

Holiday 2009



Mission Statement

To find a loving home for every homeless pet.

Vision Statement

That all pets have a permanent home to live their lives in comfort.

New E-Mail Address

contact.PAHS@verizon.net

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Plainfield Area Humane Society NEWS



(908) 754-0300

www.pahs.petfinder.org

A Job Well Done, and a Community to Thank

It's been one heck of a ride since state inspectors found the Plainfield Area Humane Society noncompliant with the state Department of Health code governing shelters and kennels. Our plight was broadcast far and wide, and our community answered. Our supporters began donating funds that far exceeded our expectations, and put forth a herculean effort when it came time to begin renovations so that we could continue to pursue our mission. We were in awe of the support we received over the next five months.

Wednesday, June 10th brought us a final inspection by inspectors from Union County and the state Board of Health, and the results of that inspection gave us our kennel license for 2009-2010, and the state has closed it's case on us. We simply could not have

achieved this result without support we received. You saved us.

We would like to thank Mark Spivey and the editors of the *Courier News* for the positive coverage we received. Also, WMBC-TV in Newton for the news reports they broadcast. We thank our Director, Susan MacWhinney-Ciufo and her husband John Ciufo; Susan for tirelessly organizing so many aspects of the renovation, and John for volunteering his time to act as General Contractor. Without them we would have floundered. We also thank shelter staff, who went above and beyond to help renovate and care for the animals during a very tough time.

We thank Dr. Anthony Loomis, without whose support and caring education we would never have satisfied the state's strict requirements.

We also are deeply indebted to the all the volunteers who assisted the kennel razing, not once but twice, and to those contractors that volunteered their time beyond their paid obligations.

Lastly, and most importantly, we wish to thank our donors far and wide for supporting us financially. Without you, we could not have hoped to survive. June 2009 marks our rebirth. We promise not to disappoint.

Sincerely,
David Lester
President, PAHS



The Special Needs Pets Need a Home, Too by Dave Lester

Nearly three years ago as I stopped at the shelter to observe interviews by reps from a well-known website, I was greeted by what I thought was a beautiful gray-colored "puppy" behind the desk. As I peered over the counter at this bright-eyed and eager dog, I noticed a bit of a tremble while he stared at me and slowly wagged his tail. Since I'm a sucker for the big-headed dogs, I asked for a leash and brought him outside. It was quickly apparent to me that this youngster was not puppy even though his appearance made him appear that way, and also that his trembling wasn't completely from the excitement of meeting me. He had a very serious coordination problem.

My concern was swiftly exchanged for laughter. This little guy was just about the happiest dog I'd ever met, and was completely oblivious to the problem that prevented him from negotiating even one step up onto the porch. Everyone he met that day couldn't help but be amazed by the little guy, and he ate it up.

I didn't need another dog what with two others at home, but a week later he was in my car heading for his forever home with two playmates waiting to show him the ropes. Even though he needs to be carried up and down stairs, and has to be watched while he plays in the yard (his coordination is so bad he can hurt himself by simply running freely), his spirit is amazing. He makes me laugh every day, and in that way I consider myself much more fortunate to have him in my life than me in his.

Teri Seitzmeyer once again adopted a special needs animal, this time a cat that pretty much walked on his elbows. Teri writes:

"Sue, this cat is amazing. I just have to tell you that this "handicapped" cat is a real treasure. We are both happy that he is here. He is the biggest lover in the world. He came into



this house like he had been here his entire life. The others are just for the most part ignoring his existence.


"I am so happy that I asked for him to be chipped even though we thought his range of motion wasn't very good and where could he go after all with those bent up front legs. Well, let me tell you that his legs don't hinder him at all, he doesn't run thru the house, he tears thru like a bolt of lightning, up the stairs and down, leaps, not jumps up onto the bed (his aim isn't too good and he sometimes lands on another cat.) He is airborne in the living room when we are each on a recliner; he can't make up his mind who should have the privilege of petting him so he flies from one recliner to the other. Yes, I am happy that he is chipped because he sits up like a merecat and looks longingly outside and if he gets out, he can unbelievably, definately run like the wind.

"It never ceases to amaze me what animals can do because they don't have the words "I can't" in their vocabulary and it isn't a choice, it is survival. I didn't want another animal, I have more than enough for the entire neighborhood and he makes it an even dozen cats again. With that said, I can't even imagine not having him now, he makes us smile.

Thank you and PAHS for being the kind of shelter that gives animals like him a chance.

Signed, Ter

P.S. My granddaughter wants to name him Cuddles because he is so loving and looks like he is hugging someone and Bobby wants to name him Roo because he is like a Kangaroo. Gimpy! not this darn cat!"

Teri and I both have discovered the joy in adopting a special needs pet. Don't pass them up, they just could be the joy in YOUR life! 

PROJECT SAVE

You love animals and wish you could have one but...

- You're allergic to animals
- Your house is too small
- Your big dog would traumatize a small cat
- Your small cat would traumatize a big dog
- Your kids would traumatize both dogs and cats
- Your landlord says you can't have any pets
- You're too busy and never really home
- You've already met your quota...

