



**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



Lights of Love



Lighting Ceremony
Wednesday, December 15
6:30 pm at the ACHS shelter

Bring the whole family to enjoy the
light display, bonfire, caroling, hot cider, dessert,
ACHS dog and cat mascots, and
fun fun fun!



**Addison County
Humane Society**

Please Join Us!





Tails From the Shelter

December
2004

Addison County Humane Society



Woofstock "A Success"

By Andrea Gissing

Middlebury's normally tranquil atmosphere was broken Saturday, Oct. 2, with the riotous barking of dozens of dogs gathered together with their owners on the Town Green. Despite grey skies and the threat of rain, almost 150 people and lots of happy dogs came together to take part in the Addison County Humane Society's (ACHS) fundraiser, "Woofstock."

Executive Director of the Humane Society, Jill Tucker, described the event as a success. "I think people really enjoyed the music, the dog agility course, the "Dancing with Dogs" presentation and the ever-popular "Dig like a dog for prizes" game."

The shelter received a great deal of assistance from the community to organize and staff this fundraiser. Tom Triplett, a former ACHS board member, ran the "Dig like a dog" booth, a post he has manned for the past three years. In addition, local dog owners collected pledges for the dog walk around town, raising over \$3,000 and Jade Blodgett, a nine-year old resident of Shoreham, organized a raffle by herself, going around town to solicit prize donations. Peg Cobb's Hand-in-Paw Freestyle dance class, "The Rhythmic Paws," did a demonstration in which owners waltzed or can-canned with their canine partners to Joplin's "The Entertainer" and Cindy Lauper's "Girls Just Wanna Have Fun." This was the duets' second time performing in public, and though the dogs became easily distracted by the interesting smells around them, their tails wagged enthusiastically as they danced. Dancing with dogs is another form of training, and Peg Cobb, in introducing the act, emphasized the fun nature of the routines, saying that dogs enjoy dancing just as much as people.

The biggest laughs of the day came from the "Silly Pet Trick Contest" and the "Dog-Owner Look Alike Contest." Mango, a golden retriever, won the silly pet trick prize by demonstrating his ability to stare at a treat and wait patiently until his owner gave him the command to eat. Scott Pierce Calhoun, a one-year old silky terrier and his owner Barbara Calhoun from Ludlow, Vt., won the look-alike contest, due to their similar hair coloring. Prize winning beagle, Lucky, demonstrated his expertise on the agility course with his owner Tina Doughty. Other dogs tried to follow Lucky's example, however had trouble navigating the poles and making the jumps.



Addison County Humane Society Wish List

Dry and Can Cat Food

Rodent Food

Cat Treats

Liquid Laundry Detergent

Acrylic Knitting Yarn

Cellulose Kitchen Sponges

13-Gallon Kitchen Bags

Bagged Wood Pellets (for litter)

Dry and Can Dog Food

Rabbit Food

Dog Toys

Liquid Bleach

Paper Towels

Bagged Shavings

33-Gallon Trash Bags

Photocopy Paper (white and colored)

Small Bird Food

Dog Treats

Cat Toys

Liquid Hand Soap

Towels & Blankets

Postage Stamps

500 mg L-Lysine Tablets

The Addison County Humane Society has received donations . . .

In loving memory of:

Linus Peltier
Margery Stillman
Susan Hopper
Helen Sargent
Ann Lyon
Steve Kemp
Carol Lamb
Dr. Stanley Gage
Charles Crane

In honor of the marriage of Dina Wolkoff and Tal Birdsey

Many thanks to Brian Larkin of the Grace Allsop Foundation for the \$1,000 grant to help the animals!

Special thanks to:

Young animal lover, **Samantha Driscoll**, who donates her allowance to ACHS almost every week! Samantha, you are an inspiration to us all!

Samantha Barbitta, currently residing in Costa Rica, who generously volunteers her time to put this newsletter together and help ACHS with desktop publishing projects. Sam, you're the best!

Karen Lynch, for working hard with the town of Ferrisburg on prevention of animal cruelty. Way to go, Karen!

