

2nd Annual Fast & Furriest 10K Road Race and 1-Mile Fun Run and Dog Walk

Fast & Furriest Quick Facts

What: Run the 10K or take your time on the 1-mile dog walk course. Either way, you will raise money for Rochester Animal Services and all our furry friends.

When: Saturday, June 28, 2008
7:00 AM Registration
9:00 AM 10K Race start
9:15 AM 1-Mile Dog Walk start

Where: Rochester Animal Services
184 Verona Street
Rochester, NY 14608

Why: Keeping Rochester's pets safe and healthy keeps our citizens safe and healthy. We all deserve the best care.

How: Register NOW online at www.vsas.org.

Check out the next page for more information *From the Director's Chair*.



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You probably noticed that our newsletter, formerly known as the Kennel Quarterly has changed hands... and names.

The Verona Street Animal Society, Inc. is a not-for-profit organization that supports Rochester Animal Services.

How can you help?

Volunteer your time:

Whether it's walking, bathing, or just socializing with our animals, you'll help enrich their time at the shelter and improve the likelihood of their adoption!

Donate needed items:

Blankets & towels
Pillowcases
Collars & leashes
Heating pads
Laundry detergent & dish soap
Sturdy chew toys
Stuffed animals
Pet brushes & shampoo
Pet carriers and crates
Pet treats
Rubbing alcohol
Hydrogen peroxide
Cotton swabs
Cat litter scoopers
Can openers
Brooms & dustpans

A Second Chance...

Adopting a neglected animal is truly a second chance at life. Dogs that have been mistreated or severely abused will never be able to share their stories with us, but we can provide them with a safe and loving environment.

Take the dogs from Michael Vick's estate, for example. According to reports, over 50 dogs were rescued: some were sent to an animal sanctuary and some were eligible for adoption right away. Hector, a playful and loving dog, has successfully acclimated himself to his new human (and dog) companions. [Click here for Hector's story on www.msnbc.com](http://www.msnbc.com).

Sometimes all a dog needs is a second chance.

Drop off all donations to Rochester Animal Services.

184 Verona Street
Rochester, NY 14608

Mon - Fri 11am-4:30pm
Saturday 12pm-3:30pm
Sunday 12pm-3:30pm



From the Director's Chair

Our 2nd Annual 10K Race & 1-Mile Dog Walk Returns

Although it is still winter, planning is well underway for the 2nd Annual Fast & Furiest 10K Race and 1-Mile Dog Walk (formerly the Furry Scurry). This year's event is scheduled for Saturday June 28. The Verona Street Animal Society is securing media and corporate sponsors now, so any organizations interested in getting involved should contact us at vsasinc@gmail.com or at 727-2533.

Last year the event was a tremendous success with 194 registered runners, 79 dog walkers, and over \$23,000 raised for the animals. The funds raised help support the spay/neuter and adoption programs at Animal Services. We use your help. If you are interested in getting involved please contact us now so that we can make sure you are included in all future event correspondence. The success of the event depends heavily on the volunteer support. In 2007, we had a team of over 80 volunteers helping us on race day. To organize the race, an army of volunteers is required to serve a variety of roles: race and walk marshals; setting up tents, signs, and banners; processing registrations; maintaining the refreshment area; calling out split times at each mile marker; and handing out water along the race and walk courses.

The feedback following last year's event was very positive and we are excited to welcome even more participants this year. The 10K racecourse will remain the same with the starting line on North Plymouth Avenue between Kodak and CareStream. Runners will head south on Plymouth into the Corn Hill Neighborhood where they enter the Genesee River Trail at Corn Hill Landing.

The run follows the trail out to the pedestrian bridge at the University of Rochester, crosses the River, and takes the trail back into downtown. Runners will exit the trail at South Avenue and Court Street near the Dinosaur Barbeque and then weave their way back to the finish line on Verona Street at the Animal Services shelter. Come join us for this scenic and relatively flat run that showcases our City and benefits animals in need. For those who are not interested in running, there is also a 1-mile walk and un run that can include your canine companions.

Pre-registration is \$18 until June 26 for the 10K race and is available online at www.active.com or by mail to Verona Street Animal Society, P.O. Box 22874, Rochester, NY 14692. There will be pre-registration and packet pick-ups at Fleet Feet Sports at 2210 Monroe Avenue in Brighton on June 26-27. Race day registration is \$20 and registration for 1-mile dog walk and fun run is \$10 per person.

Join us for afterwards for festivities in Brown Square Park where there will be refreshments, music, activities for children, pet-related sponsor booths, and the post-race awards ceremony. Prizes will be presented to the top finishers in each age group and to the top pledge earners. We also provide a "Middle of the Pack Award" to a runner with a finishing time right in the middle of the field of runners. There will also be gift bags for every race and walk participant. T-shirts will be provided to every registered runner. Walkers paying the \$10 registration fee and earning an additional \$20 or more in pledges will also get t-shirts. So come out and join us for another fun event as a runner, walker, sponsor, or volunteer. We hope to see you at the Fast and Furiest!

Chris Fitzgerald
Director, Rochester Animal Services

RAS
184 Verona Street
Rochester, NY
14608



Vets Wanted

to Help Rochester's Animals.

The City of Rochester is looking for veterinarians interested in providing assistance with the Animal Services spay-neuter program.

