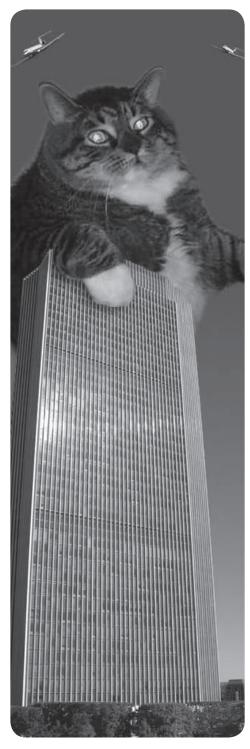


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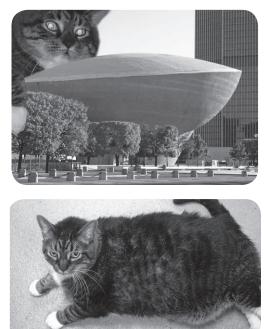
# **GIANT CAT TAKES OVER ALBANY!**

Like an old Godzilla movie, an animal of unusual size ambled his way into the Humane Society on June 3rd and caused quite a stir. Like the giant animals from the movies, this big tabby cat was just misunderstood. The truth was he just wanted to get off the streets and find a home where he could be loved...and fed.

Before he found a home, this 36-pound cat, dubbed "Fat Joe" by Society staff, would see his 15 minutes of fame and then some. He graced the cover of the Times Union's local section (no telephoto lenses needed for this shot). He appeared on every local television station, made a splash on local radio and found himself popping up on blogs across the area, including All Over Albany's very special "Flabby Tabby" photo montage of Joe's visits to dignitaries and famous sites around the capital. Joe's story was even picked up by the Associated Press and seen on local television across the country, including Los Angeles, Cleveland and Minneapolis.

Over 4,000 cats come into the Humane Society every year, but only one can be the biggest. We had no kennels large enough to hold Joe, so he took up residence in our Shelter Manager's office where he was given a dog bed for comfort – a cat bed was not going to cut it! Joe was not disturbed in the least by all the attention. He was happy to pose for the cameras as long as he received a little rub on the head in return.





Plenty of people came forward to offer Joe a home, but many were not prepared for the potentially significant veterinary bills that come along with owning an extremely overweight animal. All humor aside, obesity is dangerous for pets, just like it is for people, and safely reducing Joe's girth was a must.

After speaking to many interested people, Joe found a great new home where he has been renamed "Rascal Fatts." Rascal has been giving us regular updates and he is quite happy with his new home. He has begun to shed some weight, has found all the sunny spots in the house, has other kitty friends to socialize with and, most importantly, is getting plenty of love. He is perfectly happy to let his days of fame go by, as long as his days in a safe loving home continue – which we know they will.

Artwork by Greg Dahlmann, AllOverAlbany.com



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### LOCATION

**3** Oakland Avenue Menands, NY 12204

### HOURS

Monday-Friday 10am-6pm Saturday 10am-5pm Sunday 1-4pm

## WEB SITE

www.mohawkhumane.org

TELEPHONE NUMBERS 518.434.8128 518.434.0217 (fax)

# FROM THE DIRECTOR



Every day at the Humane Society our staff and volunteers are working tirelessly to find homes for animals and to help lost animals find their way back home. Each month we look back at previous years and try to improve above and beyond what we have done in the past, but as you read this, things are a little different. A few months ago the ASPCA announced they were issuing a challenge to animal shelters across the country to increase the number of dogs and cats saved during the months of August, September and October; they dubbed it the Save More Lives 100K Challenge.

**Executive Director Brad Shear and** Bastian. his cat

Over 700 shelters from across the country applied for only 50 spots in the first two days after the challenge was announced.

I am happy to say the Mohawk & Hudson River Humane Society is one of the 50 selected, and we're very excited about it!

During those three months last year, we saved over 900 animals. In order to be considered for the \$100,000 prize, we must save at least 300 more. We want to go well beyond 300 by doubling the number of animals we save. That's right, double the number of lives saved!

The goal we have set is by no means easy, but we've already begun to take the steps necessary to win the challenge. You may have noticed that a photo of every stray animal brought to the Society is now posted on our website to give animals every opportunity to find their way back home. We have also increased the number of off-site adoption events we hold throughout the Capital Region in places like the Altamont Fair, Indian Ladder Farms, PetSmart, local businesses and just about anywhere we can bring animals and find them homes.

The Mohawk & Hudson River Humane Society was chosen as 1 of the 50 participants. but not only because of the work the Society has done. When we were chosen, the ASPCA chose our community to compete. By winning the challenge, we will show that the Capital Region is one of the most caring communities in the country. By saving more lives, our entire community can take pride in the Society's success, but to be successful we will need the entire community's support and assistance.

