Where the rescue meets the road

Every time we can take animals from a bad situation and turn their lives around it makes our hearts soar! We know that there are dogs, tons of wonderful dogs, whose time is running out at shelters just east of us. These dogs have done nothing wrong except for being homeless and winding up in shelters with time limits.

We listened to our hearts and decided Rescue Village had to reach out and work even harder to save more of these wonderful animals right in our own backyard who just needed a chance. This is the story of Izzy, Hugo, Boss and Mama ~ the first four furry friends who found hope and home...just in the nick of time.

This life-saving journey started with a good old-fashioned road trip. Staff members leading the Year of the Dog, Sarah, Dr. Volpe, Barnee, Dee Dee and Erin, piled into a car and headed to Trumbull County. They met up with Marty, a shelter volunteer with a huge heart, and looked at one dog after another who they knew would be a great companion. Their staff welcomed the help with open arms. What our team saw brought appreciation, as deep as an ocean, for the resources and care that Rescue Village offers.

Erin was near tears when she said, “Looking into the eyes of all the wonderful dogs there and knowing what end might lie ahead for them just tore my heart out. I knew that I would do whatever I could to help them and also help other dogs like them in the future.”

We had to start a rescue train for as many of these animals as possible. The next day, we called Marty and offered to take four dogs. Marty put down the phone and ran...to make sure that all four were saved from their fate. With literally only minutes to spare, plans were made to transport the dogs to Rescue Village.

Names were chosen: Izzy, Hugo, Boss and Mama. Three were adopted within a few weeks. Mama, who needed surgery, took longer. But that is okay. Inside Rescue Village there are no time limits. What started as a road trip helped us create a road map. There is no stopping us from gathering people and building an adult dog foster network. Over time we will save hundreds more dogs than ever before. This is not a dream, it is a promise.
Recently I bought a bright red kayak. I imagined finding lots of time for paddling quietly on LaDue Reservoir near my home. It would be a perfect getaway from thinking nonstop about the animals at the shelter. I also planted a vegetable garden, even though spending time at farmer’s markets is more my thing. Yet, truth be told, it is the call to duty that brings me alive.

When Rescue Village decided we must save even more dogs in our region and when we gave the thumbs up to send a team from RV to do rescue work in tornado-ravaged Joplin, Missouri, the atmosphere up at the shelter was electric with a sense of a community with a purpose. Yes, every time we take on a new project or program, it means more work on our plate...and less time for kayaking and gardening.

As I walked into dog isolation and saw Hugo and the other dogs from Trumbull (see front page) I knew we were doing the right thing. When I heard about using clicker training with cats (yes, you heard me right) I was so proud of staff and volunteers for being so innovative and always wanting to do more and then some.

This work is a chance to save more lives and is constantly challenging hearts and minds. It is not all neat and orderly. Heck, we had to get our RV team on a plane to Joplin in two days. We also had to get the four dogs out of Trumbull faster than that. And what strikes me is that alongside all the skills and policies and everything else you need to make a humane society effective, you need a sense of daring to scale the heights and a willingness to travel uncharted waters. This is not at all a solitary activity...it is a grand group effort!

So I am sure mine is a fine kayak, and sometime this summer it will get a workout on the lakes and rivers around Ohio. And maybe, just maybe, I will harvest tomatoes and green beans from my garden.

When the long days of summer begin to wane, we will look back and find peace knowing we have done our best for the animals in need.
It takes a village

On any given day, a visit to the Rescue Village barn surprises most people.

“A peacock? You have a peacock?”, they ask. The horses are less surprising because local barns and horses go together and this is horse country. What is most startling is the positive change in these animals’ appearance and health after they receive care at RV. Horses are typically hundreds of pounds underweight when they arrive. Zoey and Sweet Pea took months to reach a normal body weight and good health. Goats, llamas, pigs, chickens, roosters, mini-horses and more have found safety and care at the barn.

