



WINTER 2024

**MISSION MOMENT:****How a Stray Got His Smile Back**by **DR. NATALIE WEEKES** • *Shelter Medical Director*

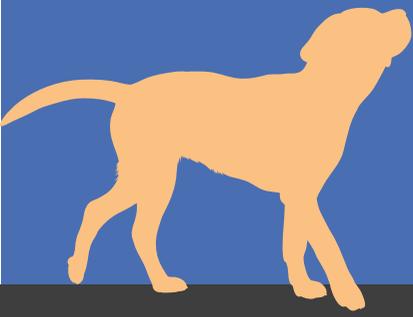
February is **National Pet Dental Month**. To honor that, I would like to introduce you to **Ralph**, a sweet and handsome brown tabby. Ralph was found as a stray in October and is approximately seven years old. It was evident on Ralph's first examination by our veterinary team that he had a lot of discomfort in his mouth. His gums were severely red, and the inflammation even continued to the back of his throat. Ralph was diagnosed with a condition called stomatitis, a very painful disease that causes severe inflammation of the gingiva and mucosa of the mouth.

The underlying cause of stomatitis is usually due to an abnormal immune response to one or more causes. These causes may include a previous viral infection or an irregular response to the mouth's normal bacteria and tartar. Due to this, the first line of treatment is typically extraction of the majority, if not all, of the teeth. Although this sounds drastic, most cats have a positive outcome.

When performing such a large number of extractions, it is very important to make sure all the teeth are taken out in their entirety. This requires performing x-rays to ensure no roots are left behind. If so, Ralph would be in the same pain after the procedure as he was before. Although we can perform routine dental procedures in-house at the shelter, we wanted to set Ralph up for the greatest chance of success after such an extensive procedure.

This is where our friends at the **University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine** come into play. As some of you may remember, we partner with the team at UPenn to help with their feline blood donor and kidney transplant programs. Both are incredible programs that save hundreds of lives each year. After reaching out and explaining Ralph's situation, they were more than happy to help us facilitate his care through their board-certified dentistry department. Ralph is set to have his dental procedure at the end of February, and we wish him a smooth and speedy recovery to get the relief he so desperately deserves. Ralph remains one of the most affectionate and gentle cats, so we can only imagine how wonderful he will be when he no longer has discomfort.

Please remember to check your pets regularly for any signs of dental disease. Being proactive can save them from much pain and other potential health consequences. Unfortunately, Ralph probably suffered from his stomatitis for some time; however, due to the generous support of our partners and donors, we will be able to change his life for the better.



## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MINUTE

# Journey to a Sustainable Future

by **STEVEN MARTINEZ** • *Executive Director*

In 2023, our organization saw a **34% increase in stray canine intake** over 2022, rising costs, growing demand for our service, and more. Despite these challenges, the **York County SPCA (YCSPCA)** team got the job done, and I'm proud to say that we accomplished a **90%+ save rate (94.2%, to be precise)**. A 90% or greater save rate indicates that we are saving all the animals that can be saved. It also classifies us as a no-kill animal shelter.

Part of my job is to assess all the threats facing the YCSPCA and decide how to overcome them. During our strategic planning, the leadership team, board of directors, and I determined that one of the greatest threats facing the YCSPCA was not owning the 13.3 acres of land adjacent to the shelter.

Since moving into our facility on N. Susquehanna Trail in 2006, the YCSPCA has utilized the adjacent 13.3 acre property, owned by Kinsley Properties, for dog walking, training, enrichment, and more.

This plot of land is critical to our operations; losing access to it would undermine our mission and thwart growth opportunities. Any organization or business could have purchased this valuable real estate anytime. An incompatible, loud, or odorous neighbor would stress the animals and limit our ability to provide adequate exercise for our dogs, threatening the safety and health of the pets and our organization's mission. If we didn't find a way to secure the land and another organization purchased it, we would likely have to relocate which would have been devastating.

Thankfully, York County is a generous and collaborative community. **The W. Dale Brougher Foundation** understood and valued what was at stake for our local animal shelter. After a year of conversations, appraisals, negotiations, and a generous pledge from the W. Dale Brougher Foundation, the YCSPCA has achieved a nearly 18-year dream to purchase this adjoining land and secure our future. The YCSPCA closed on the land on October 6, expanding our footprint to 18.3 acres.



