

THUMP

NYC METRO RABBIT NEWS AUGUST 2013

Keep Cool and Carry On!

Photo: Kerstin Aumann



Luna and Snowball: note Snowball's A/C ears.

By Kerstin Aumann

Today, the heat wave that has held us hostage for what seems like an eternity finally broke. Snowball and Luna woke up as if from hibernation and happily ran out to play on the deck. What relief to be waking up to a cool 65 degrees, as opposed to 85 degrees by 7 a.m.!

With searing heat and sweltering humidity, summertime can be a challenge in the New York area. As human beings, we do have some coping tools at our disposal to help us manage our comfort level. We can shed our clothes, seek shade, or crank up the A/C and avoid

the outdoors as much as possible. Any kind of breeze, whether created by a fan or an oncoming subway train, brings us some relief.

Our rabbits, however, have virtually no options for climate control. Sure, they shed some of their fur in the warm season, but as anyone who has shared a home with a rabbit knows, this is can be a very slow process (with rabbit hair in the air possibly for weeks) and definitely doesn't even come close to humans' ability to dress down.

Our rabbits also rely on their ears as a form of "A/C." Rabbit ears have an impressive network of veins and only a light peach fuzz instead of fur. When it gets hot, the blood in the ears gets cooled slightly before being circulated to the rest of the rabbit's body. This natural cooling system may work fine in temperatures up to 80 degrees. But as the ambient temperature rises, it gets too close to the rabbit's own body temperature to make a difference.

So, our rabbits depend on us to keep them safe during a heat wave. The temperature needs to stay below 80 degrees in your rabbit's habitat to allow her own cooling system (i.e., the ears) to do their job effectively.

(Continued on page 2)

Rescue in the Ramble: How We Did It

By Alisa Christopher

I was crazy busy when I first got the call for help on Saturday, June 29. Petco manager Brite at 86th Street led me to believe that someone had rescued three buns from Central Park and just needed some guidance. Wrong. Just back from Catnip & Carrots Veterinary Hospital, I didn't even go home but rushed to meet this bunny rescuer with the hope of getting her set up to foster.

When I got to the store, a local woman, Donna, greeted me with cardboard carriers, and I realized that the rabbits were still in the park. I put my guinea pig Willi in a condo at the store, grabbed two puppy pens and out we went,

(Continued on page 3)

Photo: Alisa Christopher



Cottonball convention: Moe, Larry and Curly at AC&C.

Adoptapalooza! Sunday, Sept. 8

For details, see page 4.

Our masthead bunny, Precious, is a friendly, auburn-haired cutie who had been an AC&C rescued rabbit. She wasted no time finding a forever home after coming to Long Island Rabbit Rescue. She was adopted Aug. 4 and now resides in – where else? – Auburndale! Photo: Mary Ann Maier.

Keep Cool

(Continued from page 1)

The best way to ensure this is by running the A/C. We set the thermostat to 78, which seems to be a happy compromise between energy efficiency and comfort for all members of our family.

How about simply setting up a fan in their habitat? A fan will not help your rabbit the same way it helps a human, because your rabbit can't perspire. Fans keep us cool by helping evaporate sweat on our skin – no sweat means no cooling. If you're going to use a fan to keep your rabbit cool, make sure to a) keep the power cord out of reach, and b) hang a moist towel over part of your rabbit's cage and aim a fan at it, making sure your rabbit is not in a direct draft. As the water evaporates from the towel, the air in that area becomes cooler.

How about a cool bath or shower? For us, there's nothing more refreshing in the heat of summer, but rabbits do not share this opinion. In fact, bathing or showering is both dangerous and stressful for your rabbits because they may panic and then kick and hurt themselves.

What about ice cream and frozen treats? Hands down, my favorite way to cool off – but a big no-no for the bunnies. Anything dairy or with lots of sugar will make your rabbit very sick. Keep in mind



Snowball shedding in the summer.

that your rabbit's digestive system is very delicate and cannot stomach frozen foods.

So, what can you do for your rabbit during a heat wave, besides keeping the room reasonably cool?

Snowball and Luna enjoy a large ceramic bowl with cold water in the summertime. They always have a water bottle in their condo, but adding the water bowl not only encourages them to drink more, but it also invites them to snuggle against the cool ceramic. I put the bowl in the fridge before serving. Since ceramic retains the coolness, the water and bowl stay cool longer.

At dinnertime, Snowball and Luna enjoy a chilled (but not too cold) salad. The cool, moist greens encourage their appetite and offer extra hydration.

Snowball and Luna have both been shedding like crazy, especially since the



Arnie and Isabella snuggling on their ceramic tiles.

weather turned hot. They love extra grooming sessions during this time to remove loose fur with a special comb. Gentle plucking is also welcome. Less fur is definitely a good thing right now!

Here are some other things that will help your rabbit during a heat wave:

- Shade! Be sure to draw the shades in your rabbit's room to minimize heat from direct sun exposure.
- A frozen water bottle for snuggling.
- Chilled ceramic/marble tiles for lounging; you can buy a couple of tiles to keep in your freezer and put them down in your rabbit's habitat when it gets hot.

So, keep cool and carry on! Enjoy the rest of the summer safely with your loved buns.

Rescue in the Ramble

(Continued from page 1)

determined to get the rabbits out of the late afternoon heat – and away from the hawks and owls that would be ready to start hunting a few hours later.

I'm sure the heat made the rabbits less agile than they would have been otherwise. But when I saw where they were, in the wooded Ramble, I just started praying. There was heavy, heavy brush and lots of fallen tree branches, tons of growth, and the buns themselves weren't at first visible, let alone interested in what Donna and I were selling.

Within minutes, a couple of lovely Asian women appeared, and with their help we were able to spot a couple of rabbits. Moving slowly, I hummed softly and prayed for the first one to not fear my approach. Amazingly, within minutes he was in my arms and soon after I gently placed him in a carrier.

The second rabbit was rescued in pretty much the same way, but only after 10 minutes of trekking back and forth through brush – and I put in an extra prayer that there was no poison ivy, oak, etc.

The third was perhaps the most frightened of the three, and quick like a bunny in true form! But we enlisted the assistance

of another couple who had seen the trio earlier in the day and then had come back to see how the bunnies were doing. The guy was very helpful in preventing the little rabbit from getting too far past the perimeter we had all made, which was pretty large to begin with.

At this point, I was so far east that I couldn't see anyone else but kept calling out the bun's direction: "Bunny heading your way to the left, right, etc." I had my doubts but just stayed focused, totally believing that the little mister would pick up on my vibes. I just kept saying softly, "I'm here to help." The bunny

(Continued on page 3)

Rescue in the Ramble

(Continued from page 2)

went deeper into the foliage, and a patch of thorns did a real number on one of my arms, but I kept going and did see a change in his demeanor. He huddled within an area of thick thorns, and I was able to reach around behind him, with my body blocking him from the front. I was almost grateful for the brush because I'm sure if people had seen me lying on thorny ground, singing in front of a white bunny, they would have died laughing.

Once the trio were all secured in carriers, we thanked the two Asian women and I gave them my contact information because they said this was the second time that rabbits had been left in the Ramble. A couple of months ago, they had seen three white bunnies in the exact same spot. I am hoping this is not a pattern – or worse, some kind of strange ritual. My rescue companion, Donna, who is affiliated with the Central Park Conservancy, said she would see what, if anything, could be done to deal with this situation, perhaps by using a camcorder.

In any event, we needed to push on to get the furries to Animal Care & Control of NYC.

