



**INSIDE:**

- The Many Faces of Rescue
- Kids' Kennel Corner
- A "Spirited" Raffle
- Playthings for Pups
- Tory the Goat
- Wonderful Dogs Waiting for You
- Happy Tails

## The Many Faces of Rescue

*"The True Look of Love"*

As shelters go we are very lucky because our dogs seem to fly out the doors. It has been over ten years since we had to euthanize an animal because we ran out of room. This is not the case in many shelters across the United States.

The Shelter Connection is always looking for new ways to save animals. With the support of the shelter and the approval of the Town Board of North Hempstead, we have offered to sponsor dogs from other kill shelters. These dogs



And this is only 54 of the 96 Faces who were sponsored in 2006

*continued on page 4*

The Shelter Connection is a volunteer organization at the Town of North Hempstead Animal Shelter. Our Mission, in partnership with the Town, is to improve the quality of life for dogs at the shelter and increase the adoptions through training and socialization. A secondary mission is public education to shift the public perception about shelters and dispel the myth that shelter dogs are "damaged goods."

*The shelter is located at 75 Marino Avenue, Port Washington, NY 11050*

## Board of Directors

Robert Slifkin, MD  
*President*

Jeff Rosen  
*Treasurer*

Marianne Sikora  
*Secretary*  
*Newsletter Coordinator*

Rosanne Palumbo  
*Director of Training*

Regina Lagrasta  
*Volunteer Coordinator*

Julie Nixon  
*Director of Communications*

Denise Waters  
*Special Events Coordinator*

Paula Kellner  
*Education and Public*  
*Awareness Coordinator*

## Advisory Board

Bonnie Brown, DVM

Sue Hassett  
Assistant Director, North Hempstead  
Animal Shelter

Brian Kilcommons  
Dog Trainer

Erik Tallbe, CPA

Julian Wise  
Attorney-at-Law

## Special Thanks to:

Castlerock Printing for their  
contribution towards printing  
The Shelter Connection newsletter

## Contributions to this issue:

Bob Slifkin, Denise Waters,  
Paula Kellner, The Sousa Kids  
and Marianne Sikora

The Shelter Connection  
PO Box 226  
Greenvale, NY 11548  
516-626-8948  
tsc@theshelterconnection.com  
www.theshelterconnection.com

The Shelter Connection is an all volunteer  
nonprofit charitable organization. All  
contributions are spent on programs and  
services to improve the quality of life of dogs at  
the Town of North Hempstead Animal Shelter.  
All contributions are fully tax-deductible.

# Helping Dogs with the “Play Things for Pups Drive”

By Mrs. Parendo's Third Grade at Sousa Elementary School



Dear Readers,

In December, our class sponsored a Play Things for Pups drive at our school in hopes of giving some homeless dogs a "Happy Howliday." First we heard about our shelter and learned about how dogs might end up there. Then we made colorful posters and a PowerPoint slideshow with pictures of the shelter dogs to inspire other children at our school to bring in donations for our town's homeless dogs. Students in grades K-5, teachers, staff and even bus drivers from the Sousa community donated toys; such as tennis balls, bones, squeaky toys and dog treats for dogs at the Town of North Hempstead Animal Shelter.

At the end of the project there were five big boxes full of toys and treats to be donated to the homeless dogs at the shelter! Candy, an adopted dog from the shelter, came to Sousa School with her owner Liz, and Sue, the director of the shelter to collect the boxes of treats. During the visit from shelter staff, students learned how to be responsible pet owners. Many of the dogs at the shelter are now homeless because some pet owners did not understand this. We also learned about how dogs communicate with people and how we can stay safe around dogs. When dogs' ears are down, this is a signal that a dog may be scared or sad.

This project was very special. Here's how a few of us felt about it:

*continued on page 7*

## A "Spirited" Raffle Benefits Our Shelter Dogs

Over the years Patrons of Main Street Wine and Spirits (formerly XTC Wines) in Port Washington have been especially generous with contributions to the Shelter Connection's donation box. Proprietors Richard and Marilyn Howland decided to kick it up a notch over the past holiday season.

