



A NOTE FROM JACKIE

Dear Friends,

As the shelter manager here at the Wyoming County SPCA, I always notice how the colder months bring a special kind of coziness to our animals. While the days grow shorter and the air gets colder, our cats and dogs remind us that warmth isn't just something you find under a blanket—it's something created through companionship.

Winter is actually a wonderful time to adopt. Since many of us spend more time indoors during this season, it can be the perfect opportunity for a new pet and their family to settle in, bond, and build lasting routines together.

Around the shelter, we keep our animals happy and engaged with activities that provide both fun and mental stimulation. These games work just as well at home! Here are some of our favorite ideas to try this winter:

- **Puzzle games:** Hide kibble in a muffin tin covered with tennis balls or use a treat-dispensing toy to challenge your pet's mind.
- **Interactive play:** Tug toys and indoor fetch for dogs, or feather wands and laser pointers for cats.
- **Training time:** Enjoy short daily sessions to teach a new trick or command—it's great mental exercise.
- **Indoor adventures:** Build a cardboard maze for your cat or set up cozy perches near sunny windows.

When the weather allows, our dogs are always eager for a brisk winter walk. It's one of their favorite things, and honestly, it's a great reason for us humans to stay active too! Just remember, not every dog loves the cold the same way. Breeds like Huskies or Malamutes are made for snowy days, while short-haired dogs like Boxers or Chihuahuas might need shorter walks and a cozy jacket.

No matter what breed you have, take a moment after each walk to gently wipe your dog's feet with a warm, damp washcloth. This helps keep paws free from salt and chemicals that can irritate or be licked off later. Your pup will appreciate the extra care, and their paws will stay healthy all winter long!

Whether you're curling up with a cat by the fire, playing a new training game, or heading out for a snowy stroll, our animal friends bring a special kind of light to these darker days. If you've been thinking about adding a furry friend to your family, winter is a wonderful time to do it—for them, and for you.

Stay warm and give your pets an extra cuddle from all of us here at the Wyoming County SPCA. If you're ready to meet your newest companion, come visit us soon!

Warm wishes,

Jackie

Jackie Pinkowski, Shelter Manager

Do You Love Animals? We Need You!

Make a difference in the lives of our furry friends by joining our team of dedicated volunteers. Whether you can help with feeding, cleaning, playing, walking, or assisting in the office, every role is important—and flexible to your schedule. Share your compassion and kindness—be the reason an animal's life changes for the better. Join us and become an everyday hero. **Volunteer today!**

Wyoming County SPCA is a 501c3 non-profit organization. Your donation is tax deductible as allowed by law.

Message from the Board

How is it possible that we’re already reaching the end of 2025? Winter has made its appearance and more snow is surely on the way. Our thoughts are of family and friends – and our furbabies – as we get ready for the holiday season.

Our SPCA continues to make great changes to continue to help support animals and families of Wyoming County and surrounding areas. Our low-cost spay/neuter clinics in partnership with Dr. Jennifer Graf have been very popular. As of November, we have held 31 clinics, spaying and neutering 1,025 animals! We’re already making plans to have more spay/neuter clinics in 2026. Be sure to reserve your spot, as they fill up quickly!

The SPCA team has been hard at work on considering designs for our building remodel to ensure that our animals are kept in the most comfortable and secure areas during their time with us. Improvements will include expanding the medical/surgical area, adding medical quarantine areas to prevent the spread of disease, and having a more accessible, ADA-compliant building overall to better serve you – the public.

Your support has allowed us to continue to grow to serve our community – and adoptions are up with 230 animals finding their fur-ever homes with some of you. Thank you – and may you have happy holidays, a Merry Christmas and a beautiful New Year as we gear up for 2026!

Best, SPCA Board of Directors:

Cathy
Cathy Lawson, President

Jennifer
Jennifer Sealey, Vice-President

Shannon
Shannon Gladke, Treasurer

Joan
Joan Kibler, Secretary

Julie
Julie Calvert

Barbara
Barbara Higgins

Lindsay
Lindsay McDonald

Pat
Pat Standish



About Us

Founded in 1905, the Wyoming County SPCA is an independent, 501c3 nonprofit organization dedicated to the humane care of homeless dogs and cats in Wyoming County, NY. Our work includes finding loving homes for pets, working to end pet overpopulation through spay and neuter efforts, and humane education opportunities for children and surrounding community members. We rely on the dedication of our volunteers and the generosity of our donors as we improve the lives of animals throughout our community.

