



Potter League
Enriching Lives

www.PotterLeague.org

Winter 2018

Paw-Print PRESS

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SAVE THE DATE

Join us for LoveBash for Animals!

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87 Oliphant Lane
Middletown, RI 02842

Hours:

Monday 10am - 5pm

Tuesday - Wednesday 10am - 7pm

Thursday - Sunday 10am - 5pm

www.potterleague.org

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Henrietta's Whispered Promises

Even for those of us who work in animal welfare, our first glimpse of Henrietta made our hearts ache. It was in October, shortly after Hurricane Maria had devastated Puerto Rico. Henrietta was one of the fortunate animals to have arrived via an emergency rescue flight to a shelter in New Jersey.

Her white fur was a brownish gray color due to filth, her skin was red, raw and irritated, and she appeared to be blind. One eye so enlarged anyone could tell it must be causing untold pain. In addition to all of these issues she seemed to be hard of hearing, possibly deaf. Henrietta sat huddled shaking in the back of her kennel, nervous and unsure of what had happened to the world she once knew. When we walked her out of that kennel into our Potter League transport van, Henrietta immediately sought out the comfort of the humans around her, searching for a friendly pat to let her know things were going to be all right. We pet her gently and whispered over and over that she was safe and we promised she would be all right.

The drive back up to Rhode Island was eerily quiet. We anticipated whining, barking, and the general mayhem of a dozen dogs in a strange vehicle going on a six-hour ride. Instead the only sounds we heard were tails



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Adoption Tails Corner

Love is Blind for Brutus the Bunny

Brutus arrived at the Potter League after his owner could no longer care for him due to his health issues. Brutus suddenly became blind some years prior due to cataracts and had developed behavioral issues due to his blindness. We quickly learned that Brutus just needed some stability and predictability in his life to help him cope with his lack of sight. A wonderful family adopted Brutus and he now has a bunny sibling named Jazzy. They are slowly but surely bonding and keeping each other company. Brutus' family reports that he is doing wonderfully, loves his new home and even runs and binks because he is so happy!

Frank's Grand Slam

Frank came into a Rhode Island municipal shelter as a stray, was never claimed, and sat for months. We were asked to transfer Frank to Potter League because he was declining physically and mentally in the city kennel. We were happy to welcome him and see if a change in scenery would help him.

Frank quickly became a volunteer and staff favorite. He was a pleasure to walk and was happy to make new canine friends. He blossomed quickly into quite the social butterfly. Then things got even better...

A family was interested in Frank and wondered if he would fit into their busy home which contained not only a senior, one-eyed tea-cup Yorkie, and a one year old boxer but also a lot of visitors including dogs and kids. Since we had no history on Frank, we weren't sure how he would do with this wonderful, chaotic home. Frank knocked it out of the park! He has a best friend in Boxer Luna, Bella, the Yorkie bosses him around, and his Dad could not be more smitten with him. If we had wished for the perfect home for Frank, this would have been it. Thank you to his new family for giving a shelter dog a second chance.



Brutus



Frank

SAVE
THE
DATE

LoveBash for Animals

Friday, March 23, 2018, 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

2018 P.S. I Love You Photo Contest

Runs February 7 through March 7, 2018

Enter online at potterleague.org.

Potter Pet University

Wednesday, March 14

When Springtime Bites: Flea & Tick Prevention

Presented by Ed Pawlowski, Senior Technical Sales Specialist, Bayer HealthCare

Wednesday, April 11

What Your Dog is Saying at the Dog Park

Presented by Anastacia Southland, Behavior Services Manager, Potter League for Animals

Cat Yoga

Tuesday, February 20, 2018 from 5:30 - 6:30pm

Wellness Clinics

Thursday, February 22, 2018, 4:00 - 6:00pm

Tuesday, March 20, 2018, 4:00 - 6:00pm

Pet Talk Series:

Monday, April 30, 2018

Why does my dog do that and how do I get him to stop?

Presented by Kelley Bollen, MS, CABC, Certified Animal Behavior Consultant/Director, Animal Alliances, LLC

Heart & Sole Walk for the Animals

Sunday, October 14, 2018

Meowmaste

If you've ever tried a "child's pose" at home and you have a pet, chances are they've climbed on your back or crawled underneath for some face-time – and not the cellphone kind. At that moment, you may not have thought anything more than your cat or dog was being silly, but in hindsight isn't it what you love best about your pet? The fact that they seem to seek out our attention and the way they pull on our heartstrings, instantly relieves the stress of the day. Now imagine multiplying that feeling by adding ten or more homeless cats and kittens. We won't lie, we know yoga is supposed to be relaxing, but can you think of a better reason to visit the shelter and see all of the adoptable animals, than to join us for yoga with cats and kittens?

