

THE Pet Gazette



FINGER LAKES
SPCA

SUMMER 2024

FINGER LAKES SPCA STAFF

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Adoption, Intake
Lost & Found
Spay/Neuter
(607) 776-3039

Administrative Office
Canine Training
Volunteering
Humane Education
Tours
(607) 622-5363

FLSPCA HOURS:

11 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Mon., Tues.,
Wed., Fri., Sat.

Closed Thurs. & Sun.

*"We speak for those who can't
speak for themselves"*

72 Cameron Street
Bath, New York 14810
Tel: 607.776.3039

Email: info@fingerlakesspca.org



fingerlakesspca.org

New York State Registered Shelter/
Rescue Registration Number: RRI157

SERVING STEUBEN COUNTY



Many Thanks for Being Part of the Team!

Dear Friends of the Animals,

Over the past year-and-a-half it has become clear to me just what it is that we do here at the FLSPCA:

- We take animals (especially cats and dogs) into our care, provide for their well-being, and seek new homes for them.
- We help maintain the human-animal bond through our many programs (low cost spay/neuter, food pantry, canine training, etc.), thus helping to keep animals out of the Shelter.
- We encourage the humane treatment of animals through education, especially of young people, so that they grow up to be excellent companions of cats, dogs, or any other animal.

To take in and re-home, to maintain the bond, to encourage humane treatment. This is the work for which we have a passion here. But it is not work that we the staff can do on our own.

Because the other thing I am absolutely sure of at this point is how much we depend on you to do this work. We depend on our excellent staff, we depend on our amazing volunteers, and we depend on our generous donors. All of us together form a team dedicated to the wonder of companion animals. Over 4,000 hours of volunteer time were logged in 2023. And our recently received financial review of 2023 showed 70% of our income came from individuals like you.



Ruby is a fine example of this teamwork. Ruby was one of the 11 Cane Corso's who came to us as pups through a cruelty investigation back in 2022. She and her siblings were raised at the Shelter while awaiting the long court process to come to an end. Ruby was adopted by a man who lived in the Mossy Bank Park area up above the Shelter. Unfortunately, Ruby got loose not long after her adoption. Staff and volunteers went into action, combing the area. We didn't find her, which was heart-breaking, but we were able to alert neighbors to be on the lookout. About a week later, Ruby was found in a neighbor's garage, hungry and exhausted, but able to go home again. She's now settled into her forever home.

The human-animal bond is an ancient thing, deeply engrained in we human beings and those animals who thrive on human companionship. Sometimes that bond goes terribly wrong, and we step in when we are able (see thoughts about "capacity" inside). These days we are also committed to doing what we can to prevent that "going terribly wrong." If we work to keep the bond strong, we keep animals out of the shelter. Please join us in that important work with your donations today. Many, many thanks for being part of the team.

Michael Hopkins
Executive Director

What is Our Shelter's Capacity?

If you haven't heard that Shelters and Rescues across the country are over capacity, then here's the news: they are, everywhere; including here at the FLSPCA. What does that mean in practical terms? It means that sometimes we have to do the one thing we don't ever want to do, and that is say, "No, we don't have room."

What's behind that awful word, "no?" Capacity is about four basic things:

Physical Room

It looks like the FLSPCA shouldn't have a room problem. Just look at our campus! But our barn and farmhouse are not equipped to house cats or dogs for more than short-term stays. If we use those spaces we must use cages, and cages are not good housing for a healthy dog or cat for more than a few days. The capacity of our Shelter building is 12-15 dogs and 50-60 cats. Our cat census on August 15, 2024 was two-and-a-half times our capacity.

Resources

Like any household we must carefully manage our resources, including our financial resources, and this is even more true because we are responsible to both our donors and to accepted financial practices for non-profits. It currently costs just under \$10,000 per week to run our Shelter.

Staff

We have an excellent group of people working here at the FLSPCA. Their dedication to the animals is outstanding. We are not a big staff. There are 5 full-time-equivalents and 5 part-timers. Shelter work is stressful. Being over capacity increases that stress significantly.

