ASSOCIATED HUMANE SOCIETIES/POPCORN PARK

Share-A-Pet Program

18th Edition

A special program offering a “New Leash on Life” to cats and dogs in exceptional need.
The Associated Humane Societies has been in existence since 1906. The Society’s first location was the site of its present national headquarters in Newark, NJ. The Newark site encompasses an area approximately 1/2 acre. The rebuilding of the Newark facility started in 1968 and was finished in early 1970. At that time it became the largest animal facility in the world on the smallest piece of land. Today, the Newark Shelter includes a complete veterinary staff to treat both private clients as well as shelter animals, 2 hospitals, and facilities to house over 400 animals, including beautiful, free-roaming cat courts and a special small dog and cat area.

In 1974, the Society purchased and remodeled a kennel on 2.2 acres of land in Tinton Falls. In 1999, a half million-dollar renovation added more spacious and modern cat facilities, a second kennel, and a small medical dept. Tinton Falls is located off the Garden State Parkway Exit 102 (south-bound) and Exit 100-B (north-bound).

During July 1976, the Society engaged in planning a third facility in Ocean County and began construction that month. The grand opening of the Forked River Shelter, Animal Haven Farm and Popcorn Park Zoo was held in Sept. 1977. In 2000, Kitty City was totally renovated, and the kennels re-done and modernized in a million dollar effort. This facility is built on 10.8 acres in the beautiful pinelands of New Jersey, about 75 miles from New York City, and off of Garden State Parkway Exit 74 (north or south-bound).

In 1996, the Society took over the operation of a small shelter in Union Twp., Union County, that had been struggling for some time. It has been reconstructed and now provides bright clean facilities for about fifty cats and dogs. It is located about ten miles west of Newark, off Route 22 East in Union.

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The Associated Humane Societies provides many services to the public including adoption services, animal turn-in services, cremation, and cruelty investigations, education programs, low cost spay and neuter clinic, 24 hour ambulance rescue and service, lost pet service, problem pet consultation, plus a retirement home for pets. If you would like additional information about the various services offered by the Society, please feel free to contact our Executive Offices. or e-mail us at: contactUs@ahscares.org

www.ahscares.org
The Associated Humane Societies established the Share-A-Pet Program in February 1978 for the purpose of saving the lives of a number of dogs and cats who, for various reasons, were in special need of a “New Leash on Life.” The program is designed for animal lovers who would like to help contribute towards the care of a specific homeless cat or dog through a monthly donation. The animals are selected by the Society staff from among those at our four shelters which we consider unadoptable due to age, handicap, medical problems, abuse, length of stay, etc. Any of these animals are always available to good homes.

All animals sponsored under this program are neutered, and sent to the Animal Haven Farm or Kitty City. We guarantee that all dogs and cats are fully inoculated, and receive all necessary medical care, as well as proper routine, daily care.

Share-A-Pets may be supported through a monthly sponsorship of $10.00. All donors in the program will receive the Society’s publication, the HUMANE NEWS, plus every four months, a color photo of each dog or cat they are sponsoring and a letter telling them about the health and activities of the animal. All sponsors will receive a Share-A-Pet membership card, which entitles you to free admission to Popcorn Park Zoo, and six self-addressed envelopes to make your monthly donations. As a member of the Share-A-Pet program you may sponsor your chosen pet for as long as you want with no contracts or obligations. We only ask that you advise us if you no longer wish to do so, so we may update our records. Any excess funds in this program are applied to the care and welfare of all animals.

You are also invited to come and visit your Share-A-Pet, take him for walks, bring her treats, and even adopt him or her. Should the cat or dog you sponsor be adopted or pass away (keep in mind that many of the animals placed on the Share-A-Pet program are elderly, handicapped, have medical problems, etc.), you will be advised and another animal will be offered for sponsorship.

The Associated Humane Societies is a non-profit, charitable organization, and does not receive any local, state, or federal funds. It is supported in part by the Share-A-Pet Program. All donations to this program are tax deductible under Federal law 501(c) 3.