Lucky for us Kim Cipolla, one of the Potter League dog trainers, also happens to be a certified yoga instructor and when we approached her with the idea of cat yoga, it was met with a very enthusiastic yes. When we asked Kim what adding cats to her yoga class would mean to the usually relaxing experience of yoga, she explained that even though the cats would be distracting, that distraction is in fact a learning experience and actually strengthens the yoga practice by requiring everyone to increase their focus. Not to mention that not taking oneself too seriously improves one's quality of life. We agree!

Be sure to join us at our next Cat Yoga on Tuesday, February 20th. Register on our website at www.potterleague.org.



Join us for LoveBash for Animals!

Feeling a bit snowed in? We've got an incredible evening planned to give you a much-needed night out. The best part is, it's a party with a purpose near and dear to your heart!

Join us for an unforgettable evening to help animals in need on Friday, March 23, at the Atlantic Resort in Middletown, RI. Put on your fanciest attire, bring your friends and mingle with other pet lovers while enjoying a cocktail reception, sit-down dinner and silent auction with music by blues and Appalachian fiddler, singer, songwriter, Ilana Katz Katz. The evening continues with dinner, an inspiring video, and a spirited Live Auction featuring some very special four-legged guests.

We have some great prizes in store this year including tickets to the sold-out Folk Festival, yacht charters, and the trip of a lifetime - a South African Photo Safari. The evening will conclude with our Paws Up Auction in support of the Nuala Pell Animal Care Fund.

LoveBash for Animals is one of our most important fundraisers of the year – allowing us to provide animals with lifesaving medical treatments, spay/neuter surgeries, advanced rehabilitative care, training and behavior programs, and more.

To purchase tickets or view sponsorship opportunities visit www.PotterLeague.org or call the Potter League at 401-846-0592. Tickets are \$100 each or a table of 10 for \$1,000. Live auction items can be found on our website event page.



Henrietta's Whispered Promises Continued...

thumping against the crates when they heard our voices telling them they were all headed to wonderful new lives. Upon arrival at the Potter League, Henrietta settled in quickly. This poor girl was utterly depleted from the long and frightening journey she had endured; a hurricane, a plane ride, a car journey and multiple strange places to sleep.

Our staff veterinarian, Dr. Kadasi, examined Henrietta immediately to diagnose her multiple health concerns. Henrietta had glaucoma in both eyes and an extremely mature cataract. One eye could be managed with medication. The more damaged eye needed to be surgically removed. She also had severe dental disease and would need extractions, but that was secondary to the pain and discomfort her eye was causing. She was severely underweight, her skin was extremely irritated, and she had a lump on her leg. It was obvious; Henrietta had lived a very hard life, and yet she was so sweet and affectionate.

Henrietta's eye was successfully removed and treatment was started for her other ailments. The best news was that a wonderful family had expressed an interest in adopting Henrietta. All agreed that it would be in Henrietta's best interest to recover in her foster-to-adopt home. Once the incision from her eye surgery was healing nicely, her dental surgery was performed. These two procedures along with consistent medicated baths to address her skin issues all were helping Henrietta on the road to recovery and a pain-free life.

The Henrietta you meet today is a far cry from that depressed dog the Potter League picked up in October. She spends most days lounging on the family sofa - a far cry from the harsh places she must have been forced to sleep in her former life. She also has three dog siblings that she gets along with fabulously. Her new Mom says it's like she has always been a part of their family. Those whispered promises of a better life Henrietta now has would not be able to become reality without your support. It is your gift that impacts the lives of animals in Rhode Island and beyond, providing lifesaving surgeries and happy endings to animals just like Henrietta.



NEW FALL DATE! HEART & SOLE WALK FOR THE ANIMALS

Sunday, October 14, 2018

Glen Park, Portsmouth, RI

In the past five years the Heart and Sole Walk has raised \$450,000 for homeless animals. This year's Heart & Sole Walk for the Animals will be bigger and better than ever before. You will enjoy a fantastic day of entertainment, pet-centric vendors, an all-new dog utopia, food, raffles and a scenic 1 or 2-mile walk and more! Stay tuned for more details in the coming months.