

# Wagging Tales

PAWSIBILITIES®, HUMANE SOCIETY OF GREATER AKRON



SPRING 2015

## CELEBRATING FIVE YEARS

The past five years have been an exciting time for us here at PAWSibilities, Humane Society of Greater Akron. This spring marks the fifth anniversary of our move from Peninsula to our current location in Twinsburg. In honor of the five years we have been in our new facility, it's only fitting to highlight five positive impacts from our move!

First and foremost, since opening in 2010, we have rehomed over 7,000 animals. Dogs, cats, birds, guinea pigs and rabbits are only five of the many species we have encountered on our quest to rescue and rehabilitate abused and neglected animals of Summit County.

Secondly, our new facility enabled us to treat these animals in our very own Medical Surgical Suite, built in 2012. This \$240,000 project has allowed for more than 12,000 spay and neuter surgeries for our animals.

In addition to a medical wing, we have also had the great fortune of acquiring two pairs of High Efficiency Commercial Washer and Dryers. While laundry may not be the most exciting thing we do here at PAWSibilities, it is a critical 'behind the scenes' operation. Keeping up with the amount of laundry generated by hundreds of animals can be a daunting task! Between the sheer amount of bedding, as well as the tendency of our old equipment to break, keeping up with the amount of dirty laundry was a challenge. We are so grateful to now be able to wash 60lbs of laundry in one load!



*Volunteer James and star student Gentry learning shake in the Multi-purpose room!*

Our fourth milestone came this past August, when we were able to add three outdoor enclosures for our dogs to have off leash play time and enrichment. The three dog runs are six feet high and have multiple man gates for entry and exit. Placed in our generous backyard, the dog runs have added a welcome dimension to our shelter dog's lives. Volunteers are not only able to walk dogs, but also spend time with them outdoors in an off



*PHSGA volunteer Jim and Pocahontas enjoy the Multi-purpose room during a training class!*

leash area to exercise and play!

Finally, one of the most exciting additions to our facility came this past fall, with the building of a Multi-purpose room in our kennel. With **five** rooms (one large main room and four smaller private rooms) the Multi-purpose room provides our animals, staff, volunteers, and visitors with more space. As its name implies, the Multi-purpose room has a variety of uses. First, it provides potential adopters a private room to meet with adoption counselors and animals available for adoption! Animals are able to bond with visiting families and relax in private play areas, away from the noise of the kennel. The larger room is also used for hosting a variety of events and activities. Already the room has hosted two Yappy Hour events, providing guests an opportunity to spend quality time in our facility. In addition to guest services, the Multi-purpose room is used by staff and volunteers on a daily basis. The room enhances the behavioral assessment of dogs, as well as provides a low stress environment for animal introductions. As we all know, Ohio weather does not always provide an amicable environment for outdoor activities, so the Multi-purpose room is a great indoor area for enrichment! Volunteers are able to spend time with animals within the comforts of the indoors and even have off leash play time! Keeping with the theme of five, the fifth use of the Multi-purpose room is the ability to have weekly K-9 training classes for volunteers and our animals. The Multi-purpose room provides the perfect space needed for multi-animal professional training classes.

All in all, it has been a great **five** years and we are so thankful for all of the opportunities we have been provided. With your continued support, we look forward to the future and the ability to give even more animals a new beginning!

# RESCUE, HEAL, ADOPT: IT TAKES A VILLAGE

In 2014, Pawsibilities, Humane Society of Greater Akron rescued over 2,600 animals including 1,286 cats, 665 dogs, 287 guinea pigs, 55 rabbits, 3 fish, 4 frogs, 3 horses, 9 mice, 2 rats and 10 reptiles. We are the only animal entity in Summit County that enforces the legal mandate, provided in the Ohio Revised Code, to protect abused, abandoned and neglected companion animals. Our two full-time Humane Officers respond to calls, investigate animal cruelty, and as warranted, prosecute offenders. The mission of PHSGA also includes the rescue of injured or ill stray animals in need of emergency medical care.

Last year alone, our Humane Officers investigated over 750 reports resulting in the seizure of 963 animals. They also responded to hundreds of emergency calls for strays in need of medical care.

Our Humane Officers work tirelessly for the animals of Summit County each day but they just can't be everywhere all at once! We rely on kindhearted

*Last year alone, our Humane Officers investigated over 750 reports resulting in the seizure of 963 animals.*

Good Samaritans for help. Last year Good Samaritans transported close to 500 sick and injured stray animals to our facility. We are grateful for their selfless acts and many animals received a second chance at happiness because a community member cared enough to help!

