

Pet Gazette



53 Maple Avenue, Glenville, NY 12302 • 518.374.3944 • www.animalprotective.org • November 2019

Meet Senior Dog Andrew

Ten year old Shih Tzu mix, Andrew, was transferred to APF from the Washington County Animal Control. Unkempt, no collar or chip, he was blind and deaf and brought in for evaluation and possible euthanasia.

After he was cleaned up and had his blood-work run we found he was in good shape for an old guy, but needed serious medical attention including dental work. He had untreated dry eye that lead to blindness and pain; both eyes had to be removed.

Funds from the Grey Muzzle organization covered the cost of Andrew's medical care. "They are lifesavers," said Dr. Jessica Durham, DVM. "Staff fell in love with Andrew, and we're grateful that Grey Muzzle cares about the wellbeing of at-risk senior dogs. These valuable funds helped save Andy's life."



After



Before

Soon to be adopted by his foster family, Andrew enjoys sleeping with his two canine foster brothers. According to his foster Mom, "Andy knows where his bed and food are. Most importantly, everywhere he goes in our home someone is there to happily give him lots of love and kisses. He cannot see or hear, but Andy truly listens with his heart."

Fostering or adopting senior pets is rewarding for both pets and their families. Interested in learning more? Please contact our front desk at 518-374-3944 ext 101.

Feline Care Center Now Open

APF has taken a major step toward easing that transition for the approximately 1,000 cats and kittens that it takes in each year, with the opening of its new Burton B. & Violet Delack Feline Care Center. The new center provides more spacious, comfortable accommodations — reducing stress, improving socialization and helping cats become ready for adoption more quickly.

Features include a cage-free cat housing & adoption area allowing compatible felines to live together in spacious, multi-level cat housing rooms, called "cabanas." An evaluation room temporarily houses cats to watch for medical and behavioral issues before being cleared for adoption.

The Center was named in honor of the late Schenectady couple whose gift to APF was designated for the creation of a facility to improve the health and welfare of sheltered cats and kittens.



The Delack family at the donor appreciation event held in July. From left: Sue Helffrich, David Delack (in back), Natalia Moon, David Helffrich, Holly Sillero, Brittany Helffrich, Michael Sillero, Doug Helffrich, Heidi Helffrich-Stormer. We're grateful for their support of the Center.



The APF is deeply grateful to the ASPCA for a recent grant award of \$42,500 to help fund spay and neuter services for income-eligible pet owners in our communities. **Thank you!**



Pet Adoption

Our adoption program is focused on making great matches that meet the needs and preferences of both our clients and the pets in our care. This is accomplished through meaningful conversation and relationship building with each potential adopter, and getting to know each APF pet individually.

Rehoming Services

Pets in need of a new home can be admitted to our adoption program by appointment. Please call 518-374-3944, ext. 101. A contribution of \$30 per animal is requested to offset the cost of care that we provide, an average of \$250 per animal.

Visit Us

**53 Maple Avenue
Glenville, NY 12302**

Tuesday through Saturday
12:00 pm – 4:30 pm
Closed Sunday and Monday



PetGazette is a publication of the APF, a not-for-profit corporation in Schenectady County, New York. It is published three times a year for supporters and we welcome your comments.

Please Contact

Info@animalprotective.org
518-374-3944 ext. 122

*The APF is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit humane society funded by donations.
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Executive Director's Note

Dear Friends,

Happy Autumn! As the year winds down, APF continues to gear up with progressive programming and services to our neighbors throughout the Capital Region. Here are some of the highlights.



Excitement filled our halls as the long-awaited Burton B. and Violet Delack Feline Care Center opened. The new housing was decreed a success by... lots of content cats! This renovated space is reducing stress and supporting the good health of our feline friends. Happier and healthier cats are adopted more quickly – the intended outcome of the Delack Center design. Please come for a visit and see for yourself.

The APF Board of Directors approved an ambitious strategic plan for 2020-2025. With the emphasis in Northeast shelters on spay and neuter, increasing availability of rescue organizations, and ease of adoption through social media outlets, overpopulation is less of an issue. Our plan focuses on expanding capacity to assist pets and their owners with pet behavior intervention programs. We are looking to engage more community stakeholders, enhance our facilities, and improve our financial security.

Our skilled veterinary team and dedicated clinic staff recently helped a senior Shih Tzu mix, Andrew, who was in need of significant medical attention. With the team's ability, the support of the Grey Muzzle organization, and the care of an experienced foster family, Andrew is flourishing. We're grateful that we are able to help our senior pets. More about this sweet guy on page one.

As 2019 nears its conclusion, we are working hard to secure the funds needed to sustain the high quality pet care for which we are known. If you would like to help the pets in need in our community – such as Andrew and others like him – we welcome and encourage your support at this time. Your contributions save lives.

If you would like a tour of the Delack Feline Care Center, to support our key initiatives, or to discuss our work in more detail, I would love to hear from you. I can be reached at 518-374-3944 x110 or Balliet@animalprotective.org.

Sincerely,

Deb Balliet
Executive Director

**Your
kindness
changes
lives.**

Consider a year end gift!

You're the Best! We couldn't do our work without your support. Please consider a generous year-end gift to APF. To make your donation, kindly use the envelope provided with this newsletter, click the "donate" button on our web-site, or call our office at 518-374-3944 ext. 115. Thank you!

Meet Richard Cohn

Longtime volunteer, Richard Cohn, has been helping at the APF since 2014 with the support of his Living Resources counselor, Wesley John.

