



PAW Shakes

The Newsletter of the Partnership for Animal Welfare 🐾 Summer 2012
PO Box 1074, Greenbelt, MD 20768 🐾 www.paw-rescue.org

Zina—An Inspiration to Kids

By Lisa Pfeifer

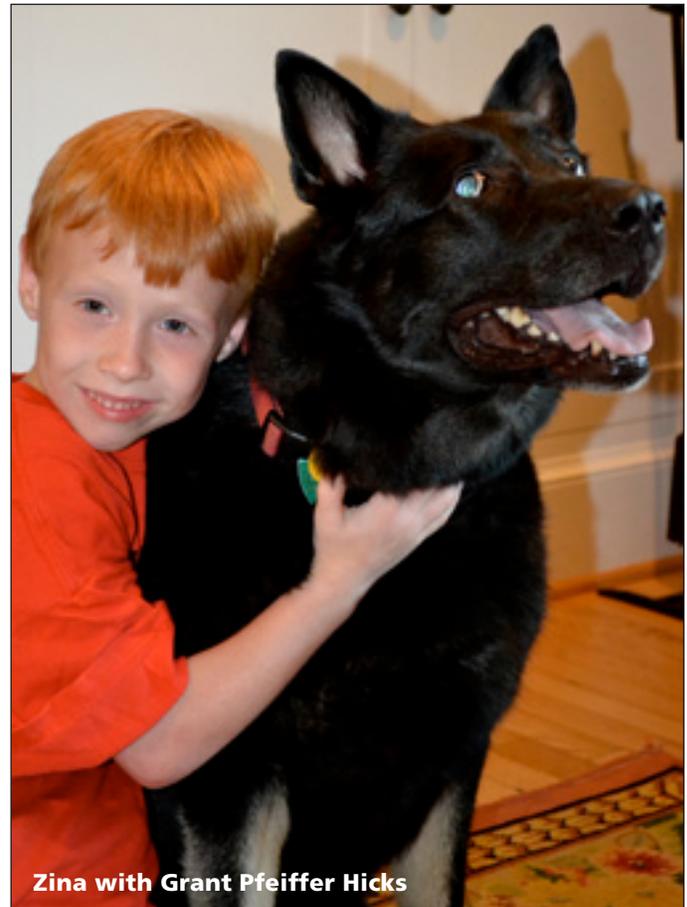
It's hard being upstaged by a dog. Yet, every time I visit Montgomery Knolls Elementary School (MKES) in Silver Spring, MD, I am greeted the same way: "Hi Ms. Pfeifer. Where's Zina?"

Zina, our 7-year-old German Shepherd/Lab 'mix, adopted from PAW in 2006, first visited MKES in October 2011. She went to help Latechia Mitchell's first-grade class learn about the five senses and animal adaptations. Because Zina was born blind, she is an expert on both of these topics. Ms. Mitchell's students, including my son Grant, performed several experiments to learn how Zina compensates for her lack of sight. For example, students stationed in different parts of the room took turns calling her name or clapping. Zina was able to locate each child, using her sense of hearing. The students also found that she uses her sense of touch to navigate around a room, which she demonstrated by repeatedly returning to the reading nook, with its soft, comfy pillows. At the start of the lesson, about half of the class was enthusiastic and the other half was unsure they wanted such a large, furry beast in their classroom. However, by the end, Zina had won everyone over and the kids did not want her to leave. Ms. Mitchell's class then wrote up their observations and shared them with the rest of the school.

Encouraged by Zina's successful debut, I decided to build on the positive reactions to Zina by linking her with an activity all the students are working to master—reading. So, in December, 2011 "Santa Paws" arrived with a jingle bell collar and a cart of 400 books. Some of the children were so caught up with petting and hugging Zina that they almost forgot to choose a book. Zina then attended Family Book Night in the spring to distribute bookmarks. Finally, as a special treat at the end of the school year, Zina spent a day with Ms. Mitchell's class. Activities included lunch in the courtyard, a rousing game of fetch during recess (yes, Zina can fetch!), sitting in the audience for the class production of "Alice in Wonderland," and giving out books for summer reading.

