



**ADDISON COUNTY  
HUMANE SOCIETY**

236 Boardman Street  
Middlebury, VT 05753

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Addison County Humane Society  
236 Boardman Street  
Middlebury, VT 05753  
shelter@addisonhumane.org  
www.addisonhumane.org

Serving the People of Addison County by  
Fostering the Humane Treatment of  
Animals Since 1975

Shelter Hours:  
Tuesday & Friday, Noon to 4PM  
Wednesday & Thursday, Noon to 7PM  
Saturday, 11AM to 4PM  
Closed Sunday & Monday

Mark Your Calendar!  
Tuesday, July 25<sup>th</sup>  
Starting at 6pm

Fundraising Dinner  
at  
Mr. Up's!!!!

Proceeds benefit homeless animals

For more information call 388-1100  
or visit  
[www.AddisonHumane.org](http://www.AddisonHumane.org)



Addison County  
Humane Society



# Tails from the Shelter

June  
2006

Addison County Humane Society

## ACHS Mother of the Year: Roxy the Cat



The resilience of animals, and their capacity to love, never ceases to amaze us. Roxy was homeless and pregnant, wandering the streets of Middlebury this Winter. She was brought to ACHS by a caring citizen in February where she was placed in a loving foster home. In the beginning of March, she gave birth to five beautiful kittens.

Roxy was a great mom. She took wonderful care of her feline family and when they were ready to be weaned, all five were adopted. As is the fate of most mother cats, she waited for her perfect home while watching her kittens go one by one.

The very day after Roxy's kittens went home, ACHS took in 6 tiny kittens that were found at a local business with no mother. Fragile and only about 10 days old, ACHS staff started to bottle feed them.

Roxy, who has such a fabulous temperament that she's allowed free run of the shelter, began to show a sincere interest in these new kittens. Thinking that

she may still be producing milk, ACHS staff put the babies in a cage with her to see if she would nurse them. Roxy took to them as though they were her very own. She nursed them, groomed them, and kept a watchful eye over them at all times. During the periods of time when she was allowed out of her cage to play and stretch her legs, she never ventured far from her new babies. She also became very protective ... much to the dismay of any passing canines.

The kittens are now thriving and are living in a foster home where Roxy continues to care for them. In a few weeks they'll be ready to go and Roxy will again be looking for a forever home. She's a FABULOUS cat, sweet and affectionate and good with other cats and dogs. We desperately hope to find someone for her, that will extend the same love and compassion she has shown for the orphaned kittens. For more information about Roxy, please call 388-1100.



### Inside this issue:

- ☆ Vet's Corner: Lyme Disease
- ☆ Profile of a Foster Parent
- ☆ Adorable Adoptables
- ☆ Cat Overpopulation

## Vet's Corner: Lyme Disease

By Matt Quinn, VMD



Veterinarians field many questions from dog owners about Lyme disease. Here is a brief overview of the disease and the risk it presents to your dog:

Lyme disease is caused by a bacteria called *Borrelia burgdorferi* that is carried by the deer tick (*Ixodes Scapularis*). Dogs and horses are susceptible to the disease while cats appear to be resistant.

A bacteria carrying tick must attach to a dog and feed for at least 24 hours before the bacteria is transmitted. After infection, it can take from 2 to 6 months for a dog to show signs of Lyme disease. It is important to note, however, that not all dogs who are infected with the bacteria will come down with Lyme Disease. It seems that most dogs infected with the bacteria will not get sick. So infection does not always lead to disease.

How do you tell if your dog has Lyme disease? Common signs include lethargy and depression, decreased appetite, fever, and a painful joint or joints that can be swollen and warm to the touch. Dogs may also have enlarged lymph nodes.

If you suspect your dog may have Lyme disease, your veterinarian can test to see if there has been exposure to *B. burgdorferi*. A positive test and the presence of one or more clinical signs will put Lyme disease high on the list of possible diagnoses and your veterinarian will likely want to start treatment for the disease.

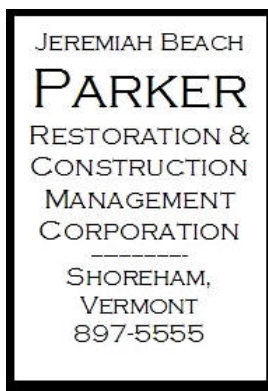
Most dogs are well treated with a 3 to 4 week course of antibiotics given once or twice a day. Few dogs will exhibit the chronic form of the disease as can be seen in humans. In very rare instances a dog can suffer from a fatal infection with *B. burgdorferi* of the kidneys, heart, or brain.

