

## Two for the Price of One

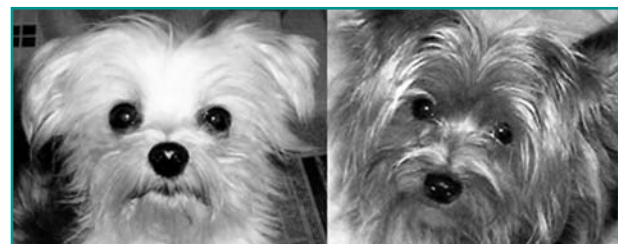
James Bank and his family came to Talbot Humane to adopt a kitten and left with so much more. The Bank family came into the shelter to adopt one cat, but little did they know they would leave with two. Most people will agree a tiny kitten is hard to resist. When the Bank family saw Ashley now called Bits which is short for Little Bits, for the first time at Talbot Humane it was no exception. They knew "Bits" was the kitten for them and they decided to take him home. As they were deciding on Bits, another cat caught their eye. Clyde, a 13 year old Tonkinese was an owner surrender but due to his age was not a strong candidate for adoption. Luckily, the Bank family did not feel this way and they decided to adopt him into their family as well. Today, both Bits and Clyde are enjoying their new life with the Bank family. The other furry members of the Bank family include 2 Siamese cats, and "Ludo" the



Airedale. The first night at the Bank house Clyde made himself right at home; he hopped right up on the Bank's bed in the master bedroom and has claimed that area for himself. The Banks say Clyde loves to cuddle and rub noses with his new human family members. Bits on the other hand, loves to explore the entire house and has become fast friends with Ludo. The Banks often see Bits sneaking kibble from Ludo's dish or napping in his crate. Ludo seems to love his new furry friend as he doesn't seem to mind all the kitty antics. The entire Banks family feels very blessed to have found both Bits and Clyde. Not only did this special family give a forever home to a kitten, but they also have given Clyde the chance to live out his days in the comfort of their loving home. Mr. Bank said it best, "It is hard to imagine life without them." We are sure Clyde and Bits feel the same way!

## Family Ties

Life in a puppy mill is no picnic for any dog and it was certainly no exception for Lyly and Belva. Both Maltese mixes came into the shelter looking for forever homes. The Talbot Humane staff had their work cut out for them. The two girls were frightened and wary of people, typical symptoms of living in a puppy mill their entire lives with very little human contact and used as breeding machines. Edward Sterling had been frequenting the shelter for months looking for just the right dog. He was introduced to Lyly and Belva together. Both dogs were very shy and reluctant to interact. Thankfully, Mr. Sterling would not give up on them that easily. Eventually Lyly, now called Snowball came over and sat on Mr. Sterling's lap. After some time Belva, now called Dirtball due to her slightly darker coat, began to warm up to him as well. After several visits to the shelter, Mr. Sterling was hooked. Once he found out from the shelter coordinator, Angela, that the two girls were littermates he could not leave one behind. He had originally come in looking for one dog but he soon realized that he would be



leaving with two. Mr. Sterling said "I could not have broken up the two of them. They are sisters, it wouldn't be right." Today, Snowball and Dirtball are adjusting well to the Sterling household. The other four legged members include a Pomeranian named Smokey, a Jack Russell Terrier named Maggie and Cookie the cat. The two sisters enjoy having the run of the house and love napping and snuggling on Mr. Sterling's bed. The once shy and timid girls now follow Mr. Sterling everywhere he goes. Mr. Sterling is extremely grateful to the entire Talbot Humane staff for bringing him together with his new family members. He remembers Angela, who went out of her way to help him find just the right match for his family. Sterling also appreciated the cleanliness of the facility. "It does not have that doggie smell that some shelters have" said Sterling. When Mr. Sterling came to pick up the girls, the Talbot Humane staff had bathed them and they were sporting new doggie coats. Snowball and Dirtball were ready to start their new life that they so greatly deserve.

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Kid's Directory  
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Talbot Guide  
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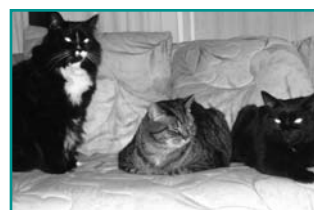
Tidewater Times  
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Wet Dog Car Wash  
Richard Phillips, State  
Farm Insurance

## HOME SWEET HOME - THS ALUMNI

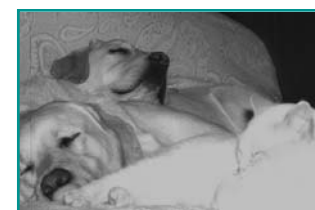
We love to hear from happy adopters and see pictures of how they are doing. Here a just a few of the many happy families!