There are many ways to help! We need foster parents to care for animals until they are ready for adoption, volunteers to help work at the many events we will be hosting, business leaders who will provide places for us to bring animals for adoption and people who will help spread the word about animal adoption. Most of all, we need more people to open their hearts and homes to a new pet.

To keep up on the latest challenge news, check our website (mohawkhumane.org) and follow us on Facebook. Thank you for your support!





Little Debbie is an American Bulldog mix. Like most of her breed, she is big, white and a bit chubby. *Un*like most, she is blind.

Little Debbie may be able to see some shapes and shadows when the light is very bright, but for all practical purposes, she can't see and needs a guide person while she's walking. Now, you may be concerned about what a blind dog might do all day at home alone. Will she bump into things? Fall and get hurt?

As many of you know, animals never cease to amaze us. Little Debbie's typical procedure is to make a couple of circles around a room. From there, she seems to always find her way. Rearranging the furniture wouldn't be recommended, of course, but like most animals with a disability, Little Debbie seems to have adapted to her circumstances. She can find her way with her nose and ears, and seems to be quite content just the way she is.

Really, all Little Debbie wants is some love. She might not see you coming, but she knows when people are around and as soon as someone starts petting her, her tail starts wagging. If the petting stops, she has the same confused look on her face that any dog gives, which seems to say, "Why would anyone stop petting me once they've started?"

Although Little Debbie was with us for six weeks, we never gave up our belief that the right family would come along. She kept a positive, bright attitude throughout her stay at the Society.

Finally, the right people did come along and gave Little Debbie the quiet, loving home she had longed for, with human hands to pet her and a bed to sleep in. What more could any dog ask for?

# Haunted Hound Halloween Costume Party (for People and Pets)

to benefit MHRHS

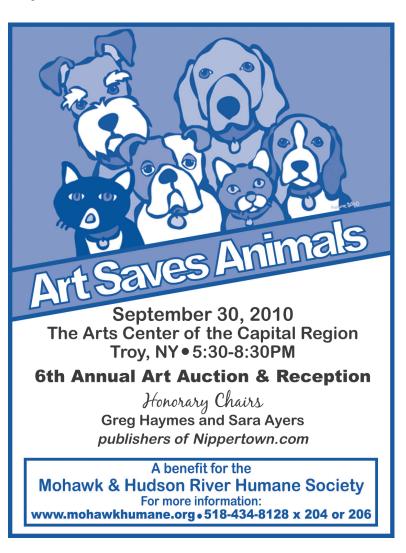
## Thursday, October 28 6:30 - 8:30pm

Food and treats for humans and animals Fun and photos – contests and prizes – music and mayhem

> \$10 per person Sign up at www.mohawkhumane.org



101 Ford Street Ballston Spa (518) 309-3732 www.lazydogcookies.com



# FRIENDS AND EVENTS GALORE

The Capital Region is overflowing with supportive businesses, organizations and individuals. We are thrilled and humbled by the generosity they show for the Humane Society and the animals we serve.

The U.S. Postal Service invited us to join WTEN's Steve Caporizzo at the Colonie Post Office for the first-day cancellation celebration for the Animal Rescue Adopta-Shelter-Pet stamp series on April 30. Both MHRHS and Steve Caporizzo were presented with a framed set of



the beautiful stamps in recognition of work on behalf of shelter animals.



Patrick Battuello of Little Anthony's Pizza conducted a vegan bake sale to benefit MHRHS's spay/neuter program Saturday, May 15.

The Community Resources Federal Credit Union held a bottle drive at their Avis Drive location in Latham on the same day. They collected and helped sort over 5,000 bottles! The weather was perfect and both events generated dollars to help our animals.

Many thanks once again to the 69ers Motorcycle Club, who have raised money for MHRHS for three years in a row. Their June 5th ride for animals started in our parking lot and brought in over \$500 plus 150 pounds of pet food.



The Albany Capital District Pug Lovers Group hosted a fundraiser at Cook Park in Colonie to benefit Green Mountain Pug Rescue and MHRHS. While it did "rain on the pug parade," everyone had a great time at the Sixth Annual Pug Costume Ball on June 6.





Many thanks to Curtis Lumber, Jay Curtis, Steve Caporizzo and WTEN's Pet Connection for the highly successful 2010 Pet-a-Palooza on Saturday, June 19. All 22 Curtis Lumber stores simultaneously conducted pet adoption clinics where

more than 500 animals from various animal rescue groups found new homes. We would especially like to thank the stores in Ballston Spa,

Delmar and East Greenbush where our volunteers were on hand to show off our wonderful furry friends.

