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**Cochecho Valley
Humane Society**

NEWS

262 County Farm Road, Dover, NH ~ 603.749.5322 ~ www.cvhsonline.org
Volume 55 ~ Summer 2010

“Champion’s Fund” Providing a Road to Recovery

*By Karen Fogarty,
Manager of Shelter Operations.*

In years past, an animal that arrived in serious distress was left with few options for treatment. Those with known medical conditions were left with no alternatives. With limited training, supplies and incredibly limited resources, the shelter had to make difficult decisions on a daily basis. The staff was faced with determining which animals they could treat, trying to save as many as possible. It was heartbreaking.

Champion’s Fund was created in 2007 to help pay for costly medical procedures. Named after a gentle 9 month old German Shephard mix, that arrived with a deformed right front leg, Champion was able to receive the surgery he needed. Now with the ever growing support of our community, numerous animals are benefiting from his fund every year.

2009 was a year defined by medical emergencies; families with no options to help their beloved pets, and strays with no one to speak for them, we were there to provide that love, care, compassion and medical attention so greatly needed by these animals. You may remember some of these animals in need when they became their own “poster child”, asking the community for help. You answered...thank you. Meet a few of whose lives have been changed.

Tilly

“Tilly”, a Labrador puppy with personality plus... and little hope, was diagnosed with an ectopic ureter (which causes the animal to leak urine as the urine bypasses the bladder). This condition usually results in euthanasia due to the costly surgery, extensive aftercare



and the high risk involved with the surgery. The generosity of a local veterinarian, Dr. James McKiernan of Great Bay Animal Hospital, allowed for a chance at hope for Tilly. With the help of Champions Fund, she was afforded an ultrasound, a much needed step to ensure that the surgery had the best chance of success.

Options were discussed and the decision was made to remove her ureter and kidney from the affected side. Tilly started her very own fundraiser to cover the cost of her surgery and the response went above and beyond! She had a fan page with followers checking on her status regularly...she is an amazing girl.

The surgery itself (intensive and extensive) lasted a few hours and required much attention and dedication post procedure. She was sent to a well qualified foster home for that recovery and has done wonderfully. Just recently, she made her way to her new loving permanent home!

Serenity

Some of the most touching were those that, just a few years ago, would have been left with no op-

tions to even consider. Late on a Sunday afternoon, a woman arrived with a large black cat, and stated she could no longer afford to care for him. Upon examining our new friend it was revealed he was suffering from blockage of the urinary tract, an incredibly painful and dire situation. He needed immediate attention! Dr. Jim McKiernan was contacted and we began to address the matter immediately. A major surgery was planned for the very next day. Without this lifesaving procedure Serenity would certainly not be with us today. After months of recovery, he awaits a new loving home.

Punky

“Punky” belonged to no one. Being fed for months by a concerned citizen, no one claimed she was part of their family. She was surrendered, unspayed and with no information about her past. Sadly, no one knew of her potentially life threatening condition. She was found to have several, enormous mammary tumors. Unsure if we could save her, she was seen by Dr. Jaine Bloom for a consult. I am happy to report (as I watch her lay in the sun while she recovers), she is healthy, happy and well. She will be ready for a new home soon!



Chi-Chi

“Chi-Chi”...now known as “Daisy Fiona Cricket” (yes, the staff fought over her name and she is so spectacular...she earned three

Continued on page 5

Passing of the Stethoscope

A big THANK YOU to Dr. Cynthia Hoisington of Animal Health Center in Rochester who served as our Vet of Record for the last few years. Your time, energy, and patience are greatly appreciated by CVHS and especially the animals you so lovingly cared for. You will always be a member of the CVHS family.

With the departure of Dr. Hoisington, we welcome our new Vet of Record, **Dr. Sarah Proctor**. Dr. Proctor is the new Veterinarian at the Thompson School at UNH. She graduated from UNH in 1996 and got her DVM from Cornell University in 2000. It has always been her desire to teach, so when Dr. Z retired in 2009, it gave Sarah the opportunity to pursue her passion and return to her alma mater.



She feels that it is important for students to get hands-on training and to have a better understanding of how an animal shelter works. CVHS will provide that opportunity. Sarah volunteered her time at the shelter while a student at UNH.

Dr. Proctor is married and has two cats and two rabbits. Her hobbies include tennis, soccer, reading and knitting.

Please welcome Dr. Sarah Proctor to the CVHS family.

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our new look?**

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*Thank you Dr. Cindy Hoisington
for all you've done for the animals!*

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Cocheco Valley Humane Society is a community funded nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting humane treatment of animals. The Society's mission is to provide quality, compassionate care and shelter to our animals, in partnership with educating the community concerning animal treatment and welfare.

From the Executive Director's Desk

Well, we made it through another winter. The hot weather has arrived, some say a bit too early, but it is a nice change.



The animals seem to be enjoying the warmer weather. They do not like it when it gets too hot, but the dogs have the luxury of taking a swim if the heat is too unbearable.

With the warmer weather it is very important that the family pet not be left outside without a shaded area and plenty of clean water. Also, never leave your pet in a closed and/or locked car. The inside temperature of an automobile can rise rapidly and cause the animal to dehydrate and possibly lose consciousness. The same is true for any other companion animals. Stop and think before you lock your pet in the car.