While some teachers were initially apprehensive about Zina, she is now

welcomed throughout the school. MKES faculty and staff are amazed by her calm, gentle manner, even when surrounded by kids. Several children have told me that they used to be afraid of dogs, but that this changed after meeting Zina. It seems that Zina's strategy for fetching a ball works well in other situations too—just get her started in the right direction and she'll figure out how to get the job done.



Zina with Grant Pfeiffer Hicks

Paws Up for PAW Prints in the Park!

By Eric Barger and Amy Bleich

On Sunday, June 10, 2012, the greater Partnership for Animal Welfare family gathered to reconnect, have fun, and raise money to support our adoption and rescue programs. On a beautiful day at Whitemarsh Park, in Bowie, MD, PAW alumni, volunteers, and friends came together to enjoy the day while helping to raise funds for PAW.

PAW Prints in the Park is a wonderful event, where people can exercise their dogs with the group, and take part in various demonstrations. This year, we were pleased to host two special demos that were educational as well as entertaining. Dog trainer Francine Holland put on a demonstration of dog obedience for an appreciative crowd, followed by Sharon Kirby and her free-style group, the Virginia Foxtrotters, who entertained two- and four-legged spectators alike. This was followed by a fun do-it-yourself trial course for any dog/owner combo wanting to test their skills by trying out some of the moves.

There were also ample opportunities for fundraising. The Walk itself was sponsored by much appreciated donations from participants. Appraiser Skip Hall brought his “antiques roadshow” to the park this year, and PAW merchandise and baked goods were available for sale. Our spectacular Silent Auction was a major reason why this event brought in more than \$3,000 to help the PAW animals still waiting to be adopted.

PAW Prints in the Park is a vital event for the PAW family. Scattered as PAW volunteers and adopters are throughout the greater DC metro area, it is one of the few times when we can come together as a group.



Animal rescue is very hard work, and there is nothing more rewarding than for our volunteers to see the happy families and animals who come to visit and spend time with each other and with us. The funds raised are much needed and allow us to continue to find new “happy endings” for homeless animals. If you attended this year, we were glad to see you and we thank you! If you didn't make it this time, please come out for PAW Prints in the Park 2013!

Hope to see you all then!



HAPPY ENDINGS



One of the best parts of being a PAW volunteer is helping our animals find their forever homes. We recently asked some adopters of our furry friends for updates on how they're doing. Here are a few of the stories we received.

A Fine Romance with Romeo

By Laura Koehne

In October 2011, my family welcomed a wonderful new member—Romeo, a 2-year-old Lab “mystery-mix” with a sleek mahogany coat and a quirky sense of humor. As I write this, he is leaping gazelle-like across the living room shaking a mangled rope toy, with my 8-year-old in hot pursuit. Life is good with a dog in the house! Thinking about how quickly Romie has become an integral part of our family, I am struck by the impact that PAW has had on our lives. This is our second adoption with the organization. We adopted Romie after the passing of our first PAW dog, Homer. It has been 10 years since our first experience with PAW but the energy and loving commitment of its volunteers remains the same. Back in 2001, Homer had been fostered for many months and had endured multiple eye surgeries, enabling him to see clearly for the first time in his life. The care he received from his PAW family set the foundation for an amazing pet who truly blessed our lives.

Now Romeo bounds into our home after experiencing the same dedication. PAW volunteers visited his kennel regularly to socialize him and work on his manners and, as a result, his transition to our home has been smooth. We loved Romie from the moment he arrived and as he feels more secure with us, his personality unfolds.

