



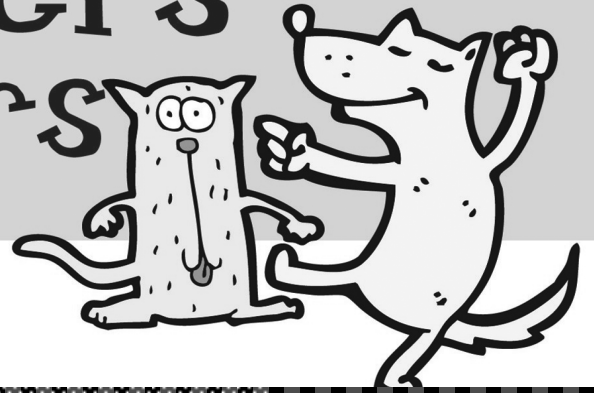
SECOND CHANCE ANIMAL SHELTER



mutt matters & Cat Chatters

www.secondchanceanimals.org

111 Young Road, P.O. Box 136, East Brookfield, MA 01515

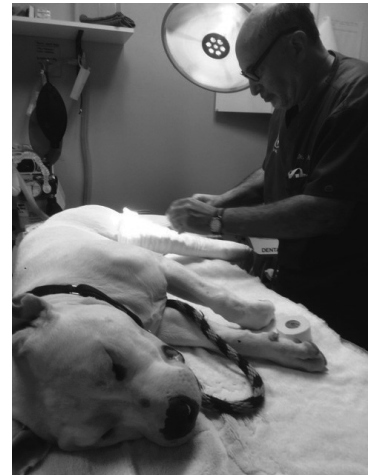


Volume 14/Issue 14/July 2017

President's Letter

When people think of Second Chance, they most likely think about our adoption center. They may not realize the wealth of services that we provide in the community to keep pets out of shelters in the first place. To keep up with our ever changing world, and do the best possible for pets, we had to change with it. We could no longer sit inside our shelter and wait for pets to reach our doors to save them. There were many many more out there in the community that needed us.

We were the first in many things here at Second Chance and subsidized veterinary clinics is one of them. Many pets are surrendered every year to shelters across the country simply because they need medical care and their owners are unable to afford it. It doesn't mean they don't love their pets, it simply means their pet has become ill and they do not have a way to pay for the full cost. The old thinking was "well if they can't afford a pet, they shouldn't have one". But that would mean then that if you lost your job, became ill yourself, or retired on a limited income then you couldn't have a pet. That simply didn't make sense to us. For so many people, pets are a vital part of their lives – providing them comfort, companionship, and unconditional love. We want everyone that loves their pets and wants to keep them to be able to do so. We want every community to be a healthy pet community so that disease is not spread to other pets in the community – or to humans. We want every pet to be free from suffering with treatable medical conditions.



Our vets do everything they can to keep a pet healthy. We want them with us for as many years as we can. And, we want to keep them out of shelters whenever possible. There will always be a need for shelters since there are circumstances that are beyond all control such as the death of an owner, stray and abandoned, etc. But, we are proud that this program is keeping more pets in their homes than ever before – keeping shelters available for those that truly need a second chance.

This is just one of the many many program offered at Second Chance. That is why, as you read in this newsletter, we have decided to make a change to our name to match our mission of providing services of every kind to every pet so that they all can live happy healthy lives.

Sheryl Blancato
President



Second Chance subsidized veterinary clinics leading the pack

(Excerpt from recent news article) When people think of Second Chance they think of pet in need of homes. That is what you think of when you think of most shelters. But Second Chance has found a way to help 26,000 pets a year and keep them out of shelters before they ever go into shelters in the first place.

“It is an innovative idea that is catching on throughout the country” stated Sheryl Blancato, Executive Director. We are proud to be the first and I believe still the only animal welfare organization in MA to offer full service subsidized veterinary care. We currently have clinics in North Brookfield and Springfield. The newest one will be in Worcester.”

But this concept doesn't come without its share of hurdles. The first of which is the thought that subsidized rates means substandard or limited care. “It is something we struggle to overcome every



day” Mrs. Blancato noted. “We have the same quality of veterinarians on our staff as anybody else does. They are all licensed veterinarians in MA and many have many years of experience in private practice before coming to us. Some as much as 40 years. Not only that, we have the ability to do x-rays, ultrasound, all kinds of surgery, etc. The only difference in what we are doing is that we offer subsidized rates to those that qualify”.

