



COMPASSION IN ACTION



FALL
2019

NEWSLETTER OF THE SPCA SERVING ERIE COUNTY

HUMANE EDUCATORS LOOKING FORWARD TO FALL!

◀ ANOTHER SUMMER CAMP IN THE BOOKS!

With summer coming to an end, you might notice the SPCA's Humane Educators catching their collective breaths! From June through August, they were busy hosting sixteen summer camps for more than 256 children.

This year's summer camps included Vet Academies 101 and 102, Sense-ational Pets, Paws and Claws, Just "Fur" Fun, Arts and Animals, and Humane Heroes. **Each camp had a different theme, but all camps incorporated themes of animal care, responsibility, and safety.**

Ten-year-old Sydney Corbett who participated in the Arts and Animal camp said, "It was so much fun! I loved the dog day when we made a mosaic and then we got to meet the dogs at the SPCA."

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CAT DECLAWING BAN SIGNED INTO LAW IN NEW YORK STATE

Recent legislation was passed preventing the declawing of cats in New York State. Read more about the law at YourSPCA.org/news/catdeclawingbanned.





FIND US

716-875-7360
YourSPCA.org
facebook.com/SPCAErieCounty
Twitter: @YourSPCA
Instagram: @eriecountyspca

HOURS AND LOCATIONS

300 Harlem Road,
West Seneca, NY 14224

Adoption Hours:
MON/WED/FRI 11am-6pm
TUE/THU 11am-8pm
SAT 10am - 5pm
SUN Closed

The SPCA Serving Erie County is proud to be a Purina Shelter Champions Partner!



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MISSION

At the SPCA Serving Erie County, our mission is to create a more humane community through education; rescuing, protecting, and enhancing the lives of animals; and nurturing the bond between animals and people.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO

GARY WILLOUGHBY II

According to author Bryan Barry, **Strategic Planning** usually involves fundamental choices about:

- The mission, goals, or vision your organization will pursue
- Whom you will serve
- The organization's role in the community
- The kinds of programming, services, or products you will offer
- The resources needed to succeed-people, money, expertise, relationships, facilities, and so forth
- How you can best combine these resources, programming, and relationships to accomplish your organization's mission.

The SPCA Serving Erie County Board of Directors took on the challenge of developing a new strategic plan and updating our mission and vision statements with the help of SPCA staff, volunteers, supporters, and our consultant, Dr. Maureen Millane.

This effort was an important one and the final document is a working one. We will continually evaluate and update our community's needs. Our new facility plays a key role in our plans, but much of our important work occurs out in neighborhoods throughout Erie County and in some cases, in many counties in Western New York and beyond.

Our organization's responsiveness is one of the things I am most proud of. Since 1867, we have answered the needs of our community's animals and the people who care for them. Those needs continue to evolve as our world changes, and the people who represent this organization remain leaders in the field we all care so much about.

Our team is working on displaying our new mission and vision statements throughout our facility. A large number of us are diving deeply into our strategic plan to improve and expand our community partnerships to improve the lives of owned animals. Together, staff and volunteers are working hard to offer the programs and services that are most needed in our community. We're doing this while maintaining our leadership role working to improve the lives of people and animals in our community.

We are so humbled and thankful to all of you reading this newsletter for your dedicated support to our cause and our mission. Through your support, all our programs and services are possible. Thank you for your trust, your support, and your passion. We are excited at what the future holds.

Gary Willoughby II
President & CEO

THE SPCA'S LIPSEY CLINIC WANTS TO MEET YOUR PET(S)!



Dr. Sara Anderson and LMU student Shelby meet two new patients.

The Stanford & Judith C. Lipsey Veterinary Clinic is the SPCA's low-cost wellness clinic whose services are available to any dog or cat owner! With Dr. Sara Anderson at the helm, the clinic provides low-cost wellness examinations, vaccinations, and basic preventatives to help keep your pets healthy.

Diagnostics: Pricing for diagnostics and treatment will be dependent on the specific medical issue and prescribed medications.

Animals are seen by appointment only. For an appointment and/or pricing, please call 716-531-4700.