On Saturday, July 10, the Butcher Block in Colonie held a sale and auction which featured antiques and treasures that had been a part of the restaurant's décor for many years. As part of the renovation, White Management decided to



hold the sale so patrons could own a bit of the restaurant's history. Several MHRHS volunteers helped the day of the event and had a great time mingling with the people looking for a great "buy." All proceeds from the sale (\$3,645.37) benefited the Humane Society. Many thanks to White Management for their generosity and caring spirit. We are looking forward to the opening of the new restaurant.



July 10 also found us at a cat adoption clinic at Tech Valley Homes Real Estate in Loudonville, where Tech Valley President and MHRHS board member Miguel Berger served as host.

The van pulled up and the pallets rolled off as our friends from Hannaford delivered lots of Hartz treats for our animals to make their stay with us more enjoyable.

A special month-long donation drive at Barton & Loguidice, spearheaded by animal lovers Judy Farella and Ted Kolankowski, proved to be a windfall for the shelter. We received all sorts of treats and goodies for the animals and a pop-up canopy tent for our volunteers to use at upcoming events and adoption clinics.

New Horizons of Albany adopted MHRHS for the month of June. Thanks to the generosity of their employees, we received over \$230 in cash donations.

In June, Citizens Bank Property Services employees raised over \$800 for the Humane Society as they participated in Citizens Bank's international 5K "Walk Around the World" which started in Asia, moved to Europe and the UK, and finally to the United States. Many thanks to our friends at Citizens Bank for caring about the animals here at the shelter.



We would also like to extend a big thank you to the many school and church groups, Girl Scout troops, veterinary offices and civic organizations who donate supplies for the animals on a regular basis. We are grateful to receive frequent supply donations from the Walmart store on Washington Avenue and the Target stores in Latham and East Greenbush.

The caring and concern, support and generosity displayed by these organizations and individuals (along with many, many more) are truly remarkable. And, we are grateful to each and every one of them! We also need to thank our dedicated and tireless volunteers and staff for helping with these events. None of us can make these types of wondrous things happen without "a little help from our friends." Thank you to all!

# Got Pets? JOIN US ON OUR QUEST TO SAVE MORE LIVES

As you read this, the "Saving More Lives \$100K Challenge" will be underway. You can check our website for the latest information about events and how we are doing so far. But, there is still a long way to go and much to do, and we need your help!

We are excited but know we cannot succeed alone; it will take the support of everyone to win. The awards will be based upon not just what we do as the Humane Society, but also what you – the community – does to help us save more lives and help more animals! This is an incredible opportunity for the entire Capital Region to shine in the national spotlight.

To qualify for the grand prize, shelters need to adopt and return to owners a minimum of 300 more cats, dogs, kittens and puppies from August through October 2010 than they did during the same three-month period in 2009. The winner of the \$100,000 prize will be the shelter that saves the most additional animals from August through October 2010.

In addition to the top award, the ASPCA is offering a \$25,000 "Community Engagement" award to the organization that saves at least 300 more animals and, at the same time, inspires and engages the community to get involved in promoting pet adoptions and reuniting lost animals with their owners.

Three contestants will be selected as finalists for this phase of the program. The "Community Engagement" award will go to the organization that engages and mobilizes the most people in the community in a wide variety of programs, both existing and unique new programs. The community that exhibits the most enthusiasm for the challenge via news coverage, stories, letters, photos, blog entries and attendance at the various events will be in the running for the Community Engagement award. The ASPCA will also be asking the community to vote online for their favorite shelter from October 15-31, 2010. You can vote once per day, every day. The voting part of the contest will be judged based on the number of votes the shelter receives and the number of unique votes (how many different email addresses those votes came from). We know this community has the heart and enthusiasm to help us win! And, indeed, the same shelter can win both big prizes!

#### CLIP AND USE...OR SHARE! ]

We are looking for businesses, community leaders and organizations, youth groups, church groups, service organizations and private individuals who want to help us take the next step and exponentially increase pet adoptions.

What can you do to help? More than you can imagine! You can make a real difference in the lives of animals right here and right now.

• Got pets? Do you know of someone who is looking for a pet? Send them to us! Shelter animals make wonderful additions to a family, and wonderful cats and dogs are just waiting for a new forever home.

• Share stories and photos about shelter pets you, family members or friends have adopted.

• If you are having a special event, let us know and we would be happy to participate.

• Do you know of a place where we can hold an off-site adoption clinic?

• Can you provide an incentive to those who adopt? iSmile Studios has very generously agreed to give each new adoptive family a coupon for a free 8 x10 picture of their new pet taken at in Colonie Center studio!

• Do you have ideas on how to get the word out?