Subsidized veterinary care is an innovative way of keeping pets out of shelters. Many pets that are surrendered to shelters end up there because their owners, who love them, cannot afford the care they need when their pet becomes ill. This means that the shelters taking them in then take on that financial burden before they can adopt the pet back out. “It seemed crazy to me that we would spend donor dollars getting a pet healthy and then finding them a new home when they had a great home to begin with” Mrs. Blancato noted. “Think about the elderly person who is on a fixed income. They may be widowed and this pet means the world to them. But then the pet gets a serious illness. They have no way to afford standard veterinary care and they don't want to put the animal down to stop their suffering. So, they bring it to a shelter. It is far less expensive for us to absorb some of the cost of care and keep that pet with their loving owner than take the pet into the shelter and have the additional cost of housing, food, and care. It just makes sense.”

Second Chance is about to open their third subsidized veterinary clinic, this one located in the City of



Worcester. “We picked the area for this new clinic where the poverty level in some neighborhoods is as high as 59%. It is where we already have our Pets for Life program that provides free spay/neuter for residents in the zip codes of 01608 and 01610 as part of that program. The Pets for Life program is targeted to those zip codes but the veterinary clinic will be open to everyone.

“What many people don’t realize is that we have 8 veterinarians on staff. They can pretty much do anything that needs to be done to help pets whether it is an exam, surgery, care for a sick pet or simply a general wellness exam. We love the veterinary clinics around us and work with many of them. We partner with the community so that we can create healthy pet communities and keep pets with owners when the pets have great homes and just need a little help to keep them there. It really is a simple concept and it allows us to utilize our donations to their fullest. The average cost of having a pet in the shelter and getting them medical care, housing and daily care until adoption is typically \$400. - \$800. We can help keep a pet in a home for an average of only \$100. While some may require a lot of care, many simply just need a medication to care for an illness. We want every pet to have a loving home and be healthy – and most importantly, to stay in their home whenever possible. We want every community to be a healthy pet community free of treatable diseases, including those that could be passed on to humans”.

Become a Monthly Pet Pal Supporter!



Want to know that you are helping pets year round and make a difference? Start off the new year by becoming a monthly donor to Second Chance! It is easy to do, you will save time writing out checks, and save stamps as well. And, best of all, you will help to ensure that second chance has the funds to do what we need to do to help animals in need.

To become a monthly supporter, you can go to our website at www.secondchanceanimals.org and click on the Donate Now button to be a part of the lifeline for these pets!



“More Than Just a Shelter”

A new name to match a growing mission

We have been talking a lot lately about the dramatic changes happening to the world of Animal Welfare. When Second Chance started in 1999, it was all about taking homeless animals into a shelter and caring for them until a new home could be found for them. Although sheltering homeless animals will always be part of our mission, it is not the complete answer to ending animal suffering.

We helped over 26,000 animals in 2016. Of that number 1,083 were adoptions, representing 4.2% of the total. However, a staggering **24,917 or 95.8%**, were helped with our community outreach programs including our subsidized vet clinics, our mobile vaccination clinics and the wide array of other programs that get us out of our brick and mortar shelter and moves us directly into the communities that need us the most. Couple this to the fact that the decades of spay and neuter that have taken place here in the Northeast and other parts of the country, have dramatically reduced the number of animals in shelters. Local animals surrendered to shelters throughout the Northeast continue to drop year after year. We are now able to help out other shelters in the southern portions of our country. If it wasn't for this transport, there would be very few dogs and cats in our shelter. But that doesn't mean that there were not animals in need in our community.

It was clear that a dramatic change was happening. Our first subsidized vet clinic opened in North Brookfield in 2013 and was immediately seeing animals that desperately needed medical attention. It is estimated that there are over 23 million animals living in poverty in our country. Studies have shown that 87% of them are not spayed or neutered. And even more tragic, 77% have never seen a veterinarian in their lives. We knew that this was where we were needed. Bringing veterinary care to the underserved of our communities who love their animals dearly, but have not had the financial means to provide medical care. In 2015 our second subsidized clinic opened in Springfield, MA where the poverty level is 38.9%. Today, we announce to you that our third subsidized clinic will open in August serving the city of Worcester where the poverty level reaches as high as 59% in some zip codes.

