



Second Chance Animal Services

PO Box 136

East Brookfield, MA 01515

"More Than Just a Shelter"

OPEN FOR GREAT STORIES AND INFORMATION!

Save the dates!!!

Running Out of Summer 5K – August 24, 2024

O'Gara Park – Spencer

Cruise for Critters – September 21, 2024

Westview Farms Creamery – Monson

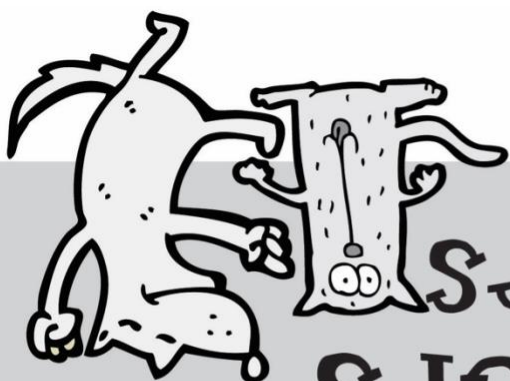
Cocktails for Tails – October 18, 2024
Twin Hills Country Club – Longmeadow

SECOND CHANCE ANIMAL SERVICES

mutt matters
& cat chatters

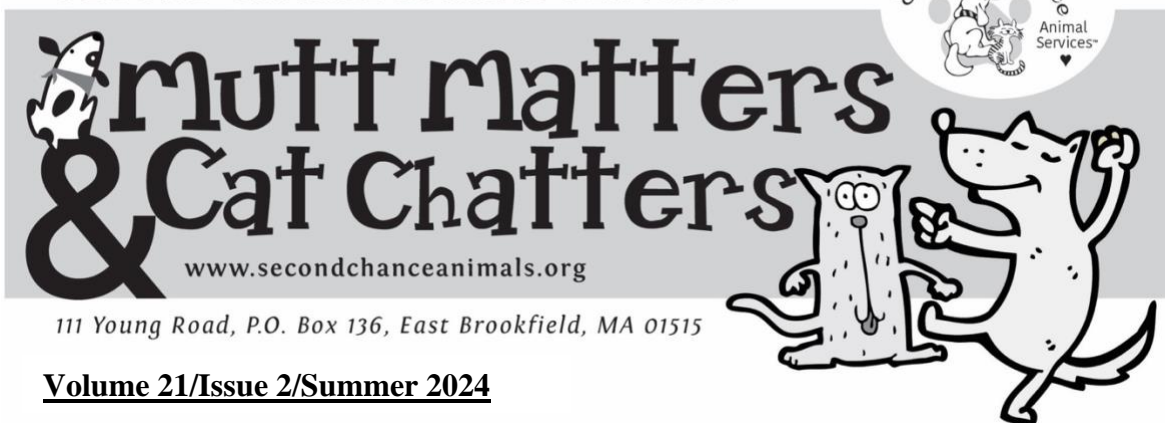
www.secondchanceanimals.org

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





SECOND CHANCE ANIMAL SERVICES



Volume 21/Issue 2/Summer 2024

President's Letter

Dear Second Chance Supporters!

As we celebrate our 25th anniversary, we stand at a critical juncture in our mission to provide a lifeline for animals in need. For a quarter of a century, Second Chance Animal Services has been a beacon of hope for countless pets and their owners, and this milestone is a profound testament to the unwavering dedication of our community, volunteers, staff, and supporters like you.

Reflecting on our journey, we see not only the remarkable achievements but also the relentless commitment that has driven us to expand our services and impact. From our modest beginnings, we have grown into an organization that has touched hundreds of thousands of lives, providing shelter, medical care, and second chances to animals who otherwise might not have had a future.

Yet, as we look to the future, we are acutely aware of the new and pressing challenges we face. The current economic climate, marked by significant inflation, has severely impacted pet owners across our community and the nation. The rising cost of living has forced many to make heartbreaking decisions about their beloved pets. This year, we have seen an alarming increase in the number of animals being surrendered to our care as families struggle to provide for them.

