

IN THIS ISSUE

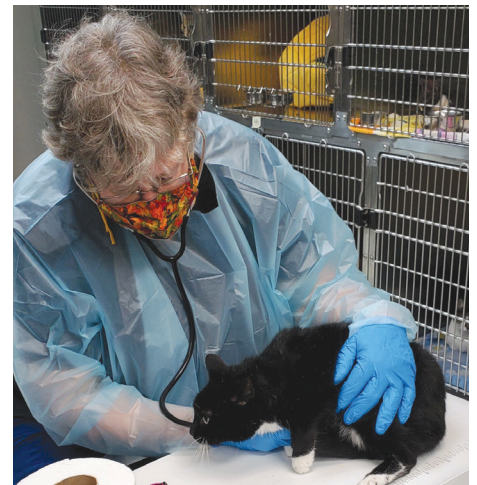
- Building Partnerships
- Thoughts from our Director
- Pet Health Advice
- TNVR 103 Community Cats
- Some Good News
- Daisy Saved and Thriving
- Annual Raffle
- Spring Wellness Tips



Using our experience to build partnerships

In early November, PFA's Executive Director Jane Guillaume received a call from the President of the Board at Associated Humane Societies (AHS) asking for PFA's help at their Newark facility. AHS' Board was looking to engage an independent third party to come in and assess the health of the animals under their care, review and update their medical and operational standard operating procedures and train the employees in the revised protocols. They turned to PFA because of our experience and expertise in the field of shelter medicine.

Over the first three weeks, the PFA team medically assessed 459 animals and set up isolation rooms based on type of infection. Triageing the animals quickly provided AHS with the necessary information to work with rescue groups to reduce the population levels of the shelter to manageable levels. Since November, 541 dogs and cats have been either adopted or transferred to rescue allowing AHS to implement progressive population management



tools. At the same time, we were able to bring in private practice veterinarians to volunteer their time to spay/neuter AHS' animals. PFA is now in the process of finalizing updated protocols in consultation with AHS management.

Probably the best result to come out of this engagement with AHS has been the formation of a partnership that will continue as we leverage our mutual resources to meet the needs of pets and their caregivers in our community. Just recently AHS helped promote our Newark Spayathon which provided free spay/neuter surgeries to 268 animals. Newly installed AHS CEO, Jerry Rosenthal, recently commented "For too long animal welfare organizations have taken a parochial approach to issues in their community. Think of the impact we could have if organizations partnered together to leverage their limited resources". That is a position that PFA has always endorsed in pursuing its mission of access to affordable veterinary care across New Jersey.



Thoughts from our Executive Director: Jane Guillaume

We made it through 2020, a challenging year for all of us to be sure. So far, 2021 has clearly revealed that we are not yet through our struggles. And so we buckle down, pivot and invent new ways to get our important work done.

One of the most important ways PFA is approaching the trials of our times is by collaborating with other groups with similar mission and geographic focus areas. We believe that by combining resources, animal welfare organizations can more effectively serve the needs of shared communities.

In this newsletter you will read about several examples of PFA's collaborative work with animal shelters serving common populations, in urban areas like Newark as well as rural Cumberland County. Collaboration is one of PFA's core values and often advises our strategies. We are committed to being an active supportive partner in elevating animal welfare at every level throughout NJ.

PFA continues to expand our services and pivot our existing services to meet the challenge. Thanks to our generous donors and grantors, X-ray capabilities will be available very soon at our Hillside Clinic, and dental services are coming shortly to our Millville clinic. It is all part of our dedication to meet the evolving needs of pet guardians in search of affordable veterinary care.

As a PFA supporter, you are an integral part of the collaborative team. Your donations provide critical backing that enables us to unite New Jersey's efforts to eliminate animal suffering. We couldn't do it without you!



PFA collaborates with SJRAS to help 103 community cats!



There are an estimated 2 million community cats in New Jersey. Sadly, 50% of kittens born outside without human assistance will die within their first year. PFA's Community Cat Safety Net Program is here to teach and support community members throughout our state to humanely address the community cat population. PFA assisted South Jersey Regional Animal Shelter (SJRAS) when they saw a tremendous need in Salem and Cumberland Counties for assistance with TNVR. Many residents were calling asking for help with the community cats in their neighborhoods. As reported in our Autumn Newsletter at the beginning of this project, PFA held a training session at a community cat caregivers' property in Fairfield Township. Since that training the caregiver, shelter staff and volunteers tirelessly trapped for several weeks until they trapped 52 cats and took in 16 friendly cats and kittens for adoption.

The success of this project provided the momentum for the group to take on a new project in another community. Just then a caregiver contacted SJRS looking for assistance with a group of cats she cares for in a mobile home park in Millville. She had been feeding and providing medical care for the cats for years but since she became disabled she could no longer afford their medical care. PFA took in 13 friendly cats and kittens for adoption and through our collaboration with SJRAS and NJ Aid for Animals 22 cats have received TNVR help to date! You can help community cats by donating to PFA's Community Cats Safety Net Program and by learning more about TNVR. For more information, contact Michelle Brodbeck at michelle@pfaonline.org.