Retired Seniors Volunteer Program, This charming group of women do an amazing job helping ACHS prepare mailings. You guys are terrific!

Peggy Kimball, who raised \$684 for ACHS through a raffle for her beautiful, hand-made afghan blanket. Nice work, Peggy!

9-year-old **Jade Blodget**, who raised \$504 with a raffle for the animals. Jade went around the county collecting donations from local business for prizes and selling tickets. Great job, Jade!

Donna Lord, for her outstanding help designing promotional materials and handling food concessions at both Woofstocks this year. Donna, we are so grateful!

"Beagle, Beagle, adopt a Beagle"

We have "beagle-mania" at the shelter. We have four beagle/beagle mixes up for adoption at the shelter.

Why adopt a beagle?? They are



loving, cuddly, medium sized dogs that are usually good with kids. They

Jammer usually get along well with other pets and

people. I should know since I have two beagles of my own (both rescued). A couple of things you should know about beagles; they can be very vocal at times and should never be let off a leash outside, unless they have a secure fenced-in yard.

Beagles are scent hounds and if let out off a leash they can follow those strong beagle noses into trouble.

Beagles are wonderful, merry, loyal companions with soft brown eyes. They can even help to keep you in shape. Just get a harness and a retractable leash and with two 15 to 30 minute walks a day, you'll have a happy, healthy beagle and just think of the benefits the owner gets too!!! So come in and meet our homeless Beagles: Jammer, Wolfman, Bransen and Patches. Who knows maybe you will fall in "beagle-love"

and one or two of them might go home with you!!!!
WOOF!!!
WOOF!!!



Bransen

Winter Pet Care Tips

Courtesy of

Gail C. Golab, DVM, PhD at the American Veterinary Medical Association

Housing

It is best to keep pets indoors during the winter months, but if this is not possible, outdoor pets must be provided with shelter. Their home should be elevated off the ground to prevent moisture accumulation and have a door of some kind to keep out winter winds, sleet, and snow. Shelters should be insulated or heated. Water sources may be heated to permit constant access to unfrozen water; thermal units designed specifically for this purpose are readily available. Outdoor pets require extra calories to keep warm. Feed your pet according to its needs when the temperature drops. In severely cold or inclement weather, no pet should be kept outside. Indoor pets should have sleeping quarters in a draft-free, warm area with their bed or mattress elevated slightly off the floor.

Roaming cats

Roaming cats, as well as house pets and wildlife, may climb onto vehicle engines for warmth during cold weather. Be sure to check under the hood before starting your vehicle and honk the horn to startle any animals seeking shelter inside.

Frostbite and snow removal salt

Snow and salt should be removed from your pets paws immediately. Frostbitten skin is red or gray and may slough. Apply warm, moist towels to thaw out frostbitten areas slowly until the skin appears flushed. Contact your veterinarian as soon as possible for further care. Snow removal products should be stored out of the reach of pets and small children as their toxicity varies considerably.

Toxic plants and holiday/winter products

Plants and other items associated with the winter and holiday season can be toxic to your pets. What follows is a general guide. Please consult your veterinarian, animal poison control, and the manufacturer for specifics. Remember, the earlier you seek treatment, the better for your pet!

Low toxicity -- poinsettia leaves/stems; balsam/pine/cedar/fir; angel hair (spun glass); Christmas tree preservatives; snow sprays/snow flock; tree ornaments; super glue; styrofoam; icicles (tinsel); and crayons/paints.

Moderate toxicity -- fireplace colors/salts; plastic model cement Moderate to high toxicity holly berries and leaves; bubbling lights (methylene chloride); snow scenes (may contain salmonella); aftershaves/perfumes/alcoholic beverages; and chocolate (dark is more toxic than milk).

Highly toxic -- mistletoe (especially berries); epoxy adhesives; and antifreeze. Please note that some items have special problems. For example, whereas angel hair is usually considered to be of low toxicity, it can irritate eyes, skin, and the gastrointestinal tract; the content of Christmas tree preservatives varies and often effects depend upon the amount ingested; styrofoam, small parts from Christmas tree ornaments and toys, as well as tinsel, can cause mechanical obstructions in the gastrointestinal tract; snow flock can cause problems if sprayed into the mouth and inhaled; and chocolate, of any type, should never be given to a pet. Antifreeze deserves special mention because even a very small amount can be rapidly fatal to pets.

