

People for Animals

Newsletter February, 2006

People for Animals
433 Hillside Ave
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<http://pfa.petfinder.org>

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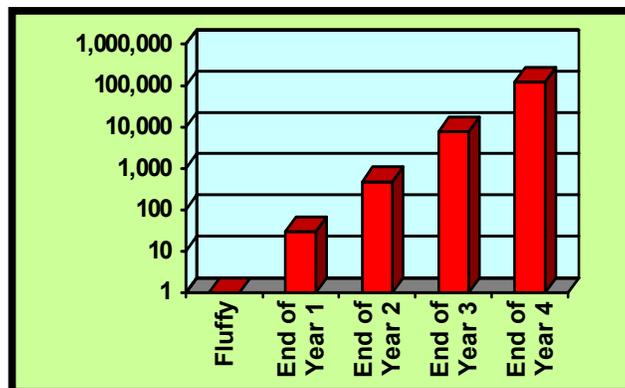
THIS ISSUE!



Fluffy LOOKS innocent
enough...but...

The case for spay/neuter : a story of a single cat's ability to reproduce at an alarming rate

A young couple driving home one evening see a small kitten on the side of the road. It's January, and cold outside. They pull over to investigate, instantly fall in love with her small face and helpless meows, and decide to keep her. Time goes by, and the kitten becomes an active and precocious 'teenager'. Though the young couple never let her outside, she runs out of the house one day by accident and is lost. Fluffy is not spayed, though it's now May and she is 5 months old. Within a week, Fluffy is pregnant. She started as a beloved pet, but through no fault of her own has become a 'breeding machine' capable of prolific reproduction. Cats average two litters per year and kittens as young as five months can reproduce. Babies having babies – we see it every day.



- ❖ In June Fluffy has a litter of 6 (3 males and 3 females).
- ❖ By November the three females are old enough to become pregnant; and they do. Fluffy is pregnant again also.
- ❖ By the end of that same year Fluffy and her offspring total 30.
- ❖ By the end of year two there are over 450 cats.
- ❖ By the end of year three there are over 7,500 cats.
- ❖ Carry these calculations forward to year 4 and you will find that Fluffy and all of her offspring can produce **over 120,000 cats**.

The importance of spay/neuter cannot be overemphasized. We hear all the time 'my cat never goes out', but everyone knows that sometimes animals slip by even the most careful owners. The story above is not just a story, it is a reality that People for Animals deals with every day. Our volunteers and clinic staff are constantly asked to help with situations where stray/lost cats result in a population explosion. Countless instances of a kind person who feeds one or two stray cats near their home or work location find themselves faced only a few months later with a sudden increase to 8 or 10. It certainly doesn't take long for things to get out of control. While Fluffy being lost and separated from her family is a tragedy in itself, had Fluffy been spayed **prior to 4 months** what would have been a tragedy for just one cat becomes a tragedy for 30 cats at the end of year 1, and for a mind-boggling 120,000 cats at the end of year 4. Of course our example does not account for the ones who are unable to survive – heartbreaking to even think about. Additionally, studies have clearly shown that allowing your pet to experience even one heat cycle increases many types of health risks later in life.

These cats are often forgotten. Invisible to the general public they continue to suffer because of one cat (Fluffy) whose owners did not act quickly enough. Please spay or neuter your pet **today** – or if you know anyone who has not spayed or neutered their pet do them a favor: give them this newsletter so they can read the story of Fluffy and encourage them to contact our clinic. Donate to PFA so we can continue to provide these critical low-cost services.

Happy Tails!



'Freddie' Martino

Adopted from PFA in 1992, three legs but still going strong – what an inspiration!



'Dusty' Mitchell

Adopted from PFA in 2004 and brother 'Toby' (right) love birthday parties. Dusty loves the snow and is very sweet (though sometimes feisty) she loves to play with Toby.



'Dobbins' Morton

Adopted from PFA in 2005, a sweet dog who loves the dog park, the couch in the sun room, and 'sort of' passed his basic training class - but knows enough to defer to Roxie (left).



'Cassie' Dealaman

Adopted from PFA, Cassie has made a big difference in the lives of her family. She has won a special place in their hearts.



