

Paw Prints

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SCFA meetings are held the first Tuesday of each quarter: January, April, July and October at the Senior Citizen Community Center.

The next meeting will be held 7 p.m. on Tuesday, July 6. Come to vote for board members and enjoy refreshments and prizes!

President's Message

Welcome to another edition of Paw Prints! This edition is chock full of information on all of our upcoming events. In May we have the annual Pet Adoptathon and something new, SCFA's first walk-a-thon, "3 Miles for 4 Paws".

With the shelter expansion slated to break ground this summer, it is as important as ever to get the word out about the Franklin Township Animal Shelter and all the great animals awaiting



homes. The SCFA and FTAS partnership has done a wonderful job of promoting the shelter, but we still hear, "I didn't even know there was a shelter in town!"

The pet Adoptathon, the walk-a-thon, collection canisters in local stores, standing outside the grocery stores doing "shake-a-can", promoting a "kitten shower", getting the word out on local cable channels and radio stations,

are just a few ways we can reach the public. But until no one can say "I didn't know there was a shelter in Franklin Township," our work is not done.

If you have ideas on how to get the word out, contact Sandy Lee at (732) 356-0722 or by email at outreach@secondchanceforanimals.org.

In the meantime, sit back and read about all the great stuff happening at Second Chance for Animals and the Franklin Township Animal Shelter.

Being Beautiful Takes Care and Patience

Goldie is our guest columnist for this month. Right now she is available for adoption. For more information, contact the shelter at (732) 873-2500 ext. 255)



Longhairs like me have trouble maintaining our beautiful appearances so we need some help from our human companions. To avoid painful (and oh-so-unsightly!) mats, longhaired cats require brushing at least twice a week and some really need daily

grooming.

Unfortunately, many of my lovely counterparts

earn a bad reputation for being difficult to groom. But many cats can adapt to grooming – if the owner is patient.

Here are some tips to help us look our best:

1. Go slowly. Let us sniff the brush or comb. Brush us gen-

tly and slowly once or twice and end the session on a good note. Work your way up to longer sessions.

2. Try to keep to a regular schedule. It is much easier to prevent mats if you groom us every week rather than every few months.

3. If you find a mat, DO NOT CUT IT. You could cut our skin and that hurts. Gently try to comb the mat out and hold the mat in your hand to minimize pulling of our skin.

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Gertrude Hawk Sales - More than \$8k

More than \$8,970.50 worth of candy was sold during our Gertrude Hawk Fundraising Event. WOW!

SCFA gets to keep a percentage of total sales, which means we raised more than \$3,500 for the shelter animals. Our top sellers combined sold nearly \$4,000 worth of candy.

Our sincerest thanks to those who

Our Top Sellers

1st Place – Mary Romash (\$1,530.50)

2nd Place – Joyce Cotay (\$1,272.50)

3rd Place – Lynn Lawson (\$670)

4th Place – Katie Nordhaus (\$499.50)

helped make this event a huge success. Thank you: Donna Albert, Amy Anderson, Alicia Bottari, Laura Caliguari, Joyce Cotay, Roslyn Cowan,

Eileen Ferreri, Lori Hover, Lois Kroshesky, Sharon Larson, Lynn Lawson, Gillian Kuplent, Judy Lord, Pat McBride, Liesl Marelli, Jes Marusiak, Marianne Mason, Katie Nordhaus, Andi Orel, Jennifer Peppe, Julie Percarpio, Pat Ritz, Kathy Rodenberg, Krista Rogaski, Mary Romash, Lori Sherman, and Marilyn Shinski.

Being Beautiful (Continued from Page 1)

4. Have the proper tools: a good steel comb that has teeth of two sizes, a fine-toothed or flea comb and a grooming brush made with natural bristle. Before starting, run your fingers through the entire coat; this will help us relax. Then run the wide-toothed section of the steel comb lightly through the fur from head to tail. Comb under the chin, chest, stomach, inside

the legs, and under the tail. Then use a small-toothed or flea comb for the fine fur around the face and ears, combing forward carefully toward the nose.

5. If you are hesitant to brush your cat, then take him or her to a professional groomer.

Proper hair care is not just about beauty. Being free of mats and knots makes us more comfortable and allows

air to flow through our hair and keep us cooler. Regular brushing allows the removal of dead hair and reduces the number of hairballs that we would ingest and later expel on your favorite rug or couch (yuck!).