You Can Also Sponsor Your Share-A-Pet Online!

We are happy to also offer the opportunity of sponsoring your Share-A-Pet online, where you can receive your updates online as well, saving the Society much-needed funds. You will receive a letter and quality photo that you can print out if you wish.

Just log on to: www.ahscares.org and click on Share-A-Pet Program on the right navigation and you’ll find all the animals and their stories in beautiful color!
BEN OF WEEHAWKEN
Ben was a lonely figure, trapped on a rocky cliff in Weehawken. With the backup of local firefighters, our staff expertly trapped this beautiful boy with deep amber eyes. Once very shy, over the years he has become a more trusting soul, especially with the staff who cares for him daily. Won't you share your love with Ben?

PLUTO
It's hard to believe this happy fella was once on death's door; he couldn't stand, he'd been starved and was feeling so poor. His owner called us to get him - she said he'd been sick; this is one pup who got the short end of the stick! He recovered with love and medical care; he bears no grudges though his life was unfair. Can you love Pluto and help him believe ... that he's right to wear his heart on his sleeve?

BARLEY OF FAIRFIELD
Of thirty cats abandoned in a home, only five remained alive. Two we named Oats and Barley and they were pulling through, yet only Barley survived this tragedy. We'd sure like to see this sweetheart of a kitty loved and feeling special. Could you help?

RALPH OF HILLSIDE
Once a stray, I soon became a resident cat ... in a printing business, (not in a hat). When new management came in I was told to start packing; with me they felt a professional atmosphere was lacking. Lucky for me, I had friends in high places; and so, I now grace Kitty City's wonderful spaces.
ERNEST
What more could be wrong with me? I was old and tired and couldn’t pee! My mouth was sore, every bite caused me pain. Would anyone make me whole again? Next thing you know, I was with an angel, (not in white); they said ‘surgical greens’ and I was out like a light. After recovering, I’m now good as new, and all I want is a sponsor like you!

CAGNEY OF MANALAPAN
A number of years ago, my mom passed away of cancer; how could a kitty understand this? I didn’t have any answers. But someone helped and healed my heart - gave me a new life with affection and kindness. Now all that’s left is for us to meet: I’m easy to love and awfully sweet.

THELMA AND LOUISE OF NEWARK
We’re two best friends and have been through thick and thin; so far from the terrible circumstances we once were in. Once needy strays in Weequahic Park – empty stomachs, no shelter after dark. Now we can say we’re safe and secure; but longing for love that will always endure.

"If you can't decide between a Shepherd, a Setter or a Poodle, get them all ... adopt a mutt!" - ASPCA

BISCUIT OF THE WORLD TRADE CENTER IN NYC
September 11, 2001 was a fateful day for this country, and also for this dog. He was spotted at the rubble of the Twin Towers, continually searching for an owner that was no more. Through the efforts of firemen and a kind construction worker, Biscuit was eventually taken away from the tragic scene. We accepted him on the Animal Haven Farm, where he has been ever since. We hope there are those who can appreciate his devotion and loyalty, and give Biscuit the love he so deserves.
HOOK OF CLIFTON
Do I look grumpy? It’s not really true, though sometime si feel a lit-
tle blue. Newborn twins ousted me from my spot; I just didn’t
count after the arrival of the tots. All I’ve dreamed of is love and
someone’s arms where I could always be cuddled and warm.
BUTCH
My owner’s other cat and I didn’t get along; they made a choice, though neither kitty was wrong. I’m so very sweet, they made me a Share-A-Pet; to win your heart OR your home -- how lucky could I get!? I’m dreaming you’ll find me when you enter the room; just listen for a purr that’s as loud as a raccoon!

RUSTY OF WEST CREEK
Rusty has a mild deformity, as you can see. He was the victim of a pet owner with too many cats, and sweet Rusty was attacked by the others, suffering infections around his nose and lip. The owner appealed to a Board member for help and was convinced to surrender Rusty. He’s a lover, not a fighter ... won’t you return his love?

