

Capital Pet



3 Oakland Avenue, Menands, NY 12204
518.434.8128 | www.mohawkhumane.org

MHHS and PetSmart Charities Partner to Open Everyday Adoption Center

Homeless pets in the Capital Region have a better chance of finding a loving home thanks to a partnership between PetSmart Charities and the Mohawk Hudson Humane Society (MHHS).



PetSmart Charities EAC Project Manager Gina Barborek talks about the partnership with MHHS



Left to right: Laura Anglin, MHHS Board President; Scott Siegel, Policy Analyst, Office of the Albany County Executive; Mark A. Eagan, President/CEO, Albany-Colonie Regional Chamber; Brad Shear; Phil Steck, Assemblyman, NYS 110th Assembly District; Paula Mahan, Town of Colonie Supervisor; Alison McLean-Lane, Albany County Legislator; Gina Barborek, EAC Project Manager, PetSmart Charities; Steve Stark, PetSmart Latham Store Manager

The two have teamed up to open the Everyday Adoption Center (EAC) inside the PetSmart store at 609 Troy Schenectady Road in Latham. One hundred pets found new forever homes in the first month after the adoption center's soft opening on August 18.

According to Jan Wilkins, Executive Director of PetSmart Charities, "Our partnership allows us to bring this Everyday Adoption Center model to the Capital Region to promote pet adoptions and



Steve Caporizzo
Broadcasts
WTEN
weather
report
live from
the EAC

Photos by PJ Walker



3 Oakland Avenue
Menands, NY 12204-2718

Hours:
Monday – Friday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Saturday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday 1 - 4 p.m.

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From the Director

In September, everything changed for homeless animals in the Capital Region. For many years the Mohawk Hudson Humane Society has been the region's animal adoption leader, finding homes for between 3,500 and 4,000 animals every year. While those are impressive numbers, we are always looking to do better and reach farther to help more homeless animals. For over two years we have been in discussions with PetSmart Charities about opening an Everyday Adoption Center (EAC) in the Capital Region. In this issue you will see pictures of our grand opening of that center.

You may be familiar with adoption centers in PetSmart stores. We have been adopting cats from the stores in Latham and Glenmont for years, leading to about 500 cat adoptions every year, but an EAC is something different. PetSmart Charities has been given 2,000 square feet of space in the PetSmart in Latham Farms. That space has been gutted and rebuilt as a brand new adoption center for both dogs and cats. There is space in the center for up to 16 dogs and 16 cats. The center will be open almost the same hours as the PetSmart store, with Humane Society staff and volunteers taking care of animals and ready to help potential adopters find the right match for their family.

"The new center is the first expansion of the Humane Society's kennel space in over a decade. With these additional kennels, more lives are being saved from the Capital Region and beyond."

This sounds nice but you may be wondering how this changes everything. The Latham EAC is the 19th created by PetSmart Charities. The other stores with EACs adopt a minimum of 20 animals per week. That's more than 1,000 animals in a single year, and that's just the minimum. Many of the existing EACs are adopting many more than that. That is the game-changer.

In this issue of *Capital Pet* you'll also learn about the important relationship we have with the Goldstein Auto Group. The Goldstein family played a key support role that allowed us to undertake the task of opening the EAC: they donated an additional van to transport animals to and from the center. With constant adoptions, we will be transporting animals between the shelter and EAC almost daily. This new vehicle will fill an essential need for the animals.

With all these pieces in place, not only will animals coming into the Mohawk Hudson Humane Society be adopted more quickly, but we will also be able to increase the number of animals we bring in from other communities where fewer options exist for homeless pets. The new center is the first expansion of the Humane Society's kennel space in over a decade. With these additional kennels, more lives are being saved from the Capital Region and beyond.

The steadfast support of our donors makes these important adoption initiatives possible. Thank you!



Executive Director
Brad Shear and Bastian, his cat

Nonprofits Partner to Help Stray Dogs



A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held July 31 at Mohawk Hudson Humane Society to celebrate a new exercise pen for dogs, created by Habitat for Humanity Capital District, the Seymour Fox Memorial Foundation and the Center for Economic Opportunity's YouthBuild Program. Seymour Fox provided the building materials, while Habitat and YouthBuild completed the construction.