- Can you donate printing or photocopy services?
- Will you put a lawn sign on your yard that promotes adopting a pet?

• Volunteer! If you have even a little spare time, we are looking for more volunteers to help at events, off-site adoption clinics, fostering animals and more.

As a non-profit organization, winning \$100,000 for the animals would be extraordinary. It is all of you -- the time, effort and support you give to us -- that helped establish us as an organization worthy of taking up this challenge.

We cannot do it alone. We need you to take on this challenge with us. To win \$100,000 would be amazing, to win \$25,000 would be awesome...but the journey to the goal is equally as important. Together we can save more lives now and help even more animals in the future!



# **APPLAUSE FOR PAWS**

Thanks to everyone who walked, pledged and worked on the inaugural Paws in the Park Walk and Community Day at the Crossings of Colonie on Saturday, June 26. It was a great beginning and a grand success, raising \$37, 752.50 so far, with pledges are still coming in. It was an event that can be measured by the numbers...



 $1\frac{1}{4}$ -mile walk • 38 teams participated • 198 people pre-registered • 85 people registered the day of the event • 243 people walked (not all were accompanied by their canine friends) • 1,195 people pledged money to walkers and/or teams • \$1,000 was the largest single donation to a participant • The temperature reached 78, with sun, clouds and a slight breeze • Over 20 gallons of water to keep everyone cool

#### Top Fundraisers

**Top Team:** Jean's Team – \$2,047 **Top Individual Fundraiser:** Libby Post – \$3,556 **Top Youth Fundraiser (12 and under):** Marissa Cimmino – \$175 **Top Teen Fundraiser (age 13-18):** Avis Crandall – \$177

#### Contest Winners

**Best Trick** – Ed Pullman & Nikita won the gift basket from Hannah Baskets **Best Fetcher-Retriever** – Meredith Becker & Buckley won a gift basket from Dog Doos Grooming **Look-a-Like** – Nakayla Salem & Golda won gift certificates to the Olive Garden and PetSmart



However, there was a lot more to Paws in the Park than just mere numbers. The participants, vendors, volunteers, sponsors, people who pledged donations and staff all helped make this first walk successful and memorable. We were delighted that Marci Natale of WRGB CBS 6, along with her dogs Sergio and Roxie, served as our Grand Marshal for the walk. Music helped make the event extra special and we are truly grateful to Paul DeBiase and all the members of the Grand

*Central Station* band for keeping us on our toes. They even had SouthPaw and a few other furry friends dancing about!

Yes, our good friend SouthPaw from the Tri-City ValleyCats was on hand to wish everyone well and thank MHRHS for helping him adopt Rowdy the Rat, who ended up homeless



when the River Rats moved to North Carolina. He even got to boogie a bit!

Thanks to our Sponsors: Martin Harding & Mazzotti, LLP, Attorneys at Law; Coppola Design; Our Towne Rensselaer County; Jermaine Presbyterian Women; All Dawgs Training Services; Bark Busters Home Dog Training; Invisible Fence; Hon. Kathleen M. Jimino; Nigro Companies and Scarano Boat Building.

And, thanks to our generous vendors: Abbey Adamek and her hot dog cart, All Dawgs Training Services, Bark Busters of Upstate New York, F.A.B. Pet Things, Invisible Fence, Krazy Kitty Kreations, Shampoodle, Tail Waggin' Goodies by Mixing It Up and Karen Blanchard Delduce, author of Poodles in the Park.









A great round of applause and thanks to our hardworking and dedicated volunteers who made the day run smoothly: Shonnell Anderson, LuAnn Antrim, Alicia Califano, Amanda Czech, Bonnie Devine, Muriel Doyne, Justine Gummer, Tara Hanby, C.J. Harkola, Mary Harkola, Gail Landrigan, Caroline Lynch, Jhane Marello, Samantha Morris, Brittany Rhodes, Janice Ronne, Sherri Salvione, Maureen Taft, Grace Wiley. In addition, volunteers from **Community Resource Federal Credit Union** -- Betsy Kindlon, Barb Greene, Wendy Meola, Rhonda Teal and Beth Donovan -- helped with registration. We want to thank Reed and Betty Parvis who made sure all the bottles we collected were sorted and ready for pick-up. And, a special thanks to Joel Kaplan, Judy Reid, Eric Johnson, Cherrie Edwards and Patti Hayes, as well as MHRHS staff, who helped assemble goodie bags in the days before the walk. Your work helped immeasurably.



Congratulations to all the top fundraisers and the contest winners. But, we know everyone who participated and pledged to Paws in the Park made the animals the true winners. Thanks to all for a grand first walk, and here's to many more successful walks with all our friends. Hope to see you all next year. Who knows who will win that team trophy in 2011!





