

Cocheco Valley Humane Society

Winter 2018



Meet Willow our Cover Cat!

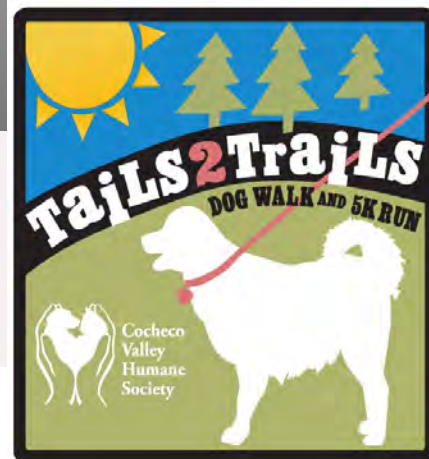
Willow is a 5-year-old Domestic Short Hair cat who is looking for her forever home. Willow is a spirited girl who is a bit overwhelmed here at the shelter. She is an independent girl who prefers to rule the roost and for that reason she would do best in a home without small children. She's looking for someone with patience to help her feel safe in her new home. Her new owner will need to give her time to adjust to her new surroundings until she feels secure. She would enjoy being the only pet in the home, or with a like-minded feline who will give her space to do her own thing. If you think Willow is the right fit, stop into the shelter to meet her.



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Save the Date

Join us on Sunday,
April 29th for our
annual Tails to Trails
Dog Walk and 5K Run.
This year the event will
feature a walk and a 5K
race at Henry Law Park
in Downtown Dover.
We hope to see you
and your dog there!



Board of Directors:

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Assistant Shelter Manager
 Karyn Lesinski,
Medical Manager
 Sarah Proctor,
 DVM, *Veterinarian of Record*

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 Suzanne Mello,
Operations Manager
 Katherine Fisher Martinez,
*Development Associate &
 Volunteer Coordinator*
 Mary Goyette,
Humane Education Outreach Coordinator
 Janet Quintero,
Executive Assistant

Did you know that CVHS adopted 8 rabbits, 2 ferrets, 4 birds, 14 small animals, 137 cats, 52 kittens, 72 dogs and 19 puppies from September 1st to December 31st, 2017? A total of 308 animals found their forever homes!

Happy New Year

2017 was a great year for CVHS. 800 animals found homes through CVHS! Many thanks are in order for our volunteers who put in over 7,000 volunteer hours during the course of the year at the shelter and special events! 2017 was a landmark year since we received a very generous \$1 million pledge from Lyman Pope, Jr. for the construction of our new shelter. After years of hard work and donations our new shelter will start construction this spring. What an incredible year it's been for all of us. We are so grateful for our supporters who continue to help us rescue and re-home animals in our community. Happy New Year from all of us at CVHS!

**CVHS Wish List**

- ◇ Clay non-clumping cat litter
- ◇ Bleach
- ◇ Paper Towels
- ◇ EZ Walk Harnesses- Size M/L & L/XL
- ◇ Purina One Dog Food
- ◇ Stuffed Dog Toys
- ◇ Interactive Toys for Dogs
- ◇ Gift Cards to Pet Retailers
- ◇ Cat & Kitten Toys
- ◇ Natural Balance Venison & Sweet Potato Dog Food & Treats
- ◇ Purina One Dry Cat Food
- ◇ Greenies Pill Pockets
- ◇ Wet Purina One Dog Food
- ◇ Latex Free Gloves
- ◇ Contractor Trash Bags



Bring Us Home Capital Campaign Naming Opportunities!

Do you have a special person or pet that you want to honor or memorialize? Remember them with a memorial brick placed in the brick walkway at CVHS! Contact Debbie Shelton at devdirector@cvhsonline.org for more information.

Large Dog Kennel

\$2,000

Small Dog Kennel

\$1,500

Cat Cage

\$1,000

Large Brick

\$1,000

Small Brick

\$500

CVHS Receives \$1 Million Pledge



CVHS is pleased to announce that longtime philanthropist Lyman Pope, Jr. has pledged \$1 million over the next 4 years for the construction of the new 11,000 sq./ft. facility in Dover. With his gift, more than 80% of the funding for the new facility is now secured and in his honor, the organization will now be known as the Pope Memorial Cocheco Valley Humane Society (PMCVHS). CVHS is excited to partner with Mr. Pope to make the new facility better equipped to handle the animals and the expanded programs that will take place in the new shelter. The new shelter will accommodate a variety of training classes and outreach programs. Mr. Pope has supported more than 38 shelters in the New England region. His insight on the construction of the shelter has been invaluable. CVHS is looking forward to breaking ground this Spring!