Already Romie has learned how to charm each family member. Our daughter loves his hand shakes. If

there is any chance of a treat, he waves his paw at her. When she has turned away, Romie uses his paw to nudge her backside until she notices. I am a sucker for his smile. He didn't smile much when he arrived, but he now knows that it makes me laugh and gives me a big toothy grin when I arrive home from work. When Romie goes into “crazy-dog-mode” we all laugh until our sides hurt. He bounces straight-legged around the room, spinning in tight circles, and then makes huge gazelle-leaps, sometimes right over an exercise ball. It's just unbounded puppy-joy!

Romie has a soft side too. His favorite thing is to be invited to cuddle,



Romeo with his pal Maddie

curled in tight against our side, while we read or watch TV. And he'll often wake us in the mornings by rubbing his face against ours in a special hello.

We are grateful to PAW volunteers for all they do to provide health and well-being to the animals until they find a forever home. Without you we might never have known the joy of our precious pets.



Fall into Our Autumn Basket and Bag Bingo!

PAW's Bingo fundraisers are a great way to have fun and help the animals at the same time! First-time players are welcome and complete instructions will be provided to all. So grab a few pals and join us for prize-winning fun and entertainment!

WHAT: Play bingo and win a valuable Longaberger® basket or a Vera bag! Door prizes and thank-you games are also included. Special games, raffle tickets, and snacks are available for purchase.

WHEN: Sunday, November 11, 2012. Doors open at 11:00 am; 1st bingo game begins at 12:00 pm. Admission: \$15 in advance or \$17 at the door

WHERE: The Bowie Elks Lodge, 1506 Defense Highway, Gambrills, MD 21054.

For more information, watch the PAW website paw-rescue.org or e-mail: amy.bleich@verizon.net or contact Kellie Boteler at 410-242-8072 or mcbkmb@aol.com **See you there!**

*Longaberger® and the other basket and collection names are the property of the Longaberger® company. This fundraiser is in no way connected with or sponsored by the Longaberger® Company.

Lilah—a hard road to a happy life

By Chris Marshall

It is so difficult to believe that Lilah has been with us for almost 6 months now. She has been such a joy and a blessing to our family! She is an incredibly sweet, smart, and energetic little girl! She keeps us on our toes, but she never ceases to leave a smile on our faces (as well as hundreds of puppy kisses!).

When we saw “Delilah” on the PAW website, our hearts went out to her. She had been in a car accident and needed reconstructive surgery on her shoulder, which also meant that she had to be kept still and quiet to allow her to heal properly. She was under the excellent care of a wonderful foster mom who took great care of her. I know Lilah will never forget the love and kindness shown to her during that time in her life.

We checked daily (sometimes more than once a day) to see if there were any updates or pictures of her. She had such a beautifully expressive face, that



I really wanted to meet her. When I called to see how she was doing, I was told that she was going to be at her first adoption show that very weekend. I made the decision to go, “just to meet her.” Needless to say, she melted my heart almost immediately and I could not just meet her and then walk away. We had filled out an application (just in case) and my daughter and I decided to see what would happen. My daughter has a dog (Pearl) and, we knew the two of them needed to meet first, to see if they would be receptive to each other.

A few days after the show, we received a phone call asking if we would

like to have Delilah come and meet Pearl. I tried to be realistic—there was a very good chance the two dogs would not get along, but luckily for us the meet-

ing went really well. There were a few growls at first, but by the time Delilah left, Pearl was already looking for her newfound playmate, as if wondering why this new pal had left in the middle of their game. We had lost a lab a few months before, who had been her best (doggie) friend and it had been apparent that she was not quite as happy without her constant companion.

When we were told we could adopt Delilah we were thrilled. It did take a few weeks of adjustments (in addition to Pearl, we have a cat, which was a whole new experience for Lilah) but she soon settled into a routine with our family and her “sister” Pearl—rarely do you see one without the other. The two of them run around our backyard playing all sorts of games. We found out that Lilah is also able to entertain herself if Pearl decides not to play for a few minutes—she takes kibble (or tennis balls, cat toys, a pillow, you name it), tosses it in the air and then chases after it if it scuttles away. It is honestly one of the most adorable things I have ever seen a dog do, and on numerous occasions I have tried to capture it on video, but if Lilah sees someone coming she prefers to play with them and forgets her kibble game.