Well-being of Our Resident Animals

We also must provide a safe environment for the animals in our care. The Shelter is by nature a stressful environment for animals. Overcrowding only increases stress and the likelihood of disease spreading.

There is also one other aspect of capacity coming down the road. In December 2025, new state law governing animal shelters will mandate capacity based on square footage available. So, add "legal" to the four above.



FINGER LAKES
S P C A

SANTA PAWS HOLIDAY EVENT

December 14, 2024
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
72 Cameron Street
Bath, NY



Spring Gala Dinner Dance a Great Hit!

Our annual Spring Dinner Dance (aka "Paws & Pairings") had a facelift this year, with a new name and a change of venue. 100 supporters of the Shelter gathered on June 7 for great food, conversation, and dancing! We raised about \$13,000 for the care of our animals. Some of our staff (pictured) also attended and added to the festivity of the occasion! A special thanks to our major sponsors:

Platinum Sponsor

PJ Aucoin in memory of David Mattoon

Gold Sponsors

Connie Frankel, Michael Hopkins & John Bradley, the Gerry Sagona Family, Paul Thomas & Rosemarie Ephlin, and John & Michele Wagner

Silver Sponsors

Chemung Canal Trust Company, Bill & Emily Decker, and Lynne Shoemaker & Richard Moyle.

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Sheriff James & Wendy Allard, Bow & Wow K-9 B&B, Gary Brown, Lynn Crane, Glenn & Linda Davis, Barbara Fowler & Terry Bilancio, Gail & Jim Malecki, Catherine Miceli & Catherine Reed, Jean Peterson, Taggart Insurance, Skip & Cindy Tollerup, and Donald & Katherine Weidner.

Mark your calendars! Next year's Spring Dinner Dance will be Friday, June 6, 2025!

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Cookie Sale (until gone) \$8 per lb, many kinds

Pictures with Santa 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
(for pets &/or people)

Adoption Specials

Be an "ANGEL" and bring something from our Wish List
(www.fingerlakesspca.org) for our orphan animals!

Refreshments

Gift Shop Specials & Large Holiday Markdowns

Holiday Raffle

Caroling in The Courtyard with
Common Ground Choir
(Time TBA)



MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

(8/14/2023 - 8/27/2024)

MEMORIALS

BELVA ALDRICH
Stella King & Shirley Serdula

ALL ABUSED ANIMALS
Ronald & Beverly Matthews

ALL OUR PETS
Charles & Sandra Lepkowski

ALL PETS
Tina Gottstine

**ALL THE PETS WE'VE HAD
IN OUR LIVES**
Lynn & Thomas Torpy

**ALL THE DOGS I'VE LOVED
BEFORE**
Joy Manchester- Pierce

**ALL THE DOGS & CATS I'VE
LOVED**
Nancy Alliet

**ALL THE WONDERFUL
ANIMALS**
Gerald S Hanson

ALL MY DECEASED PETS
Marjorie DiMeo

ALL OF OUR CATS
Stan & Kay Martin

ALL OUR PETS
Charles & Sandra Lepkowski

"PUGLY" ALLEN
Jana Crowe

JACKIE ALLINGTON
Stella King & Shirley Serdula

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DONNA SOUTHWICK
Evelyn M Southwick

MUFFIN & SNOOP
Daniel Dickey

LANCE "BUCKY" SQUIRES
Lawrence & Elizabeth Hojnoksi
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Phil & Lee Dickson
Spence & Karen Longwell
William Hamilton
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SUZIE & MOM
Laura Coleman

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Stella King & Shirley Serdula

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Jane Congdon

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Judith Gridley-Riff

EDWARD S TAFT
Chrystal F Taft

SHIRLEY TALADA
Phil & Lee Dickson

TO ALL THE DOGS I'VE
LOVED BEFORE
Joy Manchester-Pierce

CASEY THOMPSON
Jana Crowe

DAN THOMPSON
Fay & Nancy Faucett

JACK & HELEN THOMPSON
Kim & Kevin Yost & Alice R

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LOU, TRAVIS, KATIE MAY &
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LOLA WALKER
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SIMON WHEELER
Christine Minichello

YAZZY & TUG
Jana Crowe



PLANNED GIVING

Whether you have a million dollar estate or a more modest one, you need an estate plan. A good estate plan provides for your loved ones, minimizes tax liabilities and provides "Planned Gifts" of your assets to support your favorite charities. Many planned giving opportunities exist to suit almost any circumstance. As you consider the final disposition of your assets, please remember all of your friends at the Finger Lakes SPCA.