REX OF BAYVILLE
A handsome shepherd is our boy, Rex; but in adoptions, he seems to be hexed. The first home had cats, and caused him quite the vexation; the next home he had anxiety over separation. Here on the farm, he’s never alone; so for Rex, an open heart is as good as your home.

REMUS OF IRVINGTON
He didn’t matter much - he was just a junkyard dog. Good enough to watch the lot for two years, but not good enough to receive medical care when he broke his leg. When his condition was reported to us, an investigation ensued, and the dog with the old break in his leg was released to us. Surgery removed the leg and a longstanding, painful hernia. Once recovered, he was named Remus, and now he waits for you - just a little love, a pat on the head, some treats. Maybe even a home. Can you share your love with Remus?
SPIKE OF GOSHEN, NY
When life gives you lemons, they say make lemonade; but life's twists and turns can make hope fade. Unable to keep us due to painful affairs, at least our owner made sure we were here. I'd sure like to remember what it's like walking by a human's side... life was tough, but my heart never died.

MIKA OF NEWARK
I shouldn't have been outside nor in the driveway napping; if my owner really cared, this wouldn't have happened. Look carefully, you'll see, my little toes are crushed; she drove over them, she was in such a rush. I get along OK, but would still like to hear; that you would always hold me safe and dear.

BUSTER OF TOMS RIVER
I've been here quite a few years, and I've done my time; defending my owner was my only crime. I paid the price for my loyalty, and long to be loved and once again free. I'm starting to age, my fur getting grey - but your love would brighten my every day.

What could be better than a lifetime of love?
We welcome hearts and homes!

ANGEL OF ARKANSAS
I travelled quite a way to meet you here - before this I simply languished in despair. At a Class B Dealer known for cruelty untold; others around me injured and dying before they were sold. Of 14 dogs accepted here I'm just one of the last two; I patiently wait - they've told me of the love and kindness I will know from you.
AMBER
Once I lived outside, tied in the broiling sun; of food or water, there was none. There were burns on my body from some caustic stuff; cigarette burns - my life was rough. Now I've been here safe and sound, simply waiting for you to come around. My body's healed, my heart's wide open, do you think you'd fit inside?

BEAR OF GOSHEN, NY
At a tender four years, my owner became ill; loved but needy, my heart went downhill. He assured my future on the Animal Haven Farm; yet I sure do miss being held in one's arms. Look at me in my Santa hat - I just want to cuddle and that's that.

LINDA BLAIR
Remember 'The Exorcist'? Regan needed a priest. I need love at the very least! I am not possessed, nor does the devil reside within; my body does strange things and it's not due to sin. A stiff rear leg and a broken heart were found; and then that my head can turn nearly 360 degrees around! At the shelter's door is where I'd been dropped; for just a little love, at least the heartache would stop.

AMAYHA OF EAST ORANGE
I'm ready for the holidays and want to celebrate; your loving mewould make me feel great. I gave my love so that some kittens might live. The milk of kindness was the greatest gift I could give. I've waited as patiently as any kitty ever could - is it my turn to receive yet when I've been so good?
MACK OF UPPER FREE-HOLD TOWNSHIP
I have no history, but here’s what they surmise; I belonged to someone but was kept outside. Fly-bitten ears and an embedded collar left scars; what no one sees is the hurt to my heart. But here is different and they really care; I sleep inside and can play in fresh air. I have doggy friends I can play with, too - all that’s missing in my life ... is you.

MISTY OF NEWARK
I fell out the window, five long stories down; my owner brought me to the vet, but then was nowhere around. It took awhile, but now I’m all healed; not exactly symmetrical, but on an even keel. Are you the caring person to fall in love with me? If the answer is yes, please ask for Misty.