How can Lyme disease be prevented? There are several methods. Since it takes 24 hours for transmission of the bacteria, a daily tick check of your dog can be an effective but laborious method of prevention. Owners can use tick killing topical medications on their dogs once a month during spring, summer, and fall. Collars containing Amitraz or pet friendly bug sprays containing DEET can be effective at preventing ticks from attaching to dogs. There is also a vaccine against Lyme disease that can provide protection although it is not 100% effective.

Can you contract Lyme disease from your pets? This is very unlikely. The only way Lyme disease is transmitted is through the bite of a bacteria-carrying tick. Once the tick has bitten an animal it will stay there and feed. It will not detach and come looking for you.

Lyme disease should be a health concern for pet owners, but knowing the facts about the disease can help keep it in perspective.

This newsletter has been graciously sponsored by:



1341 Ethan Allen Highway  
New Haven, VT 05472  
Ph: (802) 388-2225  
[www.middleburyfence.com](http://www.middleburyfence.com)

## Making a Difference: An ACHS Foster Parent Shares her Story

By Peter McNichol

Back in 1998, Patricia Bunal made the decision to foster her first cat from the Addison County Humane Society. Many years and many more cats later, Patricia has absolutely no regrets about taking that first step.

"I volunteered at the shelter at the time that Kathy Taylor and Deb Bird started this program," Patricia said. "I begged to take a cat home. And it just grew from there."

With somebody usually at home to watch over the residents and the guests, the Bunal household is usually full of felines - the two family cats, plus any fostered animals that are visiting from the shelter. The Bunals started with just three cats that first year, but have averaged 21 fosters a year since then.

"The shelter will contact me about cats that need to be fostered," Patricia said. "We have two cat rooms in the house that are used just for these guests. The foster cats are allowed to have the run of the house, just as long as everybody gets along. When they are here, these cats are treated as though they are part of our family. I will treat them as my own. My husband is very supportive with this - he is great, and he will take care of them all if I have to go out of town."

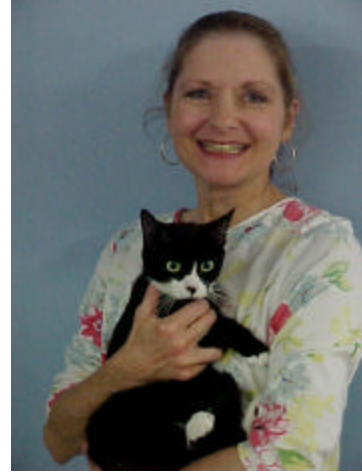
But doesn't bringing all of these cats in to your own home make it harder to part with them when adoptive families are found?

"There is bittersweet with everything," Patricia said, "but this is very rewarding. It is hard to take them back, though. I wish I had a bigger house so that I could offer a home for more. The cats that are able to make it to a foster situation are the lucky ones. You can't help but get attached. But then they have a better chance. I have helped them when I could, and now they will have a better chance to find a forever home."

Patricia not only supplies a temporary home for some of the shelter's cats - she also supplies all of the food that is consumed at her home by her fostered guests.

"The shelter donates a lot of litter for this, and Hannaford's does as well," Patricia said. "I supply

the food. But the staff at the Humane Society is very supportive and helpful. If I need a hand, they are right there for me. They make this job a lot easier."



(Patricia with Cecelia, one of our many adoptable cats)

And Patricia's advice for those who are thinking of becoming foster pet parents?

"This is a great opportunity to help cats and it has truly enriched my life. The cats can't come out and say that they appreciate the help, but you can tell that they are loving you back. Doing this gives some cats a chance to become more adoptable. Everybody deserves a good home."

Which is exactly what Patricia has done ~ for many, and many more to come.

