

SENTINEL

Also serving the communities of Rush, Wheatland, Scottsville, Avon, North and West Bloomfield, Pittsford, and Henrietta

VOLUME 35 ISSUE #50

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2024

\$1 a copy, \$50.00 per year (in state)

Deadline: Monday noon; email: submissions@MHFLSentinel.com

Pet Pride Helps Connect Cats With Owners

BY DEB AND TIM SMITH

"You know I've driven by that place hundreds, if not thousands, of times and never really knew what it was all about." Every time we make you say that with one of our articles, it makes us feel validated because we know we have you thinking, "That darn *Sentinel* is worth every penny I'm paying for it!" That being said, we may have you searching behind your couch cushions for coins after this one.

If you live in *Sentinel*-land, of course you've driven to Victor to get on the expressway, hit Walmart or cruise Eastview Mall. Here's where we kick in with the visual... Okay, you've passed by our house, the *Sentinel* office, and the 4-corners of Mendon and you're heading towards Rt. 96 on Victor-Mendon Rd. You drive by Mendon Farms and take a quick glance to your right to make sure nobody else has plowed through the cobblestone anvil in the road in a series of mishaps Supervisor Moffit has referred to as "anvil-gate."

Continuing east, you pass by Saxby Implement on your right, Ted Collins Landscaping on your left, followed by a handful of different business complexes, also on your left. Next, you see yourself approaching that almost-90-degree curve in the road where you can turn left onto Philips Road and head toward the expressway and the mall, or follow the curve to the right and head toward Victor.

But, just before that "V" in the road, your peripheral vision picks up signage on the right for an establishment identifying itself as "Pet Pride." As curious as you might spontaneously be, a hard look past the sign won't do you much good. You'll see a long driveway leading so far that there's no way you can make any kind of definitive identification as to what may lay at the end of that road. Perhaps some kind of niche pet supply store. But not so fast; here's the real scoop...

Pet Pride in Victor is a no-kill shelter for homeless cats that provides sanctuary, medical care, and placement into forever homes. Thanks to a mixture of grants and benefactors, Pet Pride was able to complete a \$1.2 million expansion just over a year ago in January of 2023. Reaping the benefits of that project, Pet Pride is now a 4,500-square-foot complex where up to 80 cats can



Cats enjoy multiple seating options. Photo provided by Pet Pride



Outside view of Pet Pride. Photo by Marie Kraus

roam free, waiting for adoption. So how did we get to this point? Well, let's roll it back to the beginning when the first purr was heard almost half a century ago. We are deferring to the speech about Pet Pride's history delivered by PP board member Maureen Mulley at the 2022 groundbreaking ceremony for most of the storyline here.

Million-dollar expansions were not in anyone's mind when the humble beginnings of Pet Pride were first germinated in 1977 by Jacqueline Russel, a dedicated cat rescuer, and Dr. Stuart Gluckman, who many of you know as our beloved local veterinary legend. Dr. Gluckman founded the Mendon Village Animal Hospital on Mill Road in 1979 and practiced veterinary medicine there for over 40 years. He is still the Pet Pride board president and medical director. We had the pleasure of collaborating on a three-week *Sentinel* series on Dr. Gluckman in July of 2018. He is such an engagingly wonderful man.

Jackie Russel spent years in the mid 1970's developing a dream of incorporating a no-kill, cats-only shelter in New York State. She traveled around the country, at her own expense, visiting shelters, meeting with people representing animal control, leading pet food manufacturers, plus veterinarians. She also gained insight into the Cat

Fanciers Association. This research led her to instituting the first ever feline health seminars held in New York State. Ultimately Jackie based our local organization on the original Pet Pride formed in California in 1961. After observing that group in action and seeing the positive results, Jackie was determined to bring those benefits to Rochester and its cat population.

Initially, the Russels' garage served as the refuge for the stray cats brought to her from the animal control office, but the operation was too much to handle on her own. Having already met Dr. Gluckman at the Iroquois Society All-Breed Cat Show, and then using him as her own vet, Jackie and her family moved from Greece to Mendon, where Pet Pride opened its first public office. There, cat items were for sale, a quarterly newsletter was published and volunteers began to help with activities, including charity bazaars, bake sales and garage sales.

