

Fall 2011



www.portageapl.org



Dog From the Dark Gets Name and Second Chance at Life

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Shelter Statistics YTD

- Investigations - 221
- Charges Filed - 4
- Adoptions - 94
- Rescues - 16
- Spay/Neuters - 705
- Awaiting Forever Homes

112 Dogs & Cats

He was kept in a sealed up basement, this dog from the dark. He had not seen the light of day since he was a pup. Above him, on top of his enclosure, lay the decaying remains of another animal. Still further up, on the first floor, 12 cats, most FELV infected, milled around in feces so horrible that Portage APL humane officer Steve Chapman, a Ravenna police officer and the health inspector had to wear hazmat gear to enter the house. Outside, city and county officials waited as the animals were rounded up. The process took nearly three hours.

This is not a typical case of hoarding or cruelty where blame readily can be assigned. In this case the person who lived in the house, allegedly is a challenged soul and appears to be simply incapable of dealing with animals in his charge. "This is a terribly, terribly sad case," noted Chapman. "It is by far one of the worse living environments for animals that I have ever seen."

The dog, being dragged from the house, apparently unable to see in the bright sunlight after confinement to the dark, was picked up by APL Shelter Manager Bev Bickley and carried to the pound truck. Once at the APL, his physical condition was determined to be at high risk from starvation and neglect.

Weighing in between 20 and 25 pounds

underweight, this 1 and 1/2 year old Rottie-mix has been given the name "Cody" and he, not unlike Sugar Ray just a few months earlier (**See related story on page 7**), has begun *his* long and challenging journey toward recovery.

"As far as Cody's psychological condition is concerned, he appears at this time to be extremely timid and withdrawn. It's almost as if he doesn't know how to be a dog. He doesn't appear to be at all aggressive. Quite the contrary, it's like he has given up hope" stated Bev Bickley, Shelter Manager at Portage APL.



Cody is getting help at the APL Shelter

Anyone who wants to help Cody can contribute to Portage APL's Emergency Medical Fund. This fund was used to save Sugar Ray and the need is great for donations to help Cody and other cases that may require extensive medical and rehabilitative care. Those who may be interested in eventually adopting Cody, after rehabilitation and socialization, need to call the APL Shelter to express their interest. He may be placed in foster care while he recovers, but the fear is he would again suffer from eventual withdrawal from that relationship. Follow updates on Cody on Facebook over the next few weeks.

Donations may be made by mail, on the web at http://portageapl.org/Donate_Online or by phone during Shelter hours. The number is 330-296-4022..



Portage Animal Protective League

PO Box 927

8122 Infirmiry Road
Ravenna, OH 44266

Phone 330-296-4022

Fax 330-296-8648

Email:

frontdesk@portageapl.com

Web:

www.portageapl.org

Staff

Shelter Manager

Bev Bickley

Administrative Assistant

Sandra Belcastro

Humane Officer

Steven Chapman

Consulting Veterinarian

Suzanne Paroff, DVM

Board of Directors

Officers

Karen Carmany - President

Sandy Krutz - Vice President

Nicholas Leacoma—Treasurer

Cheryl Casper, PhD—Secretary

Members

Mary Cochran

Brian Coffman

Sandra Jesioneck

Bruce McBrian

Bonny Mills

John Perry

Doug Sendry

Portage APL Needs Board Members with Knowledge of IT, PR, & Development

Portage APL needs a few new board members with special talents. Loving animals is a plus, but a lot more time will be spent in advancing the mission and goals of the organization than in petting pooches and cuddling kittens!

In addition to the regular board participation (board membership and serving on one or more committees and making an annual financial contribution), the APL is seeking board candidates with talents in 1) Information Technology (web, Facebook, Twitter and/or computer hardware), 2) Public Relations (writing, press relations, event management), and 3) Development (fundraising and volunteer management).

Portage APL is currently without the services of a full time executive director. Therefore, board members are taking active roles in the administration of the Shelter and its related activities. But even when an executive director comes on board, there will be a great deal of active participation by board members in many projects and activities.

New board members will be expected to serve on one or two committees (finance, facilities and operations; development and marketing; and HR). and attend monthly board meetings. Depending on the nature of their involvement, the successful board candidates can expect to devote between ten and twenty hours per month on APL-related work.

Anyone interested in serving on the Portage APL Board, should email exdir@portageapl.org or write a letter to Board Search, C/O Portage APL, 8122 Infirmiry Rd., Ravenna, Ohio 44266. Candidates should state their willingness to serve and briefly outline their relevant knowledge and experience.

Committee Service Also Is Needed (Non-Board)

Anyone who does not want to commit to board service at this time, but is interested in helping the APL, may want to serve on one of the APL's committees.