Known for their support for local causes, the Howlands decided to raffle off a gorgeous gift basket of choice wines and charming accessories sold in their shop with proceeds to benefit our dogs. The raffle resulted in nearly \$300 for the Shelter Connection!



Lilly says thank you to Jon Kummer, Monica Jawski and Richard Howland

Former shelter dog Lily came to personally accept the check and express her soulful appreciation for the support that the Howlands and their entire staff give to her shelter mates. Known for her love of food, Lily will plan her future visits around the weekends when there will be wine tasting accompanied by her favorite cheese and crackers!



## Daisy at Home



Hello everyone,

Take a peek on Page 4 and see Daisy when she was one of our Rescue dogs!

Didn't want you to think that we forgot about you and to tell you how Daisy is doing. Daisy is such a great dog. We are very happy that we adopted her. She does so well with my two year old. She is very protective over her, as if she was one of her own. We love Daisy very much and wanted to thank you again. I am attaching a few recent pics of her. She has found her own bed.

continued from page 1

are wonderful adoptable pets. Their only crime is they ran out of time. There are shelters that have to destroy animals for something as simple as kennel cough. We sponsor the old and the sick and those whose time has just run out. The Shelter Connection takes on all the financial responsibility for the dogs we sponsor, including all medical expenses. In 2006 alone we spent over \$6400.00 on medication. We only sponsor animals when we have lots and lots of room.

We would like to acknowledge all our loyal supporters. Thanks to your kind hearts we were able to sponsor 96 lives in 2006. You should be very proud. All these faces are still around to make us smile because of your generosity.

# Kids' Kennel Corner

How To Be a responsible Pet Owner on page 5 is the first of an occasional newsletter page by kids for kids. We think that our adult readers will enjoy their stories also.

Shelter programs designed to educate young people about the responsibilities and rewards of pet ownership and safe behavior around dogs have become very popular with after school clubs and other youth groups. You can see from these stories how much the young people we've met have to give back with their enthusiasm, creativity and love of animals.

If you are interested in arranging a visit to our shelter for your youth group, please call us during our hours of operation. Meanwhile, take a look at what kids can do!

**Shelter: 944-8220**

Monday-Friday 8:00am - 4:30pm  
Saturday 12:00pm - 4:00pm



I would like to thank the volunteers who time after time journey into the shelters, giving these sweet and gentle souls a chance at life. Your dedication and perseverance is humbling. *How sweet it is!*

Thank you for saving our lives!



See me on page 3



# Please help us help the dogs at our local shelter

Yes, I want to help improve the quality of life for the dogs at the Town of North Hempstead Animal Shelter. Enclosed is my gift to support The Shelter Connection:

- \$100
- \$50
- \$25
- \$15
- \$10
- Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to : The Shelter Connection and mail to:

**The Shelter Connection**  
**P.O.BOX 226**  
**Greenvale, NY 11548**

If you wish to be notified about events please send your email address.  
Your donation is fully tax-deductible and will be acknowledged with a receipt.  
100% of your donation will be applied directly to program services

# Being Safe With Dogs

By Sam R. - Sousa Elementary School

"Never play with a mother dog's puppies even if the dog is yours. A mother dog might do anything to protect her puppies and that means barking, growling, snarling, jumping up on you and even biting"

By Nina



I'm in Mrs. Lucie's fourth grade class at Sousa Elementary School. We learned about dog bite safety. We saw a video and talked about it with Mrs. Kellner from our computer lab, who is a shelter volunteer. We were each assigned a rule about being careful around dogs and understanding their behavior, and drew pictures showing how to follow our rules. Then,

we used our pictures and rules to create our own website called "Be Safe and Have Fun with Dogs".

After we were done with the website my class and I felt really proud about being able to teach other kids about dog bite safety. I think the best part was when we got to meet a shelter dog named Caboose and practice the being safe AND having fun with her.