'Miranda' Booth



'Sasha' Aniano

Steals your heart with her intense eyes and personality – she has many interesting 'voices'. Playing is her #1 thing, and feathers are her favorite toys

Did you know...

- ❖ that People for Animals has been in existence for over 25 years?
- ❖ that 6-8 million cats and dogs enter shelters each year, and that 3-4 million of those are euthanized?
- ❖ that only 30% of dogs and 5% of cats are reclaimed by their owners from shelters?
- ❖ that People for Animals regularly rescues cats and dogs from high-kill shelters, and keeps them safe until a loving home can be found?
- ❖ that People for Animals low-cost spay/neuter clinic has performed over 90,000 surgeries since opening – preventing literally millions of unwanted animals from being born?
- ❖ that People for Animals operates a telephone hotline to provide information to the public on all types of animal-related issues?
- ❖ that People for Animals operates a shuttle service which reaches NJ communities that have no access to low-cost spay/neuter services?

Goodbye to Dear Friends



'Jeremy' and 'Gideon' were very fond of each other but they also had a great love for all the other living things that became part of their lives – people, dogs and cats.

Beloved pets of MaryEllen and Bob Chanda.

Volunteer Opportunities

Recycling Aluminum Tabs

Do you drink a lot of soda?? Do people at your place of work drink a lot of soda?? If so, you can help us by simply placing a collection box in a convenient location where soda can pop-tops can be deposited. Once collected, they can be dropped off at any of our adoption locations or our clinic in Hillside (email pfavolunteers@comcast.net for specific times and locations!). This one's a real no-brainer minimum-effort way to raise funds to help homeless animals!

Donation Boxes

Another easy one! Do you frequent a convenience store or diner? Help us collect desperately needed funds by simply taking an extra minute or two at locations you already visit! Would you be willing to periodically empty a donation box and turn in the money to us? It really doesn't get much easier than this! (email pfavolunteers@comcast.net for more information).

Tricky Tray – April 19th!



Looking for a fun way to spend a Saturday? Come to our Tricky Tray at the Somerville Elks club 375 Union Ave in Bridgewater!! Doors open at 6:30pm and drawing starts at 8pm. Admission \$5 includes one sheet of tickets for regular prizes. Pre-register by April 21st and receive an extra sheet of tickets at the door! Prizes include housewares, jewelry, electronics and more – most will be posted on our website <http://pfa.petfinder.org> under 'events'.

50/50 raffle

**Food and drinks will be available for purchase.
Adults only please.**

TO REGISTER or for more information, please call **908-964-6887 Extension 312** or email pfadiane@optonline.net or send in the form below.

Send your check and the form below in the enclosed envelope. Your registration will be confirmed, and you may pick up your free tickets at the door on April 28th.

Walk for Animals – May 7th

Please join us on Sunday, May 7th from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. at Nomahegan Park in Cranford (across from Union College) as we WALK FOR ANIMALS. All proceeds will be used exclusively to support our Pet Rescue and Adoption Program, which provides medical care, food and shelter for homeless pets awaiting adoption.

Participants may start the Walk any time between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. The Walk is approximately two miles in length. Refreshments will be served. You may attend with or without a dog. Each dog that attends will receive a Doggie Bag filled with goodies.

Contests for the dogs will be held at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. The contest categories are: Best Trick, Best Kisser, Fastest Tail Wagger, Highest Jumper, Shortest Dog and Tallest Dog. Dogs may enter any or all of the contests but may win only one contest. To participate in a contest, a dog must be registered for the Walk.

Every participant who turns in \$75 or more in sponsor donations on the day of the event will receive a free People for Animals tee-shirt. There will also be tee-shirts and animal-friendly merchandise for sale. In addition, the four participants who turn in the most money in sponsor donations on the day of the event will each receive a \$25 PETS MART gift card.

TO REGISTER, please call **908-964-6887 Extension 311**. If you are unable to attend, please consider donating to People for Animals to help support our animal rescue programs.