With full stalls, the amount of work involved in maintaining the barn has grown by leaps and bounds since we started the program in 2005. Christian, our Humane Agent, is in charge, has staff help, but it is still not enough. This is where the RV barn volunteers come in. They are a growing crew that shows their love through hard work. This intrepid team mucks stalls, feeds and waters the animals, sweeps the aisles and any other barn responsibilities needed.

The volunteers include: Kathy, Loretta, Rachel, Tiffany, Amber, Rebecca, Halyn, Danielle, Marie, Patti and Ann. Working with large animals and multiple species requires training and the educational component of our barn program is expanding. With help from Ron Carlton, we have already held classes on the handling and care of horses and more classes will be coming.

The way we see it, the barn program will be expanding. With so many animals, we need more community involvement: more volunteers, more financial supporters, more donations of hay, feed, equipment, and even people who will provide foster care. We need YOU! Scores of horses and farm animals are being saved and we are sending out a clear message that Rescue Village protects all animals and is willing to put its heart and soul into life-saving efforts.
Advocacy angle

We are sharing this article from The Coalition to Ban Ohio Dog Auctions:

“Since 2004, the Ohio Dog Auctions have grown into anything but run-of-the-mill. Breeders who participate in these auctions are raising large numbers of dogs and puppies with profit as the primary motive for existence. Many of them are found to be unhealthy, not screened for genetic diseases, do not show resemblance to the breed standard and lack good temperament.

The auctions serve as a major distribution channel for buyers and sellers from 15 states, many of whom have long standing, repeated violations of the Animal Welfare Act and/or have been convicted of animal cruelty. It’s a sad life for man’s best friend. And a business managed by a tremendous amount of corruption and consumer fraud. Ohio has no laws preventing dog auctions.

Many concerned citizens firmly believe the auctions serve not reputable breeders but large commercial facilities where dogs are bred to produce as many puppies as possible in conditions ranging from unsanitary to inhumane.

The Coalition to Ban Ohio Dog Auctions is spearheading a citizen-backed ballot initiative – The Ohio Dog Auctions Act.

The measure will establish a statute making it illegal for anyone to auction or raffle a dog in Ohio. It also would prohibit bringing dogs into the state for sale or trade that were acquired by auction or raffle elsewhere.

Voters across the state are communicating with their fellow citizens and starting to gather a goal of a minimum of 120,700 signatures by December 1, 2011 to put the proposed law before the Legislature in January 2012.

Volunteer petitioners are needed to make this initiative a reality in Ohio — we have until December 1, 2011! We need everyone’s participation to make this vital effort a success!”

For more information visit www.banohiodogauctions.com.
Jack

Jack was looking up at me in his kennel with those big eyes and even bigger ears. I knew, right then, that he was meant to be my dog. He had had a hard life. He was broken and sad and, just needed someone to give him the love that he had been missing his whole life, and I was looking for a dog to love. I’ve had Jack for 5 years, and I can’t imagine my life without him. I’ve heard it said somewhere that everyone, no matter how many dogs they own in their lives, has one soul mate dog. Jack is mine. Thank you Rescue Village for providing him a safety net and giving me the chance to find and love him.

Katie Tricarichi

Pikachu

I had spoken several times with Wendy Grellinger, Cat Behavior Coordinator, about adopting barn cats. Wendy called and said my barn was a great place. I went to the shelter to meet Pikachu. I found her asleep in her cage and called out her name. She woke up with a cute little coo, jumped up, ran to the cage door and rubbed up against me. I thought: “She’s sweet! How could no one have fallen in love with her in 2 years?” Then the cat in the next cage started to paw at me for attention. That’s when I saw what they had been seeing. The growling! The hissing! The swatting! She was like Dr. Jeckle & Mr. Hyde! This convinced me she had the spunk she needed to survive in my barn as a barn cat. So, home we went.

Two days went by where she stayed in my extremely large laundry room to become acclimated to her new home. We learned quickly that Pikachu is a PRINCESS. NOT a BARN cat! There would be no releasing her outside!

