

Saratoga County Animal Shelter

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6010 County Farm Road

Ballston Spa 885-4113

HOURS: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Monday thru Saturday

I'm sure by now most of you have heard that I am back as Supervisor of the Shelter. I have been back for over a year now and have seen many changes occur and some yet to come. I have a website that is maintained by my staff. You can visit it at:

www.co.saratoga.ny.us/animalpics

This site should answer most questions you have. You will find our fees, listing of animal control officers for the Towns, Rabies clinics dates, listing of local rescues and shelters, and friends of the shelter which is a listing of those who have donated to the shelter (just to name a few of the items you will find on the site).

On this site, you can view pictures of the animals that are here for adoption. I have a listing for cats, available dogs turned in by their owners and strays. I started the strays page so if someone has lost their dog they can look on the website to see if its here. It's always best to call the shelter if you have lost an animal. You may not see it on the site but we may have it or it may get brought in.

Another exciting item I am pleased to write about is the construction of a modern facility. The Board of Supervisors has committed to building a new Animal Shelter. Right now we are in the planning stage. If you click on New Shelter/Facility on my web page you will see a report of what's happened so far. As we proceed, I will keep this up to date. If you have any comments, questions, or concerns about this new facility, you may contact me by clicking on my e-mail address, available on that page, and send me your thoughts. I look forward to hearing what the public thinks about this new facility.

On my web page, you will also find a section dedicated to memorials. This was set up for people who have adopted a pet from the Animal Shelter and the pet has passed away. You may submit a picture and a story and we will add it to this section.

I would like to tell you about a new program that we are in the process of developing. It is called a "Senior to Senior" program. In cooperation with the Saratoga County Office for the Aging, a Senior Citizen will be able to adopt a senior animal from the shelter at no cost to them. The cost will be paid for by the Office for the Aging. So, if you are a senior and would like a pet to keep you company, you can come to the Shelter and visit with a dog or a cat. You can even take a dog for a walk if you'd like or cuddle with a cat.

On July 10th, this new "Senior to Senior" program will be presented to the Public Safety Committee. The presentation will be by Sandi Cross, Office for the Aging Director and myself. With the support of Anita Daly, the Chair of the Social Programs Committee and Jeff Trottier, Chairman of the Public Safety Committee, I believe the Public Safety Committee and the full Board of Supervisors will be in support of this program.

The 1st Annual Busy Bone 500Walk for Animals was held this past May. This was a fundraiser organized by a Saratoga County resident. Proceeds from this walk totaling \$6,512 were donated to the Shelter. The organizer of this event is going to be holding this walk annually. Keep a watch in upcoming newsletters for the announcement for the 2nd annual walk!

The Board of Supervisors set up a trust account for donations to be deposited in, such as the funds raised by the Busy Bone 500. The funds in this account will go specifically towards the new building. This fund to date has over \$48,000.

As you can see I have a lot of news and am very excited to be back and to be involved in the new building process.

If you have any questions, comments or concerns you can call me any time during our open hours of operation at 885-4113 or e-mail me at sarpets@govt.co.saratoga.ny.us

Dan Butler, Supervisor, Saratoga County Animal Shelter