



HAPPY TAILS

NEWS FROM THE SECOND CHANCE ANIMAL CENTER

HOW COULD WE SAY NO?

By Doug Radziewicz

Working in an animal shelter is surely one of the best ways to put a love of animals into action. Being able to provide shelter, care and comfort to animals in need is deeply satisfying. At times the sadness you see wears you down, but most often there are moments that lift you up and carry you through the days and weeks ahead. A high point is when we see dogs and cats leave the shelter to start their new lives in their forever homes. The excitement on an adopter's face as they leave with their furry companion is truly wonderful.

Sometimes at the shelter we are able to do a little more than what the everyday routine dictates. While it doesn't happen as often as we'd like, there are brief moments when the shelter isn't full. We may have a great month with many adoptions and we've gone through our waiting list of animals that were scheduled to be surrendered and now we have a little extra room. It would be tempting to take a breather, sit back and wait for the others that are certain to come to the shelter, but that just isn't what we are all about.

In New England, we are fortunate that our outreach and programs to reduce pet overpopulation have really made an impact, especially with dogs. So much so that at times when members of our communities want to adopt a dog, shelters may actually be low on numbers. When this happens, shelters will open their doors to bring in animals from high-euthanasia shelters in other parts of the country. It doesn't happen often but there have been times when our kennel population has been low and we have offered space to dogs who are at risk of being euthanized, mostly because those shelters have been too full.



SQUEAK

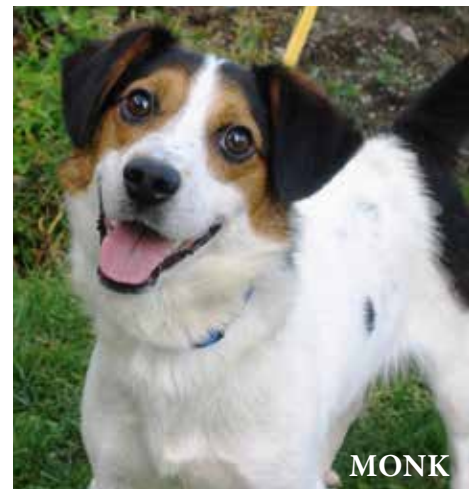
At Second Chance, we have developed a close relationship with a high-volume shelter in West Virginia that sees a never-ending flow of dogs. With our staff and volunteers ready to roll, we drive to Pennsylvania and meet the West Virginia group and load up and bring back adult dogs and puppies for adoption. We are more than happy to provide a safe haven until they are matched with a new person or family. In 2012 we made five trips to central Pennsylvania to pick up 45 dogs and puppies. Since the program started back in 2010, a total of 57 dogs have become temporary residents at Second Chance. We also brought up 12 dogs from an Ohio shelter in 2010.



LUTHER

For dogs, making available space at our shelter has become more or less routine. But this is not the case with the feline population. In the shelter, felines outnumber canines 3 and at times 4 to 1. We all hope for the day when the awareness of the importance of spaying and neutering cats reaches the level of that of dogs. As we all wait, cat overpopulation will continue to stay constant and we will save a place for them just as we have always done. But, like the dogs, there are moments when the waiting list of cats needing to be relinquished into our care has been cleared and a small window of time and space opens. In that happy event, we can extend our reach to help other cats in need of a temporary home.

We are all aware of the devastating effects of Hurricane Sandy this past fall. What a lot of



MONK

people did not know about was the displacement of many animals into area shelters in New York and New Jersey. With the assistance of national organizations like the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS), shelters were contacted to see if they had room for any cats that needed adoption. For us, the timing was just right and through a network of staff and volunteers who arranged for cats to be brought north, Second Chance was able to take in six Hurricane Sandy cats. While this may not seem like a lot, when our shelter and many others in the state and region all come together to help, you realize that you are a part of a bigger picture that is ultimately making a difference for animals who really need it.

No matter how many animals arrive at our shelter, we are so pleased that we can help. We know our role and we are here to help those in our community, and at times we can extend our support and assist others. That is why those of us who work in animal welfare unite and all work toward the same goal – helping to give these animals an opportunity to live a life they deserve.

Editor's Note: We are happy to report that Luther, Brownie, Monk and all but three of the Sandy rescue cats have settled into their "forever homes." Lester, Shadow and Squeak are waiting for that special person to adopt them.



BROWNIE

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As my term as President of the Board of Trustees comes to a close, I look back with pride at the great strides Second Chance has made. In Doug Radziewicz, we have an Executive Director who has brought his expertise and his dedication to animal welfare to make many beneficial changes at the shelter.

Thanks to a dedicated staff that has reached new levels of professionalism, we were able to care for more than 800 animals that came to our shelter this year — while our greater effectiveness and efficiency have enabled us to reduce operating expenses. In other words, we are running a tight ship!

We are also raising our profile in the communities we serve — with radio broadcasts, newspaper articles and many great events. Each month Humane Education Director Dare Meunier visits eight elementary schools and nine pre-K programs to impress 600 young people with the importance of caring for pets and provide them with the know-how. A gift from a generous donor allowed us to acquire a van to transport animals safely and conveniently. The van — emblazoned with our logo, phone number, web address and the words “Respect — Love — Adopt” — is a rolling advertisement that displays our name to one and all as we drive around. The message on the bumper reads “Show your care, spay and neuter your pets.”