When this location became inadequate to fulfill its needs, Pet Pride relocated to the corner of Route 251 (Victor Mendon Rd.) and Route 64 (Mendon-Ionia Road), where two part-time employees were hired to handle the workload as public exposure increased and the office/shelter was open six days a week. About this location Dr. Gluckman

Continued on Page 3

Looking Back With Lima's Town Historian

Lima and Its Many Different Names

Charleston, Migells' Gore, Lima and Brick School House Corners



Postcard of Lima Main Street, looking west. Provided by Lima Historian Karen Hanson-Fritz

BY KAREN HANSON-FRITZ

Lima was first settled in 1788 by Jonathan Gould and Paul Davidson, a Revolutionary War soldier who had been part of Sullivan's Campaign in the Genesee Valley (1779). Coming into the area which we now call Lima, "they passed the last inhabitation at Geneva and pursued the Native American trail" (1) which is currently Rts. 5 and 20 and Lima's Main St. The men settled about one mile south of the Native American trail, near the west side of the town.

In 1789, the settlement was named Charleston by its first settler Abner Mighells.

In 1790 Dr. John Miner, Lima's first doctor and Abner Migells, settled in Lima. Abner Migells bought a large tract of land, 12,820 acres (about twice the area of JFK Airport), in the shape of a gore (2). Even though our town was officially named Charleston, it was referred to as Migells' Gore for quite some time after that purchase.

By the 1880's, our town long went by the name Brick School House Corners after a brick schoolhouse was built on the main road. The schoolhouse was the center of many activities not only for Lima but for surrounding communities. It is understandable then, why the area

would be referred to as Brick School House Corners.

In 1808, Charleston was renamed Lima through an Act of Legislation due to a conflict with another town in New York State called Charleston.

It is believed that the first settlers in Lima chose 'Lima' because many were from Old Lyme, Connecticut. Lima only has a change of vowel, 'i' instead of 'y' from Lyme.

Lima has been referred to as The Crossroads of Western New York for many years. This is because the two main roads, Route 5/20 (east/west) and Rochester Street/Lake Road (north/south) today, were once the main roads that passed through the state and crossed in Lima. These roads were originally the main paths that the American Indians used. I suppose we can add one more name to Lima's name history!

1. "History of Livingston County" by L.L. Dody.

2. A gore is an irregularly shaped parcel of land, shape like a triangle (Wikipedia).

Editor's Note: We are introducing this new bi-weekly column from Lima Town Historian Karen Hanson-Fritz.

HF-L Boys Varsity Nordic Ski team brings home another Section V Championship



The HF-L Boys Varsity Nordic Ski team members proudly show off the Section V Championship trophy and medals after they won the sectional championship over two days of racing last week. Turn to page 6 for the article on the squad. Photo by Mark Armbruster

New Inside	
BUSINESS.....	13
CHURCH.....	12-13
CLASSIFIEDS.....	11, 14
COMMENTARY.....	3
COMMUNITY/NEWS.....	1-3, 5, 9
FUN AND GAMES.....	15
LEGALS.....	10-11, 14
LIFESTYLES.....	16
PASSAGES.....	12-13
PAUL WORBOYS.....	4
SCHOOL.....	8
SPORTS.....	6-7

Please RENEW NOW!
 Help us keep subscription prices low by renewing online at:
<https://MHFLSentinel.com/subscribe>
 If Your mailing label says "RENEW NOW" please renew now.
 To save money we only send out renewal invoices upon request.

Does Your Label say "RENEW NOW"? See Box for Instructions



The Carosa Commentary

Lafayette's Tour: And The Lucky Winner Is...

The *Cadmus*, having departed from Havre on July 13, 1824, had been at sea for thirty-two days before seeing land on the horizon. On Saturday, August 14th, the passengers and crew spotted their destination.¹ New York Harbor would present the ideal place to make their inaugural landing. The *Cadmus* would reach that port early the next morning.