Her favorite spot is on the side of the tub. She likes to sit there and drink the water out of the facet while my husband takes his shower in the morning. Yesterday, my husband was sleeping in, so he had not gone in to take his shower yet. I got up and walked into the kitchen. The picture above is what I saw when I passed the bathroom. I laughed so hard I almost cried. I have no idea how she got up there. She definitely needed help down!

Don’t get me wrong, she still has an attitude! But she lets us know when she wants, ‘lovin’ or leavin’’. And we oblige to her princess’ wishes.

Katie Tricarichi with Jack
John Glowe and his wife were searching for a new dog to add to the family and came across a picture of Bailey on the Rescue Village website. They went to visit him and found out he had a sister at the shelter, too! They couldn’t bear to separate brother and sister and went home with not one, but two puppies, that day! Having had their last dog for 15 years, it had been a while since they had a puppy, but were quickly reminded of all the mischief they can get into (Bailey and Misty were little chewers) and the boundless energy they have.

They purchased an Invisible Fence Brand system to eliminate the problem of tangling leads for the two spirited puppies and to give them freedom to burn off energy in their own yard. The dogs love to chase squirrels out of the yard to the edge of the property and then chase each other. Mr. Glowe describes them as “balls of energy” and says having the fence has been a “blessing”. He was skeptical at first, but loved the training process and the fact that he can now let them be free without having to worry that they will stay safe at home.

Friends and Family Circle

As adopters and supporters, Tom and Marsha Hopkins were impressed with the dedication and the passion of both staff and volunteers at Rescue Village. They shared with us an idea to grow the network of Rescue Village supporters: establish a Friends and Family program where a person or family decides to make an annual pledge to help the animals at Rescue Village and then seeks support from their friends and family.

We thought it was a great idea to help more animals.

The program is simple. Contact GHS at 440-338-4819 ext. 40 or development@geaugahumane.org. Meet with us to establish your annual pledge and fund name. We will create for you personalized cards and an online donation page. Then, send out cards and emails to your friends and family to give to Rescue Village in lieu of gifts for specials occasions like a birthday, anniversary, bar/bat mitzvah or wedding.

It takes a village to provide over 1,700 sick, injured, abused and abandoned animals with much needed hope, relief, and care every year. Thank you to all our supporters and to our current Friends and Family Circle donors:
• The Hopkins’ Family, who established the Hopkins’ Family Fund
• Linda Betzer, who established the Candace A. Prebil Memorial Fund
• A board member, who has anonymously established a family fund.

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Keep your dog Safe at Home, just like Annie!
$100 OFF* (for you)
$100 DONATION (for Rescue Village)
800-824-DOGS
www.invisiblefence.com

*RV-0411 Offer valid on purchase of outdoor packages only. Must present this ad at time of purchase. Offer is not valid on previous purchase or with any other discount or promotion. Not redeemable for cash. Participating dealers only. Expires 10/31/11
**Storytime**

In the fall of 2010, volunteer Linda Hernadez approached Humane Education Coordinator, Mary Carney, about doing a storytime at Rescue Village. Mrs. Hernadez said, “I really enjoy teaching children and wanted to get back into it. I thought that providing preschool age children an opportunity to learn about caring for pets and seeing them first hand at a shelter would make a difference in their lives.”

The forty minute program includes a lot of fun and exciting activities: singing, reading a book, dancing, craft making, snacks and, most importantly, visiting with the animals. “The greatest benefit of doing this program is providing the children hands-on learning experiences about pets, and sharing knowledge and activities with parents,” said Hernadez.

What do the parents and kids have to say about the program?

“My child loves storytime. She looks forward to it every week!”

“I love you teacher!”

“They will generally laugh and clap and be excited when they walk into the shelter for the program.”

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**Be Kind to Animals Week**

**Coloring Contest Winners**

Maggie Mills  
Olivia Kikel  
Mikey Marotta  
Janine Hartory  
Natalie Sipula  
Samantha

**IKWT**

In Kids We Trust is an advisory board of teenagers between the ages of 12-16 who have a passion for animal welfare. Members of the board were chosen because of their individual contributions made to Rescue Village. These kids have all taken the initiative to help the animals. One member sold firewood to neighbors and donated the proceeds. Other members have been making jewelry and donating all the proceeds for the past four years.