The guy and his girlfriend helped us through the park and into a cab and we got to AC&C at 7:59. While waiting for the rabbits' intake, I took the two who had shared a carrier and put them on the floor's cool tile, and placed an almost-frozen water bottle in the second carrier with the third bun. I assessed everybun's movement and demeanor and checked their sex. All three were boys, so they could stay together with no chance of pregnancy.

Intake took about an hour and during this time the boys were placed in three separate cages. They were noticeably stressed, but responded to soothing pets and cold wet hands on their ears. I gave them water by syringe, which helped them to perk up, too, but they still refused carrot bits (What? Doesn't everyone always carry carrots with them at all times?) The intake person wanted to cover the

Photos: Alisa Christopher



Donna and Curly.

three cages with towels but agreed that since the bunnies were so hot, this might not be in their best interest, and they all seemed calmer when they could see one another. Donna was quick to offer a nice donation to say thanks!

Next was a medical assessment done by AC&C employee Rosie, who in spite of the hour was phenomenal. One of the buns had a tick that we removed before it had apparently attached itself, and Revolution was requested for all three.

While the guys were being assessed, Donna got to visit the rabbit room after first seeing a little Yorkie stray that was hoarse from crying. It was Donna's Yorkie and their love for walks in the Ramble that led to her rabbit-rescue adventure, and I can only imagine what she was thinking as she comforted this munchkin found as a stray.

We prepared a big cage in the rabbit room for the anticipated white convention. I configured two carriers to be a hidey maze, set up a big litter pan and prepared crocks full of clean cold water and extra pellets--probably too much, but I thought they may have gone a long time without food and one night couldn't hurt. I had asked also if I could run out to get greens but was told it might be a problem since the staff were all trying to finish up and leave, so I didn't push it.

Then almost like a script, after the final tweaks of arranging their setup, Moe and Larry arrived from intake and a few minutes later, Curly also was in the rabbit room. One by one the three rabbits were placed in their condo and immediately



Alisa and Moe.

came alive with curiosity and what truly seemed joy. And their pleasure didn't seem to stop with their new surroundings, but they were curious about us as well. And it didn't seem to end with the buns. I could be projecting, but when I handed one of the buns to Donna, who had never before held a rabbit, I swear I saw her melt. I wouldn't be surprised if she joined our group down the road.

All three in this little circus kept coming over, face to face, and at one point Donna got a little startled when somebun put his paws on her head. This was pure heaven to witness. They were a hoot! Calling them lovable and adorable just didn't begin to scratch the surface of this little three-ring circus – and they were easy to handle!

A big shout out to the AC&C staff members who allowed us to get the rabbits set up with as little stress as possible, and lastly mondo thanks to Cindy Stutts, whom I kept calling for advice and support.

Donna and I parted ways to go home to take care of our families, tired but exhilarated, knowing with the help of many we did a good thing. Yeah!

(Larry unfortunately has since passed away. Curly and Moe are in a foster home, awaiting adoption.)

It's an Adoptapalooza!

Photos: Sari Krieger



Volunteer Will Leung setting up at Adoptapalooza, September 2012.



Child admires bunny at last year's Adoptapalooza.

The second annual Adoptapalooza Union Square adoption event will take place from noon to 5 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 8, in the north plaza of Union Square Park. This great adoption event will be presented by Mayor's Alliance for NYC's Animals in conjunction with the Petco Foundation and Petco Union Square.

Adoptapalooza will take place the weekend after Labor Day, when potential adopters are back from summer vacations. It's a great time to consider pet adoptions, and we will have many rabbits available for you to meet. Cat and dog rescue organizations are also participating, so please stop by.

Animal Care & Control of NYC Names Risa Weinstock as Executive Director



Risa Weinstock.

The board of directors of Animal Care and Control of New York City and the New York City Health Department on June 6 named Risa Weinstock as AC&C's executive director and general counsel. She previously served as interim executive director.

Ms. Weinstock began her tenure with AC&C in 2008 and has held several executive management positions. Prior to joining AC&C, she practiced law for over 20 years. She holds a B.A. from Cornell University and a J.D. from American University.

AC&C is one of the largest animal shelter systems in the country, taking in more than 30,000 animals each year. As a nonprofit organization since 1995, AC&C rescues, cares for and finds homes for homeless and abandoned animals in the city. AC&C is under contract with the Health Department and operates facilities in all five boroughs.

Photo: Jane O'Wyatt



Sherlock in his cage at Manhattan's AC&C shelter.

Forever Homes Found!

Rabbits adopted since the last newsletter include: Marcus, Rachel, Cappuccino and Cannoli, Tara, MooMoo, Rif, Bean and Nyla, Desmond, Wade, Pepper, Maxie, Elise, Brook, Nala and Lonnie, Bianca, Peggy, Geronimo, Lucille, Lenox, Glenda, Buttercup, Luigi, Hop, Raf, Opal and Pearl, Lonicera, Albert.

Photo: Brandon Fonville



Bean and Nyla.

Photo: Robert Kullka



Jingles is available for adoption at Petco's Lexington Avenue location.

Fostering Ben and Franklin: My Entertaining Duo

By Lynn Bixenspan

Whenever people find out I'm vegan, they assume I must have a million pets. The truth is, despite all my begging, my parents wouldn't let us have pets growing up, because of our tiny apartment. I had never really thought about getting rabbits as pets until my friends Kirk and Sarah adopted Juno and her son Owney. An allergy test years before had shown I was allergic, but after meeting their rabbits and going to an adoption event at Petco, I was determined to foster to see if I could battle the allergies for the love of rabbits.

I met Ben and Franklin at a Petco store and was immediately taken with their unique appearance – the spiky punk-rock hair. Despite being nearly identical, it was obvious even from that brief encounter, where they were both scared in that noisy chaotic environment, that they had two very different personalities – and were super-tightly bonded.

I soon learned that they had lived most of their short lives in the front window at the Center for Avian and Exotic



Ben and Franklin.

Medicine. I was told they were antisocial, which made me nervous but up for the challenge of trying to socialize them!

When I went to pick them up, mild-mannered Franklin went in the carrier without protest, while dominant bun Ben wriggled and required a lot more convincing. However, when I got them into their new home, Franklin was shaking in the corner while Ben went exploring.

The amount they've changed in the last seven weeks is amazing. They've always been good (great, jumping-up-in-the-air and circling-my-legs) eaters. But now their repertoire has expanded to include running all over the house – Ben jumping up on things and binkying, and Franklin doing some pretty intense cardboard-ripping projects.

As far as petting goes, Franklin is a love bug who will put down his head for pets any time he sees you and close his eyes in bliss when you pet his cheeks. In the past few days he rewards pets with a bunch of enthusiastic licks on my arms and legs! Ben will occasionally put his head down, but he will definitely nose butt you a hello as he walks by and zoom away too fast to get a pet in return. He's also a devious genius, finding ways out of the pen (lifting it with his nose is a fave) and into anywhere he wants. Luckily, most of the time he's very happy in his pen! And they snuggle and groom each other all the time.

And my allergies? They've been 100% fine since I've had Ben and Franklin here – so don't be scared off by allergies! I'm so happy I gave the rabbits a chance. They're great rabbits, and getting braver and more sociable by the day.



This is Baby Beatrix bunny, left at the Union Square Petco. She is being fostered by Sari Krieger.

Boomerang Kids

By Tracy Nuzzo

Since the economic downturn, there is a new phenomenon known as “boomerang kids,” when adult children move back in with their parents. One recent day, my foster rabbit Trixie discovered this doesn’t only apply to humans.