THE CLINIC IS CURRENTLY OFFERING:

- Rabies vaccine
- Bordetella vaccine
- DA2PP (combination vaccine for your dog that protects against four primary canine diseases: distemper, adenovirus-2, parainfluenza, and parvovirus)
- Lyme disease vaccine
- FVRCP (protection for cats against three potentially deadly airborne viruses: rhinotracheitis, calicivirus and panleukopenia)
- Microchips for cats and dogs
- Spay/neuter surgeries
- Some soft tissue surgeries
- Nail trims
- Deworming
- Dental procedures with full-mouth X-rays
- Flea preventatives
- Bloodwork

ADDITIONAL SERVICES FOR DOGS:



- Heartworm and tick-borne disease test
- Heartworm preventatives
- Leptospirosis vaccine

ADDITIONAL SERVICES FOR CATS:



- Leukemia virus (FeLV) and immunodeficiency virus (FIV) test
- Feline leukemia vaccine



HUMANE EDUCATORS LOOKING FORWARD TO FALL!

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BREAK CAMPS

Last year the SPCA began offering camps during school breaks. They were such a hit that they are being offered again this school year! All camps are for children ages 4 – 12 and camps have single-day registration options. **To read details about each camp and to register (available in mid-September), visit YourSPCA.org.**

- Columbus Day, October 14:
Pet Pals
- Veteran's Day, November 11:
Rescue Rock Stars
- Martin Luther King Jr. Day, January 20:
Creative Critters
- February Break, February 17 – 21:
Fun and Fur
- April Break, April 13 – 17:
Animal Explorers
- Last week of school camp, June 22 – 26:
Animal Friends
- Summer Camps, June 29 – August 18:
Registration will start in January 2020 on YourSPCA.org



TALE FOR TWO

When they aren't busy with camps, humane educators run several programs for children, including Tale for Two. Christine Davis, the Director of Humane Education, said, "About two years ago we saw a number of reading programs across the country that encouraged children to come in to shelters and read to animals who are waiting to be adopted. **We started Tale for Two last year and we were immediately overwhelmed by the response! We had to add sessions.**"

Tale for Two benefits both children and animals. It helps children who may find it difficult to read in front of others find comfort in reading aloud. The animals are a non-judgmental audience, which helps the children feel safe and it helps the animals who are feeling anxious or scared acclimate to the presence of people. "We've witnessed the positive impact this program has on both the child and the animal. It was amazing to watch a shy dog come from the back of her kennel to the front, lay down, and close her eyes while the child read out loud to her," Davis said.

When the program began, children had the option to read to only cats and dogs. But as time went on, Christine says children now read to guinea pigs, rats, mice, the educational farm's goat Newman, and one boy asked if he could read to an adoptable turtle. Christine said, "Of course we let him! It was very sweet because he really felt like the turtle needed a friend!" Children sit and read within designated cat enclosures, outside of a dog's

kennel, or in the small animal room. Interactions like this represent a powerful opportunity to promote self-esteem and it **encourages the development of empathetic feelings and positive social interactions in children.**

A parent whose child was involved in Tale for Two recently said, "It is a win-win situation. Your child gets reading time in and the animals get attention and love!"

Another parent said, "My son has dyslexia and is very self-conscious about reading. The friendly atmosphere and encouragement from staff really helped. He feels much more comfortable knowing that everyone learns at their own pace and the animals don't care."

Tale for Two will run on Tuesdays from 4:30 p.m. – 7 p.m. starting on September 3.

The program will soon include Reading Flex Passes, so children can come on any Tuesday that fits your schedule and the passes never expire. Passes can be purchased in six or twelve session increments. Passes cost \$40 for six sessions and \$70 for 12 sessions (these sessions are for new readers and include the cost of the orientation). Additional passes can be purchased at any time.

An orientation will be held every six weeks at the SPCA. If you are unable to attend, a virtual orientation will be provided. More information, including registration information, can be found on YourSPCA.org.

LEAVE A LEGACY OF COMPASSION

Let your love of animals become your legacy and help sustain the operations of the SPCA for years to come by including the SPCA in your estate plans.



A bequest is one of the easiest and most impactful ways to support the SPCA's mission. Planning giving options include:

- Wills
- Trusts
- Charitable gift annuities
- Life insurance policies
- Real estate and personal property
- Retirement benefits

For more information, visit YourSPCA.org/donate/planned-giving, or contact Jennifer Gurz, Chief Development Officer, at 716-875-7360 ext. 219 or jenniferg@yourspca.org.

SHELTER GUARDIANS: THE SUPERHEROES OF THE SPCA!

Shelter Guardians are a community of donors who provide monthly, steady income to the SPCA — income we depend on to give compassionate care to the thousands of animals who come through our doors! Monthly gifts can be automatically billed to your credit card or deducted from your checking account.