## **TRAINER'S CORNER** Volunteer Training

### By Christine Danker, CPDT (518) 439-2992 Hemlock Hollow LLC www.hemlockhollowdogtraining.com



Earlier this year, Barbara Tran, PMCT and I were asked to offer some training classes for all the MHRHS volunteers who interact with dogs. Barbara came up with the name Steps Toward Adoption Readiness. The STAR program had its start!

The goal of STAR is twofold. First, we wanted to decrease the stress on the dogs. Being in a kennel environment can be stressful. Each dog has its own kennel run with a raised dog bed, but it's not a home environment. Some of these dogs were found as strays and were not claimed; some were turned in by families who no longer wanted them. I am pet-sitting eight-year-old Buster, who is mostly Lab, for a few days. He was surrendered to the shelter at the age of five. His owners got a few other dogs and no longer wanted a dog they had had for five years. Imagine the changes Buster experienced from living in a home environment for five years to living in a kennel situation. Changes and unknowns can cause stress. Buster was not a dog to bark, leap and jump due to being a bit overwhelmed. Instead, he stressed negatively and withdrew from life by curling up on his dog bed and barely interacting with staff and volunteers. Thankfully, he was adopted quickly by Brad and Lessa, who saw Buster's potential. As I watch Buster snooze on our bed while I type on

the laptop, I cannot imagine how scary and depressing it must have been for him to move out of familiar surroundings and be put in a kennel run!

By engaging a dog's mind, teaching them what is expected of them and giving them some direction, we can reduce stress. In the STAR program we are teaching the dogs several skills that help them become more adoptable and adapt to their new home. All the dogs up for adoption have been assessed for temperament, but we wanted to develop a program where the dogs received training while waiting to be adopted.

The second goal of the STAR program is to teach our wonderful group of dedicated volunteers to teach the dogs these skills. Each volunteer will be attending three 2-hour training sessions. The first part consists of classroom discussion where Barbara and I are teaching the science behind how all animals learn and the most up-to-date learning theory on positive reinforcement using clicker training. The second half of the session is practicing the newly learned skills with the shelter dogs.

Most of the skills being taught involve the dogs learning selfcontrol: no leaping up for what is in your hand; rather, they are keeping four feet on the floor or sitting patiently while focusing on the handler. Dogs are learning how to respond to their names, the foundation skill for coming when called. The dogs are learning to say "Please" instead of "Gimme." Saying "Please" can be applied to many different situations: for a ball to be thrown, instead of grabbing for it; waiting politely to be released to go through a door or gate; sitting nicely to greet visitors rather than jumping up, etc.

The majority of the volunteers have already completed Session One and about a third of them have completed Session Two. The feedback Barbara and I have gotten is that the dogs are calmer, they sit when their kennel runs are approached and the kennel area is quieter due to less barking. Many of the dogs are waiting patiently to be released from their kennel runs and to go through doorways, rather than bolting through. Volunteers are learning how to manage the dogs' behavior while teaching the dogs these new skills. No more bouncing up and down when the leash is put on -- dogs are waiting patiently. They are focused and are developing a trusting relationship with each volunteer helping to train them.

As we enter the final phase of the volunteer training I will give you an update on how the training has progressed. If you come by the shelter, please help us train the dogs. If a dog is leaping at its kennel run, take a step back; wait until the dog has four feet on the ground, then approach to say hi when he settles. No need to put your fingers through the kennel run; speaking softly will give the dog the attention she wants, while rewarding the behavior we want to see repeated.

If a dog is sitting patiently but happens to be too small or too large for you, please praise the dog verbally for doing a great job of sitting. He may not be your perfect dog, but that little interaction will encourage him to sit for the next family that walks by. And that next family may be his forever home.