With some patience, you can make this a pleasant experience for you and your cat.

Tech Committee Debuts “Members-Only” Web Pages

For our members with internet access, we have a “members-only” section of our web site (<http://secondchanceforanimals.org/membersmenu.php>).

The site was developed to improve the process of recording our members’ hours. Until now, even though we had a form to submit hours on our website, it was mailed to Nora Breen. She had to manually enter all the hours into a spreadsheet. Because we’re all volunteers with limited free time, Marianne



result is an application that enters the submitted hours directly into a database.

Once started, all kinds of ideas for a “virtual office” came up. By providing security to the area, we now can have members update their contact and emergency contact information. An ad-

Mason decided to try to find a way to streamline the process. The

ditional level of security allows board members access to additional reports – like hours summaries.

The current members’ information pages will be migrated into the password-protected section in a few weeks. If you have not already logged on, please contact Marianne Mason at webadmin@secondchanceforanimals.org for instructions.

Be sure to watch for additional features and improvements to the site!

Shake-A-Can Events

We can use your help for the following Shake-A-Can Events. People are needed for either shift 10 to 12:30 or 12:30 to 3 p.m.

Stop N Shop
(Easton Ave., Somerset):
November 20

Stop N Shop
(Rt. 27, Franklin Park)
November 13

Please contact Alicia Bottari at (732) 846-0311 to sign up.

Our April Shower

We are having our first Baby Shower to welcome all the kittens that are sure to arrive at the shelter. If you can help us promote this event by posting flyers, please contact Sandy at outreach@secondchanceforanimals.org.

Or if you'd like to hold your own "Baby Shower" at work or with friends, we would certainly welcome the donations.

Below is our wish list:

- Dry Kitten Food
- Kitten Milk Replacer
- Canned Kitten Food
- Bottles
- Heating Pads
- Baby Wipes
- Cat Litter (non-clumping)
- Towels



Adoptathon on May 1 and 2

SCFA and the Franklin Township Animal Shelter will be participating in the May Adoptathon once again this year.

This is a global adoption event that helps raise awareness of shelter animals and gives us a chance to find homes for more animals.

On Sat., May 1, PetsMart volunteers meet first at the shelter at 9 a.m. to transport animals to the store. They are needed until 3 p.m. Shelter volunteers also are needed that day from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m.

On Sun., May 2, volunteers are



needed for adoptions at PetsMart from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Volunteers need to stop at the shelter at 9:30 a.m. before going to the store. Also on Sunday, people are needed for adoptions at

the shelter from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

We need your help to make this adoption weekend a success. If you are able to help with adoptions, contact Alicia Bottari at (732) 846-0311. If you can help promote the event by distributing fliers, contact Sandy Koehler Lee at (732) 356-0722 or outreach@secondchanceforanimals.org.

Help Needed for our first Walk-A-Thon

Our first walk-a-thon will be held 1 p.m. Sun., May 2. There will be two routes (a 1.5-mile and a 3-mile) starting at 1 p.m. at the Franklin Shelter.

Two-legged participants only, please.

Suggested contribution is \$10 per adult and \$5 for kids 15 and younger. No pre-registration required.

We can use your help for this event. If you are available, please contact Alicia Bottari at (732) 846-0311.

Our TV Stars

Chubbley (the cat) and Gabby (the dog) are stars!

They were on Patriot Media's Community Corner segment on April 8. You can usually catch Community Corner on Channel 8 between 7 and 9 p.m. most evenings.

For more information on these animals, call the shelter or go to www.petfinder.com.



Thanks to Erik Hoffer, a former SCFA volunteer, who has paid for the sponsorship of SCFA for the local Franklin Township Little League Team.

Volunteer Spotlight - Frank Breen

It's hard to imagine that Frank Breen wasn't surrounded by animals growing up. It



certainly seems like he's making up for lost time! He has one dog and four cats – all adopted from shelters or off the street. And every bedroom continuously houses so many foster cats and kittens that his home is considered the shelter's annex.

Right now, he is caring for two kittens with upper respiratory, one cat with ringworm, one feral cat with six kittens and another feral cat with two kittens (and they're all isolated from each other). Nearly a dozen fosters at one time is typical for Frank, who just adds their care to his routine care of his own pets. He spends about two hours in the morning and one hour at night cleaning and feeding and then small socialization times throughout the day. Although he doesn't keep track, Frank estimates that he's fostered about 300 cats and kittens since he started fostering a pregnant cat three years ago.

