

SUFFOLK HUMANE SOCIETY

www.suffolkhumanesociety.com

Suffolk Humane Society Newsletter

April 2009

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We hope you enjoy Suffolk Humane Society's newsletter. This is a monthly publication. You can receive this through your email. Please feel free to share this newsletter with anyone else that you think may be interested in Suffolk Humane Society's activities.

Please help us go green! To join our electronic newsletter, please email your name and email address to info@suffolkhumanesociety.com

Applebee's Donates to SHS

Applebee's Donates 15% to SHS on Thursdays

The Applebee's on North Main Street in Suffolk has entered into a very generous agreement with Suffolk Humane Society. They have agreed to donate 15% of your total purchase price (not including tax and tip) to the Suffolk Humane Society on Thursdays!

All you have to do is print out the flyer and present it to your server at Applebee's on Thursdays. Currently, the agreement is set to last every Thursday, so please print out many copies of the flyer! Please also feel free to distribute this to anyone who you think may be interested! The only restriction is we cannot distribute the flyer on Applebee's property (parking lot included). Obviously, the more people who participate, the more money we can generate for Suffolk Humane Society, and the more animals we can save, so spread the word! The flyer can be downloaded at <http://www.suffolkhumanesociety.com/documents/SHSApplebees.pdf>.



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iGive Donates to SHS when you Shop & Search Online

Suffolk Humane Society is proud to announce a new partnership with iGive. Money will be donated to SHS by iGive based on member purchases and web searches.

Every time you shop at any of 700+ online stores in the iGive network, a portion of the money you spend benefits Suffolk Humane Society. It's a free service, and you'll never pay more when you reach a store through iGive. In fact, smart shoppers will enjoy iGive's repository of coupons, free shipping deals, and sales. To get started, just create your free iGive account. And when you search the web, do it through iSearchiGive.com where each search means a penny (or more!) for our cause! Start iGiving at: <http://www.iGive.com/suffolkhumanesociety> & <http://www.iSearchiGive.com/suffolkhumanesociety>

In order for your purchase or search to count toward Suffolk Humane, you must first log in to your iGive account and shop and search from there.

As an added bonus, iGive is currently paying 2 cents per qualified search on <http://www.iSearchiGive.com/suffolkhumanesociety>

They are also crediting \$5 toward SHS for each new iGive member who makes a purchase on <http://www.iGive.com/suffolkhumanesociety> within 45 days of signing up for a new account!

Volunteers Needed

Volunteer: Have a Good Time for a Good Cause!

Suffolk Humane is always in need of volunteers to help with events, at PetSmart working with the cats, at Suffolk Animal Control working with the adoptable animals, serving on the volunteer teams, helping with Mutt Strut, performing administrative tasks, fostering, volunteering with the Neuter Scooter, etc. There is something for everyone, and no experience is needed. For more information on how you can get involved and make a difference for pets, e-mail info@suffolkhumanesociety.com or call 757-374-1476. We need you, and the animals need you!

SHS Opens Office

Suffolk Humane Opens Temporary Office in Driver

Suffolk Humane opened a temporary office at 3118 Kings Highway next to Arthur's General Store in the village of Driver. Volunteers will staff the office daily, Monday-Friday.

The building, which was severely damaged in the April 2008 tornado, has been repaired and will serve numerous functions for the group. "We will accept donations, store our materials, hold adoption events and humane education presentations/seminars, sponsor the Neuter Scooter, adopt cats, and much more." said Angela Chandler, president of the Suffolk Humane Society Board of Directors. "Having an official location will give us so many new opportunities."

Donations are tax deductible. In December 2008, three acres of land on Pruden Boulevard were donated to Suffolk Humane. Chandler noted that the group hopes to use the land eventually for an office and one day as a possible site to build an environmentally friendly animal shelter in Suffolk.



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Adopt-a-thon

Adopt-a-thon & Pet Event at Harbour Breeze

Harbour Breeze Lifestyle Apartments, Suffolk Humane, and Suffolk Animal Control will sponsor an adopt-a-thon on Saturday, April 25 from 10:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at the Harbour Breeze Club House, 3900 Breezeport Way Suffolk, VA 23435. Attendees can also visit with pet-related vendors at the event. The event is free and open to the public.