Volunteers are needed to serve on the Development & Marketing Committee to help in planning fund raising and publicity events, volunteer supervision, and to design and write for www.portageapl.org, Facebook and Twitter. The APL also is interested in having someone with photographic experience (still and video).

The Facility & Operations Committee also needs members who have a knowledge of such things as database management, computer equipment maintenance and repair, policy and procedure development, facility oversight and volunteer management for foster care.

Committee service can be a gateway to future board service or simply provide a rewarding experience that can be included on a resume. All service is voluntary and no compensation is provided ... other than grateful appreciation and, perhaps, a kitten.

Interested in Committee Service? Call Karen Carmany at (330) 815-1463.

M.A.S.H. Clinic Schedule



Portage APL's low-cost Spay/Neuter clinic for cats will be held on the following dates:

September 30 (FULL)

November 4

December 9

Reservations are required and fees must be paid in advance.

The clinic application form is available at www.portageapl.org or call 330.296.4022.

Clinic dates for 2012 will be announced in late December or early January.



Dr. Laura Miller Is A NOMAD On A Mission

From the viewpoint of Portage APL staff and volunteers, the site of a large white van coming up the road is a sign that work is about to begin in earnest.

From the viewpoint of some twenty-odd cats, waiting in their carry-cages in the early morning hours, the sight of the white van means absolutely nothing ... yet.

Dr. Laura Miller, who drives the large white van is a NOMAD (Neighborly Ohio Mobile Animal Doctor) on a mission to help control pet overpopulation by “clipping and snipping” those ...uh ... parts and places that create kittens. She has passed the 50,000 operation landmark which means she has prevented more than 93 million unwanted pets in Ohio. If all goes well, her impact on the

feline world will rival McDonald’s impact on America’s waistline.

Dr. Laura started her mobile low-cost spay/neuter service with her late husband, Brett, back in 2000. Based out of a farm in Maryville, Ohio, they traveled the state’s highways and byways under the M.A.S.H (Mobile Animal Surgical Hospital) acronym made popular by the popular TV show in the 1970s. Animal shelters and res-



Dr. Laura, 2nd from right, greets APL staff

cue groups constituted the bulk of their business.

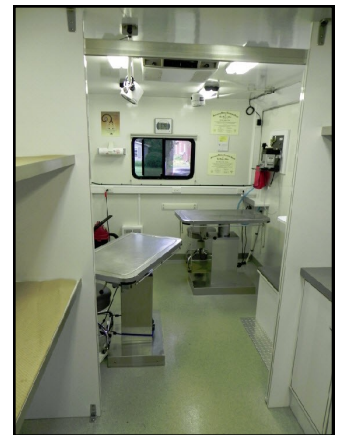
When her husband passed away in 2006, Dr. Laura decided to carry on the practice. She sold the farm and moved into a condo in Hillyard (a suburb of Columbus) and changed the name of her business to NOMAD.

Today, she does the driving, staying in motels and enjoying the company of Sunflower, her pet orange kitten which she adopted from Portage APL. Sunflower loves the lifestyle and sometimes even watches Dr. Laura operate. But she does so from a safe distance ... for now.

At the end of the day, having performed nearly 30 spay/neuters, Dr. Laura packs up, thanks the volunteers, collects her payment and then heads on down the road to her next city or town and a line up of cat cages labeled “male” or “female” with special notes. The cats know nothing ... yet!



Dr. Laura relaxes after work



Operating Room

Kent Heritage Festival - Lots of Hot Dogs, But None That Bark

An early morning shower didn’t deter vendors and organizations from setting up their tents on July 2nd in downtown Kent. And, for the next 10 hours, the music played, the calories popped buttons and thousands enjoyed a warm sunny day at the Kent Heritage Festival!

Portage APL had a booth on East Main St., but had to limit its “barking” to handing out literature and talking with interested passersby. Dogs and cats



Bd. member, Bruce McBrian answers a question.

are not currently allowed at the downtown festival.

In addition to talking with APL

friends and supporters, and handing out literature, board members encouraged people to sign up to walk dogs and cuddle cats.

Nearly 50 people took the opportunity to sign up for free on-line delivery of *TattleTails*, the APLs quarterly newsletter. Getting the newsletter electronically saves on printing and mailing costs, thereby allowing more money for animal care. Every dollar equals three bowls of food.

Anyone interested in volunteering or receiving E-mail delivery of *TattleTails* please call the Shelter at 330-296-4022 .



Signing up for TattleTails Newsletter delivery by E-mail. It’s free.