The need for our services has never been more urgent. In response, we are intensifying our efforts to support both pets and their owners. Our outreach programs have been expanded to offer essential resources such as food, veterinary care, and support. Our mission is to keep families together and ensure that no animal goes without the care they desperately need. However, our ability to meet this growing demand hinges on your continued support. Our pet food pantry is continually running low as the demand has increased. Our shelter is filled to capacity with many wonderful pets who have ended up here through no fault of their own, and our veterinary hospitals are busier than ever as more people seek access to veterinary care so they can keep their pets and provide essential care so that they are not suffering with treatable medical conditions. It is incredibly challenging but also incredibly rewarding every day when we can keep pets in their homes where they are loved.

As we commemorate our 25th anniversary, we ask you to stand with us. Your involvement—whether through volunteering, donations, or advocacy—is vital to sustaining our mission. Together, we can navigate these challenging times and ensure that every pet receives the second chance they deserve.

Thank you for your steadfast support and for being an integral part of our journey. Let us continue this vital work, with renewed dedication and determination, for the next 25 years and beyond.

With deepest gratitude,

Sheryl Blancato





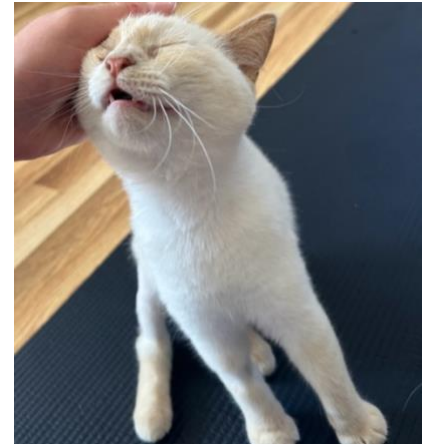
A Very Special Thank You

Grace Kelly's Second Chance

A brave young kitten named Grace Kelly came into our care after what our veterinarians suspect was a traumatic accident, possibly being hit by a car. Despite the challenges she's faced, Grace's sweet nature captured the hearts of everyone here.



When Grace arrived, X-rays revealed the extent of her injuries: a fractured pelvis, a broken femur, and a damaged tail. These injuries caused her immense discomfort, but amidst her struggles, Grace's spirit remained unbroken. Her resilience and affection have been a beacon of hope for us all.



To alleviate her pain and give her the chance to live a happy, active life, Grace needed a Femoral Head Ostectomy (FHO) surgery. This procedure was crucial for her recovery, and thanks to the generosity of our caring and compassionate supporters, Grace was able to receive her surgery and started on the path to healing.

Here's a heartwarming note from her dedicated care team:

"Grace Kelly is recovering well! She is resting and relaxing in her cozy cat bed and eating breakfast in bed. She greets us each morning with sweet little chirps and loves head scratches."

Following her surgery, Grace needed approximately two weeks of cage rest to ensure proper healing. She passed her check-up with flying colors and was ready to gradually increase her exercise regimen to help her muscles build back up while she waited to find her forever home.

Grace quickly found her new family and we received this wonderful update to share with you!

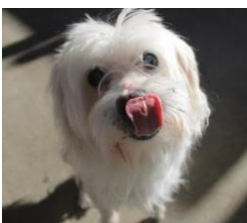
"She has already settled in and is doing so well! Eating, using the litter box, playing. Her hip doesn't seem to impact her spirit which is so great to see. She is a HUGE cuddlebug and hasn't stopped purring since we brought her home. We feel so grateful to have her in our lives."



We are incredibly grateful to everyone who contributed to Grace's care. Her journey from a tragic accident to recovery is a testament to her resilience and the power of community support. Thank you for your unwavering support and for believing in second chances.

We can't do it alone. Happy endings like Grace's wouldn't be possible without caring and compassionate supporters like you.

A Lifeline for Pets: Addressing the Surge in Pet Food Pantry Requests



Our Pet Food Pantry Program has seen an unprecedented surge in demand as we strive to ensure that no pet goes hungry. With your support, we distribute pet food to local human food pantries, providing essential support to families struggling to make ends meet. This initiative not only nourishes pets but also helps keep them in their homes, where they are loved and cherished. The increase in need underscores the importance of the program and the profound impact we can make together. Your support is crucial in maintaining this lifeline for pets and their owners, reinforcing our commitment to keeping families together.