"Darley" Tolley  
2006



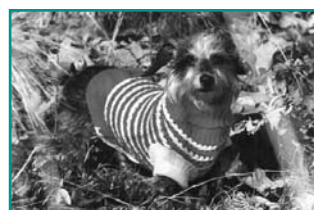
"Emerson"  
2003



"Caitlyn" Dial  
2005



"Sage" Redick  
2006



"Elsa" Van Schaik  
2005



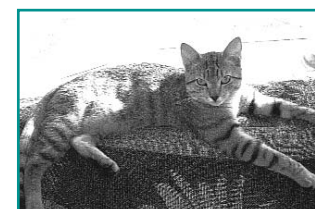
"Foster" Hardeman  
2006



"Jewels" Costta  
2006



Maddie Smock  
2003



"Jesse" Hudson  
2006



"Jonathon" Beall  
2006



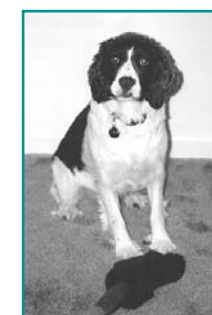
"Pumpkin" Jefferson  
2005



"Bridges" Dyott  
2006



"Maggie" VanLennep  
2006



"Chester" Drummer  
2006

Anyone interested in having their Talbot Humane alumni in the next newsletter please send a photo along with your name and the year adopted to tchs@friend.ly.net or P.O. Box 1143 Easton MD 21601.

# Shelter Tales

Newsletter of Talbot Humane

Winter 2007

## From the Desk of...



A lot of work at Talbot Humane is centered around caring for the animals and finding the unwanted ones new, forever homes. However, I feel that the most important job we do is the great effort that is made to keep animals from coming

through our doors in the first place. The most important service we offer in this regard is spay/neuter services. If we can limit the births of unwanted animals we can reduce the number of animals that end up in a shelter. Our low cost spay/neuter program has been operational since 1998. During 2006, we altered over 700 animals! We're seeing successful results of this program in that Talbot Humane has not euthanized an adoptable puppy since 2002 or an adoptable kitten since 2004! From 1995 to 2005, there has been a 20% decrease in the number of dogs entering our shelter and a 14% decrease in the number of cats. Our expanded facility has enabled us to hold animals for longer periods. This results in more ani-

mals being seen by potential adopters and therefore being adopted. Talbot Humane assists our community by providing advice, training, and referrals. Once adopted, new owners are offered behavior and training advice in order to create a harmonious relationship between family and pets. The advice we offer allows for families to train their pet to be a positive addition to the family which increases retention rates among adoptees. We offer these services to all residents on the Mid-Shore. Hundreds of animals are received at our shelter annually due to behavior problems; most of which could easily be solved with training. Pet ownership can be a rewarding and fulfilling experience for all members of your family. However, people should think carefully before taking on the challenges of pet ownership. Having a pet is similar to having a child in that you are now responsible for another living thing and your life will never be the same. Pet ownership has positive as well as negative elements. As a pet owner, you need to be willing and committed to work through the bad not just give up the animal. Any pet owner can tell you that the positive elements of pet ownership far outweigh the negative.

*Suzette Stitely*

Suzette Stitely, Executive Director



## In Memory of Barbara Fox

Barbara Delp-Fox joined our family in 1998 when a small group of women formed our fund-raising committee; the group that grew into our Special Projects Committee. Little did we know then the effect Barbara would have on Talbot Humane through her dedication to our mission. Barbara always had great ideas for fund-raisers which netted our shelter tens of thousands of dollars over the years. The Fashion Show, faux events, and cookbook were among her original ideas. Barbara continued to fight for our cause even as she was fighting her own battle against cancer this year and as a result our 9th Annual Barbara Delp-Fox Fashion Show and Luncheon was the best ever. Barbara also donated hundreds of hours as a member of our board and as a foster parent. She received the Natalie Porter Volunteer Award in 2006 for her service. She was an advocate for the shelter animal's wellbeing always asking how we could do it, not if it could be done. Her vision and dedication were awe-inspiring to those of us close to her. Talbot Humane has lost a dear friend and she is very sadly missed.