Is Your Furry Visitor Feral or a Stray?

While both stray and feral cats live outdoors and lack a stable home, they are not the same. Stray cats are pet cats that have been lost or abandoned and now must fend for themselves. You might find them to be relatively social as they are, or once were, used to the company of humans. Time and stress may cause them to be shy at first, with patience and a little tender, loving care, many strays can be re-socialized and eventually adopted into a loving home. Feral cats have grown up without any interaction with humans and are essentially wild animals. They will avoid people as much as possible. They often live in groups, called colonies and it is difficult for them to become indoor cats.

A FEW THINGS TO LOOK FOR:

- Tipped Ear – Feral cats helped through a Trap-Neuter-Return Program have the tip of one ear removed so it’s clear they can no longer reproduce and doesn’t need to be trapped again.
- Microchip – Responsible cat owners have their cats microchipped so they can be brought home if lost. A vet or local shelter can check for a chip and often track the owner.
- Watch for the Time of Encounter - Stray cats are more often spotted during the day as they lack fear of people and might even remember they provide them with food. Ferals rarely show themselves during the day as they are more likely to be hunting at night.
- Strays often live near houses, even an abandoned shed. Out of fear, ferals prefer to live further away.

HOW TO HELP A STRAY OR FERAL CAT?

If you see a cat roaming around, offer them food, water, and shelter. Try to gain their trust and if you can get close, check for an ID tag. If friendly take to a vet or shelter to see if they have a registered microchip. If no owner is found, you can choose to adopt or bring them to a shelter or responsible rescue organization. If the cat is very shy or aggressive, or appears to be part of a feral colony, contact a rescue organization to ask for help with a Trap-Neuter-Return Program.



Meet “Brian Wilson”
a beautiful ginger stray who, one sunny day, found the courage to step onto a porch and into the hearts of a new, loving family.

Thinking About Adding to Your Family?

Bringing a second cat into your home is an exciting decision...there are so many reasons to do it! Maybe you want to give a loving home to a cat in need, or you notice your solo feline could use a companion. Or perhaps you just can’t resist the thought: “Why stop at one, when two are double the fun?”

Still, it’s natural to wonder: Will they get along? Here’s how you can help two cats become friends, step by step.

Step 1: Make a Cozy Welcome Room

Before your new cat comes home, set up a quiet room filled with all the essentials: fresh water, tasty food, soft bedding, and their own litter box. This little safe haven will help ease their nerves and give them a sense of security.

Step 2: Swap Scents, Not Swats

Cats “meet” with their noses first. Try swapping their blankets or toys between rooms, letting each cat sniff out the scent of the other. If you have a baby gate, let them peek at each other from a safe distance.
Tip: If either cat seems uneasy, slow things down. There’s no rush—building trust takes time.

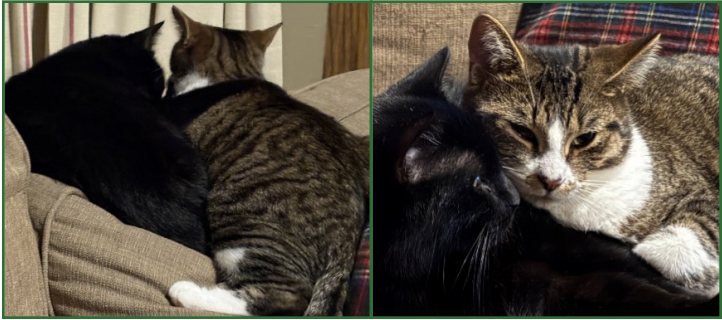
Step 3: Supervised Hellos

When you spot signs of curiosity rather than fear, it’s time for them to meet face-to-face. Keep the meetings brief, calm, and always reward peaceful behavior with treats or praise.
Tip: If hissing or fighting breaks out, no worries—just separate them and try again later.

Long-term Success Tips

- Be patient: Every cat is unique, and some take longer than others to bond.
- Watch for friendship signs: Grooming each other, gentle play, and relaxed body language show progress.
- Provide: Extra bowls, litter boxes, and toys to help avoid competition.
- Celebrate the little victories: Even a calm sniff or shared room is a step forward!