The Lucky 13 – Helping 13 Malinois Puppies Find Homes



Earlier this year, a local pet owner rescued a pregnant Malinois mother. Recognizing the challenges ahead, she reached out to Second Chance for help. Thanks to the incredible generosity of our supporters, we were able to step in and provide the resources necessary to foster the litter and ensure their well-being.

With your unwavering support, these 13 energetic and intelligent puppies have been nurtured in a loving environment, giving them the best start in life. Malinois are known for their exceptional intelligence, agility, and loyalty, traits that make them perfect companions for active families and experienced dog owners. These high-energy dogs thrive on physical and mental stimulation and require significant daily exercise and training. Their strong work ethic and trainability have also made them ideal candidates for roles in police work, search and rescue, and protection.



We are dedicated to finding the best possible homes for every pet who comes into our care. Recognizing their unique needs, we've been diligently seeking breed-experienced adopters who could provide the loving, active environments these puppies require. Some of these wonderful puppies have already found their perfect matches thanks to the tireless efforts of our team.

As we get ready to send this newsletter to press, some of the puppies are still waiting to find homes. If you or someone you know has experience with this amazing breed and can offer one of these pups a loving home with the exercise and stimulation they need, please visit our website to submit an adoption survey: www.secondchanceanimals.org/adoption-survey. This will help us match each puppy with a suitable home, ensuring they receive the care and attention they deserve.



We are grateful to supporters like you who made this rescue effort possible. Your contributions have given these puppies a second chance at life and the opportunity to find loving homes. Together, we are making a difference, one paw at a time.

80,000 Spay/Neuters

This spring, Second Chance celebrated a significant milestone by performing our 80,000th spay/neuter surgery. The milestone coincides with our 25th anniversary, marking a quarter-century of dedication to furry friends in need.

Reaching 80,000 spay/neuter surgeries is a remarkable accomplishment. It's not just about preventing unwanted litters; it's also about ensuring the health and happiness of pets. Spaying and neutering can significantly reduce the risk of certain health issues, such as life threatening infections and reproductive cancers, ultimately leading to a longer, healthier life for pets.



Mable Henderson, a female 16-week-old Basset Hound, had the honor of being the 80,000th patient when she received her spay surgery at Second Chance's Springfield Community Veterinary Hospital.



Access to Care Saves Lives – Coco’s Story

Pets bring great joy and companionship into our lives, but sometimes, they need more than just love—they need medical care. Coco arrived at our hospital in distress, visibly in pain and uncomfortable. His worried owner didn’t know what was wrong and feared for Coco’s health. Upon examination, our veterinarian found that Coco had ingested a foreign body that required immediate surgery.

The owner’s concern quickly turned to despair as he considered the cost of the necessary surgery, which could range from \$5,000 to \$10,000.

With a limited budget, he feared he wouldn’t be able to afford the life-saving procedure for his beloved pet.



Fortunately, our access to care program was there to help. Second Chance offers low-cost pricing to ensure that all pets receive the care they need. A compassionate pet owner in the waiting room was moved by Coco’s story and generously offered a donation to help. We were able to perform the surgery for just a quarter of the typical cost and Coco is now on the road to a full recovery. Coco’s owner was overwhelmed with gratitude for the kindness and support he received. Coco’s story is a testament to the power of community and the importance of accessible veterinary care.

Our access to care program continues to save lives and bring peace of mind to pet owners. By working together, we can ensure that pets like Coco get the treatment they need to lead healthy, happy lives. Thank you to everyone who supports our mission and makes stories like Coco’s possible.

YOU *can be their hero every day.*

84¢ per day feeds a shelter pet for the whole month.

Wear your heart on your sleeve!

Commitments of \$25+ receive a limited edition 25th anniversary tee!



How can you help?

\$15/month (50¢ per day!) protects a dog from heartworm.

\$25/month (84¢ per day!) feeds a pet 1 month of nutritious meals.

\$90/month (\$3 per day) rescues an at-risk pet from a southern shelter

SIGN UP





Al Widlan's Service Connection Presents the 12th Annual



To benefit animals in need at Second Chance Animal Services

Saturday, September 21, 2024

10 am to 3 pm

(rain date: Saturday, September 28)

Westview Farms Creamery

109 East Hill Rd, Monson, MA

\$20 Show Car

Entry Fee

**100% of entry fee
supports pets in need**

Free for Spectators



**Halloween
Barktacular**

Kids Games

PLUS

- **Homemade Ice Cream & Food**
- **Vendor Fair**
- **Live Raffles**
- **Corn Maze**
- **Pumpkin Picking**

Bring The Pups!

