

Capital Pet



3 Oakland Avenue, Menands, NY 12204-2718
518.434.8128 | www.mohawkhumane.org

Enriching Shelter Life

Our new Animal Care Center provides a far more comfortable environment for the animals than we have ever had before; however, physical surroundings are just one component of overall well-being. In her new role as Director of Behavior and Enrichment, Nancy Haynes is putting more than a decade of sheltering experience and training to work, along with a team of 25 volunteers, to consistently meet our animals' physical and mental needs.

"The effort we put into enriching shelter life can be life-changing, and we absolutely couldn't do without our volunteers."

– Nancy Haynes



Duke began to thrive in the care of foster volunteer Todd Compagna.

While daily enrichment for dogs means having interactive toys to keep them busy and exercise their minds, nothing replaces interaction with people and other animals. Members of Haynes' team are getting dogs out of their kennels, participating in play groups and even taking them on field trips. All the



Volunteer Patrick O'Shea and Jasmine completed our Basic Obedience class together.

while, they are teaching good manners that will ultimately make the dogs more adoptable.

Although they do sleep a lot, cats need enrichment, too. Anything sensory is stimulating. "You'll hear calming music

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Get your tickets! The Gala for Animals is on April 28.



**MOHAWK HUDSON
HUMANE
SOCIETY**

**3 Oakland Ave.
Menands, NY 12204-2718
www.mohawkhumane.org
518.434.8128 P
518.434.0217 F**

HOURS

Monday-Friday 10am-6pm
Saturday & Sunday 10am-5pm

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From the President and CEO

Dear Friends,

A staff member recently shared with me an encounter with someone needing help with a stray cat. She was very touched by the young woman, who was so grateful to have a safe place to bring this frightened pet. The woman lived in an Albany neighborhood with many college students and she suspected the cat had been abandoned. After creating an outdoor enclosure to provide some refuge from the cold, she called numerous area rescues. All were too full to help. But when she called us she was told, "This is why we are here — to care for pets with no place to go."

Not only did the woman go above and beyond to ensure the safety of this abandoned kitty, but she made a surprisingly generous donation for the care of the animal. She told our staff member that she saved up for several weeks, as she didn't want to add to our burden.

Such kindness never ceases to affect us, and often it comes from the most unexpected sources. For every animal brought to us with the nominal donation we request, there are many more that we simply accept because it is our mission and we realize that even a small amount is beyond some people's means. The kindness and generosity of those who contribute — many of whom have never even used our services — are our lifeline and enable us to be there for all the animals who need us.

Thank you for your continued generosity and belief in our mission to enrich the lives of animals and the people who love them.

Todd Cramer



Winter's Long Journey Home

Winter came to us through animal control. She and another dog were found abandoned, and the other dog ultimately died of starvation. For months, Winter's case dragged on as her owner refused to surrender her. Winter was in our care for nearly 18 months before the case was resolved and we were finally allowed to find her a home. Staff had fallen in love with this sweet, happy pup, and we were overjoyed when she finally found a forever home with Ed and Betty Gendron. Winter, now Sweetie, immediately bonded with Ed, who is disabled, and became his constant companion and lap buddy. They love her dearly.

After a year-and-a-half proceeding, Winter was finally ours to rehome.



Get all the latest MHHS news and share your pet updates.
We're on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram @mohawkhumane.

Kitty Co-Parenting

Three-year-old Misty and one-year-old Selena had their litters just a week apart from each other and were brought to MHHS. These sweet moms “co-parented,” sharing the responsibilities for nursing and cleaning all 11 beautiful kittens. It’s just one example of the amazing animals we encounter here at MHHS.



Tiger mom Misty and tuxedo kitty Selena cared for their kittens together.

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throughout the facility. Just giving them something different to watch, such as a mobile — or to smell, such as an essential oil — can stave off boredom and stress,” said Haynes.

Our new “spirit cat” room houses up to six very shy cats. They prefer the company of other cats to people, so we go lightly with interactions by approaching them on their own terms to gain their trust. They will make great companions for other cats, but they will probably never be cuddlers.

Some animals, however, just don’t do well in a kennel, and for those, we rely on a caring network of foster caretakers. Jasmine is a 4-year-old terrier/pit bull mix who was so anxious that she salivated excessively and rubbed her nose raw trying to escape her kennel. Nothing we tried in the shelter would ease her stress. Now in a foster home, she is a different dog. She loves to be out hiking or playing, and is just as content to relax in her bed.

Pets that have been closely bonded with a person can suffer greatly from depression. Such was the case with Duke, a senior kitty whose owner passed away. Duke never left his hiding spot and was eating little. We sent him home with a volunteer, known affectionately as Foster Todd, and Duke started eating and exploring. Within a few days, he was seeking affection.

“The effort we put into enriching shelter life can be life-changing,” said Haynes, “and we absolutely couldn’t do without our volunteers.”

You can help. Please visit our Volunteer page at mohawkhumane.org, or our Wish List page, to learn how to get involved or donate supplies for our enrichment program.



Shop at Nipper's Nook

Our pet supply shop carries all the essentials you'll need when you come in to adopt, plus toys, apparel and gifts. Purchases help support MHHS. Please stop by to see what's in store!

Train with Us

Could your canine companion use some manners, or do you need help with a behavioral issue? We offer Basic Obedience Training in small, personalized, six-week sessions, taught by our Director of Behavior and Enrichment, Nancy Haynes. For specific issues, or if a class setting isn't right for you, we also offer private, one-on-one training and behavioral consultations in your home or at MHHS. Visit us online to learn more or call us for a free consultation at 518-434-8128, ext. 201. We offer discounts for MHHS alumni, too.

Community Education Series

One of our most important roles is to bring about greater awareness and understanding of animal issues, as well as strengthen the bonds between people and animals. Please visit our website to learn more about our new Community Education Series and the many interesting and helpful topics we offer.

Happy Tails



Enrique



"Enrique is a near-operatic vocalizer. He makes mad dashes, leaps to the top of tall cabinets and is intensely curious about everything. He loves, loves, loves being petted. Did I mention he is 13? Thanks for all the care your staff gave him."

– **The Lindholm Family**

S'mores



"This is S'mores. We have an unbreakable bond and I love her to death."

– **The Carbonaro Family**

Jeter

"Jeter has been an absolute blessing to our family. He loves investigating with his big shepherd sister Schatzi and running around and playing with his big pit bull brother Tyson. Thank you so much!"

– **The Kowalski Family**



Zoey

"When we adopted Zoey, she was 6.8 pounds of skin and bones. You could feel every rib, but she had the best personality. She is now 11.5 pounds and full of energy. Thank you, MHHS, for giving us the best friend we could ever have asked for."

– **The Manning Family**



Lucy



"Though we came looking for a male corgi puppy, we left with a 10-year-old Belgian sheepdog named Lucy. She has been the most amazing addition to our family. We love her!"

– **The Halvax Family**



Zeus

When Zeus arrived as a stray, he was sullen and howled all day. When he met the Gallo family, he suddenly became a playful, happy boy. He's pictured with his sister, Athena, resting on him. A true testament to the powers of love and family!

Send your Happy Tails to happytails@mohawkhumane.org



11th ANNUAL

MOHAWK HUDSON HUMANE SOCIETY

GALA
— for Animals —

Saturday, April 28, 2018

at the Albany Marriott

Tickets are available at mohawkhumane.org

For information on sponsorship and
honorary committee, contact Marguerite Pearson
(518) 434-8128, ext. 206 mpearson@mohawkhumane.org