When Bonnie Chavin from the Seymour Fox Memorial Foundation visited the Society, she asked how the foundation could make an immediate and lasting impact to improve conditions. The answer was that dogs found as strays and those being held during cruelty investigations needed a better space where they could safely be outdoors for fresh air and exercise. Ms. Chavin contacted Mike Jacobson, Executive Director of Habitat for Humanity, and Kristin McGivern, Program Director of CEO's YouthBuild Program, to help create play areas for the dogs.



This partnership was a wonderful way for three nonprofit organizations to help their own missions, with the ultimate result being a better place for dogs to enjoy the outdoors.



MHHS and PetSmart Charities Partner to Open Everyday Adoption Center continued from page 1

reduce pet homelessness." Since May 2010, the nonprofit PetSmart Charities has helped save more than 65,000 pets by opening similar adoption centers in 12 states.

The Everyday Adoption Center gives the Society a new audience in our community and a unique opportunity to find additional homes for homeless dogs and cats. The EAC is open seven days a week, 363 days a year. Amenities include kennels for adult dogs, puppies and small dogs; a new cat adoption center; play areas for dogs awaiting adoption; and meet-and-greet areas for prospective adopters and their families to get acquainted with the pet(s) they want to adopt.

Grand opening festivities took place September 12-14, coinciding with PetSmart's National Adoption Weekend. The official ribbon-cutting was held on Friday, September 12, with business leaders, donors and volunteers in attendance, and Steve Caporizzo and WTEN broadcast the weather and "Pet Connection" live from the EAC in the afternoon and evening. The next day, Chris Warren of WTRY did a radio remote broadcast from the store to kick off the family event day starting at 10 a.m. Activities included balloon sculptures, face painting, Duck Tape® arts and crafts, personalized pet trading cards, door prizes and more.

(See more photos on page 8)

Harley's Happy Tail



The minute anyone met Harley they would fall instantly in love. He had the head of a huge Lab on the body of a Basset Hound and would give you the best grin ever, even though he had a serious ear issue.

Harley came back to the Humane Society in February after his adopters had worked for five months to clear up his chronic ear infections. His right ear was so swollen and inflamed, he probably couldn't hear out of it. The infection had gotten so bad, the only way to relieve the pain Harley experienced was to remove his right eardrum.

Harley's surgery was a success. A few days later he was back to his happy, grinning self. He will never have pain in that ear again. The Society sends a huge thank you to board certified surgeon Dr. Tom Bowersox for completing the surgery, and to rescue group Companion Animal Placement Program (CAPP) for giving Harley a place to recover. Because of collaborations like these, Harley is happy, healthy and, most importantly, in a new home.



AROUND THE WORLD
FOR 80 STRAYS

Gala



APRIL 25 2015

Goldstein Leads the Way



The Goldstein Auto Group, led by Alan Goldstein, made an immediate, significant impact on homeless animals in the Capital Region in 2011 when the auto dealer donated a minivan to the Society with free maintenance for life, allowing us to transport animals wherever they needed to go. But this was not a one-time gift for the Goldstein family: they decided early on to help ensure animals would be cared for and the Humane Society's programs could be sustained.



Brad Shear with Stefanie Goldstein at the Latham PetSmart EAC Grand Opening
Photo by PJ Walker

Alan met with our Executive Director back in 2011 asking how we raise money to care for the animals and how those funds are used. Alan identified an area he could impact, with a fundraising program we thought had already reached its full potential: the Empties for Animals program. This volunteer-driven program collects redeemable bottles and cans brought to the Humane Society and sorts them prior to redemption. The program was bringing in almost \$50,000 per year, which we thought was impressive, but Alan wanted it to perform even better.

Alan started by parking pickup trucks at each of his dealerships, and said that for one month people could drop off their bottles and cans there instead of having to make a special trip to the shelter. That first month in 2011 was so successful, the trucks are still there today to collect bottles and cans. The program continued to grow from there, with Goldstein Auto designating one of their vehicles the "Empties for Animals" van to bring bottles and cans to the shelter for the dealerships and pick up from other businesses that were collecting large numbers of containers.