Based on all of this, it became apparent to us that our name, ***Second Chance Animal Shelter***, did not accurately describe what we do. At the Grand Opening of our new Worcester Clinic on Aug 16th, we will formally announce our new name. But we wanted all of you, our supporters, donors, volunteers and friends, that our new name will be “***Second Chance Animal Services***”. We are far more than just a shelter. We are bringing help to those who have suffered in the shadows with easily curable medical issues as well as saving the lives of those who need surgical help that has been out the reach of their owners. Dentals, mass removals and even orthopedic surgery and more is now made available to our underserved community through subsidized rates. As the ONLY animal welfare organization in the state to offer this help, we are proud to be the pioneers of subsidized care. We are working nationally to be the “Johnny Appleseed” of this new vision for animal welfare, by helping to bring the concept to organizations across the country. It is time to change!! Our animal friends need far more than a temporary home today. They need to have access to medical care to keep them free of pain and suffering. Join us in celebrating a new chapter in our mission to end animal pain and suffering!



Time to Celebrate!



We are thrilled to announce the official opening of our newest location in Worcester. Please join us in celebrating this exciting event! The official grand opening and ribbon cutting will be on August 16th from 2 – 4 PM at our new Community Veterinary Clinic at 831 Main Street in Worcester MA. Please join us in celebrating – whether in person or in spirit. This is an exciting time for us as we will now be able to help thousands more pets live a better and healthier life. As you know, our veterinary clinics

provide high quality care by a staff of 8 veterinarians that serve our clinics. Everyone can come to these clinics and those that qualify can receive subsidized rates to help them to provide veterinary care for their pets. It is a revolutionary idea and one that is saving thousands of lives each year in the community. This also helps to keep the communities healthy for everyone by providing vaccines and parasite treatments to prevent the spread of treatable diseases and parasites. It is a win for all and lifesaving for many.



Saving Lives in the Community

The best way to deal with disease is through prevention. That is why we are in the communities providing mobile vaccine clinics every week. In some of these communities that we serve, the need is overwhelming. We recently were in Fitchburg and provided hundreds of vaccines at low cost.



Thanks to a generous donor, we were also able to provide free microchips to up to 175 pets in that community. They have had a lot of pets that never were able to find their way back home in that community so this generous donor provided the funding to help ensure that more pets find their way back home.

When we hear of outbreaks of disease, such as the one in Chicopee where parvo was traced to a trailer park in that community, we jumped into action. We immediately set up a vaccine clinic in that area and vaccinated many pets from that park. Two of the pets that came to the clinic tested positive for parvo and luckily were able to receive treatment in time to save their lives.



As further protection, in the following weeks after that initial clinic, we set up a free vaccine clinic in Chicopee to provide additional vaccines to the community to prevent the spread of disease. We also went back to the trailer park to provide the follow up vaccines for the disease so these pets would be fully protected. We were thrilled that this stopped the spread of disease in its tracks, preventing more illness and death from this deadly disease.

This is the core of our mission – being a part of the community and making for a healthier pet community. Preventing disease before it starts, helping in times of crisis, and making a healthy pet community for all.



HELP RAISE FUNDS FOR Second Chance Animal Shelter



Saturday September 23, 2017

WHEN:
10 am - 3 pm
Walks begin at:
10:30 am *and* 1:00

WHERE:
RIVER HOLLOW FAMILY GOLF CENTER
15 HOSPITAL ROAD, MONSON, MA
RAIN DATE: Sunday Oct. 1, 2017

Walk with more of a "WAG" by raising pledges to help pets in need. **PRIZE given to highest Pledge Raiser!**

RAFFLES • SILENT AUCTION • DOGGIE BOUTIQUE • 50/50 RAFFLE
K-9 DEMONSTRATIONS • FOOD • VENDORS/CRAFTERS • SELFIE STATION

**Register today at
www.secondchanceanimals.org**



Get your I'm Friendly license plate at
www.petplates.org



Thank You for remembering the animals with your special donations.