Steven Martinez with YCSPCA office cat, Tater Tot

Now that we own the property, we can focus on the next looming threats, which include addressing the increasing number of pets entering our shelter, a veterinary wing that lacks critical quarantine space and is too small to accommodate all the animals we are saving, and inadequate administrative space.

The priority for this property will always be to preserve our beautiful dog walking trails. However, demand for our services has grown significantly since the pandemic, and we are bursting at the seams to keep up. This land positions us for growth and helps us secure our future. **Please join me in thanking the W. Dale Brougher Foundation for supporting York County pets and our organization's future.**

### ADMINISTRATION

Executive Director: *Steven Martinez*  
Communications Director: *Kristen Dempwolf*  
Shelter Operations Director: *Kari Herchelroth*  
Finance & HR Director: *Elizabeth Loucks*  
Clinic Medical Director: *Dr. Kimberly Mann*  
Shelter Medical Director: *Dr. Natalie Weekes*

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: *Holly Gumke*  
Vice President: *Katie Mahoney*  
Treasurer: *Michelle Frye*  
Secretary: *Sue DeStephano*  
Assistant Treasurer: *Tyler Lerman*  
*Nancy Brougher (Emeritus), Jane Davis, Vicki Glatfelter, Kelly Kelch, Kathy King (Emeritus), Brett Marcy, Kristen McGuire, Valerie Miller DVM, Alyssa Moyer, Keith Noll, John Porter, Teresa Shultz-Fogelman, Tricia Slagel*

# Put your best paw forward in 2024 with a monthly donation!

Homeless and displaced animals face a lot of uncertainty when they arrive at our shelter, but there's one thing they can always count on - you! For as little as \$10 a month, you can be there for the animals who need it the most. You can be their Constant Companion now and always.

## WHY GIVE MONTHLY?

**It's easy and automatic** - Safely link your credit card or bank account and automate your giving. Even a small gift every month adds up to a big impact.

**It has a long-term impact** - As a Constant Companion, you work side-by-side with us, making long-lasting changes to the lives of animals.

**It's cost effective** - Monthly giving means low administration costs, which means more of your money goes where it's needed most - supporting the animals that need our help.

**It makes a difference** - Feed good knowing that you are providing continuous support to help animals every day ensuring they have food, shelter, veterinary care, and lots of love.



**Best of all, you will know that you are helping local animals in need all year long.**

**Become a Constant Companion today - it's easy!**

**Sign-up online at [ycspca.org/monthly](https://www.ycspca.org/monthly) to get started today!**



## Be a shelter dog's hero, become a canine foster

Due to a **34% increase** in our canine stray intake over the past year, dogs continue to pour into our shelter faster than we can find them loving, forever homes. What happens when our kennel is at capacity? This is where our canine fosters step in to be heroes to our pups and remove them from the stressful shelter environment.

**Fostering saves two lives - the animal you take home and one we now have space for in our kennel.** Our canine foster and rescue coordinator will work with you every step of the way so you feel confident when you welcome a foster pup into your home. The York County SPCA supplies you with all the necessary items, including a crate, toys, a bed, food, leashes, collars, and more. We also take full financial responsibility for every foster dog, including medical treatment. If you have it in your heart to want to make a difference in the lives of our dogs, submit a foster application on our website [www.ycspca.org](https://www.ycspca.org).

# Who and What Are Community Cats?

by KIMBERLY MANN, VMD • Clinic Medical Director

**Domestic cats** (scientific name: *Felis catus*) can be separated into several different populations based on their home and level of socialization. A few of these categories are **pet cats**, **working cats**, and **community cats**. **Community cats**, also known as free-roaming cats, can further be divided into **feral cats** and **stray cats**.

A **stray cat** is a cat that 1) was owned by someone at one time, 2) has been socialized with people, and 3) has either left, lost their home, or been abandoned by their owner. Stray cats may be socialized enough to become indoor pets again, or they may become more feral after a prolonged lack of contact with humans.

**Feral cats** are cats who have never socialized with humans. They do not wish to be indoor cats; they are frightened of people, and while they form bonds within their colony with other cats, they do not form the same type of bonds with people. While kittens born to feral cats may be socialized early in life and made to be indoor pets, it is typically very difficult to try and socialize a feral cat after four months of age.

