

Kennel Quarterly

A Joint Publication of the Rochester Police Department Animal Services Unit and the Verona Street Animal Society, Inc.



Animal Services shelter on Verona Street

New Race & Dog Walk to Benefit Animal Services

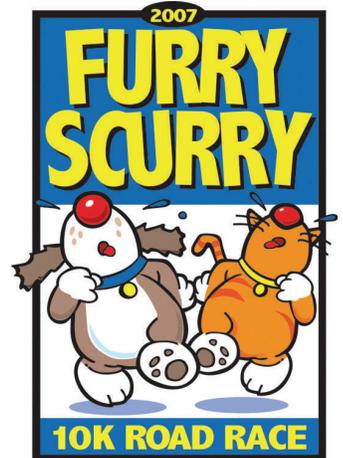
The buzz around the shelter and in VSAS Board meetings during the past several months has been about the upcoming Furry Scurry. The 10K road race and 1-mile dog walk on June 30, 2007 will be the biggest outreach event that either Animal Services or VSAS has been involved with to date.

The goal for the event is two-fold. First, Director of Animal Services, Chris Fitzgerald wanted to develop an event that would draw attention to Animal Services. Fitzgerald acknowledges that many people still think of the organization as “the pound” and they have no idea about the Animal Services adoption, sterilization, or pet first aid programs. Fitzgerald’s idea was to plan a race that would begin and end near the shelter and also highlight downtown Rochester, Corn Hill,

and the Genesee River. Being a runner himself, Fitzgerald recognized the appeal of this scenic urban run and the potential for the run to become a perennial fixture on the local running calendars.

The second goal is to raise funds to help support the health and wellness of sheltered animals, the spay-neuter clinic, the foster program, and to increase the shelter’s exposure through advertising campaigns.

As a first-year race, the likelihood of generating funds through runner registration alone was not promising and the idea of a City dog walk had been tossed around for a couple of years. So Fitzgerald and co-event director, Kim Stubbe proposed a 1-mile dog walk to get dog owners in particular involved in supporting the cause. The VSAS Board unani-



mously supported the proposed event and have thrown themselves into the planning.

Anyone interested in registering can use the tear off form on page 5 or the pledge form on page 6 or register online at ACTIVE.com. To learn more about this event or how to get involved visit VSAS.org.

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Meet the Animal Services Unit



Patrizia Ringer, Luis Rodriguez, Jennifer Edwards, Jonelle Lang, Pam Cook, Chris Fitzgerald, Farrell Eli, Deonna Campbell, Dan Murphy, Michelle Colbert, Terra Ross-Caleb, Fred Parkinson, Denise Lybrand, Paul Sobotzick, Ron Lodar, Tim Wensel, Sue Filetti, Paul Huertas, Tom Shannon, Missing: Andrew Ames, Amy Bianchi, Elaine Laika, Jeff Leusch.



Shelter Statistics

	<u>Dog</u>	<u>Cat</u>	<u>Other</u>
January			
Impounded	232	163	9
Adopted	49	44	1
Redeemed	42	2	0
Transferred	12	31	6
Euthanized	120	87	1
Sterilized	44	126	2
Adoption	32	35	0
LISN	12	91	2
Redemption	0	0	0
February			
Impounded	203	166	20
Adopted	48	44	2
Redeemed	32	1	2
Transferred	16	18	11
Euthanized	105	91	1
Sterilized	49	95	0
Adoption	35	39	0
LISN	1	55	0
Redemption	13	1	0
March			
Impounded	257	182	28
Adopted	36	46	10
Redeemed	67	2	1
Transferred	9	24	16
Euthanized	117	108	5
Sterilized	61	94	0
Adoption	30	32	0
LISN	12	62	0
Redemption	19	0	0

Rochester Animal Services temporarily houses approximately 6,500 animals annually. We are committed to reuniting owners with missing pets and to placing animals in new homes, however it is impossible to find homes for all of them. Some animals are euthanized due to illness or injury. Others may display vicious or aggressive temperaments. Currently, the City of Rochester does not authorize the adoption of "pit bulls" from the shelter, so those that are not reclaimed are euthanized. Sadly, many animals are euthanized because there are just far too many stray and unwanted animals in our community and we do not have space to house them all. We must all take responsibility to spay and neuter our pets and to encourage others to do the same. If the number of animals coming in declines, then we can devote more time and energy to those animals we do shelter, we can increase adoptions and redemptions, and decrease euthanasia.