The Committee appointed by the Common Council of the City of New York was busy putting the finishing touches on the celebration to welcome Lafayette. It had arranged for a "suite of splendid apartments in the City Hotel" to be set aside for The Nation's Guest and his party. Besides the military display (anticipated to include 20,000 men), the City planned to host "a great civic feast, in the Banqueting Room in the City Hall, which will be illuminated at night, together with the whole City." To make a memorable first impression upon entering the Harbor, "a grand salute of 100 guns will be fired from Fort Lafayette, together with salutes from the Batteries and ships of war in the harbor, and the decoration of all the shipping."²

So, America's largest city was more than prepared to host The Nation's Guest. Only, not on a Sunday. And August 15, 1824, fell on the Sabbath Day.

Even before Vice President Daniel Tompkins' son arrived to greet them, the *Cadmus* found itself quickly surrounded by a fleet of "long, light, and narrow boats."³ The men managing these boats eyed the incoming foreign vessel with tense anticipation.

One boat came aside the *Cadmus*. A sailor shouted, "Is Lafayette among you?" When the *Cadmus* confirmed he was, the faces of sailors on that boat beamed with delight. They enthusiastically shook hands and otherwise congratulated themselves. Quickly, that same feeling of excitement spread from boat to boat. It was as if "they had been the children of one family, rejoicing at the return of a much-loved and long-

expected parent."⁴

Just as the young Tompkins' steamboat approached the *Cadmus*, the Harbor echoed with the roar of cannon. This report came from Fort Lafayette, officially signaling the arrival of its namesake.

The Fort was built during the War of 1812 on Hendricks Reef in New York Harbor. A casemated brick coastal fort, the 280-foot square sandstone structure contained 70 cannons mounted in three tiers within and atop its 8-foot thick 30-foot high walls. Originally named "Fort Diamond" (for its shape), the fortification was rechristened "Fort Lafayette" on March 26, 1823 to honor the Revolutionary War hero. Both Fort Lafayette and Hendricks Reef were razed in 1960 for the building of the North Tower of the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge.⁵

In case you're wondering, there was another Fort Lafayette. It was located just south of West Point and only lasted from 1779 until 1783, when it was abandoned.⁶

The cannons of the second Fort Lafayette—the one in New York Harbor—would boom again the next day at one o'clock in the afternoon. This time the thunderous sound announced the arrival of the *Chancellor Livingston*. The steamboat carried its honored passenger Lafayette from Staten Island along with "more than two hundred of the principal citizens of New York, among whom the general recognized many of his old fellow soldiers, who threw themselves into his arms, felicitating themselves on seeing him once more after so many years and dangers past."⁷

Led by the famed steamship *Robert Fulton*, a flotilla of boats accompanied the *Chancellor Livingston*, on that "clear, cool, and pleasant" day.⁸ The *Cadmus* followed, as though it was being escorted in triumph. In the air flowed the French tune *Où peut-on être mieux qu'au sein de sa famille* ("Where can you be better than within your

family?"). Lafayette's travel companion and private secretary Auguste Levasseur notes that André Grétry, the composer of this nostalgic melody, describes this piece as reminiscent of "families

party leaned into the group and proclaimed, 'Ah! Could this thundering welcome but resound to Europe, that it might inspire the powers which govern you with your love of virtue, and the people with the love of liberty!'"¹²

After the reception, the hero of the American Revolution climbed into a waiting carriage led by four white horses. The general was then chauffeured through the dense crowd towards City Hall. All around him, he noticed the streets adorned with patriot displays—flags, bunting, flowers, wreaths, etc.¹³

Contemporary reports described the scene as "truly a jubilee—a more greater holiday than the Fourth of July. Business was suspended, stores were closed and streets thronged with well dressed people."¹⁴

Inside City Hall, Lafayette went to the common council chamber. There, he met with the Mayor, who offered cordial greetings on behalf of the citizens of New York. The General replied in kind with words to express his heartfelt feelings. He then met with each member of the board individually before being conducted to the City Hotel where the Board had approved a suite of rooms for his use.¹⁵

Before leaving City Hall, though, the General then had an opportunity to meet with the public for the first time. For two hours, "mothers surrounded him, presenting their children and asking his blessing, which having obtained, they embraced their offspring with renewed tenderness; feeble old men appeared to become reanimated in talking to him of the numerous battles in which they had been engaged with him for the sake of liberty."¹⁶

