



# rescue village reporter

Geauga Humane Society Newsletter • Sponsored by Invisible Fence Co.

## Rescue Village Confidential— An Exclusive Interview with 3 of Our Own

Our Executive Director, Hope Brustein, had the chance to conduct an exclusive interview with three long-timers at Rescue Village— DBF's (dog best friends) Butch and Sundance and Fifa, the cat.

**Hope: Thanks for sitting down with me. You all live at Rescue Village and are waiting to be adopted. How's that working for you?**

**Butch:** Sundance and I are two lucky dogs. If you have to be in a shelter, Rescue Village rocks. We even get to listen to new age music.

**Sundance:** My taste runs more towards heavy metal, but, oh well. Music, toys, lots of walks every day. Hey, my only complaint is we don't have Netflix.

**Fifa:** Stop kvetching Sundance! The food is excellent. The doctors are mahvelous and



Fifa

I don't even have insurance. I am welcome to stay until someone takes me home. And my condo has central air and the people do all the cleaning.

**Hope: I hate to bring up a touchy topic, but wasn't life before Rescue Village pretty rocky?**

**Fifa:** Let's not go there.

**Sundance:** The stories I hear would make a grown human being cry. I have friends here who were abandoned... some others who were never let outside. I've seen dogs who had great homes but then their people lost a job or their house. I've heard it all.

**Fifa:** Oh dear, now I need a tissue. I never dreamed I would be homeless. I was found on a soccer field after the kids were kicking me around. Mon Dieu Mon Dieu!

**Butch:** Don't cry Fifa. But stop talking in that phony French accent. The people at Rescue Village are focused on love and finding us all new homes.

**Hope: Did anyone talk to you about the cage sponsorship program?**

**Sundance:** Is that why I never have to pay rent or utilities?

**Fifa:** Are you asking moi to pay for those dogs' kennels? Dahling, I simply have no savings.



Sundance (left) and Butch photo: Amy Sancetta

**Hope:** Hold on, hold on. Cage sponsorship is a program for people who want to make sure that all of the animals get the food, medical care, healthy environment, toys, and attention they need. The sponsors get a beautiful picture of the shelter animal they are helping for every month they sponsor.

**Butch:** So, it's sorta like animal welfare?

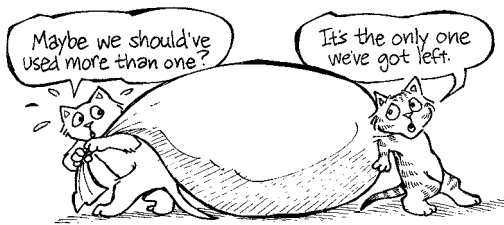
**Sundance:** Real clever Butch. No, it's sorta like having guardian angels.

**Fifa:** Please let all these angels know how much I thank them. Merci merci!

**Hope:** We thank them for you. But the biggest thanks is when they read about all of the happy endings they make possible.

**Butch:** Are you going to tell everyone how to become a cage sponsor?

**Hope: Absolutely. You can sign up online at [www.geaugahumane.org](http://www.geaugahumane.org) through the donate section. You can mail your sponsorship. It is \$15.00 a month and \$180 for the year.**



## Rescue Village Wish List

- KMR (Milk Replacer Food Supplements for Kittens)
- Paper Towels
- Cat Toys
- 55-gallon garbage bags

### Rescue Village Hours

Monday: noon to 7:00pm  
Tuesday: noon to 5:00pm  
Wednesday: closed  
Thursday: noon to 7:00pm  
Friday: noon to 5:00pm  
Saturday: noon to 5:00pm  
Sunday: noon to 5:00pm

adoptions stop ½ hour before posted closing times

# from the executive director

In the mornings, my adopted dog Piper is a blur of tail wagging, hopping, and general joy. Hours of peaceful sleep bring out the happy dog in her! Yet her days are a checkerboard of fun and fears. I tell people, "She has some issues." I wonder sadly, "what on earth happened before she came to Rescue Village?" I so wish Piper could tell me.