As a group, they held events throughout the summer to raise awareness to other youth. They are hoping to provide children who are not old enough to volunteer at the shelter an opportunity to connect with the animals.

The board is very excited to take over the Paws N Play kids’ area at Woofstock. They will also have special activities along the Woofstock walk, that children and adults can take part in and earn free tickets for prizes at the Paws N Play kids’ area.

If you are interested in finding out more information about events that will be held by In Kids We Trust, please contact Abbie Leska at info@geaugahumane.org.

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**Education Wish List**

- Whole Wheat Brown Flour
- Colorful Fleece
- Wooden Dowels 3/16”
- Wooden Dowels ¼”
- Markers – washable and permanent
- Material to make and decorate dog bandanas
Geauga Humane Society’s

Woofstock 2011
Annual Dog Walk and Family Festival for Pets and their People

September 11, 2011 • 9am – 3pm • 10am Dog Walk
The Holden Arboretum • Rain or Shine • $5 parking per vehicle

Who You, Your Family and Friends & Your Dog.


Why To give homeless animals the attention they deserve and a clean and safe shelter, nourishing food and medical services they need.

How Raise as much as you can through pledges from your friends and family. You’re not only saving more homeless animals, you get cool prizes too. To learn more or to start, go to www.geaugahumane.org.

Thank you to our sponsors:

Presenting

alexprints  In Kind Contributors: Club Rock • The Holden Arboretum • Runavrilrun

GOLD

silver

Media

All proceeds benefit Geauga Humane Society
**Collect pledges & earn prizes**

Raise as much as you can through pledges from your friends and family online. That way, you’re not only caring for more homeless animals, you get cool prizes too. You can use the registration form below, or create your own web page and do it all online.

**Collect**  **Prize**
- $10  tie dye bandana
- $35  Woofstock T-shirt
- $100  Rescue Village coffee mug & Woofstock T-shirt
- $200  Rescue Village tote bag & Woofstock T-shirt
- $300  Rescue Village hoodie & Woofstock T-shirt
- $500  Everything above & your name entered in a drawing for a “Stay and Dine” package
- $1000  Everything above & a $50 PetPeople gift card

**Top fund raiser prize**
You and your dog will be featured in the winter 2011 Rescue Village Reporter. In addition, your dog will be the chair-dog of Woofstock 2012.

**Top kid fund raiser prize**
iPod touch

*All prizes will be awarded based on money turned in on or before Sept. 11, 2011.

**Join us and make a difference!**

“I love raising money for Rescue Village’s Woofstock because I like to help all of the animals. The more money that I raise, the more animals I can help. I have already raised some money and my goal is to raise more than I did last year. The donations will provide food, blankets, toys, medicine, beds and lots of other wonderful things for the animals. I go to the shelter every weekend to check on the animals and see what they need. I walk through the inside to see the cats and dogs, then I go to the barn to see the horses and other farm animals. Instead of gifts for my birthday, I asked all of my friends to donate items to Rescue Village. Hopefully, this will encourage them to continue to donate too.”

Jori – 8 years-old

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**Woofstock™ Pledge Form • Sunday • September 11, 2011**

Please bring all pledges (checks and cash) and this form with you to RV before the event or to Woofstock on the day of the walk. $5 parking per vehicle. **Checks should be made payable to Geauga Humane Society.**

For more information or to fundraise online please visit: www.geaugahumane.org

Walker’s Name

Address

City_________________________State_________________________Zip_________________________

Email Address_________________________Phone_________________________

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A receipt for your pledge sponsors can be obtained by calling us at 440.338.4819 ext.19. (For donations of $250 and over.)

