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Millville Grand Opening



On October 10, 2020 Mayor Michael Santiago, County Commissioners Douglas Albrecht and George Castellini and the town of Millville came out to join PFA in celebrating the official opening of our newest clinic! Jane Guillaume, Executive Director, welcomed everyone on a bright and sunny autumn day stating "We are thrilled to have a permanent new location in Millville to help even more Southern Jersey residents with their pets' needs." Helping to celebrate the event were PFA's animal welfare partners South Jersey Regional Animal Shelter, Salem County Humane Society and NJ Aid for Animals. This Community Open House was enhanced by the music of Buck Loomis, snacks and water from Bottinos Shop Rite and decorations from Oil City Produce. Attendees received tours of the new facility from the staff.



Thoughts from our Executive Director: Jane Guillaume

The past seven months have been challenging times for all of us and I am proud of the way that PFA's staff has stepped up to meet that challenge. Their caring dedication has allowed us to continue to meet our mission – providing access to affordable veterinary care for all. Implementing new protocols required us to reduce the number of animals we could see at first; however, with some process efficiencies and the use of telemedicine, PFA is now able to treat the same number of animals it was prior to the pandemic. It is not surprising that during these times of financial turmoil, demand for our services has increased and we are looking into ways to increase our capacity to help those in need.

One major step we took to meet this challenge was the opening of our permanent clinic serving South Jersey. Located in Millville, PFA's new clinic replaces the leased facility we had for the past five years in Clayton and will provide us with the capacity to expand the number of South Jersey animals we serve each year from 5,000 to potentially as many as 15,000.

As PFA looks ahead, we recognize that our clients need us to expand our services beyond spay/neuter surgeries and wellness examinations. While we have no intention of becoming a full-service veterinary clinic, we will be acquiring portable x-ray machines to expand our diagnostic capabilities and equipment to provide dental cleaning and tooth extractions.

Our communities need PFA now more than ever and, with your support, PFA will be there to provide affordable veterinary care for all.



We're Half Way There! Help us raise funds to acquire a portable x-ray machine

As more and more people seek out affordable veterinary care in New Jersey, PFA often cannot help them because we do not have a critical diagnostic tool – an X-ray machine. We hope to remedy that situation by acquiring one to serve the clients at our Hillside clinic.

We have already raised \$20,000 towards our goal of \$45,000. If 250 of our generous supporters would each donate \$100, our goal would be met and PFA would be able to expand our diagnostic capabilities.



Some Good News

A routine wellness examination uncovered a severe bladder infection for Ava. After a four month course of treatment, Ava fully recovered and returned to PFA for a spay surgery.



Answering the emergency call from a local shelter inundated with cats and kittens in need of veterinary care, PFA took in 40. After providing them with the necessary veterinary care, PFA placed them with fosters until they could be transported to one of our adoption partners in the Northeast.



Amber, rescued by two local teens, was able to receive the medical care she needed thanks to PFA. We were able to treat her ear infection and provide free vaccinations and spay due to generous grants we received.



Talk to Your Vet! Advice from Dr. Kristen White



Every wellness examination should include a discussion of what your pet is being fed. I find clients are hesitant to talk about what they feed their dog or cat for fear of being judged – Is the food the right type? Is feeding my pet a variety of types and brands so that they have “a change of pace” good for them? or they may not know what food their pet gets because their partner is in charge of feeding. Here are a few of my recommendations to start the conversation because you should be talking about what you feed your pet with your veterinarian.

- **Ask your veterinarian for advice.** They will not judge your feeding choice. Often, a veterinarian may not bring up the issue unless there is a systemic condition or illness that would benefit from a food change.
- **Consistency is key.** Most dogs and cats do best with a stable commercial diet without a lot of variability. Stick to a single diet and provide “interest” in the form of treats, toys and play.
- **Select a diet that meets AAFCO (Association of American Feed Control Officials) standards.** Look for the seal on the back of the bag. This seal represents that the food meets minimum nutritional standards for that breed.
- **Measure your pet’s meals with an actual measuring cup.** This helps your veterinarian know how much you are feeding so they can make a recommendation on an appropriate amount to reach your pet’s “goal” weight.
- **Don’t feed your pet a raw diet.** These diets are often nutritionally deficient and can cause illness or infection. Dogs and cats that eat a raw diet may carry salmonella or other bacteria in higher quantities.

For additional information checkout www.vetnutrition.tufts.edu or, better yet, **Talk to Your Vet!**

On Site Community Cat Training

Michelle Brodbeck, Community Cat Program Manager, recently provided a hands-on training session for staff and volunteers from the South Jersey Regional Animal Shelter in Vineland. Taking place at a feral cat colony in Fairfield Township, NJ, this training covered how to trap cats, how to care for cats in traps, and safe transportation techniques. For more information about setting up a Community Cat Training Session in your community, contact michelle@pfaonline.org.



PFA TODAY

Your Newsletter from
People for Animals

NOW WITH 3 LOCATIONS
COVERING ALL OF
NEW JERSEY

401 Hillside Avenue, Hillside
973-282-0890

1001 North High Street, Millville
856-243-5211

1 Sharon Rd, Robbinsville
609-208-3252

Visit us at
www.pfaonline.org

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Hillside's New Look!

The Hillside Clinic just had a face lift! Thanks to a very kind and generous donor and the hard work of landscape designer, Aileen Binder, who donated her time, we now have a new walkway and beautiful landscaping to welcome our clients. New signs with our logo celebrate our longstanding relationship with the community and add a splash of color! Even the rear entrance was cleaned up with new gravel and plants.



Holiday safety tips

- 🐾 If you are having guests, keep your pets safe by giving them a quiet place to rest with a nice bed and their favorite toy.
- 🐾 Fatty foods like turkey skin are hard for animals to digest. Chocolate, xylitol, onions, raisins, and grapes, can be poisonous to pets.
- 🐾 Make sure your pets can not get into the trash remember animal bones are a choking hazard.
- 🐾 Never leave your pet alone in a room with a lit candle which can be knocked over and start a fire
- 🐾 Many festive plants are harmful to pets including amaryllis, mistletoe, holly, lilies, potpourri and poinsettias.
- 🐾 Be mindful of your pet if you see signs of distress including sudden changes in behavior, depression, pain, vomiting, or diarrhea contact your emergency veterinarian immediately.

Leaving a Legacy – Diane Lacey

Stray animals always seemed to know that if they reached Diane Lacey's doorstep, help would be on the way. Whether it was Shadow, a cat who followed her home one day as she was out walking her dog and who would later bring her newborn kittens up to the deck for safety or Charlie, a stray she found under her car one snowy evening, no animal was ever turned away.

Over the years Diane has rescued, nurtured and provided medical assistance to hundreds of community cats. Diane first learned about PFA in 1985 and has been bringing the animals she took in for spay/neuter surgeries and wellness exams ever since. Diane remembers what it was like for unwanted animals.

Few people gave them a second thought but Diane knew that she could not sit idly by. Over the years she has seen PFA grow, seen shelters become adoption centers and pet owners embrace the idea that spaying or neutering your animal is the right and healthy thing to do. When the time came for Diane to do her estate planning, she knew she wanted to include PFA in her will. After all, I would like to be remembered "as a good and kind person devoted to giving animals a better life." What better way is there to continue your life's work?

Join Diane and others like her who have included PFA in their wills. For more information, contact Lori McGahan at lori@pfaonline.org.

Help Provide Access to Affordable Veterinary Care For All