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Maureen Donovan
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Shatz, Schwartz and Fentin, P.C.
William and Nancy Peusch
Dan and Alex Jaworski
Teresa and Timothy Sugcve
Dorothy Antonovitch
Mary Mooney
David and Karen Merrill
John Forster
Mom and Dad Bernier
Sandra Lefevre
Cecelia Daniels
The Lowe Family

Joan Schilder from:
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JoAnn Ramonas
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Carol Murdock
Raymond and Jean Stuart
Michael and Michelle Cristo
John and Joann Ramonas
Carolyn Murdock

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Cheryl and Reggie Daigle
Donoghue, Barrett and Singal
Mental Health Association of Greater Lowell, Inc.
Joann Daigle
Richard and Deborah Dellovo
Bill and Joanna Depippo
Marie Daigle
Deborah Dellovo

In Memory of:
Sally Maznick from Cebula Funeral Home
Robert Dwelly and in honor of his dog Kappy from Derek Gariepy
Donald Lush from Eileen Lush
Robert Boyns from Carol and James Gattozzi
Bill Hall from Renee McCue-Hall
Robert Rice from the Grout Family
Becky Sacramone from Peter and Susan Hapgood
Victor Gruszczynski from Patricia and John Lasota
Ruth Laderman from David and Andrea Thurlow
Edith Henderson from Jacqueline Henderson
Richard Archambault from Lorraine Stewart

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Michael Livernois from Hyde Tools, Inc.
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Chance from Bridget Lachance
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Carol Lemieux from David Lemieux
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Rosemary Cipro from Dorothy Laukaitis
Anthony Krasuzki from Brookhaven Assisted Care, Inc.
William Alves from Lori and Lenny Robar
Catherine Hansen from Susan Nardone
My husband Richard from Dorothy Bactold
Al Hackett from Lynda Camarra
Kent B. Forsberg from Vivian Forsberg
Jake Wheeler from Mary Wheeler
Arlan and Clara Skinner from Susan Emery
Paula A. Ventriglia and My Uncle Harry Pearson from Judith Pearson
Barbara Gibbs Stewart from Jerome and Susanne Gibbs
Marion Spink from Karen Lock
Ron Schofield from Susan Johnson
Cookie Leveille from Judith Leveille
Bill Morse from Luann Morse
Paul Corsiglia from Patricia Corsiglia
Sheila Roszko Misiasek from Susan Hurley
Irene Higney from John and Patricia Lasota Jr.
John Hutchings from Cecelia Daniels
Peter Anderson from Christine Lamoureux
Cynthia Letteri from Phyllis Johnson
Richard Giguere from Barbara Giguere
Mrs. Michaelle Carpenter. from Friends at Scope Technology Inc.
Lorraine Card from Karen, Chad, and Matt Bernard
Ronald Nicoll from Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Gauthier
Shirley Brady from Lori and Lenny Robar



Thank You for remembering the animals with your special donations.

Rebecca Sacramone from Mary Mckinstry
Nancy Bongiorno from Joanne Young Sauer
Jake Nawn from Marta Ferreira
Jack and Jenny Vajcovec from Nancy Vajcovec
Natalie Andrysick from William Andrysick
Phyllis Johnson from Neal Adamiak
Myrtle Petronis from Irene Martelli
John Gordon Sr. from John and Deborah Gordon
Michelle O'Connor from Chris and Monique Koutsoukounis
Barbara Wentzell from Ginger Carter
Paul Bujnowski from Deb Jacobs
Esther Jezerski from Patricia Mertzanis
Jason from Bridget Lachance
Paul and Barbara Szostakowski from Charles Garren
Leo Ostiguy from Patricia Pease
Ella Brown from Jason and Kristen Truscott
Melanie Mikus from Susan Shoemaker
Paul Szostakowski from Dorothy Morse
Paul Petrie from Richard and Jacqueline Wood
Frances Boyle from Lawrence and Catherine Peterson
My nephew Jason from Bridget Lachance

In Honor of Pets:

Bella from Kim Festa
Bella from Adrian Lessard
Teddie from Elaie Thulin
Daisy Casey from Mary Casey
Rex from Paul and Maureen Scannell
Opal from Belinda Donohue
Nell from Karen and James Campbell
Jack from Anne Tuttle
Kappy from Roy Fountain
Teddy Bear's and Mookie's Birthdays from Barbara Cunningham
Emma from Matt and Jamie DeCell
Lucky, Sonny, Rocky and Jake from David Mack
Maddie from Theresa Puza
Scruffy from Joseph and Joyce Tamer
Adoptiversary of Sammi from Thomas Murray
Toby from Nancy and Harry Landgren
Brownie from Maureen Glodas
Friend Louise's dog Niko from Joan Gaspie
All my pets from Enid Somma
Sophie from James and Karen Baril
Keno from Leslie Watt-McArdie
Dora from Richard and Barbara Renaud
Bay from Richard and Jackie Wood
Tara from Grace Sheehan
Sammy from Marilyn Woodworth
Kita from Betty Rock
Josie from Diane Dubreuil
Dusty – Hannah - Noah from Ohop
Ryan from Barbara Menard
Alex and Dusty from Paul Drapeau
Sweet Pea from Joanne Wanczyk
Happy from Paul Tetreault
Nickolas from George Stankevicius

Pepper from Mr. and Mrs. Russell Bancroft
Mea and Nomar from Marie Ferree
Burger from Julie Beaudet
Kif, Miranda and Fluffy from Thomas Dodge
Simba from Mr. and Mrs. Leon Harrison
Farley from Dave and Geraldine Grzyb
Jasmine from Paul Alger
Eileen Margaret from Bernice Colendenski
Tommy from Stephanie Schmutz
Powder from Cletus Fischer
Miss Chiff from Douglas and Kathleen Deangelis
Nick and Gracie from Pamela Evers
Chilli and Willow from James Boulette
Bruie from Gary Miller
Mingo Mao from Joyce Gamache
Smokey, Noel and Zippy from Mary Desjardins
Winston from Doris Goodwin
Crick and Bunny from Martin Allan

In Honor of:

John Curran from Joanne Hilliard
Susan Maass for Christmas from Norma Morgan
Chet Lubelczyk from Jaime Lubelczyk
Sue Syrek from Country Bank
Jennifer Bujnevicie from Country Bank
Jodie Gerulaitis from Country Bank
Ashley Swett from Country Bank
My Auntie Betty on her 100th birthday from Nancy Vajcovec
Ed Smith's Birthday from Harvey and Cecile Smith
Margot Dorfman and Terry Willians marriage from Kate McCarty
Neil and Irene White from Fred Shuster, Newbury Investment Partners
Rosemary Kilbride Cady from Michelle Cotugno
Jamie Kordack from Vincent Kordack
Diane Loughrey from Valarie Nave
Michele and Chris Ingel from Phil and Karen Stefanini
Joe Craig from New Braintree Historical Society
Josh and Amy Farmer from Dudley Womans Club
Kristin Modig from Wayne and Judy Modig
Barbara Capuono from Anne Bourdeau
Tommy and Gaoshua Leeher from Wendy Johnson
50th Anniversary of Maureen and Jim from Carol and Brad Slater and Barb
Barbara Warren and Pauline Doucette from William and Rosalyn Franzen
Lynn Lavelle's retirement from Warren Community Elementary School from Linda Beaudry
Madison Harper's Birthday from Paul and Lori Furtado
Alec Barkett's Birthday from Mariann Bishop
Paige Hannah Dooley for her 14th birthday from Katharine Walker
Elayna Osimo for her 13th Birthday from Rebecca Sey
Joey Saletnik – Happy B-Day/Happy Father's Day Dad – Joe, Joanne and Fenway
In honor of what would be Zach Kanen's 17th birthday from canvas n sugar (Harley Mae Designs)



Thank You for remembering the animals with your special donations.