When first observing them, it can be difficult to tell the difference between a stray cat and a truly feral cat. The following table shows a few signs to look for when watching an outdoor cat or observing their behavior after being trapped:



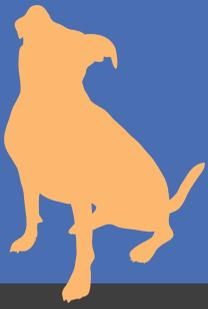
Regardless of whether a community cat is considered stray or feral, a good place to start helping them is by trapping and bringing them to a veterinary clinic for **TNR (Trap-Neuter-Return)**. A TNR clinic will spay or neuter the cat, administer vaccines, examine them for illness or injury, perform ear tipping (the universal indicator a cat has been spayed/neutered), and, in the event that a cat may be stray, will scan for a microchip to try and reunite a lost cat with its owner. TNR is beneficial to any community cat, regardless of their level of socialization. For more information regarding community cats and TNR, please visit our website at [ycspca.org/programs-services/spayneuter-clinic](http://ycspca.org/programs-services/spayneuter-clinic).

## STRAY

- *May vocalize (meowing, purring)*
- *May approach people*
- *Posture - holds tail up, may hold eye contact*
- *Dirty or unthrifty coat, no ear tip*
- *More likely to be seen during the daytime*
- *May come to the front of a trap for attention*
- *May become accustomed to trap and relax*
- *Almost always alone*
- *May growl or hiss when anxious but not usually overtly aggressive*

## FERAL

- *Quiet, will not draw attention to themselves*
- *Will run from people*
- *Posture - stays low, crouches, no eye contact*
- *Clean coat, may have an ear tip if already TNR*
- *More likely to be nocturnal (seen at night)*
- *Will retreat to the back of the trap*
- *Will remain anxious and tense in the trap*
- *Often seen amongst other cats*
- *Will likely become aggressive when cornered in a trap*



FIELD REPORT:

# Breaking Down Pit Bull-Type Dogs

by RACHEL RITCHEY • Content Creator

One of the most common questions our staff receives from community members when they walk through our shelter is, **"Why are there so many Pit Bulls?"**

Now, while we are prepared to answer this question with a few simple sentences, it runs deeper than that. Unfortunately, we receive a large influx of Pit Bull-type dogs because they are the most overbred type in York County and in the country. Many Pit Bull-type dogs end up as strays due to overbreeding and end up at animal shelters. Our staff and volunteers love them just the same as any other dog we care for; in fact, many of them end up becoming favorites.

A common mistake we hear people make is referring to a specific dog's breed as **"Pit Bull."** What many do not realize is that **"Pit Bull"** is an umbrella term which refers to three registered breeds of dogs: **Staffordshire Bull Terrier, American Staffordshire Terrier, and American Pit Bull Terrier.** Most Pit Bull-type dogs are a combination of different breeds of unknown pedigree or purebred dogs. What most often occurs is a dog being labeled as a **"Pit Bull"** due to their physical appearance and characteristics: a stocky stature, wide mouth, square-shaped head, and short coat. Pit Bull-type dogs tend to vary in size, depending on what combination of breeds they are made of and their parents' genetics, however, most fall between 30 and 85 pounds.

**Let's break down the registered breeds that make up the category of "Pit Bulls":**

**The Staffordshire Bull Terrier:** Recognized as a breed in 1974 by the American Kennel Club, this breed holds the traits of courage and tenacity. Their defining characteristics are a short and broad head, pronounced cheek muscles, a tight-fitting coat coming in several colors, and a height of 14 to 16 inches.

**The American Staffordshire Terrier:** This breed was recognized by the AKC in 1936 and is known for confidence, intelligence, and loyalty to their people. AmStaffs, another name for them, stand between 17 and 19 inches, have a broad head, well-defined jaw, pronounced cheekbones, and dark, round eyes set wide apart. They have a stiff, glossy coat that comes in a variety of colors and patterns. This breed is highly trainable.

**The American Pit Bull Terrier:** While the AKC does not recognize this breed, the United Kennel Club (UKC) did in 1898. They exhibit muscular, stocky builds with large square heads. They also have strong, well-defined chests. American Pit Bull Terriers typically stand between 17 and 21 inches. Best known for their active, loyal, and eager-to-please temperaments, they make for wonderful, life-long companions.