What you do about animal cruelty is a matter of the heart; of who we are as people, of what we want our world to be. Adopting and loving Piper, issues and all, instead of passing her by was a small personal answer to whomever or whatever happened to her. Yet, Rescue Village must respond on a much larger and more professional level.

Preventing and stopping cruelty and neglect is a defining part of Rescue Village. We cringe when we see horses like Anthony, Martini, or Lex come to our barn hundreds of pounds under weight, with coats so matted they can only be bathed slowly over time.

It is wrenching, absolutely wrenching, when our Humane Agents investigate complaints and witness inadequate conditions that are allowed by inadequate state law! We are charged with enforcing those laws and our court-appointed Humane Agents must work within the law. Citizens' rights must be protected even when we disapprove of their behavior. Cases must be documented. In situations where we can resolve problems through education, and assistance, and follow-up, we do. We seize animals and prosecute when needed.

In a way, it is easier to just be me, acting on my own personal conscience, free to vent my anger and cry about what someone did to my dog! What we do as Rescue Village is far more powerful.



Hope and Piper Rose Peep photo: Amy Sancetta

Hope Brustein, Executive Director

## Adopt-A-Thons

**Looking for your Purrfect match?** Rescue Village is offering you a chance to find a four-legged friend. Join us at one of our special adopt-a-thons for fun, activities, and adoption specials.

**August Kitten Caboodle**, August 15th–16th.  
It is all about the kittens.

**Howl-O-Ween**, Saturday, October 31.  
It will be a spooky good time with the animals.



Information in RV Reporter is believed accurate. Geauga Humane Society does not accept responsibility for errors or omissions. Consult your veterinarian for animal related concerns. It is our general policy not to sell or give away our mailing list. We do, however, reserve the right to share our list with certain strategic partners who are working with us to advance our mission. If you do not want us to provide strategic partners with your name, please send written notification to P.O. Box 116, Novelty, OH 44072.

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# donors

## A Defining Contribution

by *Virgie Carrol*

The defining contribution of my life for which I hope to be remembered, is the quest to improve the quality of life for companion animals. For as long as I can remember, my family has always opened their home to dogs and cats, which were accepted as part of the family. I know that our old

family albums contained more photos of dogs than people. My twin sister worked at a local veterinary clinic after school and during summers. I remember that quite a few animals made their way home with her, and our mother always said, "Yes; we'll keep him." In return, these precious beings offered unconditional love and devotion, seldom demonstrated by our fellow human beings.

It became apparent to me at an early age that not everyone shared the same dedication and motivation as I did, when it came to improving the lot of the animals. Therefore, I could not rely on others to take up the cudgels to defend or improve the lot of those creatures who offer so much to enrich our lives. Fortunately, I was blessed to encounter a young



*Virgie Carrol with Warren (left) and Nikki (right).*

organization, Geauga Humane Society, comprised of a compassionate group of like-minded individuals who were dedicated to improving the quality of existence of companion and other animals in northeast Ohio. This animal welfare society would serve as a vehicle in which I

could invest my energy, intellect and emotion toward what was now clearly the purpose of my existence, which is, making life better for as many precious creatures as I could.

Both the cause and Geauga Humane Society have never disappointed me. The fruits of my labor and those of my dear friends in the organization culminated with the opening of Rescue Village in 2001. The realization that we now had a facility capable of healing spirit and body of the special beings that depend on us brought a joy to my heart that is hard to put into words. When I witness the miracles occurring there every day, I realize that my investment of love, energy, time and money have been for a noble

and attainable goal, the welfare of the animals with whom we share the earth.

## Our Condolences

### **Heath Oliver October 3, 1930 ~ June 30, 2009**

We remember Heath for his generous spirit and compassion for the animals in need at Rescue Village. Together with his wife, Sylvia, Heath has touched our hearts. Heath loved playing tennis, fishing, and playing cards. But, we will never forget seeing Heath, with Sylvia and many friends, at the Doggone Purrfect Night event on June 20th. The Olivers were the naming sponsors and inspiring advocates for helping the animals find shelter, new homes, and dignity. Our deepest sympathy goes to Sylvia and the entire Oliver family.



