

give me **SHELTER**

A Cocheco Valley Humane Society Publication

Spring/ Summer 2013



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Cocheco Valley Humane Society

262 County Farm Road • Dover, NH 03820

www.cvhsonline.org

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A Note From the Executive Director

Well, we made it through another winter, and we're very happy that the weather has turned warm and sunny so that the animals have a chance to get outside. Here at CVHS, we had frozen pipes and broken radiators that needed repair, highlighting our need for a new facility. For those of you that haven't seen it yet, we have a sign up at the future location of our new building across from the Strafford County Courthouse, near the Hyder House. Plans are well under way to kick off the official Capital Campaign for the new building.

The new facility is based on another shelter that services an area similar in size and population to Strafford County and Southern Maine. Every room has undergone extensive planning to make sure that it is efficient and meets our needs. While it will be larger than what we currently have, it will not be large or lavish.



The CVHS Building Committee and County Commissioners celebrate the new "Future Home of CVHS" sign

You will be hearing a lot about the plans and activities around the construction of the new building in the months to come. We also invite everyone to join us at our upcoming Tails to Trails fundraiser on June 23rd in the Strafford County Complex to see the new land where we'll be building our future home. More details about this exciting event, the largest fundraiser of the year for the animals, can be found in this edition of Give Me Shelter.

The journey to a new shelter is a long one and, in the meantime, we need everyone's support in maintaining the operations of our current facility and the day to day activities that take place here. Whether it is adoptions at the shelter, off-site adoptions (with a new partner at PetSmart in Rochester), humane education, the animal food pantry, rabies clinics, microchip clinics, the Safe Pets program, etc., we're always busy and can use your support.

Thank you to the staff, volunteers, Board of Directors, donors, and friends. You provide hope and compassion to the animals in our care and we appreciate it.

Leslie Heindl

Executive Director

CVHS Brings 19th Annual Dog Walk Home

Cocheco Valley Humane Society is thrilled to finally be bringing our annual dog walk back home! Taking place on **Sunday, June 23rd from 11am to 2pm**, this year's walk for the animals is being held on the Strafford County Courthouse lawn, right where it originated 19 years ago!

Not only will the event be returning home to its original location, both the current Humane Society and the land where the shelter plans to build a new facility are just steps away. Guests will be able to view the new land, see models and drawings of the planned new shelter, and learn more about the **Bring Us Home campaign** to raise funds for the new building.

Once again hosted by our friends **Mark Ericson and Karen Kiley from WOKQ'S Morning Waking Crew**, the dog walk is our largest fundraiser of the year. Participants in the walk are encouraged to **collect pledges and form walk teams** to help raise funds for the animals. Walkers can download pledge forms, create teams, and make their own online donation page by going to **www.cvhsonline.org**. Prizes will be awarded during the event for the top individual adult and youth pledge collectors as well as the top adult and youth teams.

Guests at the event will also have a chance to learn more about the **Tails to Trails Adventure Group**, a new program created by a group of dedicated volunteers looking to help enrich the lives of the shelter dogs. The dog walk, now named in connection with the Adventure Group, will be led by these volunteers with shelter dogs through the scenic trails in the Strafford County Complex.

Guests are encouraged to sample delicious treats from **Lacey's Kitchen, Michele's Totally Awesome Gourmet Popcorn**, and an **ice cream truck** while perusing the **vendor booths**. A local group of dog trainers will be on hand offering a **No Need for Speed** obstacle course to benefit the shelter. Unlike agility, where speed is key, this obstacle course will allow dogs of all shapes, sizes, and abilities to have a chance to experience the obstacles at their own pace, on leash, with the guidance of a trainer. **Canine Good Citizen** testing will also be available during the event.



FEDERAL SAVINGS
BANK



To capture memories of the day, **Passion4Paws Photography** will be joining us with a special photo booth for people and their pets. Pet owners with CVHS alumni are invited to take a special photo showcasing their pet's name and adoption year. A **pet psychic** will also be available to help guests connect with their current and past pets. And for those pets that need to relax after long, stressful days of napping on the couch, we'll be having a **doggie spa** featuring **Reiki** for pets and **animal massages**. Friends of CVHS from the **Dover Petco** will also be on hand offering free nail trims to puppies 4 months and younger, as well as free grooming and nutrition consultations. Petco will also be giving a special dog training demonstration after participants return from the pledge walk, which kicks off at noon and follows a one-mile loop past CVHS and along a trail through the woods.