**Please check the following:**

☐ Enclosed is $35 for my Woofstock T-Shirt  ☐ Enclosed are my pledges that total $_________________________

**Waiver**

I, the undersigned, for myself and heirs, hereby waive and release any and all rights and claims for damages which I might have against Geauga Humane Society, The Holden Arboretum, any sponsor of this event, their employees, agents, or any of them arising out of my or my pet’s participation in this event. I also give full permission for use of my name and photograph in connection with the event. In addition, my pet(s) participating in today’s walk have current RABIES and other vaccinations.

signature (parent or guardian if under 18 years)
In Memory of Companion Animals

Abby
Pamela Dunovsky

Alfredo
Eleanor Gogolick

Andy
Dr. Sharmyn Clark

Annie
Dr. Sharmyn Clark

BJ.
Becky Peterson

Bailey
Barbara Smith

Bailey & Baxter
Marisa Coven
Nabis Klein

BeeBop
Dr. Sharmyn Clark

Biggs
Casey & Jamie Bankhurst

Blair
Marc & Deborah Kitzer

Bob
Patty & John Kurtis

Brown Dog
Rebecca Wills

Bruno
Gary & Nancy Parker

Bucky
Chuck & Kathy Huck

Buddy
Joy Antalone

Buster
Dr. Sharmyn Clark

Buster
Dr. Sharmyn Clark

C.C.
Christin Alfieri
Tom & Connie Barnett
Linda Godwin

Cally
Sue Blazek
Gayle Freeman

Calvin
Marc & Deborah Kitzer

Cassie
Juanita Lasky & Marii Raia

Cleo
Dick & Susan Sebastian

Cody
Kathy Steinfurth

Cupcake
Dr. Sharmyn Clark

Daisy
Chip & Pat Kulp
Ronald & Susan Martin
Ann Morgan

Daisy
Chuck & Barb Palumbo

Dixie Glass
Kara King

Drake
Barbara Smith

Duchess
Joe Wells

Duke
Nancy Davis & Scott Smith

Duke
David & Hedy Kola

Emma
Dr. Sharmyn Clark

Emie the Groeter
Bill & Carla Simmonds

Fluffy
Dr. Sharmyn Clark

Fritz
Dr. Sharmyn Clark

George
Mary DeMartino

Gizmo
Dr. Sharmyn Clark

Groovy
Susan Persing

Haas
DeBrees & J.E. Bright

Harley
Dr. Sharmyn Clark

Harvey
Rita Broestl

Hogan
Dr. Sharmyn Clark

Honey
Allen & Diana Sika

Honey
Matt & Amy Jenkins

Honey
Jennie Post

Honey & Rascal
DeBrees Penny

Hoss
Carole Nazar

Ignu
Dr. Sharmyn Clark

Jaimie Lee
Dr. Sharmyn Clark

Jake
Dr. Sharmyn Clark

Jazzie
Dr. Sharmyn Clark

Jet
Geri Slavkyovsky

Jimmy
Marcie Goodman

Jinx
Dr. Sharmyn Clark

Joe
Dr. Sharmyn Clark

Julie
Dr. Sharmyn Clark

Katrina Haas

Katrinka
Marcie Goodman

Kiki
Rachel Edwards

Kinsey
Nancy & Carl Cefaratti

Kyle
Michelle & Russell Olson

Kyle
Brett Rupert

L.G.
Dr. Sharmyn Clark

Lila
Marcia Coven

Louie
Julia Bradley

Lucy
Eileen Ferrone

Lucy
The Baldini Family

Lucy
Jeff & Marilyn Bilsky

Maddie
Dr. Sharmyn Clark

Maddie
Marcie Goodman

Maggie
Carole Nazar

Matrix
Kathy Steinfurth

Max
Dr. Sharmyn Clark

Max
Eileen Judge

Mc Hale
Jeff & Polly Sack

Mike, Linda & Honey
Barbara Campbell

Mosie
Dr. Sharmyn Clark

Muffin
Becky Peterson

Neil & Trooper
Artene & William Roberts

Nelix
Adelaide Crisko

Niles
Carole Nazar

Opie & Aunt Bee
Dr. Sharmyn Clark

Parrish
Jeff & Polly Sack

Polly
Susan Underhill

Reiny
Dr. Sharmyn Clark

Remington & Starbuck
Karen Stor mann

Rhubarb
Dr. Sharmyn Clark

Rita
Phil & Dianna Gunn

Rocket
Dr. Sharmyn Clark

Rocky, AKA “Rock Star”
Carole Nazar

Rudy
Dr. Sharmyn Clark

Rusty
Dr. Sharmyn Clark

Sadie
Dr. Sharmyn Clark

Sadie
Chuck & Kathy Huck

Sam & Katie
Carol Hays

Sammy
Traci Felder-Ritt

Sommy
Barbara Lincoln
Scott & Kathryn Lincoln

Sammie