Collaborative effects with other rescue groups are also an invaluable resource to saving thousands of animals each year! We would like to extend our sincerest gratitude to these rescue organizations! A HUGE thank you to the Bird Nerds Rescue & Sanctuary, Tuscarawas County Humane Society,

Paws and Prayers, Happy Trails Farm Animal Sanctuary, One of a Kind Pets, Operation Orphan Wildlife Rehabilitation, Inc, Cane Corso Rescue Inc, Colony Cat Rescue, the Friendship APL, Cleveland APL, Portage APL, Heather's Pigeon Sanctuary, Golden Treasures, Herps Alive Foundation, Peace for

## TINY TIM'S STORY

*The cold December day started out like every other for one local woman. A trip through the drive-thru for lunch quickly turned into a lifesaving mission.*

*A tiny, terrified dog was darting around the parking*



*lot narrowly avoiding being struck by multiple vehicles. The Good Samaritan stopped her car, opened the door and to her pleasant surprise the dog jumped right in! Once he was safe in her car she was aghast at his condition and knew right away she needed to bring him to PAWSibilities, Humane Society of Greater Akron. Upon arrival at the shelter, he was immediately assessed by our veterinarian. His emaciated frame was riddled with wounds and scars, his ears were tapered by fly strikes and he was missing most of his hair.*



*Before*

*Despite his condition, he just wanted to be loved, snuggled and held. He spent a few months recuperating in our care where his larger than life personality won everyone over. Thanks to this fast acting Good Samaritan and PHSGA, the day of his rescue was the beginning of a new life free of pain and hunger. Tiny Tim is now living happily ever after in his forever home!*



*After*

Paws Ohio, REAL Rottweiler Rescue, Secondhand Mutts, The Siberian Husky Emergency Life Line, All Creatures Animal Sanctuary, Happy Tails Cat Sanctuary, and Pay It Forward Pets.

Together we truly can transform more lives! It takes a village!

# save the date

## **11th Annual Reverse Raffle**

Reverse Raffle, Silent Auction, Chinese Raffle & 50/50 drawing. **GRAND PRIZE: \$1,500.00.**

**APRIL 11 | 6:30PM Cocktails/Appetizers,  
7:30PM Dinner, 8:30PM Reverse Raffle**

**Todaro's Party Center, 1820 Akron Peninsula Rd,  
Akron, OH 44313**

Contact Dawn Bolin at 330-945-6830 for more info

## **Jack Hanna's Into the Wild LIVE!**

Reception with Jack Hanna prior to presentation from 6- 7:30 to be hosted by PAWSibilities®, Humane Society of Greater Akron. Stay tuned for more information.

**April 30 | 7PM**

**11AM Registration, 12PM Walk**

**EJ Thomas Hall - The University of Akron**

**198 Hill St, Akron, OH 44325**

Call Heidi at 330-487-0333, Ext. 228 for more info

## **Bark in the Park**

Pledge Walk and Pet Expo — food vendors, games and family friendly activities.

**MAY 2 | 11AM - 3PM**

**11AM Registration, 12PM Walk**

**Springfield Lake Park, 2491 Canfield Road, Akron, OH  
44312**

Call Barb at 330-487-0333, Ext. 232 for more info

## **PAWSibilities®, Humane Society of Greater**

*Akron Rummage Sale with Purses for Pooches. HUGE 2-day indoor rummage sale.*

**August 7 & 8 | 9AM - 5PM**

**November 6 & 7 | 9AM - 5PM**

**Stow-Kent Shopping Center, 4301 Kent Rd, Stow, OH**

Call Barb at 330-487-0333, Ext. 232 for more info.

## **Muddy Paws Trail Races**

*Ten & Five Mile Trail Run, & Two Mile fun run with your pooch!*

**JULY 5, 2014 | 6:30AM -7:45AM registration/**

**check-in day of race, 8AM race**

**Pine Hollow and Salt Run Trailhead, 5465 Quick Road,  
Peninsula, OH 44264.**

For registration and more info visit: [westernreserveracing.com/dirty-trail-series/muddy-paws](http://westernreserveracing.com/dirty-trail-series/muddy-paws)

## **15th Annual PAWSibility Ball**

*The Pawsibility Ball is the shelter's signature fundraising event featuring live and silent auction items, entertainment and adoptable animals looking for their forever homes.*

**SEPTEMBER 12 | 6PM - 10PM**

**Hilton Akron/Fairlawn, 3180 W Market St, Akron, OH  
44333**

Call Heidi at 330-487-0333, Ext. 228 for more info

## **Photos with Santa**

*Get your pet's picture taken with our very own Santa, order custom cards, mugs and other merchandise.*