ROXY OF WHITING
It’s a well-known fact senior pet owners are great; but they shouldn’t choose young animals, or they may share my fate. I’d only been owned for a short while; when I could no longer be kept and that was my trial. I wait for another chance at love, loyal and true; if you love kitties, maybe it’s you.

MILD-MANNERED MAGGIE
This beautiful girl with an ebony coat still waits for passage on your loveboat. Given up at eight months because her personality was too mild, she still feels like an abandoned child. So, ahoy there mateys, won’t you bring Maggie on board; her broken heart waits to be restored.

In Memoriam
The following Share-A-Pets have passed away since our last edition of this booklet. They have touched many lives and we all mourn their passing. But we are comforted in knowing that their lives were made longer, happier and more peaceful through their inclusion on the Share-A-Pet program than they could ever have been as rejected, lonely strays or pets who had nowhere to turn.

Bubba of Forked River
Nurturing Nelda
Dallas of Ocean Township
Striker of Ocean Township
Tristan of Goshen, NY
SPIKE OF FORKED RIVER
My name may be Spike, but I’m actually a girl; won’t you give my heart a whirl? I was one of five kittens, the only one left behind; perhaps because my funny coordination always left me in a bit of a bind. I occasionally stumble, but I’d fall for you anytime; just say those magic words ... ‘be mine.’

“[I am joy in a wooly coat, come to dance into your life, to make you laugh!]”
- Julie Church

JESSIE BELLE OF VOORHEES
My owner passed away when I was eight; no arrangements had been made for me in her estate. A Society board member took me under her wing; so at Animal Haven Farm, I’d have everything. That was awhile ago as you can see by my greying face; But when you love me, I’m in a timeless place.

GABE OF HOWELL
Could a tall, dark and handsome fella be in your cards? Loving Gabe wouldn’t be hard. One of 21 Coonhounds confiscated due to abuse and neglect; he’s happy and healthy, but no home yet. He’s waited patiently since May 2004; be it heart or home, could you open your door?

The greatest pleasure of a dog is that you may make a fool of yourself with him, and not only will he not scold you, but he will make a fool of himself, too.
--Samuel Butler
SMOKY JILL OF HILLSIDE
Jill is a kitty who was saved from the embers; so long ago, we wonder does she remember. Now her eyes are cloudy and she takes many naps; but if you sit on the floor, she still runs to your lap. We see her slowly aging, but we’re hoping still; that you’ll find room in your heart for our sweet girl, Smoky Jill.

SHEBA of WEST CREEK
Due to a divorce, my big sister Jessie and I were turned in; it saddened our mom, but her resources were thin. Jessie found a home, for which I’m really quite glad; so this became the next home I had. I’d love to sneak into your heart or your arms - a little snuggling - what could be the harm?

ZEPHYR OF NEWARK
I almost kissed my 9 lives good-bye - dangled over mean dogs, I saw all 9 go right past my eyes! But a staff member came to my rescue, demanded me freed; he got tough and saved me in my dreadful need. Now since that time I’ve been safe and secure, but I sure wish you’d bring love to my door!

"Who can believe that there is no soul behind those luminous eyes!"
~ Theophile Gautier

12 Share-A-Pet

Adopted to Loving Homes
We are pleased to announce that all the following animals have “graduated” from Kitty City and the Animal Haven Farm, and are now living in loving, adoptive homes where they enjoy the comfort and happiness they deserve. We miss them, but their “New Leash on Life” gives us the greatest joy.

Darby of Waretown
Dori of Arkansas
Gracie of Howell
Hunter of Asbury Park
Shadow of Newark

"Who can believe that there is no soul behind those luminous eyes!"
~ Theophile Gautier
MAX OF LACEY TWP.
At 10 years old, Max’s world fell apart; both his owners had problems with their hearts. One passed away; the other’s now too weak; of his loneliness Max wishes he could speak. Have you a spot for a sweet older guy? Your heart or home would be just fine.