Remember, cats learn to live together peacefully—and sometimes become the best of friends. Take it slow, and you might be surprised at the sweet bond they build.



“At first, Sam and Jazz eyed each other warily, and their rough play had me worried. But with a little patience, I watched them transform from cautious acquaintances into inseparable friends—living proof that even the most spirited cats can find harmony when given time. Giving Sam a new best friend might be the best thing I ever did—for him and for me.”

~Pat Standish

The Smallest Amongst Us



These tiny babies were pulled from a large, local feral colony. Often, the littlest ones have endured the harshest hardship and by the time they’re found, they are already very sick. That’s the case with these three fragile kittens: barely old enough to leave their mother, yet already fighting for their lives.

Their road to recovery will be long and costly, but thanks to the immense generosity of so many compassionate supporters, we can now care for them here at our facility...giving them the

safety of familiar voices and gentle hands, instead of the added trauma of unfamiliar places. Here, each kitten will receive not only the urgent medical treatment they need... respiratory care, spay/neuter surgery, a microchip, vital tests, vaccines, and special medication—but also warmth, patience, and love.

Your donation is so much more than dollars and cents; it is a lifeline. You are their hope. Because of you, these precious souls will soon discover not just survival, but joy...a full bowl, a cozy blanket, and a forever home. And when they finally trot off into the arms of their new families, it will be with food, litter, and toys packed for their bright futures... all because you chose to care.





Is There Room in Your Heart for Me?



Burrata & Mozzarella

Burrata and Mozzarella are a bonded, six-month-old brother and sister who have spent half their lives in the shelter after being rescued as strays. They're both a bit shy at first, but quickly warm up to gentle pets and scratches. Burrata tends to be more outgoing, while Mozzarella is quieter, with extra-soft fur. They'd thrive in a calm home without small children.



Irresistible Barn Charmers

In July, seven-month-old kittens Pebbles and Papaya were trapped on a local farm by a dedicated TNVR volunteer. At just three months old, it didn't feel right to return these beautiful, shy, curious kittens to life outdoors. While they weren't feral, they were uncertain about humans and the comforts of indoor life. After receiving their veterinary care, they settled in with one of our caring fosters, who has helped them blossom. Over the past few months, Pebbles and Papaya have learned to trust, revealing their gentle, playful sides.

Now, this wide-eyed, bonded pair is ready for a home...together...with someone patient enough to let them adjust at their own pace. Could you be their hero? If you're ready to give Pebbles and Papaya the safe, loving home they deserve, call the shelter today!



Cricket & Alexis

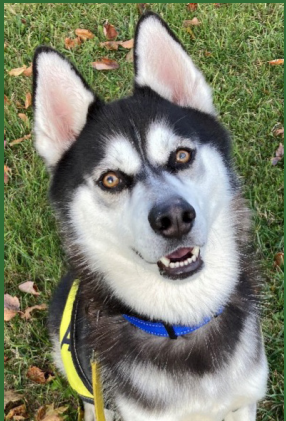
Meet Cricket and Alexis—two amazing 5-month-old sisters with strikingly unique fur patterns who came from a farm with dozens of other cats. These gentle girls are a little shy but blossoming every day; they'll thrive in a quiet home with someone patient who will let them settle in at their own pace. If you're looking to welcome a pair of sweet companions into your family, Cricket and Alexis may be the perfect fit!



Salsa

Salsa is a gentle soul who has been at our shelter for three months, patiently waiting for her second chance. After lovingly raising three kittens, each now happily adopted, Salsa is ready for a home of her own. She was adopted once before, but returned when her adopter did not give her enough time to settle in. Do not let her sass fool you, this easy-going girl loves gentle pets and quiet companionship. With a little patience, you will discover a content, affectionate cat just waiting to blossom. Could you be the one to give Salsa the loving home she truly deserves?

If you never want to feel lonely or have a dull day, consider adopting three cats at once—just like a brave senior who welcomed **Oatmeal, Ken and Valentine** into her home. The trio, still together, quickly settled in, their personalities shining in the cozy space. Their owner describes Oatmeal as very laid back, Valentine as a loving "picture hog," and notes that while Oatmeal was skittish at first, she now enjoys relaxing on her favorite blanket. Meanwhile, Ken and Valentine continue to enjoy their afternoon naps together, making every day feel peaceful and full of affection.