Other holiday concerns

If you plan to take your pet with you during holiday visits, make sure that your pet is welcome first (with all the activity, it may be better to board your pet or hire a pet sitter). Holiday treats, such as rich, fatty food scraps, bones from fish, pork, and poultry, alcoholic beverages, and chocolate, can be harmful or toxic to pets. Do not allow friends and relatives to give your pet special treats it could ruin everyone's holiday (including your veterinarian's). Do not allow pets to play with ribbons, yarn, or six-pack beverage holders and don't put ribbons or yarn around your pet's neck. If you want to decorate your pet, invest in a holiday collar. These last for many years, are more attractive, and are a lot safer! Cover or tack down electrical cords.



Adoption Stories

Bob had been at the shelter for 222 days. He was a happy orange and white cat, with a unique stubby tail. Flora came in to the shelter to look for a new companion. Flora's old Siamese cat had died and she was missing having a cat to share her home with.



Flora set her eyes on "Bob" and was taken by his charming "purrsonality." Bob was adopted and renamed "Timothy." To his family and close friends he is affectionately known as "Timmy." Flora says Timmy is a joy to have around. He is very active and with all that activity he works up a big appetite. Timmy likes to follow Flora around the house all day and will even wag his

stubby tail from time to time. At the end of Timmy's busy day, when it's time to rest those paws...I'll bet you can guess where Timmy goes to sleep?? Yes... right next to Flora in "their" bed. AH!! Sweet dreams to all and to all a good night!!

Heidi was a stray lab mix that was brought in to us with a limp. After her Vet exam it was discovered that she had a torn ACL. Heidi was in need of a surgery that would cost close to \$1,000. Jill Tucker our executive director, sent out a mass e-mail requesting donations to help raise money for Heidi's surgery. Thank-you to all those generous people who sent in donations!!! We were able to raise all the money needed to cover the cost of Heidi's surgery. Now all Heidi needed was a loving family to adopt her and help her with her recovery after surgery. Heidi had been at the shelter now for 49 days.

One Saturday Kevin and his son stopped by to look for a dog. They had a fondness for labs, so they took Heidi out for a walk. Kevin and his son fell in love with Heidi and were interested in adopting her. We explained the surgery Heidi needed and that there was recovery involved. Kevin took the application home to discuss adopting Heidi with his wife. Kevin spoke with his Veterinarian about the surgery process, too.

Kevin and his family were ready to adopt Heidi!!!

Heidi is now "Shadow." Shadow has had her surgery and is well down the road to recovery. She still has a slight limp, but that is expected to get better as time goes on. Shadow is enjoying her new family and everyone that comes to visit, especially the children. Shadow is very well behaved, she takes treat gently, loves to have her



ears scratched and will even talk to you with a low bark, if she feels there is not enough attention going her way. Shadow has even figured out how to use her front paws to knock on the door when she is ready to come in. When Shadows family goes to work and school, she has her own blanket on her owners bed that she relaxes on and thinks how grateful she is to her loving family and all those wonderful, kind people who helped her get her surgery!! Life is good!!!! Thank-you!!

Dear Zoë



Dear
Zoë,

My grandma just lost her 17-year-old cat. She is very sad and lonely. I was wondering if you adopt to senior people and what she would need to do. I would like to get a cat for her so she will be happy again.

Susie

Dear Susie,

Yes, we do adopt to seniors. We feel that there is a connection between being a pet owner and good mental and physical health. At the shelter, we are starting a program called Seniors-to-Seniors, which matches up senior citizens with mature cats that come to the shelter. Both will benefit from the company and it will help the cats get into a loving and caring home. Have your grandmother contact the shelter and will get her started on the process of matching her up to the right cat for her. If something should happen to your grandma, the shelter will take back the cat if the family is unable to keep it. Tell your Grandma to let her friends know as there are several cats her that would love to live with a senior citizen and be spoiled all day long.