**Saying goodbye is so hard...**

### **ACHS offers Pet Cremation Services**



**A dignified alternative for handling  
your pet's remains  
Honor the memories that will last a  
lifetime**

**Professional service  
Competitive prices  
Beautiful Urns available**

**All proceeds benefit ACHS and the  
homeless animals we serve.**

# Adorable Adoptables!

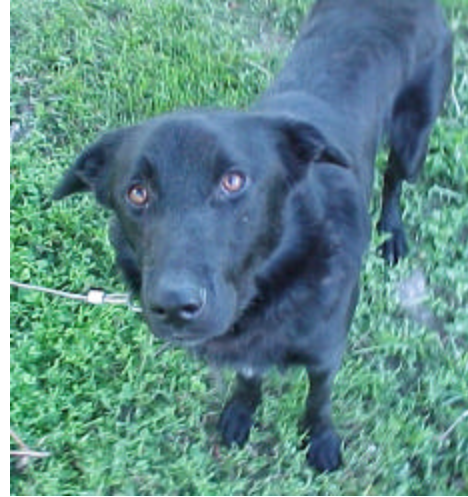
## Meet Lily



Hi, I am Lily, one of the many cats here at ACHS, and this is my story. As my picture shows, I think highly of myself. I am quite the princess and look the part. The staff here tells me I'm gorgeous! I am about a year old, sweet and loving and want lots of attention. I love to snuggle up to you on the couch and sleep in the bed at night. I do well with other cats and don't seem to mind dogs. I would make a nice companion for a family with older children who will treat me well. I was adopted from here once before, but I did not like the toddler in the house trying to touch me. I did everything I could to avoid him. My owner decided that this was not the right kind of life for me and brought me back here to find a new home. I really want to find a home that will love me for eternity. So that's my story. It started out a bit sad, but I know that some wonderful person like you will adopt me.

\*\*Notice to ACHS Members: The ACHS Board of Directors has voted to change the non-profit By-Laws. The official vote is to take place on July 11<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at the Ilsley Library. Interested members are welcome to participate in the vote. For information on proposed changes, please contact Jill Tucker 388-1443. \*\*

## Meet Bristol



Hi, I am Bristol, one of the many dogs here at ACHS, and you've GOT to come and meet me! I am a doggone good time! A real party of one! I am about 2 years old absolutely LOVE to play and have lots of energy. I'm super friendly and love everyone I meet. I was rescued from a high-kill shelter in West Virginia and brought up to Vermont to find a good forever home. I am so glad to be here and have the chance to find a home that will love me. I crave the ability to go out for walks and would love to have a home with a large fenced area where I can run and play. I have lived with another dog and liked having her around and I do not seem to mind cats. My ideal home would have older children who will romp and play ball with me. I am too rambunctious for young children. I will need an obedience class to teach me how to control my energy. I can't wait for my new family to come and get me. So that's my story. It started out a bit sad, but I know that some wonderful person like you will adopt me.



ACHS would like to thank the following vets for volunteering their time at the shelter during March, April, & May

Dr. Nate Heilman- Vergennes Animal Hospital  
 Dr. Matt Quinn- Middlebury Animal Hospital  
 Dr. Karen DeMoy- Otterside Animal Hospital  
 Dr. Randy Ross-Champlain Valley Small Animal Mobile Clinic  
 Dr. Paul Urband- Relief Veterinarian  
 Dr. Tom Munschauer- Middlebury Animal Hospital  
 Dr. Scott Sutor – Middlebury Animal Hospital  
 Dr. Donald Peddie – Cider Mill Animal Hospital  
 Dr. Susan Hayden – Otterside Animal Hospital

## Addressing Addison County's Biggest Challenge: Cat Overpopulation

In so many locations within Addison County there are groups of homeless cats living in residential communities, around businesses, and in the barns of local farms. Many of these cats are lucky enough to find a warm, safe place to sleep and food provided by a generous caretaker. While in some circumstances, individuals may welcome the presence of a few strays on their property, feral cats are perceived by many to be a nuisance. Feral and stray cats live difficult lives as they are susceptible to disease, starvation and other hazards of living outdoors. Left on their own, they breed future generations of feral cats who face the same fate.

Here at ACHS we experience some of the consequences of cat overpopulation every day. Our shelter is always brimming with cats, and we usually have a substantial list of those waiting to come in. It breaks our hearts to see so many wonderful cats in need of good homes. "The cat overpopulation problem is the biggest animal welfare issue we face here in Addison County" says Jill Tucker, ACHS Executive Director. "It is imperative that, as a community, we work to get as many cats spayed or neutered as we possibly can. Without such efforts, we'll never get ahead of this problem."

The most effective and humane way to care for and ultimately reduce the feral population is through a TNR program. TNR stands for Trap-Neuter-Return, where cats are humanely captured in traps, spayed or neutered by a veterinarian, vaccinated, and returned to their original location where they can live out their lives. TNR is only suitable in locations where the cats are welcome to stay, and there is a person committed to feeding them and keeping a watchful eye over the residents.