Alan was right when he saw the program's potential. In the first year of Goldstein's participation, income increased by 50%. In 2013 we collected \$109,000 in redemptions, and this year we are on track to go over \$125,000. These are critical funds that help allow us to provide ever-improving care for homeless animals.

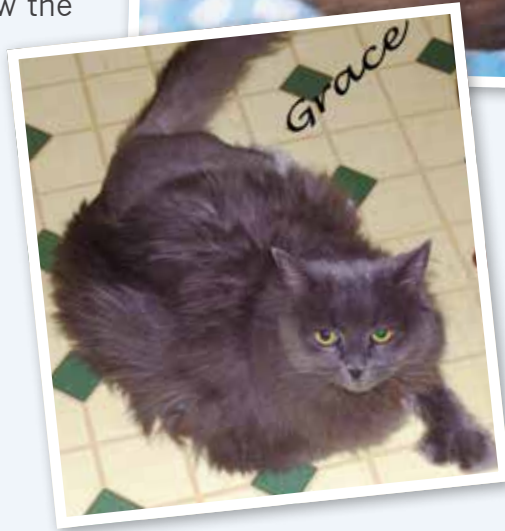
This fall, with our new Everyday Adoption Center opening in Latham, Goldstein Auto replaced the original minivan with a new vehicle to make sure we always have transportation ready. It is rare to have a partnership like this one that results in making a difference in the lives of so many animals. We thank Alan and the entire Goldstein family for their commitment to homeless animals.



Grace's Charmed Life

Grace came to the Society on June 16 as a stray. During the initial examination it was discovered she had a seriously injured back leg. Grace was taken to Miller Animal Hospital on June 18 for an X-ray, which showed she had a fractured hind leg with joint damage to that "ankle." After research and consultation, MHHS Medical Director Dr. Patricia Schuster knew the best course of action was to amputate the leg. Grace had her surgery July 1 and was purring and head-butting as she recovered.

As far back as Homer, "grace" has denoted sweetness or attractiveness. This beautiful Grace has lived up to her name. It only took one look for her to find a place in the home of Paul and Dawn Cooke, where she is living happily with her family (human, canine and feline).



9AM-1PM SIENA COLLEGE CAMPUS

**Saturday
June 27**



Tributes

In Memory Of...

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Nancy Koltko

Patricia Ainslie
Deb Kissane
Paula McCormick

Patricia Aldrich
Mr. & Mrs. Rao Surapaneni

Lu Allen Braverman
Debbie Allen

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Vida Behn
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Daniel Tietz

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Bonkers
Judy & Ken Schwartz

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Lawrence Couch
Nancy Farley
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Frances Rootes

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Janice Ciproni
Josephine Coffey
Phyllis Ennis

Brownie
Julie Maynes

Roseanne Bruno
Norman Morand

Budwinkle
Maureen Seidel

Ed Byng
Best Bowling League Ever
- Adams, Boomer, Phil,
Hogan, Bob & Tony

Matthew Canfield
Mary Delory

Cappy
Gary & Bob Ferrara-Adams

Joseph Carr
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Mickey & Freddie Case
Robert Case

Mark Casey
Angela Baris &
Dorothy Mancusi
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Chris & Art, Tim &
Ann Casey
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Tricia, Heidi, Debbie,
Brittany & Karen
Lewis' Servicerter
Margaret Miller
Michael & Laura Nigro
Marie Wark

Cedar
Jennifer Ford
Keith & Peggy Mason
Louise Quattrochi

Thomas Charbonneau
New York State Stock Car
Association
Carmen & Gail Oliviere
Joline Smith

Charlie
Lawrence Cusma, OD

Patricia Childs
Phillip & Judith Dean

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Karen Folmsbee
Pieter B. Coeymans
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Claude Dam Kitty
Michelle Rafferty

