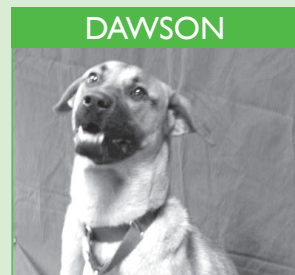




Looking for love...

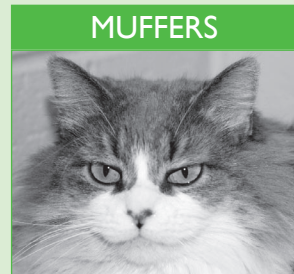
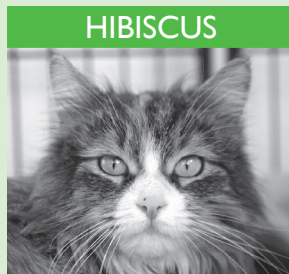
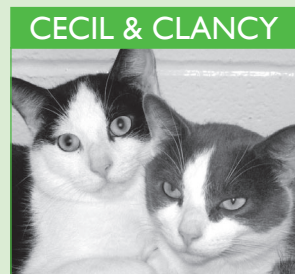
The SPCA of Westchester has a large selection of homeless dogs and cats, each waiting for a second chance. Come by the shelter or visit some of our adoptable animals on-line at: www.SPCA914.org.



Dawson Dawson was very eager to sit for his photo and show everyone how handsome he is. This sweet, young hound mix is just waiting for a good friend to come along and see how well he can run, play and fetch.

Devon We're not sure what breed Devon is – but he's definitely a wonderful combination of loyalty and warmth. Possibly a Great Pyrenees – Collie mix, this great guy lived with other dogs before coming to the SPCA.

Snickers We were so proud to show off our girl Snickers at the Walk-a-Thon in April! An American Bulldog mix with lots of energy, she can be a total mush when she's calm. Snickers craves human interaction and would be best suited to a household with an experienced dog owner.



Cecil & Clancy Rescued from a house overrun with needy cats, these handsome young males are somewhat shy, but quite loving after their ordeal. They're so anxious to show their affection to the right person.

Hibiscus Her beautiful colors are straight from an artist's palette. Hibiscus came to the SPCA when the house she was living in burned down. Young and very sweet she misses being part of a family and would be so happy to find someone to curl up with.

Muffers How deep and wise are those eyes? Senior cat Muffers has seen many things in her life and has many wonderful stories to tell a companion who can appreciate her gentle ways.

The SPCA would love to see photos of your animals, especially dogs and cats adopted from the shelter. You can put your pet's picture on our website by visiting www.sPCA914.org and clicking on photo gallery.



Wags & Whiskers Wrap Up

Two Feet + Four Paws = SPCA of Westchester's Walk-A-Thon Success!!

The 3rd Annual Wags & Whiskers Walk-A-Thon was a hit with a grand total of \$68,850 raised!



Under sunny skies at FDR Park in Yorktown, over 1,000 people assembled with their dogs to hit the trail for the SPCA of Westchester. Though cats may have opted out of walking, their pictures were carried by dedicated individuals in the spirit of the day. Catherine Michaels of WHUD cut the ribbon that signaled the start of the trek, as people and pets made their way under the blue and white balloon arch. At the completion of the walk, there was much to do and see. Over fifty vendors displayed their services and wares to visitors. The Port Chester Obedience Training Club showcased their talented dogs and handlers, and caricature artist Alison Gelbman brought people and their pets to life on canvas. Murray Weinstock treated the crowd to selections from his CD *Dog Tunes*.

Dogs had the chance to be in touch with their inner Picasso as they created one-of-a-kind paw paintings and children tried their hand at different arts and craft projects. Chickee and Pluto, two SPCA dogs, gave a show of strength worthy of Rocky Balboa as they participated in a Lug Nuts Demonstration under the supervision of Denis Butler.

Two officers from the Westchester County Police K-9 Unit demonstrated how their dog partners assist them in finding illegal drugs or tracking suspects and missing people, and the Westchester County Mounted Police, with their beautiful horses, were an added treat for everyone.

Several dogs and a selection of cats from the SPCA, all waiting to find their forever homes, were at the event. Sharing their heartrending stories, and how long many of them have been at the shelter, was a reminder of the true reason everyone was gathered on this special day.

For more pictures, please visit photographer Liza Margulies' site at www.pbase.com/snootydog/2007 walkathon. All proceeds from photo orders will benefit the SPCA.

Kudos to the Wags & Whiskers Walk-a-Thon Top Fundraisers!