Pit Bull-type dogs are often misunderstood through stigmas passed down from previous generations. They are often labeled "aggressive" or "dangerous" when most Pit Bull-type dogs make amazing furry family members and do not pose a threat to humans or other animals. Now that you know these important facts about Pit Bull-type dogs, it's time to stop the spread of misinformation and advocate for them in your community. Perhaps you even have it in your heart to foster or adopt one of these extraordinary canines. To view our available dogs here at the York County SPCA, visit [www.ycpsca.org/adopt](http://www.ycpsca.org/adopt).

*A full list of citations for this article is available on our website in the blog post with the same title "Breaking Down Pit Bull-Type Dogs."*





**RESCUE REPORT:**

# Paws for Change:

## The Transformative Impact of Shelter Dog Swaps

by **MEAGAN SHENBERGER** • *Canine Behavior Specialist*



At the **York County SPCA**, we hope to be a quick stop on the journey for a dog looking for a new family, not a long-term home. And while some of our dogs find their new families quickly, others are not as fortunate. We consider any dog that has been in our care for more than three months a long-term resident. Most times they are long-term residents simply due to being overlooked, and we needed to come up with a solution to help these dogs be seen by potential families.

Meet **Sugar and Taz**, our two longest-term residents. Both were found as strays; Sugar was initially found on December 30, 2021, and Taz on October 26, 2022. While they did both have interests and were adopted, unfortunately, they were both returned to our shelter. These two deserving dogs were staff and volunteer favorites, and we could not understand how they were not getting attention. During our weekly dog medical rounds, we all tried and come up with creative solutions for these dogs and it was suggested that we try a dog swap with another shelter. It had never been done before by us, but I was ready to try whatever it took.

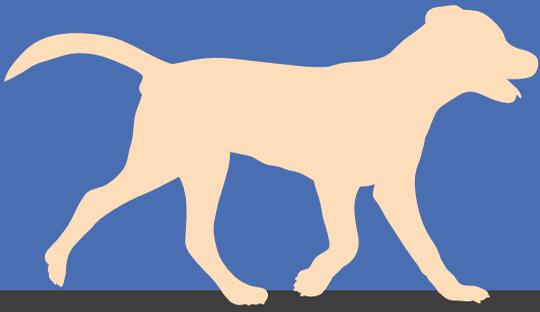


**The Humane Society of Harford County**, located in Fallston, MD, never hesitated and was on board with trying this out! Each of us exchanged our long-term residents and their bios and were given the ability to choose the two dogs we wanted to bring back with us. Luckily, they chose the two longest-term residents, Sugar and Taz! Steven, the new Canine Foster & Rescue Coordinator, Rachel, our Content Creator, and myself made the trip to my hometown of Harford County with Sugar and Taz in tow. The staff at the Humane Society of Harford County welcomed us with open arms. Once there, we were able to meet the two dogs we planned on taking and spend some time with them. We were lucky enough to get two very sweet dogs out of this swap. **Monstro**, a two-year-old pit bull, and **Roxi**, a beautiful seven-year-old pit bull! They have been amazing in our shelter, and I hope that we can finally find these dogs the loving homes they both deserve!



Partnering with another shelter on this lifesaving mission was an honor and one of the many reasons why we love the work we do. It takes a village to care for shelter pets, and having amazing partnerships is key. Steven added, **"I think the value of getting long-term shelter animals into a new environment is paramount in reducing their shelter stress and anxiety. The obvious advantage of them being viewed by a completely different public in hopes of adoption also has incredible worth. The Harford Humane Animal Shelter made us right at home, giving us a tour of their wonderful facility and allowing us to see where our dogs would be staying."** We want to thank The Humane Society of Harford County for opening the door to this partnership and for the amazing work they do serving pets and people in their community!