### Here's what you can do to help:

- **Spay/Neuter** all of your cats. Today!
- **Volunteer** your time to help with our TNR program.
- **Raise funds** to help cover the cost of spaying and neutering cats in our TNR program.
- If you are caring for feral, stray, or barn cats around your property and you are willing to continue to do so, ACHS can help. Volunteers and equipment are available to help trap cats and transport them to and from a low-cost spay/neuter clinic. Once they are sterilized, they are returned to your location, where they can live out their lives under your watchful eye. Contact Jill Tucker, ACHS Executive Director 388-1443 or [jill@addisonhumane.org](mailto:jill@addisonhumane.org)
- If you have cats or kittens that cannot stay, contact ACHS immediately put them on the waiting list to come in. ACHS also offers other resources to help. Call ACHS front desk 388-1100
- If you witness someone abandoning or being cruel to an animal, please contact ACHS to file a complaint. Your complaint can remain anonymous.



### Animal Cruelty Stops with You!

If you witness or suspect cruelty or neglect,  
Please call ACHS  
**802-388-1100**

# Dine for the Animals at Mr. Up's Restaurant Tuesday, July 25<sup>th</sup> 6pm



Mr. Up's Restaurant has generously offered to sponsor a fundraising dinner to benefit ACHS and the homeless animals we serve. Please join us Tuesday, July 25 starting at 6pm at Mr. Ups in Middlebury. A selection of dinner choices will be available with a cost per entrée of \$20. All profits go to ACHS. Reservations are encouraged.

The Addison County Humane Society has  
received donations

**In loving memory of:**

- Joyce Brooks                      Audrey Dike
- Evan Thompson                Nancy Kurrelmeyer
- “Maggie”
- “Wilson” Keathley
- “Mazzie” Wilson
- “Lexie”

**In honor of:**

- Kate (Bartender @ Two Brothers Tavern)
- Lynn Balman's Birthday & Ms. Estelle

## Special thanks to

**Alec Towsley** for having his friends give him ACHS wish list items in lieu of gifts at his recent birthday party. Alec, you're a remarkable young man!

**Middlebury Eye Associates** for collecting donations for ACHS while providing donuts and coffee at the Memorial Day parade.

**Jim Stuart** for providing countless hours of database development and tech support for ACHS. We don't know what we'd do without him!

**Reinhold Lange** for designing and maintaining ACHS's website. We greatly appreciate it!

**Bill Shafer** for his hard work in pulling together our First Annual Folk & Blues Festival.

Many thanks to the following musicians that donated their time and talents:

**Bob Recupero, Ivory, Mr. Charlie, The Bluesbirds, The Michele Fay Band, Richard Ruane & Friends**

## Leave your Legacy of Kindness

Help the animals by being part of the Addison County Humane Society's future long after you are gone. Please consider including us in your will or bequest so that we may continue to promote and protect animal welfare for years to come. Contact your attorney or financial advisor for advice. The animals thank you!



### ACHS Wish List

- Dry and Can Cat Food
- Dry and Can Dog Food
- Rodent Food                      Towels & Blankets
- Rabbit Food                        Bagged Shavings
- Dog & Cat Treats and Toys
- Liquid Laundry Detergent
- Liquid Bleach                      13-Gallon Kitchen Bags
- Liquid Hand Soap                33-Gallon Trash Bags
- Acrylic Knitting Yarn
- Paper Towels                        500 mg L-Lysine Tablets
- Cellulose Kitchen Sponges
- Photocopy Paper (white and colored)
- Postage Stamps                    Bagged Wood Pellets  
(used for litter)

### ACHS Board of Directors

- Jeanne Lemner, President
- Marcia Parker, Vice President
- Kimber Wukitsch, Secretary
- Deborah Laframboise, Treasurer
- Jamaica Burns
- Lee Wheeler
- Christine Blakeney
- Stepheni Fallon
- Claire Clay

### Feedback?

We love to hear from our members! If you have any questions, concerns, comments, or feedback for ACHS, please contact Jill Tucker, ACHS Executive Director at [jill@addisonhumane.org](mailto:jill@addisonhumane.org) or 802-388-1443  
**We greatly appreciate your support!**



**Yes!**



**I want to help the animals with a tax-deductible gift!**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name(s)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Town                                      State                                      Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone

\_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail

- A Donation of**  
 \$25 Funds the successful promotion of an adoptable dog or cat  
 \$50 Pays for the spay or neuter of one animal  
 \$100 Pays for supplies to vaccinate 10 animals  
 \$500 is an investment in the future of animal welfare in Addison County

Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment Information**

- Check                       Master Card                       Visa

\_\_\_\_\_  
Card Number                                      Exp Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Send me information about volunteering!

**Please send to:**  
**Addison County Humane Society**  
**236 Boardman Street**  
**Middlebury, VT 05753**