Dorothy Cottrell
Elizabeth DeLucia
Roger & Linda Hoyt
Robert & Colleen Kewley
Washington Correctional
Facility Business Office

William Coyner
John Wolf

William Cozy
Mary Lou Tuck

Frank Crispo
Joe & Mary Ann Pastore

Catherine D'Alessandro
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Records Section

Dahlia
Jill Rafferty-Weinisch
& George Weinisch

Dean Dog
David & Jacqueline Ingalls

Dinah
David Holupko

Dooby
In the Comfort of Home

Doris Dooling
Amy Lochner
Arline O'Hara

Stephen Eberle
Marilyn Eberle

Heidi Euphemia Tash
Marilynn O'Dell

Judith Farrell
Sherry Quinn

Mark Fedele
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Carol & Charlie Reppard
Anne Testo

Virginia Flansburg
CNET Friends

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Phyllis Barmak
& Saul Fern
Anne Hadjiouannou
Nan Irvin
Amy McGarvey-Roe

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Virginia Crotty

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Charlotte Grenier
Susan Lyons
Joseph Sorrentino, Jr.

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Barry Mitchell, MD

Jag
Jacqueline Neal

Jack & Max
Patricia Morris

Jake
Carrie & Eric Terraferma

Janie
Jessica Hayek

May Johnpier
Bernard &
Barbara Dussault

Teddy Jones
Barbara Hollis &
Chris Danker

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Crystal DiTonno

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Lee Krupsky
Gordon & Lee Powell
Marilyn & Larry Shapiro
Kathleen VandenBergh

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William & Gloria Coe
John Guzy
Mary Vetter

Peanut Landes
Ed & Katie Carey

Helen LaZot
Dolores Funaro

Timothy Leonard
Patrick Ball & Matt Magin
Best Fire Mixed
Bowling League
Regina Boyce
David McCann
Kate McMillan
NYS OCFs Bureau of
Adult Services
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Thomas & Gail Yuille

Irving Levine
Frances Goldberg

Lily
Nancy & Mark Wilson

Richard Loeffel
Hilma Albrecht
Marilyn & Tony Aub
BeauKnitters
John Fenner
Ethel Macchio
Louise Mayskymowicz
Arax Sarajian
Barbara Wieboldt

Lu
Diane Wallace

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Paul & Kristina Thouin

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J. David Mahoney

Margg Mahusky
Faith Ralph & Joy Mahusky

Moe Malek
Theresa Farrell

Daniel Manning
Marjorie DerGurahian
Kim McGan &
Joe Lattanzio

Callie Manor
Randy & Mary Beth Fine

Sparkly Girl Manziano
Phyllis Manziano

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Catherine Paupst

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Mitzi
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Olivia
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Guy Maddalone and A
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Debra Embree

Leah Shear
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SKS Bottle &
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Hon. Leslie Stein & Mark Sonberg
Anonymous

Elizabeth Vlieg
Karen Curran

Jason & Jessica VonGuinness
Katee & Steve Scoblic

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William Raible

Sue Wendelgass & Mary Withington
Lynn & Brian Davis

In Honor Of...

Susan Barabitz
Rebecca Barabitz
Molly Gilbert
Cassandra Kazukenus

Rachel Baum
McSharry & Associates
Realty Community Give
Back Program

Zena Overcame the Odds

In late June, a small kitten was found on the roadside by a kind stranger. With no mother cat in sight, the woman brought her to the Humane Society. After a quick exam, it was determined the kitten was two to three weeks old and still nursing. One of the veterinary staff took the baby home and bottle-fed her. When she was able to eat food on her own, she was placed with a foster mom.

At a July 29 exam, the youngster was up to 1.2 pounds and in great shape. By August 19, she was up to 2.3 pounds and ready for her spay surgery and a new home.

She charmed her way into her home and has been aptly named for Xena, the Warrior Princess, since she battled to survive the rough start to her life. Spelling her name with a “Z” was deliberate so her mom’s three cats would have the initials OZI.

It is thanks to our donors’ support that orphans like Zena have a new chance at living a happy life.



Everyday Adoption Center

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Photos by PJ Walker