Suffolk Animal Control and the Suffolk Humane Society will be at the adopt-a-thon with adoptable animals ready to find their new loving owners. The apartment community will also accept donations of pet food, pet supplies, leashes, etc. for Suffolk Humane and Suffolk Animal Control.

"We are excited to partner with this compassionate community in north Suffolk and hope the public will stop by to see the wonderful animals that are available." said Jennifer Griffin, events director for Suffolk Humane. For more information about the community, call (757) 686-2300 or visit www.hbapts.com.

Stacey Waller is pictured above with her son, Jim, and their newly adopted addition to the family, Allie (formerly Ginger at SAC), who is a four-month-old Cocker/Basset mix.



Driver Alive

Celebrating the Village of Driver's Revival After the Tornado

Suffolk Humane will host a special event on Saturday, May 2 at Driver Alive, a celebration of the reopening of businesses in the village of Driver a year after the April 2008 tornado. Suffolk Humane and Suffolk Animal Control will hold an adopt-a-thon from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Suffolk Humane's new temporary office at 3118 Kings Highway next to Arthur's General Store. Mayor Linda Johnson and other dignitaries will also be on hand for a ribbon cutting at the office at 11:30 a.m. For more information about Driver Alive, visit <http://www.driverevents.com>.

Mutt Strut

Mutt Strut Registration Now Open!

Join us for a doggone fun day to raise money for the animals! The event will include a pledge walk, entertainment, children's activities, pet related exhibitors, rescue groups, and much more! The event will take place on Sunday, September 20, 2009 from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. at Sleepy Hole Park in Suffolk.

If you would like to help raise money by participating in the pledge walk, please register online at <http://www.firstgiving.com/suffolkhumanesociety>.

Registration is \$15 with a suggested \$50 minimum in collected pledges due the day of the event. Grab your friends and form a "Pack!"



Green Pet Tips

Celebrate Earth Day by Greening your Pet Routine

- 1. Adopt from a shelter** - Why buy when you can adopt one of the 70,000 puppies and kittens born every day in the United States? Love knows no pedigree. Check out <http://www.suffolkhumaneociety.com/adopt.html> to find your perfect match.
- 2. Spay or neuter your pet** - Did we mention 20,000 puppies and kittens are born everyday in the United States! As a bonus, spaying and neutering helps dogs and cats live longer, healthier lives by eliminating the possibility of uterine, ovarian, and testicular cancer, and decreasing the incidence of prostate disease.
- 3. Clean up their poop** - Scoop up your doggie doo in biodegradable poop bags, so your buddy's No. 2 isn't immortalized in a plastic bag, in a landfill somewhere for hundreds of years. Cat owners should avoid clumping clay litter at all costs. Not only is clay strip-mined (bad for the planet), but the clay sediment is also permeated with carcinogenic silica dust that can coat little kitty lungs (bad for the cat). Plus, the sodium bentonite that acts as the clumping agent can poison your cat through chronic ingestion through their fastidious need to groom. Because sodium bentonite acts like expanding cement-it's also used as a grouting, sealing, and plugging material-it can swell up to 15 to 18 times their dry size and clog up your cat's insides. Eco-friendly cat litters avoid these problems.
- 4. Spring Cleaning** - Empty out the dark corners of your closets, basement and attic, but before throwing your dusty treasures away, call your local shelters and ask if they need old towels, bedding, leashes, litter boxes, and pet toys. They may even be looking for unused electronics.
- 5. Green Clean Up** - Should your furry love leave a little dribble (or more) on the carpeting or floor, don't reach for the bleach. Use vinegar instead. This environmentally friendly liquid can act as an effective odor-remover and can kill mold and bacteria. Please keep in mind, though, that vinegar must be diluted correctly with water.
- 6. Purchase all-natural pet food products** - Look for the many healthy and eco-friendly alternatives for pet foods. Select pet foods that do not contain rendered meat, animal byproducts, or chicken meals. Avoid pet foods made from protein sources that may contain growth hormones or antibiotics.
- 7. Use eco-friendly pet grooming products** - Avoid products that contain phosphates, sulfates, and other chemicals that can be harmful to the environment. If you purchase pet shampoos or flea and tick control products, read the label and select products that are made from natural earth-friendly ingredients. Some chemicals can be unhealthy for your pet and can leave a residual "toxic trail" wherever they go. If you send your pet to the groomer, ask the groomer if they have a choice of earth-friendly products.
- 8. Buy or make earth-friendly pet toys and other products** - If you enjoy buying toys, pet beds, or other products for your pet, look for items that are made from all natural materials. Better yet, have fun and make these products using reclaimed materials. A pet toy can be made from an old sock or a piece of rope. A pet bed can be made from an old pillow, blanket or other items that you would normally throw away. Be creative!