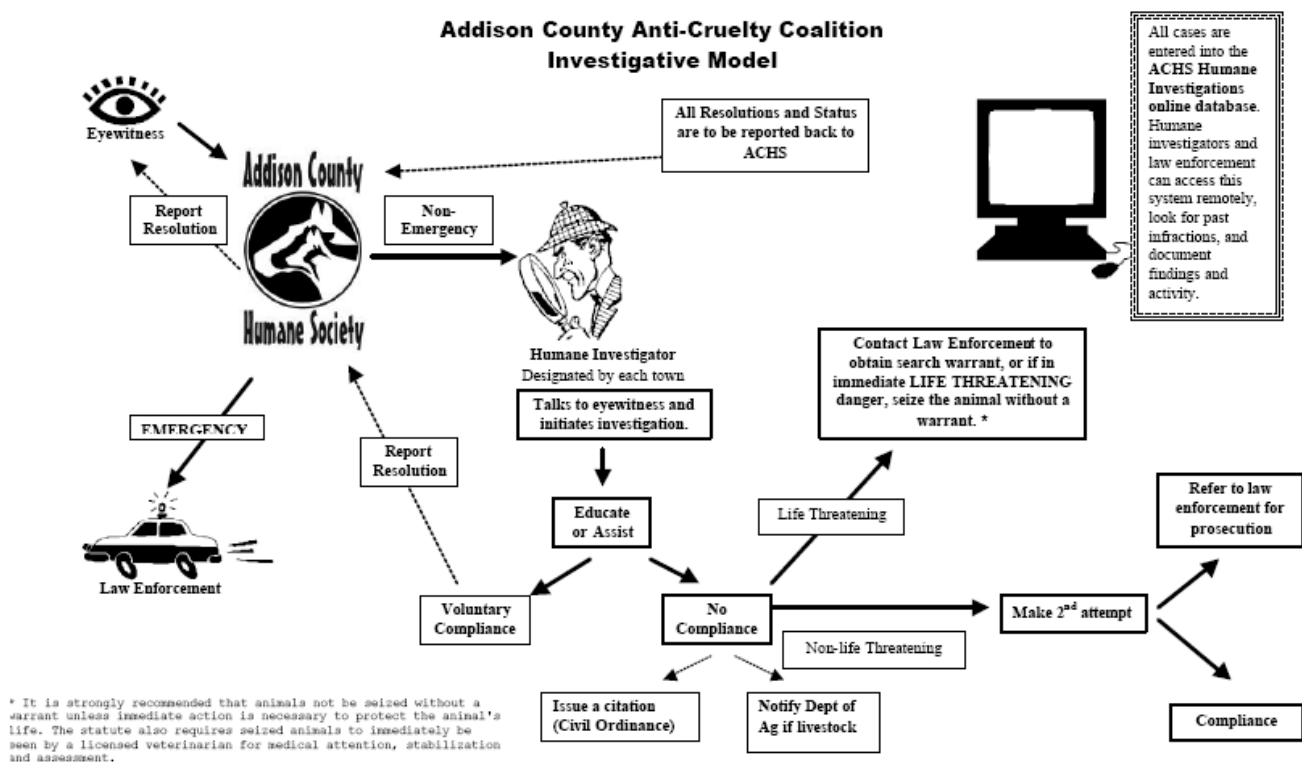
Love & Tuna, Zoë

New Plan For Reporting Animal Cruelty And Neglect

Fielding over 400 reports of animal cruelty and neglect during the past 5 years, the Addison County Humane Society (ACHS) understands the importance of effective humane law enforcement. Recently ACHS, along with the help of the Vermont Anti-Cruelty Task Force, hosted law enforcement training sessions and launched the Addison County Anti-Cruelty Coalition, which will serve as a model for the state of Vermont, by acting as the central clearing house for reporting cruelty and neglect in Addison County. The Coalition has brought together law enforcement agencies, animal control officers, humane society officers, veterinarians, rescue organizations and government officials to develop a coordinated action plan. The objective of the plan is to strengthen the effectiveness of humane enforcement and to facilitate aggressive prosecution of offenders throughout the county.