Sterilization figures are separated into adopted pets, owned pets sterilized through the Low Income Spay Neuter (LISN) program, and seized pets sterilized upon redemption by owners.

"We must all take responsibility to spay and neuter our pets and to encourage others to do the same."



Animal Services Celebrates ACO Appreciation Week

April 8-14, 2007 was ACO Appreciation Week. The National Animal Control Association Board of Directors established the week-long event three years ago to honor the dedicated men and women of this challenging profession. The purpose of the recognition is to highlight the valuable

roles and services that animal control officers provide to their communities. The job incorporates public safety, enforcement, animal rescue, customer service, and community education. Additionally, in a mid-sized city like Rochester, the volume of calls for service can be high and the variety of incidents add

to the job's challenges. Despite these factors, Rochester's Animal Control Officers are among the elite in their field. Join us in recognizing the exceptional work that these fine individuals perform day in and day out.



Back: Director Chris Fitzgerald, Asst. Sup. Dan Murphy, ACOs Fred Parkinson, Ron Lodar, and Paul Huertas, Supervisor Tom Shannon; Front: ACOs Terra Ross-Caleb and Denise Lybrand, Asst. Sup. Tim Wensel; Missing: ACOs Andrew Ames, Amy Bianchi, Elaine Lalka, and Jeff Leusch.

From the Director's Chair



Although the spring weather was slow to arrive, we have had plenty to keep us busy at Animal Services. Beginning February 1, 2007 we started requiring sterilization of all dogs and cats reclaimed from the shelter by owners. This amendment to Rochester's City Code was met with some anticipated objections, however the hope is that the majority of owners reclaiming their pets will accept the added requirement as a legitimate regulation that serves our mission, their animals, and the community well in the long run.

During the past few months, I have represented Animal Services as a member of the Monroe County Animal Emergency Planning Committee. The purpose of this committee was to bring together a cross-section of animal-related agencies within

our community to establish an animal emergency plan. The purpose of the plan is to (1) protect the public health, the food supply, the domesticated and wild resources, and the environment; (2) ensure the humane care and treatment of animals during emergencies; and (3) formulate a comprehensive action of rescue, evacuation, transportation, shelter, and/or recovery operations for animals within Monroe County. The role of Animal Services would focus primarily on rescue and transportation with the possibility of providing temporary shelter for some healthy animals from impacted areas.

I am also representing the City on a committee regarding the Asilomar Accords, which essentially is a uniform method for collecting and reporting

shelter data to better assess the euthanasia rates of healthy and treatable animals. The committee is comprised of representatives from Animal Services, Lollypop Farm, the Animal Rescue Coalition, Animal Service League, town animal control, veterinarians, and citizens. The mission of the Asilomar Accords is to work together to save the lives of all healthy and treatable companion animals. That is something that we are all committed to.

As you can tell from this issue, the Furry Scurry has also been a major focus of this past few months. I am thrilled with the support that we have already received and am excited for the event. My hope is that runners will enjoy the scenic race course and that dog owners will appreciate the pet-

friendly event to support our cause. Whether you are a runner, a walker, a pet owner, or just a concerned citizen, I encourage you to come out in support either as a participant or as a volunteer.

As always, I welcome your comments regarding our programs, services, and procedures and any thoughts about this or any past or future issues.

Chris Fitzgerald,



The Society Page

Happy springtime! Well, I know we haven't really seen a lot of warm days yet but that doesn't mean that Mother Nature hasn't kicked in. Animals instinctively know that the breeding season has started. This is the time of year when the shelter gets flooded with puppies and kittens. There will be a large influx of animals taken into the shelter as the warmer months arrive, so if you haven't gotten your pet spayed/neutered yet, now is certainly a good time, biologically speaking.

Even though there will be an increase in very young animals taken into Rochester Animal Services, there will also be plenty of adult dogs and cats that will need to find loving homes. Sometimes it is a better fit for certain homes to adopt adults because they have already been housetrained, they have past the 'chew' stage that many youngsters go through, and you will likely have a better

sense of the full grown size and temperament of the friend that you are bringing into your home.

As always, RAS is looking for volunteers to assist in the care and adoption of these wonderful creatures so please take some time out to help improve the lives of Rochester's animals. Even a few hours a week to walk dogs or play with cats can make a big difference in their emotional wellbeing.