EVITA OF ARGENTINA
Here you’ve caught me in a compromising position; so best I tell you of my oceanic transition. In a big sealed container, I crossed the sea; unlike the song, no one cried for me. I was sick and dehydrated when I finally arrived, happy just to be alive. All that’s left of this tale to tell, is that you coming to love me would end it quite well.

PEANUT OF OCEAN GROVE
Okay, so I’m busy, maybe nosy, too. I don’t sit very still, and I like to go and do. Not every kitty is a lap cat, but it’s no crime; if you like to play then we’ll have a great time. You hide behind the couch and I’ll go seek; in no time you’ll find me and my heart you can keep.

LICORICE
At the tender age of ten years, DYFS stepped in and got me here. The children were also removed from my home, and to protect me, DYFS saw I came to the humane society. That house was frightening, not where I needed to be, but I wouldn’t rule a home out for me. I’m getting older, turning grey, but your love would still make my day.
POPEYE OF ARKANSAS
I’ve travelled a distance to finally be safe; rescued twice over from a hateful place. A class B dealer who tortured and neglected was intensely pursued after being inspected. They shut him down, and those of us who survived found new places who valued our lives. I was given my name by the nice lady here who cares, `cause I say `yuk, yuk, yuk’ like Popeye when you pet me anywhere!

There is, incidentally, no way of talking about cats that enables one to come off as a sane person.  
  - Dan Greenberg

GOLDIE OF NEWARK
Goldie is one of two cats we accepted into Kitty City when a longtime staffer passed away. She was such a lover of all animals, we wanted to be sure her two treasures were cared for. The older cat passed away of old age, and Goldie still waits ... for your home or for your heart. He’s still a young boy - could he be your treasure, too?

When Harry Met Sally ... Both Found Love in Toms River, NJ

Harry, at left, previously named Sherbet, found his kitty soulmate in Sally, once known as Sammy.

Two cats from completely different circumstances were placed on the Share-A-Pet program in Kitty City, and were fortunate in soon finding themselves in the most perfect of circumstances ... in the home of Society staffer Colleen Buchanan and her husband. Harry was one of a group of strays rescued from Barnegat. His eyes had a haze over them which defied diagnosis and after numerous attempts at adoption, the special needs boy was added to Kitty City and named Sherbet. Sally (then Sammy) arrived in Forked River with five newborn kittens, to whom she was a wonderful mother. But like Sherbet, she wasn’t finding the loving home we’d hoped, so was also placed on the Program. Enter Colleen Buchanan who began to visit with Sherbet, but every time she would sit down with Sherbet in her lap, Sammy would jump up, too, and begin to groom him. It was soon decided the two cats should come home together, where have become the very best of friends, and the rest is history. So it was indeed a great day when Harry met Sally.
Shadow, a six month old Chow mix, was featured on the cover of the April/May 2004 Humane News along with Poppy, a 2 year old Pekingese. Both dogs had been set on fire and left to suffer for 2 weeks in the basement of a Seaside Heights home. While the perpetrator was tried and sent to prison for the crime, the dogs had to bear the aftermath of the cruelty. Poppy was much less burned than Shadow, and found a home after she had healed. Shadow’s wounds - both emotional and physical - were far deeper.

For many months, only Medical staff could handle Shadow, and then little by little, other staff who wanted to help Shadow overcome her trauma. She was not yet ready to trust all the kind sponsors and visitors who only wanted to show her that not all humans were going to hurt her.

Nearly two years later, the Bernat family began to visit Shadow. They would bring their 7 year old dog Polaris with them, and things seemed to be going very well. It was a slow process, but on March 30, 2006, Shadow finally found just what she needed - and what staff had always believed would someday be hers - a real family. We packed up her blanket, toys and other items, There wasn’t a dry eye in the place as Shadow walked out the door to a whole new life, a life filled with love and trust where she could finally forget her once painful past.