## Good Times for Cats

Two years ago, Rescue Village staff and supporters began to ask, “Why can’t we provide enrichment for cats as we do for dogs?” We answered, “yes, we need to enrich the cats’ lives at our shelter.”

Because of you — our donors, supporters and volunteers — our foundation was already strong. Hundreds of volunteers daily spend time petting, cuddling, grooming and talking soothingly to our temporary cat residents. The cat community room (a cage-free, colony-style housing) provides 11–13 cats space to move up and down, to move inside and out, and to watch live birds fly all around.



*Nina enjoying the “outdoors.”*

**Our first step:** the addition of a Cat Behavior Coordinator whose focus is to implement innovative projects that make cats lives at Rescue Village richer and healthier. **The next step:** implement small and large projects.

The most significant change was putting into operation the Meet Your Match (MYM) personality assessment program. This process provides staff and volunteers with key information on the behavior and need, specific to each cat. The timid, under-socialized cat is given a “kitty cave” in which to hide, and quiet soothing words, until such a time where she feels confident enough to seek human interaction. The outgoing, social, hyperactive cat is petted, played with and given frequent nightly “camp-outs” outside of the cage. Most importantly, the MYM assessment allows for better matches with adopters.

### Other small, but no less significant activities include:

- Placing a shoe box or office supply box in the cage provides cats an opportunity to perch on top or hide inside.
- Having a cat’s own scent around is important to them. Whenever possible, bedding is kept with each cat for the duration of its stay and the bedding is sent with adopters to help with the transition.
- Puzzle boxes filled with enticing toys and treats provide release for the overly inquisitive cat.
- Scratching posts and wooden logs provide relief for the need to stretch and hone the nails.
- The foster program has been extended beyond “bottle babies” and weight gainers. Foster volunteers are now opening their homes to adult cats that are not doing well or showing well in their cages. These volunteers record their experiences in the home, providing a valuable tool for a successful adoption.

We promise, with your help, we will continue to be innovative— providing cats and dogs with the necessary enrichment they deserve while at Rescue Village. For more information on our Cat Enrichment program, please contact Wendy Grellinger.



*Gordon (in cardboard box) and Wasabi.*

# humane education

## An exciting new Camp Offering

The ever-popular summer camps are extending into fall and winter.

### Are you a 7-9 year old who loves animals?

If your answer is yes, Rescue Village has an exciting camp designed especially for you. Starting in October, for 7 months, the Animal Adventure Camp will meet at the shelter one Saturday a month from 10:00am-12:30pm.

Campers will learn about animal care, meet dogs and cats, study cat and dog body language, and learn about being responsible pet owners. Each month we will focus on one theme, and campers will partake in activities that relate to that theme. A few of the themes are Adopt a Dog, Holiday de-stressors for Pets, How to be an Animal Advocate, Cruelty Prevention, Curious Cats, and Celebrate Spay Day.

For \$60, children can sign up for all 7 sessions, (such a deal!) and will receive a t-Shirt. Children can also register for one, or more Saturdays for a fee of \$10.00 per Saturday. Visit our website for more information, camp application with dates, payment etc.

For more information please contact Mary Carney at 440.338.4819 ext. 20 or email at [education@geaugahumane.org](mailto:education@geaugahumane.org)

### Recapping Summer Camps 2009

Amazing and awesome completely describe the 2009 summer camps. Amazing guests like Fiona the mini-donkey, the Miller's gorgeous alpacas, K-9 police dogs,



Dr. Volpe and her amazing clinic staff, and Wendy, our amazing Cat Behaviorist, just to name a few! Awesome campers and awesome Homeward Bound trainers came to teach safety around dogs and how to read and understand dog body language! Awesome and Amazing!

time to enrich the camp experience for these young animal lovers and potential future shelter workers!

