

Capital Pet



3 Oakland Avenue, Menands, NY 12204-2718
518.434.8128 | mohawkhumane.org



Fostering the Way to Adoption Success

Bacon, a 4-year-old stray, was found wandering in Albany Rural Cemetery and brought to Mohawk Hudson Humane Society (MHHS) by good Samaritans. Animal Care Manager Brianna Seltzer recalls how nervous and reluctant he was on that first day. He also had terrible skin issues, likely due to his heavy flea infestation. But day by day, Bree earned Bacon's trust. As one of our B&E (Behavior & Enrichment Program) dogs, Bacon received the extra one-on-one interaction he needed to eventually become adoption ready.

Bacon's story is one example of how our B&E Program allows us to help dogs and cats with behavioral challenges such as fearfulness, and undesirable behavior like jumpiness and mouthiness. These issues can make potential adopters reluctant to commit. That's where our foster-to-adopt program comes in.



When Bacon arrived, he was very fearful and had skin issues.

According to Director of Behavior and Enrichment Nancy Haynes, the foster-to-adopt program is generally a three-week "trial" period for would-be adopters and provides extra support in those first few critical weeks. The adopters have direct contact with a staff member who is always there to address questions and concerns. Consultations are also available onsite, if needed. We also encourage new families to attend obedience training classes with us post adoption. Not only do we offer an adopter discount, but our trainers are already familiar with the dogs' personalities, so they are uniquely qualified to help them achieve success.

Bacon's new family said the foster period was extremely helpful for getting to know him without the pressure to make it permanent right from the start. But to everyone's delight, once Bacon was in a home environment, his playful, cuddly personality emerged! He's now happy, healthy and loved dearly.



Bacon with his family on adoption day.



MOHAWK HUDSON
**HUMANE
SOCIETY**

ANIMAL CARE CENTER
3 Oakland Ave.
Menands, NY 12204-2718
www.mohawkhumane.org
518.434.8128 P
518.434.0217 F

HOURS
Open Daily Except Wednesdays,
Noon – 6:00 pm

MHHS SARATOGA CLINIC
4255 Route 50, Saratoga Springs
518.886.9645

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We Are Grateful to You

Thanks to your compassion and generosity, 2019 has been a good year for animals in the Capital Region and we are extremely grateful. Thank you for:

Adopting — Over 3,000 animals find new homes each year because you know they need you. When we asked you to step forward and adopt so we could take in cats displaced by Hurricane Dorian, you answered the call and 115 felines found new homes in five days.

Volunteering — Our volunteers continue to devote an average of 2,000 hours of their time monthly. This ensures animals will receive daily walks and other interaction, dishes and toys will be washed, bottles and cans will be sorted and so much more.

Attending MHHS events — You generously supported our Benson’s Pet Centers Gala for Animals, the 500 Pet Challenge and Oktopurrfest, raising over \$235,000 for programs and services.

Donating In-Kind — Donations of bedding, paper towels, food and countless other items save MHHS tens of thousands of dollars annually. Your redeemables have put the Goldstein Auto Group’s ‘Empties for Animals’ program on track to set a new revenue record by the end of the year — more than \$140,000.

Making room in your budget for the animals — Your monthly gifts, pledges to the building fund, payroll gifts and independent fundraisers help ensure we can provide exceptional care for the pets who need us. Planned gifts, such as bequests, help to secure a bright future for MHHS and the animals.

Thank you for believing in the mission of the Mohawk Hudson Humane Society and for helping us to achieve it. We simply cannot do it without you.

For the animals,

Todd Cramer, President and CEO



Helping Veterans and their Pets

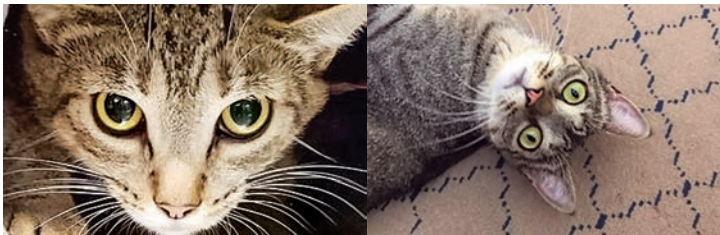
Companion animals have a positive, enriching and often healing impact on our lives. In an effort to encourage adoption by veterans, as well as to assist those who already have pets, Mohawk Hudson Humane Society and Tri City Rentals have partnered to provide high-quality care and support services to veterans in need. The program provides fee-waived adoption, spay/neuter, vaccinations and microchipping, as well as access to our Furry Friends Pet Food Pantry and Yoga with Cats classes. Some services are income qualified. To learn more, please contact us at 518.434.8128, ext. 227.