Lilah has been an amazing addition to our family, and brings so much joy and energy to our home. We cannot thank PAW enough for saving this amazing little girl. Without PAW we would never have been blessed with our “baby girl.”

Announcing the 2013 PAW Pets Calendar—Your Photos Wanted!

Think your PAW pet ought to be in pictures? We agree!

PAW is seeking photos of your adopted PAW animals for our 2013 annual PAW calendar. Send your photos via email to amy.bleich@verizon.net Photos must be submitted by September 15, 2012

Snap away and send us your high resolution photo (around 2 MB size preferable). Only one submission for each adopted PAW pet. Plus, for those with multiple PAW pets, you get an extra submission for a group shot. **Hint—dogs with cats and holiday/theme photos a plus!**

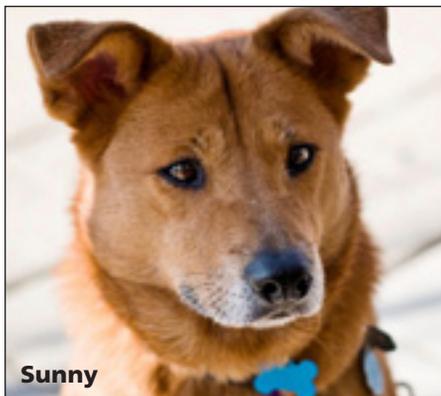
Please include your name, PAW pet name, and year adopted. Only the adopted family can submit photos. We request permission to use your photos for the calendar, our website, newsletter, or other PAW media. So get out there and start snapping—we have lots of happy cats and dogs we’d love to showcase!



Sunny—home at last

By Laura Clark

It hardly seems possible over a year has gone by since Sunny came into our family. We had recently lost our much loved 11-year-old Chow mix and were hoping to find a dog in need of a new home to help us fill the void. That's when we saw a video of Sunny on the PAW website and saw how much she looked like our previous dog, Bronson.



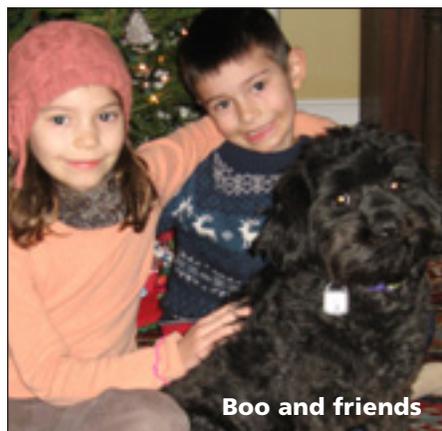
The sense that she was the dog for us was only made stronger when we learned that Sunny's background was remarkably similar to Bronson's. Both dogs had been placed with a family for a number of years but put up for adoption when the family was expecting a baby. Even though we had seen several other dogs that we liked, our first visit with Sunny sealed the deal.

We scheduled the home visit for as soon as we could. During the visit we learned more about Sunny's background and got a chance to introduce her to our home and neighborhood. A little paperwork followed, and then Sunny was part of our family. In the early days there was a steep learning curve for both Sunny and our family. For a while she would take advantage of a moment's inattention and bolt out of our front door. She would run around the house several times and generally ended up visiting our neighbor through an open backdoor. That earned her the name of the "Escape Artist." With time, however,

Sunny has blossomed. Frequent visits to the Vienna dogpark and three walks a day have given her a new confidence. In September, that confidence was on display when we visited The College of William and Mary to visit our son during Parents Weekend. Sunny was presented with a long car ride, a strange hotel room, and large crowds. She handled it all with aplomb.