HONORARIUMS:

TREVOR & COOPER ALLINGTON
Larry Comfort & Lynn Van Skiver

ALL ANIMALS
Sharman Hanson

ALL MY CHERISHED ANIMALS
Jana Crowe

ALL CREATURES GREAT
& SMALL
Dana & Andrea Bookbinder

ALL OF OUR PRECIOUS PETS
Chris & Deb Townsend

ALL SHELTER STAFF &
VOLUNTEERS
Thomas & Carol Kelly

SUE ARTHUR
James & Danielle Arthur
Kathy Partridge

SUE "THE CAT WRANGLER"
ARTHUR
Bill & Emily Decker

ARTIMUS (FRECKLES) & ZEUS
(ROMEO)
Diane Backer

"BORIS"
Harold & Mary Semple
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ERIN MERRILL & GILLY
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ELSPCA STAFF
Michael Hopkins & John Bradley
Nina Warren

GRACIE & COOPER
Melissa Bevins

GUS
Martha & Herman Tober

"GUS" TOBER
Martha & Herman Tober

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Erwin Valley Elementary School

MICHAEL HOPKINS
Bill & Emily Decker

THE REV MICHAEL HOPKINS
Church of the Redeemer, Addison

WILLIAM & PATRICIA HOPKINS
Michael Hopkins & John Bradley
VERN HOWE
Scott & Leslie Burg

MARY JANE JONES
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ROSIE & JAMES KAHN
Larry Comfort & Lynn Van Skiver

STELLA KING (BIRTHDAY)
Gary & Carole Herrlich

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Nancy Alliet

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"MARLA" THE CAT
Keith McPherson

"MAX"
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Larry Comfort & Lynn Van Skiver

VICKI MOSGROVE
Bill & Emily Decker
Patricia Valusek

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CALI GIRL
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DOYLE HYATT
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TUCKER & SAYLOR SPENCER
Larry Comfort & Lynn Van Skiver

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AT THE FLSPCA
Melissa Bevins

STELLA KING &
SHIRLEY SERDULA
Gary & Carole Herrlich

SHIRLEY SERDULA
Gary & Carole Herrlich

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Intention Yoga

"SUSIE"
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Laurie Hamilton-Wilcox
Gerry Wilcox

"XENA"
Linda Ferris

NEWS FLASH!

Extraordinary Gift from Tom Golisano

On September 17, Philanthropist Tom Golisano announced \$360 million in direct, undesignated gifts to 82 non-profits in Western New York. \$24 million went to various animal welfare agencies. Finger Lakes SPCA was awarded \$1.5 million, to be given over a four-year period. Hornell Humane was given the same award. This was entirely unexpected, and we are still in a state of shock! The Board of Directors is at work deciding on the uses of this extraordinary gift and will hopefully be able to announce our plans by the end of October. If nothing else, we have several infrastructure issues that have been on the back burner due to lack of funds. Despite this amazing gift, we will still need you! Gifts of any size make a real difference in the lives of the animals in our care!