In a new initiative, we are teaming up with the staff of Project Against Violent Encounters (PAVE) to care for the companion animals of those seeking shelter from abusive situations. This program is made possible by a private grant.

Our building, which once was a roadhouse and tavern, has been painted, spiffed up and, as much as possible, expanded. The animals in our care, both canine and feline, have new, roomier and safer accommodations that have improved their quality of life at the shelter. We've been able to close the crematorium, which added another room for cats.

But while these improvements have been welcome and essential, we remain focused on our most important goal — to replace our existing shelter with a new facility that will be a shining example of a “green”



and efficient shelter for the hundreds of animals that come to us for a “second chance.” We are actively seeking land along the 7A corridor; we are organizing a capital campaign committee, and we are moving full speed ahead!

We have recruited new Board members with energy and talents, and I want to thank them and all of the Board members I have worked with over the past six years. You have been fantastic. I owe a huge debt of gratitude to Doug, our Executive Director, to Shelter Manager Sharon Burnett and the staff that keeps the shelter up and running 24/7, and to the dozens of volunteers who donate their time to walking dogs, staffing the front desk and helping in so many ways.

Heartfelt thanks to all of the wonderful friends of Second Chance, who have responded so generously over the years with the donations that are so vital to the shelter operations. We consider you our Second Chance family and are deeply grateful for all the financial help you offer us. Among our special friends is Orvis, a company that has provided the staff with SCAC logo embroidered pullovers; Respect — Love — Adopt no-slip dog collars and leashes for our adopters; raised dog beds for the kennels and cushioned pads for the dog beds; an opportunity to raise money by gift-wrapping in the store over the holidays; use of the Orvis Fly Fishing School for special occasions; and lets us showcase our dogs in the store every second Saturday. Plus, Orvis tops all this with a cash donation!

The bottom line of course, and the reason for Second Chance's existence, is our ability to provide so many happy endings — or really, beginnings. We were especially joyful in the case of Max, a pit bull mix that was at the shelter for a whole year until he was adopted by a family in Pownal that “loves, loves, loves Max”. Max was a very special case, but all of us rejoice to see our dogs and cats settle into new homes every day — homes where they get the love, the caresses, and the care that every pet deserves.

Sincerely,

Judy Murphy
President, Board of Trustees

SECOND CHANCE ANIMAL CENTER

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HAPPY TAILS

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BRINGING A NEW PET HOME

By Sierra Williams, Katie McKenzie & Doug Radziewicz

Adopting a companion animal is a big and rewarding decision. You have given it a lot of thought, and have decided that you and your family have the time, attention, resources and dedication to provide a new home for a needy animal now and for the rest of its life. You have made the choice to do all you can to keep it happy and healthy - providing food, water, shelter and veterinary care, as well as giving it the love and respect it so justly deserves.

A pet is more than a name or breed of domesticated animal. This is your friend (maybe even your best friend!) and a member of the family. It is your buddy or pal and a companion during good times and bad. Our pets have a special way of showing and sharing their unconditional love; what they need in return is love, respect, kindness, patience and a commitment to their safety and well-being. That is what we are supposed to do as they depend upon us, and that is the least we can do as they give us so much in return.

When you are ready to adopt, there are many things you can do to make the experience for you and the shelter animal you set your heart on run smoothly, and to guarantee—as much as possible—that it will be a success. Possibly the most important first step is to talk with shelter staff before and after you adopt. Pre-adoption, we try to make the perfect match between the needs of a particular animal and the reality of your family situation. Kids...other pets...the number of hours the pet will be home alone... activity levels of your household members—all these considerations factor into the decision about which cat or dog is right for you.

Then, following the adoption, Second Chance sees it as our job to give you suggestions and answer any questions you may have about such important considerations as housebreaking, crate training, obedience classes, and nutrition and veterinary care, to name a few. But perhaps the most immediate topic is how to best introduce an adopted pet to your current animal family. We will provide recommendations to help with the transition and give you some insight as to what to expect and how to make the introductions run smoothly and not provoke anxiety in you or your animals. With cats and dogs, those are usually the most frequent questions we get asked, so here we offer some simple but important tips to help and your newly adopted friend.

When introducing your new feline to your household it is essential to be prepared in order to get your new feline off on the right paw. Even if you're not sure what cat you're interested in when you start looking at the shelter, make sure you prepare your home with the right supplies beforehand just in case you fall in love. It is normally best to set up your new cat, by itself, in one room for the first few days, so make sure the room you have chosen has at least one litter box, food and water supplies, and a cozy place to hide away if he/she gets a little overwhelmed with the sudden change of environment. This first week is vital; make sure you are keeping up with the litter box, and most importantly do not rush your new cat into making the acquaintance of your other pets. If you have a dog or cat, we suggest that you put your new cat into a crate and let your resident dog/cat investigate for about 40 minutes. Then, open the door of the crate and let your new cat come out at his/her own pace. Even though it's best to let your new feline relax and get to

know things slowly, that does not necessarily mean to leave them on their own. Depending on the cat, it is important to socialize; either sit near him/her and pet them, play and provide them entertainment, and even brush them. And make sure to keep an eye on how your current pets are responding to the newcomer.