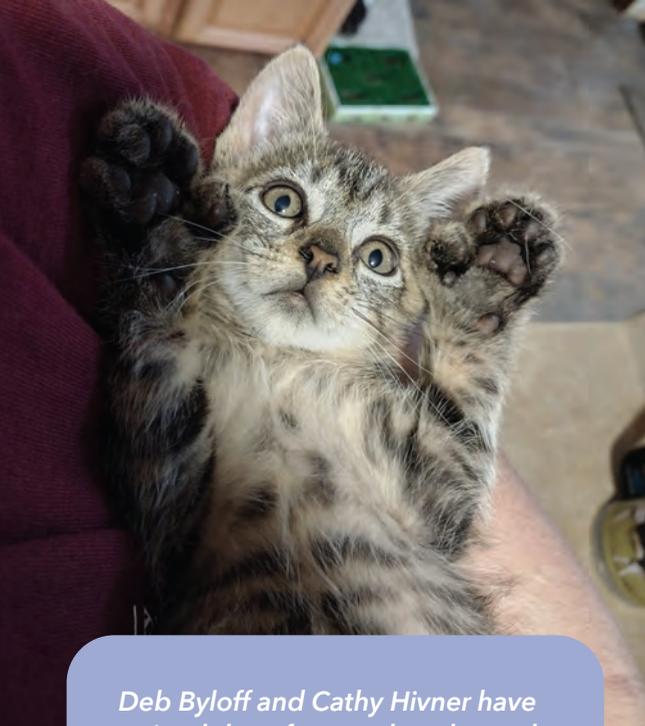
We are also so pleased to share that the very same week of the swap, Taz was officially adopted! Congratulations to Taz and his new family!



THE GOOD DOG ADVICE COLUMN:

# Responsible Pet Ownership

by DEB BYLOFF & CATHY HIVNER • Papillon Dog Training Academy



*Deb Byloff and Cathy Hivner have trained dogs for two decades and have partnered with the York County SPCA for the last 16 years, helping to teach our community to understand their pups better. Both work and train their dogs at Papillon Dog Training Academy.*

The fun and companionship that we treasure are two of the wonderful aspects of having a pet, but as with most privileges, there are responsibilities too.

February is **Responsible Pet Ownership Month**. Being a responsible pet owner requires a thorough understanding of the commitment involved. The decision to bring home a pet should not be an impulsive one. First, you should think about your home and lifestyle. What type of pet suits your environment and way of life? Consider that beyond food, water, shelter, and medical care, pets require crates, leashes, collars, toys, licenses, and training. The financial responsibility is significant, given that you hope to have your pet for many years to come. Will your budget cover those expenses?

Next, what type of pet best suits you? An active one who requires lots of exercise, mental stimulation, and personal attention or a more laid-back companion? What size animal could live most easily in your home and with the members of your family? For instance, if you want a dog, consider size (especially if you have children or elders living in your home), activity level, grooming, and temperament. Take age into consideration as well. Do you want a puppy, kitten, or adult? Are you able to work through problems your pet may have or know where to get help if you need it? The answers to questions like these may point you to a particular type of pet with specific needs. A responsible owner will research those needs before adopting or buying a dog, cat, or other pet. If you plan to adopt any pet from a rescue, take time to discuss the personality characteristics, both pros and cons, of any pet that interests you with the shelter personnel. Ask questions and determine what type of support the shelter can offer you after adoption.

Once home, pets need time to settle into their new environment. Learn what that means for your pet before bringing them home by discussing it with an expert. Preparedness is key; you want to have everything ready for when you bring your pet home. Typically, pets follow the **3-3-3 rule**: your pet will need three days to decompress, three weeks to learn your routine, and three months to feel at home.

For pets, particularly dogs, who will be out and about, owners also need to consider those living in the same area. For instance, there are ordinances in many places regarding noise made by pets, cleaning up after them, keeping dogs leashed in most areas, etc. Responsible and respectful pet owners know and follow local rules.

