

WESTWOOD

## C.A.T.S. honored for tradition of humane work

Caring About The Strays (C.A.T.S.) Inc. in Westwood was recently honored by the Bergen County SPCA at their annual awards dinner. C.A.T.S. was honored for their humane work over the past 13 years and specifically recognized for their efforts saving two abused Staffordshire Bull Ter-

who gave them to someone else and the dogs disappeared.

Kimberly Carbone, the adoption program director at C.A.T.S., frantically continued the search for these missing dogs. It was a miracle they were discovered two months later locked in the back of a rented van in Lodi. Someone had

placed in foster homes. Both dogs were very friendly, despite their abuse, and thrived once they were given love, warm shelter, and regular nutritious meals. The man who locked them in the van appeared in court, was fined, and the judge's ruling prevents him from owning a dog for some time.

County SPCA is there to help them. Interested readers can personally and easily become a hero and help end an animal's suffering by simply making a phone call to the BCSPCA at (201) 573-8900.

Receiving an award from the BCSPCA was truly an honor for C.A.T.S. The awards dinner was held on Jan. 14 at Sanzari's New Bridge Inn in New Milford. Lynn Morchel, president and founder of C.A.T.S., received a cash award for the organization and a certificate of appreciation. Pet-care gifts of food, toys, and bedding were presented in addition to the award. Also honored at the dinner was The Humane Society of Bergen County and Kathy Johnson, the group's executive director.

Tammy Molinelli, executive director of the Bergen County Workforce Investment Board, accepted an award on behalf of her

husband, Bergen County Prosecutor John Molinelli. Mrs. Molinelli also serves on the board of trustees of C.A.T.S. Presenting these awards were Debbie Hummel, BCSPCA president, and Marc Picchierri, chief of humane law enforcement.

There are so many companion animals right now trying to find comfort in the cold, or lying in a shelter waiting to be adopted. Anyone who believes they may have some time on their hands and who would like to be of service should call C.A.T.S. at (201) 666-5444 and inquire about their various volunteer positions.

C.A.T.S. is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. To learn more, visit [www.care4strays.org](http://www.care4strays.org) or e-mail [care4strays@optonline.net](mailto:care4strays@optonline.net).

Photo courtesy  
Lynn Morchel



From left to right: Marc Picchierri, chief of humane law enforcement at BCSPCA; Debbie Hummel, president of BCSPCA; Lynn Morchel, president and founder of C.A.T.S.; and Kimberly Carbone, adoption program director at C.A.T.S.

riers.

The two dogs, Joe and Mocha, were in search of a new home because a young man could no longer keep them in his apartment. His landlord informed him the dogs would have to go so he was forced to give them up. At that point C.A.T.S. became involved, locating a temporary foster home for them. In the meantime, the young man gave them to his friend,

made a complaint to the Bergen County SPCA and the dogs were finally rescued and brought to the county shelter. Kim faxed photos of the dogs to the shelter and a match was made. C.A.T.S. retrieved the dogs from the shelter and immediately attended to their medical needs; they were severely malnourished.

Once they were spayed and neutered, Joe and Mocha were

The dogs are now living the good life with their forever families. Joe was actually adopted by his foster family; they couldn't bear to give him up. He loves and protects the children of his new family where he is adored. Mocha is in a similar environment where she is loved and cared for.

It is so crucial to the life of any endangered animal to report animal cruelty or neglect; the Bergen

HILLSDALE

## PVHS dinner honors past principal

The Dr. Sapienza Scholarship Committee at Pascack Valley High School is pleased to announce that it will hold a Beef-steak Dinner and Auction to benefit the establishment of a perpetual scholarship fund in the name of Dr. Barbara Sapienza. The event marks the one-year anniversary of the untimely passing of Dr. Sapienza, a long-time principal and teacher at PVHS.

The dinner will be catered by Paterson's Brownstone Restaurant and will be held on Wednesday, March 18 from 6-10 p.m. at the Elks Lodge, 523 Kinderkamack Rd. in Westwood. Tickets are \$50 per person and patrons may reserve tables of 10 if

desired. A cash bar will be offered as well as a DJ and silent auction of goods and services.

"It is our intention that every year a senior or seniors will be awarded a scholarship in Dr. Sapienza's honor," said Susan Dunn, event chairperson. "We appreciate the community's dedication and devotion to this most worthy cause. We thank everyone in advance for their support and generosity as we commemorate the one-year anniversary of Dr. Sapienza's passing."

To order tickets, contact Ms. Maria Hinrichsen at [mhinrichsen@pascack.k12.nj.us](mailto:mhinrichsen@pascack.k12.nj.us) or mail a check made payable to the "Dr. Barbara Sapienza Scholarship

Fund" along with a completed order form (available at <http://www.pascack.k12.nj.us/7027172322233/site/default.asp>) to Ms. Maria Hinrichsen at Pascack Valley High School, 200 Piermont Ave., Hillsdale, NJ 07642. Community members are invited to donate goods and services for the auction. For more information, contact Mrs. Susan Dunn at [sdunn@pascack.k12.nj.us](mailto:sdunn@pascack.k12.nj.us).

On Thursday, March 5 at 7:30 p.m. there will also be a dedication ceremony of the media center at Pascack Valley High School in memory of Dr. Sapienza. All are welcome and no tickets are required.

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