WINTER 2018



Paw-Print PRESS

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87 Oliphant Lane Middletown, RI 02842

Hours:

Monday 10am – 5pm Tuesday - Wednesday 10am – 7pm Thursday - Sunday 10am – 5pm

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A "Tail" of Two Survivors

oday, Seal snores away in her big, cozy bed, curled up after her spa treatment consisting of a bath and nail cutting. But just a few weeks ago, she couldn't get up, she had not eaten her food from the night before and there were spots of thick blood on her blanket. Our staff knew something was seriously wrong.

Seal was sent to the emergency veterinary hospital with symptoms consistent with pyometra, a dangerous infection in the uterus, which left untreated, can be life-threatening.

Seal was rushed into surgery, and our staff spent the day filled with unease as we waited for an update. But Seal was a fighter. The medical team was able to successfully remove her uterus as well as her ovaries. When she awoke, her eyes were filled with life again.

Day by day, she grew stronger, her appetite returned and she took full advantage of her comfy bed, warm blankets and a showering of affection from our staff. She loved every bit of the attention. We were there for Seal, and she knew it. She felt safe in our care and was able to receive more love than she had ever experienced before.

It wasn't long before Seal received something she deserved more than anything else — a loving family.

Coincidentally, around the same time Seal came to us, another sweet older dog — Crystal — came into the shelter and needed our help. After our Shelter Medicine Team's initial evaluation of Crystal, they noticed she had several questionable masses on her body. We knew she was uncomfortable, but Crystal's sweet and spirited personality never faltered.

The team performed diagnostics on precious Crystal and confirmed that the masses were mast cell tumors. This happy and vivacious girl had cancer.







Adoption Corner

Madeline:

Madeline was a lovely, but very shy tuxedo cat, who had been with us for well over six months. Every time someone would walk by Madeline's room, she was hiding in her bed. It made getting the attention of a potential adopter very difficult.

Finally, Madeline caught the eye of a dedicated volunteer, Karen. She was determined to help Madeline and spent countless months working with her. With a little love and care, Madeline began to blossom. Karen, who had worked so hard to help Madeline come out of her shell, decided that they were simply meant to be together.

Madeline and Karen now share cuddles every morning over Karen's coffee. When Karen leaves for work, Madeline puts herself to bed until Karen returns. Evenings are filled with playtime with Madeline's favorite fish and feather wand toy. Both of them love this time together. When Karen goes to bed, Madeline spends the night roaming around the house, looking out all the windows, playing with her toys and, of course, knocking things over.

Madeline is one of many lucky cats from the Potter League to have found a loving home thanks to your generous support.

Beni:

We don't know what caused Beni's eye injury, but when he arrived at the Potter League, we knew he was in great pain. You could tell this sweet little guy just didn't feel good. In our care, Beni was examined by a veterinary ophthalmologist who diagnosed him with a significant episode of keratitis, or corneal inflammation. It's a mild condition that can be managed with medication for any periodic flare-ups that might occur throughout Beni's life.

With his pain management under control, it was time for Beni to find a home. When Beni's family came into the Potter League, they had no intention of taking a cat home. However, their daughter, Kaitlyn, met Beni, and they quickly discovered they had something in common.

Beni had the exact eye problem that Kaitlyn had. She was so excited because she thought it was meant to be, and her family agreed! They took Beni home that day and are so happy they did. He has been a wonderful addition to their family and an amazing source of comfort for Kaitlyn.

You help provide animals like Beni with the care they desperately need and give them the opportunity to find happy lives with their forever families.

Home for the Holidays

When homeless animals come through the doors of the Potter League for Animals, they are usually scared, hurting and alone. Many have seen the worst of the world, and we are their last chance. Your gift allows us to give them the best gift of all: hope. You help us care for them, love them and heal them.

When they leave us in the arms of their new families, they have the gift of love and a new life. Thank you for your generosity and continued financial support of the Potter League for Animals. And remember, if you make a donation by December 31, we are able to credit your gift as tax deductible for 2018.

Donate items from our Santa Paws Wishlist that will enrich the shelter animals at the Potter League:

- Dog Treats
- Dog Beds/Blankets
- Cat Hidey Beds
- Cat Treats
- Non-Plush Dog Toys
- Cat Toys

- Hot Dogs
- Clorox Wipes
- Rabbit Toys
- Craisins
- Laundry Detergent

Everyone Needs a Hero!

