It is with mixed feelings that I am writing this final letter as President of the Board of Rescue Village. I have served proudly for over 7 years, and have worked with so many good people to accomplish many significant achievements. This role has been one of the most fulfilling experiences in my career. I will remain on the Board to insure that RV will move to another new level. Some of the accomplishments during my term are as follows: (1) developing a new 3-year strategic plan back in 2008 that helped RV stay focused on key initiatives that moved RV to a new level of professionalism, operations, and engagement in animal welfare; (2) undertaking a subsequent strategic planning process for 2015-2018 to assist in accomplishing key initiatives in support of the building expansion; and (3) undertaking the building expansion project and associated capital campaign. These are only a few of the many great programs that were completed during my term. Clearly, the key to the future success of RV is the continued commitment by all to the mission, vision and financial sustainability of this organization.

While my term was longer than most Presidents or Chairs, I also know that change in officer positions is healthy and brings new ideas and initiatives to an organization. In conclusion, I say to Hope Brustein - “Thank you for being a partner in the last 7+ years - what a great experience and pleasure!”

Sincerely,
Nancy G. Rubin, President

This is the story of 365 days of unforgettable change at Rescue Village. With the support of our humane community, we raised the roof to save more lives. Starting in June, when our expansion was complete, we began to realize the results. This report illustrates what can be accomplished when a group of compassionate champions decided that they must save even more animals and help even more people. This dream had been percolating since 2008. By the end of 2015, only six months after moving into our new shelter, we were already beginning to see our life saving work grow even further.

- Buddy was the last dog and Louie was the last cat to go home in 2015. On December 31st, the shelter was almost empty, and monthly adoptions soared to 192, the highest in Rescue Village history.
- Over 2,000 S/N surgeries were performed in our clinic, despite having been in its new space for only six months.
- Our humane education program became full time and the community education room doubled in size.
- Rescue Village was awarded the 2015 Emerald Leadership Award for outstanding service to the people of Geauga County.

None of this was possible without an outstanding staff, 500 volunteers, a forward-looking Board of Trustees, thousands of donors who care deeply about our mission, and a broad community of adopters and supporters. As a community, we extended our hearts and homes to animals who enrich our lives. During this year of huge change and transition, we moved forward together to expand our circle of compassion.

With gratitude and excitement for the future,
Hope Brustein, Executive Director

expanding the circle of compassion and advancing our mission

As the only program of its kind in northeast Ohio, we introduced the new PALS (Pet. Advocacy. Learning. & Service) kids volunteer program.

- We worked through construction and enforced Ohio humane law, resulting in helping over 100 animals and prosecuting 2 cases.
- Rescue Village was awarded the 2015 Emerald Leadership Award for outstanding service to the people of Geauga County.

None of this was possible without an outstanding staff, 500 volunteers; a forward-looking Board of Trustees, thousands of donors who care deeply about our mission, and a broad community of adopters and supporters. As a community, we extended our hearts and homes to animals who enrich our lives. During this year of huge change and transition, we moved forward together to expand our circle of compassion.

With gratitude and excitement for the future,
Hope Brustein, Executive Director

dear members of Rescue Village,
Through 58 total foster homes wrapping our arms around Annie they are all royalty without crowns

The waiting list of friendly stray cats needing shelter seems endless and we are always at full capacity. But no two cats are alike and we work for happy new beginnings for each of them. Arthur was found during one of the polar vortex cold snaps. Tests showed that Arthur was FIV positive (an incurable immune-deficiency virus that is spread through bites). He also had an eye problem that required two surgeries.

Arthur had a tough “resume” and might be hard to adopt. But what a friendly guy! We went ahead with surgery and volunteers nursed him through a long recovery by offering plenty of enrichment and attention. When he was put up for adoption, we sang his praises while honestly informing adopters about FIV. Arthur’s perfect someone came along after a year stay at “the Village.” For the rest of his life he will have the love and care he needs. Arthur, like other cats, may not have been a king but he was treated like royalty at Rescue Village.