“Paws to Celebrate - Derby Day Party” Another Big Winner!



Bob and Margie Connor enjoy looking over the auction tables

Over 100 friends of Portage APL gathered at Roses Run on May 7th for the 4th Annual Derby Day party and to raise support for Shelter dogs and cats awaiting adoption. \$16,500 was raised through the event.

While waiting for the televised “Run for the Roses” partiers enjoyed mint juleps and placed bids on a variety of silent auction items. Raffle tickets also were quickly snapped up by those with hopes of having the winning horse. Appropriate to the event, “Animal Kingdom” won

the race!

After enjoying a buffet dinner, an oral auction brought high bids and bargains for everything from Ohio State collectibles to a one week condo use on Kiawah Island, South Carolina.



Returning Master of Ceremonies, Brent Pfeiffer kept the things rolling and served as auctioneer for the evening.

Event co-chairs, Mary Cochran and Sandra Jesionek depended heavily on committee members,

Lynda Tushar, Carolynne Sendry, Eileen Hogan, Karen Carmany and John Perry. Joan Sturtevant and Joyce Keller also volunteered to make the event a success.



Donations & Time Make Big Difference

“Cats can work out mathematically the exact place to sit that will cause most inconvenience.”

— Pam Brown

In a repeat performance, Angely of Stow held a neighborhood talent show with the admission price being either gifts to the APL or cash. When mom brought her to the Shelter there were dog and cat treats, blankets,



food, towels, paper towels, AND a check for a whopping \$254.00! After unloading the donations, Angely and mom went to see the adoptable dogs and puppies in the Shelter.

Jenna, (below) is a 5th grade student who made bracelets to sell and donated the \$60 she made to help Shelter animals.



Shelter To Host “Wags to Witches” Oct. 29th



Portage APL will host its first “Wags to Witches” pet dress up event on Saturday, Oct. 29th from 9 to 11 a.m. The official theme is Halloween, but any pet costume will be allowed and pet owners also are encouraged to dress up in costumes. There are no age restrictions.

Categories for prizes include: 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes for Best

Dressed (animal) • 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes for Best Dressed (owner) • Most Beautiful Pet • Most Obedient Pet • and Most Talented Pet.

In addition to the costume and other awards, the Reverend Julie Blake Fisher, Rector of Christ Episcopal Church in Kent will hold a “Blessing of the Animals” immediately after the judging for

those who would like to have their pet receive a spiritual blessing.

To best judge interest in this event, it is requested that those interested in participating call the Shelter at 330-296-4022 to pre-register and to receive instructions. All dogs must be on leashes and no pit bulls, dangerous snakes or spiders.

Portage APL Passes 1,100 Mark for ‘Facebook’ Fans

You don't have to wait three months to learn what's going on at Portage APL. Join the more than 1,000 Facebook fans who receive the latest news and photos and have the opportunity to post their favorite pet photos and upload their posts to the Facebook wall.

It's as simple as 1,2,3. 1) Go to Facebook.com and sign up (it's free), 2) then enter Portage Animal Protective League into the search box.3) Read or write to us.



A Note From Our President

Greetings!

I retired from teaching this spring after 35 years of trying to make a difference in the lives of young people. I thought for a second or two that my life might get a little easier. Boy, was I wrong!

The hours I once spent in school-related work apparently created a vacuum that sucked in all the needs, problems and challenges of Portage APL. So, now my time card is just as full as it has ever been, however, I now do not receive pay for my work (monetarily speaking). I volunteer because I'm trying to make a difference in the lives of dogs and cats and the occasional horse or two ... and I am loving it!

For sure, I could have done without the Ringworm outbreak at the shelter and all the grief it gave to staff and volunteers, much less the devastating impact it had on the animals and adoptions. And, surely, I would have liked to avoid paying all those bills for treating the cats, also finding it necessary to discard all the nice cat room furniture to rid our Shelter of fungous spores.

I definitely could have hoped for a quieter summer in terms of the number of animals being dumped along the highways and byways of Portage County, or the calls we received reporting animal cruelty, neglect and abuse.

Caring for the welfare and humane treatment of animals in need of human intervention is important in my life. I love to see families come to the Shelter and open their hearts to the innocent love of a pet. I feel good knowing that there is a warm, clean and caring Shelter awaiting those animals who are fortunate enough to be accepted ... and sad that space limitations restrict the numbers we can help at any given time.

I am proud of the efforts we make to get cats and dogs spayed or neutered, because it prevents *millions* of unwanted pets from coming into the world only to suffer and die. And, I take pride in knowing that when people do abuse or commit cruel acts on animals we, the APL, **will be there** to speak up for the rights of the animals.

