

Paw-print PRESS

SUMMER 2020



Potter League
Enriching Lives

Animal Care & Adoption Center

87 Oliphant Lane
Middletown, RI 02842

401.846.8276 (p)
401.846.0681 (f)

Spay & Neuter Clinic

235 Elm Street
Warwick, RI 02888

401.369.7297 (p)
401.369.7295 (f)

www.PotterLeague.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

David Enstone, President
Elena Kissel, Vice President
Terry Tinkham, Treasurer
Patricia Leonard, Secretary
Richard Cromwell
Mary Edwards
Carol Epstein
Ellen Ford
Heather Francis
Patricia Heller
Marie Hertenstein
Joan Johnson-Freese
Charlene Karns
Betsy Leslie
Kara Malkovich
Ann Menco
Sue Metzger
Howie Naugle
Barbara Odegarrd
Noelle Shiland
Sharon Wood Prince

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Brad Shear, CAWA



Follow us!



BABY'S *Second chance*

At 12 years old, Baby had lived with the same family her whole life. Suddenly the family faced serious challenges and Baby came into our care.

Story continued inside.



FOR THE DOGS

Easy Walk Harnesses
Freedom Harnesses
Spray Cheese
Training Treats
Bullysticks & Pigs Ears
Hot Dogs
Cheese Sticks

FOR THE CATS

Tuna Pouches
Clumping Clay Litter
Cat Treats
Cat Toys
Hidey Beds
Yarn

FOR THE RABBITS

Timothy Hay
Craisins
All Natural Rabbit Toys

FOR THE SHELTER

Laundry Detergent
Clorox Wipes
Laundry Wash Bags
Padded Mesh Bags
Hand Sanitizer



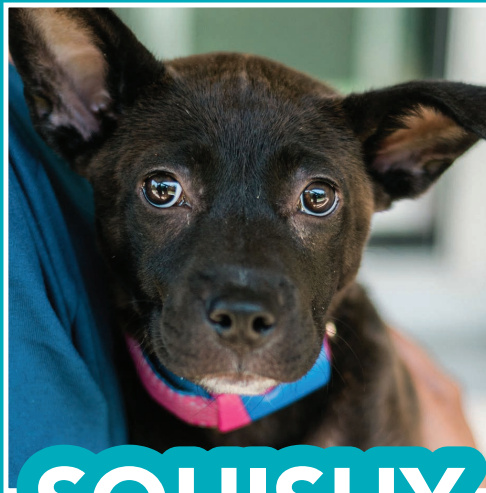
VIRTUAL YAPPY HOUR

Sunday, July 12, 2020
6pm

Join us virtually for an online event featuring inspiring stories, an online auction, special guests, surprises and more — all from the comfort of your home. Come as you are, or dress to impress. It's up to you!

Visit www.potterleague.org for more info.

adoption corner

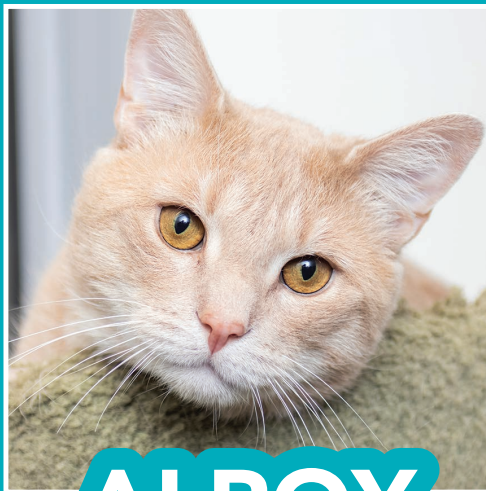


SQUISHY

It is heart-wrenching to imagine a puppy found abandoned and alone without any littermates, without the protection of her mother or without the love of a family. Sadly, this was the case for the tiny and petrified Squishy until she arrived at the Potter League. This adorable puppy with ears bigger than her body was found with a deep and painful skin infection. Little was known about her life before she was rescued, but what became apparent was that this young dog was extremely fearful. She was hesitant to trust interactions with humans, and her reactions indicated that she'd had little experiences in the world.

While Squishy was at the Potter League, she made progress and slowly learned to open up to human friends. Squishy really shined when she was in the company of her new dog friends. Every time she would see the other dogs her previously tucked tail would start wagging a mile a minute and any hesitation completely disappeared.

Now, Squishy is living life alongside her new brother, Buoy, who helps her confidence every day in their forever home in Rhode Island. Thanks to the guidance of our Shelter Behavior Team and the love of her family, vulnerable animals like Squishy get second chances at the Potter League for Animals because of your support.



ALROY

Sometimes stray cats come into the Potter League with bumps, bruises and even wounds from their time spent on the street. We can never know exactly what happened to these cats, but we are dedicated to helping them find the safety and security of a new home with people who will love and protect them.

It's cats like Alroy that demonstrate our commitment to helping animals. This smart, energetic, playful and attention seeking beautiful orange boy came to us with a wound on his face and no place to call home. It was apparent, his heart ached of loneliness and his belly ached from hunger.