At top left, Shadow and Poppy when they arrived at the Society; Shadow’s burns were far more severe than Poppy’s. Above left, Lisa Kirk on the Animal Haven Farm, was one of several staff who spent lots of time with Shadow, helping her get over her fear of people. Above, Alan Bernat and daughter Marissa brought Polaris to meet Shadow on one of many visits just getting to know her.
Glynda the Glue Trap Cat
Cherished in Morganville, NJ

At left, Glynda on her adoption day with Barb and Gary Zidd. Above, Glynda relaxing in Kitty City while she waited for her purrfect home.

Glynda’s story begins in October of 2003 when the Society received a call to send an ambulance for a cat in distress. A small black and white tuxedo cat had been found by apartment maintenance people with her whole body and face adhered to a rat glue trap. They had pulled the glue trap off, and put her in a box to protect her from the rain. What was left of the cat’s fur was a thick, hardened mass which could neither be shaved nor cut away. So staff rolled up their sleeves and massaged vegetable oil into the matted mess of her coat, while she patiently endured the ordeal. Despite the harrowing experience, Glynda purred like a motorboat the whole time. Her next step, once at our Forked River facility, was to see a veterinary specialist who evaluated her dislocated shoulder, a problem that had taken back seat to the removal of glue from her coat. Surgery helped a great deal, although she walked with a chronic limp. We added Glynda to our Share-A-Pet program, hoping to give her an extra chance for love. She waited in Kitty City until one event changed her life.

Not far away, in the home of two animal lovers, a beloved cat passed away from the complications of feline aids. Deeply saddened, but wishing to share their love with another feline, Barb and Gary Zidd began looking at the cats in Kitty City ... it was Glynda that stole their hearts. Glynda was adopted in June 2005, and in a follow-up note, the Zidds write: “Glynda is a happy, gentle, lovely girl. She is thriving in her new home, loves to sit and sleep with us and purrs loudly with the lightest touch. Two weeks after we adopted her, we adopted a six week old kitten, Sam, from our vet. He had been found at about three weeks of age in the middle of a busy road. Glynda immediately took on the role of ‘Mommy’, watching out for Sam, playing with him and teaching him manners when needed. She loves to play with his kitten toys, especially the little black mouse. She has also bonded with her adult brother and sister, except when defending her food, although Sam can steal whatever he wants (it is always replaced). She is a joy and well-loved. Thank you for caring for her and for the opportunity to make her a part of our lives.”
When a terminally ill man from Forked River had to give up his only meaningful possessions, the Society requested the social worker reassure him that nothing would happen to Duke and Angel, but they refused to let him know or let us know his identity. Sadly, he lived his last few weeks alone not knowing the future for his beloved pets. Angel and Duke were placed on the Share-A-Pet program. Angel, the 7 year old Husky mix, was blind and always stayed close to her friend, Duke.

David and Angee Prown of Red Bank, NJ visited the Society’s Forked River Animal Care Center, and adopted the twosome, advising us that they were “perfect. They are loving and gentle. We couldn't have asked for two better dogs.” The canine companions also sent their own letter: “We wanted to thank you for taking care of us until we were able to go home with our new family. Angel and I are very happy. Angel is now the queen of toyland and spends a lot of time playing with all of her toys. As for me, it took a couple of months, but now I enjoy a good game of catch with a tennis ball. We love going for walks, getting tummy rubs and generally being spoiled.”
On April 30, 1998, one lucky dog met her rescuer in Newark alongside a four lane industrial highway. MaryAnn Feinstein, who was able to coax the frightened lady to her with treats and then lift her in her car, was horrified by her condition. The dog’s ribs were protruding sharply, and she was heavy with milk. Around her neck was a 10 pound chain. Society staff later searched the area for pups, but found none. Once in our care, newly-named “Hope” was given the royal treatment, and regained her strength and beauty. She was featured in the HUMANE NEWS several times with no luck, so we added her to the Share-A-Pet program in October, 2000. We shared the lovely girl’s hope that maybe now someone would read her entire story and want to give her more than just hope. And along came the Warnecke’s from Milford, NJ ... they wanted to give her all she never had. And in arms filled with love for the first time, Hope moved to the country. She never looked back, because now she truly had everything.