Rescue Village is known for going above and beyond. Even the tiniest of animals gets a larger-than-life support group when they need it. We will never forget Annie B. This tiny pup came to Rescue Village with her litter-mates. While they thrived, Annie B. was not eating and faced multiple health problems. It just was not clear if she would survive.

But, there was no giving up. She was given liquid food every 2-3 hours and went home with a staff member so she could be tube-fed throughout the night. Annie B. progressed slowly, one small step after another. The day we knew she was out of the woods was pure joy. When Annie B. finally went up for adoption it was a tribute to her spirit and to her caretakers’ refusal to give up. At Rescue Village every animal is special. Here, life-saving is a profession and a personal mission.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fostered Animals</th>
<th>Through 58 total foster homes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>183  kittens</td>
<td>115  puppies</td>
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<tr>
<td>30   adult cats</td>
<td>22   adult dogs</td>
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<tr>
<th>Adoptions</th>
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<tr>
<td>980  cats</td>
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<tr>
<td>830  dogs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14  small animals</td>
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<tr>
<td>15  barn animals</td>
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Ziggy was larger than life when he was rescued and brought into the RV barn in February 2015. This 6-7 year old Clydesdale was on a long road to recovery. The impact of neglect was, in part, visible. The list was long: an infected back leg left permanently swollen; hoof disease which took three months to heal; and malnutrition. The invisible scars also needed healing. Trust, playfulness, and confidence take a long time to rebuild.

They come to us broken – in body and spirit. But most of the time, with the gift of time and needed care, the “before” and the “after” are remarkable. Sometimes cruelty and neglect take a toll too large to overcome. Yet the success stories illustrate the restorative quality of compassion and the fighting spirit of all of these wonderful animals.

Running a shelter where animals can stay until they are adopted is far more than a philosophy or policy. It is a commitment to maintaining physical, emotional, and behavioral health over time. Our first goal is to get our animals home as quickly as possible. Even the best shelters are stressful. Boredom, noise, strange people, and confinement can take a large toll, especially on long-timers. From the beginning, we offer enrichment. For a cat like Ruffles, who lived at RV for a year, that meant kitty camp outs with room to jump and climb – a relief from sitting still. It meant scratching pads and plenty of quiet petting from volunteers.

For Alestair, a great big beautiful Pit mix, we challenged boredom with outdoor play and extra socialization. For other dogs, a field trip to Chagrin Falls brought “face time” and fun. Even the admin staff gets involved. When we saw the pictures of Charlie the Pit mix after a sleepover at Anna Marie’s house we knew that all he really needed was a home of his own. For Danny, a senior dog, everyone got to see what he would be like when he had a couch and people and a place to be loved. Short-term or long-term, happy endings are made of great standards of care.

we can get through this

before they go home

animal intake

611 transfers
101 humane cases
758 strays
418 owner surrender
112 returns

intake by species

1,089 cats
865 dogs
23 small animals
23 barn animals

spay/neuter

681 TNR
2,130 total of all programs

(Pre-adoption/TNR/Fix-it in the Farmland)
Each year we get hundreds of requests from schools, Scout clubs, and student organizations to connect with our humane education programs. Children and youth are eager to learn about and interact with animals. Their questions, their curiosity, and their amazement are part of why the Rescue Village humane education programs are so effective.

In July 2015 we piloted a kid’s only volunteer program, P.A.L.S Rescue Club (Pet Advocacy Learning & Service). For the first time these young individuals were allowed to volunteer at the shelter without their parents. Kids between the ages of 8-13 were welcomed to join this exclusive club. P.A.L.S meets twice a month for 2-hour sessions. Members have hands-on and real-life responsibilities involving shelter service, education, and philanthropy.

Every club member is unique and brings with her/him a diversity of experience and personalities. Everyone is equally valued - reflecting the same concern and appreciation we extend to every animal at the shelter. What ties everyone in P.A.L.S together is a mutual love for animals.