The shelter will have multiple booths at the event, including a **Humane Education** area, information on **adoptable animals**, and a **retail and raffle** area. Raffle prizes for this event include a gift basket from Starbucks and tickets to local attractions. Some larger items, including a "Dine Around the Seacoast" package, will not be pulled until the shelter's Howl for the Animals event in October, allowing more people a chance to enter.

CVHS and Jewelry Creations of Dover have partnered together to add an exciting new element to this year's event.

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Send your question to devassist@cvhsonline.org.
Please put Dear Denzi in the subject bar.

Dear Denzi,

I've been living comfortably in a house with my humans for my entire life. It always makes me sad to hear about so many cats at the shelter that are homeless. What is it like being a shelter cat?
- Happy at Home

Dear Happy,

Coming into the shelter can definitely be scary, especially if you're used to living in a home all your life. There are lots of new smells, sounds, and animals - all of which can be overwhelming. Thankfully, there is a tireless team of staff members and volunteers that are devoted to making sure the shelter animals are well cared for and loved. Cats at the shelter get lots of time out of their cages, plenty of toys to play with, and lots of pats and head scratches. Cats that have a harder time adjusting to the shelter are given extra one-on-one attention, either in foster care or in one of the offices with a staff member. We do whatever we can to make

sure every cat feels like the shelter is their home while they are here!

Dear Denzi,

I heard my parents talking about bringing me to the shelter so I can be microchipped. I'm a little scared. What's a microchip and why do I need one?
- Scared Chipless

Dear Scared,

A microchip is a great way for your parents to keep you safe. I have one and so do all my cat and dog friends at the shelter. A microchip is exactly what it sounds like - a tiny chip that is placed under your skin and can be used to ID you should you ever get lost. Although it sounds scary, getting a microchip is no worse than getting a shot. Once you get your microchip, remind your parents to register it! Should you turn up at a vet office or shelter someday looking for your family, a simple scan of your microchip will reunite you very quickly!

CVHS Dog Walk

Continued from page 3

As part of their Pearlapalooza promotion, Jewelry Creations has given CVHS **twelve strands of pearls to hide along the walk route**. Guests are encouraged to find these strands of pearls and, should you be one of the lucky few who finds one, it's yours to keep!

Occuring simultaneously with the dog walk, CVHS will be offering an **open house** at the shelter for guests interested in meeting adoptable animals, learning more about our programs, and getting a better understanding of why our current facility does not meet our needs. A **yard sale** will also be taking place at the shelter starting at 8am and running throughout the event. Supporters are encouraged to drop off yard sale donations at CVHS any day and time up until the dog walk on June 23rd.

We hope you and your four-legged best friend will join us at this fun event! For more information about our plans for the day, go to www.cvhsonline.org.

Meet Our Cover Dog

Meet **Putt Putt**, a handsome 2-year old Labrador mix who has been at the shelter since the beginning of March.



An active boy, Putt Putt loves to play fetch, hike, and go for long walks. He has been working on his manners and seems to focus best after he has been tired out from a lot of activities.

Putt Putt will need to be the only "child" in his new home - no cats, no kids, and no dogs. Although he tends to meet new dogs well, he soon decides that he does not like them, so his new owner must understand that he needs to always be the only dog.

Name: Putt Putt

Age: 2 years

Sex: Neutered Male

Breed: Lab mix

His new owner will also need to provide consistency for him, as well as clear rules and boundaries.

Putt Putt will make a wonderful best friend for someone who is willing to give him a chance. This sweet boy loves his people and will happily snuggle with you on the couch after a long day of playing.

Are you the perfect match he has been looking for?

CVHS Volunteers Are a Special Breed

All of us at Cocheco Valley Humane Society were deeply saddened by the sudden and unexpected loss of longtime Bingo volunteer Jerry Joncas this past winter. A dedicated volunteer since 2004, Jerry donated over 1,200 hours to the Humane Society by helping at the shelter's weekly Bingo game. Jerry's contributions made a difference in the



lives of countless animals. He will be greatly missed by his CVHS family.

The shelter is fortunate to have so many committed and passionate volunteers who, like Jerry, donate many hours of their time to support the mission of our organization. Recently, a group of volunteers, led by Volunteer and Outreach Coordinator Kelly Bowen and volunteer Craig Perkins, formed a new team called the Tails to Trails Adventure Group.