Frank obviously is not your

average foster parent (most volunteers care for one litter at a time). The interesting thing is that Frank didn't plan on being a fos-

ter parent or even an SCFA volunteer!

His daughter, Nora (currently our President) had joined the group but Frank – who had spent 30 years with NJ Bell – was too busy consulting in telecommunications and management training to get involved. But one fateful day, he was asked if he could take in a pregnant cat from the shelter until she had her kittens because the shelter was bursting at the seams. The timing was perfect because he had recently retired from consulting and had more time. "I said 'Sure' and that mother cat is still with me," said Frank. "She was such a great cat, I couldn't let her go."

And from that day, his foster work "evolved." Frank says animals are now his life and that's evident, and not just by his list of houseguests. Frank has been an SCFA board member for nearly 2 years and he does animal transport

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SCFA Welcomes New Volunteers

We are pleased to welcome the following new volunteers who attended the February and March training seminars:

February

Elizabeth Ammann
Alexis Bennett
Susan Duffy
Debra Gonsiewski
Andrea Harvey
Elena Morris
Tim Powers
Leah Vogel

March

Betty Good
Timothy Jones
Cathy Mallette
Brian Lewis
Anna Marusiak
Noah Porter
Ira Tanz
Angel Willis

The next general volunteer training session will be Thurs., April 22 from 6:45 to 9 p.m. at the library. The next dog training session will be Sat., April 24 from noon to 2 p.m. at the shelter. If you would like to attend, please call Alicia Bottari at (732) 846-0311.

Remembering Special Friends

Second Chance For Animals gratefully acknowledges these gifts made in memory or in honor of a much-loved person or pet. We are honored to carry out our important mission in their names.

IN HONOR OF – (DONATED BY)

In Honor of
Jack Dolan's Birthday - (Mary Dolan)

IN MEMORY OF – (DONATED BY)

Adel Skiptuna – (Marge Schmidt)

THANK YOU

SCFA would like to thank the following individuals for their generous donations (monetary and non monetary) to the organization:

Jack Dolan Plumbing & Heating (Buck-a-week club)

Mr. & Mrs. Lawson for their garage for Gertrude Hawk Sale

Volunteer Spotlight (Continued from Page 4)

(including owls, a hawk and a fawn in addition to shelter animals needing a trip to the vet). He also volunteers at PetsMart and while there he just can't stop himself from greeting every dog that passes by. His home also is the depot for extra items that can't be stored at the shelter.



This is probably how the cats live at Frank's house.

Although Frank is an experienced foster home, he still has some trouble letting go. Two of his cats were former fosters and he admits that he sometimes has to be encouraged to relinquish some of his charges so they can be adopted by other families. But he wouldn't trade the experience and encourages others to consider giving it a try.

"It's fun," he says. "Watching them

grow and watching them overcome any issue they had (such as an illness). And watching them get adopted, that's great."

While SCFA is a big part of his life, Frank

still finds time for other pursuits. He enjoys playing golf and he gets together every few weeks with old friends from New Jersey Bell. Frank also is an avid reader, often finishing a couple of books a week. He says he'll read anything but his favorite genres are mysteries and history.

Thank you, Frank, for all you do. You certainly have made an enormous contribution to SCFA's mission.

And thank you, Nora, for asking him to take his first pregnant cat!

ARTIST NEEDED!

We'd like to expand our Cafepress site and we need help! If you're not familiar with Cafepress, please visit <http://cafepress.com/SCFA>. Through this site, we're able to offer fundraising merchandise without having to spend money on inventory. If we can upgrade our shop to the next level, we'll be able to offer more merchandise with multiple designs. But to do this, we need your help.

If you have artistic ability or work as a graphic designer and are willing to create and donate designs to be used on these products, please contact Marianne Mason (webadmin@secondchanceforanimals.org)

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP ANIMAL SHELTER

475 DeMott Lane, Somerset, NJ 08873
 Phone: (732) 873-2500 ext. 255
 Email: franklinShelter.475@juno.com
 Hours: M-F 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.;
 Sat. noon to 3 p.m.