## STAFF

### Caregivers:

Tara Alvis  
Julia Laramore

### Caregiver/Rescue Drivers:

Ashley Thomas

### Senior Caregiver:

Dayniese Hurley

### Adoption Coordinator:

Angela Fleetwood

### Reception:

Jean Leonard  
Ashley Marshall

### Animal Control Officer:

Valentin Gonzalez

### Shelter Coordinator:

Patty Crankshaw-Quimby

### Executive Director:

Suzette Stitely

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### December 2006

Nancy Thompson - President  
Bryson Goss - Vice President  
Charley Carter - Treasurer  
Bob Brandt  
Ivette Gormaz  
Doug Gray  
Charles Riter  
Diane Taylor  
Margaret Welch  
Inini Wilford  
Doug Collison - Legal Counsel

## THS Contact Information

7894 Ocean Gateway  
P.O. Box 1143  
Easton, MD 21601  
410-822-0107  
410-822-7619 (fax)  
tchs@friend.ly.net  
www.talbothumane.org

## Hours of Operation

M,W,F 9:30am-5:30pm  
T,Th 10:30am-6:30pm  
Sat. 11:00am-3:00pm  
CLOSED SUNDAY & HOLIDAYS  
ADOPTION HOURS BEGIN AT  
11:00AM DAILY

# Feral Cat Management Program

Talbot Humane recently announced the development of a Feral Cat Management Program. This is a comprehensive program to control and reduce the number of feral cat colonies in Talbot County. Feral cats are the offspring of stray or abandoned domestic cats that live in cat colonies throughout our region. City / county parks, apartment complexes, and farms are frequent sites of cat colonies. Feral cats left alone will reproduce at a staggering rate. Some estimates say that two cats and their offspring will produce as many as 700,000 cats in a ten-year period.

Controlling the reproduction cycle of feral cats has many benefits, including reducing the number of feral cats in our community and the complaints and problems associated with these animals. The program in concept will allow Talbot Humane to evaluate each situation where there is a cat colony and make recommendations as to the best way to reduce and control that cat colony in the most humane way possible. Talbot Humane does not support the trapping and killing of innocent feral cats as a solution in most situations. Evidence clearly shows that this technique is not only inhumane; it does not solve the problem. Talbot Humane will promote the management of feral cat colonies through a program known as Trap, Neuter, and Return, or TNR.

The TNR program involves humanely capturing cats within a managed colony in order to surgically sterilize, examine, vaccinate, (test for FELV/FIV where resources allow) and return feral unadoptable cats to the colony. Kittens and socialized adults will be removed from the colony and placed in Talbot Humane's Pet Adoption Program.

Talbot Humane believes our Feral Cat Management Program is a more cost-effective way to deal with the problems of feral cats. This program employs a wide variety of tools to best fit a particular situation. The use of TNR, colony caretakers, education about spay/neuter and responsible pet ownership will gradually reduce the number of feral and abandoned cats; thereby, decreasing public health risk, predatory behavior, and the resultant undesirable behavior that many intact cats demonstrate. If you're caring for a feral colony, please contact Talbot Humane for assistance.

## Off Site Adoptions



Our off site adoption venues again proved to be a grand success. A huge "howl out" to all of the local businesses who supported our organization this year!

### Adoption Venues:

Easton Farmer's Market  
Jake's Pet Boutique  
Railway Market  
Acme Supermarket  
Oxford Farmer's Market  
Waterfowl Festival

## It Takes Someone Special

Talbot Humane's foster program began years ago with a core group of staff and volunteers who would take an animal into their home when in need of special attention. Over the past several years, the foster program has blossomed. In 2006, the foster program saw animals graduate to new forever homes, the majority of these being bottle baby kittens and puppies!

"Foster parents are a special group of volunteers," states Patty Quimby, shelter coordinator, "As a foster parent myself I know the time, work, and range of emotions involved in bringing these special animals into your home, sometimes for months at a time. It is extremely rewarding when your foster finds a forever home."

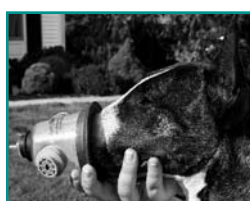
Mignonne LaChapelle is one of these special people. Mignonne has been a volunteer and foster parent for over 10 years. "Volunteering at the shelter has been one of the most satisfying experiences," states Mignonne.



"All of my fosters have been dogs that I could see easily fitting into a home with some time and a little training," says Mignonne. "It has never been easy letting go, but I still keep in touch with many of the families!" Shelter staff agrees, Mignonne is one of a

kind. "Her smile and enthusiasm for the animals is infectious," says Suzette, Talbot Humane's Executive Director, "volunteers like Mignonne are why our shelter is so successful."