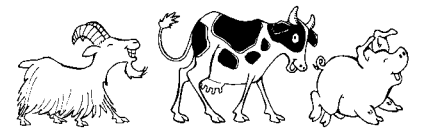
Many, many thanks to all summer camp counselors!! We could not do it without you!! Special thanks to Marissa Gelender and Kelsey Tyrell for all the hours spent preparing camp materials! And thanks to the RV staff, guests and homeward bound trainers for giving their

## RV Education Wish List

- Dog/Cat Fancy magazines
- Fleece (to make blankets for the animals)
- Light weight cloth (to make bandanas)
- Permanent markers
- Poster board in bright colors



Go to [www.geaugahumane.org](http://www.geaugahumane.org) for Rescue Village's complete wish list.



## Adoption hours (Animal intake by appointment)

Mon. & Thurs. from noon to 7pm/Tues., Fri., Sat., & Sun. from noon to 5pm/Closed on Wednesday

## happy endings in waiting

**Lonely Hearts Club**— A club for extra special animals searching for VERY SPECIAL people. Lonely Hearts Club members get focused attention because they might be older, or bigger, or sight-impaired, or need some custom care. But, just like everyone else, they deserve someone to love them forever. This program devotes time to “getting the word out” about our most needy Rescue Village animals.



As a stray, **Winnie** was cared for by a very nice person, who provided food and company for a couple months. But when Winnie gave birth to four kittens, the caretaker knew things needed to change. It has been a year since that kind woman brought Winnie to Rescue Village! Winnie is a sweet, shy, but very independent girl. She's all about calm, comfort, and long cozy naps. Winnie would do best in a quiet home where she is the only cat because she so enjoys her own space.



**Bear & Missy** were chained outside the dog warden's building with a note from their owners, expressing their inability to keep their pets because of financial difficulties. These Shepherd/Golden mixes are like two big teddy bears that love each other immensely and need to go home together. Bear seems to be the more laid back pooch, while Missy can be quite shy at first. However, once she gets to know you, she quickly switches from shy and bashful to happy, bouncy, and wiggly! These polite pooches are good with people, dogs, cats— pretty much everything and everybody! All Bear & Missy need is a relaxed, loving, happy home to spend their golden years.



**Fifa**, a petite black and white senior cat, was found outside of a soccer field on a cold winter day being tormented by young boys. A very nice woman stopped them and scooped Fifa up and brought her to RV. After overcoming her initial fear of us, Fifa has blossomed into an amazing and loving little cat. She will follow you around the community room until you pet her.

# happy endings



*Lola with Cynthia and Bill VerDuin. photo: Ed Slaby*

A very feisty Queen Kitty, **Lola**, once lived in a castle with a beautiful princess (her kitten). Queen Kitty was not pleased when her princess had to leave the castle. So, Queen Kitty decided to trash the fine china and crystal. Thus, Lola came to Rescue Village, where she refused to stay in a cage; instead she ran the office and took charge of the staff. Cynthia and Bill VerDuin visited Rescue Village, where Lola claimed them by sinking her mitts into Bill's chest. Now at home, Lola presides over two giant dogs, Bebe and Zeta, and her very own bunnies, Jena and Red. She roams freely, teasing the dogs inside and out of the Invisible Fence and lives happily ever after.



*Micro (right) with Mary Minor and her dog sibling Buffy. photo: Ed Slaby*

Mary Minor came to Rescue Village in November 2006 with a mission— find a dog. As soon as she saw **Micro**, a small, energetic and spirited dog, she knew he was the one she was looking for. Mary had to bring Buffy, her other dog, to Rescue Village to make sure the two would get along well and there would be no problems. Today, Micro and Buffy are best of friends and play together a lot. Mary says, "They bring such joy to my life, and I know they are happy living in my home."