When you bring a new dog home it is very exciting. A common mistake is to give the dog more opportunities than it can handle. While we can see how we want the dog to act in our future lives, it is all new to the dog, so it is best to have some limitations in place when the dog arrives and not decide to change the rules later. For example, is your dog allowed on the furniture? You may enjoy the company, but visiting friends and family may not always appreciate it. It is much easier, and less confusing, for the dog to learn that furniture is off limits all the time than it to learn it is OK sometimes. You are much better off (long term) to have your dog's good behavior and habits earn them those special benefits than to give them full freedom in the house the moment they arrive. Like cats, a single room or space where the dog can get used to the sounds, *BRINGING A NEW... continued on page 4*

SAVE THE DATE!

We are pleased to announce that Steve Caporizzo, Chief Meteorologist at WTEN-TV (Channel 10/ ABC) and producer of the Pet Connection, will be the guest speaker at Second Chance Animal Center's 54th Annual Meeting on Saturday, April 13. The meeting will be held at First Congregational Church, Main Street, Manchester, starting at 6:30 p.m.

Over the past 20 years, through his Pet Connection segments, Steve has found homes for thousands of dogs and cats, including many from Second Chance. Each show highlights local animal rescue stories and introduces viewers to pets up for adoption. Steve's warmth and compassion for homeless animals has engendered a wide following of animal lovers who generously respond to the need with both donations and adoptions.

In 1999 Steve started "The Pet Connection Free Adoption Day." This annual event involves 16 shelters and has become the biggest single adoption clinic in New York State. Second Chance takes our dogs and cats to Curtis Lumber in Hoosic, NY to participate. For all animals adopted at this event Pet Connection reimburses shelters for adoption fees/spay/neutering/shots.

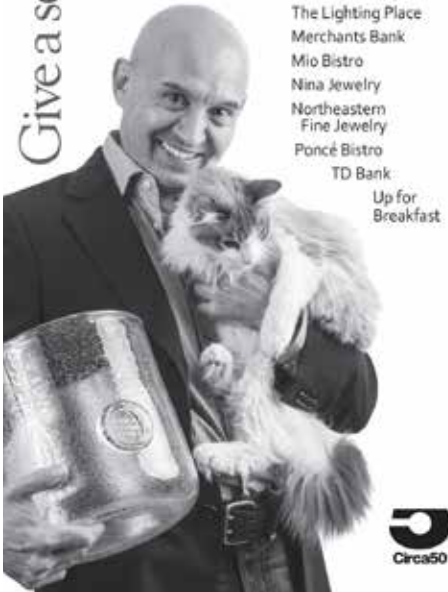
For more information about the Annual Meeting, please check our website.



Give a second chance.

Buy this commemorative handblown glass container (\$150) at Circa50 and the full purchase price is given to Second Chance Animal Center. Thanks to all who have given. To date we have raised \$21,000 for the shelter animals. The container is displayed at:

- Acer Objects
- Al Ducci's Italian Pantry
- Bank of Bennington
- Brook Valley Appliance
- Dorset Inn
- Dorset Playhouse
- Dorset Union Store
- Equinox Hotel and Spa
- Hand Motors
- Lang McLaughry Spera Real Estate
- The Lighting Place
- Merchants Bank
- Mio Bistro
- Nina Jewelry
- Northeastern Fine Jewelry
- Poncé Bistro
- TD Bank
- Up for Breakfast



A HAPPY UPDATE FROM CIRCA50

Steve Dunning wrote to let us know that there are only 50 glass containers—both clear and in a crackle finish, hand-blown by Andrew Weill of Manchester Hot Glass—remaining for sale to benefit Second Chance. Soon Steve and Jeff Linebeck, co-owners of the mid-20th-century furniture store on Main St. in Manchester Center, will introduce a new art object to help shelter animals. Hint: it is a beautiful hand-carved bird, made of maple and created in Switzerland. We'll tell you more about it in our next *Happy Tails*.

Meanwhile, Steve sent us a copy of Circa50's ad for the glass vessels, and updated the total raised to date to \$24,000—an amazing accomplishment for which we are extremely grateful. As you can see from the ad, many local shops, restaurants and other businesses are helping out by featuring the containers in their establishments, and we thank them, as well. This has truly been a team effort, and the lives of Second Chance animals have been greatly helped by one and all!

CONTACT US

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www.2ndchanceanimalcenter.org

HOURS

Tue, Thu, Sat 11:00AM – 3:30PM
Wed & Fri 11:00AM – 7:00PM
Sunday Noon – 3:00PM
(No adoptions are done on Sunday)
Closed Monday

BRINGING A NEW... continued from page 3

smells and routine of the family and the house is best for the new arrival. Too much freedom for a dog that is not ready for it will lead to a feeling of entitlement (for the dog) and provide many opportunities to exhibit undesirable behavior while unsupervised. Limiting a dog's freedom in the house, initially, lets them learn your schedule and interactions and become familiar with the rules – without always “getting it wrong” and needing to be corrected. In other words, instead of reacting to their something wrong, take charge and show them the right way to do things from the beginning.

Even dogs who leave the shelter house-broken can make mistakes in their new home, due to stress and a change in schedule. Regular trips outside to eliminate are recommended to get them used to the routine. Always using the same door to go outside will help the dog make the association between door/outside/potty. If there is an area of the yard you prefer they use, lead the dog over to it, encourage them to eliminate there, and then praise them.