Happy Endings!

Left Behind - Pancake's Story: We received an urgent plea for help...a husky in distress, tied tightly to a homeless man outside a gas station in Rochester. A young couple noticed the dog's red, bulging eyes and tried to help, only to realize his master had tragically passed away. When the police arrived, they left the dog with the couple, who, unable to take him in themselves due to another dog being at home, were determined to find help. After reaching out to several rescues and shelters, they finally found us...and without hesitation we said yes. When we met Pancake, we saw he needed urgent care. Our vet tended to his wounds and later ensured he was neutered, vaccinated, heartworm tested, microchipped, and provided with preventative medications. Peace Love Paws Grooming even gave him a much-needed grooming, free of charge! Today, Pancake is a flourishing, beautiful young dog. We all love happy endings and Pancake found his! At a recent adoption "meet and greet" love sparked immediately and Pancake left us to be with his new forever family.



"Mia," our dog, has blossomed at Ruff Day Resort in Webster. Going to daycare has played a huge role in helping her come out of her shell...her bright personality now truly shines. Her pup brother, Murphy, has guided her every step of the way and remains a devoted, protective companion. Everything fell into place so perfectly. We couldn't ask for a better dog." – *From her parents, Harlan & Monicæ*

Carmen’s Gift

Carmen Walton passed in January of this year, with her beloved dogs and her cat by her side. She taught countless children at West Seneca Elementary School for over 33 years, guiding them with patience and kindness. In addition to her love of children, Carmen was a lifelong animal lover, and her home was never without the comforting presence of a St. Bernard by her side.



Carmen’s legacy of love will continue long after she’s gone. Through her generous legacy gift to the SPCA, animals who are frightened, forgotten, or in greatest need will find safety, care, and compassion in her name. In every life saved and every animal comforted, Carmen’s spirit of kindness will live on.



A legacy gift to the SPCA can be one last, powerful way to be sure frightened animals find warm beds, medical care and loving hands reaching out to them. Your gift is a promise that your love for animals will continue quietly in the background year after year, turning your thoughtful bequest into food, shelter and second chances.



In Loving Memory

We gratefully acknowledge the heartfelt donations made in loving memory of cherished individuals. Their legacy lives on through acts of kindness that help us continue our mission and make a meaningful difference in the lives of animals and our community.

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| Amy Smith | Barbara Farraenola |
| Bea Tilton | Bella Schillaci |
| Diane Raymer | Donald Richardson |
| Duane Brown | Gerald A. Phillip |
| Grace Gardner | Henrietta Schaner |
| Ian Vandusen | Joan Viola |
| Joseph Eisenried | Judy Sawyer |
| Karen Downs | Larry Frens |
| Nellie J Smith | Patricia Howlitt |
| Russell Markham | Sue Davilla |
| Sue Woodward | Tammay Brueckman |
| Timothy Bey | Warren Meidenbauer |
| | Zak M Gentile |

Remembering Our Cherished Pets

Our pets filled our lives with joy, love, and companionship. Though they’re no longer with us, their memories remain forever in our hearts.

- Macie by Mary Hourihan
Norm & Cocoa by Nicole Latza
Numan & Crosley by Joan Barton
Bobbi by Mary Carris
Maxwell by Susan Littell
Herman by Dorthey Beyer
Kimba by Robert Hamilton
Muffy by Joan Barton
Izzy & Ruby by Christine Dailey
Stanley by Patricia Zymowski
Truly by Mary Carris
Ali by Gail Barton
Chloe by Alice Gangloff
General by George & Nancy West
Silas Ridal & Doug by Jackie Pinkowski

585-380-2789
RixCarpetCleaning.com

“Thank you to RIX Carpet Cleaning for generously donating their time to clean the floors at the shelter. The floors are now sparkling clean, and we deeply appreciate your support!”

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AuctionsInternational.com
100’s of items sold every night
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Our sincere thanks to Russ for his ongoing generosity and dedication to the SPCA. His support in funding the printing and distribution of our newsletter is invaluable, helping us share our stories and important updates with the community.