Initiated by Perkins, who was inspired by similar programs run by other animal shelters, the Tails to Trails Adventure Group focuses on shelter dog enrichment. Utilizing the many trails in the shelter's "backyard", the Adventure Group allows shelter dogs a chance to spend some much-needed time outside of their kennels while working on basic manners and leash commands. As dogs successfully complete on-site hikes, they will

receive a chance to go on "field trips" with the Adventure Group to offsite hiking locations. These types of programs, which are only possible because of our volunteers, not only enrich the dogs' lives but often reduces the amount of time they spend on the adoption floor waiting for their forever family to find them.

The volunteer needs of Cocheco Valley Humane Society are always growing. Whatever your interests are, the shelter has a volunteer project to match. If you're interested in learning more about our volunteer opportunities, go to www.cvhsonline.org or contact the Volunteer and Outreach Coordinator at volunteerc@cvhsonline.org or 603-749-5322 ext. 111.



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Dessert Tasting a Sweet Success

Cocheco Valley Humane Society celebrated its annual Creature Comforts Dessert Tasting and Silent Auction on Sunday, March 24th at the Regatta Room in Eliot, ME. With over 200 people in attendance, the event raised over \$24,00 for the animals - an all time high for this event!

Hosted by Mark Ericson and Karen Kiley from WOKQ'S Morning Waking Crew, the Dessert Tasting included twelve dessert exhibitors from the Seacoast area. Newcomers Babycakes from Ogunquit, ME were voted by guests as the "Best in Presentation" winner while returning favorite Stonehouse Baking Company received the "Best in Taste" award for the second year in a row.



There was something for everyone in the silent auction, which included over 150 items that had been donated by local businesses and supporters. A highlight of the event

was the live auction, which included a once-in-a-lifetime viewing of the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in the viewing stands along Central Park. After a bidding war, the set of four passes finally went for a winning bid of \$1,000.

During a special presentation about Champion's Fund, which helps cover unexpected medical expenses for the animals, guests were told about a shelter dog named Frankie whose severe, chronic ear infections leave him in constant pain. Guests at the event generously donated nearly \$1,000 to help cover the cost of the ear surgery Frankie needs to lead a normal, comfortable life.

CVHS was thrilled to recognize the hard work, dedication, and passion of one of its longterm volunteers during a special awards presentation. Cindy Cafasso, who works tirelessly to help ensure that events like the Dessert Tasting are successful, received the Best Friend Award, which recognizes one volunteer who goes above and beyond in their support of CVHS.

The shelter also presented Haunted Overload with the President's Award, which recognizes a business, organization, or individual for their extraordinary contributions to the shelter. A unique Halloween attraction consistently voted among the best in the country, Haunted Overload donates 10% of their profits to CVHS. Since a partnership was formed with them in 2011, the haunt has donated over \$24,000!

Thank you everyone who helped make the 2013 Dessert Tasting and Silent Auction a huge success!

Guests at the event donated nearly \$1,000 to help cover the cost of Frankie's surgery



WHERE BEST FRIENDS MEET



CVHS Howls for the Animals

Ever since we partnered with Haunted Overload in 2011, we've been thinking about Halloween year-round! As we enter our third year with the haunt, we're doing something completely new to kick off the Halloween season!



On October 12, 2013, we'll be holding our first annual Howl for the Animals Haunted Overload Kick-off. Taking place from 11am to 2pm at DeMeritt Hill Farm in Lee, NH, the event will be a Halloween party for people and their pets.

Guests are invited to arrive in costume as prizes will be awarded in four different categories: best adult costume, best child's costume, best pet costume, and most unique. Games will be available, as well as pumpkin carving and face painting. A highlight of the event will be a special opportunity to trick-or-treat through the haunt.

A pet and family-friendly activity, the trick-or-treat through the haunt allows younger guests a chance to interact with non-scary Haunted Overload actors in the safety of daylight. Adults will also enjoy the experience as they will be able to appreciate the artistry and detail in the haunt - something impossible to do while being chased by a chainsaw-wielding maniac in the dark of night during a regular "show" of Haunted Overload.