At five o'clock, the travelers left for the City Hotel. Not only did that facility contain their accommodations, but it was also the location of the official welcoming dinner. During the next four days, Lafayette would find himself greeted by dignitaries and organizations. The New York Historical Society presented The

Nation's Guest and his son with honorary memberships. Clad in their continental army uniforms, Revolutionary War veterans from the New York State Society of Cincinnati visited him and invited him to dinner. Next came members of the New York Bar, whose president delivered a message of greeting. Finally, French residents of New York City came to offer their respects.¹⁷

And so it would be throughout Lafayette's visit. These scenes would repeat themselves throughout the nation wherever Lafayette would visit, including during his travels through the Greater Western New York Region. Americans would welcome him not merely as the celebrity he was, but like a returning prodigal son.

What was it about this Frenchman that caused our nation to endear him so?

Next Week: Why Lafayette?

¹ Levasseur, A., *Lafayette in America in 1824 and 1825. Vol. 1*, John D. Godman translation, (Philadelphia: Carey and Lea, 1829), p. 13

² *Georgia Journal and Messenger*, Wednesday, August 4, 1824, p.3

³ Ibid

⁴ Ibid

⁵ [http://www.fortwiki.com/Fort_Lafayette_\(2\)](http://www.fortwiki.com/Fort_Lafayette_(2)) [Retrieved February 10, 2024]

⁶ [http://www.fortwiki.com/Fort_Lafayette_\(1\)](http://www.fortwiki.com/Fort_Lafayette_(1)) [Retrieved February 10, 2024]

⁷ Levasseur, p. 14

⁸ *Poughkeepsie Journal*, Wednesday, August 25, 1824, p.2

⁹ Levasseur, p. 14

¹⁰ *Poughkeepsie Journal*, Wednesday, August 25, 1824, p.2

¹¹ Ibid, p. 15

¹² Ibid

¹³ Ibid

¹⁴ *Poughkeepsie Journal*, Wednesday, August 25, 1824, p.2

¹⁵ Ibid

¹⁶ Levasseur, p. 16

¹⁷ *Poughkeepsie Journal*, Wednesday, August 25, 1824, p.3

Pet Pride

From page 1

said, "Pet Pride occupied what is now A Touch of Gold – both up and down stairs. The official address might have been 3 Mendon-Ionia Road."

In 1995, Pet Pride was forced to move again when its landlord wanted the Mendon building to expand his business. Thus, the organization moved to a storefront location at 9 West Main Street in Honeoye Falls. There passersby could stop and watch the cats at play, or go inside to browse through the gift shop and the growing library. Three part-time employees helped manage Pet Pride and dispense information to the public.

In Jackie Russel's own words, "Pet Pride of New York, Inc. did not start with a wealthy Board of Directors. No one contributed large sums of money, and no one mortgaged their home to provide income. The founders knew that specializing in cats only, and making the bold statement that we were a no-kill shelter, would narrow the field for fund raising. It has been a long, hard road, but we have made a lot of friends, saved a lot of cats from destruction, and in 1999 succeeded in buying these 15 acres of beautiful wooded land and constructing the original residence which has been headquarters of operations. Board members and staff members have changed over the years, but our basic tenets have been steadfast and we've kept our vision to be the best thing that ever happened for cats."

It would be the year 2000 when a new millennium would welcome the opening of the first permanent building of the Pet Pride Cat Sanctuary and Adoption Center

in the current location on Victor Mendon Road. While that space, owned rather than rented, was certainly a major step forward, there was always a dream in place to do even more for the animals. "Our renovation and expansion, completed in January 2023, more than tripled the size of the original center," said Director of Communications Elizabeth Hollinger adding, "This increased capacity enables us to shelter twice as many cats and kittens at one time as before."

"With our own on-site veterinary clinic, known as the Healing Paws Medical Center, we can get them spayed and neutered and meet their other medical needs more quickly, and with less stress to them, than we could when we had to transport them to other practices."