Out and About



Jackie, our Shelter Manager, and Debbie, a dedicated volunteer, had a wonderful day attending Paws for a Purpose, hosted by Restore. The event aimed to raise awareness about pets affected by domestic violence, a cause close to our hearts. Throughout the day, we connected with many people who were unaware of the services the SPCA offers. The highlight was finding a loving forever family for one of our kittens, making the event truly memorable. Thank you to everyone at Restore for making this day possible.

RESTORE is committed to empowering survivors of sexual violence through compassion, validation, and healing. Leading our community on education, advocacy, and social justice, RESTORE provides steadfast and confidential support to all survivors of sexual assault.

24-HOUR HOTLINES

Monroe, Genesee, Livingston, Orleans, Wyoming Counties:
585-546-2777
Elsewhere in the US: 1-800-656-4673

Learning Can Be So Much Fun!

Three students from Attica High School visited the shelter as part of a life skills program led by Special Education teacher Jill Pierce. During their visit, Lily helped with dishes and laundry, Hayden took care of sweeping and mopping, and Jameson pitched in washing dishes. We genuinely appreciated their hard work and enjoyed having them involved in our daily routines. Their efforts made a positive difference, and we hope to welcome them back soon!



The Arcade Free Library made October extra special by collecting donations for our furry friends all month long... and then turned up the fun with their “Read to a Cat” event! Volunteer Kathryn and Jackie brought a playful bunch of kittens for kids to read to, and let’s just say: it was the cat’s meow! The library was full of giggles, purrs, and happy faces as kids and kittens cozied up together with their favorite stories.

Volunteer Spotlight

A Big Heart for a “Tiny” Soul



Matthew and Tiny on Adoption day.

Matthew is an exceptional volunteer who spends up to six hours in one day helping our shelter. Beyond his skill as a handyman, always ready to fix anything, we’re especially grateful for his compassionate heart...a heart that was willing to be broken.

This was never clearer than when Matthew met Tiny, the oldest cat in our care. Blind and suffering from kidney failure, Tiny was in need of comfort in her final days. The moment she nuzzled up to Matthew, he was smitten. Although he knew her time was short, he wanted her remaining days to be as comfortable and loving as possible. He adopted Tiny, giving her all the affection and attention she deserved.

Sadly, it wasn’t long before Tiny suffered a seizure and there was no hope of recovery. Matthew made the difficult, selfless decision to let her go peacefully. Volunteers like Matthew are the heart of our shelter. Each volunteer has a unique story, but all share a common thread...the unconditional love that exists between humans and animals.

“The love for all living creatures is the most noble attribute of man.” ~ Charles Darwin



Saving one paw at a time.

SPCA Serving Wyoming County
P.O. Box 269
Attica, New York 14011

SHELTER HOURS:

Sunday/Monday – Closed

Tuesday/Wednesday/Saturday – 1:00-4:00 pm

Thursday/Friday – 4:00-7:00 pm

CONTACT US:

Phone: (585) 591-3114

Find us on the web: www.WyomingCountySPCA.org

Email: info@wyomingcountyspca.org

Shelter Address: 808 Creek Road, Attica, NY 14011

Mailing Address: Wyoming County SPCA

P.O. Box 269, Attica, NY 14011

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[wyomingcountyspca](https://www.instagram.com/wyomingcountyspca)



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WYOMING COUNTY SPCA
38TH ANNUAL
BASKET RAFFLE

MAY 31, 2026

St. Vincent's Auditorium
72 East Ave., Attica, NY 14011

Doors Open Noon Drawings 3pm
Food Available for Purchase

If you'd like to help, we always appreciate new items for our baskets—gift cards are especially welcome! Your contributions will help make these baskets even more special, and our animals even more cared for. Thank you for your support.



- Monetary Donations
- Adult Cat Wet Food
- Dog/Puppy Wet Food
 - Paper Towels
- Garbage Bags (Large, Black/Strong)
 - Laundry Detergent
- Bleach (UNSCENTED, only please)
- Tidy Cat OR Fresh Step Scoopable Litter (UNSCENTED, only please)
 - Non-clumping cat litter (UNSCENTED only please)
- Gift Cards to Amazon or Walmart – (we can do the shopping!)

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chewy GIVES BACK