Also, give your dog time alone, especially when there are visitors over. Let your dog retreat to his space—his own crate in a quiet space is ideal—and don't let anyone disturb him while he's there. Try keeping a 6-foot leash on the dog during its first

week in your home. Keeping an eye on his behavior, allow him to drag it behind as he explores his new world. This allows you to check or refocus him the dog without having to grab him by his collar, which a rescue dog may find threatening at first.

Adjusting to a new dog is just that - an adjustment for you and the dog. Take your time and introduce the dog into the full swing of your life slowly. This is often a challenge for guardians/owners that either just lost “the perfect dog” or expect the dog to know and do everything perfectly. Work as a team with your dog and show him/her the right way to do things. Reward him with lots of love and affection for a job well done!

Most importantly, be patient and remember this is all new to your adopted shelter animals - new family, new home, new rules, new beginning. Some adjust quickly and without much anxiety, while others need a little more time to adjust and feel safe and secure with their new surroundings. Most often they find their places of comfort and go there when they need quiet time or a break from family activities. So don't feel the need to hover, just make sure they get attention when they ask for it, because you are the one to reassure them that all is OK and now they have arrived at their forever home!

CLEANING OUT CLOSETS BENEFITS SECOND CHANCE

Spring is here and it is the time to take a hard look at your closets. Consider donating those clothes you never wear to help the animals. Bring them to Second Hand Rose, 303 Depot Street in Bennington, or The Dorset Exchange, 3283 Route 30 in Dorset (next to the post office). Be sure to specify that Second Chance Animal Center is to receive the proceeds from any sale that is made. You'll have more space in the closet and at the same time you've helped the shelter!

ASK THE VET

by Bo Bergman, DVM

My dog/cat has stinky breath. What can I do about it?

Most often complaints about your pet's bad breath relate to dental disease. In fact, periodontal disease is the most common clinical condition affecting adult cats and dogs. Studies show more than 85% of dogs over the age of 4 have periodontal disease and 72% of cats over the age of 5 have dental lesions. The good news is that dental disease is preventable. We try to emphasize to our new kitten and puppy owners that home care starts early; getting your pet accustomed to dental home care will pay dividends in the future.

What exactly is dental disease? It starts with normal mouth bacteria forming a layer on the teeth called plaque. Minerals in saliva harden the plaque into dental calculus (tartar). This tartar that forms above the gum line is often the first problem we see. The bigger issue is when the plaque and tartar are below the gum line and start destroying tissues, which leads to gingivitis (inflammation of the gum) and periodontitis (loss of bone and tissue around the tooth). And it can get worse! Periodontitis can progress to fistulas, jaw fractures, bone infection and bacterial translocation to other parts of the body - such as the heart, liver, and kidneys.

The American Veterinary Dental College (AVDC) lists the signs of dental and oral disease that you may see at home as:

- Bad breath.
- Loose teeth or teeth that are discolored or covered in tartar.
- Your pet shies away from you when you touch the mouth area.
- Drooling or dropping food from the mouth.
- Bleeding from the mouth.
- Loss of appetite or loss of weight (this combination can result from diseases of many organs, and early veterinary examination is important).

After reading this, I encourage you to go find your furry companion and "flip the lip" to take a look at their teeth. And don't just look at the front incisors and canines (fang teeth) because I often find problem spots on the premolars and molars in the back. If you feel your pet has a dental issue, contact your regular veterinarian for an exam and make



sure your pet's teeth are examined every year during their annual exam.

Once you have established that there is dental disease within your animal's mouth, set up a treatment plan with your veterinarian. Often this involves a full mouth exam and dental cleaning. I have not met a dog or cat yet who opens their mouth to say "ahhh" for a full exam let alone a cleaning; therefore we use anesthesia for a detailed evaluation of the teeth, gums, and tongue, as well as the dental cleaning. "Anesthesia-free dental scaling" is not recommended by the AVDC, partly because of concern for injury and improper cleaning.

During an exam, Xrays are used to identify problems areas underneath the surface. The teeth are then scaled and polished (just like at your dentist). Problem teeth can be addressed several ways depending on patient needs and owner desires, but can include extractions, root canals, and crowns. At the end of the dental procedure, a plaque-preventative sealant is applied.

Preventative home dental care is important for all animals, especially those young ones starting out with pearly whites or those who have just had a dental cleaning. Daily home care is one of the best habits you can make for your pet and there are numerous products available to fit both the personality of your animal and your lifestyle. Brushing your dog's or cat's teeth helps prevent periodontal disease. Other home care options include a dental diet, dental treats and chews, oral rinses and water additives. Look for products with

the VOHC (Veterinary Oral Health Council) approved labels - these have been proven to prevent plaque and tartar.

Now you know what dental issues to look for, why dental disease is a problem, and how to treat and prevent. I'm happy to see Second Chance has invested in an ultrasonic scaler to provide even better healthcare to animals needing a new home. A healthy mouth is a happy mouth (and smells better too).

Dr. Bo Bergman is a veterinarian at West Mountain Animal Center and a member of the Board of Trustees of Second Chance. Bo lives in Shaftsbury with his wife Megan, two young daughters, and their shelter dogs, cats, goats, chickens and a horse.

ASK THE VET is a guest column written by local veterinarians. If you have topics you would like to see covered in future issues, please e-mail Nancy Boardman at ngb@my-fairpoint.net. Please note that these columns are intended to provide general information only, not specific veterinary medical advice.