Retired or not, If you love animals (and I think you do), I hope you will join with me and everyone else who wants to make a difference by supporting Portage APL.

If you can't make a financial commitment, maybe you could provide foster care for a puppy or kitten. If you can't make a financial commitment, how about coming out to walk a dog or cuddle a cat.

When all is said and done, it's still all about furry faces or making a tail wag that makes a difference!

Sincerely,

Karen



“Children are for people who can't have dogs.”

— Author Unknown

Quickie Quiz

Answers are at bottom page 9

Q. Of all the cats owned in the U.S., how many are adopted from animal shelters?

- A. Over 60 percent
- B. 40 percent
- C. 30 percent
- D. 20 percent
- E. Under 10 percent

4th Annual "Paws For Golf" Charity Outing A Big Hit For Golfers



"If you can look at a dog and *not* feel vicarious excitement and affection, you must be a cat!"
 — Author Unknown

- Upcoming Events**
- September**
- Thu. 29 - Leadership Circle Tour (At the Shelter)
- October**
- Sat. 1st - Paws for a Cause (At the Shelter)
 - Sun. 16 - Car Show Schumann's Roadside Towing in Ravenna
 - Sat. 29 - "Wags to Witches (At the Shelter)
- December**
- Sat. 3 - "Paws to Taste at Aurora" - (At Aurora G.C.)



This year's "Paws for Golf" was a picture of perfection with Aurora Golf Club's course in fantastic condition and weather conditions to match. Over 80 golfers from



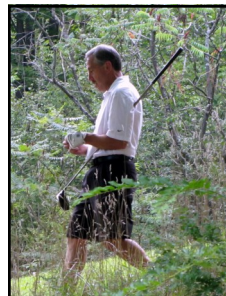
Kay & David Hansford with Sally & Mark Yankovich

around the area and a few who traveled over 100 miles to play were not disappointed ... although their pocketbooks lightened a bit after purchasing raffle tickets, 50/50 tickets, Mulligans and Skins. The free beer and other beverages eased their pain, as did knowing that more than \$10,500 was raised to help APL dogs and cats have a second chance at a happy home.

Portage Community Bank co-sponsored the outing for the 4th straight year. WNIR 100.1 FM ("The Talk of Akron") joined in co-sponsorship for the 2nd year.

Other major business sponsors include Kent State University,

Advanced Display Systems of Kent, Superior Beverage, Giant Eagle, Memorial Animal Hospital and Home Savings Bank.



Rick Coe enjoying Aurora Golf Club.

Individual Donor Sponsors included

David & Kay Hansford, Mark & Sally Yankovich, Tari Wilson, Thurl & Karen Carmany and Mary Varalli-Perry and John Perry. Hole Sponsors included Elizabeth Calhoon, Escott & Company, Blanford Fuller (Columbus), Primary Care Associates, Printer's Devil, Dave & Kathy Pangallo and Theresa Trivelli.

Many, many Tee Sponsors and Door Prize Sponsors also contributed to the event's success. One standout was a 6 foot tall cat tree donated by Pet Supplies Plus in Streetsboro that was valued at over \$200. It was raffled off and the winner, Barb Keener, donated it back to Portage APL's Shelter to use in

the Cat Room.

Aurora Golf Pro and Manager, Jim Beers with his staff did an incredible job throughout the event, prompting one golfer to claim that "this was the best organized and run outing that I have ever attended!"

Portage APL wishes to thank the wonderful volunteers who spent their Saturday afternoon helping make Paws for Golf a success. They include: Tina Austin, Kim beers, Dwn Brown Jill Conard, Kim Gulosh, Sandra Jesionek, Sandra Krutz, Sue Landis, Laurie Nalepa, Mary Varalli and Carolynne Sendry.



Tracy Hathaway, Bob Allison, Bob Pillar & Gordon Hathaway eye up a difficult putt.

Shelter Recovering From Outbreak

Following a late spring outbreak of Ring-worm among cats at the Shelter, things have returned to a more normal mode of operation. The Shelter is now free of the infestation (Ringworm is a fungus not a worm), and cats and kittens are now being adopted out.

"Visitors to the Shelter will note a lack of comfortable surroundings in the cat room for the moment,"

noted Karen Carmany, board president. "What couldn't be sanitized had to be bagged and thrown out, due to the nature of the infestation."

"Portage APL staff, volunteers and board member Mary Cochran who spearheaded the treatment effort, set their own health concerns aside to care for these poor animals," Carmany added.

The whole process of dipping cats into a solution of sulfur and lime twice weekly is smelly, backbreaking work. It is hard on the people involved and very hard on the cats and kittens.