Mutt Strut Sponsors

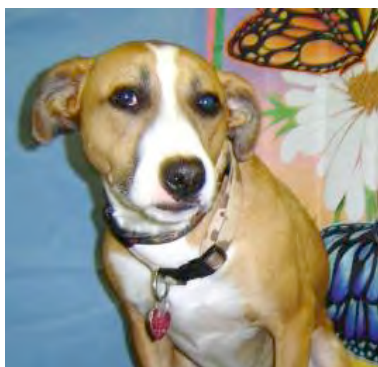
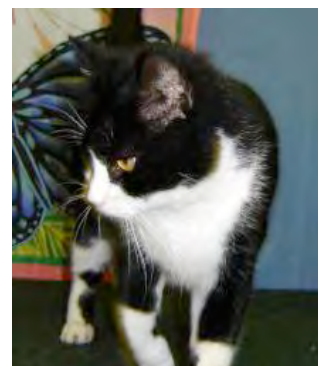
Mutt Strut Sponsors Needed!

Our sponsors make the Mutt Strut possible. Contact Kay Hurley at skwh310@aol.com or 377-8816 if you know prospective sponsors or would like to help with contacting sponsors. The sponsorship committee will meet on Wednesday, April 22, at 7 p.m. in the conference room at Mike Duman Auto. Come join us and make this year's Mutt Strut even better than the first!

Featured Pets

Penelope

My name is Penelope. I am a one year old female. I am a short haired black and white Tuxedo cat. I am kind of a big and tall girl. I was brought in as a stray, but I am eagerly looking for someone to love me. You can visit me in the PC room at Suffolk Animal Control (SAC #0066).

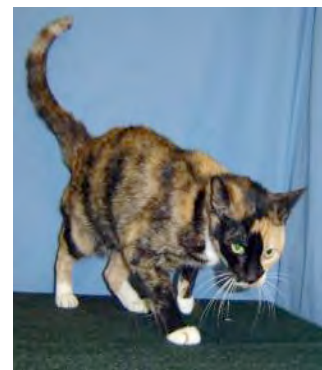


JoJo

My name is JoJo. I am a three year old male/neutered Pitt mix. I am a good boy, looking for a good home. I am even micro-chipped, crate trained and have records! I know some obedience commands and walk well on a leash. I am really good with kids. My owners were military and could no longer keep me. I think I would be a great family dog. You can visit me in Kennel #29 at Suffolk Animal Control (SAC# 0361).

Mardi

My name is Mardi. I am a three year old female. I am a short haired calico cat. I have very unique markings. I am a bit thin right now, so I could use some TLC. I was brought in as a stray, but I am very affectionate and sweet. You can visit me in the PC room at Suffolk Animal Control.



Stolli

My name is Stolli. I am a one year old female Pitt mix. I am paralyzed on the left side of my face; however, it doesn't slow me down one bit! I was turned over by my family because they could no longer take care of me. I have a very sweet disposition, and would love to meet you. Please come visit me in Kennel #26 at Suffolk Animal Control.

To view more adoptable animals, please go to <http://www.suffolkhumanesociety.com/adopt.html> Click on the "See Our Featured Pets"



Featured Volunteer

Gordon & Marie Hatchell, April's Featured Volunteers

Each month we highlight one of our outstanding volunteers. We hope these interviews provide more insight into the wide range of potential opportunities for SHS volunteers. This month we feature Gordon and Marie Hatchell.