According to Richard, "My favorite part about volunteering is giving the dogs, what I call "puppy love." Some dogs might not have had the best lives before coming to the APF, but I help provide them with the affection they deserve." Richard participates in APF's STEP (Staff Training Enrichment Program) class, which is designed to train staff and volunteers in proper dog handling.



Through his work at APF, Richard says he is happier than ever and has gained confidence in all areas of his life. He hopes to foster dogs in his home and is considering starting his own dog sitting business. Counselor Wesley states that Richard's volunteer work has made a significant impact on his personal growth, "It has given him something meaningful to do and an opportunity to learn."

Richard is a participant in Living Resources Community Habilitation program, a program that assists adults and children with developmental and intellectual disabilities gain independence and maintain happy and healthy lives.



Creative Ways to Give After 70 ½

Upon reaching the age of 70 1/2, you must start taking required annual minimum distributions from your tax-deferred IRAs. The required annual minimum distributions now become part of your annual gross income and subject to income tax.

A creative way to avoid income tax on these required annual minimum distributions is by donating them directly to the APF. Such donations would be a qualified charitable distribution (QCD) and will not count toward your annual gross income. This allows you to make a generous donation and prevent the required annual minimum distribution from impacting your income tax. A win-win for you and APF! The maximum donation annually is \$100,000. Please ask your tax or financial advisor if this tax strategy will work for you.

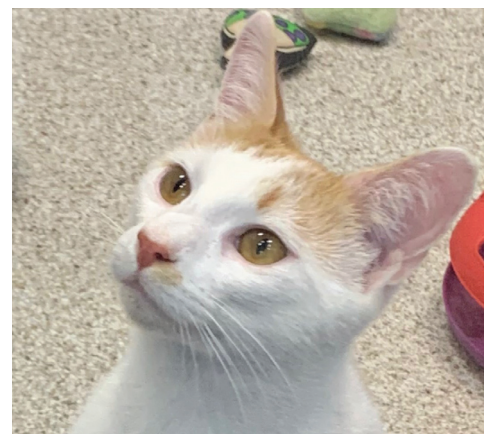
Beat the Winter Doldrums with Your Pup

Here's an entertaining way to spend four weeks during the cold winter months. Take our Canine Academy class, "Tricks & Games" in February. Your dog will be lured into performing tricks and make you laugh out loud! Your pup will learn to wave on command and dance the cha-cha.

All games are mentally challenging for you and your dog. This class reinforces basic cues while adding interest to your dog's life. Dogs of any age may enroll starting in January 2020. Watch your email or Facebook for the class announcement.

Partnering Shelter Extends Thanks

The Heart of the Catskills Humane Society (Delhi, NY) is grateful to the APF for taking cats from their shelter in August. "Transferring gave us space to accommodate a large number of cats that came into our facility," said Deb Crute, LVT, Director of Shelter Operations. "APF staff and volunteers were incredibly friendly and helpful. We appreciate this valuable partnership."



Curious Zinger was transferred to APF from Heart of the Catskills Humane Society in August.

Save the date

March 7, 2020

Applebee's Flapjack Fundraiser Breakfast

Join APF for a flipping good time at Applebee's in Glenville.
Ticket are \$8



May 8, 2020

Tails by Twilight Roaring 20's Gala

A Gatsby-style evening full of cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, dinner and dancing to support the thousands of animals APF cares for every year.

Enjoy silent and live auctions, live music, and celebrate the winner of the 2020 APF Animal Advocacy Award.

New on Vet Team

Welcome Dr. Jackie Kucskar, DVM, a new addition to our team. Jackie joined us in June and brings a new perspective to APF. Among her qualifications as a Veterinarian she is certified in Fear Free Training, a program that helps to reduce stress in cats and dogs while they are in the shelter.

Fear Free helps manage anxiety, stress, and frustration that could arise in the shelter animals. There is an emphasis on enrichment for dogs with puzzle toys and creative ways to search for treats, and incentive programs for cats include providing activities that simulate hunting & stalking behaviors. The use of "happy pheromones" also helps a shelter pet to feel more comfortable in their surroundings.

Jackie graduated from Cornell in 2008 as a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and has worked in the Capital District for 11 years in private practice. Her home is in Glenville where she resides with her husband and two daughters. Jackie has two dogs and a one-eyed cat. She competes in agility with her Duck Tolling retriever, Camden.



4th Annual Bark 'n Brew

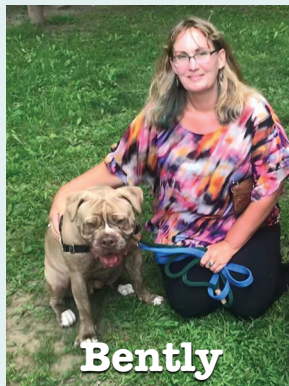
A September afternoon of barks, brews, and barbecue was delighted by all at the APF's 4th Annual Bark 'n Brew at Wolf Hollow Brewing Company in West Glenville. Guests enjoyed live music from local musician, Steve Smith. Thanks to the generosity of our event sponsors, attendees, and volunteers, Bark 'n Brew raised over \$11,000.



We Found Our Forever Home!



Tigger



Bently



Everest



Ruby



Turtle



Tiki



At Home Euthanasia

Special thanks to Roger Blankfein, DVM for his pet memorial contributions, bereavement support group sponsorship, and for helping pets and their families say goodbye in the comfort of their own home.

(518) 203-3498

www.inthecomfortofhome.com