Donations of money and/or cat supplies, food, bleach and clean towels/rags are needed.

Sugar Ray Has Left The Building - Woof! Woof!

On July 21st, Ed Burch and Cheri Crum of Kent, Ohio became the very, very proud owners of Sugar Ray, the abandoned Boxer who nearly died from starvation only four months ago.

Arriving early at the Portage Animal Protective League Shelter, they focused on the final paperwork until Ron Schwartz, the APL's dog adoption counselor brought Sugar Ray down the hall and into the adoption room. Then they entered the room for the appropriate introductions. "Sugar Ray will want for nothing," stated a happy Ed Burch with a smile.

Ed and Cheri own thirty acres

of fenced in property in Kent.



Cheri, Sugar Ray and Ed

The property is secure for Sugar Ray and even has a pond, should he desire to cool off with a quick dip. He also has a new

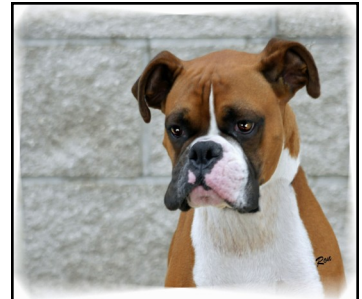
buddy, Brutus, an affable American Bulldog to play with.

The selection process started with 19 prospective adopters. The number was then narrowed to eight and then a final three. "After site visits by the APL's Humane Officer and in consideration of a number of other factors, the process was almost 'self-selecting' "noted Karen Carmany, Portage APL's board president. "We couldn't be happier for Sugar Ray," she added.

Portage APL staff gathered in the lobby to congratulate Sugar Ray's new owners while Shelter Manager Bev Bickley took care of one last piece of business --- microchipping Sugar Ray ... just in case. Return visits by Sugar Ray and

photos have been assured.

Business completed, and a moist eye or two dabbed with tissues, Sugar Ray, Ed and Cheri walked out of the Shelter and into a new life together.



"Shepherd's Watch" Society Members Leave Legacy of Love

The Portage APL -- like many nonprofit animal welfare organizations -- has had its share of financial challenges in recent years. Fortunately, there have been kind and caring individuals who have chosen to memorialize their love of animals by directing their estate (or a portion thereof) to benefit the Portage APL. Their thoughtfulness has made a real difference in terms of our ability to keep our doors open to injured, abused, and homeless animals of Portage County.

For some people, the measurement of life is focused on family. For others, it may be focused on church or helping

the less fortunate. A precious few have decided that helping animals will be a part of their final statement.

"Shepherd's Watch" is the legacy society for Portage APL. It is the highest measure of love and devotion to the animals who have given their gift to us without reservation or condition.

As each of us moves forward through days of our lives, we should consider fully



the fact that most people never find time to prepare a will. We may spend years of our lives laboring long hours with all the stress and strain to build up something, only to have our legacy and final statement washed aside by the silence of our own neglect.

If you have an interest in wanting to include the future care of homeless, injured or abandoned animals in your final statement, please see a

simple will. And, if you are interested in being a member Portage APL's "Shepherd's Watch" Society, contact Karen Carmany (see box below).

A French poet of a previous generation wrote "Until one has loved an animal a part of one's soul remains unawakened." Anatole France's words call out to us today

For information about Shepherd's Watch, contact board president Karen Carmany at 330-296-4022

A Special Thank You!

Acme Fresh Markets
Akron Summit Pub. Library
Andy Drnjevic
Angelo 's Pizza
Allstate Insurance
Anonymous Donors
Aurora Golf Club
Aurora Veterinary Clinic
AT&T
Beckwith Apples
Beemer Machine
Best Friends Animal Clinic
Bica 's Lock Shop
Birch Services
Bistro on Main
BP Foundation
Brimfield Elem. Parents
Club
Coupon Clippers
Courtview Justice Solutions
Deluxe Bakery
El Camino Mexican Rest.
Emergency Medical Fund
Donors
Garrettsville Summerfest
Greer heating & Air
Happy Trails Sanctuary
Kelly McFarland
Kent State Golf Course
McKay Bricker Framing
Marilyn Geggus
Mazzulo 's Market

Family, Friends & Pet Tributes & Honors

People Memorials

In Memory of

John Andrews
Allen & Mary Kneale

Barbara Berger
Barbara Watson

Ernest Carlson
Ruth Carlson

Marilyn Fuller
Martha Davalla
Constance Fear
Lawrence & Florence
Snyderburn

Alan Greenwood
Don Dejongh
Susan Kinny
Carol Lockhart

Robert Mains

Paul Hughes
Carol Hughes

Laura Irving
Eileen Hogan
Jean Vanard

Virginia MacDonald
Bernadine Wright

Patricia Moon
Bradley Family
Keenam Family
Carl & MaryAnn Johnson
Ruth Rice
Jacqueline Woodring