Honoring Longtime Supporter Karen Zaramba



Karen Zaramba is stepping down from the CVHS Board of Directors after 8 years of service. Karen was first introduced to CVHS and joined the board in December of 2009. She served as Board Chair for 6 years. Karen's tenure on the board and on various committees leaves a legacy that will last through the years.

Karen was a leading force behind the Bring Us Home Capital Campaign and served on the committee to secure financing and support from major donors to help raise the funds necessary to move forward with the new shelter. Karen gave a lot of her time and energy to various fundraisers and events for CVHS including the Dog Walk and Dessert Tasting. She was very involved with Haunted Overload and she spent many hours helping at DeMeritt Hill Farm to oversee the volunteers at the haunts, often times filling in for volunteers when she was needed. Also an avid animal lover, Karen adopted three of her dogs from CVHS. If you were fortunate enough to work with Karen, you knew she was a woman who had a real passion for helping the shelter and always did what was in the shelter's best interest. Her background in finance and insight into the strategic planning for the shelter was invaluable. Karen was a devoted volunteer and a friend to all the animals, staff and volunteers at the shelter. Thank you, Karen for all that you do for CVHS!



Volunteer Spotlight



Meet our featured volunteer Joe Somers. Joe started volunteering at CVHS in December of 2014. He is a dedicated volunteer who never misses an opportunity to spend time with "his dogs." Joe considers all of the shelter dogs "his dogs" and he loves them. He shows up every day rain or shine to walk the dogs. In fact, he still buys Christmas presents for his favorite dogs that have stayed at the shelter a long time. He truly has a heart of gold and we are so lucky to have him as part of our volunteer family!

Thank you, Joe!

Keeping Valentine's Day Safe for Your Pet By Dr. Sarah Proctor

Valentine's Day is coming soon and with it gifts of candy and flowers. Even when we do our best, our pets can sometimes get into those gifts and become sick. What do you do if that happens? How do you know when to worry? Let's talk about the most common toxic items around Valentine's Day and how to keep your pets safe. **Chocolate**-most people know chocolate is bad for pets, but not all chocolate is created equal. A chemical called theobromine is the substance in chocolate that makes it toxic to pets. Different types of chocolate have different amounts of theobromine. For example, milk chocolate is actually mostly sugar with very little theobromine, but Baker's chocolate has lots of theobromine and is much more dangerous. Theobromine is related to caffeine, and acts as a stimulant. Signs of mild toxicity are hyperactivity and drooling. More severe toxicity can cause twitching, seizures and even death. Your veterinarian can calculate the expected toxicity for your pet if you can provide your pet's weight and the amount and type of chocolate they ate.

<u>Least toxic</u>
White chocolate
Milk chocolate
Dark sweet chocolate, semi-sweet chips, instant cocoa powder
Baker's unsweetened chocolate
Dry cocoa powder
<u>Most toxic</u>

Lily Plants-the leaves and flowers of true lily plants are highly toxic to cats. True lilies include Easter lilies, stargazer lilies, tiger lilies, and day lilies. These are so toxic that eating even a couple petals or leaves can cause death in a cat. They cause illness by damaging the kidneys. Immediate signs of toxicity may be drooling, vomiting and lethargy. Within one day of eating a lily, your cat may then become very dehydrated

and thirsty, as the kidneys begin to fail. One or two days after that, your cat may become very weak and eventually stop eating. Usually by then it's too late, so be safe and have your cat examined if you notice anything unusual. Cats are very good at hiding pain and illness so they rely on you to notice the subtle changes before it's too late.

Other Plants/Flowers- there are many plants your pet might eat. Fortunately most of them are not highly toxic. However, any plant that your pet eats could cause drooling, mouth irritation, and stomach upset and could lead to vomiting and diarrhea. Some flowers that are non-toxic for homes with pets are: rose, daisy, carnation, orchid, snap dragon, and zinnia.