Alroy had a long road to recovery ahead of him, but thanks to your support, we were there for him along every step of the way. Slowly but surely, he began to perk up and his true colors began to shine through. This incredible cat absolutely loved to play and was even clicker trained to ring a bell! We gave this guy all our love, and more than a little medical care, until he was ready to find a family of his own to love him. Your support gives hope to homeless animals just like Alroy, and his life would be very different if it weren't for the generous donations of friends just like you.



We can't imagine how confusing it must have been for her. A new, different, strange place, without the family who loved her so much. We were there when she needed us, and we promised to provide her comfort, a soft place to lay her head at night, and cuddles every moment we could until we found her new family.

In addition to cuddles, love and food, Baby received necessary medical attention. When she came into our care, her blood work told us something was very wrong. She was terribly thin and upon examination, our Shelter Medicine Team feared she was suffering from a grave medical condition known as pyometra. This condition occurs in un-spayed dogs and requires emergency surgical intervention to prevent infection from taking over which could ultimately be fatal.

Baby was rushed into surgery and carefully monitored for the next few days. We were all so very relieved that within a few days of surgery, she began to perk up and show an interest in food — a sure sign she was on the right path to recovery.

Thanks to the support of loyal friends like you, we were afforded the ability to immediately act with life-saving surgery for Baby. It is because we have the support of people who believe Baby and all the animals like her deserve the opportunity to be healthy, happy, and placed in loving homes.

After months of searching for her new family, the day finally came. Baby's days are now spent choosing which big cozy bed and what squeaky toy she would like to nap with in between her leisurely walks, favorite game of fetch and car rides.

CONTINUING TO SAVE LIVES IN TIMES OF CRISIS

When Rhode Island first issued its stay-at-home order, we had hoped it would last a few short weeks. Nearly four months have passed and we remain as committed as ever to serving our community's people and pets.

As an essential business, the Potter League for Animals has kept our doors open with modified operations and appointment-based services. **Through it all, our animals have continued to receive the highest level of care whether at the shelter or in loving foster homes.** We have made sure that our staff are kept safe while doing their critical life-saving work.

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to create many challenges for some pet owners and their animals — many facing uncertainty with providing basic needs for both the human and animal members of their family. The Potter League has continued to provide food, shelter, and life-saving medical care to the animals who come through our doors and throughout the community. **In the first 60 days of the crisis alone, over 2,000 pounds of pet food were provided to more than 300 families and this number is still growing.** To help with the demand and those without transportation we implemented door-to-door pet food delivery and partnered with the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center's mobile food pantry; meeting them at sites all over Newport County to bring pet food to people in need.

We are grateful and humbled by the community support that we have seen throughout this crisis. When the state's "stay-at-home order" was issued, we



put out a plea for foster homes. We wanted to place animals already housed at the Potter League in homes so we could ensure ample space for any animals impacted by COVID-19. **Amazingly, 51 foster animals were welcomed into people's hearts and homes.**

We are so very grateful and give unending thanks to you for standing by us in good times and these very challenging times — allowing the Potter League for Animals to play a crucial role in building and maintaining a healthy and safe community — for people and for pets. **Together, we can get through this.**

congrats!



2019 Volunteer of the Year
Denise Davis



2019 Junior Volunteer of the Year &
Best Supportive Parent of the Year
Melissa Benson & Sharon Benson

THREE CHEERS FOR VOLUNTEERS

In this time of social distancing, it has been very hard to separate our bodies from our hearts. Normally, at any given moment there are countless Potter League volunteers socializing and training animals, helping in the surgical suite or at outreach events and in schools with their therapy dogs, but when the pandemic hit, our volunteer program came to a screeching halt.

So, how did our volunteer community remain emotionally and socially connected when we had to remain physically apart? They continued to volunteer, just in different ways.

They opened their homes to foster animals, they made masks and reusable gowns, they organized a parking lot drive-by celebration, and drew pet portraits for a virtual fundraiser. They mowed the lawn, packaged pet food for our food pantry and made adoption call back phone calls from their homes. They dropped off treats for the animals and bought lunch for the staff. All to let us know they care and are here for the Potter League no matter what.

In a time of social distancing and isolation, these incredible volunteers remained committed. **We are so thankful to our volunteers who have provided support to our team during this challenging time. You are the heart of the Potter League for Animals.**



2019 Lore Owens Award
Jessica Pohl



The Forever Friends Society is a unique group of people invested in the Potter League. These generous supporters have created a legacy of hope by making the Potter League a part of their estate plans. Their farsighted support guarantees the League's long-term financial security and enables us to continue to respond to ever changing animal and community needs.

By making a gift to the Potter League through your will, trust, or other financial plan, you can help us save so many more animals now and well into the future. **For information about joining the Forever Friends Society contact Erin Dollard at 401.846.0592 x116 or erind@potterleague.org.**

Have you adopted from us? Be sure to join the "Potter Pet Alumni" group on Facebook today!

 **Find us on Facebook**