Chuck Rouer
Shirley Rouer

Amelia Sober

Carol Bertolini
Ray Bertolini
Kathleen Debolt
Jane Dubinsky
Robert & Holly Fletcher
Kent civil War Socitey
Ann Luce
Ester Miller
Mark Perkins
Frank & Kathy Phillips
Bernie & Sherry
Streible
Cathy Sullivan

William Kail

Sandra Krutz
Drs. & Staff at Aurora
Veterinary Clinic
Alan & Deborah Shorr

John Andrews
Brown & Rousch
Custodians

Don Righi
Mary Ellen Cesa

Kay Shutler
Mary Bacon
Judith Culler
John & Lucille Hall
Leslie Lucas
Charles & Joyce Suter

Pet Memorials

**In Memory of
Arrow**
Rob Gundlach

**Bobby, Max &
Reese**
Jessic Brunner
Birdie
Ann Phillips

Jasmine
Nick & Dawn
Shemensky

Jill

Jeffrey Lamkin

Sneakers

Mary Varalli-Perry &
John Perry

Winston

Jeff Fauser

Tattle Tails Honors

(People)

In Honor of

Nancy Debold
Jim & Mary Gosser

Bruse McBrian
Fairmount Minerals
Foundation

L.W. Rude
Charlotte Garro

Murali Shanker
Martine Lussler

**Linda Jones
Retirement**
Field Local Teachers
Association

Alan & Karen Shuluga

(40 Anniv)
Anita Schmitt
Rt. 14 Storage
& Embroidery

(Animals)

In Honor of

Mad Max
Deborah Hackley
Jezebel
Sandra Belcastro
Hope
Carol Shreiner

K.C.

Bob & Sharon
Zurbrugg



**Donations to the Emergency Medical
Fund are needed to address the spe-
cial care required for illness & injury.**

Family, Friends & Pet Tributes & Honors

Cage Sponsors

Thank You

Mary Champer
 MaryAnn DeJulio
 Deb Grant
 Edgar & Suzanne Hartung
 Eileen Hogan
 Mary Howitt
 Pat Keller
 David & Maureen Kemmerle
 Carol Lockhart
 Michael Lukas
 Alan & Judith Mail
 Craig & Darcy Melzer
 Father David Misbrener
 Sue Shaffer
 Karen Soini
 Carol & Deb Suchovsky
 Linda Barlow Swanson
 Mike & Lynda Tushar
 Victoria Vincent
 William & Blanche Wertherholt
 Wes & Kathy Willis
 Lois Wise
 Jeane Wolcott
 Bob & Sharon Zurbrugg



Leadership Circle

Life Member
 Eileen Hogan

2011 Members

James & Phyllis Jean Baker
 Karen & Thurl Carmany
 Dr. Cheryl Casper & Dr. Eugene Wenninger
 Mary & Tom Cochran
 Mildred Colburn
 Bob & Margie Connor
 James & Nancy Dalton
 Jennifer Deckard
 Gary & Gayle Gallupe
 Greta Hoover
 Eugene Hurtienne
 Sandra Jesionek
 David & Maureen Kemmerle
 James & Kathryn Lamb
 Bruce McBrian
 Judith Mail
 Nancy Mitchell
 Rosie Moore
 Nicholas Leacoma
 Wendell Parr
 Mary Varalli – Perry & John Perry
 John Rock
 Marlena Roman
 Murali Shanker
 Lynda & Michael Tushar
 Kathy Willis
 Jean Wolcott

A Special Thank you!

Maplecrest Golf Club
 Memorial Animal Hospital
 Mimi 's Italian Food & Deli
 Nestle Community Care
 Pet Smart Charities
 Pet State University
 Pet Supplies Plus
 Portage Community Bank
 Purina Roses Rescue
 Rusty Nail
 Sam 's Club
 Shemensky Family
 Signature of Solon
 Stow-Kent Animal Hospital
 Subway
 Sugarbush Golf Club
 Streetsboro City Schools
 Streetsboro Family Days Festival
 Streetsboro Senior Citizens Foundation
 Tappen Elementary—3rd Grade Class
 Tires & More of Kent
 TLC Wine & Liquor
 United Way of Portage County
 Wait Primary School 1st Grade
 Wall Street Recycle
 Windmill Lakes Golf Club
 WKSU — FM 89.7
 WNIR — FM 100.1
 Zeppé 's

Quickie Quiz Answer: D (20 % of owned cats in the U.S. are adopted from shelters)

Neglect Or Misinformed ...What is Reasonable Care?