Thank you, PAW, for bringing Sunny into our home.

Boo



Little Boo was a 12-pound, 4- or 5-year-old Schnoodle that PAW Medical Coordinator Suzanne Mattingly found at the shelter one day. He had severe kennel cough and was feverish and lethargic; with his fur all matted and dirty, he was a sorry sight—she just could not bring herself to leave him there. A few weeks later, shaved, bathed, and with his kennel cough treated and cured, this bright, affectionate boy was ready for prime time, and it didn't take too long before a loving family took him home.

As you can see, Boo (renamed Perry) had a great Christmas that year

For love of Luna

By Kim Nelson and Lori Simmons

The people who worked in the industrial complex were concerned. The small gray cat with the big beautiful



Luna, before she came to PAW

eyes had been hanging around in the parking lot for days in almost 100-degree heat. On several occasions, she had almost been hit by cars speeding through the busy complex. The cat was very friendly, though skinny, and had obviously been dumped. None of the workers' circumstances allowed them to take in the kitty, so they gave her water (which she gratefully drank), named her Luna, and contacted PAW.

Luckily, even though our few foster homes were full, a new volunteer had just joined PAW and was willing to take in Luna as her first foster kitty. Within days, Luna had her foster family and their big male cat wrapped around her paws with her crazy antics and sweet disposition. They were excited, but also a little sad, when Luna was adopted after only two short weeks. However, the family's bittersweet emotions were quickly replaced by joy when they almost immediately received a new PAW kitty to foster (hello, Daisy!) and realized how rewarding it was to have already saved the lives of two sweet and deserving cats who, through no fault of their own, had been cast aside.

PAW depends on its volunteers in performing its important rescue work. Because they do not do well in boarding, foster homes are vital in saving the lives of abandoned or abused cats. Meows and purrs to PAW's longtime and brand-new volunteer fosters, who save lives every day. If you would be interested in opening your home and heart to a PAW cat or dog, please contact us!

Girl Scouts Visit with PAW

By Robin Vinopal and Paula Cabrera

On a Sunday in early May, members of Girl Scout Troop 1288 visited the Columbia Petco show to meet all the dogs and learn more about PAW. This was part of a project the girls are doing, exploring different fields in which they are interested—in this case helping abused and homeless animals. Four girl scouts, together with two adults, and the younger brother of one of the girls came out to meet with our dogs and volunteers. PAW volunteers Paula Cabrera, Suzanne Mattingly, Makena Hammond, and Liani Setyawan met with the girls and helped make their visit a great success. They gave the girls an overview of PAW, talked about some of the issues involved with animal rescue, and told some heartfelt stories about our precious pups. The girls met each dog, and everyone got emotional a few times when hearing their stories. They also learned



Girl Scouts from Troop 1288 with PAW dog Winter and Jet.

more about how they can help and get even more involved with animal rescue.

Thanks to all the volunteers listed above as well as the dog handlers, Karen Huguley, Caitlin Rice, and Sherray Belton, who also talked to the girls. And special thanks to Bethany DiPaula who stopped by with her foster Kobi and spent time talking with the girls.



Donations in Honor of and In Memory of . . .

In Memory of Pet and in Honor of People

In memory of Lilly, and in honor of the staff & doctors at College Park Animal Hospital, by Ilene Pollack

In Memory of Pet

In memory of Amy Bleich's beloved Oscar, by Katrina Boverman and Joe & JoAnn Lamp

In memory of Baxter, Boo, and former PAW dog Taylor, by Ellen Oberholtzer

In memory of Deno, our Rottweiler adopted from PAW years ago, by Linda and Anthony Moringello. Your mommy & daddy will love you forever.