When you become a Shelter Guardian, you can rest assured that **your giving is the most cost-efficient way to donate to the SPCA and the best way to**

BENEFITS:

- Provides a safe, secure way to donate every month.
- Choose the monthly amount that best suits you.
- You can cancel or change your donation at any time.
- Provides the animals in the SPCA's shelter and offsite adoption locations with the care they require until they find a loving new home.
- Saves the SPCA the costs of multiple thank you letters and receipts. (An annual statement of your donations is sent.)

help the animals in our care. And, the money you help us save on administration costs means more animals will benefit from your gifts!

As a thank you, Shelter Guardians receive 10% off in our Petique and 10% off their PawsWay brick purchases!

To become a Shelter Guardian, complete the donation form on donate.yourspca.org/shelterguardian or call Colleen at 716-875-7360 ext. 227!



Thank you to the
official pizza
sponsor of the
SPCA!

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Whoops!



In our June 2019 newsletter, we forgot to include Officer R. Paul LeShay in our article about the SPCA's law enforcement team. **We apologize for the omission!**

SUNNY DAYS AT THE SPCA!

Summers are the busiest time at the SPCA and 2019 was no exception! Here's a glimpse of some of the fun we had!



Since kittens can't sit still and they can't take selfies, getting a non-blurry picture of these active little ones for their profile photos takes some effort and a lot of patience! In this case, it took the work of three volunteers to get the perfect picture!



The SPCA's Wildlife Department helped this Great Horned Owl who came in ill. He had malaria and parasites. After he was well enough, he was released back to his wild habitat!

Over the summer, the SPCA received transports of adoptable dogs from local and national groups. In this picture, a Lincoln Memorial University fourth year veterinary student welcomed a dog to Western New York from Aiken, South Carolina!



As you can tell, it was a tough day volunteering at the SPCA for Lyndsay! Shortly after this picture was taken and their walk concluded, sweet Roslynn was adopted!



Kelly from Amherst adopted Leia!



Luke, Jacob, Celia, Victoria, Blake, and Kendall (one child is not pictured) are part of an intrepid fundraisig group. They came in to the SPCA in July with a \$106 donation that they made from their lemonade stand! They decided to give all the money they raised to the animals at the SPCA!

WILD HAPPENINGS AT THE SPCA!

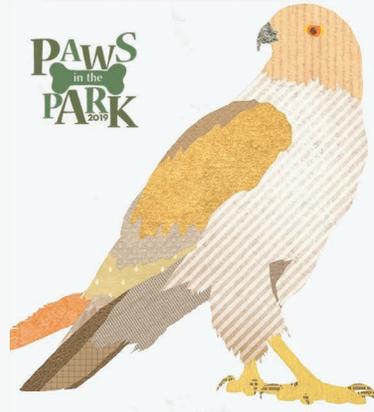
BY BARBARA HANEY, DIRECTOR OF THE WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT

The Wildlife Department at the SPCA is cutting edge and in many respects, it is the future of the animal welfare movement. I recently attended The Association for Animal Welfare Advancement's conference in St. Louis, where I spoke to the leaders of this movement in the United States. It was the first time in their long history that wildlife was a topic among these agencies in this setting. This isn't surprising when you realize that **there are only six humane societies in the United States that have a wildlife department.**

This summer, the Wildlife Department cared for almost 100 species of wildlife! Animals included opossums (our country's only marsupial), lots and lots of cottontail rabbits, squirrels, owls (including the gorgeous Great Horned Owl on page 7), many different types of hawks (including this Red-Tailed Hawk), water birds (like Green and Great Blue Herons), and lots and lots of ducks and geese!

With more than 3,500 animals being cared for each year, the SPCA's Wildlife Department is something to be proud of!

ENJOY A TWO-MILE WALK WITH (OR WITHOUT) YOUR DOG, 50+ VENDORS, CONTESTS, AND MORE!



BECAUSE **TALONS IN THE TOWN** ISN'T EXACTLY FEASIBLE.

2-MILE FUNDRAISING WALK
Perfect for dogs. Benefits all animals.

SEPT 28, 2019 AT BEAVER ISLAND STATE PARK
REGISTER AT YOURSPCA.ORG

REGISTER TODAY AT **YOURSPCA.ORG!**

FUN FOR ALL AGES!

Questions? Contact Amber Murphy at amberm@yoursPCA.org or 716-875-7360 ext. 230

PRESENTED BY: **KTC**

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These opossums were harvested from their mother's pouch after she was, unfortunately, hit by a car with fatal injuries. They were rehabilitated and eventually released back to the wild!



The Wildlife Department admitted a number of orphaned Mergansers. We were thrilled to be able to release them back into their wild habitat!



This Red-Tailed Hawk was showing signs of being ready to get back into the wild! The Wildlife Department works hard ensuring that the wild animals do not become accustomed to being close to people.