Tricky Tray Pre-registration form

Name(s) _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Home Phone _____ Email Address _____

_____ people at \$5 per registration = Total enclosed: _____
Mail to: People for Animals, Tricky Tray, 433 Hillside Ave, Hillside, NJ 07205

Gifts in honor of...

Bobby Vinton, from Bob Blewitt
BooBoo, Cricket and Harley's friends, from Sue Frey
Carmelita, a joy to have around – adopted from PFA by Terry M. DeSousa
Diane Guillaume, from Helen Lymbertis
Gregory Duane, from William Duane
Karlle, from Michael Carroll
Levi, adopted from PFA, from Ingrid Michaels
Madison, adopted from PFA, from the Ganims
Magnolia, adopted from PFA, from Joan Quadrel
Marco Polo, always into everything but just a sweetheart, from Suzanne Bramante
Martha Sides, for her retirement, from her friends at Greenberg & Co. CPA's and Linda Zek
Michaele and the PFA Dog Adoption Volunteers, for 2005 – the best year ever, from Diane O'Donnell
Molly, adopted from PFA, by Joan Hughes
Morgan, our ray of sunshine, from Gordon Sherman
PFA Dog Adoption Volunteers, from Joanne Harris
Sammy, from Pete Erickson
Sister Eileen McDonnell, with love and thanks for your friendship at Christmas and always, from Sharon and Rich Pachler

Gifts in loving memory of these cherished friends...

Anthony Rogala, from Dorothy Colline, Stephanie Popper, Patricia Heebner, Frank Sodano, Nelson & Kerri Fujiwara, and Lynn Karel
Helen Doerr, from Schaefer Gardens Tenant's Association
Sam Louise, from Dorothy Campbell

Gifts remembering these beloved pets...

Caruso, our dear dog, from Mario and Sarah Valenciano
Brandy, from Bobbi and Garry Glennon
Chauncey, he had a congenital disease and was only 4, and we miss him so terribly much, from the Rome family
Cleo, beloved pet of Frank & Terry Garcia, from Veterinary Surgical and Diagnostic Specialists
Dallas, beloved pet of Ms. Cheryl Barrentine, from Veterinary Surgical and Diagnostic Specialists
Ebony, my beagle, to help PFA animals rescued from Hurricane Katrina, from Wanda Ross
Gideon and Jeremy, beloved pets of Bob and MaryEllen Chanda, from Michaele Bucci and Dawne Luetscher
Jessie, wonderful, sweet black lab of Joy and Debbi, and best friend of Abby, from Bob Johnstone
Kira, a wonderful dog that was always loved and will always be missed, from Bob Johnstone
Lady, a beautiful, kind and tender-hearted dog who is so missed by her family the Trainors, from Sharon and Rich Pachler
Lady, beloved pet of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Pintinalli, from Veterinary Surgical and Diagnostic Specialists
Lex, beloved pet of Judge and Mrs. Louise Hornstine, from Veterinary Surgical and Diagnostic Specialists
Little Dog, beloved pet of Ms. Evie Leonard, from Veterinary Surgical and Diagnostic Specialists
Maggie, beloved pet of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Clement, from Veterinary Surgical and Diagnostic Specialists
Markey, who shared a loving family for many years, from Gail Hammond
Max, beloved pet of Rose Mary Restuccia, from Veterinary Surgical and Diagnostic Specialists
Patricia, my beloved cat, from Ethel Baer
Sugar Bear, my sweet baby boy I miss you a lot! Beloved kitty of Diane Stahl
T.C., beloved pet of Diana and Sande Strickland, from Veterinary Surgical and Diagnostic Specialists
Trey, beloved pet of Michele Aversa and Darlene Loftus, from Veterinary Surgical and Diagnostic Specialists

INFORMATION FILED WITH THE ATTORNEY GENERAL CONCERNING THIS CHARITABLE SOLICITATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY BY CALLING 973-504-6215. REGISTRATION WITH THE ATTORNEY GENERAL DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT.

Printing of this newsletter has been generously donated by Steve & Linda.

Yes! I would like to support People for Animals! Please send your check and this form in the enclosed envelope, or donate online at <http://pfa.petfinder.org> with your credit card! Thank you!

Name(s) _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Home Phone _____ Email Address _____