Pet health advice from Dr. Laurie Heeb

When clients and friends ask me whether to spay/neuter their pet, I often ask them how important their pet's safety and well-being to them are. They are usually taken aback by my response; however, spaying or neutering your pet is one of the most important health care measures you can provide your pet.

There are three major reasons to have your pet altered.

1. 1 in 4 intact female dogs will develop a life-threatening uterine infection or "pyometra". Spaying before their first heat will prevent this.
2. Spaying before the first heat nearly eliminates the chance your pet will develop mammary cancer. Mammary cancer is often fatal since it frequently spreads to the lungs.
3. Prevents unwanted pregnancy and reduces behavior issues such as running away, fighting, inappropriate urination in the home.



The best time to spay or neuter your pet is by 5 months of age. Spaying before 5 months of age prevents unplanned pregnancies and provides the greatest health benefit to your pet. Providing the care your pet needs to be healthy and happy is what PFA is all about and we are here to provide you with the information you need to make the best possible decision.

Some Good News – 498 Newark animals receive the medical help they need

The pandemic has significantly increased the need for PFA's services for homeless and pet dogs and cats. Families are suffering due to Covid-19 related job loss, illness, and isolation. Their pets offer them unconditional love and joy during this difficult time while families are struggling to save up for their veterinary care. PFA is here to help! During the months of December and January, PFA was able to offer free medical services to residents of Newark thanks to the generosity of the Banfield Foundation, the Bissell Foundation and the William Dean Foundation. 498 dogs and cats received free spay/neuter surgeries or wellness examinations as part of this program. Read about a few of the animals helped during these difficult economic times:



Kobe, a beautiful Labrador Retriever, came to PFA for his neuter surgery. His family has relied on PFA for affordable veterinary care for years and was so happy that their handsome pup was back to his friendly self shortly after surgery.



Creed was adopted by his family seven months ago. His family would have just in time to have his neuter surgery and report that Creed is back to his loving playful self.



Pinky was rescued from a life on the street. Her family wanted to take her in but due to the current economic crisis were worried about the cost of surgery and vaccinations. Happily, due to our Spayathon they were able to give Pinky a loving home. Pinky is friendly and loving and quickly made friends with a community cat that her family cares for. Paco will be coming to PFA for her spay surgery and vaccinations too!



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



Spring wellness tips



The warmer weather brings back fleas, ticks, mosquitoes and more contact with other animals increases the chance of your pet contracting a contagious illness from other dogs.

Schedule your pet's wellness appointment today by calling one of our three clinics!

During the appointment our veterinarian will:

- 🐾 Perform a vet check
- 🐾 Conduct diagnostic blood work and testing if needed
- 🐾 Update vaccinations
- 🐾 Discuss dietary needs
- 🐾 Prescribe heartworm preventative
- 🐾 Discuss flea/tick preventative

Daisy saved and thriving thanks to PFA!

Naomi, a Community Cats Safety Net Program volunteer, was helping a local business to TNVR the cats living in their parking lot. After ensuring the entire colony received their spay neuter surgeries and vaccinations through PFA she was able to care for and find homes for 9 kittens. Sadly, she found one kitten that was severely injured, limp and lifeless. Naomi immediately checked for signs of life and, realizing that the kitten was still breathing, brought her to the Hillside Clinic.

Upon intake Dr. Dashfield took, the newly named kitten, Daisy's temperature which was so low that it did not even register. Daisy was hypothermic and hypoglycemic which left her comatose, but after several hours of slowly increasing her body temperature and giving her small doses of dextrose to increase her blood sugar, Daisy finally woke up.

Only then we were able to examine her injured leg and discovered that Daisy's leg and elbow were fractured. After receiving antibiotics and further care Daisy went home with Naomi. Naomi and Daisy came back to PFA every day for a week to have her leg checked and bandages changed. Unfortunately, the

leg was becoming necrotic and was not savable.

After a few weeks of recovery from her leg amputation, Daisy returned to PFA to be spayed so she could go off to her new home. Now Daisy is thriving in her new home with her other cat friends and does not skip a beat even with three legs.



PFA's annual raffle to HELP ANIMALS IN NEED!

The economic strain of the pandemic brings more people and their beloved pets to our clinics every day. This raffle will help to ensure that we are here to help them. This year we are sending you TWO books of raffle tickets! Doubling your chance to win and doubling your assistance to animals in need of essential veterinary care.

Just \$2 per ticket or a book of 10 for \$15! If you would like more books to sell to your friends and family please email Lori@pfaonline.org or call **973-282-0890**.

This is your chance to help animals and a chance to win a \$500 Simon Mall Gift Certificate which can be used for online purchases.

**Drawing to be held April 6, 2021.
You do not need to be present
to win!**

HELP ANIMALS IN NEED	
SPONSORED BY AND FOR THE BENEFIT OF People for Animals, Inc. 401 Hillside Avenue, Hillside, NJ	
DRAWING: TUESDAY, APRIL 6, 2021 - NOON	
PRIZE \$500 Simon Mall Gift Card <small>(Can be used for online purchases) No substitution of the official prize may be made and no cash will be given in lieu of prize.</small>	
Donation: \$2.00	
ID. # 255-4-25007 THANK YOU RL 882	
KEEP THIS PART	

0001 RETURN THIS PART 0001

Help Provide Access to Affordable Veterinary Care For All