### **MOHAWK & HUDSON RIVER HUMANE SOCIETY TRIBUTES**

#### Tribute gifts listed here were received 4/1/10 - 7/9/10. More recent tributes will appear in future editions.

#### **IN MEMORY OF...**

Phyllis Aidala Richard & Elizabeth Haggerty NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation - Friends of Theresa Couser Timothy Kent Albert Robert & Isobel Albert Sharon Reese Dorothy Ryan Alex Mary Walczyk Annie Doris Corbett **Eleanor Arnold** Empire State Plaza Operations Staff **Robert Artus** Mary Soja Angelo Attila Alberta Cole Dept. of Veterans Affairs Office of Information & Technology Field Office Pasquale Gaudio Jean Mulligan Teal Becker & Chiaramonte CPAs Audi Thomas Meyer & Maura McPeak Kathy Tarentino Dubar Baker Clare & David McNally Tasha Barber NYS DOH Family & Youth Services Section AI William Barney Doug, Lynne & D.J. Roberts Pauline Bartlett Paula Burke Mary Jo Cosco Patricia Golas Charles Hite & Nancy Doran-Hite Mary Hodges Marion Jakaitis Phil & Deanne Lanoue Robin & Bob Liberty and Jazz Joe Moseley Sue & Bob Murphy Susan & Bill Picott **Kyle Batchelor** Casual Set Friar Tuck, Ltd. Krueger Family Gary & Bonnie Kullman Renee Marois Gary & Ruth McClements McGann Family Marlene Newman Hawley & Jeanne Waldron Baja Batson Thea Hoeth Bea Jill Rifkin Edward Beggs, Jr. Paul & Monica Shelmandine **Tigger Bergman** Sherry Gold Bernie, Uno & Ginger David Schachne Fritz Bevevino Eddy Visiting Nurse Assoc. Staff Elizabeth Anna Blodgett Ronald McDonald House Charities **Pierre Bourgon** David Christopher Ann-Marie Fernandez Dawn Lannon JoAnn Lawton Emma Brenenstuhl Mary Lou Anatriello Peter Collins, DDS John Murray Dennis & Carrie Polmateer Dorothy Requate Michele Reynolds Kevin & Cheryl Smith Barbara Squires Jo Ann Stefanik Roger & Marjorie Travis Stefanie Wiley Mona Brickman

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Edna "Cissy" Delago (continued) Patricia Dickson, Lou Greppo, Jeff Toftegaard, Amy Van Bramer & Diane Cuzdny Betty & Rich Filkins Barbara Hendrick Denise Johnson Teresa Jusino Margaret & Frank Keville Noreen Marsh Stuart & Bonnie Miller Susan Moore Anthony Nappi Rosemary & Sal Rende Parag & Susan Shah Karen Smith Jeffrey Uzzilia Aaron Dobert John Shannon & Diane Caryl Bradley TCT Federal Credit Union William Doherty Kenneth Bruce Grace Colfels Andre & Darlene Crummett Rosanna Ellis Ruth Goca Patricia Ingraham Shirley Leahy Susan Rider Dorothy Ryan Robert Van Herpe John & Gloria Wakewood Edward Waugh **Helen Doin** Emilia Comproski Domino William Van Valkenburg Biscuit Doyle Tom & Pauline Dovle Tiger Duffy Ileen & Daniel Duffy Christa Dunne's Cat Thea Hoeth **Elizabeth Cecelia Eggers** Debra Oppelt Figgy Michael VanKleeck Wally Foote Gloria Jean Romano & David Marshall Margaret Gagliardi Constance Hester Alfred Garceau Gladys Corbeil Josephine Coreno Co-workers of Annemarie Garceau Anita Criscione Margaret Ellett Kathryn Griffiths & Mary Mackin Jo-Anne Mitchell Shawn Monahan Joseph Morano Robert Rose Therese Sliwa Sue Stah **Rosemary Sullivan** Jean Zecca **Marie Gauthier** Marie Cooper Ethel Hanson Patricia Hartl Pamela Gernon Clara & Michael Abate and Family Gizmo Kate Bergeron Len Greenhaw Patricia Brennan Kevin Cooney Sylvia Deskewicz Mary Alice Maynes Wm. J. Rockefeller Funeral Home Greta Linda Taylor Gretchen Ralph & Kathleen Clinton Priscilla Gullo JoAnn Gullo Handsome Duke Linda Taylor Harry Donna Smith Barbara Hathaway Gloria Jean Romano & David Marshall

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Barbara J. Michalski Viola Baker Carlo & Linda Carlino Christalle Combie Donna & Michael Cramer and Theodore Michalski Robert & Nancy Jacques Phillip & Loy Kranz Karen Maxwell National Grid Collectors, Albany Office JoAnn Zales **Dolly Mickel** Clare & David McNally Midas Danielle & David Marks Mikee Joyce & Terry Sunkes Alexis Mae Miller Abram Lansing Elementary Harmony Hill School Student Leadership Team Jacqueline Miller Harriet Desso Joyce Miller Bonnie Beach Chris & Rich Cardone Cossack Family Jay & Patricia Cunningham Michael Faulkner Joseph & Cheryl Keefe Mischa Diane & Bob Freer Molly & Cozy Gail & Paul Van Valkenburg Philip Morgan Phyllis H. Morgan Mortessa Christina Beza Moses Rosemary Cooper Lance Moss Susan Paepke Murphy Scott Wettig Pam Murray's Dog Kathy Doss Leon Nielsen, Sr. Maria Greenman Michael Marchese Kathleen Matthews JoAnne Sasowski Mary O'Leary Doris Uysocki & Vera Dahm Oliver Marilyn & Larry Kaufman Annabelle Kerwin Oliver Shirley Bone Jeannette Hall Doris Olszewski Shirley Diodato Barbara Johnson Nancy Lynch Walter & Mary Ann McKenna Oreo Kathleen Bond Ivan Osterhout Michael, Loretha & Mickey Agyare Susan Alibozek Annemarie, Brian, Dori, Sue, Betty, Barb & Steve Richard & Elizabeth Beeble Ed Blackman & Kathy Hawley Beth Ann Bouleris Carol & Raymond Bylicki IBEW Local Union #236 Law Offices of Joanne M. White Sarah MacDougal NYS OGS Bureau of Parking Services Luke Pantaleo Lorraine Petteys Carol Sheridan Jean Sheridan Gary & Barbara Stone Our neighbor's cat Sheila & David Kiehle P.K. Patricia Cumiskey **Evelyn Peck Redmond** Barbara Gray Pepper Paul Ladouceur