The first half of the year has been very busy here at CVHS. The 13th Annual Creature Comforts Dessert Tasting held on Sunday, March 21st was a huge success. We thank the event sponsors for their generosity, local individuals and businesses for their auction donations, Regatta Ballroom for hosting the event, Mark Ericson of WOKQ for serving as emcee, and Juston McKinney for entertaining the crowd...and thank you to everyone who attended!

Our off site adoption locations have expanded and we have been out and about in the community, from schools to the local restaurants. We look forward to the 5th annual Summer Sun & Fun Craft Festival on July 10th and Paws in the Park and the 16th annual Walk for the Animals on September 26th.

Enclosed in this addition of the newsletter is the 2009 Annual Report. Please take a look at it and give us your feedback. We would love to hear from you.

How do you like the new format of the newsletter? We are trying to be fiscally responsible and go a little bit green. Don't forget to send us your email address if you want the electronic version.

Thank you to the board, staff, volunteers, donors and friends of CVHS. Your continued support and commitment to the care of the animals is amazing.

On behalf of those with no voice,

Martha Jo Hewitt
 Martha Jo Hewitt

Christmas in July

Please leave something under our tree!

With over 100 pets awaiting new homes, we need your help to get through this busy summer season.

With your support, it's like Christmas all summer long!

Our Christmas Wish List

Canned puppy and kitten food
 Paper towels
 Kitty Litter
 Laundry detergent
 Dry kitten food
 Dry cat food
 Dog toys
 30 gallon trash bags

Items can be left under the tree in our lobby during operating hours
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Photo by Schoff's Photography

Get Fit with Fido!

Are you tired of trying to find time to go to the gym? No problem! Join the Cochecho Valley Humane Society volunteer program and Get Fit with Fido!

CVHS relies on volunteers to help walk and socialize dogs that are available for adoption. Going on walks offers a lot of benefits to the shelter dogs. In addition to giving them a break from their kennel, a walk helps them learn some basic leash manners - which will be greatly appreciated by their new owner!

A walk also has a lot of added physical and mental health benefits for shelter dogs. Along with helping to prevent obesity, regular physical activity helps them release stored up energy which, in turn, helps prevent such unwanted behaviors as barking and destructive chewing. Every minute you spend with a shelter dog helps socialize and prepare them for their new forever home.

Walking isn't just healthy for the dogs; it's healthy for you, too! Walking is a great workout for people of all ages and abilities. Not only is it great for weight loss, it helps reduce the risk of heart disease, increases cardiovascular and pulmonary fitness, helps build stronger bones, and increases balance.

By volunteering to walk shelter dogs, you'll have a fun workout at no cost. Also, when the "trainer" waiting for you each day is a dog, you'll actually look forward to exercising. Dogs are ideal partners for getting in shape - they offer lots of love and are always willing to walk at your pace.

For more information, contact the Volunteer Coordinator, Alaina Goodnough, at 749-5322 ext 111 or volunteerc@cvhsonline.org.

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What Do Pets Teach Children?

Parents often bring pets into the family to teach children responsibility. It's a familiar scene at Cochecho Valley Humane Society. The child stands by the pet of choice and begs mom or dad to take the pet home.

"I'll help! I promise to" walk the dog, change the cat's litter box, or feed the rabbit. Of course, it's great if our children are involved in the pet's care. But adding a pet to a family can bring much more to a child's life than added chores.

Communication skills are practiced when children have pets. Children



Sam is available for adoption.

learn the slight cues their pets give them to indicate their feelings. They can later apply this

lesson to people because they are able to watch for body language

and apply that to relationships.

Children often become curious about the emotions their pets feel. Animals offer a chance for children to explore. Their interest can help children feel more comfortable relating to other people around them.

If properly supervised by adults, a child can learn to take care of another living being, and can take pleasure in keeping their pet healthy and happy. This responsibility is best learned when parent and child work together. It can strengthen family relationships and create that worthwhile feeling of a job well done.

Children go through life under constant evaluation. They are rated by their behavior, grades and athletic performance. The older the child the more often they feel criticized. Pets just want company. And they accept the attention of a child without judgment. They are happy to see their family under any circumstances. If a child is lonely, a pet

will provide company and consolation. This helps a child cope with their feelings and can build confidence as they sort through life's many issues.

Yes, pets do teach children valuable skills, ways of coping with daily life. Thanks to our animals, maybe our children will be happier and healthier. And that is certainly worth the investment of love, time and effort every pet needs.



Destiny is waiting for a home.

Jane Kennedy is CVHS's Humane Education Coordinator. Jane is available to speak to schools and groups regarding care of pets. Jane may be reached at humaneed@cvhsonline.org.

Get Fit with Fido *con't*

Joining the CVHS volunteer program is easy. To get started, fill out and return a volunteer application. Applications are available in the shelter and on our website, cvhsonline.org. An orientation and training session are mandatory before you begin working with the animals. The Volunteer Coordinator will work with you individually to determine a schedule based on your availability. You'll then receive all the training and materials you need to feel comfortable handling the dogs.

If one of your family members is a cat or dog.



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