In memory of Frosti, beloved dog of Gloria & Marc Pound, by Ruth & Harry Cottman, Joanne Goldman, and Suzanne Mattingly

In memory of Frosti, who started out as our first foster dog over 14 years ago and quickly decided to join our pack,

by Gloria & Marc Pound

In memory of Hammer, by Robyn Zeiger

In memory of Jack, by Suzanne Mattingly

In memory of Lenny Boy, by Vera Green

In memory of Lucy, beloved cat of Barbara Freedman & Joe Haurand, by Mr. & Mrs. Edgar Freedman

In memory of Luke, aka Man Cat, & Zoe the Toe, by Skye & Daniel Chacon

In memory of Oscar, beloved companion of Amy Bleich & Mike Simpson, and a wonderful friend of ours for 17 years, by Robin Steel & Mike Story

In memory of Remo, Lulu, & Adrian, by James & Gina Ash

In memory of Tiarra Onyx Collins, our beloved dog, 1988–2003, by Michael Collins

In Memory of Person

In memory of Anne C. Lord, Chris' mother, by Bob & Nancy Klein, Suzanne Mattingly, Amy Bleich & Mike Simpson, and Joanne Goldman

In memory of Beverly Bragdon, cat fancier,

by Aletha Hendrickson

In memory of John Seachrist, by the Galeforce Condominium Association

In memory of Linda Mona, and for the care of special needs cats, by Bunny, Diane, & Gege

In Honor of Pet

In honor of all the dogs who can't find homes or have special needs, by David, Jennifer, & Jaxx Moczulski

In honor of Axel, by Amy Pergosky

In honor of Bandit, by Chris & Anne Thulin

In honor of Darla, the wonder cat, by Kathy Freund

In honor of Google, by Molly Jackson

In honor of Honey, by Karoline & Robert Dunne

In honor of Joanna Goldfarb, by Amy Bleich & Mike Simpson

In honor of Madison, our Irish Setter rescue dog, by Lawrence & Audrey Spivack

In honor of Minnie, by Barbara Patala

In honor of Teo (Rudy), by Sharon Milgram & Sharon Rogers
In honor of Wile E., by Kerri Wachter
In honor of Zoe & Clark, by Jessica & Roger Friedman

In honor of PAW volunteers, by JoAnn & Joe Lamp
In honor of Sam Rodin-Rubin, by Estelle Alexander

In honor of Shelly Toran, by Leah Zendel
Special thanks to the Rotary Club of Columbia Patuxent, by Bob and Nancy Klein

In Honor of Person and in Memory Pet

In honor of Amy Bleich, and in memory of Oscar, by Gloria & Marc Pound
In honor of Bob & Nancy Klein, and in memory of Flopsy & Huck, by Gloria & Marc Pound
In honor of Chris Lord, and in memory of Darcy, by Gloria & Marc Pound

In Honor of Person

In honor of all the wonderful PAW fosters, by Suzanne Mattingly
In honor of Barbara Davenport, by Katrina Boverman
In honor of Caroline Schweiter & Ted Kinnaman, by Tricia Olszewski
In honor of Dee Fitch, pet sitter to Keira, by Gail Golden
In honor of our wedding guests, by Erin Hutson, Daniel Meola, & Hazel
In honor of Paula Cabrera, by Dolores Morris and by Barbara Cabrera-Avila
In honor of PAW for helping the PG shelter dogs, by Amy Pergosky

Contact PAW

PAW is a private, nonprofit, and all-volunteer pet rescue group. We do not have a shelter; instead, we keep dogs and cats in foster homes and in temporary kennel space until permanent homes are found.

Here's how to meet our adoptable pets:

ADOPTION SHOWS: Visit one of PAW's weekend adoption shows, held at participating pet supply stores throughout the Maryland/DC area. For information on our next adoption show, visit our website, call the number below, or see our ads in the Washington Post Classifieds under Pets:Dogs and Pets:Cats. We usually have an ad every weekend listing the show location, date, and time.

WEBSITE: To see photos and descriptions of all of PAW's adoptable animals, plus a list of upcoming adoption shows, events, tips, volunteer information, and more, visit our website at: www.paw-rescue.org.