### **MOHAWK & HUDSON RIVER HUMANE SOCIETY TRIBUTES**

Tribute gifts listed here were received 4/1/10 - 7/9/10. More recent tributes will appear in future editions.

Tammi Lynn Peterson John & Candy Muraski Phoebe & Sparkle Rev. Barbara Silk Piper Mary Ann Mathews Pnut Tami Kapusinsky Lola "Meatball" Pociluk Robert & Pamela Pociluk Paul Polansky Sarah Benson Dorothy Rice Richard Pommer, Sr. Division of Provider Relations & Utilization Management Ellen Harris Mixed Merchants Bowling League Pongo Kathleen Egan & James Hedderman Benjamin Powell Ruth Gingras Kathleen Hedgeman Don & Laurie Law Lily Provenzano John Mackie, Sr. Raj & Augie Kilambi Janakidevi Raven & George Marianne Vanderhyden Michael Reilly Sandy Draper Maureen Miller Coreen & Steve Murphy Ronald Rice **Betty Rice** Kristín Romano Barbara Goodman Shea Rooney MaryJane Rooney Myrtle Russell Marilyn Benitez Ann Czerw Elaine Czerw Donna DeYoe **Richard Hamilton** Alice & David Hoag David & Jane Kadish Barbara Kelly Wendell Lorang & Sherry Gold Jim & Bernadette Pedlow James & Margaret Shanley Barbara Smith Sallie Van Keuren Edna Watts & Patricia Cooney Dorothy & Lawrence Weaver Mr. & Mrs. Kun Won Michael Scanlon Maureen Duggan & Lawrence Clark

Scarlett M. Kathryn Gorman Muriel Schneider Lisa & Jonathan Pierce **Anthony Schwartz** Roswitha Schwartz Scooby Danielle & David Marks Scooby-Doo Dorothea Castle **Daniel Sekellick** Farm Family Insurance Companies Patricia Shahinian Carol Murray Simba Clare Mertz Simon Dianne Ammerman Joan Skaarup Bobbi Becker Donna & Mary Riley Anne Skaarup Amber Slone **Dianne Ammerman** Snappy Carrie Harper Sophie Shirley Bone Richard & Phyllis Drew Jeannette Hall Phoebe Heim Elvina MacMillen Karen Stiles **Robert Mabeus** Joe & Pat Marcy Mary Soja Whiteman Osterman & Hanna Edward Sullivan AMC Blood Bank Patricia Dumas Vivian Dylong Alane Hohenberg Luanne McCarthy Thomas Riley, Sr Saratoga County Volunteer Fire Fighters Ladies Auxiliary Isabelle Swartz Laura Olf Tami Patricia Smith Gardner Taylor Zinny Taylor Barbara Thibault Marcia Appley North Greenbush Seniors NYS OCFS Albany Regional Office James Poole Barbara Potenza

Barbara Thibault (continued) Elaine Reichard Dawn & Ron Shepard **Christopher Thorn** Karen, Bob & Kevin Layman Tigger Margy McKenna M. Dawne Tracy Gavle Beattie Bellevue Builders Supply Plymouth School District Nurses **David Udwary** Joyce & Richard Bender Marion Stanley Henry Von Fricken Joanne Malpass **Riley Walmet** Jason Doling & John DeCelle Jasmine Waring Gloria Macri **George Waylett** Geraldine Herrington & Pamela Mazzeo Webster Mary & Bret Muraski **James Welsh** Diane & John Grego Regina Grego & Al Rullo Arianna & Gordon Hirschman **Robin Wheeler** Bill & Joan Aumand Gail Bertrand Susan Bogdan-Ritty Donald & Shirley Bowes Linda Buckley Capital District Counseling Association Carly Capitula Patricia Carlson Doug & Harriet Case Nicholas Conte Gene & Shirley Culnan Janet Deblitz Paula & Bert Genthner Harry & Nancy Guest Paul Hooker Connie Hosterman Marybeth Leavitt Patricia Malonev Cheryl Matala Danielle McCutcheon Kim McLoughlin Jean Miller Marie Mock Lilly Ann Munnich Oakwood Avenue Presbyterian Deacons