Steve Chapman
Portage County Humane
Officer

As a Humane Officer, I see neglect in many forms. We can all agree that leaving a dog tied to a fence post for 3 days without food or water qualifies, but what do you say to the owner of a new puppy who states with certainty that her dog loves being out in that kind of weather? She may think Fido is "smiling", but what he's really doing is trying to cool off and lower his body temperature.

Are pet owners-new and old alike-really neglecting their pets, or are they merely misinformed as to what is considered reasonable care? Ohio Law states that all pets (companion animals as well as horses, goats, cows, etc.) must have appropriate food, shelter, and clean water. To most of us, this is common sense. Think of the size of the animal: A one year old sapling doesn't qualify as shelter for a 90 pound dog.

To further illustrate this point, let's examine the case of a new horse owner. I received a call about a young man who had recently acquired a horse. He was new to the horse world, but was eager to learn. He was, unfortunately, misinformed as to the amount of food required to feed the horse, and to the size of an appropriate shelter.. As a result, the horse became ill and developed infections. After several site visits, it became clear that the young man was in over his head, financially and otherwise.

With help from myself and that

of a local veterinarian, the young man decided that he was unable to meet the full obligations to the horse and its welfare. He made every good intention in an attempt to provide the care it needed, but was not fully informed as to the level of care required for such an animal. While this may seem like a case of neglect on the surface, other factors were examined, and the young man learned a valuable lesson.

Consider another case: A concerned neighbor called about a young couple who owned two cats. These cats were flea ridden and underfed.

The couple was planning to move and it was believed that their intent was to leave the cats behind. After a site visit, I informed the couple that as owners, and by law, they were required to provide the animals with an appropriate level of food. A neighbor had been feeding the cats from time to time, but even though their conscience called to

their responsibility, the task of providing sustenance rested on the owners. In addition, by allowing fleas to infest these cats the owners were exposing them to disease and illness, which is neglect. As for leaving the animals behind? This constitutes abandonment, and is illegal. Under Ohio law, charges can be taken out on an animal owner should such action occur. In the best interest of the cats, the couple agreed to surrender them to avoid any misconduct.

While this story had a positive ending, there are lessons for us here, too. While we as pet owners have our own ideas as to what is good, bad, right, or wrong in regard to our pets, the law is clear, and is written in the best interest of the animal.

If you have any questions, or would like a copy of the law as it pertains to your pet, please call me at the shelter at (330) 296-4022 x 102.

Remember, with great love comes great responsibility!

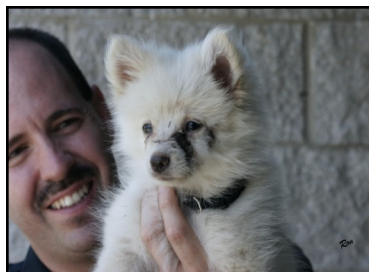
Teddy's Ready To Get His New Home

A few weeks back, Portage APL received a call from the County Dog Pound. They had taken in a nine-week old Pomeranian puppy with what appeared to be pretty severe bite marks to his face. Portage APL picked him up from the Pound and took him to the vet where he was indeed treated for puncture wounds to his face and muzzle.

There was some concern that the pup's sinus cavities might be punctured, but his little face was too swollen to x-ray. So the pup with its very injuries was placed

on antibiotics, pain medication and given soft food. Because he looked like a miniature bear cub, he was given the name "Teddy."

After initial treatments, Teddy went into foster care with a staff member where he continued to receive medication. His wounds began to heal. While in foster care, he played with his foster sister, chased cats and pranced around like a ... little Pomeranian.



Teddy with Humane Officer Chapman

Teddy has now been transferred to a puppy rescue based in Akron called **PURRfect Diamonds in the RUFF** where he will continue his recovery. He had his face x-rayed to assess the need to get further medical treatment and appears to be fine. Teddy, once healed and neutered, will be available to adopt through the Rescue.

There obviously is a great deal more to this story that could be told ... but won't. Suffice it to say this should be a warning to all others who may allow their pets to be hurt and then deny responsibility or ownership, and then try to reclaim the animal after the medical bills have been paid and in so doing lie to a law officer. Bad idea.

Teddy is just one of several dogs and cats that have come to Portage APL in need of medical care. Donations to help the APL provide medical care are always welcome and can be made by going to http://portageapl.org/Donate_Online

Shelter & Other Happenings

They Say “Silence Is Golden...”