*Tessa with the Callhoon family. photo: Ed Slaby*

**Tessa** was found wandering the streets and was turned into a neighboring shelter. At the shelter, Tessa twice tested positive for heartworm. She came to Rescue Village on February 26 to receive on-going treatment and care for her ailment. Because she had a several month stay ahead of her, it was decided, for her well-being, that she be on the adoption floor, not in isolation. The Callhoon family stopped in after losing their beloved dog, and Tessa worked her sweet magic. The family started to inquire on a weekly basis about her progress. They wanted her so badly that they offered to foster to adopt during her heartworm treatment. Tessa moved in with them and what a happy dog she became! The hard part for the Callhoons was bringing her back for her second treatment because Tessa had to spend the night. Tessa now lives happily ever after with her wonderful new family!



*D.C. with Joyce Krall. photo: Ed Slaby*

**D.C.** is a survivor. He arrived in August of 2008 with 20 other roommates. All the cats were rescued by our Humane Agent from a local hoarder. D.C. waited patiently as he watched 19 of his friends go to their new homes. Then in March, Joyce Krall found her family's newest companion. Today, D.C. lives with two cats and another Geauga Humane Society Alumni, Fox, a sweet dog that was adopted from our old facility on Merritt Road.

In Memory of  
**Friends & Family**  
**Lisa Allen**  
 Roy Call and Barb Cross  
 Linda Tompkins  
 George and Margaret Cannon  
 Janet Seman  
 Jean Reinhold  
 Kristina and Christopher  
 Hayward  
 Oapse Local 149  
 Paula Yanik  
**Barbara Barrish and Dakota**  
 Ann DuFresne  
**Stewart Bashian**  
 Linda and Brad Demsey  
 David P. Miller and  
 Frances Cosentino  
**Earl Booth**  
 Hope Gumprecht and  
 Mark Rodgers  
**Lawrence Brown**  
 Kurt and Margaret Faymon  
**Helen Cesek**  
 Irene Wetterman  
 Margaret Arra and  
 Kathleen Prorock  
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 Laurie and Dave Chaisson  
 Gary and Susan Reider  
 Ann Zeiser  
 Constance Baker Woolson  
 Rita and Thomas Carpi  
 Susan Pelton  
 Betty Lou and John Haxo

In Memory of  
**Companion Animals**  
**Abby**  
 Mobile Veterinary Animal Care Inc.  
**Andre**  
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 Mary Minor  
**Annabel**  
 Jan Berge  
**Autumn**  
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**Billy**  
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**Bonita**  
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**Boomer**  
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**Boomer**  
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 Marilyn and Jeff Bilsky  
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**Boubette and Tommy**  
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**Brady**  
 Dee Dee Bondra  
**Buddy**  
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**Charlie and Simba**  
 Valerie Hanna  
**Chief**  
 Nancy & Barton & Tabs Gil-  
 lombardo  
**Chien**  
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**Chivas Regal I**  
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**Chloe**  
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**Cinnamon**  
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**Rusty**  
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**Rusty**  
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 Ruthi Bloomfield  
**SamyJo**  
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**Snowball, Wicket, and**  
**Bashfuls I & II**  
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**Sport**  
 Robin Herrington-Bowen  
**Mr. Sparkles**  
 Pamela and James Snicer  
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**Sunshine**  
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**Tootsie**  
 Jan and David Glasser

In Honor of...  
**Sandra Ashmun-Gabel**  
 Nancy Herrick  
 Laurie Mental  
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 Merle and Marilyn Ettinger  
 John and Bev Sullivan  
 Shelley and Renee Rabb  
 Dale and Cindy Hall  
 Gretchen and Roger Delman  
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**Demsey** Renee Siegel  
**Duffy**  
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**Carly Glickman** Anna  
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**Madeleine Huber**  
 Jean Caldwell, Daphne  
 and Peek-a-Boo  
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 Randi and Ryan Bell  
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**Emily Labes**  
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**Ronni Lane** Gregory Lane  
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**Jan Shaffer**  
 Zack and Terry Bochman  
**Bess Sullivan**  
 Alec and Allison O'Neill  
**Kevin Thrope**  
 Lynn and Ira Krumholz  
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 Judy Honeck  
**Dr. Carole Wallach**  
 Denise Gaskell  
**Lily and Dean Weber**  
 Ardis and Don Danicic  
**Hannah Weinberger**  
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**Marilyn White**  
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 John Grabner  
**Zak** Robert and Alice Little