Mignonne resides in Oxford with her husband, 2 adopted dogs and one adopted cat.



## Help Animals Breathe a Little Easier...

Area fire departments are beginning to carry specially made oxygen mask kits made for our pets. These kits are used on cats and dogs that are rescued from fires with smoke inhalation. Talbot Humane is raising funds to purchase oxygen bags with masks especially made for dogs and cats.

These kits, costing around \$75 a piece, will be carried on the Easton Fire Department emergency vehicles. Talbot Humane appreciates any contribution from our readers for this worthy cause.

## Kids With a Cause

We were fortunate this year to have so many children interested in helping the animals in our community. Children hosted birthday parties where guests brought donations for homeless pets instead of gifts. Some children also raised money on a hot summer day selling lemonade. These kids showed us what being a good citizen and a caring person is all about. We salute all of you who helped us make a difference this year; **you are heads and tails above the rest!**

### A few of the many kids who helped the shelter this year.



## In Case of Emergency...

After the devastation left by hurricane Katrina in August 2005, many areas of the country became concerned about sheltering pets and their owners during a crisis. Talbot Humane had one of the first plans in the state in place should an emergency strike the shelter. The plan also includes sheltering county residents with their pets should a disaster strike Talbot County. Working together with the Talbot Kennel Club, the Talbot Animal Disaster Services (TADS) was created. The plan will assist pet owners who will be residing in a shelter and do not want to leave their animals behind. We hope to never have this plan put into action, however, if the time comes, our residents can be certain their animals will not be forgotten.

# Honoring and Remembering Our Loved Ones

## Donations made between July 1, 2006 and December 1, 2006

### In Honor Of Person

#### Lee Lewis

Margot Massie

#### Mr. & Mrs. Larry Ricker

Becky Jump

#### The Blizzard Family

Sharen Apple

#### Dr. Teri White

Rhoda Vanderwall

#### Community Animal Hospital

Mr. & Mrs. Peter Thompson

#### Madeline Langfitt

Her friends

#### Amy & Doug Hanes

The Papkins

#### Monique Guffey

Nancy Fauntleroy

### In Honor of Pet

#### "Nyaah" Twigg

Mr. & Mrs. Jeremy Joseph

### In Memory of Person

#### Diane Abate

Robert Travers

Mrs. Lois Villany

Doris Welter

#### Ruth Cochran

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#### J.M. Dennis

Betty Dennis

#### Tom Farhood

Kay Klein & Jack Messick

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Gordon Gould

Peggy Cox

Nutcracker Point Association

Mr. & Mrs. Dean Sanders

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#### Margaret Hersloff

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Office of Policy Analysis

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#### Jane Newcomb (continued)

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Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Wade

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### In Memory of Pet

#### "Buffy" Worthington

Mr. & Mrs. Sydney Campen

#### "Chelsea" Wong

Kay Klein & Jack Messick

#### "Samantha"

Mr. & Mrs. Wallace Glass

#### "Dixie Lou" Fox

Diane Taylor

#### "Tiger" Hausburg

Joanne, Jeff, Joe, Anne, Linda

& Bob

#### "Baby" Battagliano

Mr. & Mrs. Michael Berkin

#### "Buck"

Mr. & Mrs. Richard Cross

#### "Fluffy" Ingham

Dorothy Donnelly

#### "Fluffy & Tiger" Burton

Gary Bradford

#### "Frankie Bean"

Dr. Teri White & Ryan Thomas

#### "Heidi" Benner

Jean Leonard

#### "Hildy, Poe, & Tristan"

Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Newell

#### "Jeep" Hood

Mr. & Mrs. John Gray

#### "Little Bit" Faulkner

Nancy Benner

#### "Luke"

The Drobnick Family

#### "Marlie" Griffin

Mr. & Mrs. Chris Dungan

Jean Ewing

Mr. & Mrs. Walter Stencil

#### "Max" Gipe

Mr. & Mrs. Don Duncan

#### "Morgan"

Barbara Jefferson

#### "Swaley"

Mr. & Mrs. Peter Thompson

#### "Ted" Peirson

Darra Elliott

#### Their Deceased Clients

Veterinary Medical Center

#### "Wizard" Buzi

Mr. & Mrs. Jack Serio

We thank all who have made donations honoring and memorializing their loved ones.

We apologize for any omissions or errors.