**All dogs must be leashed
Please - no retractible leads**



Live music by the Barberic Band

facebook.com/cruiseforcritters

Questions? Call Alan at 413-267-9028

Interested in being a vendor?

Visit secondchanceanimals.org for vendor registration





On the Road to Keep Pets Healthy



People love their pets and most would do anything for them. Inflation has made this difficult for senior pet owners on a fixed income. Our Homebound to the Rescue program, funded by generous donors and grants, works with community organizers to bring veterinary services directly to low-income senior housing areas at no cost. This initiative ensures pets stay healthy and up to date on vaccinations, allowing seniors to enjoy the companionship of their beloved pets.

Our Low-Cost Community Vaccine Clinics, in addition to weekly clinics at our hospitals, visit communities to offer essential rabies and distemper vaccines. These vaccinations prevent the spread of infectious diseases and promote overall pet health, making a significant difference in the lives of pets and their owners. With your support, we can continue to provide these vital services and foster healthier, happier communities.



Celebrating 25 Years: Helping Pets Live Better Lives

On June 22, 2024, Second Chance celebrated 25 incredible years of compassion, dedication, and countless wagging tails with a joyous block party where it all began. Our journey wouldn't have been possible without the incredible support of our community, so what better way to celebrate? The event, spanning over a quarter mile, was hosted by two longtime supporters, Timberyard Brewing Co. and Klem's.



Despite the heat and an afternoon downpour, hundreds gathered to partake in the festivities, which included a reunion yappy hour, vendor fair, demonstrations, raffles, barbecue, and more. We are immensely grateful to our amazing community of supporters. Your support makes our work possible, and we eagerly look forward to the next 25 years of making a difference together. Thank you!

The Fun Continues – Mark Your Calendar to Join us for More Anniversary Fun!



2024 Running Out of Summer 5K
August 24, 2024
O'Gara Park, Spencer



12th Annual Cruise for Critters
September 21, 2024
Westview Farms Creamery, Monson



3rd Annual Cocktails for Tails
October 18, 2024
Twin Hills Country Club, Longmeadow





WE CAN'T DO IT ALONE

We want to extend our deepest gratitude to you. Your kindness, dedication, and generosity make all the difference in the lives of the pets and families we serve.

Because of your support, we provide life-saving care and support, keeping pets in their homes with the people they love and giving hope to shelter pets in need of a second chance. Your generosity helps us continue the mission.

We are excited about what the future holds and invite you to stay with us on this journey. Together, we can achieve even more and ensure that every pet receives the love and care they deserve. If you are able, please consider donating to help pets receive the care they need. Together, we can ensure that every pet receives the love and care they deserve.

Thank you for being a part of our Second Chance family.



Yes, I want to help keep pets in their homes and help homeless pets find homes with my gift of:

☐ \$1,000 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$50 ☐ Other Amount: \$ _____

☐ My check made payable to Second Chance Animal Services is enclosed

Donor's Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email Address: _____



☐ New address

☐ Please email receipt

To help us save on postage

☐ Please charge my debit/credit card

Name on Card: _____ Billing Zip Code: _____

Card Number: _____ Expiration: _____ CCV: _____

Monthly PetPal Champion ☐ I want to help pets all year long – please make this a monthly donation!

New monthly donations of \$25 or more: ☐ Circle T-shirt Size: S M L XL 2X

☐ I decline the t-shirt, so my full donation supports the program.

My gift is in ☐ memory/☐ honor of: _____

☐ Please notify: _____

Tributes are recognized on our website – if you would like to make your tribute private, check here: ☐

**I want to
read the
latest news!**

☐ Please sign me up for the Second Chance email list.

☐ Please switch me to email newsletters to save on printing and postage.

☐ I have included Second Chance in my estate planning. (For more information, email development@secondchanceanimals.org or call Lindsay at 774-318-1101 x-113)



Donate Online

Donate securely online at www.secondchanceanimals.org/donate

Return to: Second Chance Animal Services, 111 Young Road, PO Box 136, East Brookfield, MA 01515

NLS2024