Lilly Egan's Birthday from:

Anne Early
Nicholas Powers

In memory of Paul Szostakowski and in honor of his son Justin Szostakowski from Rebecca Rulnick and her family

In Memory Of :

Bonnie, Penny, Cherry, Shelby from James Leno
Roxy from James Collins
All our Kitties from Raynald and Sophie Hebert
Bubbie from Dorothy Schneider
Casey Lady from Nancy Bourgea
Lucy Lion from Maggie Gaucher
Champ and Buffy from Virginia Suklis
Chinook from Donna Lee
Sally and Penny from Charles Cogen
Bubbles from Josef and Demirah Thrash
Miranda from Cat Davidson-Hall and Sam Gorton
Bella from Virginia Hmielowski
Rondo from Denis and Elaine Vallee
Funky from Carolyn Voss
Wolfie from Jeanne LeBeau
Cooper from Kathy Dowd
All our late cats from Joepsh and Elaine Tuson
Shadow from Lianne Miller
Loving memory of Beautiful Shia from Eileen Lachance
Aengus from The McCabe Family
Lexi from Elizabeth Walker
CoCo and Daisy and Peter Ingalls who loved them from Mary Ingalls
Cricket and Riley from Roy Fountain
Noah and Hannah from Judith McDonnell
Shuffie from Sandra Lachance
Willow from Linda Boulette
Ragsie from Nathan and Anne Abbott
Ben and Otto from Caroline Kuzia
Shadow – cat from Marilyn Baumbauer
Hans from Maureen Blake
Feliz from John Bator
Suki from Lynn Norris
Mittens from Sandra Woods
Royler from Julie Convery
Rebecca and Pumpkin from Patrick Lacasse
Francis from Vincent Kordack
Gwen from LeeAnn Horner
Zoe Girl from John Cormier
McGinest from Leane Pierce
Jake from Bridget Lachance
Sadie and Rusty from Judith Trifone
Grizzly Sinclair from Norma Silloway
My beloved beagles Sally and Penny from Charles Cogen
Persephone from Martha Remington
Peke from Paul Alger

Sophia from Dorothy Paquet
Molly from David Lemieux
Freedom Egan from Lilly Egan
Grooper from Barbara Cunningham
Royler from Julie Convery
Toby from Patricia Guertin
Axle from Helen Lyman
Brandy, Misty and Chico from Robert and Norma Beaudry Sr.
Simba from Lori Messier
All our cats from Ronold Benoit
Damon from Theresa Martin
Brandy, Misty and Chico from Robert and Norma Beaudry
Greta from Kevin and Donna Barth
Linus from Anna McQuaid
Fifi from Patricia and Joseph Macchi
Cake from Mark and Joy Roger
Daphne an Chloe from Doug and Susan Powers
All of our past cats from Elaine Tuson
Tracker from Warren Heller
Shadow from Michelle Livernois
Boots from Kim Shea
Meow and Sylvester from Richard Morin
Daisy from Demetra Leveillee
Autumn from Virginia Carlson
Lacey, Buttons, Scissors and Valoro from Charles and Cheryl Comptois
Leo the best cat ever from Mary Caforio
Mozzy from Donna and Ron Eaton
Suzi and Shemp from Gerald Tello
Laramie from Patricia Trotter
Layla and Grooper from Ellen Herlihy
Earl Grey and Edmund Grey from Gerald and Marilyn Fels
Flam from Mulligan and Machendry
Angie from Lynne Ostiguy
Margarine from Madeleine Graziano
Diego, Dewey and Juanita from Mary Anne Abraham
Callie from Leroy Zeigler
Bella from Steven and Leeann Horner
Petey and Sasha from Lucy Convery
Dolly from Rita Austin
Beemer from Susan Hapgood
Scamp from Mr. and Mrs. Hanks
Leah from Gary and Lisa Brown
Daisy from James and Dawn Uppstrom
Sammie from Diane Stenzel
Sam from Barbara Leduc
Nuala from Michelle Cotugno
Bowser from Lee Fyrbeck
Mike's Jersey from Peg Gorman
Fancie from Marilyn Colaianni
Snowball from Jean Moreau
Mojo and Jasmine from Judith Nolfi



Thank You for remembering the animals with your special donations.

Duncan from Michael Kiszka
Ani Fintzel from Christine Fintzel
Heidi Soltys, the best mini Schnauzer ever, from Tony and Pat Koziol
Nicki and Dmitri from Valerie Fisk
Molly from George Dexter

THANK YOU to the W. Edward Balmer Elementary School in Whitinsville for donating the money from Dress Down Fridays in the month of April!