SCAC EVENT CALENDAR

Check our website for more events as the year progresses. If you would like to help out at any of them, we'd be most grateful! Contact Sharon Burnett, our volunteer coordinator, for more information.

Annual Meeting

April 13, 6:30pm
First Congregational Church
Manchester Village, VT

Petco Adopt-A-Thons

April 13 & 14
May 11 & 12

Orvis Meet a Shelter Dog

April 13 • May 11

Bennington Mayfest

May 25

Pet A Palooza

June 15
Curtis Lumber
Hoosick Falls, NY

WALK 'N' WAG 2012

ANOTHER YEAR OF GOOD TIMES AND ZANY COSTUMES!



Our late-October walk last year welcomed dogs and their people from all over the area. Some were newcomers, others were regulars, all had a ball, thanks to the cooperation of the weather (up to a point) and the fact that these canines are so social, well-behaved and adorable.

Here are some highlights of the Walk, which began after Fr. Scott B. Neal, rector of St. James' Episcopal Church in Arlington, gave the blessing to send us on our way, reminded yet again of the strong bonds and steadfast love between people and animals.

We are so grateful to the Dorset Players for again letting us use the beautiful Dorset Playhouse as our central meeting place, our starting point and where we convene at the end of the walk for refreshments, awards and a chance to socialize. Thanks, too, to everyone who came, walked, donated and helped us help needy dogs.



We are indebted to professional photographer Ellen O'Connor, who offered to take candid shots of our event, and whose fabulous results you see here. Ellen's assignments include weddings and special events all over Vermont and New England, which she shoots in a photojournalistic style, as well as portraits of pets and people using natural light, in both color and black and white.

We first met Ellen when she photographed the canine action at Orvis Dog Days in Manchester several years ago, and then when she worked with Bennington photographer Irene Goyette on holiday portrait sittings to raise money for Second Chance.

We think you'll agree that her portfolio of 2012 Walk 'n' Wag is special! For more information or to see more of her work, go to www.oconnorphotography.com, or e-mail her at ocphoto@myfairpoint.net.





EDUCATION CORNER

by Dare Meunier, Humane Educator

Staying Safe Around Dogs

Of the estimated four million dog bites in the US last year, half involved kids under the age of 12 with the highest percentage bitten aged between four and nine. Many are bitten by a dog they already know. How do we encourage kids to stay safe? Tell them to B.A.R.K: Be Aware, Responsible, and Kind!

Be aware

- notice what a dog is telling you with their body language
- avoid approaching a dog you don't know

Be Responsible

- never bother a dog that is eating or sleeping
- do not take a bone or toy from a dog's mouth.
- do not try and pet a dog that is in a yard, behind a fence, or in a parked car.
- always ask the owner's permission to pet their dog. If they say it's okay, hold out the back of your hand slowly to let the dog sniff it. Quietly and gently pet the dog on its side or back (*not over the head*).
- do not kiss a dog on the face

Be Kind

- never hit, kick or pull on a dog
- do not tease a dog
- always speak softly and pet them gently

What about stray or loose dogs?

If a stray dog approaches, stop and stand like a tree. Cross your arms over your chest and tuck fingers under your arms. Stay still and quiet and the dog will most likely sniff you and keep going. Be sure not to run because this will only encourage the dog to chase. If a dog knocks you to the ground be a rock: curl up into a ball with hands laced behind your neck to cover the head and face. Bring the knees up to your chest while staying still and quiet until the dog leaves. Be sure to tell an adult what the dog looked like and where you saw it. If you do get bitten, be sure to see a doctor.

What can you do?

Be a responsible pet owner by training and socializing your dog. Be sure to supervise when your dog is around young children and always obey local leash laws. Chained dogs become prone to aggression due to the stress of being tethered, and are nearly three times more likely to bite. Consider installing a fence to keep Fido contained yet anxiety free. Spaying and neutering helps too. Un-neutered dogs are over two times more likely to bite than those neutered. Finally, always model the appropriate behavior when interacting with dogs to show kids the safe and kind way to spend time with them. Bark!

Mark your calendars:

April: Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Month
May 5-10: Be Kind to Animals Week
May 19-25: National Dog Bite Prevention Week
June: Adopt-a-Shelter-Cat Month

POSTER CONTEST

Win a Week at SCAC's Camp!

In celebration of Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Month, Second Chance is holding a poster contest. The theme is: It's Cool to Be Kind! The contest is open to Bennington County students ages 7-12. Draw, paint, or color why and how to be kind to animals. Be creative and feel free to use words too!

The grand prize winner will win a week at Animal Adventure Camp this July! Submissions must be received no later than April 26, 2013.

Mail to:

Second Chance Animal Center
It's Cool to Be Kind Poster Contest
P.O. Box 620
Shaftsbury, VT 05262

THE ARTIST'S DEN



Title: My Cat Named Oreo
Artist: Taylor V.
Age: 9
School: Molly Stark Elementary,
Location: Bennington, VT

Be sure to include the child's name, age, and which school she or he attends. Winners will be announced during Be Kind to Animals Week, May 5-11. Good luck!

Register for SCAC's Summer Animal Adventure Camp 2013!

This summer kids can connect with animals, nature, and their peers while learning about responsible pet ownership, careers with animals, wildlife conservation and so much more! SCAC's summer program enters its 18th year this July.

Registration begins April 1st so be sure to visit our website to download your form. Children aged 7-12 are welcome.

