

Spring
2010

Kennebec Valley Humane Society
News Quarterly

Caring for animals since 1927.



Birthday Gift Donations go to KVHS



Our vision is to end pet overpopulation and to advance the humane treatment of animals.

Our mission is to care for, protect and place animals for adoption in lifelong homes; to prevent cruelty to animals by educating our communities in the proper and humane care of all animals.

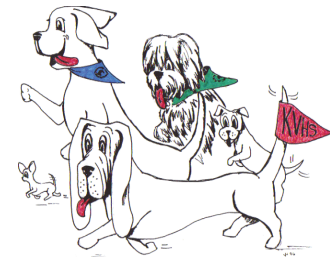
Abigail Weston (left) and Jillian Rolfe of Augusta asked for donations to go to KVHS instead of receiving gifts for their birthdays this year. Would you like to help KVHS save lives like Abi and Jillian? Your school, group, business or civic organization could conduct a fundraising event for KVHS. For more information contact Hillary Roberts at director@pethavenlane.org. Thank you Abi and Jillian.

Want to know more about what's going on at KVHS?

KVHS is now networking with Facebook and Myspace. Through these pages KVHS is not only able to keep you up to date on the latest news here at the shelter, but you also have the opportunity to view some of our animals available for adoption. Please consider adding us as your friend.



Photo courtesy of <http://www.facebook.com> and <http://www.myspace.com>



Join us for the 17th Annual Mutt Strut

This dog walk is full of something for everyone! All proceeds of this dog walk benefit the animals of KVHS. After the walk participants can attend the Pet Expo with games, prizes, and much more! The Mutt Strut will be held on Saturday, May 15th. For more information, contact director@pethavenlane.org

The Kennebec Valley Humane Society News Quarterly
Published Quarterly
By
The Kennebec Valley Humane Society
10 Pet Haven Lane
Augusta, ME 04330

KVHS Hours of Operation:
Open to the public for adoptions
Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, & Sunday from 11am-4pm
Saturday from 10am-4pm

Executive Director's message

I recently asked Paul Lariviere, President of the KVHS Board of Directors, a few questions about the Patron Program that I'd like to share with you.

An Patron Program Interview

Hillary: Paul, as a long standing Patron and one of the founders of the program, tell me a little bit about what exactly the Patron Program is.

Paul: The Patron Program, which was started about two years ago, consists of supporters of the KVHS committing to regular donations by automated charges against their credit cards or electronic fund transfers from their savings or checking account.

Hillary: I see. So what is the advantage of this program?

Paul: Actually, there are several advantages. First, it makes it possible for donors to spread out their contribution by effectively having a monthly payment plan. This allows many people to make larger donations. For the KVHS it results in us having a more predictable revenue stream each month helping to level out the peaks and valleys of income. And, it allows us to receive regular monthly payments without having to send out bills, thereby lowering our administrative cost.

Hillary: So why is the Patron Program so important?

Paul: From the time that we started the Patron program continuing on to the present time we have a need for additional income. If we are to continue providing humane care for about 4,000 animals each year while we find them a "forever home", as we currently do, using an appropriate blend of paid staff and outstanding volunteers we desperately need to increase our income. Our primary income sources are payments from our 23 towns for the services that we provide for them, receipts for adoptions of animals from our shelter and donations by our supporters. In recent years we have supplemented this routine income by withdrawing funds from an emergency account. However, we do not have sufficient funds to in our emergency account to continue supplementing income at the level that we have been. We have made major budget cuts in an attempt to balance our budget, as well as enhancing our fund raising efforts, but there is not much else that we can do without jeopardizing the level of care our animals receive and our clients have come to expect. We must increase revenue in order to balance our budget at an acceptable level of service.

Hillary: How much can the Patron program do to help balance our budget?

Paul: The Patron Program has three levels: \$25/month or \$300/year is the Bronze Level; \$50/month or \$600/year is the Gold Level; and \$100/month or \$1,200/year is the Platinum Level. Also, anyone who commits to at least \$10/month is considered a Patron at the Supporter Level. Our long term goal is to have at least 100 Patrons at the Bronze, Gold and Platinum Levels which would allow us to operate with a balanced budget and continue to serve animals in a humane manor.

Hillary: How are we doing on recruiting Patrons?