Back in late April, two of my foster bunnies were adopted at the Bunnyland event at the Union Square Petco. Will Leung, who had fostered mama Trixie and her 10 babies, asked if I would consider taking a few of his fosters. Since I had an “empty nest” with my fosters leaving, I gladly took in Trixie and her smallest girl, Candy. Both girls were quickly spayed at the Center for Avian and Exotic Medicine, and within a month, Candy was married.

Normally, I would have listed Trixie on Petfinder soon after her spay surgery, but I hesitated. Trixie had raised at least three litters of babies and it seemed high time that she got some rest and relaxation. She had a two-story Petwerks condo with an adjoining X-pen all to herself. She settled into a lazy schedule of fresh dandelion and a variety of greens, lots of naps and back rubs. Immediately after Candy left, Trixie began rewarding me with lots and lots of kisses. I was uncertain if she was thanking me for marrying Candy off – or perhaps she believed I was one of her ten babies and I needed grooming? Either way, Trixie really seemed to be coming into her own and I was more than happy to provide a quiet, comfortable sanctuary.

Then – on July 3rd, I got an email from Will. He had adopted out all but two of Trixie’s kids, but all along he had bunnies of his own. Between juggling the demands of several litters of Trixie’s babies, his older bun, Pickles, had turned 11 years old and the old man’s health was failing.

Photo: Tracy Nuzzo



Opal and Pearl.

It had been more than two full months since Trixie had seen her youngsters Opal and Pearl. I wondered how she would react to being united with her own “boomerang kids.”

Early on July 4, I met Will and collected his last two babies. I returned home and put the pet carrier in Trixie’s X-pen. Nearly incredulous, Trixie seemed to ask, “How did these girls find me at my private vacation home?”

The first hours were testy and I didn’t dare leave the group alone. Trixie wanted to assert herself, so she stamped her feet and chased each girl, individually. When Trixie had last separated from Opal and Pearl, the babies were almost five months old and still nursing. I guess Trixie wanted to be sure the girls knew that those days were long behind her.

After setting the ground rules, as most human parents do when kids unexpectedly return to the nest, Trixie meticulously groomed each girl and by the early evening, all three were sleeping in a big heap together, inside the Petwerks condo.

In the weeks since Opal and Pearl moved back with mom, the trio became a very happy family unit. Opal and Pearl were listed on Petfinder as a bonded pair and I finally got around to listing Trixie. I

knew that mama would let me know when she was ready and she has, in her own way. She is no longer the exhausted, skinny bun I took home almost three months ago. The mini-vacation seemed to rebuild her spirits and I hope that one day soon, she will find a home of her own.

Photo: Jane O'Wyatt



Charlene is being fostered by Jane O’Wyatt.

Wedding Announcement: Miss Candy and Mr. Momo Chen

By Tracy Nuzzo

It is with the same unbridled joy that normally results in bunny binkies that Tracy Nuzzo and Will Leung announce the marriage of their foster daughter, Miss Candy, to Mr. Momo Chen of New York City.

The bride, Candy, is a very, very recent alumna of NYC Metro Bunnies. Mr. Momo is a New York native and an adored adopted rabbit.

As with any great love story, it was pure fate that drew Candy to Momo. Candy had moved from a foster home in Queens to a foster home in Manhattan in late April. As a result, she changed vets and became a client of the Center for Avian and Exotic Medicine. Soon after her move, she went to Dr Anthony Pilny to be spayed. While at CAEM, she met a gentle man named Andrew, who worked at CAEM and as luck would have it, was the father of Momo.

Andrew was quite taken with Candy (who could blame him?) and the humans became matchmakers to this happily destined couple of lop bunnies, conspiring to bring them together, in search of love!

After a blind date, sparks began to fly. Candy, an apparent feminist, made the first move by giving Momo a smooch.

Momo, who is devastatingly handsome, yet incomplete without a mate, had long been interested in finding a wife. He readily accepted Candy's affection. Next, the two shared a lunch of dandelion leaves and then promptly took a nap together in a litter box. It was love indeed! So the parents again conspired... this time to make it official! Candy's lone request was to fulfill her lifelong dream to be a June bride.

In the meantime, the humans traded iPhone messages filled with super-cute baby bunny photos and some top-secret wedding plans!

On Sunday, June 9, a hot and sunny day in Manhattan, Candy and Momo tied the knot at the Petco in Union Square. The wedding was well-attended by parents, foster parents, friends, resident Petco bunnies looking for homes, rabbit adoption volunteers, Petco employees and some tourists who were vacationing from Brazil. At the end of the service, Candy and Momo were pronounced hus-bun and wife.

In lieu of gifts, the new couple requests only that everyone give their fosters and adopted pets an extra hug, to share the love. After an extended bunnymoon, the newly wedded couple plans to live with the bridegroom's father, Andrew Chen, in New York.

Photo: Andrew Chen



Momo and Candy share a bowl at home.

Photo: Tracy Nuzzo



Momo and Candy are hus-bun and wife.

A Bunny Goes Postal

By Sarah Willson

Soon after we adopted Jett in March, we knew her new name would be Juno. Her son (formerly known as Dylan) took a couple of months to really get used to his new home, so we had trouble coming up with a suitable name for him. As he got more comfortable, he developed the adorable habit of pulling our mail off the coffee table and running around the room with it. Occasionally he sets his sights higher, running back and forth with an old calendar or folder trailing along behind him, but bank statements are his favorite. Based on this new pastime, we decided to name him after Owney, the Postal Dog.

Here is a video showing Owney in action: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8qPRs1D31fc>

A Superbunny's Story Becomes a Musical for Kids

By Amber L. Spradlin

How do you fit the vast Hudson River into one room? How do you cram all five boroughs of New York City into that same room? As if it is not full enough already, now load it with all of the restaurants in town.

Seems hard to believe right? Well that's the magic of theater. In July, my children's book, "Thumperino – Diary of a Superbunny," came to life on stage at the Midtown International Theater Festival as a new musical called "The Adventures of Superbunny" (book and lyrics by Michael MacKenzie Wills and music by Alastair William King).

The show opens to the shocking discovery that all of the vegetables in New York City have strangely disappeared. The

police have no leads in the case so it is up to Thumperino Superbunny to solve the crime. Along the way he meets a cast of local characters, including a friendly police horse, and tangles with the evil villain Dr. Nilch and his robot henchmen.

Five years ago when I adopted my first house rabbit, Thumperino, I never imagined that little baby bunny wrapped in a yellow towel would become a caped crusader who teaches children about healthy eating, environmental awareness, consequences for one's actions, self-motivation, courage, determination and confidence.

After I released the Thumperino Superbunny book series, I met with Michael MacKenzie Wills, a playwright colleague of mine, at a performing arts conference where we casually discussed the dream

of turning the story into a musical. A few months later he had written a script and lyrics, worked with a composer, and handed me the first draft. We both had a passion to get Thumperino's message to children through the art form of musical theater.

We were delighted when it was selected for the Midtown International Theatre Festival and began working tirelessly to launch the show. Designing costumes, props and set seemed the easiest task of all in comparison to casting an actor to embody the superhero qualities of Thumperino and the heartwarming charm of my personal house rabbit. After rounds of auditions, we soon found a wonderful team of actors.

Next, a not-for-profit theater company, Rabbit Hole Theatrics, partnered with us to make the production philanthropically viable. Crafting a fun and educational show was important to us, but other priorities were financial support for rabbit rescues, theater events for kids, and reading programs.

When casting and advertising campaigns were complete, hours of rehearsal and development began. Slowly the stage started to fill, no longer with actors and props, but with robot armies, giant polluting factories, villains taking over the world, and one superhero...make that one Superbunny.