Our website is a link on the Shelter Connection homepage. You can find it at:

[www.theshelterconnection.com](http://www.theshelterconnection.com)

# How To Be a Responsible Pet Owner

Leah Weingast - Sousa Elementary School

Do you know the true meaning of being a **Responsible** dog owner? Well, if you don't I'll tell you how! The first job is choosing the right dog for you. If you are willing to give your dog a lot of **time** and exercise you might want to choose a bigger breed, one that might need a little more devotion. On the other hand, if you have a busier schedule you might want a smaller dog that you could just take on walks and run around with in the backyard. I'm not saying that smaller breeds don't need **exercise**, they do, but they usually don't need as much as bigger dogs.

Another job is being **prepared**. When you bring home your dog (especially a puppy) you need to make sure anything that would harm him/her is out of the way. Some things you should **be aware** of are household cleaning liquids, chocolate/candy, small objects they could choke on, electric wires, and other dangerous items. Also, if you want to make life easier, I would suggest putting away your shoes, socks, precious items, or any article of clothing, so that he/she doesn't chew on it.

One job is being **loyal** to your dog. Many people bring home a small, cute puppy, but once it gets

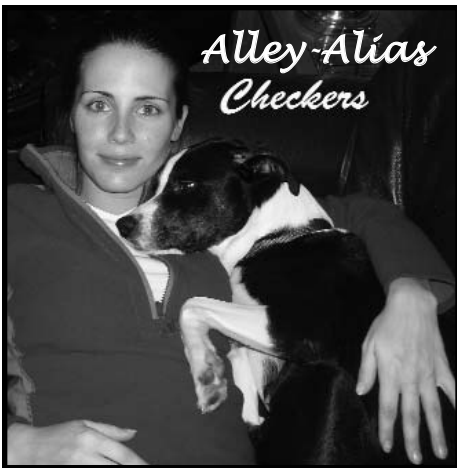
harder to manage and grows, some people just decide to quit and leave him/her at a shelter or on the streets. Owning a dog takes a lot of **love** and **hard work**, but all of that work pays off. To help you be a responsible owner I made a recipe with the **bold words**. Have fun cooking up responsibility!

## INGREDIENTS

1 cup Responsibility  
 ½ cup Time  
 ½ cup Exercise  
 ¾ cup Preparation  
 3 tbs. Awareness  
 1 cup Loyalty  
 1 cup Love  
 ½ cup Hard work

# “Happy Tails”

Be it ever so humble - there's no place like home



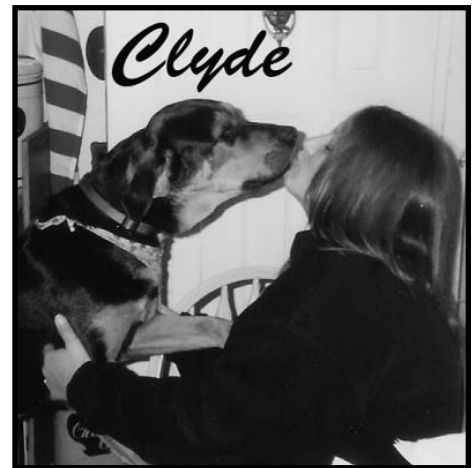
It's been 1 week since the adorable Alley (as Checkers is now known) has come to stay in our home. She gets along well with our 8 year old Tabby cat and has gotten a clean bill of health from our vet.

Luckily she also likes riding in the car and she will be able to travel with us upstate & to the Poconos. We have crate trained her & she seems to actually enjoy being in the crate as a little den at night in our bedroom. The most exciting thing is that she has been enjoying food & has actually gained a little weight." Thank you for adopting & caring for her.



This is Taz and I adopted him in August from the Town of North Hempstead Shelter. He's a year and a half old now and he has come a long way. He has put on some good, healthy weight and I have yet to see his tail stop wagging. He has fit in perfectly at my house and has adapted to my lifestyle very well. The day I adopted him it took two of us to get him into my car, and now no number of people can get him out because he just loves to go wherever I'm going.

The people at the Shelter were great in helping me to pick out a dog that was so gentle and easy going, as well as smart and easy to train. I couldn't be happier with him!



Here are a few pictures of my pride and joy, Clyde. This dog is the best thing that has happened to me in years. He's the biggest mush, loves people, as you can see from the pictures with my daughter and grandchildren. He is absolutely precious. He loves other dogs, going for walks and playing with his numerous toys. How lucky I was that I made a wrong turn onto Marino Street.