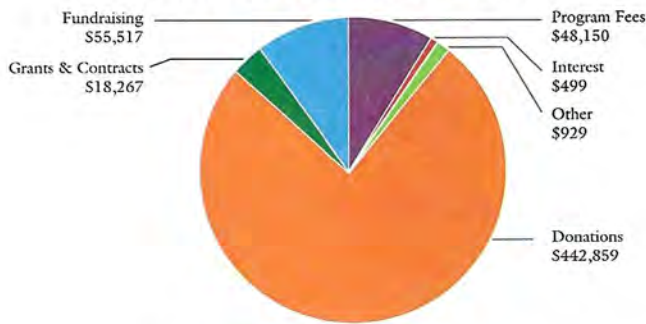


KATIE'S FUND

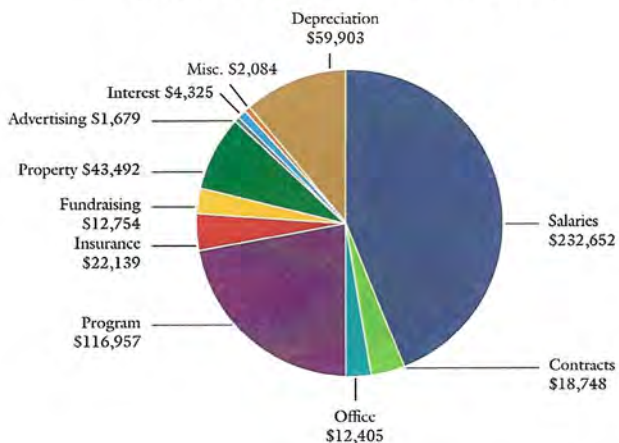

Thanks for the
gift of your
returnable bottles
and cans!
Keep them coming!
They are a significant
source of income for us!

Please remember our fund that helps us with animals who have special needs and with whom we experience higher vet bills, special food, etc. You can donate to this fund by writing "Katie's Fund" in the memo line of your check or using the QR code below. Be sure to find "Katie's Fund" in the "Apply My Donation to" choice.

2023 FLSPCA INCOME



2023 FLSPCA EXPENSES



We Depend on You!

Our 2023 Income and Expenses have undergone their Review by an independent CPA and the results are in these two graphs. On the expense side, salaries are our largest expense. The Review found that 90% of these salaries are used for program, i.e., care of our animals. On the income side, once again it is clear that we depend on you. Donations (88% of them from individuals) are the vast majority of our income. Thank you for making our work possible! We are always happy to answer any questions you have about our income and expenses. Just give us a call or email. We're happy to report that again in 2023 we have a gold level endorsement from Candid (aka Guidestar).



HEALING Wanderer

Wanderer was found by hikers on the Finger Lakes Trail by folks from Colorado. These good Samaritans brought him to us. Wanderer's eyes were full of gunk and as we cleared them out it became clear that something more than an infection was going on. He was suffering from entropion, an abnormal inward rolling of the eyelids. Entropion is not only painful for a cat but leads to almost constant infections. We put out a call for help and many generous folks helped pay for his surgery. Here is Wanderer post-surgery, which was successful! Thanks to all who donated. This kind of surgery is normally paid for by Katie's Fund, our resource for special medical needs. It had almost been depleted so the donations not only provided for Wanderer's surgery, they helped to rebuild the Fund for the next Wanderer or two.



ADOPTABLE Hope

Hope was an unclaimed stray from a local Dog Control Officer. We can't take all of those from DCOs but Hope had gotten a special place in that DCO's heart and then ours as well when we were introduced to her. She came in with skin issues, largely from fleas. Today she's a healthy, happy girl who can't wait for her forever home!



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S P C A**

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FRAN GEHL MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT

**PLAY FORE
PAWS**

**Thanks To Our
Golf Tournament Sponsors!**

Our Play Fore Paws Golf Tournament on August 18 at the Bath Country Club netted the Shelter about \$6,000.
Thanks to our sponsors! Mark your calendar for next year's tournament on August 24!

BEST IN SHOW:

Molly (Richard Moyle & Lynne Shoemaker)

TOP DOG:

John Bradley & Michael Hopkins • Leslie Gilstrap (In memory of Tipper)

FANCY FELINE:

Bill & Emily Decker • Maple City Savings Bank, FSB • Wheels Unlimited

BEST FRIENDS:

Lynne Crane • Nesbitt Financial Services • Jean Perterson
John Taggart & Son Insurance • Wilkins Recreational Vehicles

GREEN SPONSORS:

Bath Elks Lodge 1547 • David & Linette Bulkley • Edge's Enterprises
Barbara Fowler (in memory of Murphy)

TEE SPONSORS:

The Clark Family of Corning, NY • In Memory of Fran & Lois Gehl (3)
Robert Harris • Dana & Leann Wightman