For more information contact Chris Fitzgerald:
cf1274@cityofrochester.gov
or call (585) 428.6898

City of Rochester, New York



Spay and Neuter Your Pets

Call 428-SPAY / Rochester Animal Services

 Robert J. Duffy, Mayor
City of Rochester, NY

Shelter Statistics: October 1 – December 31, 2007

October	Dog	Cat	Other
Impounded	273	310	16
Adoption	53	54	0
Redemption	69	3	0
Transfer	13	30	10
Euthanized	167	208	3
Sterilized			
Adoption	42	36	0
LISN	12	49	0
Redemption	25	0	0
Total	79	85	0

December	Dog	Cat	Other
Impounded	192	127	6
Adoption	34	32	1
Redemption	34	4	0
Transfer	5	30	2
Euthanized	119	77	3
Sterilized			
Adoption	27	29	0
LISN	8	54	0
Redemption	10	0	0
Total	45	83	0

November	Dog	Cat	Other
Impounded	225	273	23
Adoption	40	52	3
Redemption	51	0	0
Transfer	6	34	17
Euthanized	117	196	5
Sterilized			
Adoption	38	41	0
LISN	20	43	0
Redemption	18	0	0
Total	76	84	0



www.rochesteranimalservices.com



Prevent Pet Overpopulation

**Spay and neuter your pets.
For information about RAS's
Low Income Spay/Neuter
Program, call 428-SPAY.**

Rochester Animal Services temporarily houses approximately 6,500 animals annually. We are committed to reuniting owners with missing pets and to placing animals in new homes; however it is impossible to find homes for all of them. Some animals are euthanized due to illness or injury. Others may display vicious or aggressive temperaments. Currently, the City of Rochester does not authorize the adoption of "pit bulls" from the shelter, so those that are not reclaimed are euthanized. Sadly, many animals are euthanized because there are just far too many stray and unwanted animals in our community and we do not have space to house them all. We must all take responsibility to spay and neuter our pets and to encourage others to do the same. If the number of animals coming in declines, then we can devote more time and energy to those animals we do shelter, we can increase adoptions and redemptions, and decrease euthanasia.

Sterilization figures are separated into adopted pets, owned pets sterilized through the Low Income Spay Neuter (LISN) program, and seized pets sterilized upon redemption by owners.

Breed of the Month



Beagle

You may have seen the **Beagle** "Uno" win Best in Show at this month's Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show. **Beagles** can be great family pets, and even better hunters!

Coat: A close, hard, coat of medium length - minimal shedding

Size: 13-15 inches in length

Temperament: Cheerful, gentle, curious

For more information on the **Beagle** and other dog breeds, visit the American Kennel Club at www.akc.org.



**RAS offers
certification class
and book for
only \$25.**

**Call 428-7274
to enroll.**

Because of the overabundance of adoptable cats at Rochester Animal Services, we are allowing families to adopt **two cats, for the price of one!**

What better way to bring extra joy to your home.

Adopt a cat for \$70 or kitten for \$85 and get the second free.



From the President

In light of what has been happening in both Mother Nature and the political spectrum, I thought it appropriate to bring up emergency plan preparation. It's one of those things that we hope will never happen to us, but peace of mind comes from having a contingency plan. Let's take a moment to tap into our inner boy scout-campfire girl training from back in the day and discuss some ways to be prepared for the unexpected.

From power outages to fires or even a terrorist attack, having an evacuation plan and being prepped can make all the difference. Having a pet requires additional forethought and responsibility because often times the options presented for shelters and hotels don't always make it possible to bring your pet with you. One possibility may be to make arrangements in advance with a relative, friend or boarding facility that can take care of your pet under these circumstances. Depending on the type of emergency, any of these options may need to be located outside of your area and you should investigate them in advance; for instance, a relative or friend in a different city that is within driving distance. In turn, if they have pets, you could offer the same consideration to them.

A buddy system is a very useful backup plan that can be applicable on a local level as well. Consider neighbors that may be able to get your pet safely out of the house if there were a fire and you were unable to get there in time. Also if you happen to be traveling and your pet is being boarded, discuss what emergency plans the facility has in place for the animals in their care. Do they have a generator? If the boarding facility needed to be evacuated, what alternative plans do they have for the animals staying there?

If the situation allows you to take your pet with you, you should be prepared to leave on short notice and this will require pre-packing of some basic essentials. A good rule of thumb is to have enough food and water for both yourself and your pet for at least three days. Any medications for your pet and a basic animal first aid kit should also be at the ready, containing basics such as gauze, antibiotic cream, rubbing alcohol and a guide to basic pet first aid. Copies of your pet's medical records and a leash and collar with ID and rabies tags are also a very good idea.

Some additional items may include toys, treats and bedding for your pet. And it's always a good idea to have a picture of you and your pet should they get lost or separated from you. For more details on emergency preparation, please visit <http://www.ready.gov/america/downloads/pets.pdf>



Looking forward into 2008 for the VSAS, we have some exciting events planned including the 2nd annual **Fast and the Furriest** 10k Run & 1-Mile Fun Run/Dog Walk on Saturday June 28th, as discussed by Chris Fitzgerald in his column above. Also, in the fall, we are planning a magical evening at Artisan Works, which will include some entertainment, great food and unusual items for auction. For more on this event and what's coming up during the next ten months, please visit our website at <http://www.vsas.org>

Till next time-

Jennifer Brown
President, VSAS

Verona Street Animal Society Newsletter



Contributors:

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Rochester Animal Services (RAS) is owned and operated by the City of Rochester. The Verona Street Animal Society is a not-for-profit organization that provides resources necessary to enable RAS to more effectively serve the public's animal care and control, pet sterilization, and pet adoption interests and, in cooperation with the City of Rochester, supports the mission of RAS.

VSAS
P.O. Box 22874
Rochester, NY 14692
585-727-2533