# bulletin board

**Upcoming Classes** (in the Rescue Village classroom) **Visit our website at [www.geaugahumane.org](http://www.geaugahumane.org) for class dates and times or call 440.338.4819, ext 10 for more information or to register.**

**Puppy Preschool** A class to start you and your puppy (eight weeks to five months) off on the right track. Cost: \$95 (\$85 for adopters from Rescue Village). Fee includes a manual and treat pack. Registration is required. No dogs should be brought to the first week of class. Sessions are six weeks.

**Sundays, September 13 thru October 18, 2:00 – 3:00 pm**

**Thursdays, October 8 thru November 12, 6:00 – 7:00 pm**

**Mondays, October 26 thru November 30, 6:00 – 7:00 pm**

**Good Dog 101** A primer on positive reinforcement training for owners with dogs ages five months to two years. Basic commands are taught. Cost: \$95 (\$85 for adopters from Rescue Village). Registration is required. No dogs should be brought to the first week of class. Sessions are six weeks.

**Sundays, October 25 thru November 29, 2:00 – 3:00 pm**

## Special thank you...

- **Sheila and Bob Simpson** for warmly welcoming all of the Rescue Village Blossom Parade participants (people and dogs) to their home
- **Karen Kaminsky and Buckeye Water Garden** for keeping our garden waterfall beautiful
- **Jim Jung** for building the staff mailboxes
- **Carol Peter and KeyBank** for printing our Annual Report
- **Janet Hauter** for her donation to the barn of 50 bales of hay
- **Kelly Barsham** for providing the wine for Leadership Circle
- **Eric Johnson** for providing legal assistance
- **Liz Blair** for going outside of her volunteer job description and helping out at the front reception desk. Your help is greatly appreciated.
- To **all the Front Desk Volunteers** for being amazing all summer long. All your help taking the calls and dealing with walk-ins has been so helpful to staff during our overwhelming summers.
- **Russell Township** for allowing us to use the maintenance yard parking lot
- **Breezewood Gardens** for designating Rescue Village as a recipient of your donation program
- **Sheila Simpson, Chairperson, and the entire Doggone Purrfect Night event committee: Elise Bennett, Sam Crowley, Jill Dzina, Stacey Gardiner, Gwynne Greter, Patti Helmbrecht, Sunny Howson, Kathy Leavenworth, Diane Popovich, Heather Ryan, Betsy Somersfield**
- In Kids We Trust Advisory Board members **Opal Contizano, Katherine Kulp, Griffin Shapiro, Amanda Short, Alyssa Williams** for putting together and hosting a wonderful event for all In Kids We Trust members
- **Sally Contizano** for making signs for the In Kids We Trust party
- **All the wonderful Fix It in the Farmland volunteers: Barb Stiebeling, Carol Janes, Colleen Domsoracki, Connie Barrett, Debbie Conlon, Halyn Conlon, Elaine McNeely, Howard Miller, Jan Glasser, Karen Banasik, Laura Smith, Lori Gorrell, Marilyn Whiting, Nancy Parker, Sherri DiPetro, Gia DiPetro, Tami Gingrich, Tami Thurman**

## from invisible fence® brand

### Another Rescue Village Animal Safe at Home

When Greg Dickson's wife and granddaughter took him to meet Jodi at Rescue Village, he had no choice but to say "yes" to the adorable 2 year old Mastiff/Boxer mix. But within a few days Jodi made a game of bolting out the door and making them chase her throughout the subdivision.

"I had no experience with Invisible Fence and had lots of questions," explained Greg, "Jodi is very muscular with lots

of energy and I was worried she might run right through it." Jodi caught on very fast and easily learned her boundaries despite major distractions, "Jodi has a strong hunting instinct and loves going after squirrels, but she always stops and the squirrels know they are beyond her reach! Even though I take Jodi on a walk every day, she would never get enough exercise without Invisible Fence— it's one of the best investments we've made."