Interested in helping the shelter? Consider becoming a Community Humane Hero. Your involvement through our corporate underwriting program helps the animals at the Potter League and allows us to continue our lifesaving work. Becoming a Community Humane Hero is a great way to demonstrate your compassion to employees, clients and the community. With many opportunities to get involved in both our animal welfare and community programs, it's easy to give back, feel good and spotlight your philanthropic contribution. To view our underwriting packages and benefits, visit www.PotterLeague.org/WaysToGive or contact Erin O'Gara Dollard at ErinD@PotterLeague.org or call 401.846.0592 ext. 116.

You Support Love

Thanks to your generosity, over 2,000 animals came through our doors searching for hope in 2018, and they found it in the loving arms of our staff and volunteers. Because of you, we were able to provide them with the comfort and care they needed, along with families to love them for the rest of their lives.

Total Animals Adopted: 1,557

Spay & Neuters: 719

Our C.A.R.E. Funds provide sterilization services to animals in Newport County. Additionally, we spay or neuter every animal we place for adoption.

Animals Served: 2,127

Through our programs and outreach services, we touch the lives of pets and their humans living throughout the southeast. We provide humane education, training and veterinary care while advocating for legislation that helps to further our mission.

Animals in Disaster Relief: 77

During hurricane season, we took in animals evacuated from shelters in South Carolina, Texas and Puerto Rico.

Microchips: 1,025

Every animal adopted from our shelter receives a microchip to ensure they'll have the best chance of being reunited with their owner if they ever get lost. We also microchip animals at our wellness clinics.

Veterinary Exams: 5,156

Many of the animals entering the shelter arrive with little to no medical history and may be stray, feral or victims of cruelty. Because these animals arrive from many locations with different life experiences, highquality veterinary care plays an integral role in ensuring the long-term health and wellness of each animal.

Your support did so much this year. You cared for more animals than ever and gave them the love they needed.



Paws for People

Dogs are therapeutic in every sense of the word, and the ones that are actually trained to provide therapy are even more amazing. The benefits of therapy dogs are virtually endless. These lovable animals give people in lonely, stressful or traumatic situations a safe way to benefit from therapeutic healing.

Therapy dogs are used in retirement and nursing homes, schools, hospices and disaster areas. They also make great companions for veterans and people with disorders or disabilities. Some people even have therapy pets specifically for the health benefits that animal companionship provides.

A "Tail" of Two Survivors

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Our staff veterinarian, Dr. Levy, put a plan together for Crystal and provided her with the medical attention she had been missing. Her mass removal surgery was a success, and it didn't take long before her wonderful personality stole the heart of her adoptive family.

Because of your support, the Potter League for Animals is able to help amazing animals like Seal and Crystal heal and find the love they deserve. This past fall, we set out to help train local dogs and their humans to provide this professional service through our Therapy Dog Prep class. In this class, dogs and their handlers practice the components that comprise most therapy dog certification requirements.

This class is designed to help handlers and their dogs prepare for evaluation and certification as a therapy team. We carefully place trainers on specific class tracks to make sure their dogs are properly trained in basic obedience, certified as Canine Good Citizens and well socialized with people and dogs. The first class graduated in October and made a plan to get certified to participate in therapy dog programs throughout the state!

Think your dog has what it takes? Here are some factors to consider:

- Is your dog well socialized?
- Does your dog remain calm in new environments, around strangers, new objects, other pets and distractions?
- Is your dog healthy?
- Does your dog handle children, crowds or other noisy situations well?
- Do you and your dog have the personalities, time and level of commitment to participate in an animal therapy program?

If you think your furry friend would be a good fit, be sure to give us a call at 401.846.8276 ext. 119 or visit the website at www.PotterLeague.org to check the class schedule.

SAVE THE DATE

Potter Pet University at the Potter League for Animals Wednesday, January 9 @ 6pm Wednesday, February 13 @ 6pm

P.S. I Love You Pet Photo Contest

Kicks off Monday, February 11

LoveBash for Animals

Friday, March 22 @ 6pm at the Atlantic Resort Newport For sponsor opportunities, contact SusanR@PotterLeague.org.

*All dates subject to change. Please check our website for more information.