# Chunky, a Community Cat's Story

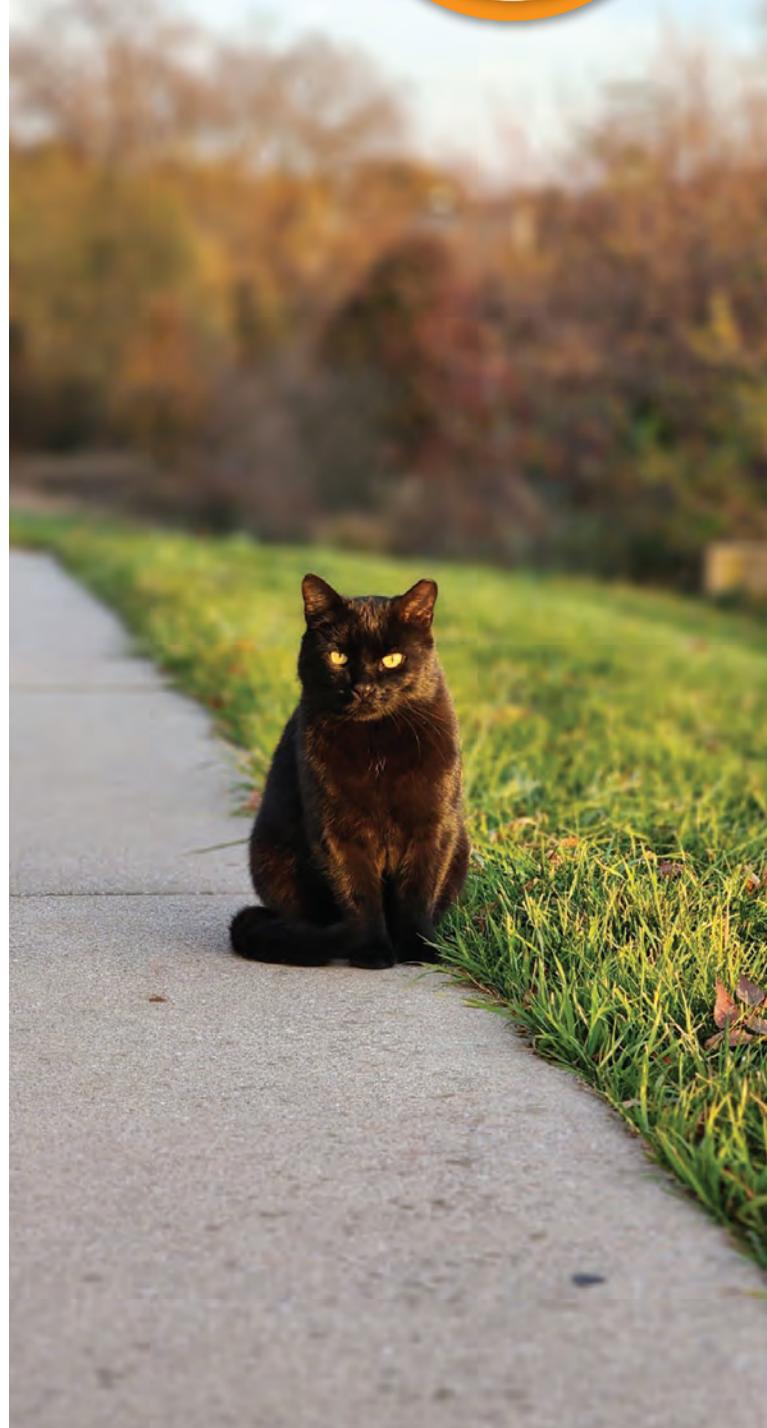
by KARI HERCHELROTH • Operations Director



If you ever visit our shelter at 3159 Susquehanna Trail North in the evenings, you will often see a black cat sitting in the parking lot, walking around the building, or watching the shelter. This is **Chunky**, also called **Midnight** depending on which staff member you ask. Chunky is a community cat that lives on the **York County SPCA's** property. Chunky showed up a few years ago and we trapped him, neutered him, ear tipped, and vaccinated him. Over the past two years, he has become a loved member of our organization. He sometimes comes out during the day to see the dogs on their walks, can be seen playing or hunting in the afternoons, but ALWAYS comes out around 5 p.m. in the evenings when he knows he is getting fed.

Chunky is a part of our everyday closing procedures. We feed him dry food every night., just as we feed and care for our office cat, **Tater Tot**. Some nights when he is extra hungry, he will follow us around with his almost inaudible meow and tell us he wants a special treat. Those evenings we give him cat treats or some canned food. Over the last year we have managed to get within six feet of him, but he will not let us touch him and he certainly does not want to come indoors. He is a happy, healthy, thriving community cat. We have given him multiple options for outdoor houses on the property but still find him sleeping in the drainage pipes or making nests other places. We love him, and he loves us. It is not the same as the bond that an indoor cat has with its owner, but it is the bond of a community cat and his caretakers. It is a mutually beneficial relationship in which we care for him, and he shows us his thanks and makes the end of every day special for us.