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Judy Karten | 6. Christie Rogers |
| 2. Alice Layne | 7. Tina Elias |
| 3. Denise Tardella | 8. Karen O'Donnell |
| 4. Betsy Marzahn Ramos | 9. Paula Garber |
| 5. Susan Feist | 10. Ada Toro-Batista |

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A big "Thank You" for the great food and snacks at this year's Wags & Whiskers Walk-a-Thon to

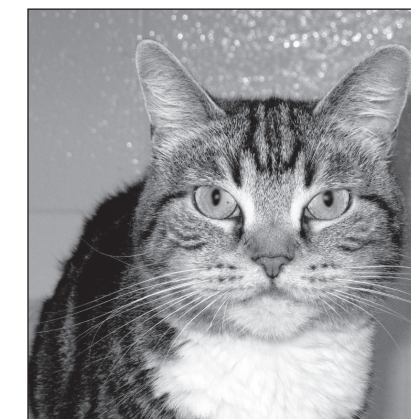
O'Neill's Concessions

Please visit them all summer at FDR Park in Yorktown

In Praise of Old Friends

We admire them when we see them – the mature dog with the white muzzle walking alongside his human companion on a country road; the older cat who takes her time to find the perfect puddle of sunlight for an afternoon nap. They may lack the leap and bound and chase qualities of their youthful counterparts, but they are infinitely patient and kind with us, no matter how distracted or forgetful we get.

"Make new friends but keep the old... one is silver, the other gold."



SPCA seniors Cody and Priscilla would welcome the chance to know the love of a forever home.



The lyrics from the traditional Girl Scout camp song remind us that while it's great to meet new people and make new friends, it's equally important to cherish the friends we've acquired along life's journey. The same can be said of adult and older animals waiting to be adopted. It's not accurate to assume that an older animal at a shelter might have a problem or "defect." Perhaps they were someone's dear companion, but because of circumstances – a death, divorce, relocation, money problems – they were parted from all that was familiar to them. One might want to consider the benefits of sharing a home with an animal who knew human companionship (good or bad) and would thrive if given a second chance.

Contrary to popular belief, you can teach older animals new tricks! Older dogs can focus well, because they've mellowed. Therefore, they learn quickly. They're house-trained, which saves us from going through the difficult stages of teaching house manners to a puppy.

You CAN Teach an Old Dog New Tricks

Older dogs settle in easily because they've learned what it takes to get along with others and become part of the pack. They've grown into their shape and personality – what we

see is what we get! Most are accustomed to human schedules and generally don't need nighttime feedings, comforting or bathroom breaks. Adult dogs can quickly become fast friends, ready to go walking, hiking, riding in a car or just hanging out.

One Good Life Would Be Enough!

The old adage that "cats have nine lives" refers to the belief that cats have an inherited ability to survive adverse situations. Though they're resourceful, cats have only one life and often do not get a second chance when that life is full of misery and neglect. If you're considering sharing your home

with an adult or older cat, consider some of these reasons.

Older cats are most likely to be litter box trained, and will be neutered or spayed as well. An adult cat is perfect for a working couple or single person who is not home during the day, as well as in homes with small children who may be a bit too rough when playing with kittens.

Senior cats are wonderful with seniors. They provide warmth and affection and generally do not need the supervision required of kittens. They provide terrific companionship for another cat, who may be feeling blue due to the loss of his or her feline companion. Like older dogs, older cats are truly grateful for a second chance at a loving home.

It's heartbreaking to visit a shelter and see the adult animals waiting to be adopted. Their days are certainly brighter because of the dedication of staff and volunteers, but when we look into their wise eyes, it's apparent they'd love to find a special someone to go home with. And, even if we didn't start their journey with them, it's mutually joyous to walk down life's many paths with them by our side.



A NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Our 2008 Wags & Whiskers Walk-a-Thon exceeded my greatest expectations! What a perfect day and mammoth effort by staff and volunteers to once again pull off another fantastic event. In just three years, we have grown this “friend-raiser” into a full fledged community outreach and fundraising success. My heartfelt appreciation goes to everyone who helped us to help our animals.

We are reminded more and more each day about the need to protect natural resources for the sake of our planet. We recycle and evaluate the things we use, sometimes forgoing the purchase of something new. Our companion animals are a precious resource, too. Here at the shelter, we have many wonderful cats and dogs who have had to leave their homes because their owners no longer wanted them, or could not properly care for them. Sophie, one of the animals featured in our “Happy Tails” section, was one such dog. Today, because a family saw her true beauty, Sophie is living in a happy home and is well loved.

I would like to encourage anyone who is thinking about adoption to consider all the rewards of taking home an adult or senior pet. There are so many who would love the opportunity to find a home that offers security and love, and would give even more in return.

Our sign on North State Road often reads, “Come in and meet your new best friend.” We’d like to extend that invitation to read, “Come in. An old friend is waiting for you.”

Have a wonderful summer!



SPCA OF WESTCHESTER Hours:
Monday thru Saturday: 10am to 4pm
Sunday: 1pm to 4pm
www.spcanyc.org

Save the Date!