The production ran the weekend of July 19-21 in a sold-out whirlwind of bunny ears and laughing children all singing along with Thumperino's anthem, "Eat your vegetables. Let's eat vegetables now!"

It is hard for me to imagine it is over and I can't wait to do it again, although my house rabbits, Thumperino and Veronica, seemed to miss our evening time together while I was in rehearsals. I may have to enlist them as creative consultants next time.

Thumperino Superbunny played by Rafael Fuentes.



Photo: Amber L. Spradlin

We Are Looking for Loving Homes

By Kirsten Ott

Regina

Regina is a sleek, all-black, medium-sized bunny who was surrendered by her owner. Regina is somewhat of a challenge, and would be best for someone with bunny experience who likes to work with “tough customers.” This girl is pretty standoff-ish, and will actually turn her back on you when you try to make friends. Regina’s lack of social skills also suggests she didn’t get much attention in her former home. She also needs to lose a bit of weight. Let’s find a great home for Regina where she can learn to trust people. She would probably also benefit from a bunny partner.

Libby

Libby is a medium-sized brown and white Dutch mix who was abandoned at a Petco store. This girl’s deep brown and creamy white coat brings to mind a yummy cup of cocoa with marshmallows. Libby seems to be on the young side. She certainly has the curiosity of youth, but she’s a little wary too. Once you begin petting her, she’s easily won over. Libby would probably make a good partner for another rabbit.

Fiorello

Fiorello is a large, handsome New Zealand White who has had a rough life so far. He was raised as a “stud” in a laboratory breeding facility, and then donated to a school. As a result, Fiorello has lived most of his life in a too-small cage with little socialization. Despite all that he has been through, Fiorello is a friendly and happy bunny who likes nothing more than to be snuggled (on the ground please!) when he’s not running around exploring. He is about three years old, neutered, and litter box trained. Fiorello is currently in foster care.

Xena

Xena is a large New Zealand White female who was found in a backyard in May. She is good-natured and smart,

but also a bit of a rascal; her current favorite pastime is to tear out the bristles of a large broom. Xena loves organic apples, romaine lettuce, carrots, and parsley. Too much kale seems to disagree with her. She eats lots of hay and drinks lots of water. Xena loves to be petted, and will present herself invitingly – face down and behind up! She has also decided that flopping is a signal for emergency petting, so she flops a lot. She doesn’t seem to like to be picked up, but will put her face against your knee or leg to be petted. Xena looks like the bunny from “Alice in Wonderland,” so we’re sure she will bring magic and happiness to anyone who adopts her. She has been spayed and is in foster care.

Conrad and Ross

Conrad and Ross are a bonded pair of brothers who came to the shelter with their mom as part of a litter of six. They’re still young and probably have a fair amount of growing to do; we expect them to be on the large size when fully grown. Conrad is the tan guy, and Ross is the larger white bunny. These two boys are probably the friendliest rabbits you’ll ever meet. As soon as someone walks in the room, they’ll immediately run up to them begging for attention. They love to run around and can sit in your lap for hours being petted. Both are great with children, and are big fans of fresh veggies. They’ve been neutered and are currently in foster care. Conrad and Ross must be adopted together.

(Continued on page 10)



Conrad and Ross.



Regina.



Libby.



Fiorello.



Xena.

Looking for Loving Homes

(Continued from page 9)



Mae.



Brynn.



Hildegard.



Roy.

Mae

Mae is a large calico-patterned lop with a future in show business. This girl has a huge personality and specializes in comic antics. She is in attention-getting mode at all times – sticking her nose through pen bars, posing, staring at you – and she’s definitely hard to resist. She has a gorgeous multicolored coat, a long Roman nose, and dramatic dark “eye makeup.” Mae will need a home where she can get top billing. The audience will be guaranteed lots of big laughs. Mae has been spayed and is in residence at the Center for Avian and Exotic Medicine on Columbus Avenue.

Brynn

Brynn is a small brown and white Dutch mix who was found in Hell’s Kitchen. This poor girl seems somewhat traumatized by her recent experiences. She arrived at the shelter underweight and very hungry, and she seemed quite fearful – she would cower timidly in the back of her cage, staring at you with her unusual blue eyes. However, Brynn soon realized that she enjoyed human affection: when approached slowly and gently, she would smush right down for petting. Brynn’s coat is unusual both in coloring and pattern, and those gorgeous blue peepers are sure to win you over! She would do best in a quiet home with gentle people.

Hildegard

Hildegard is a large, fabulous-looking gray Chinchilla lop. When Hildegard first arrived at the shelter, she seemed very distrustful of people, assuming an aloof, anti-social posture. Within a matter of days, though, Hildegard’s personality underwent a dramatic transformation. Now she can’t get enough human attention! She asks for petting all the time, and you’ll be happy to comply, because you’ll fall in love with her super-soft gray coat, her beautiful dark-lashed eyes, and especially her incredibly loving nature.

Roy

Roy is a marvelous young New Zealand White loverboy. This bunny seems to have a mission to enjoy life. He’s very



Jazzy.

cheerful, friendly, affectionate and mellow. Roy adores human companionship and will snuggle up to you for petting at the first opportunity. He doesn’t appear to be fully grown, so though he’s quite large already, he may get larger still. Roy would probably make a very good family bunny.

Jazzy

Jazzy is a tiny young girl who was found in Brooklyn. This sweet little thing just wants to be your baby – she turns herself into a round ball for affection and enjoys having her entire head and body stroked. Jazzy’s coat is a fluffy white with dramatic black markings, including mottled ears, “eye makeup,” and a cute beauty mark on one side of her nose.

Russell

Russell is a medium-to-large gray and white Rex who was found in the Glendale neighborhood of Queens. This unusual-looking guy has a small pink scar on his face from a prior (likely minor) injury. This gives him a tough-guy look, but it’s deceiving. Russell is most definitely a lover, not a fighter. He’s a real softie on the outside as well as the inside – you’ve never felt such a soft Rex coat! And Russell adores affection; if you stop petting him, he remains motionless and

(Continued on page 11)

Two International Bunnies Living in NYC: The Story of Ponponne and Biscotte

By Desirée van Welsum

First some background. We are Ponponne and Biscotte, two dwarf bunnies from Paris. But we have been quite international. We lived in Geneva (Switzerland) and in Brussels, Belgium. We recently moved to NYC.

Photos: Desirée van Welsum



We got our passports.



Here we are on the plane!

We often had taken weekend car trips in Europe, but our flight to New York was a great adventure.

(Continued on page 12)



On the road in passenger seat in Luxembourg.

Looking for Loving Homes

(Continued from page 10)



Russell.

peeks at you, seemingly praying that you'll return forthwith. This nice fellow would make a good family bunny.

Buster

Buster is a medium-to-large New Zealand White male. This guy is very friendly and well-socialized. He enjoys petting so much that you'll find yourself hanging out together for long stretches of time. In addition to being a mensch,



Buster.

Buster is very handsome. He has a pristine coat and beautiful ruby eyes. He's often checking out the ladies in nearby cages, so he'd probably make a good husbun. Buster would also make a very good family bunny.

Sandy

Sandy is one of the four rabbits residing at the Petco store on Lexington Avenue. She is a gorgeous, active girl who loves



Sandy.

to be with people. Her basic coloring is tan, with many swirling patterns in darker hues. Sandy was left on the porch of a dog rescuer, and then spent some time in a foster home with one of the volunteers. She has lovely bluish eyes, and her demeanor is gentle but playful. Sandy's litter-box skills are the best. She is an absolute doll.