Kathleen Mills & Lee Gravun de

Shadow
Sam & Jennifer Abrakasi

Sharkey
Claudia Thomas

Shelby
Nancy, Recky & Lyn Gilombredo

Shoes
Dr. Sharmyn Clark

Sophie
Debbie & Aunt Do

Sparky
Jennie Post

Star
Diane Russo Arming ton

Sugar
Lori & John Gorrell

Summer
Chuck & Barb Palumbo

Sunday
Sande Asawa wa

Tasha
Marc & Ann Freimuth

Toby
Kay Thomas

Wally the Talker
Bill & Carla Simmonds

Whiskers
Dr. Sharmyn Clark

Willow
Janis Berge

Yogi
Dr. Sharmyn Clark

In Honor of Companion Animals

Brooke
Rose A. Hanitzik & Raymond D. Hanitzik

Hayden
Ted Donley

Kiki
Evy Leibfarth

Special thanks to:

• Ron Carlton for teaching a horse seminar and for helping Humane Agent Christian Courtwright transport some horses

• Wes Hellegers for a donation of 55 bales of hay

• Debra Tippett for donating a fan for the barn

• Don Simpson, President of the Geauga County Dog Warden for friendship and mutual support

• Jim Jung for his ongoing work on our building

• The DPN co-chairs Sheila Simpson and Tamara Whitner and committee members Elise Bennett, Hope Brustein, Stacey Gardiner, Gwynne Gretter, Patti Helmbrecht, Sunny Howson, Kathy Leavenworth, Diane Popovich, Betsy Somersheld, and Bettina Steinmetz

• Sheila Simpson for over a decade of event leadership

• Ardis Danicic and Marcia Grout for being steadfast administrative assistants

• Amy Sancetta, Jenny Campbell and Heidi Wormser for creating the video “The Story of Becca the Goat”

• Sally Contizano for all the Doggone Purrrfect Night design work

• Jan Glasser for assisting with camps and Canine Express

• Kathy Armstrong for donating 10 cases of cat cage scratchers

• Whitney Leffler for taking photos of adoptable animals for the website and videotaping a morning playgroup so we could show it at the dog volunteer meeting

• Daniel Sus sen for helping us sell a vehicle donation

• Patrick Mueller for choosing Rescue Village as the benefactor of his Eagle Scout project

• Jesse Schadick for collecting donations for the animals instead of receiving gifts for his 4th birthday
When Traveler came to Rescue Village, he was so scared that volunteer Tami Thurman took him home to foster. Tami quickly learned that Traveler is a very sweet, gentle and loving cat who is easily frightened by anything new.

Wendy Grellinger, Cat Behaviorist, had heard that “clicker training” can give shy cats confidence. So Tami decided to give it a try. To every ones surprise, not only did Traveler catch on quickly, he loved doing it!

Tami took a video to show-off Traveler’s new found “tricks”: touch, sit and jump through a hoop! Knowing that an adopter would be impressed, Wendy put it on our webpage to show how special he is. It worked! After talking on the phone with Wendy and then Tami, Linda Watko arranged to meet Traveler at Rescue Village. The rest is history.

Traveler has been doing extraordinarily well in his new home. Within two days, he had successfully done “clicker training” with his new human—an amazingly short time for such a frightened kitty. We believe the clicker training not only gave him confidence and allowed him to be adopted, but also eased the transition into his new home.

Interested in clicker training your feline? Check out this Youtube Link for some clicker training tips: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O6wgbCmaD8o.