**NOVEMBER 21 | 10AM - 12PM & 1PM -5PM**

**PAWSibilities®, Humane Society of Greater Akron, 7996  
Darrow Rd, Twinsburg, Ohio 44087**

Call Barb at 330-487-0333, Ext. 232 for more info

For more information on these events visit [www.summithumane.org](http://www.summithumane.org)

## **TIME TO SPRING INTO PREVENTATIVE ACTION!**

After a harsh Ohio winter, warm spring weather comes as a sigh of relief: especially for pet owners! Unfortunately, with the rise of temperature comes the increase of insects and parasites that can be very dangerous to our furry friends. Fleas and ticks can cause serious allergic reactions and also carry many diseases, such as Lyme disease and Bartonella. Additionally, mosquitos, although small in size, are a huge threat to the animal kingdom because of the ability to carry and transfer heartworms. Dogs should be tested for worms by your local vet annually, and kept on flea and heartworm preventative all year round! Here at PAWSibilities Humane Society of Greater Akron, we test all of our dogs and treat those animals that would respond positively to medical care. We also keep our animals on flea, tick, and heartworm preventative all year! The best treatment for heartworm is preventative action. Talk to your vet today and enjoy the warmer weather!



*Esquire was one of 18 dogs that came to us heartworm positive in 2014. He is now heartworm free and waiting for his forever home!*

## BOARD MEMBERS

**Chair:** Lisa Hibbs  
**Vice Chair:** Judy Steiner  
**Treasurer:** Valerie Wawrin  
**Secretary:** Pat Weschler  
**Ex-Officio:** Sheriff Steve Barry

**Directors:** Bob Cailor  
Megan Bobula  
Mark Fechtel  
Kevin McCauley  
Ted Moore

Jim Sebastian  
Judge Mary Spicer  
Erin Wojno Demiray  
Bob Zajac

**President & CEO:** Diane Johnson

Please visit our website to view our full list of adoptable animals.

[www.summithumane.org](http://www.summithumane.org)

Follow us on Facebook!



## Adoptable animals



**Kimmi-Ko** is a beautiful 3 year old girl that arrived at our shelter in October of 2013, after her owner was placed in a nursing home and she had no one left to care for her. When she first entered the shelter she was scared and confused but with a little time she started to come out of her shell and show us the sweet girl she is today. Kimmi-Ko loves to be by your side or even better, sitting on your lap, receiving all of the head and chin rubs she can get! In Kimmi-Ko's world it's all about her and she enjoys having all of the attention and love to herself without having to share with other furry family members. Although she would do best as the only 4-legged member she has potential with other cats and even dogs as long as they are easy-going. A home with older children would be best for this

pretty girl, since at times she can get a bit frisky. If you think Kimmi-Ko is the right fit for your home, stop by and meet her!

**Cupcake and Sprinkles:** In December 2013, our Humane Offices brought in 33 cats and 5 dogs from a neglect case. All the animals from the home have found loving homes except for two special and loving dogs, Cupcake and Sprinkles! This dynamic duo has been waiting patiently for their turn to find a wonderful home and we think that their time is near. Cupcake and Sprinkles are a very bonded Sharpei mix pair and they must be adopted out together. They love each other very much. This is evident when you see them playing and chasing each other and sleeping and cleaning one another. With this rock star pair you get the best of everything with unique but similar personalities. Cupcake is a 4-5 year old neutered male weighs about 40 pounds (he is the one on the right). He is the playful self-entertainer of the two. Cupcake will be the first to greet you and then will be ready to throw his toys around the room while checking in every couple minutes for pets. Sprinkles is a 6-7 year old spayed female and weighs about 30 pounds. She is the wallflower of the two and is shy when first meeting new people but once she warms up she will stick close by your side for as many pets and TLC as you are willing to spare. Coming from a home with over 30 cats they both seem to get along well with kitties and both show potential with other dogs. If you think Cupcake and Sprinkles would make your life sweeter, they are waiting to meet you at the PHSGA!



## CALLING ALL FOSTER PARENTS!

PAWSibilities, Humane Society of Greater Akron is in need of loving, temporary homes for the upcoming kitten season! A foster parent opens their home to provide a safe and healthy environment for animals before they are ready for adoption. All of the supplies needed for care such as medical attention, food, litter, toys, and bowls are provided. Are you interested in saving a life?

Fill out an application available online at [www.summithumane.org](http://www.summithumane.org) or call for more information at 330.487.0333.