International Bunnies

(Continued from page 11)

We hear it is common for New York buildings to have a doorman. We have one too. Ponponne minds the door.

We have a wonderful sitter in NYC, but we hate being left alone.

We like to spend home-office time under the desk, except during conference calls, when we like to be noisy.

For example, we enjoy rearranging the sofa cushions, or trying to get new toys out of the box where we know they are being hidden.

We are excited to be living in the most wonderful city in the world and are looking forward to more fun here.

Photos: Desirée van Welsom



There is a really great farmers market near our new home in NYC, so Wednesday is our Disneyland food day!



We love that so many things get delivered here, because we get to play with the boxes.



We love reading the WSJ.



Messy eaters?



Checking out a new box.



And we read the memos from the building management carefully.



We were excited there was an article about our move in Thump, April 2013. Ponponne reads the article.



The summers here are hot, though.

Letters From Adopters

Photo: Morgan Beard



Geppetto.

Geppetto

Morgan adopted Geppetto, formerly known as Hoppy, in early June. She sent us this letter about a week later.

Growing up, I was an only child and never had a pet. My mom was a neat freak and my dad was allergic to every animal that was remotely fun. I begged for a furry companion, but to no avail. Whenever I suggested a bunny rabbit, the answer was always, "All they do is poop."

Now that I'm an adult, I recently decided that a bunny would be the perfect

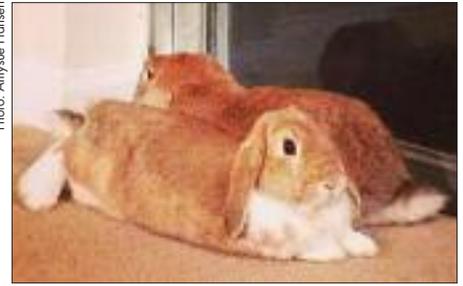
addition to my life. There were still plenty of people willing to warn me that all they do is poop, but I ignored them, and couldn't be happier that I did.

I found Geppetto online and fell in love. All of my friends did, too, and were eager to meet him. He was old, arthritic and in need of some serious love. After the preparations were made, I brought him home to a homemade pen and a bunny-proofed apartment.

However, I didn't expect much in the mobility department. I was surprised and overjoyed to find that Geppetto was no geezer – he was full of energy and itching to explore. I've even had to derail a few escape attempts. He has a great appetite so he does poop a lot, but who cares?! It is by no means his only attribute. He is adorable, feisty, loving and curious. And he's the perfect pet for me.

An enormous thank you to everyone who had a hand in saving this little guy's life so that he could come into mine.
Morgan

Photo: Amysue Hansen



Milly and Molly.

Molly and Milly

Amysue Hansen adopted Molly and Milly (Harmony and Melody) in mid-March. We received this update a month later.

Harmony, now Molly, and Melody, now Milly, are doing great!

They love doing their happy dances and LOVE to sprint around our apartment.

They definitely are amusing to watch, especially when Molly chases around Milly trying to get her to cuddle, or when we catch them in a complete deep sleep! I swear a freight train could go by and Molly wouldn't wake up. I guess she is comfy in her home – haha!

Amysue

Photo: Jennifer Tung



Roadrunner (formerly Octavia) with Coyote on the right.

Coyote and Roadrunner

Jennifer Tung adopted Roadrunner (previously known as Octavia) in May to be a partner for Coyote. The bunnies are playful companions.

I adopted Coyote (formerly DeNiro) last year and we've settled into a peaceful coexistence. But sometimes I wondered if he felt lonely. As much as he's a "people

bunny," I felt that he needed a fellow rabbit to share all sorts of rabbit experiences that he can't get from his humans.

I took Coyote back to the shelter in May for some speed dating, and Bachelorette #3, Octavia, caught his eye. She became Coyote's Roadrunner once she came home, and now they're partners-in-crime.

Coyote's a bit puppy-like in behavior and is, quite frankly, a clumsy hopper – more like a flopper. Roadrunner is much more agile and quicker than he and it's fascinating to see these two playing around the apartment, as she's always one step ahead of him and she's frequently hopping onto places he can't get to, due to his chunkier size and lack of, um, graceful coordination.

I'm sure Coyote will be chasing after his lady Roadrunner for many years to come.

Jennifer

Photo: Veronica Stellings



Cannoli and Cappuccino.

Cannoli and Cappuccino

Veronica Stellings adopted Cannoli and Cappuccino in June.

There are videos of the rabbits on YouTube. The tan rabbit is Cappuccino, and the spotted rabbit is Cannoli.

(Continued on page 14)

The videos are called “bunnies relaxing in the sun” and “the bunny who thinks that she is a dog.” Search for the videos by name. (They are by Momo Doggie.) Enjoy!

Veronica

Photo: Latrice Maxwell



Beau.

Beau

Beau was adopted by Latrice Maxwell, who sent us this update in June..

Beau is doing great. We are really glad we adopted him and I believe he is glad also. His bunny hops let us know how he feels and he always makes us laugh. What a beautiful animal!

Latrice

Calvin and Hobbs

Chloe adopted Calvin and Hobbs in the spring. She recently sent us this update.

Calvin and Hobbs are doing great!

They love to cuddle and give kisses on occasion.

They've really hit it off with my dog, as seen in the attached picture.

As I'm writing this, Hobbs is sitting on my lap. He says hello.

Chloe Nousias

Photo: Laura Infield



Butter and Cookie.

Photo: Chloe Nousias



Karma, the dog, with Calvin and Hobbs.

Butter and Cookie

Butter was adopted in the spring as a partner bunny for Cookie. Laura and Adam sent us this email in June.

Our two little angels, ButterCookie, as we refer to them, are together at last and are doing better than ever. When we first adopted Cookie over a year ago, we brought her into our home not quite knowing what to expect. Adam had never had any pets before, and I only had rabbits when I was very young. Back then, I did everything wrong. After reading many articles and books, we became educated bunny owners.

Cookie turned out to be such a wonderful addition to the family that we decided we were ready for her to find a friend. We contacted Cindy Stutts and she set up a speed date at the Petco uptown, where Cookie met Butter. At first meeting, Cindy could tell that he was the one for her. He was only a week out of having eye surgery, and was recovering after being surrendered by his owner because of an attack by another animal. The volunteers didn't think his eye would be salvageable, but the miraculous vets at the Center for Avian and Exotic Medicine were able to save it. He now only has a small scar across his top lid, and perfect vision.

Butter was a bit jumpy for the first month, thumping constantly and scampering into his hidey house every time we got near him. We were nervous that the bond would be difficult and that Cookie might attack Butter, as she has a tendency to bite me every so often (vicious lionhead as she may be!).

Luckily, however, the bonding only took two weeks, and after going through all the steps, they were able to live together happily in their two-story bunny condo. They are now best friends, eating, grooming and cuddling together, and although we knew that we would be getting less attention from Cookie, in the long run, it was better for her to have a friend. She still runs up to Adam when he gets home at night.

It was meant to be for all parties involved – the bunnies who, ironically enough, not only look alike, but were adopted by pastry chefs, and had the names Butter and Cookie.

Cookie was adopted from Animal Care & Control of NYC in March of 2012, and Butter the following year at Petco, in March of 2013.

Thanks again!

Laura Infield and Adam Wile

(Continued on page 15)

Photo: Dana Glover



Alex and Desmond.

Desmond

Dana brought Desmond home on July 1, and she sent us this letter the following day.