With the assistance of staff members, highly-trained adult volunteers, and our teen mentors, P.A.L.S members work in teams to create their own community fundraising events, aid in animal care, and inspire others to get involved for the greater good. There are thirty members so far. These extra ‘little’ hands have had a big impact on Rescue Village. And it has been inspiring to witness the impact this club is having on its members.

We are working to inspire the leaders of the future and involve them early. A humane community is, truly, the best shelter.
For weeks after moving into our new shelter in June you could hear these words: “Where is the new clinic?” “How do I find the laundry room?” “The Cat Behaviorist really has an office?” It felt like we needed GPS devices to navigate, what was now, a 20,000 square foot facility. We could barely find each other but we did not lose our way.

Our commitment to shelter medicine, with its solution based spay/neuter programs and top notch care, have a new state of the art home. Our belief in the necessity to provide temperament assessments, enrichment, and behavior modification programs for shelter dogs and cats has room to breathe and expand. The new intake center and holding areas mean we can take in scores more dogs and get them adopted more quickly than ever.

Litters of puppies and kittens now have designated spaces to be housed. A puppy intake to adoption “assembly line” has emerged and the lobby is constantly packed with people looking for pets. Our capacity to save at risk animals, to expand educational camps, and to rehome has skyrocketed.

With the support and generosity of the community, 2015 will forever be known as the year we raised the roof to save more lives. More animals are being saved than ever before.

The bricks and mortar that is the new Rescue Village houses a mission and a dream. We have graduated from being a small county shelter to being a regional center for rescue, rehabilitation, adoptions, and education. Watch us soar!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2015 financial report</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Unaudited</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Operational Funding</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Operating</strong></td>
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<td>Support</td>
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<td>Contributions</td>
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<td>Grants</td>
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<td>Special Events</td>
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<td>Bequests</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Public Support</td>
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<td>Revenues</td>
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<td>Adoptions, Program Fees &amp; Retail</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Income</td>
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<td>Total Revenue</td>
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<td>Total</td>
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<td>Management</td>
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<td>Capitalized Building Costs</td>
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<td>Total</td>
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<td>Net Change</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th><strong>total outcomes</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>1,839 adoptions</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>24 return to owner</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>40 transferred out</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>8 died or DOA</strong></td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>euthanasia</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>117 medical</strong> (692 cats, 10 dogs, 3 horses)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>35 behavioral</strong> (21 cats, 14 dogs)</td>
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FAITHFUL FRIENDS $200 - $499
Michael and Robin Almstrom
Ronald and Mary Adams
Tom and Joen Adler
All Matters, Inc.
Tim Ambrose
Filo Anthony
Aquafina, Inc.
Bairdbridge Women’s Club
Mike and Karen Baeridge
Bank of America United Way Campaign
Connie and Thomas Barnett
Jennife and Todd Barnett
Jim and Bab Bailey
Judith Baker
James and Carole Bedford
Carrie Bowen
Susan and Dale Blisko
Mary Blatock
Joseph and Kristin Blaivas
Blum & Associates Co., L.P.A.
Susan Bole
Edward Boyle
Los and Hely Boswell
Doug and Cathy Brook
Brown Architects, Inc.
Boris and Linda Buabonde
Pat Buccioli
Christine Bucknell
Mary Cantin
Celeste and Steven Cappotto-Babulski
Carole Cantuer
Stephanie and Paul Cavello
Chagrin Falls Intermediate School
Chardon Local School District
Chef for Hiring Challenge
Cathy and Bill Christopher
Cohen & Company, Ltd.
Bruce and Elizabeth Cohen
Dot and Carol Colangelo
William and Tracy Conge
Jody Conner
Jean and Thomas Connolly
Patty and Donald Costa
Control Meauement, Inc.
John and Patricia Whitmer
Lyneen and Alan Wood
Peter Wachter
Edward and Jane Young
Mark and Christie Zedar
Ellen and Dan Zehan
Francis Zunicic
Anna Zverina
Amber Zamin
Ellen and Dan Zelman
Mark and Christie Zedar
Edward and Jane Young
Mary and Bill Zerion
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