Paul: To date we have about 60 Patrons at the three levels combined. My sister, who lives and works in Saudi Arabia, recently increased her monthly contribution from the Supporter Level to the Bronze level. She has never lived in Maine but she understands how critical our need for funds is and shares my love of animals. I know that there are many people in our service area who also share this love of animals and who can afford to support us as Patrons. We need for them to join our ranks!



Executive Director Hillary Roberts with her dog, Kennedy

Spring brings fleas and ticks... protect your pets!



As the warm spring weather arrives on doorsteps, so do the less desired fleas and ticks. Fleas and ticks can cause a variety of problems with pets. Fleas feed on animal blood and can trigger problems including skin irritation, allergic reactions, anemia and in rare cases, death. Ticks carry diseases as well, the most common being Lyme disease. The staff at the Kennebec Valley Humane Society recommend speaking with your veterinarian about the best way to keep your pet safe from these pests. Don't forget to call your vet or buy your annual flea and tick preventative treatment today!

Lakeside Orchards Helps KVHS in Memory of Topper

Lakeside Orchards Retail Manager Paula McDougal came up with a wonderful fundraising idea after her beloved dog, Topper passed away. She started making homemade dog biscuits in Toppers memory. Lakeside Orchards graciously donated these proceeds to KVHS. Paula said that she came up with the idea after Topper passed and she makes the biscuits herself to honor Topper and do something good for the shelter. "I'm an animal lover," she explained, adding, "I appreciate what the humane society does." Topper, who passed away in July 2008 was 17-year old, Beagle/Basset hound mix who had been accompanying her owner to work for 7 years. Topper would often greet customers at the door. Paula explained that he recognized the regular customers. Customers started buying Toppers favorite homemade dog bones to honor their furry friend as well as help the shelter. Paula explained that they make different flavors of dog biscuits, Toppers favorites, and 100% of the proceeds come directly to KVHS. Lakeside Orchards is located in Manchester. Thank you to our friends at Lakeside Orchards.



The dog biscuit display at Lakeside Orchards in Manchester.



Volunteer Spotlight– Donald Demers

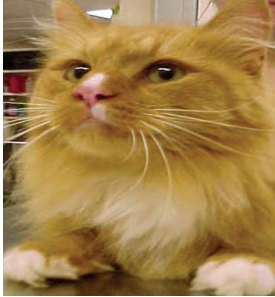


"It gives me a wonderful sense of satisfaction," said KVHS volunteer Donald Demers. Don, who has been volunteering at KVHS since July 2008 has gone above and beyond for the shelter. Not only does he work a regular schedule three days a week feeding cats and cleaning their kennels, he has an active role training new KVHS volunteers. Don explained that volunteering gives him a chance to help not only the shelter but also the community. "The animal's antics makes me laugh and I feel good inside." Don explained that he started volunteering as a way to fill free time and he enjoys animals. "It was the perfect place to go and help out with the chores of taking care of animals." Volunteering does as much for Don as it does for the animals. "It gives me peace of mind. It's a great place to be," he added. Don, who also volunteers at the Togas VA Hospital recommends anyone who has free time to try out volunteering at KVHS. "You meet wonderful people who all have the same love of animals." If you are interested in becoming a volunteer please contact Amanda at 626-3491 ext. 107 or e-mail volunteer@pethavenlane.org.

Kennebec Valley Humane Society

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Phone: 207-626-3491
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Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit 376
Augusta, ME



“Hey! We’re on TV!”

**Be Sure to Watch the
“Pet Haven Lane”
TV Show on
Time Warner Ch9**

**Thursday @ 6:30 pm
Friday @ 4:30 pm
Saturday @ 11:00 am**



Shopping List

We are always in need of the following gifts-in-kind. When you are grocery shopping, or shopping at your local pet stores we hope that you will think of your furry friends by purchasing something for them on our wish list.

- Cat food
- Dish Soap
- Laundry Detergent
- Latex Gloves
- Gauze
- Band-Aids
- Medical Tape
- Rubbing Alcohol and peroxide
- Kitty litter
- Air Fresheners
- Peanut Butter
- Stamps
- Treats
- Timothy Hay
- Frontline
- Rodent Pellets

**All in kind donations are appreciated and help our local animals in need.
Thank you.**