Ben Houston from:
Frederick and Joan Houston
Jane McTigue
Richard and Barbara Tarkiainen

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Webster Educators Association
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The children of Florence Tillmen Sjostedt
Cynthia Stark
Ruth Pollard
Erica Sjostedt
John Sjostedt
Nancy and Harry Landgren
The Mack Family

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Karen and David Merrill

Mildred Haynes from:
Marion Giacomelli
Nancy Haynes

Ruth Stevens from:
ATC National Programs
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Larry and Maureen Bellucci
Sandra and Robert Baltazar
Richard and Anna Paige
Longmeadow Legal Associates
Suzanne Carey

Joe Craig:
We will sincerely miss Joe Craig, one of longest volunteers (18 years!)
Ellen Herlihy
Steve Ober
Barbara Cunningham
His friends of Bill Ekleberry Auctions
Holly Smith
Paul and Christine Maio
Joe and Sheryl Blancato
Thomas and Sherri Murray
Faye Fullone-Sweeney
Stephanie Beland

Melanie Mikus from:
Cheryl DeSantis
Skip and Peg Goudreau

Wallace Rymarski from:
Nicollette Dailey
Dennis and Karen Anti
The Ats Family (Marilyn, Mik, Ish, Amy and Morgan
Ann Banas
Jane Saletnik
Kay Collins
Stephen and Carol Gancorz
Vincent Puliafico
Jean and Sanne Despres
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Bob and Barbara LeMaitre
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Richard and Jamie Gray
Sandra Kobis
Julianne Rabschnuk
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All proceeds benefit Second Chance Animal Shelter

Roses are \$10.00 per dozen

*due to the large volume of roses we cannot guarantee specific colors

To Order: visit our website

www.secondchanceanimals.org for the order form or online ordering OR stop into Second Chance, 111 Young Road, East Brookfield, MA.



Pre-Orders must be received by Sept. 2nd, 2016.



Free delivery for orders of 10 dozen or more (local only)!



Lion – a very special cat getting very special treatment

For those of you that have been following Lion and his very special case, we have an update. Lion is a very sweet cat with a very unique medical issue. He was not walking at the time that he presented to us at the age of 6 months. He can now stand, support himself, and walk, although his gait is abnormal due to

skeletal abnormalities and joint problems so he walks abnormally and, at times, with some difficulty. The initial plan for him was to consider surgery to repair either his bilateral hip or his bilateral knee issue as we believed that this was the cause of his walking difficulties. But then things changed once we learned more about the extent of his skeletal problems, joint problems and some other issues. Lion was diagnosed with a very rare condition called mucopolysaccharidosis

Update! Lion has such a unique case. We have attempted to contact internists for advice, who mostly say they have never seen this disease or haven't seen it in over a decade. This is such an uncommon condition that there is little information readily available to our medical staff, even among the specialists. We have finally been in contact with an expert on MPS who suggested that surgery may not be a good option for Lion but to instead focus on supportive care as his disease has no cure and will be progressive, resulting in a worsening of his condition over time.

As we are still getting additional information on his particular subtype of MPS, they were not able to give us specific information as to what we can expect to see as this disease progresses. But we are prepared to give him the best life he can have with continued medical care, acupuncture, physical therapy if needed and a wheelchair that he is already getting comfortable using so that he can continue to have a comfortable, happy and pain-free life.

We are currently moving forward with additional genetic testing and we are discussing having him seen by a veterinary ophthalmologist as eye issues are common with this disease.

Lion is doing great with the treatment plan he is on. Lion is currently still able to walk and we want him to keep walking so that he will keep his muscles strong, but he is practicing with using his cart so that he will always be able to get around, and Lion is really the sweetest cat ever!



Lion is just one of the many pets that we help to live better lives thanks to your support!



Puerto Rico Mission Moves Forward

In our January Newsletter, we proudly announced that Second Chance had been chosen by *The Humane Society of the United States*, as one of only 11 organizations (and the only Massachusetts organization) to be part of the HSUS International “Humane Puerto Rico” initiative. We are now a sister organization and a mentor a shelter that has been doing amazing work, but needs help to overcome the euthanasia rate of 95% facing all rescues on the island. With an estimated 300,000 homeless dogs and 1,000,000 homeless cats struggling to stay alive on their own, there needed to be a large concerted effort to end this tragedy. One shelter alone takes in over 12,000 animals per year and places



about 400. The balance of beautiful, adoptable animals suffer the fate of euthanasia due to lack of space.