I thought I'd send an email to everyone to let you all know that Desmond did very well on his first night, as well as this morning before I left for work. He was a bit nervous and shaken after we first took him out of the box, but I just pet him and spoke to him in a soothing voice and he came around after a little bit and started to explore. He has been drinking and munching on his hay constantly, as well as eating greens and a small apple slice this morning. When I woke up this morning, I saw that he left plenty of normal firm droppings in his cage, and he peed as well; so these are all good signs.

He seems very receptive to both me and Alex (Alex is my boyfriend, whom Judith and Alisa met when I picked Desmond up last night) and when I left for work this morning, Desmond was snuggling with Alex and exploring my room some more. When I come home this evening, I'll be letting Desmond out of his cage for some more play and exercise time.

Overall, things are going really well and I'm giving Desmond a lot of love!

Here he is on Instagram:
<http://instagram.com/p/bPxKPGxZDh/>

Dana Glover

Photo: Clara Williams



Elise and kitten.

Elise

Clara and Micah adopted Elise in early July. They said everything is going well.

We are in love with Elise. She is always so loving and absolutely amazing. She lies on the couch with us and watches movies every night.

Her grandparents cannot wait to meet her!! Thank you so much for giving us this bundle of joy!!

Our cat also is in love with Elise. We are a happy little family!

Clara and Micah

Photo: Robert Kullka



Ziggy.

Ziggy

Ziggy, formerly known as Wade, was adopted by Zabeer Hack, who sent us this letter in early July.

(Continued on page 16)

Letters *(Continued from page 15)*

Hope you had a great Fourth of July. Wade, aka Ziggy, is doing great. He is slowly getting used to his new home. We are litter training him and he has made great progress! He sprayed us a lot in the beginning and was constantly marking his space. His appetite is great. He loves his hay and veggies.

Thank you!

Zaheer

Photo: Elise Dandrew



Molly and Wally.

Molly and Wally

Molly and Wally, formerly known as Nala and Lonnie, were adopted by Elise Dandrew. They had been fostered by Helen Chen.

My fiancé, Fernando, and I have completely fallen in love with these bunnies. We already knew how cute they were from the photos that their foster mother, Helen, sent us, but having them all to ourselves in person and observing their daily behaviors and routines is more than we could have ever imagined.

We renamed them Molly and Wally, which we think suit them very well! (Their names had been Nala and Lonnie.) Molly is the bossy, older sister type, yet she's got this spunky, outgoing charm that we love so much. Wally is the sweet, endearing one and won't flinch a beat whenever we want to pet or snuggle up against him. Both of them together are just the most adorable pair of bunnies and just being able to observe and admire them every day is the best experience as rabbit owners.

Our entire adoption experience was wonderful. Helen was extremely helpful with how to properly take care of these buns and Marcie Frishberg was informative and educated us on everything we need to know about rabbit care and maintenance. We feel as though these bunnies are not only our house pets, but our life companions. Their purity, innocence and playful antics are what makes our hearts sing with joy. Thank you for bringing these darling creatures in to our lives!

Kind regards,

Elise

Photo: Mya Starling



Nyla, front, and Bean, back.

Nyla and Bean

Mya adopted Nyla and Bean in late June. She sent us this letter a few weeks later.

I have been contemplating adopting a bonded pair of rabbits for quite a while now but the time was never quite right – family issues, significant amounts of unexpected travel, etc. I'm now at a point where I am settled enough to have bunnies in my life. I started trolling Petfinder recently, and Nyla and Bean's profiles were posted. Something drew me to those little guys. I read their sad origins—their mom suffering a fatal injury, being taken to a vet for care, giving birth and then dying shortly afterward, with the vet raising them from tiny kits until they were ready to be adopted. On a whim, I

visited them midweek at Union Square Petco and they happened to be out in their pen, I visited again three more times over the next couple weeks. I fell in love with their personalities. Both Bean and Nyla were shy but curious, playful, and super sweet.

I decided to adopt Bean and Nyla and showed up on an adoption day. After some time and some paperwork, I had officially adopted these guys and brought them home to Brooklyn in a cardboard carrier. During the long trip to Gravesend I'd see an occasional tuft of fur or inquisitive nose poking through the holes of the carrier. When I introduced them to their new home and their new pen they were inquisitive but definitely not at ease. Over

the past two weeks Bean and Nyla have been getting more accustomed to me, their new pen, and their new home. It has been a learning process as to what they like and don't like and what their idiosyncrasies are.

Bean is laid-back, likes to be scratched behind the ears and is good with being handled, considering he has only known me for two weeks. Nyla is more temperamental and is not very tolerant of changes to her personal space, including litter cleaning, and she lets me know it with a glance and a foot-thumping or two. Too bad for her that her angry signals are so, so cute! She is warming up day by day, though – especially because I pair litter cleaning

(Continued on page 17)

and handling with treats, scratches and kind words.

The biggest surprise is not that Bean and Nyla (like most, if not all, rabbits) aren't "by the book" bunnies, but how they aren't "by the book." When I bunny-proofed my apartment, I covered all the wires with split-loom tubing. I have since learned that if my rabbits come across a wire of any sort, they don't particularly care; however, they love to chew on split-loom tubing! I collected oodles of toys for them before they arrived – a slinky, baby toys, toilet-paper rolls, chew sticks--and the only things they love to play with are a binder clip I accidentally dropped one day, and the scoop for their pellets.

Now that Bean and Nyla are more settled, I let them run around the apartment when I'm home. Bean has set up a racetrack: he runs from his pen, to the kitchen, back into the living room, jumps on my bed, runs around the bed, jumps down and runs to the living room, binkies about, and then repeats the circuit until he tires. Nyla is more of a burrower and I have set up a long box stuffed with shredded paper. Late at night I can hear her rustling around, creating the perfect shredded paper tunnel.

When they think it's time for them to be fed in the morning (usually around 4:30 or 5), they jump up on my bed, climb on me, and finally repeatedly step on my head until I wake up. It might be a bad habit for me to reinforce but it is oh so cute!

We are still getting to know each other but the journey so far has been a wonderful experience and I'm glad these little guys are in my life!

Mya

Photo: Karina Glaser



Isabella and Jeep, the cat.

Isabella

Isabella, formerly known as Lucille, was adopted in mid-July by Karina Glaser and her family. She sent us this letter about a week later.

Dear NYC Metro Rabbits,

I just wanted to send you all a quick note to say that Lucille (who my daughters renamed Isabella) is settling in very nicely. We started her out in her puppy playpen on Sunday evening, opened up part of the living room to her yesterday, and opened up the rest of the living room to her today.

This evening she met Jeep (our cat) without a barrier and they get along great. Jeep promptly rolled over onto his side and fell asleep. So, no predatory instincts there! Isabella is doing great with her litter box and is eating all her pellets, a lot of hay, and her salad every day. She seems very happy and we witnessed some binkies today.

She is so sweet, and we love her already! Thank you for all the great information about rabbits that helped us prepare our home for her. We appreciate all of your help and support!

Best wishes,

Karina

Trixie and Cappuccino

Elda Pomales adopted Trixie in July as a buddy for Cappuccino. The bunnies are becoming good friends.

My name is Elda Pomales and I own a very snooty 9-year-old Jersey Wooly rabbit from Scarsdale, N.Y. (If anyone knows Westchester County they would know where he gets this trait from.) He goes by the name of Cappuccino. While growing up, he developed his personality, and I seriously believe someone was reincarnated as this rabbit. He listens, he understands and he actually responds to me. He is the love of my life.

Just like a person, he has always been particular about choosing his friends (sorry mom and grandma) and he loves and protects his friends just as a person would. God forbid we are sleeping and you try walking near my room. Cappuccino will scare you off with his stomping while giving me a heart attack as well. He is quite the bodyguard. Now that I live on my own, I actually really do appreciate it.