We are currently accepting donations for the SCAC Summer Scholarship Fund, which provides income eligible children the opportunity to enjoy an enriching summer experience. Mail donations to: SCAC Summer Scholarship Fund, P.O. Box 620, Shaftsbury, VT 05262.

Please call the Education Director at 802-375-2898 ext. 313 with any questions.

July 8-12: It's Raining Cats and Dogs
July 15-19: Down on the Farm
July 22-26: Born to Be Wild
July 29-Aug 2: It's Raining Cats & Dogs

BOOK REVIEW

By Judy Ziller

A Dog Named Boo:

How One Dog and One Woman Rescued Each Other –and the Lives They Transformed Along the Way

By Lisa J. Edwards

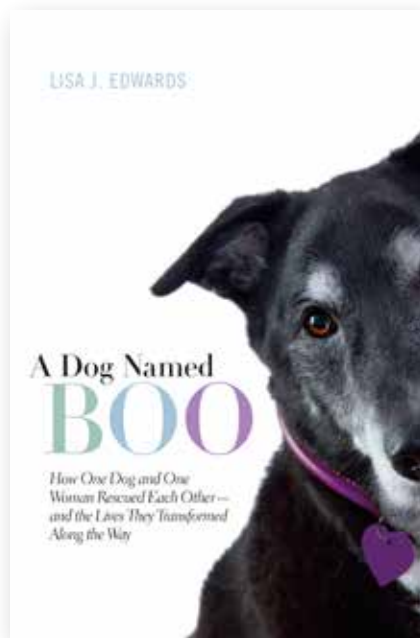
Published by Harlequin, 2012

On Halloween Day in the year 2000, a young woman from Carmel, New York, who was a part-time dog trainer, spotted a sign on a store window that read “Puppies, \$49.99.” Drawn into the store for inexplicable reasons, she saw five tiny puppies in a cardboard box. The store clerk explained the pups had been abandoned at the front door that morning with a note stating they were capable of eating—and that was all the information they knew.

Lisa Edwards already had two dogs, two cats, and a husband, Lawrence, who was recovering from major surgery at home. Her own health problems kept her in so much pain that she could barely walk, and then only with a cane. She watched as four of the puppies ran around playfully while the little black runt got stepped on and pushed into the walls of the box. She reached in and picked up the pup who immediately snuggled quietly close to her. Lisa knew she couldn't abandon this precious ball of fur.

When the puppy came home, the cats were not happy, Lisa's husband wasn't happy, her oldest dog wasn't happy—but Lisa sensed that with some patience everyone would eventually come to love each other. Lisa relates to the reader the sad details about her health problems, her dyslexia, and the sexual and psychological abuse she suffered as a child at the hands of her parents. Shy and withdrawn as a youngster, her heart ached with compassion for this pitiful dog.

Throughout her tortured childhood, the one person who was Lisa's savior was her brother, Chuck. When he was diagnosed with Lou Gehrig's disease, Lisa was devastated. Knowing that service



dogs are not assigned to people who have terminal illnesses, she became determined to train Boo to be a useful companion for him. But as Boo grew older, he was clumsy, bumped into walls, walked with a strange gait, took one year to become house-broken, often stood just staring into space and was considered the dunce of his obedience classes. In Lisa's words, working with him was “like trying to train a two-by-four.” Eventually a vet diagnosed him with a neurological disorder, and Lisa realized he was neither stupid nor disobedient. Just like Lisa, Boo had to struggle in an attempt to adapt to a world that could be unforgiving and difficult to understand. Lisa was indescribably proud of every accomplishment Boo made, but she knew he was never going to be trained quickly—or thoroughly—enough to assist Chuck. But she had the consolation of knowing that, as his

life came to an end, Chuck's two cats sat with him constantly and provided him with the animal solace he needed.

And then, through a chance encounter with some children, Lisa realized that Boo's gentle nature and unending patience made him the perfect candidate to visit schools and nursing homes. Boo loved kids, and since Lisa and Lawrence had decided not to have children because of their own traumatic childhoods, his training began again in earnest with this goal in mind. His subsequent visits to needy, lonely people of all ages proved to Lisa not only that she was a competent dog trainer, but also that Boo, the dog that wasn't “perfect,” could still have a tremendous impact on the lives of all he touched.

While Boo's failing eyesight has forced him into semi-retirement now, Lisa and Lawrence have adopted a son, so Boo finally has a child of his own to snuggle with.

This book brings the reader tears and laughter and many insights into the world of dog-training. Lisa and Boo are two outcasts who give each other the love they both desperately crave, the skills they need to make a difference, and the hope they must have for their future. Visit them at their website, www.threedogstraining.com.

TUNE IN TO 2ND CHANCE!

Turn your radio dial to 1370 WBTV-AM to catch Animal Tales, a show hosted by Second Chance staff. Animal Tales is broadcast on the first and third Thursday of each month at 10:00 a.m.

Animal Tales is dedicated to shelter news, events and, of course, animals. It features special guests to share their expertise, interests and stories about the companion animals we care so much about.

In the first of the series, Staffer Molly Smith joined Executive Director Doug Radziewicz for an informative program on animal care at the shelter – covering the spay and neuter program, vaccinations, testing for feline AIDS and leukemia, testing for Lyme disease, elimination of internal and external parasites and behavioral testing. It gave listeners an overview on what we do.