The full-fright night shows begin on October 18th with CVHS receiving 10% from ticket sales - a donation totalling over \$13,000 after the 2012 season. To learn more about both events, go to www.cvhsonline.org and Haunted Overload's website at www.hauntedoverload.com.

facebook

Favorites



Teddy (Randall) just wanted to say hello to everyone at Cocheco Valley... He is just the sweetest little kitty and he loves his brother Snowball who came to us from Cocheco in February!
- submitted by **Carrie Barron**

Just wanted to let you know Louie Anderson is living the life. He's so spoiled and he loves every minute of it.

- submitted by **Shelley McGlone**



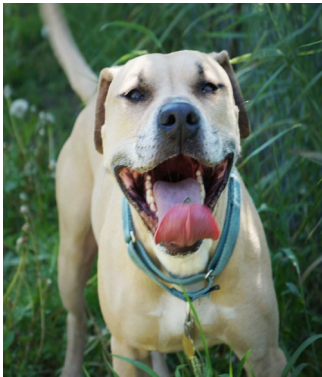
Just wanted to let you guys know that Ava (formally Joy) who we adopted back in October is doing amazing!! She's pictured on the left, standing next to her big brother who she really looks up to! She loves being in the water, sometimes we think she was meant to be a fish instead of a dog. It's so hard to get her out of there! Thank you so much for bringing our baby girl into our lives. She brings endless smiles to my face.

- submitted by **Jillian Lambrecht**



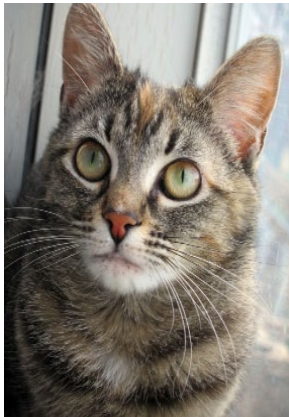
Be sure to "like" Cocheco Valley Humane Society on Facebook to get updates about all the exciting things happening around the shelter and our many wonderful animals looking for their new forever homes!

The Faces of CVHS - Adoptable Pets



I'm **Halo** and I love to roughhouse and play long games of fetch. I have a strong and bold personality. I also have great motivation and focus. I would rather not live with any other dogs, cats, or kids - I need to learn my manners and work on how to stay calm. I need an active home that will give me all the attention I deserve!

Age: 4 years **Sex:** NM
Breed: American Pit Bull / Labrador Retriever mix



I'm **Spanky**, a cute little brown tabby kitten who has spent the past couple months in one of the staff offices. I am a shy girl and have a tendency to hide when we first meet. I warm up quickly (especially if you have food) and will happily head butt you and follow you everywhere once I'm comfortable. I would do best in a quiet home without children.

Age: 7 months **Sex:** SF **Breed:** DSH



Hi, my name is **Franky** and I am a very sweet rabbit who has had a hard life. I was abandoned by my original owner and was in pretty rough shape when I got to the shelter. I need to be adopted as the only bunny/small animal in your home as I have been exposed to Pasteurella (snuffles), a respiratory disease that can be transmitted to other rabbits. I have been treated with medicine and am now doing great! I would love be your best friend!



My name is **Bubbles**. I was very stressed when I first came to the shelter and, as a result, I started pulling my feathers out! Now that I've been here a little while, I'm much happier and enjoy spending lots of time out of my cage exploring the shelter. I'm looking for a quiet and loving home. Will you take me home and let me be part of your family?



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THANK YOU!

About Cocheco Valley Humane Society

Cocheco Valley Humane Society (CVHS) is a community-funded, non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the humane treatment of animals in Strafford County, NH and Southern Maine. Every year, we provide a safe haven to more than 2,000 surrendered, lost, abused, neglected, or unwanted animals. Our mission is to provide quality, compassionate care and shelter to our animals, in partnership with education the community concerning animal treatment and welfare.

CVHS is only as strong as the support we receive from our community. There are several ways individuals, organizations, and businesses can help us sustain our mission.

JOIN US

Become a supporter:

- Support our mission financially
- Donate goods or services
- Sponsor an event
- Host a donation bank
- Host a fundraiser, supply drive,
or off-site adoption

Volunteer:

- Help provide care, socialization
and love to our animals
- Become a foster parent
- Join a CVHS committee
- Assist with community outreach
and fundraising events

For information on how to support the animals of CVHS,
visit our website at www.cvhsonline.org