Ron Trotta and Ellie McGuire at last year's gala with Schmittie – The Real New Yorkie and buddy Pudge.

The SPCA invites you and your favorite canine to our 6th annual Top Hat & Tails benefit event to be held on Saturday, October 25th at the Westchester Marriott in Tarrytown, New York. Once again, dogs and their people will step out in style for an evening of dinner, dancing, an auction and an award ceremony honoring Joan Kalman.

Please mark your calendar — it's guaranteed to be an event you and your pooch will not want to miss! Please call (914) 941-2896 ext.22 to purchase tickets. Sponsorship and Journal Opportunities are also available.

Paw Prints is published quarterly by the SPCA of Westchester, a 501(c)(3) humane organization located at 590 North State Road, Briarcliff Manor NY 10510. For information, please contact Robin Meng at (914) 941-2896 ext. 19.



With Warmest Thanks...



Reggie, one of the recipients of treatment from Dr. Peterson and Hypurrcat

Our thanks to Mark Peterson, DVM, Chris Cooper, LVT and Hypurrcat, a treatment center for hyperthyroid cats at the Animal Wellness Center in Bedford Hills, for the life-saving care they provided to our felines Sumo and Reggie.

Veterinarian Tom Schott, DVM comes to the SPCA's Simpson Clinic each week and assists us with spay and neuter surgeries. We are so

grateful for his help and kindness.

Kaitlyn Alvino decided to turn her Sweet Sixteen party into something very special by asking guests to donate gifts to the SPCA of Westchester. The results? \$6,000.00 for the shelter!! On behalf of every animal here, thank you, Kaitlyn, for sharing your celebration with us.



Kaitlyn Alvino

Janet Greenspan Outreach Fund

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”
Nelson Mandela

Please consider a donation to the SPCA's **Janet Greenspan Memorial Outreach Fund**, which was created to sustain our Humane Education Program. Gifts to this fund are an investment in helping to raise a kinder generation of children who will learn to speak out for animals and for others who cannot speak for themselves.

For information on how you can contribute, please call the SPCA at 914-941-2896 x 19.



Ms. Soares' class presents SPCA's Alice Shanahan with a special gift for the shelter.

Tiffany Soares' 5th grade class at PS 15 in Yonkers was so moved by the SPCA's Humane Education Program, they decided to collect funds and supplies for our animals. This great group of students and their teacher should be so proud of how much they accomplished.

We're delighted to thank SPCA volunteers Ed Filipella and Jim Oliverto for the wonderful new look of our volunteers' cottage. Hats off to you, gentlemen, for making this area so cheerful and useful in any season.

We're grateful, too, to Janis Castaldi who donated over 50 Kuranda Dog Beds to our shelter and Michael & Kathryn Woloshin who also donated 10 of the special beds.

When Louise Dente called the SPCA to ask what our animals needed, we never dreamed that we would receive so many items from our “wish list.” Thank you, Louise.



Starting in June, WHUD 100.7 will be hosting a link on their homepage, “WHUD Adoptable Pet of the Month,” featuring dogs and cats from our shelter. We're so grateful to them for helping us to find forever homes for our animals.



HAPPY TAILS



Sophie Reading

For over a year while she waited at the SPCA shelter for her forever home, she was known as “Star”. A young female pit bull with a soulful expression, Star became “Sophie” after being adopted by Cheryl and Richard Wachtel. With the help of her family, she penned a story about her new life, “My Name is Sophie.” Here's an excerpt..

“My favorite time is when Mom and Dad let me come on their bed so I can snuggle with them. They are so warm and toasty! My Mom is always kissing me and squishing my face. Sometimes I just want to say, “Let me go back to sleep!” but I let her do it anyway, because I can tell it makes her happy. I love my new family. I am a very happy dog.”



Patches

Greetings to my friends at the SPCA!

Happy to report that I love my new home and my new family who are so kind and loving. Say hello to everyone for me – especially to Chris – who I know put the good word in for me! I hope many more of my friends there find wonderful homes like I did!

Love, Patches (you guys remember me as Morris)



*“Limitless like the ocean are your excellent qualities.”
 The Dali Lama*

On March 19th, the volunteers and staff of the SPCA of Westchester gathered at Casa Rina Restaurant in Thornwood to show their warmest appreciation to Volunteer Coordinator Alice Shanahan. Hardworking, passionate about animals and people, and always ready with a smile, Alice gives so much of herself in any project she undertakes, while bringing out the very best in others. Thank you, Alice, for being you.

Reminder:



If you call or log onto the PetMeds website and use the code SPCA at checkout, our shelter receives a \$5 donation for each purchase.

Cover story resources:

The Senior Dog Project, www.srdogs.com;
 “Reasons to Adopt an Older Cat” Franny Syufy, <http://cats.about.com>