Dean & Donna Quackenbush

Robin Wheeler (continued) Robert, Andrew & Debbie Reimharr and Nancy Tournay Matthew & Jennifer Reish Sarah Tara and Rosie the Beagle Richard & Diana Stigbert Gav Tarlo **Titus Wilev** Gretchen LaFleur Windows **Clyde Sharpley** Winkie & George Marianne Vanderhyden Robert Witthoft Mary Soja Wrinkles Anita Burock Stotts, MD Marilyn Yorkshire William Artini Cvnthia Christie Whitney Coe Harold & Joette Krupa Debra Lambek Vincent Matteo Catherine Maze Dana Mercurio & Albany Neuroscience Team Zipper Cookie & Peter Siegel IN HONOR OF... Charles Amoroso Nancy Spina Ash, Lyric & Mave Susan Davis Bella Kathleen Brady Bowser Tracey & John Pause

Jake Brothers/Stephens

Teri Conroy & Wunsapana

Ditto, Honey, Max & Sassy

**Devin Brothers** 

**Elaina Champigny** 

Carnation

**David Gross** 

**Richard Sloval** 

**Carol Charton** 

Lori Fitzsimmons

Shellev Plaske

Amy Sternstein

Donald Deluca

Bridget Denley

Jennifer Miller

Linda Harrison

Victaulic

Farm

Patience Dougherty Eileen Germain William & Linda Colden Paula McCormick Susan & Russ Myers Evelyn Gilhooley Jacalyn Gilhooley Matthew LaClair Elizabeth Elvin Lady Gloria McNamara Sally Lawrence, PhD Shelly Goldman Black Pablo Leon Karin Kasparian Barbara É. Michalski Edward & Kathryn Fisher John Murphy, Jr. Graham Murphy **Friggie Newton** Linda Lamouree **Gail Nizinkirk** Anne Marie Judge Joseph & Beverly Olander Joseph Olander **Dianne Patterson** Ruth Lyons **Rascal Fatts** Kendra Curtis **Tricia Rees** Marcie Pry **Carole Smith** Barry Smith **Edward Sowek** Emily Sowel **Christine Standish** Jeannette Hall Suzie-Q Harold & Carol Goldman Tanner Bonnie & John Erickson Joanne Thomson Thomas & Holly Nolan Joanna Thornton Lori Race Sue Valente Alyssa Valente Versace Karin Shepherd

Dr. Naef, Kirsten & Staff

East Greenbush Animal

Girl Scouts Junior Troop #1388

Shirley Brown

**Emily & Travis** 

Mary Mosimann Harold Ford, Jr.

Hospital

## **52 CATS SURRENDERED IN COLONIE**



In mid April, Town of Colonie Police received a call from a concerned neighbor about a house that appeared to have many cats living in poor conditions. The Town Police soon went to the home of Margaret Tomko and shared their concerns about the health of the cats. They could see immediately that not only was the house filled with cats, but the animals were living in terrible conditions. The woman living there was not willing to turn

any of the cats over to the town in order to get down to a reasonable number for which she may have been able to provide proper care.

After continuing negotiations, the Town Police turned to the Mohawk & Hudson River Humane Society's Humane Investigator, Tina Murray. The Police obtained a search warrant for the property, but before serving the warrant, Officer Murray went to speak to the owner of the cats one last time. After a conversation with Officer Murray, Ms. Tomko agreed to cooperate and voluntarily surrender her cats to the Humane Society. Officer Murray and Humane Society staff spent the rest of the day capturing 52 cats in Ms. Tomko's house.

All of the cats were brought back to the Humane Society where they were examined by our medical Director, Dr. Sarah Madaio. All of the cats were terribly ill, suffering from respiratory infections, flea infestations and various other ailments. Treatment for the cats began immediately and many of the cats responded quickly to their medication, in addition to fresh air, good food and clean water.

The additional cats put a strain on the Humane Society's resources and space, but with the help of staff, volunteers and a caring community, the once-neglected cats soon began finding homes. Unfortunately, cases like this one are becoming more and more common. The Humane Society's investigators are handling more cases and rescuing more animals from cruelty every year. We do not receive any government funding for these cases, so we rely on the generosity of individual donors to continue investigating animal cruelty and healing the victims.