Xylitol sweetener- this sugar substitute is found in many sugarless gums and candy. It is highly toxic to pets. It causes a rapid drop in blood sugar, which can lead to rapid death, if not treated quickly. **Even one stick of sugarless gum with xylitol could kill a small dog or cat.** Signs of illness can begin 30 minutes after ingestion and may include vomiting and lethargy. Later on, your pet may collapse and possibly have a seizure. In some cases xylitol can cause liver damage as well. Xylitol has become a common sweetener in many human products. The best way to keep your pets safe is to read the ingredient labels when buying any low-calorie food or sugar-free item. Common foods containing xylitol include: sugarless gum, sugarless candies-hard and soft, gummy, some specialty peanut butters, low-calorie Jell-O, and some energy and protein bars.

Fortunately, we can manage these toxic exposures if we catch them in time, and pets can make a full recovery in many cases. So what do you do if you suspect your pet ate something unusual? Call your veterinarian or a Pet Poison Control Hotline. These hotlines charge a fee but you can talk through any toxin exposure with your pet and they can help guide your veterinarian, especially when the toxin is unusual. Their websites have useful information on all pet toxins. Two hotlines are: 1) **ASPCA Pet Poison Control Hotline (888) 426-4435** <https://www.asPCA.org/pet-care/animal-poison-control> and 2) **Pet Poison Helpline (855) 764-7661**

<http://www.petpoisonhelpline.com>. Regardless of who you call, you should have some background information ready before you do. Here's what information you need to know before you call: 1) Your pet's age, breed, size or weight. This is important because a toxin's affect depends partly on body size. Also, note if there is more than one pet in the home, which pet ingested the toxin. 2) Details about what exactly your pet ate. If your pet ate a plant, what part of the plant? The leaves or the petals? How much they ate and when they ate it. 3) Whether your pet is showing any signs of illness. Be sure to have your veterinarian's phone number handy because treating toxins successfully depends a lot on getting treatment started fast! You and your pet deserve a safe Valentine's Day filled with love. Now you know how to make the holiday safer for your pet. Now go give them a hug, but first hide the chocolates!

Dr. Sarah Proctor is the Veterinarian of Record and Board Member for the Cocheco Valley Humane Society, Director of the Veterinary Technology Program and Clinical Assistant Professor at the Thompson School at the University of New Hampshire.

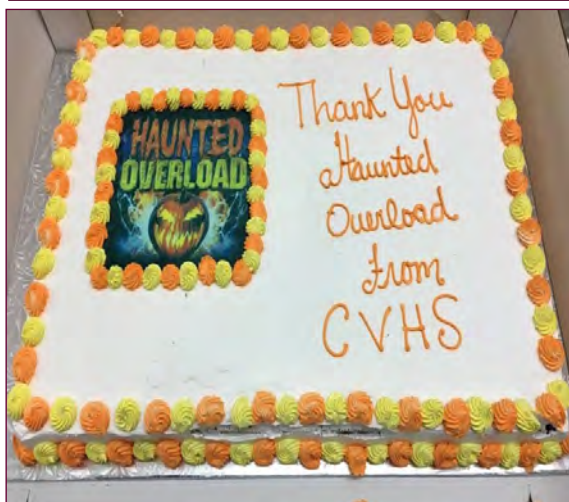
Cocheco Country Club Golf Ball Drop and Charity Golf Tournament

Thank you to Cocheco Country Club and all the participants of the golf tournament and golf ball drop for raising \$3,960 for CVHS! The event also raised \$3,960 for the Dover Food Pantry.



Foster Volunteers needed!
Email cvhs@cvhsonline.org

Please consider leaving a lasting legacy for animals in need by naming CVHS in your estate plans. Email Debbie Shelton at devdirector@cvhsonline.org for more information.



Thank you Haunted Overload and Eric Lowther and Janice Page for another successful year raising money for CVHS and producing one of the best haunts in the world! This year they raised \$33,395 for CVHS including the Howl for the Animals fundraiser! This brings the total amount raised to over \$200,000 since the beginning of our partnership 8 years ago. We are so grateful to the Haunted Overload team and volunteers for supporting the animals at CVHS!



Adoption Update: Roo

Roo was a familiar face at the shelter since she was searching for her home for almost 250 days! Roo was adopted on December 16, 2017 and has been living the good life ever since! Her new family reports that she has settled right in so much so that she even sleeps in bed with them! She is a real ham! Another one of Roo's favorite activities is taking car rides! We are so happy for you, Roo!