My mom likes to tell everyone that he looks at me like I'm his "woman" as well at his mother because he's extremely attached to me. I realized that he needed a companion when I went away with my friends on a ski trip. It was the first time that I didn't bring Cappuccino along with me. We were about a day into the ski trip when I got an alarming phone call from my parents, telling me that Cappuccino had stopped eating and drinking and wouldn't come out of the house that's in his cage. They thought he was depressed. So I asked them to put me on speaker phone and to let me speak to Cappuccino. All I did was say his name and like magic he popped his head out of the house. I spoke to him for a few minutes and told him I was coming back home in a few days, and after that conversation my parents said he was okay

(Continued on page 18)

again. He came out of his house and ate and drank.

It was at that point that I realized that my poor love was lonely. He needed someone for the times when I couldn't be there, or when I couldn't take him with me. But the problem wasn't finding a rabbit friend for him. The problem was that he wasn't neutered, and being the age that he was at the time (6 years) I wasn't going to take the chance and put him under. I figured he was just doomed to be a single bunny, not that there's anything wrong with that because I knew that I would give him all the love he needs. And as he got older he craved my attention more and more and I didn't mind because he's my baby boy. But something in the back of my mind always told me that maybe he should have a companion, so that he could know how it feels to play rabbit games and love another rabbit.

One day I was voicing this frustration about getting him a girlfriend when my aunt suggested I try going to a shelter to find a senior rabbit that I could give a home to. Eureka!!! Why didn't I think of this before? What a brilliant idea. I would definitely be more likely to find an older rabbit at a shelter than if I were to try to go to a pet store. So the next week I did some research and I came across PetFinder.com. I found a suitable candidate, emailed someone and literally an hour later started setting up a "speed date" for Cappuccino, conveniently not far from where I live. Everything happened so fast and things fell into place so nicely that I actually think this was meant to happen, because that weekend I came home with his girlfriend.

I brought my best friend to accompany me and Cappuccino (because she is his biggest supporter) and we didn't know what to expect. I was scared for him because I read that I would see his behavior become aggressive when introduced to another rabbit. But oddly enough,

Photo: Elda Pomales



Cappuccino and Trixie.

Cappuccino wasn't fazed by these women. He was playing hard to get! He never went up to any of the rabbits, and he let them all come up to him.

There were three female rabbits there, all ready to meet my handsome guy. The first rabbit wasn't sure if she liked him or not. She would go up to him, sniff his face then stomp her feet and run away. This went on for about 10 minutes and not once did Cappuccino ever approach her first. The second rabbit Cappuccino was introduced to was large. She was about twice his size and she was a little too aggressive for him, so we put her back right away. The third rabbit, Trixie, was so sweet to him. She cuddled with him and gave him kisses and, to my surprise, he kissed her back! I'd never seen this side of Cappuccino before. It looked as if the third time was the charm after all. We all knew that this was a match, but of course the true test would be when we got home, in HIS territory.

The first week was a bit of a struggle. Cappuccino had been solo for nine years, always having my full attention, and let's

not forget that he isn't neutered. Having a new rabbit in his house was a bit of an adjustment for him. Lots of mounting and circling went on every day. At times I was extremely discouraged. But the ladies who helped me get Trixie helped a lot. They were very helpful and gave lots of insight. I had the rabbits eat together under close supervision every day. I had them sleep in each other's cages. I even had them walk in the bathtub together to try to further the bonding. I persevered, and after the first week the worst was over. Cappuccino's mounting greatly decreased, although I don't think it will ever fully go away because he isn't neutered, and Trixie still continues to kiss him. It's only been about three weeks and the bond is still developing but I'm positive they will make it.

Elda Pomales

(Continued on page 19)

Photos: Justin Fernandez



Gelato and Justin.

Gelato

Gelato, formerly known as Sky, was adopted in April by Justin, who recently sent us this letter.

Keeping in tradition with my love for all things Italian, I've changed Sky's name to Gelato. However, his warm personality was not lost in the process. He's constantly cuddly, infinitely curious, and always has my back.

Although I've only had him for a few months, I can feel how strong our bond has become. He often seeks out affection and is no stranger to rubbing his face against mine until he gets my undivided attention.

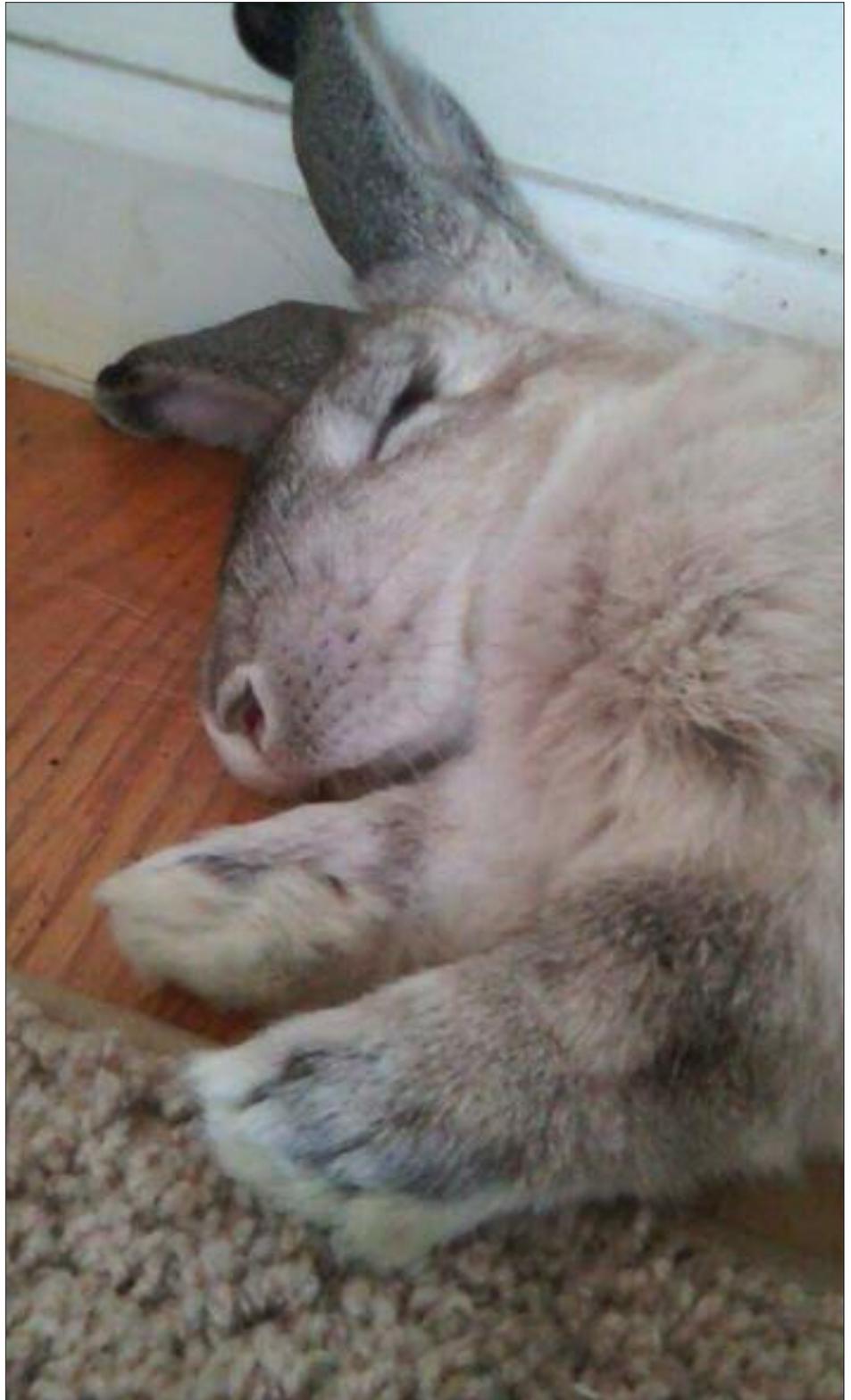
Gelato is my first rabbit and I was a bit worried at first about raising such a unique animal without prior experience. However, I spent time learning all there was to know about proper foods, handling, and overall rabbit care.

