

Missing Cats / Missing Sheep

November 09, 2003

You've seen her name before in "the Wellesley Way". Sue Webb is our animal control officer and once again, she turned out to be a hero. It seems that "Peaches", a long-haired orange-and-white tabby was last seen on Ingraham Road Sept. 5th, when her family stopped to see relatives while en route from Maine to Pennsylvania.

Here's what happened next ... Despite a poster that urged, "If you see me, coax me to come in and call my Wellesley relatives" ... Peaches was nowhere to be seen - until a couple of weeks ago. Then a woman on Charles River Street in Needham noticed a cat hanging around her home and began making phone calls to animal control officers. That trail led to Wellesley Animal control Officer Sue Webb, who in turn made the connection ... On Saturday, Peaches visited a veterinarian to be checked out.

She is now safely back home in Pennsylvania.

A lovely story with a happy ending ... but this is what caught my attention ... listen to Sue's closing comments: "Too often people give up when an animal goes missing ... the lesson here is don't give up and check longer distances." One of the most recognizable parables of Jesus is the story of the lost sheep ... you know, where the shepherd goes off to find the one sheep that has strayed away from the flock. You can read the story in Matthew 18: 10-14. The point, of course, is that the Lord never gives up on us when we go missing ... He checks the longer distances ... in fact, no distance is too far for Him. There is no hole deep enough for us to fall into that the Lord cannot pull us out of.

Those words, my friend, are not only true in my life ... but also in the lives of thousands upon thousands of others. So the next time you feel totally lost and separated from the love of God, remember Sue Webb's comment, "don't give up" ... because it won't be Sue that will come after you, it will be the Lord God Himself!