# Invisible Fence. Brand

**Keep your dog or cat safe  
at home, just like Jodi!**

\$100 OFF\* (for you)

\$100 DONATION (for Rescue Village)

**800-824-DOGS**

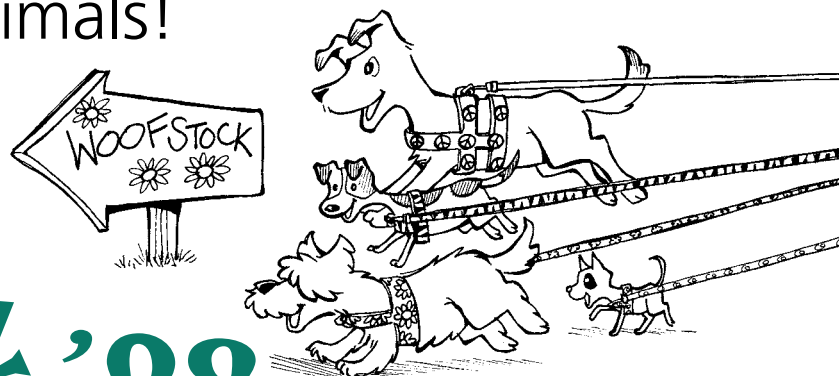
[www.invisiblefence.com](http://www.invisiblefence.com)



\*RV-0209 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 9/30/09

# Harness your power!!

**TEAM** up with Rescue Village—  
raise money for the animals!



## Woofstock '09

presented by **National City**  
Now a part of  PNC

**what** an all-day outdoor dog and family festival that features an organized dog walk, live music, animal friendly vendors, agility course, games and kid's activities

**why** to help Rescue Village provide a safe haven for animals in need

**how** **challenge your friends—form a team**  
grab your friends, neighbors, co-workers, classmates, and family members to raise money and earn great prizes

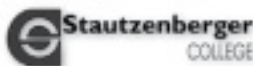
**challenge yourself**  
raise money as an individual and earn great prizes

**who** families, friends, kids, teams, dogs

**when** Sunday, September 27, 2009, 9am–3pm (rain or shine)

**where** The Holden Arboretum, 9500 Sperry Rd, Kirtland Ohio 44094 (\$5 parking)

Learn about all the ways you can participate—  
[www.geaugahumane.org](http://www.geaugahumane.org) or 440.338.4819 ext. 40



Food for purchase  
provided by:





**Geauga Humane Society/Rescue Village**

Post Office Box 116 Novelty, Ohio 44072-0116

15463 Chillicothe Road, Russell Township

☎ 440.338.4819

e-mail [info@geaugahumane.org](mailto:info@geaugahumane.org)

web [www.geaugahumane.org](http://www.geaugahumane.org)

**Rescue Village Hours**

Monday & Thursday: noon–7pm

Tuesday, Friday, Saturday & Sunday: noon–5pm

Closed Wednesday

adoption stops ½ hour before posted closing times

## “Fixin” Animals and Forging Friendships

*Notes from Fix It in the Farmland Coordinator, Barb Corkran*

**Good Morning!** I have to say that I left Joe’s Amish farm yesterday with a sense of great satisfaction, both of a clinic (mobile spay/neuter) that seemed to run effortlessly and a sense of great fondness for a people about whose culture I knew very little.

The animals that came were all loved by their owners, though some may have lived outside and were not accustomed to the degree of spoiling that our culture gives our animals. Their pets were still companions and playmates and members of the family, though they may not have slept on the owner’s bed or eaten from bowls imprinted with their names.

It was a pleasure to work with Joe and his extended family. The children were just exquisite. They approached us with varying degrees of shyness, but with the innate curiosity of children. Soon, they were quietly asking questions, talking about themselves and sharing our lunches. Apparently a love of French fries and ketchup knows no cultural boundaries!

Joe’s farm is an integral part of that Amish community and a great way for people to learn about events in their community.

Regards to all,

Barb



*Fix It in the Farmland, serving the Amish community.*