Name: Gordon & Marie Hatchell

Occupation: Retired

Place of Residence: Chuckatuck for the past 11 years

Hometown: Portsmouth



INTERVIEW

What do you do as a volunteer for Suffolk Humane? How long have you been doing this? We have been members of Suffolk Humane for two years. During that time we have handled dogs and cats at adoption events, sold raffle tickets and various merchandise as the varied fund raising events such as the Suffolk TGIF Summer Celebration, Mutt Strut in September, participated in the city's Christmas Parade and others. We love meeting and greeting visitors to our tents and adoptathons. We convey the importance of responsible pet ownership, spay/neutering, and the joy of adoption. We have fostered puppies on a short-term basis until they could go to another foster home. We make dog toys for fund raising.

Why do you choose to volunteer for Suffolk Humane and why is what you do important? We chose to volunteer for Suffolk Humane to give the animals of Suffolk a voice with the public, city officials and legislators. When we moved to Suffolk eleven years ago there was only Animal Control. When the Humane Society was founded two years ago, we eagerly joined to work toward the establishment of a no-kill shelter in Suffolk. Also to cooperate with the city to help increase the number of animals adopted thereby decreasing the number euthanized. Statistically it is more expensive for the city to have to house an animal, euthanize and dispose of it than to have it adopted out. We work to get legislators to increase protection for animals and also increase the punishment for abuse and dog fighting. We work to educate the public about responsible pet ownership including spay/neutering and the myths about some breeds being dangerous, and the option of adoption.

How many hours do you volunteer in an average week? We volunteer an average of two hours spread over the whole year. Sometimes are very busy such as the TGIF Summer Celebration that was too much fun to miss a week!

What keeps you motivated? That is easy-the animals! Our motivation comes from being life-long animal lovers and passionate to improve animal welfare in any way possible. We want to see the realization of a new no-kill shelter in Suffolk. The joy is indescribable when you see a wonderfully loving dog, cat or rabbit get adopted by a new forever family. Some of the animals you know are not going to be adopted so you are there to give them a few hours of unconditional love. Also, the other members are always there with a hug and a smile or a helping hand when we get sad or overwhelmed.



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How has this service challenged you? Working on animal welfare issues challenges us not to become discouraged by the enormity of those issues. The number of animals abused, abandoned and euthanized just in Suffolk is alarming. It would be less painful just to give up and leave the work to others, but that is not our way. We love animals and are willing to do what we can for them.

What do you want the public and other members to know about your work? We were greatly involved in another city's humane society for many years before moving to Suffolk, serving as officers on the board, and know what a difference one person and one organization can make. We buy organic when available and buy products that are not tested on animals. Marie was active for many years with a therapy certified German Shepherd in hospitals, nursing homes and libraries. We used to do breed rescue for German Shepherds, Dachshunds, mixes and horses.

Do you have pets now? Yes, we are currently owned by 2 dogs, 2 horses and a beta fish.

Has this service helped/changed you? Our volunteering at SHS events has helped remind us how many animals just in our city need help and how many animal lovers there are in our area. Love comes in every shape, color, size and description. Membership in SHS has rekindled our community activism and how important it is for everyone to volunteer in any way possible whether it be by time or money donated.

Any additional comments? Opt to Adopt! Spay/neuter your pets! Get involved and make a difference!

If you would like to nominate a special SHS volunteer, please email Kay Hurley at skwh310@aol.com.

Spay Days

SHS & Neuter Scooter Sponsor Low-Cost Spay/Neuter Clinic in Suffolk

Suffolk Humane Society, along with the Virginia Beach SPCA Neuter Scooter, are proud to sponsor a spay and neuter clinic. Cat spay is \$60; Cat neuter is \$40; Dog spay is \$75 and up, depending on weight; and Dog neuter is \$70 and up, depending on weight. Proof of current vaccinations required or vaccinations will be provided on the day of surgery for a small fee. Heartworm testing, heartworm preventative, flea preventative and microchip implant will be available as well. Please call Suffolk Humane Society at 374-1476 to schedule an appointment!