We strongly stand behind the mission of our community cat initiatives here at the YCSPCA, and it is only right to practice what we preach. Chunky is a prime example of how a community cat can thrive outside with the help of colony caretakers.





**FROM EMBER TO FLAME:**

# Firefly's Surgical Success

by SARAH KAPUROWSKI • Animal Care Technician & Feline Foster

**Firefly**, a neonatal kitten, was found outside at four weeks old, too small to be alone. She was following people through their yards like a duckling, meowing at them. When she arrived, our animal care staff immediately noticed her chest was misshapen, but she was too little to x-ray. She spent the next month in a foster home doing what kittens do best: eating, sleeping, playing, growing, and learning.

Chest x-rays revealed Firefly had moderate to severe pectus excavatum, a birth defect of the sternum and ribs. Pectus excavatum causes a malformation of the sternum and connecting tissues attaching the ribs to the sternum. It is commonly called “funnel chest” due to the narrow or misshapen appearance of the chest. One cat with pectus excavatum could be shaped a bit strangely and have no other symptoms at all, while others could develop fatal heart and lung complications.

Unfortunately, Firefly was not growing like a kitten should. She had to take breaks from playing to catch her breath. Her heart rate and respiratory rate were high. Firefly needed surgery to fix her defect to live a long, happy life.

Luckily for her, kittens have more flexible bones and cartilage than adults, which meant eight-week-old Firefly qualified for non-invasive surgery. Her chest would be reshaped under anesthesia and tied to a splint outside the body. The splint would hold the chest in the right shape for between four and eight weeks until the bones stayed on their own. Such a delicate surgery called for a specialist.

The vets at the **YCSPCA** offered their full support, reaching out to old colleagues and trusted affiliates. After a few strikeouts, the **University of Pennsylvania** agreed to see Firefly at their teaching hospital in Philadelphia. We drove Firefly two hours to her appointment and left without her—she was going to have surgery the next morning. Firefly gave student veterinarians the opportunity to learn how to save others like her someday!

The next two days were full of phone call updates. Firefly was a picky eater, just like I told the staff she'd be. She cried for attention and fought against her cone. But the surgery went well, and she was ready to leave the ICU.

At first, Firefly wore a sock sweater to protect her splint. We had to keep her from doing all those crazy kitten things she loved to do which felt impossible! She wanted to push her limits running, climbing, jumping, and wrestling. The YCSPCA handled her biweekly follow-ups, working with UPenn to take care of Firefly for six weeks until it was time for the splint and silly recovery outfits to come off. Finally!

By four months old, Firefly had already outlived pre-surgery expectations, and her life was just beginning thanks to the medical staff of the YCSPCA and the University of Pennsylvania, including her surgeons **Dr. Holt and Dr. Sekhar**. She'd even found herself a forever home—with her (former) foster family, of course!



# COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT



**Ashley Geesey from Conewago Enterprises, Inc.**  
Every year the owners of Conewago Enterprises, Inc. donate upwards of \$100,000 to organizations across the region through their Giving Back Initiative. Recently, they began allowing their employees to submit nominations for organizations that are important to them. Ashley Geesey nominated us and reached out to make the presentation of a \$5,000 check. Thank you so much, Ashley and Conewago Enterprises associates, for supporting our mission to help animals in our community!



**Robin Kohler and Tim Staub from Herbert, Rowland & Grubic, Inc.** - Robin Kohler, Business Development Manager of HRG, nominated the York County SPCA through their Spreading Cheer Campaign this year. She and her colleague, Tim, visited our team to present a \$2,500 check to support our continued mission. We want to thank the HRG Team for having a heart to give back to our community, and Robin for choosing our organization! Fun fact: Robin adopted a dog from us!



**First Capital Federal Credit Union Associates**  
On January 3, associates from FCFCU visited us to drop off donation items they collected for their employee holiday party. The eight women featured are part of the planning committee: Sue DeStephano, Kristen Brent, Cara Dorsz, Lisa Day, Genesis Glover, Susan Theopel, Rachel Haynie, and Tara Minetos. Thank you, ladies, for the donation items, gift cards, and monetary donation! A special shout out to President/CEO of First Capital, Sue DeStephano, who is the secretary for our Board of Directors. We appreciate your company's support!