Our humane educator, Dare Meunier, has been on air to share a lesson she teaches at local schools about dog bite prevention. (Read about this in the Education Corner on page 8.)

On another program, she and Dr. Bo Bergman, a member of the Second Chance board and a veterinarian at West Mountain Animal Hospital, discussed many issues surrounding animal health.

Shelter Manager Sharon Burnett and Dare have talked about volunteerism and programs we run at the shelter.

Special guest Mike Ryan, fondly referred to as the ‘Cat Whisperer’, shared his experiences with listeners. Mike volunteers his time socializing cats at Second Chance. He works with the more shy cats to help them become more friendly and outgoing and thus more adoptable.

So, tune in and tell your friends about this opportunity to learn new facts and stories about animals and their endearing ways.

MEMORIALS & TRIBUTES

There's no better way to honor or remember a loved one—whether two- or four-footed—than with a donation to Second Chance. Just note on the enclosed remittance envelope if your gift is a memorial or a tribute, and whom we should notify of your generosity. Gifts of \$50 or more will be listed in a future issue of *Happy Tails*, but all donations are most appreciated, and will be used to care for “our” animals while they are with us. Thank you!

IN MEMORY OF:

Verna Jean Brooks from Hemmings Motor News
Paulette Nicken from Judith & Michael Russert
“Shantar” & “Sasha” from Jacki Baker & Ron Mancini
“Betsy Fedorka” from Diane Wechter
Clifton & Kenneth Bacon from Chris Bacon & Charlene Moffitt
Kenneth Bacon from Nancy Boardman
“Chubby, Chubby” from Doreen Caputo
Kenneth & Kristen Lorette from Kathryn Ingle
Francis Greene from Robert Greene, Inc.
“Squirt” from Dennis Pratt
“Tabitha” from Janice Dzbenski
“Jasper” from Mr. & Mrs. John Strachan
“Lewis” Kelly from Diane Welebit & Robert Waite
“Sophie” from Lenore Humphrey
“Paul Pup” from James Lovering
Douglas Holley, Sr. from William & Margie Collins, and Michael & Lynn McCann
Ken & Marge Burns from Connie Kheel & Joslin Lane
Paul Watson from Thomas & Susan Stack
Rita Reyes from Thrifty Attic
“Jerry” from Deborah Dorfman
“Jason” & “Chappie” from Ethel Pratt
“Maggie” from M. C. Mueller
“Sally” from Mr. & Mrs. H.H. Hauser
“Baraby,” “Willie,” & “Abigail” from Christine & Donald Russ
“Ethel Ann” from Dorothy Howard
“Maui” & “Tiki” from Victoria McInerney
“Tidbit Molly” from Oliver, from Tania Boisvert
Mark R. Butterfield from Sarah Butterfield
“Sarah Lee” from Brigitte Bignon
Richard & Shirley Gardner from Mike & Kim Livingston
Martin Neustadt from Susan Neustadt
“Cricket” from Harold Smith
“Judge Harry Mount” from Jan & Joe Mount
“Etnee” from Ken Selig
“Amelia” from Martha & Anil Asher
“Ali” from Cindy & Craig Bartosewicz
“Magic,” “Mickey,” “Moochie,” & “Cosmo” from Mary Jane Scott
Rita Earley from Sharon Poupart
Nick Oriol from Jacqueline Petersen
“Tux,” “Tabby,” “Tessy,” & “B” from Janet Dunnington
“Rebel,” & “Missy” from West Oil Company, Inc.

“Amanda,” & “Isabelle” from Lillian Reid
“Natasha” from Sandra Read
“Sasha,” “Stella,” & “Thor” from Tricia Bitteker
“Nobby,” “Lemon,” & “Crystal” from Cook Neilson
Jean H. Noble and “Sam the cat” from Robert & Carolyn Noble
“Theo” from Carolyn Whitney
Malcolm M. Hopper from Laurie George
Lorraine Kelton from Arthur Kelton, Jr.
“Riley” from Barbara Riley
Richard Wilkins from Francis & Virginia Wilkins
Evelyn Gudelis from the Aldermans
“Peabody,” “Jena,” & “Hennessy” from Denise Forkey
“Jessie” & “Daisy” from Frances Hollbrook
“Black Kitty” – The Bolton family cat from the Williams family
“Shannon” from Shirley Geno
“Bubba” from Bonnie & Ray Louison
“Kitty Hittle” from Ann-Louise Hittle
“Peaches” from Georgine Barrie
“Josie” from Randall & Jean Bates
“Stoney” & “Moggie” from Kim Loos & Carole Sheringham
Stephanie Chapman from Lynne Chapman
“Alex” & “D.C.” from Terese Retondo
John Oleson from Neils Oleson
“Dempsey” from Andra Adolfsen
Toast Moore from Richard Moore, Jr.
“Roo,” “Max,” & “Nebraska” from Susan Alanraig
Lucie & Ernest Thibodeau from Merrie Carr
“Tucker” & “Andrew” from Laurie George
Donald F. Lorom from Nancy Andersen
Kenneth Burns, Sr. from Kay & Ed Walsh
Ralph W. Backer, Sr. from Aldrch & Elliot, Adrian & Mary Ellen Lane, and Adrian & Mary Lane II
Helen Gomety from Honnora Farrell Santoro & Marilyn Hemmi
Paula Sweeney from Cynthia Canzeri-Labish
“Entee” from Ken Selig
“Pepper” from Lucille Candiloro
Marion Wright from Susan & Peyton Whitney
Gail L. Nicholson from Joyce Mintz
“McKinley,” “Ethan,” & “Ephraim” from Ralph Colin, Jr.
Sue McDermott from Cheryl Dostal, Debra & Thomas Lomma, David & Patricia Smith, and Susan & Stephen Moore

This listing includes contributions made from end of April 2012 through the middle of February 2013. Donations made after that date will be included in the next issue of *Happy Tails*. We apologize for any mistakes or omissions. Let us know if a correction needs to be made in a name or gift designation.