SECOND CHANCE FOR ANIMALS

P.O. Box 5172, Somerset, NJ 08875
 Phone: 732-748-SCFA (7232)
 Email: scfa1998@aol.com
 Website: www.secondchanceforanimals.org

Animal Spotlight

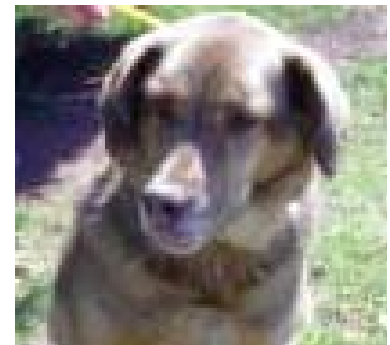
Ophelia



My name is Ophelia (pictured here with my buddy, Trouble, who was adopted).

I am a black and brown tabby who is about 8 years old. I am a quiet girl but I love attention and enjoy being held. I would be happy in a home with a feline friend.

Brandy



My name is Brandy and I'm an Australian Shepherd mix who is about 10 years old.

I am a very sweet and social girl who enjoys all the attention I can get. I like to be around other dogs.

SCFA SECRETARY NEEDED

SCFA is looking for a volunteer who is willing to be secretary for the board of directors. Please contact Nora Breen at (732) 227-1033 for more information.

Katie's Korner

Kitten season is upon us! There will be a foster meeting in the near future for those interested in foster care.



To be a foster parent, you need to be an SCFA volunteer for at least 6 months and be able to isolate foster animals from pets in the household.

We will need temporary foster on July 4 for the dogs, if available, please contact Katie at (732) 873-2500, ext. 255.

We have extended hours for animal socialization on Thursday nights. Volunteers can come to the shelter from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. and from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

We are limiting the number of people that can be in each room of the shelter if you are socializing CATS as a safety precaution. The policy is as follows: 2 people in the cattery ("adoptable room") 3 people in the middle cat room 2 people in the quarantine room (one

A foster orientation will be 7 p.m. Wed., April 21st at the Senior Center located in the municipal complex. If you plan to attend, or have any questions, please contact Frank Breen at 732-873-2552.

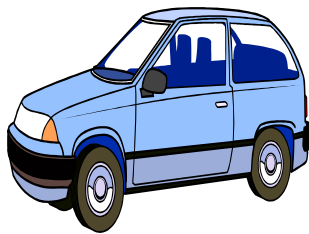
of whom MUST be a volunteer experienced with feral cats) That is a total of 7 people at any

given time. If there are cats in the front office, then there can be an additional 1 person up front.

The dogs need attention, too. Volunteers must complete the dog training orientation to be eligible to work with the dogs.

Transport Help Needed

SCFA is currently seeking volunteers to assist in transporting cats to the vet for FIV/FeLV testing. SCFA and the Franklin Township Animal Shelter have a standing vet appointment at 12:00 noon every Monday at the Easton Animal Clinic located on Easton Avenue.



who can spare about 1 - 1.5 hours one Monday a month to transport the cats from the shelter to the vet, wait for the test to be complete, and transport them back to the shelter.

We are looking for a few volunteers

If you think you can help, please call Theresa Cicalese at 732-545-0358 or e-mail her at gramyaya@msn.com for more information.

Adoption Statistics

Below are the adoption statistics from January through June 2004:

	<u>PetsMart</u>	<u>Shelter</u>
January:	6	17
February:	10	20
March:	<u>3</u>	<u>15</u>
Total:	19	52

Calendar of Events

April

- Entire month - Kitten Shower!!
- April 6 - SCFA General Meeting; 7 p.m., Senior/Community Center
- April 20 - Fundraising Meeting; 7 p.m., Library

May

- May 1-2 - May Adoptathon
- May 2 - Walk-a-Thon, 1 p.m., Shelter
- May 14 - Animal Enrichment Meeting; 7:30 p.m.
- May 18 - Fundraising Meeting; 7 p.m., Library

July

- July 17-18 - Cat Show at the Garden State Exhibit Center

To find out when other committees hold meetings or upcoming events, regularly check the calendar at www.secondchanceforanimals.org.

The Garden State Cat Show at the Garden State Exhibit Center in Somerset will be on July 17 and 18. We usually need help transporting cats to and from the shelter and volunteers to man the tables for the day and assist with adoptions.

More details to come but check out the website or call Alicia Bottari at (732) 846-0311 if you think you can help.