**York County District Attorney Office & The County of York** - Michelle Baughman, Justin Baran, and Paul Pelaia visited us on December 22 to represent the York County District Attorney Office. They coordinated a County of York employee donation drive to benefit the YCSPCA this holiday season. The drive was in support of the critical services we provide to York County, especially human service programs like SafePet for domestic violence victims and the unsheltered/homeless population. Thank you so much for supporting our human services programs and for loving on our pups, just like Kramer here!



**Rutter's Employees: Dustin Toomey, Tate Rebert, & Alexandra Hayes** -Each year, Rutter's gives their employees the opportunity to direct donations towards causes that matter to them for the holiday season through their "Secret Santa" campaign. This year, 100 Rutter's employees were chosen to participate. The selected charities have an emphasis on children, education, and local community effort. We had the pleasure of welcoming Dustin, Tate, and Alexandra to our shelter when they presented their \$1,000 checks to us and gave our animals some love! Thank you so much for choosing the YCSPCA as your organization of choice!



**The Miller Family**  
Each year in honor of Jesus' birthday, the Miller family allows their children to choose an organization that matters to them to fundraise and collect donation items for. They do this to teach their family to give back to the community and help those in need. In honor of their cat, Lily Iris (originally Cabbage), whom they adopted from the YCSPCA, they wanted to give back to animals in need. Thank you for collecting donation items, raising money, and continuing to be huge supporters of our shelter!

# ADOPTION SNAPSHOTS



**Lulu** - "Since bringing Lulu home, her personality has come out! Once she warmed up, she started playing with toys and running around. She also enjoys cuddling! She gets excited meeting new people, going on walks, and car rides! It has been amazing to see her personality come out and give her the love and attention she deserves." - Paige



**Dior** -  
"Dior is loving life with her big brother, Kong, also a rescue from the York County SPCA! She's such a sweetheart! We needed that addition to our family!"  
- Kasi



**Rachel and Aaron** - "Rachel is warming up and getting on our laps now and loves the cat tower. She's super playful and runs around chasing her toy. Aaron really enjoys watching us from the couch. He's also become our alarm clock by purring as loud as possible and constantly pawing at us for breakfast in the morning." - Cheyenne & Journey



**Whipper** - "He is such a good boy and loves his new home and yard! His favorite thing to do is go on walks and play with his toys. He also has his own bed in each room but has declared my bed his own. He is now king of the castle and loves every second of it. He is just shining and really coming into his personality." - Kori



**Cassie** -  
"Cassie is great! She is still spoiled and loves kitty nip. She loves taking naps and sleeping on my back."  
- Faith



Follow Ace's adventures on Instagram @ace\_the\_rescued\_pit

**Ace** - "Ace is doing very well. He is a papa's boy for sure but a lover of all. He's slowly learning new commands (up, off, lay down, wait, this way). He loves to take naps in any of his beds. He has one in each office and downstairs. He sleeps in our bed at night and snuggles up with Matt. He is adapting well as the neighborhood watch!" - Brandi & Matt



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## of York County

**Brougner Companion  
Animal Shelter**  
3159 Susquehanna Trail N.  
York, PA 17406  
[www.ycspca.org](http://www.ycspca.org)

## IN MEMORY OF

**Star** "After eight wonderful years, we had to say goodbye to our beloved Star this past September. From day one, she was a perfect fit for our family. She came to the shelter with numerous health problems, becoming a recipient of the Second Chance Fund. Although our hearts are heavy, we are grateful to the YCSPCA for giving a dog like Star a second chance."

- Bob (Volunteer Dog Walker) &  
Sarah Perina (Feline Foster)

**Jewels** "In memory of sweet senior Jewels who passed away in December 2023, just two weeks shy of her 17th birthday. Her sister Buttercup passed away in December 2022. They both came to the shelter in the summer of 2021 after being found wandering the streets and suffering from illness and neglect. I adopted them both shortly after they arrived, and they spent the last years of their lives surrounded by love and being well cared for. They were the sweetest little girls, and they will be greatly missed."

- Evie Holsinger, Volunteer Dog Walker



If you would like to help give animals with complex medical cases, consider making a contribution to our Second Chance Fund at [ycspca.org/secondchance](http://ycspca.org/secondchance).



## YORK COUNTY SPCA PET GAZETTE

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