"All of our unaltered cats and kittens are spayed and neutered prior to adoption, so our ability to perform surgeries on-site means the cats are ready for adoption more quickly. For every cat who is adopted, we are able to welcome another, so less time in shelter translates to more admissions and more cats we can help. Last year," Elizabeth concluded, "we shattered our previous adoption record by finding loving homes for 834 cats and kittens."

So there is your Pet Pride history lesson and right here, we'll pick things up in the modern day. When we undertook this mission we booked an interview and tour which turned into a heartwarming experience, as well as an educational one. Our hostess and tour guide was Senior Shelter Associate Julie Di Iulio who led us through the world of feline wonderment we'll share in the following paragraphs.

The design of the new expansion is a marvel in and of itself. In addition to the

medical center, there are many enrichment areas for the animals, all aptly titled. Cats are free to roam through Calico Cottage, Catnip Cabana, Meow Manor, Tuxedo Towers and Whiskers Lodge. These areas are bedecked with stairways, ramps and cubby holes enabling the cats to climb and interact. Many rooms have elevated walkways where cats who need to get away from it all can climb for refuge.

The Kitten Kingdom room is reserved for cats under a year old, keeping that high energy time of life mode confined to that one "kingdom." It's a logistical arrangement the mature cats appreciate. Other indoor accoutrements include an intake room and Meet & Greet Rooms 1 & 2, where prospective adopters and adoptable cats come together and fall in love. There's also the Community Room, adorned with the aforementioned climbing structures, ramps, and cubbies, and the kitchen which is dubbed Pride Pantry. As summarized by Director Hollinger, "Cats are free to roam throughout most non-medical areas of the sanctuary and have safe passage in and out of the catios." "Catios?" you're wondering. Here's the scoop on those...

Pursuant to our penchant to save the best for last, the building is surround by five screened-in, outdoor "catios" (which would be a portmanteau for "cat patios"). They are accessible from the inside through two-way cat doors. Some of the catios are on the front of the building for those cats who would like to greet guests, and others are on the back of the building for the cats who would like to enjoy the outdoors in more peace.

The other indoor attraction that is just way cool is the four video monitors offering a constant display of different "cat

channel" options. If you're not familiar with the concept, the internet is a-flutter with looping videos of wild animals whose sounds and motions are captivating to cats. In many of them the animals are shown feeding as that is the logical strategy to entice the wild critters in front of the camera.

The video displays are all different featuring birds, mice, squirrels, rabbits, etc. Picture your favorite sports bar, with monitors all over the place, adjusted for the possibility that all the bar patrons were cats. Lots of interesting possibilities for the chicken wing menu. Would you like "fish & shrimp" or "chicken & cheddar cheese"?

Director Hollinger noted that, "The large monitor in the Community Room is also used for meeting presentations and for training. Our volunteers receive training from Dr. Gluckman, Kate Page, who is our licensed veterinary technician, and Rebecca Lohnes, who is a board member and a certified cat behavior consultant. They cover topics such as cat health and illness, cat handling, cat behavior, and safety precautions."

One nice thing about adopting a cat

from Pet Pride is that you walk out of the building knowing that all health issues have been addressed by the best. The adoption fees are \$250 for a kitten less than 6 months of age, \$150 for an adult cat age 1-6 years, and \$100 for a senior cat age 7 and older.

Included in the adoption fee are all of the following:

- * A physical examination by a veterinarian
- * Spay/neuter surgery
- * FVRCP & rabies vaccinations
- * FIV and feline leukemia tests
- * Flea treatment & deworming medication as needed

* Microchip implant & registration

Also, keep in mind that the bulk of Pet Pride's budgeted income comes from donations. So next time you see one of those TV commercials with the needy animals asking for money, rather than just feeling bad but not doing anything, why not channel a contribution that fits the cause and keeps all of the money in local use. Then every time you head toward Victor you can look down that long driveway and get a warm feeling inside because you know you helped.

Have Computer Problems?

Get
\$20 OFF
Any Service

Use Coupon Code
42513



Friendly Certified
Computer Repair Experts

- ✓ 24/7 Emergency Service
- ✓ Data Recovery
- ✓ Virus Removal
- ✓ Regular Maintenance

Call Now
Get a Free Diagnosis
866-848-0045

Geeks OnSite