To keep up with the growing demand at the shelter, the Verona Street Animal Society continues to expand. We are proud to announce two new Board members to our dedicated group; Joanne Vinci and Sarah Schwenk. Joanne is a great asset to VSAS, bringing extensive experience in the promotion and marketing arena. She will be guiding VSAS in marketing the group's fundraisers, including our upcoming event, the Furry Scurry. It is a 10k run and one-mile dog walk on Saturday June 30th at 8am. Addition-

ally, she will help promote our organization and awareness of Rochester Animal Services.

Our other illustrious newbie is Sarah Schwenk. Her technical knowledge as well as her passion for our cause make her a valuable addition, both to our group and for Rochester's animals. Sarah has taken over our website maintenance and in conjunction with Richard Goldstein, has given it a new look. With expanded options for giving and support, up to date event information, and tips for current and future pet owners, we are better able to serve the shelters needs and the community at large.

For more information on the Furry Scurry event, volunteering at the shelter or adopting, please visit our website at www.vsas.org. Also get a feel for the organization we are supporting at rochesteranimalservices.com. We look forward to seeing Rochesterians come out and support

local animals – see you at the race!

Jennifer Brown,
President



Jennifer and Nanook



Get involved!

Volunteers needed!

Do you have experience in marketing, sales, fundraising, web management, event planning?



585-727-2533
VSASinc@gmail.com
www.vsas.org

Vets Wanted

to Help Rochester's Animals.

The City of Rochester is looking for veterinarians interested in providing assistance with the Animal Services spay-neuter program.

For more information contact Chris Fitzgerald:
 cf1274@cityofrochester.gov
 or call (585) 428.6898



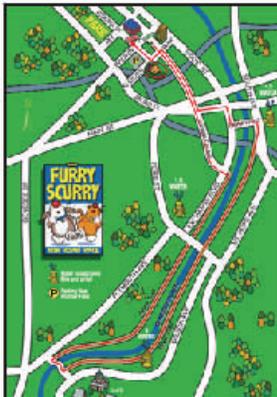
Race Day Information

On Race day parking will be available in the Kodak D lot. Enter on Brown Street or Oak Street. Registration will be in front of Rochester Animal Services at 184 Verona Street from 7:00 am until the start of the race/walk.

Join us after the Race/Walk in Brown Square Park for award ceremony, food, entertainment, fun and special displays for you and your pet!

Prizes

The top 3 men and 3 women to cross the finish line will be awarded \$100, \$75 and \$50 gift certificates. There will be awards for the top 3 men and women by age group (14 and under, 15-19; 20-24; 25-29; 30-34; 35-39; 40-44; 45-49; 50-54; 55-59; 60-64; 65-69; 70+ and Masters). All race awards will be Fleet Feet Sports gift certificates. Special prizes for Top Walk fundraisers will be awarded including a custom pet portrait package a Salon/Spa package and a pet store gift certificate.



All pledged donations must be submitted on Race Day June 30th, at registration.

Runners and walkers can help support the mission of Verona Street Animal Society and our animal friends in need served by Rochester Animal Services by collecting donations from family, friends and colleagues. Collect \$20 or more in pledges and receive a free T-shirt. There will also be prizes awarded to the Top 3 Walk Fundraisers.

Registrant Name: _____

Sponsorship Pledge Form

NAME	ADDRESS	AMOUNT
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		
15		
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
TOTAL		

Please make copies of this form or use additional sheets as needed. Checks should be made payable to Verona Street Animal Society.

For More information Contact Verona Street Animal Society at 585-727-2533 or visit www.vsas.org



Registration

Participants can register by sending this application by mail at anytime, or online at www.vsas.org, or by printing a registration form at www.vsas.org. Registration and packet pickup is also available on June 28 and 29 at Fleet Feet Sports, 220 Monroe Avenue, Rochester, NY from 10 am until 7 pm.

NAME: _____
 ADDRESS: _____
 CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____
 PHONE: _____ AGE (ON RACE DAY): _____
 GENDER: MALE FEMALE CATEGORY: RUNNER WALKER
 T-SHIRT SIZE: S/M/L M/D L/G X/L X/XL

All race participants must read and sign the following disclaimer. I, the undersigned, wish to participate in the Furry Scurry 10K Race or 1 Mile Dog Walk on June 30, 2011 in Rochester, NY. By my signature, I hereby state that I am in good physical condition and am properly trained to complete the race/walk. I agree to abide by the decision of a race official as that decision relates to my ability to safely complete the run/walk. I assume all risks associated with running/walking in this event including, but not limited to, injury and/or death as a result of fall; contact with other participants; the effects of weather including high heat or humidity; and the conditions of the course, all risks being known and appreciated by me. Having read and understood the waiver and knowing these facts and in consideration of the race organizer having accepted my entry and everyone ordered to act on my behalf knowingly and voluntarily hereby release the Verona Street Animal Society/Rochester Animal Services, the City of Rochester, Middle France, Yellow Jacket, Racing, Fleet Feet Sports, and all other race sponsors from any claims, lawsuits, proceedings or liabilities of any kind arising out of my participation in the event. I also grant the organizers full permission to use any photographs, videotapes, motion pictures or recordings, or any other record of the event for any other purpose.