The public is advised to call the Addison County Humane Society at 388-1100 to report observed acts of cruelty or to report a situation where it is suspected that an animal is being neglected. Depending on the issue, the Humane Society staff will notify the appropriate individual to investigate. For example, if an animal is in immediate danger, the Humane Society will call a law enforcement officer who will investigate and manage the situation. Non-emergent issues will be referred to a Humane Investigator, usually the animal control officer in a town, or another individual as designated by the town. Management of a situation can include education, support to correct the problem, issuance of a citation, or notification of a law enforcement officer. Reported cases are entered into the ACHS Humane Investigation online database that can be accessed by law enforcement officers and humane investigators to identify past infractions and to document current findings and activity. In addition the ACHS will report back to the caller with the outcome of the investigation. If an animal is in immediate danger, please call the State Police at 388-4919.

Animal cruelty and neglect are against the law. Observed acts of animal cruelty or awareness of animal neglect should be reported. The Addison County Humane Society and the Anti-Cruelty Coalition requests that the public continue to report cruelty and neglect and rest assured that the Addison County Humane Society, as a clearing house of these reports, will ensure that the most appropriate individual investigate and resolve the situation. Your assistance in helping to better protect the animals in our community by reporting cruelty and neglect will be most appreciated.



Available for Adoption Now!

Hi, my name is Happy



I am an 8-year-old spayed female black lab. I am at the shelter because my owner died. My owner was unable to walk me, so I am very overweight and need to lose about 20 lbs. I have never been around children, but the staff feels that I must be with older children only (over 12). I do not like to be told what to do and definitely hate being seen by the vet. I do not

seem to like the dogs at the shelter. I would really like to go into an older couple's home where I can relax and enjoy the rest of my life.

Happy would love a home with cats!

At this time, Happy would prefer a home **without dogs!**

At this time, Happy would prefer a home **without small kids!**

Breed: Lab

Age: Senior

Size: Large

Gender: Female

Hi, my name is Maxwell



I am a 6 ½ year old neutered male shorthaired black cat. I am at the shelter because I did not see eye to eye with the other cat in the house. I am a friendly cat, but may be shy at first. I would do well with older children who will not pull my tail or tug on my ears. I really hate that. I get the run of the shelter and have learned to live with other cats that do not bother me and are submissive. I even like the dogs that are allowed to run around

the shelter. I am a great lounge cat.

Maxwell would love a home with cats!

Maxwell would love a home with dogs!

At this time, Maxwell would prefer a home **without small kids!**

Breed: Domestic Short Hair-black

Age: Adult

Size: Small

Gender: Male

Hi, my name is Isabel



I am a 9-year-old spayed female medium haired black cat. I came to the shelter with my housemate Felix because we did not like the other cats in the house. There were just too many of us. I am shy at first, but do like to be petted and made of. I am used to other cats, but would only like to be with one other cat. I would do best with older children or an older couple

who wants a good cat to be a great companion.

At this time, Isabel would prefer a home **without cats!**

At this time, Isabel would prefer a home **without dogs!**

At this time, Isabel would prefer a home **without small kids!**

Breed: Domestic Medium Hair-black

Age: Senior

Size: Small

Gender: Female

ACHS Humane Awards 2004

Reinhold Lange:

Rejuvenator of the Year for his fantastic work designing, deploying and maintaining our new ACHS website.

Jim Stuart: Board Member of the Year for his six years of service on our board and his outstanding work designing ACHS new online database for tracking animal cruelty throughout the county.

Jeanne Lemner: Board Volunteer of the Year for spending nearly every Saturday working here at the shelter and countless hours on ACHS projects.