CALL 301-572-4PAW (301) 572-4729 for listings of upcoming adoption shows, volunteer information, donation information, and more. (Since PAW is all-volunteer, we can't always return phone calls as quickly or in as much detail as with e-mail. Please visit our website for photos and information on our adoptable pets, since we may not be able to return such calls as quickly.)

E-MAIL: For cat questions: paw_cats@yahoo.com. For dog questions: pawdogs@yahoo.com. Other addresses are listed on the website.

Membership/Donation Form For Partnership for Animal Welfare, Inc. PO BOX 1074, Greenbelt, MD 20768 • www.paw-rescue.org • 301-572-4PAW



PLEASE CHECK AS MANY AS APPLY:

Membership: Single (\$25) Family (\$45) Renewal (Please check here if this is a renewal membership.)

Additional donation: I am enclosing an additional gift of \$ _____.

I enclose an additional donation in memory of: A person: _____ A pet: _____

I enclose an additional donation in honor of: A person: _____ A pet: _____

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Volunteer: I am willing to help in the following capacity: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Please make checks payable to the Partnership for Animal Welfare and mail to the address on this form. The animals thank you.

The Partnership for Animal Welfare is an officially recognized non-profit organization which is funded through donations and adoption fees. Donations are tax-deductible (Tax ID # 52-1979581). If you would like to help, you can do so by donating money, earmarking your charitable donations to PAW, helping with some of our fundraising activities, or donating food, blankets and other supplies.



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PAW Shakes to . . .

- PAW's ADOPTION SHOW HELPERS, DRIVERS, and FUNDRAISING VOLUNTEERS for sacrificing their weekend hours to help keep our group going from week to week. Meows!
- PAW's FOSTER and ADOPTIVE FAMILIES. We couldn't save lives without you. Slobbers and slurps!
- We are very grateful to the following trainers who have provided invaluable assistance with some of our most challenging dogs: Julie Jacobus of Training by Julie, George Cockrell of Companions Dog Training, LLC; MJ Seemann of Bethesda PetSmart; and Michelle Mange of Right Start Maryland Dog Training. Arfs and wags!
- Woofs to Debra Ekman of Your Dog's Friend (www.yourdogsfriend.info/) for offering free workshops, training referrals, and more.
- THE POTOMAC ALMANAC for featuring an adoptable PAW dog and cat every week in their paper. Purrs and tail wags!
- GAZETTE NEWSPAPERS for featuring a promotional spot for PAW in some of their weekly editions. Meows and woofs!
- VETERINARIANS AND STAFF at Beltsville Veterinary Hospital, Beltway Referral

Associates, Chesapeake Veterinary Cardiology Associates, College Park Animal Hospital, Family Veterinary Clinic, Kenhaven Animal Hospital, Metropolitan Emergency Animal Clinic and VCA Veterinary Referral Associates for providing reduced-cost vet care to PAW's homeless dogs and cats. Woofs and wags!

- PRESTON COUNTRY CLUB FOR PETS in Columbia, MD, LITTLE RASCALS DOGGIE DAYCARE AND BOARDING in Rockville, MD and A PLEASANT GROOM 'N INN in Rockville for boarding some of our homeless pets at discounted rates.
- WMZQ for posting PAW's events and announcing them on the radio.
- DISTRICT LITHOGRAPH of Rockville, for printing this newsletter at reduced cost. Bow wows!
- WUSA for letting us show our adoptable cats and dogs on TV 9.
- WASHINGTON POST LOCAL LIVING section for posting our volunteer notices.
- LAST BUT NEVER LEAST, Maryland-area PETSMART, and PETCO, PETCO UNLEASHED and PETBARN stores for hosting our weekly dog and cat adoption shows. Paw shakes and purrs to all and to Bark! for hosting several shows!

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Editor: Sue Silver and Jodi Koehn-Pike

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