SIGNATURE: _____
 PRINT NAME: _____ DATE: _____

Entry Fees: (Note: children under 5 are free)
 Early Registration - *18 thru June 28th
 Race Day - *20
 Walkers - *10

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

I can't participate, but have enclosed a donation of \$_____ to VSAS to help animals in need.

Please make checks payable to:
 VERONA STREET ANIMAL SOCIETY
 2007 Furry Scurry P.O. Box 22874, Rochester, NY 14692



Spay and Neuter Your Pets

Call 428-SPAY / Rochester Animal Services

Robert J. Duffy, Mayor
 City of Rochester, NY





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Animal Services

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Animal Services is a municipal animal care and control unit within the Rochester Police Department that is committed to improving quality of life and safety for city residents, the promotion of responsible pet guardianship, and the reduction of animal overpopulation to reduce animal suffering and euthanasia. Animal Services enforces all New York State and City of Rochester ordinances pertaining to animal control. We operate an animal shelter for stray, injured, menacing, and disowned animals. The shelter serves as a resource for locating lost pets and as an adoption center. We strive to provide the best possible care for all animals in our charge.

VISIT US ONLINE

WWW.ROCHESTERANIMALSERVICES.COM

WWW.VSAS.ORG

Volunteer Corner

Do you want to get involved in helping animals? Both Animal Services and the Verona Street Animal Society are continuously looking for individuals to help in a variety of capacities. Shelter volunteers may walk dogs, play with cats, clean cages, provide administrative support at the front desk, or assist the veterinary team with animal restraint, instrument preparation, and post-surgical recovery and monitoring. Additionally, many volunteers help promote Animal Services by representing the unit at festivals, parades, sporting events, and other special events.

VSAS volunteers may help promote the group and the Animal Services Unit through fundraising events, grant writing, marketing and advertisement campaigns, and educational outreach.

Visit rochesteranimalservices.com to learn more about volunteering,

download an application, or pick one up at the shelter. Also visit VSAS.org to learn about the evolving not-for-profit group and how you can get involved.

The spring and summer seasons are the busiest in terms of outreach and special events. Sign up sheets have already been posted for the Southeast Community Spirit Parade on May 5 and the Lilac Parade May 12. Volunteers are also needed for the Prevent Child Abuse event at Kohls Henrietta May 19, the 19th Ward Community Square Fair June 2, several Rhinos games (5/27, 6/9, 7/21, 8/24), the Corn Hill Arts Festival July 14-15, and the Park Avenue Festival August 5-6.

Additionally, the 1st Furry Scurry on June 30 will require a lot of volunteers to assist with set up, clean up, registration, race marshals, walk marshals, food and beverages, and wel-

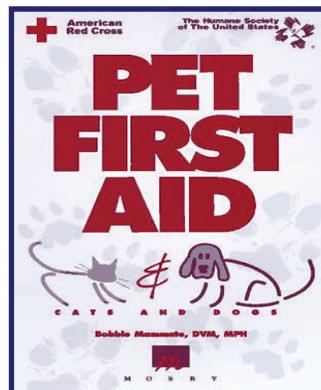
come to the event. Anyone interested in assisting with this or any event should contact Pam Cook at 428-7274.

One of Animal Services newest volunteers made a big contribution recently. Gerald Battaglia is a senior at Webster Thomas High School who has been mentored this year by long-time volunteer Jim Mistretta. For his senior project "Ger" decided to make dog biscuits and sell them to raise money for the shelter. Ger

presented the proceeds from his biscuit sales to Director Chris Fitzgerald in early May. The sales totaled \$340 and have been deposited into the Help The Animals Fund.



Ger Battaglia presenting dog biscuit proceeds to Chris Fitzgerald



PET FIRST AID COURSE

Certification class and book only \$25
Call 428-7274 to enroll.