A Whirlwind of Support for Cats in Need

In September, our friends at Grand Strand Humane Society in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, braced for Hurricane Dorian and evacuated 270 pets in their care. Thirty-one of those cats and kittens made their way to MHHS. To make space for our new residents, we asked the community to open their hearts and homes to the many felines already available for adoption. We waived fees on cats age 3 years and older. We experienced an outpouring of support, especially for our very shy cats. During the five-day span following our announcement, 115 cats were adopted. Bevelyn was one of them.

We have two types of shy cats: spirit cats (very wary of people, but content in the company of other cats) and working cats (feisty cats who are happiest living in barns or warehouses as hunters). Both are met with limited interest by adopters seeking cuddly lap cats. However, once we started sharing their stories, caring families came forward.

The Giglio family decided they could adopt one more cat, thinking he or she would live with two other mousers on their hobby farm. They came to visit and learned of 3-year-old Bevelyn, who was so shy they



Bevelyn was not social to people at first, but when adopted as a working cat she warmed up and decided she'd rather live indoors.



MHHS took in 31 cats evacuated from South Carolina during Hurricane Dorian.

couldn't even visit with her. Based on her story and knowing they could give her the time she needed, they knew they couldn't leave without her.

There is a process of introducing an outdoor cat to a new environment and it can be tricky. The Giglios felt Bevelyn was too shy to be let outside, so after a few days of keeping her in her crate in their mud room, they reached in and tried to pet her. She was scared, but also seemed to love it! They let her into the house and she quickly found a high spot out of reach. She was safe, so they let her be. She came down at night to eat and use the litter box. After a few days, she started to come when called and also accept petting. She has met the other cats, but it's looking like she may prefer to be an indoor cat, or as the Giglios call her, the "queen of the house."

While Dorian caused a lot of trouble, we were blown away by all the support we received for so many wonderful kitties.

Wellness Services Help Keep Families Together



So many people in our Capital Region and North Country communities want to provide their pets with proper care, but can't afford it. To answer this need and to help keep pets with the families who love them, we have expanded our spay/neuter and wellness services. At both our Menands Animal Care Center and Saratoga Spay/Neuter Clinic, we offer routine care for healthy pets, including vaccinations, flea treatment, deworming, heartworm and feline leukemia testing and more. To learn about income guidelines and pricing, visit mohawkhumane.org or call 518.886.9645.

Happy Tails

Send your Happy Tails to happytails@mohawkhumane.org.



Dewey



He warmed up to us very quickly, wanting lots of attention and to be with us at all times. He's such a sweet boy and loves to play. He even taught us that he likes playing fetch. We're so happy that we could give him a fur-ever home.

- **Amanda and Jancarlos**

Oreo



Oreo enjoys roaming around the house, sleeping on my pillow, sitting on the windowsill, and playing around during the night. He is such a snuggle bug and we couldn't be happier with our kitty choice!

- **Erica**

Maple



We think she is the best dog ever and we are so happy to have her. Thank you for taking care of her before we adopted her.

- **Lydia C.**

Rigby



We looked at each other and it was an instant connection!

- **Kayla B.**

Lotus



Lotus is adjusting very well and very much enjoys the company of her big brother.

- **Ally B.**

Zoey and Walter



We recently took Zoey and Walter on a cross-country road trip and they had such a blast. Giving these two, and countless other animals, a second chance to be part of a family is an honorable job and we thank you so much!

- **Heather and Omar H.**

Eliza



When I met Eliza she was terrified, but I felt she was supposed to come home with me. The first night she came out from hiding, she pounced on my bed and started head-butting me to thank me for bringing her home. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to meet this wonderful cat.

- **Thomasin D.**

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