That is the bad news. The good news is since our first trip to Puerto Rico in February of this year we have been able to make great progress. It was clearly evident that three things needed to happen very quickly. 1) We needed to find a way to move animals off the island and bring them to SCAS where they could be quickly placed in forever homes. Working with the airlines that fly in and out of Puerto Rico, we have been able to arrange transports to Boston, where our vehicles pick up the animals and get them to our facility. 2) We needed to provide leadership and information to the shelter teams there on the execution of high volume spay and neuter. In May of this year, their veterinarian and the shelter Executive Director visited with us. They spent a full day with our Vets learning the techniques of the very specialized “Humane Alliance” spay/neuter surgery that we utilize here. This highly specialized technique provides high quality spay/neuter and the ability to do high volumes of pets to reduce overpopulation. This will allow them to dramatically increase the amount of surgeries they can do in a day, lowering the birth rates and ultimately lowering the overwhelming amounts of animals entering the shelter population. Our staff is scheduled to revisit Puerto Rico early next year to continue the efforts. 3) A program that brings trained folks into the schools, both primary and secondary, to teach the youth of the island the importance of animals in our lives is underway. HSUS personnel are working in concert with the island leadership to make this happen. As these children bring this understanding and love of animals to their families, it will foster a new climate in which animals are seen as part of the family.

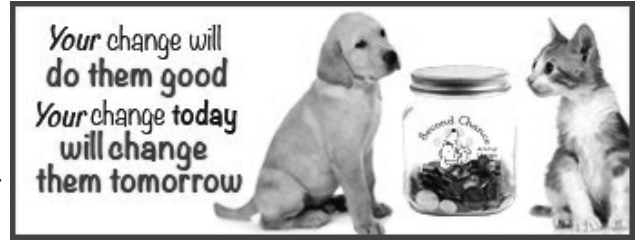
The goal of each of the 11 U.S. teams is to bring about significant reductions in the current 95% euthanasia rate. We here at Second Chance are committed to making this happen. It is not a short term project, but in fact a long term one that we are proud to be part of. When you are ready to adopt, be sure to visit our shelter and see firsthand just how amazing these pets are.





Please return this form today to save more lives tomorrow!

Please Help to Save More Lives!
Without you, we cannot do what we do to help pets. Please consider a donation to Second Chance Animal Shelter. All contributions are tax deductible and help to save lives. We want to see more happy endings and more lives saved!



Does your company offer a matching gift donation?

If so, your company may match your donation to our shelter!

In Honor of a Beloved Animal Friend: _____

In Memory of a Beloved Animal Friend: _____

In Honor of a Beloved Friend or Family Member: _____

In memory of a Beloved Friend or Family Member: _____

I just want to help! Please check the pawsome amount:

\$1,000. \$500. \$250. \$100. \$50. Other _____

Name: _____

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Please make checks payable to: Second Chance Animal Shelter, Inc.

Mail to: P.O. Box 136, East Brookfield, MA 01515

WANT TO BE A MONTHLY PET PAL SUPPORTER?

Save stamps, save time, and save more lives by being a pet pal supporter!

Your monthly support helps us to care for these homeless pets and provide these needed services. If you would like to be a Pet Pal, please fill out the following information:

Select a monthly gift:

\$10.00 Pet Saver \$25.00 Top Cat \$50.00 Top Dog \$100.00 Pet Champion Other _____

Automatic Payment Agreement for Monthly Donation

PAYMENT BY AUTOMATIC CHECKING ACCOUNT DEBIT: I hereby authorize Second Chance Animal Shelter (hereafter called SCAS) and/or Transaction Express (hereafter called TX) to initiate debit entries on a monthly basis to the checking account indicated below at the depository financial institution below, hereafter called BANK, and to debit the same to such account. I understand that ACH debits from the account must comply with U.S. law.

NAME AS APPEARS ON CHECKS: _____

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Please add me to your weekly newsletter so I can hear more of what you are doing for pets in need!

Second Chance Animal Shelter

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