tasting at the Newark Elks Lodge

May -- Paws for a Cause Month

May 6 thru 12 -- Be Kind to Animals Week

May 20 thru 26 -- Dog Bite Prevention Week

June -- Adopt a Cat Month

June 10 -- HSWC Open House, Lyons

Wish you could do more to help the animals? You can!
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