Simon and another dog were dumped on Humane Way in July 2003. A witness spotted a Seminole County, Florida license plate drive away, but couldn’t get the number. The two dogs ran away into the woods. When occasionally spotted, staff went out to track and find them on numerous occasions. They survived a bitter cold winter, rain and snow, and in January of 2004 staff was finally able to catch Simon. He was thin, loaded with parasites, had a cherry eye, and despite his being on his own so long, he was still a big sweetheart to staff. Simon got lucky again almost two years later, and we suspect Santa may have been answering Simon’s wish. It was Christmas Eve, 2005, when Simon was spotted by Christi Grieb and her daughter, Georgie. They instantly fell in love with Simon and the feeling was mutual. You can see by their faces that each one is happier than the other with his adoption. And a Happy Christmas was had by one and all!

Simon being hugged by Georgie Grieb and her mom, Christi, above, and at left, by Lisa Kirk, who had been his caretaker on the Animal Haven Farm,
After Waiting 8 years, White Sox of Newark Finds A Loving Home in Toms River, NJ

After having been with us since March of 1997, we included White Sox on the Share-A-Pet Program in mid-1998. Although the owner could not keep him, he sung the praises of how talented his dog was - said he danced in circles, gave his paw, and played dead. After several months at the Society, it was his kennel worker who dutifully gave treats while HE danced in circles trying to elicit the dog’s alleged talents and while HE was shaking the dog’s paw. The quiet young fella was sent to the Animal Haven Farm ... and he became a part of the canine crowd until July 23, 2003 -- a red letter day for this doggy! Alexander Rossetti of Toms River, NJ adopted him, We don’t know who is happier -- but we think the smile on White Sox cannot be denied! In a follow-up note with photo, Mr. Rossetti said: “Thanks for all the care you gave him and for the good condition he is in for his age. You folks did a great job with him.”

White Sox in his very own living room, enjoying all the comforts of home ... at last!!

So many of the stories you read on these pages have wonderful, heartwarming happy endings thanks to you. Whenever your home may be ready to accept a new pet, please consider one of our Share-A-Pets - truly, you will give him or her “New Leash on Life.”

White Sox on the day of his adoption with Alexander Rossetti of Toms River, NJ and his daughter, Linda Robinson.
After 9 Years as A Share-A-Pet, Fiddler
Adopted to Mellerville, NY Sponsor

Sitting atop the roof of a car dealership building was a painfully thin dog we rescued and appropriately christened “Fiddler”. He was featured on the front page of the HUMANE NEWS ... and waited for adoption. When he wasn’t lucky, he was placed on the Share-A-Pet Program .... and waited for adoption. It took 9 years but thankfully, his prayers (and ours) have come to fruition.

Paul and Bonnie Trowbridge of Mellerville, NY had been sponsoring Fiddler and when they had turned the AHS calendar page and saw his face; they felt it was a sign to come and adopt their pet.

Excerpts from a 2 page letter state: “I really wish that we could have met and celebrated our joy of having Fiddler come into our lives and our hearts! Fiddie is the absolute perfect example of why people should consider adopting an older pet. After our drive back home, it was time for him to meet his `younger’ brother, Chance, a pit bull/plotthound mix that we rescued over 7 years ago. Fiddie took over. He wagged his tail, showed no aggression whatsoever and after much mutual sniffing, Chance was satisfied that Fiddie posed no threat. Now it was time for Fiddie to slowly be introduced to 5 rescued indoor cats over the next week. Once again, he has shown the way to everyone, by always being kind and gentle, to the point that the very smallest cat we rescued from an alley actually has decided to `groom' him for the first time.