The folks here at The Town of North Hempstead Animal shelter & The Shelter Connection would like to thank the families of Alley, Taz & Clyde for loving them!

## Come meet these wonderful dogs!



“Angel”



“Apollo”



“Bently”



***“Buddy”  
Adult Male***

This guys was surrendered because his owners were moving. At 10 years of age he loves walks and would make a great ‘Buddy’ for anyone!



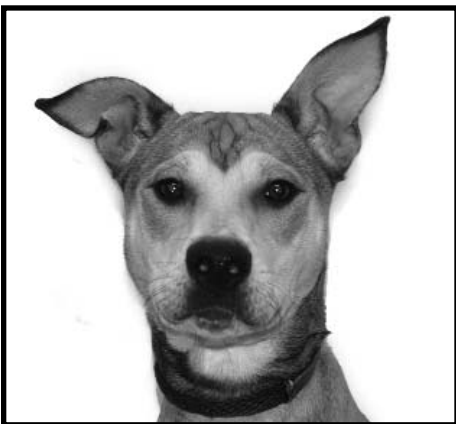
***“Foster”  
Adult Male***

Serious guy who likes to take walks and might honor you with a game of catch if he is in the mood



***“Murray”  
Adult Male***

He is our resident fluff-a-nutter. He has one of the nicest coats ever! He is an adult dog but can act like a big puppy when the right stuff toy comes along!



***“Shane”  
1.5 Yr old Male***

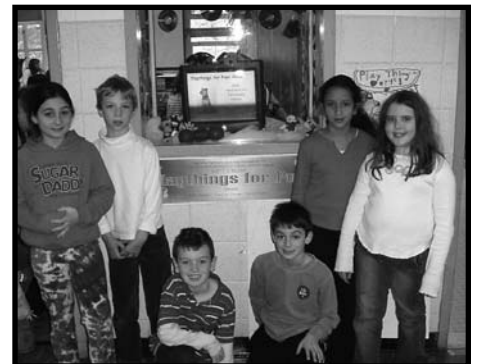
Shane has “dancing ears” He is a sweet and affectionate guy who promises to listen closely to all your secrets!

"I felt really happy to help the dogs because the shelter has to spend their money on food and supplies and can't buy toys and treats for them," says Vera. Cameron adds that he "felt good because we worked hard for all the animals." "I felt proud because we were able to help the shelter dogs," says Susan. Isabel wants you all to know that when Candy came to our class "it was the best day we ever had at school."

We would like to remind you that donations are appreciated all year round. You can help a dog too! If your class or after school group wants to visit the animal shelter and learn about caring for pets and being safe with dogs, just call up for an appointment.



“Candy” was the center of attention when she dropped by to pick up the donations.



Kids of Sousa show off their PowerPoint Presentation



Tory and Harry necking in the barn

## **A Horse is a Horse of course of course.. unless it's a goat!**

Hi friends. My name is Tory the goat. Some of you may remember me. About 4 years ago a man found me wandering in Great Neck and took me to the North Hempstead Animal Shelter.

I got to ride in the front seat of a great big Cadillac!. I spent several weeks there making friends with the dogs and having lots of fun!. The day came when some kind farmers from Moo Moo Valley Farm took me in.

The shelter told the farmers I was a Pygmy Goat.; I was small and weighed only 28 pounds. As you can see by my picture, I was a baby goat- not a Pygmy goat- and I grew up, am eating quite well, and put on a lot of weight!

I have Harry the horse as my constant companion. I get to spend my days wandering the fields with Harry eating grass.

My favorite "sport" is poking humans with my horns when they aren't looking!

As luck would have it, two of the shelter volunteers are relatives of the farmers so I get to keep in touch with all my shelter friends.

Thanks for taking care of me until I got a great home on a farm. Life is good!. I am one happy goat! Baaaaaaaa!!

---

The Shelter Connection  
P.O. BOX 226  
Greenvale, NY 11548



**The Spring Newsletter brought to you by  
The Easter Bunny aka MIMI  
She wishes everyone a hoppy spring  
from Bunny Headquarters in Maine**