IN HONOR OF:

Kathryn Taylor's birthday from *Tim Taylor*
Mrs. Kathy Sarchino's birthday from *Lillian Sarchino*
"Bella" from *Walter Gibson*
"Amber" & "Gypsy" from *Joyce Davis*
"Bob" from *Linda Burnett*
All the animals adopted by *David & Marian Lewis Wohlsen*
Bob VanBenschoten from *Patricia Knight*
"Maggie" from *T. Henry McDonough*
"Marley," "Bitty," "Juliet," & "Mikey" from *Arden & Chuck Scranton*
"Robert" from *Robert Schembeck*
Neil & Dana Mattison at Christmas from *Bea & Jerry Mattison, Sr.*
Jerry & Debbie Mattison at Christmas from *Bea & Jerry Mattison, Sr.*
Allen Brown, Rose & Robert Brown, Sr., Linda & Robert Brown, Jr. & family and Pam & Bill Toftness & family at Christmas from *Jim Brown & Norman White*
"Seamus" & "Spencer" from *Jon Traver*
"Samson" from *Jeanmine & Daniel Riley*
"Misty" & "Roo" from *Ann Babcock*
"Cozy" from *Charlotte Comar*
"Brittany" from *Barbara Goldstein & Margot Falkner*
The Vishay-Tansitor Engineering Staff from *John VanVoohis*
"Max" from *Bob & Joann Somers*
"May" from *Mrs. C. Wildman*
"Katie," "Barney," & "Purrsey" from *Helen Goodrich*
Henry Edwards II and "Agatha" from *Judy Edwards*
All their cats from *Geoffrey & Linda Jones*
"AJ" from *his Grandma, Helen Carll*
"Eliza" from *Mary Digangi, M.D.*
"Harley Davison Galvin Asher, D.Phil., Ph.D." from *Martha & Anil Asher*
Mike Ryan & Lynn Grieger at Christmas from *Howard & Dorothy Ryan*
"Jack Mackenzie" from *Cindy Thomson*
"Roger-That" & "Baxter" from *L.J. & K.P. Bradley*
Laurie Dufault from *Irene Lawrence*
"Pixie" & "Chloe" from *Janet & Doug Willbrant*
"Max" & "Pixie" from *Marjory Washburn*
"Pumpkin" & "Bennington Boudreau" from *Karen Boudreau*
"Charlotte," "Isis," "Zeus," "Tigger," & "Shadow" from *Lela Cestone*
"Maya" & "Cheyenne" from *Betty Kane*
"Bea" from *Shirley Wade*
"Harry" from *Paul Pitroff*
Mary & Sunni Breen from *Elizabeth & Lawrence LaBelle*
"Gypsy" & "Max" from *Dennis & Jeanne Picano*
Dr. Michael & Gail Wellington from *Shelli Duboff*
"Sarah" from *Bill & Patt Mayer*
"Callie" from *Bonnie & Ray Louison*
"Buster" from *Judy Murphy*
"Abby," "Mangus," & "Cole" from *Bob & Nancy Young*
"Joseph" & "Sampson" from *Tracie Holm*
"Elvira Angel Matunas" from *Glen & Allison Matunas*
"Madden" from *Paulette Menot*
"Albert" from *Michele & David Roy*
Ethel Mulcahy from *Mark Johnson & Linda Mulcahy*

THANK YOU!

We would like to recognize and thank Timothy Peters, a professional freelance photographer based in Manchester who donates his time and comes to the shelter to photograph some of our pets that are available for adoption. What a difference it has made! His patience and skill have resulted in capturing stunning images of these amazing animals, highlighting their expressive and beautiful faces. Find Tim's work on our website, Facebook page and as seen with this photo of Tippy. To learn more about Tim's work, check out his website at: www.trpeters.com



THE SECOND CHANCE VAN!





Second Chance Animal Center

P.O. Box 620

6870 Route 7A

Shaftsbury, VT 05262



SAVE THE DATE! We are pleased to announce that Steve Caporizzo will be the guest speaker at Second Chance Animal Center's 54th Annual Meeting on Saturday, April 13.... *read more on page 3*

WALK 'N' WAG 2012 ANOTHER YEAR OF GOOD TIMES AND ZANY COSTUMES!... *read more on page 6-7*



EDUCATION CORNER Learn about staying safe around dogs, SCAC's Animal Adventure Camp, and a poster contest... *read more on page 8*

BOOK REVIEW ... *read more on page 9*



HOW COULD WE SAY NO? When the opportunity arises, we're able to take in animals rescued from disaster zones... *read more on cover*

ASK THE VET Dr. Bo Bergman tackles your dog or cat's bad breath... *read more on page 5*