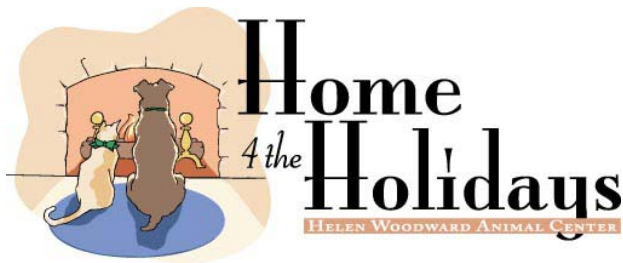
Alden Harwood: ACO of the year for going above and beyond the call of duty in his work on behalf of the animals.

Lois Whittemore: Adult Volunteer of the Year for helping us with lots of mailings

Melissa Trudeau: Student Volunteer of the Year for spending countless hours here working at the shelter and caring for the animals

Kate Schirmer-Smith: Foster Parent of the Year for caring for so many of our feline friends in need.

Trish Bunal: Community Activist of the Year for co-launching Taxi-Cats to provide transportation for needy cats to the low cost spay/neuter clinic in Colchester.



The Addison County Humane Society will join paws with Helen Woodward Animal Center, The Iams Company, and 1,200 pet adoption centers for Home 4 the Holidays 2004, an event organized to raise awareness of the joys of owning shelter-adopted pets. Organizers hope to link more than 300,000 dogs, cats, puppies, kittens, and other companion pets with loving adoptive families.

“Last year’s Home 4 the Holidays was a tremendous success on a national level and this year, ACHS is looking forward to taking part” said ACHS Shelter Manager, Sara Kurtz. “More than two hundred-seventy thousand orphaned animals were matched with loving families. This year, we hope to find homes many of the wonderful pets here at the ACHS shelter.”

In celebration of Home 4 the Holidays, the ACHS shelter will be open from 11am to 5pm on Saturday, December 18 for an open house, adoption day, hot beverages, and sweet treats. On this last weekend before Christmas, we hope to send a number of our residents home with loving families. There would be no better gift for these animals than to spend the holiday in a warm, comfortable home with lots of love and affection.

All pets adopted during Home 4 the Holidays 2004, which runs until December 31, 2004, will go home with their new family as well as an Iams Starter Kit. Included in each kit will be a “Have a Heart Pledge” and sweepstakes offer. New pet parents who review the heart healthy tips and sign the pledge in the kit will have a chance to win a lifetime supply of Iams pet food.

Those interested in adopting a pet can visit the Addison County Humane Society at 236 Boardman Street in Middlebury. Shelter hours are Tuesday and Friday from noon to 4pm, Wednesday and Thursday from noon to 7pm, and Saturday from 11am to 4pm.

To help coordinate and/or participate in the Addison County Humane Society’s Home 4 the Holidays, call ACHS at 388-1100.



The Addison County Humane Society will celebrate pets this holiday season with the annual lighting of the Lights of Love on December 15 at 6:30pm at the animal shelter on Boardman Street in Middlebury.

At the Addison County Humane Society, we have a special way to honor the wonderful animals in our lives called Lights of Love. For a donation of \$3 we will illuminate a colored light honoring a family pet or a white light memorializing a pet that has passed on. These lights of love are displayed at the Shelter on Boardman Street for all to see.

On December 15 at 6:30pm, the Lights of Love will be lit during a ceremony and open house. The public is invited to join us for hot cider and snacks, a crackling bonfire, and a round of Holiday carols. The ACHS Cat and Dog mascots will be present to meet and greet the kids.

The Addison County Humane Society serves Addison County by taking in stray and homeless animals, providing temporary shelter and care, and placing these animals into lifelong, loving homes. We’ve served this community since 1975 and provide shelter and placement to hundreds of animals every year. We are a “no-kill” shelter, meaning we do not euthanize animals for space, and ensure every adoptable animal a permanent home. We typically operate at 120% of capacity because there are so many

animals that need our help. Our work, however, does not end here.

Humane education, the coordination of animal cruelty investigations, and spay/neuter programs are critical in our efforts to address Addison County’s pet overpopulation problem and improve companion animal welfare.



For more information or to order your Lights of Love, please visit www.addisonhumane.org, call ACHS at 802-388-1100, or send email to shelter@addisonhumane.org.