Then why not sponsor one of ours...

Project Save is a program in which your monthly donation of \$10 enables us to better care for a special needs animal. These animals are older, have medical problems or need extra time to become suitable for placement in permanent homes. If you wish to sponsor a dog or cat, please fill out the coupon on page 7 of this newsletter. You will receive a picture and quarterly letter from your special pet.

Volunteer Opportunities...

Sign Up for Our Email List!

Dedicated people with a little extra time or talent, materials or money are always needed! Whether you have a few extra hours or a few extra dollars, there are many ways for you to help at PAHS!

Staff Support

- Front Office Assistant
- Dog Walker
- Animal Groomer

Programs

- Information Assistant at Special Events
- Educational Outreach (scout troops, schools, etc.)

Fundraising

- Donation Can Shaker/Collector

- Food Drive Organizer
- Letter Writer (seeking donations)
- Grant Researcher
- Special Event Assistant (Golf Tournament, Wine Tasting, Gala, etc.)

Professional Skills

- Electrician
- Plumber
- Carpenter

MEMORY HEART

If you would like to order a plaque in memory of a pet, please print the information on our coupon.

The cost is \$50.00.



Please remember our animal friends in your last will and testament. Just a simple clause such as *"I bequeath to the Plainfield Area Humane Society, 75 Rock Avenue, Plainfield, NJ 07063, the sum of \$_____ to be*

applicable to the general care and protection of the animals" can make a big difference in many small lives. **Thank you!**

Our newsletter costs quite a bit to print, and nearly that much more to mail. Sometimes all we can do is break even from donations. So, we are printing at most two times per year. We don't want you to miss anything, so sign up for our email updates and stay informed. Shelter news, events, important links and announcements are emailed directly to you. All you need to do is send an email with the text "Add me to your email list!" in the subject line to pahsbusiness@verizon.net, and we'll do the rest. You can also go to our website and join from there. Rest assured we will NEVER give out or sell your personal information to anyone, EVER. That's it, no exceptions!

PAHS Calendar of Events

We've been a bit weather-unlucky this year, with rainstorms washing out two events this summer and fall. Our Dog Wash in August was a washout, and for the second year in a row our Kruise for Kennels became the "Ride That Never Happened." We had a nice turnout for the party though, and two weeks later we actually rode the course set out last year!

Our Fall and Winter events will be easier to attend, since they will be inside (mostly!) Come on out and enjoy...

Sunday, November 22 - Pictures With Santa, 12-3, at Best Friends Pet Resort on Route 22 west in North Plainfield (across from Fabric Land)

Sunday, December 6th - Lights of Remembrance Tree Lighting Ceremony on the shelter grounds, at 7:00 pm, refreshments inside following the ceremony

Gift Wrapping at Borders in Watchung - Friday, November 27th, December 2 thru 5 and 15 thru 20.

If you would like to volunteer as a gift wrapper at Borders on any of the listed days, call the shelter and find out what shifts are open. We generally schedule two wrappers at a time so you can bring a friend, and shifts are usually three or four hours. 🐾

365 CLUB

Caring for animals at the shelter costs \$365,000 a year – that's \$1000 every day!

By donating \$1000 or more, you automatically become a member of our **365 Club**. All members will be recognized on our website (visit our home page and click the link "365 Club"). As a special thank you for donating at this exclusive level you will receive a commemorative pin, fleece jacket and key ring, as well as a permanently engraved on a plaque inside the shelter lobby. You will also experience the satisfaction that your donation has kept the shelter operational for an entire day! Even if you cannot contribute at this level, all donations, large and small, help to ensure that the Plainfield Area Humane Society is able to continue its mission of finding loving homes for every homeless animal. Please give generously and help us provide the second chance they deserve. **Thank you for your support.** 🐾

Thanks To These Great People!

Thank you so much to those who have donated their time and services to help our cause!

Special thanks to: Stephanie Devizio of Brownie Troop 828 in Scotch Plains who donated earnings from her lemonade stand; Justin Decarlo Boy Scout Troop 129 who made dog beds for the dogs in the kennels as part of his Eagle Scout Project; Shake a Paw of Green Brook ran a

fund raiser for PAHS; Blue Colt Radio at Middlesex County College; Arlene and the Quick Chek in Scotch Plains whose customers have donated more than \$2600!; Jennifer Fleissner and Amy D. Marcus for their birthday donations; the staff of Supercuts in Piscataway for donating an evening of haircuts; Fred Stern, who arranged for the purchase of ceiling tiles for the kennels and installed them. He did a great job too! 🐾

We also thank the following donors to our kennel renovation:

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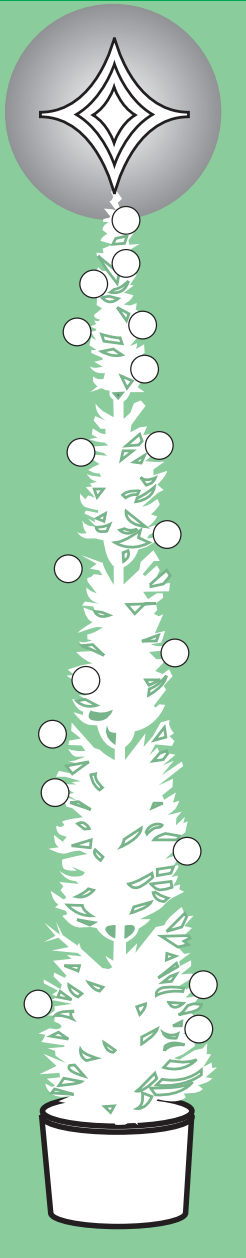
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Teri & Robert Seitzmeyer
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Arline Siegel
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Ceil Slauson
Irina & Keith Slicner
Dotty & Denise Sliker
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John & Janet Smith
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Dr. Randall & Dr. Laura Stevens
Lois Stevenson
Laura Stier
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Patricia Strasser
Stanley & Helen Stroz
J. Stuczynski - Living & Loving Well
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Arthur Sullivan
Gerald & Stella Sullivan

Kenneth Sullivan
Sundance In
Felicia Sutkowski
Meredith Swenson
Christine Szczepanski
Jaime Szewczuk
Cathie Talarico
Laurie Talarico
Dean Talcott
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Carol Terminelli
Richard Tesar
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William Ullrich
Linda Umbdenstock
Union County Kennel Club
c/o Donna La Brecque
University of Mississippi
Medical Center
Carol Vacca
Angel & Gloria Valentin
Michael & Dawn Valicky
Chris & Stacy Van Dort
James & Nina Van Duyne
George Vanhouten & Rita Orduna
Joyce Van Vooren
Chester & Jodie Van Wert
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Jane Vargas
Raymond Varmel
Roberta Varmel
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Edith Von Fraunhofer-Brodin
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Diane Zarsky
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Jason Zayle
Jean & Louis Zazzara
Andrea Zdanowicz
Michael & Shannon Zebnick
Debra Zebro
Anthony & Joann Zelek
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Ziembra
Mathew & Laura Zinsky



Remember or honor your pet with a light on the tree...

Lights of Remembrance

A Tree Lighting Ceremony in Remembrance of Pets

Sunday, December 6, 2009 • 7:00 pm

at the

Plainfield Area Humane Society

75 Rock Avenue, Plainfield, NJ

\$5.00 per light

All proceeds will benefit the Plainfield Area Humane Society
 Deadline for listings: December 31, 2009

For more information, please log on to www.petlites.org

Detach here and mail to address below

		Please Print Clearly!		Deceased (d) or Living (l)	Amount (\$5 per pet)
Name _____	Pet 1 _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Address _____	Pet 2 _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
City, _____ State _____ Zip _____	Pet 3 _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Telephone _____	Pet 4 _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Make Checks Payable to: PAHS	Pet 5 _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Mail to: Lights of Remembrance	Pet 6 _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Plainfield Area Humane Society	Pet 7 _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
75 Rock Avenue	Pet 8 _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Plainfield, NJ 07063	Pet 9 _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
	Pet 10 _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
	Pet 11 _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
	Pet 12 _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
OFFICE USE ONLY:		PAHS		Other Contribution _____	
Entered _____	Rec. # _____	Date Arr _____	Loc. _____	Total Contribution \$ _____	

Please detach and return bottom portion with your contribution.

Plainfield Area Humane Society

75 Rock Avenue
Plainfield, New Jersey 07063
(908) 754-0300

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Newark, NJ
Permit No. 973



Visit our Web site at
www.pahs.petfinder.org

Shelter Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. • Thursday 12:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Sunday 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. • Closed Mondays and all legal holidays

This newsletter was designed by Jama Bowman • 908.419.7034

Holiday Gift Wrapping...
Visit Borders of Watchung and our Gift Wrappers 9 till closing on Friday, November 27th, December 2 thru 5 and 15 thru 20.

Need a Friend? Adopt one from PAHS!

- For cats this includes:**
- Spaying or neutering
 - FVRCP vaccine (distemper)
 - Rabies vaccine
 - Felv-Fiv test
 - (feline leukemia and aids)
 - Microchip
 - Carrier

- For dogs this includes the following:**
- Spaying or neutering
 - DHLPPV vaccine (distemper - parvo)
 - Rabies vaccine
 - Heartworm - Lyme - Ehrlichiosis test
 - Microchip
 - ID tag and collar

The cost of adopting a dog, puppy, cat or kitten is \$150.

THE COST OF ADOPTING AN ANIMAL:

PAHS Now Accepts PayPal
Now it's even easier to donate to PAHS! Go to our website www.pahs.petfinder.org and click on the PayPal button. Making a secure payment from your bank account or with your credit card is safe and easy and best of all, will help the animals at PAHS!

- DONATION WISH LIST**
- Cat litter
 - Canned cat food
 - Paper towels
 - Trash bags (lawn and kitchen size)
 - Cleaning supplies