And it's still a journey for me and my little fuzzy buddy. Gelato and I spend our days critiquing my salad tossing abilities, finding ways to get into trouble, and most importantly, enjoying a well-deserved afternoon nap.

I couldn't have asked for a better bunny, or any other animal for that matter, to light up my life and give me the support that he has. I'm thankful that I was given the chance to not only make Gelato a part of my life, but to also become a part of his.

Thank you so much,

Justin Fernandez



Gelato.

Rabbit-Savvy Veterinarians

Here's our recommended vet list for the New York metropolitan area. **Please note that many clinics have multiple veterinarians, and our recommendations are for specific veterinarians in those clinics.** If you can't get an appointment with a recommended vet at one clinic, don't assume (no matter what you are told by the clinic) that other vets in the same clinic can help your rabbit. If you have any questions or would like to discuss any of the vets on this list, please contact Mary Cotter at (914) 337-6146. When you make an appointment with any of these vets, please tell them you were referred by us.

Long Island:

Jennifer Saver, DVM

Laura George, DVM

Kristen Miller, DVM

Catnip & Carrots Veterinary Hospital
2221 Hillside Ave., New Hyde Park, NY 11040
(516) 877-7080

Heidi Hoefler, DVM

Island Exotic Vet Care
591 East Jericho Turnpike
Huntington Station, NY 11746
(631) 424-0300

Jeff Rose, DVM

Jefferson Animal Hospital
606 Patchogue Rd. (Route 112)
Port Jefferson Station, NY 11776
(631) 473-0415

Manhattan:

Becky Campbell, DVM

Deborah Levison, DVM

Symphony Veterinary Center
170 West 96th Street, New York, NY 10025
(212) 866-8000

Katherine Quesenberry, DVM

The Animal Medical Center
510 East 62nd St., New York, NY 10065
(212) 838-7053, (212) 329-8622

Alexandra Wilson, DVM

Anthony Pilny, DVM

Cynthia J. Brown, DVM

The Center for Avian and Exotic Medicine
568 Columbus Ave., New York, NY 10024
(212) 501-8750

Shachar Malka, DVM

Humane Society of New York
306 East 59th St., New York, NY 10022
(212) 752-4842

Westchester County:

Gil Stanzone, DVM

Dakota Veterinary Center
381 Dobbs Ferry Road, White Plains, NY 10607
(914) 421-0020

Laurie Hess, DVM

Veterinary Center for Birds and Exotics
709 Bedford Road, Bedford Hills, NY 10507
(914) 864-1414

Licensed HRS Representatives

Mary Cotter, HRS Licensed Educator,
Chapter Manager, Rabbit Rescue & Rehab,
mec@cloud9.net, (914) 337-6146, rabbitcare.org

Nancy Schreiber, HRS Licensed Educator,
President, Long Island Rabbit Rescue
Group, nschreibmd@aol.com, (516) 510-
3637, LongIslandRabbitRescue.org

Cindy Stutts, HRS Licensed Educator,
Manager NYC Metro Rabbit Program,
bygolyoly@yahoo.com, (646) 319-4766,
nyc.metro.rabbits@gmail.com

Mary Ann Maier, HRS Licensed Educator,
Long Island Rabbit Rescue Group Volunteer,
altitude8@yahoo.com,
LongIslandRabbitRescue.org

Donna Sheridan, HRS Licensed Educator,
Long Island Rabbit Rescue Group Volunteer,
hpocus217@yahoo.com,
LongIslandRabbitRescue.org

Kerstin Aumann, HRS Licensed Educator,
NYC/AC&C Volunteer,
nyc.metro.rabbits@gmail.com, nycacc.org

Gabrielle LaManna, HRS Educator-in-
training at large, New Fairfield, CT,
gabbysbunnies@yahoo.com, (203) 746-7548

Jennifer Saver, DVM, HRS Licensed Educator

Laura George, DVM, HRS Licensed Educator

THUMP August 2013

Newsletter of RRR/NYC HRS

56 West Pondfield Road #5C
Bronxville, NY 10708

www.rabbitcare.org

Editor: Susan Lillo

Creative Director: Jane O'Wyatt

Masthead Logo Designer: Mary Ann Maier
Rabbit Rescue & Rehab is a not-for-profit,
tax-exempt corporation in New York State.

Our purpose is to rescue, rehabilitate and find permanent homes for abandoned, abused and neglected rabbits, and to educate the general public on rabbit care through publications, telephone consultations, home visits and public presentations. This newsletter is published by RRR/NYC HRS, which is solely responsible for its content. Letters, photographs and other submissions to the newsletter become the property of the NYC Chapter and cannot be returned. We retain the right to edit submissions for publication.

All donations go directly to caring for our foster rabbits and are tax-deductible. Please help us help them. Mailing address for contributions to **Rabbit Rescue & Rehab**: Gabrielle LaManna, 7 Carriage Lane, New Fairfield, CT 06812. For contributions to **Long Island Rabbit Rescue Group**, please go to www.longislandrabbithrescue.org.

ADOPTABLE RABBITS 🐰

There are lots of adoptable rabbits available in Manhattan, Long Island and Westchester. To adopt a rabbit in **New York City**, contact Cindy Stutts at bygolyoly@yahoo.com or call her at 646-319-4766. On **Long Island**, contact Nancy Schreiber at nschreibmd@aol.com or at 516-510-3637 (www.longislandrabbithrescue.org), and in **Westchester** contact Mary Cotter at mec@cloud9.net or 914-337-6146 (www.rabbitcare.org).

The rabbit volunteers' email address in New York City is nyc.metro.rabbits@gmail.com.

Adoptable NYC Metro rabbits are at Petco's Lexington Avenue (86th-87th) and Union Square locations; rabbit volunteers are present at both stores on Saturday and Sunday afternoons to answer questions. There are four rabbits living at each of those stores.

You can also visit Animal Care & Control of NYC (AC&C) at 326 East 110th St., between First and Second avenues.

Rabbits for adoption can be found by going to: <http://www.nycacc.org/> and doing an

adoption search. Volunteers are there every weekday evening and on Saturday and Sunday afternoons, but it is best to arrange an appointment first.

Bunny speed dates take place 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays at the Petco store at Columbus Avenue and West 100th Street. To arrange a speed date so that your rabbit can find a buddy, contact Cindy Stutts at bygolyoly@yahoo.com. The bonding sessions sometimes take an hour or more, so only three speed dates are scheduled each Saturday.

Many of our rabbits are living in foster homes and you can meet them as well. You also can arrange to foster a rabbit until he or she finds a permanent home. Contact Mary Cotter at mec@cloud9.net or Cindy Stutts at nyc.metro.rabbits@gmail.com.

For basic information about rabbits as pets, go to www.rabbitcare.org, www.longislandrabbithrescue.org and the House Rabbit Society main site, www.rabbit.org.