The upcoming clinic dates include:

April 15 & 16 Magnolia Ruritan in Suffolk
May 6 & 7 Suffolk Humane Office in Driver
May 20 & 21 Magnolia Ruritan in Suffolk
June 3 & 4 Suffolk Humane Office in Driver
June 17 & 18 Magnolia Ruritan Club in Suffolk
July 1 & 2 Suffolk Humane Office in Driver
July 15 & 16 Magnolia Ruritan Club in Suffolk
July 29 & 30 Suffolk Humane Office
August 12 & 13 Suffolk Humane Office

Please see <http://www.suffolkhumanesociety.com/documents/SpayDayFlyer.pdf> for more information.



Pet Food Donations

2009 Pet Food Donations

Thus far in 2009, Suffolk Humane had distributed the following pet items (as of March 31st):

- Dog Food: 838 Pounds
- Puppy Food: 420 Pounds
- Dog Treats: 91 Boxes/Pouches
- Cat Food: 591 Pounds
- Kitten Food: 130 Pounds
- Cat Treats: 68 Pouches
- Cat Litter: 605 Pounds

Membership

Seeking New Members!

Remember that Suffolk Humane is as strong as the number of members it has. The more members we represent, the more of a voice companion animals have in our community. Encourage your friends, family members, business associates and neighbors to become members. You can download the application from our website or e-mail info@suffolkhumanesociety.com. If you are receiving this newsletter and have not joined Suffolk Humane, please consider doing it today. Help us give a stronger voice to our best friends!

Memorials & Honorariums

Memorial & Honorarium Donations

The following memorial and honorarium donations were made in the past month.

In Memory Of...

Sam McLean, a lifelong animal lover, donation made by Mike & Fran Duman

Please remember you can also give to Suffolk Humane Society by signing up for an account at www.igive.com/suffolkhumanesociety or linking your Food Lion MVP card to Suffolk Humane at <http://www.foodlion.com/apps/MyFoodLion/default.aspx?mode=update>



New Members & Renewals

Our Membership is Growing!

We would like to thank the following individuals for becoming a member or renewing their existing membership.

New Members Since March 6, 2009

Mr. Earl Kingsbury
Ms. Helga Bell
Mr. & Mrs. James & Debbie Strickland
Ms. Marcia Burden
Tuesday Afternoon Book Club
Ms. Cheryl Zimmerman
Mr. Tom Johnson
Ms. Deborah Rhoads
Mr. & Mrs. Robert & Renee Talley
Ms. Marsha Rooks
Ms. Jean Stewart
Ms. Phyllis Cornell

Renewals Since March 6, 2009

Ms. Deidre Dickens
Mr. & Mrs. Mark & Deb Wahlstrom
Mr. Ralph Nahra
Ms. Lisa Cross
Ms. Jeanette Maust
Ms. Susan Kienitz
Ms. Maryanne Winslow
Mr. Mills A. March
Mr. & Mrs. Richard & Gail Najarian
Mr. & Mrs. Arnold (Jr.) & Nancy Dempsey
Mr. & Mrs. Gordon & Marie Hatchell
Mr. Hubert Young
Ms. Lindsey Young
Ms. Linda Beale
Ms. Shelly J. Caples
Ms. Billie Whitley-Stewart

If you are interested in becoming a member, or renewing your existing membership, please go to: <http://www.suffolkhumanesociety.com/donate.html> or call (757) 374-1476.

Help Wanted

Volunteer Positions Available

We are seeking individuals to fill the following positions:

Executive Director - Contact angelachandler@suffolkhumanesociety.com

Director of Events (as of 10/1/09) - Contact jenni.griffin@yahoo.com

The Suffolk Humane Society is dedicated to promoting the welfare of companion animals in the community through sponsoring spay/neuter programs, placing homeless animals in loving permanent homes, and providing quality humane education with an emphasis on responsible pet ownership. Check out www.SuffolkHumaneSociety.com each week to get the latest information about the group activities and to view the up-to-date photos of the adoptable animals at Suffolk Animal Shelter, 124 Forest Glen Drive, Suffolk, VA 23434 (757-514-7855).

Donations to Suffolk Humane Society can be mailed to: Suffolk Humane Society, P.O. Box 5038, Suffolk, VA 23435.



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