Fiddler is truly a living tribute to the devotion, compassion and love that the staff of your organization shows these innocent, defenseless animals. That he can have such an incredible outlook on life is affirmation that you are doing an incredible job! On behalf of all the abused, lonely souls that you have saved and continue to save, thank you ... and our biggest thank you of all is THANK YOU SO MUCH for loving Fiddler until we were blessed to find him.”
In August, 2004, the Society confiscated a neglected dog from a hell hole where he was used to “guard” a building in an industrial area. The dog had no food, no water and was a target for abuse and taunts by strolling youths. After a year at the Society's Newark facility with no offers for adoption, the sweet, gentle fella was transferred to the Forked River facility where he was placed on the Share-a-Pet Program. Within a short time, Ben Haase of Cape May, NJ visited and met “Bishop” and it was a terrific match! Waiting at home were three well-mannered canine companions: Hatteras, Timber and Cape. According to Ben: “I am so happy to have Bishop in my life. He is such a sweet and loving little boy.” Also sent to us was a letter from Bishop which was the icing on the cake! “I would like to thank everyone at Newark for saving me. Now I go to sleep in my own bed where I can hear the Cape May Lewes Ferry Terminal fog horn. Every morning I wake up in a warm safe house with a daddy who loves me and cares for me. Now I have a big yard to play in and a beach just a mile away where my dad takes me all the time where I can explore. Love, Bishop.”

Exploited to be used as a guard dog, all Bishop really wanted was love and acceptance in a home. He found exactly that with Ben Haase of Cape May, NJ (upper right). At right, Bishop where we confiscated him in a lonely pen with no food or water.
Merlin and Mickey were placed on the Share-A-Pet Program in November 1999, two of ten rescued dogs still waiting for adoption. The dogs had been left in a Newark, NJ backyard when their owner went on vacation. No special arrangements had been made for their care and so they languished until someone noticed and called Animal Control. All 10 were in a sorry state when they arrived at the Society - and Merlin had an embedded collar in his neck. He was given all necessary medical care and along with his buddies, were fattened up and placed for adoption. When it became obvious that Merlin and Mickey were being left behind with no plans for their future they were placed on Share-A-Pet, resulting in Mickey being adopted shortly thereafter. Merlin was sent down to the Animal Haven Farm where he enjoyed several years of rest and relaxation. In January 2004, after spending 6 years with us, Merlin was adopted by James and Amy Margotti of Barnegat, NJ, and his life has gone from good to great! According to James and Amy: “He is a big baby; he will not go to sleep until he has a pillow under his head and is right next to me. He is always making me smile every day. When I come home from work, he acts like he hasn’t seen me for years and I have to sit down and pet him for 20 minutes. Then he is fine. He is a wonderful dog and I thank God for bringing him into my life.”

Merlin, left, with his new best buddies, Weasil and Rodie.

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It was sometime in 1997 when a young pup was given to a mentally challenged child by her mother to keep her occupied and give her companionship. Unfortunately, the young dog became, instead, an outlet for the child’s hate, frustration and anger. It is believed that Trigger became a target for cruelty and was terrorized.

If it were not for a DYFS social worker who called the Society, Trigger would have died long ago. The mother was unconcerned about the treatment the pup was receiving at the hands of her child, so the Society took possession of Trigger who was immediately placed on the Share-A-Pet program. After 5 long years, Trigger was adopted to the Ericksin family of Lakewood, NJ. According to Debbie, “Trigger is doing excellent. There was definitely a ‘tough’ adjustment period, but everything is now great. The cats lay with him in his bed and have no fear of him anymore. He bonded immediately with my female Keeshond and they do everything together. He has full run of the house except when I’m at work; then he stays in a 12’ x 12’ pen in the heated basement. As you can see, he totally loves snow and has a ball playing with the girls. Thank you again for all of the love and attention he received while he and all the others wait for their special someone”.

Trigger finally enjoys freedom ... and family in Lakewood, NJ.

PHOTOS SUPPLIED

Trigger helps build a snowman with the Ericksin kids.
The Share-A-Pet Program
Associated Humane Societies/Popcorn Park
Humane Way - P.O. Box 43,
Forked River, NJ 08731-0043

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