As Winter turned to Spring hope grew for the adoption of a “special” dog named Teddy at Portage APL. Teddy had quickly become a staff favorite with his cute ways and ever wagging tail. Teddy is deaf.

Cathy, of Hiram saw Teddy’s picture on the APL Web site and decided to check him out. That “check out” turned to love and Teddy went home to a new life and training to learn hand signals.

After four months of training, Cathy brought Teddy back to the Shelter for a visit and demonstration of his knowledge of

Commands by hand signal.

“This dog is truly amazing and Cathy gets all the credit for the hard work put into training him” said APL Dog Adoption Counselor, Ron Schwartz.



Teddy and Cathy

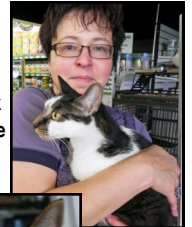
Just Coincidence? Hmmm

“Coincidence,” one of the APL’s foster cats was found, just by chance, in Streetsboro. Hungry and very skinny, his fur patchy and his skin flea bitten and spotted with sores, he wandered accidentally into the arms of his now foster mother who just happens to be an APL board member..

This wonderful boy is approximately two years old and is neutered. He is extremely loving and affectionate. He is very willing to get along with other cats, but he has not had the opportunity to interact with dogs in his foster home.

If you are interested in adopting this unusual kitty, please call the Shelter at 330-296-4022.

Bd. Member Sandra Jesionek with Coincidence



Just Coincidence

Streetsboro Has Pet-Friendly Summer



Humane Officer Chapman at Streetsboro Family Days Fest

Streetsboro was “barking hot” this summer and Portage APL was part of the action. First the APL was invited to hold an Adopt-a-thon at the Streetsboro Pet Supplies Plus store near Giant Eagle and folks got to see a number of loving, adoptable cats from the APL (below left). Then at the end of July, Streetsboro Family Days Festival turned up the heat a bit for crowds who

proudly presented their prodigal pooches in the annual dog walk.

Portage APL reminds folks that all dogs must be licensed, be current with their rabies shots and be on leashes when at public gatherings. Dog licenses are sold through the Portage County Dog Warden’s Office just west of the Portage APL Shelter facility on Infirmiry Rd. outside Ravenna.



Pet Supplies Plus Adopt-a-thon



Streetsboro Family Days Dog Walk

A NEW TRADITION IS BORN

“PAWS TO TASTE AT AURORA”



SATURDAY, DEC. 3RD AURORA Golf Club



Portage Animal Protective League
8122 Infirmary Road
Ravenna, OH 44266

Nonprofit
Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Ravenna, OH 44266
Permit No. 85

Phone: 330.296.4022

Fax: 330.296.8648

Web at www.portageapl.org

Facebook at [Portage Animal Protective League](https://www.facebook.com/PortageAnimalProtectiveLeague)

Be a responsible owner! Spay or neuter your pet,
and if you have a dog, get it licensed. It ' s the law.

**Portage Animal Protective League is a private,
nonprofit 501©(3) animal welfare organization.**

**We are not a government agency. We rely on
donors like you to keep our doors open.**

Thank you.

Our Wish List

SPECIAL NEEDS -

Leaf blower, floor buffer, garden hoses & nozzles, lawn rakes, 4 or 5 drawer vertical files and any dog food for giving to those in need.

HELP KEEP US CLEAN & HEALTHY -

Pedigree, Iams or Purina One dog/puppy food, Pedigree, Iams or Purina cat/kitten food, Milk Bone biscuits, Scamp non-clumping, non-scoop litter, Yesterday ' s News Litter, hand soap, Clorox bleach, Mr. Clean, Spic & Span, laundry detergent, paper towels, heavy duty trash bags (33 gallon or larger), latex gloves S,M&L, and rags

HELP OUR OFFICE RUN SMOOTHLY -

Postage stamps, laminating sheets, note-books, blue pocket folders, tape, binder clips, pens, (blue & black ink), copy paper (white & colored) and batteries.

TOYS & TREATS FOR FURRY FRIENDS -

Dog/Cat toys, Quality Dog/Cat treats and chews (USA made), Cat/Dog beds, towels, blankets, rubber-backed rugs, all sized dog crates.

Items can be brought to the shelter during regular shelter hours. Call 330.296.4022 with any questions.

Donate Your Car, Boat or RV



You can help homeless dogs and cats through a generous donation of your used car, boat or recreational vehicle.

You will get a tax deductible contribution. Your item will receive Free Pick-up and Free Processing.

For more information, call TOLL

FREE at 877.537.5277 or go to www.charitableautoresources.com.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



Dog Walkers and Cat "Cuddlers" are needed at the shelter. Call 330.296.4022 , extension 0 to volunteer.