

Paw-Print PRESS

Winter 2021

Meet Piglet

Making the best of
a dire situation.
Story continued inside.



Potter League
Enriching Lives



Cat Hoarding Rescue

Crowded, cramped, horrendous, filthy, deplorable. Those are the words that are often used when describing cases of animal hoarding. Photos support these descriptions, leaving viewers horrified at the conditions in which animals, and often humans, lived. People engaged in hoarding have often experienced personal trauma, have untreated mental health issues, and are in need of assistance.

Such was the case when we were contacted about a cat hoarding situation in September where fear of criminal prosecution deterred an individual from asking for help. What began as good intentions of rescuing homeless cats quickly spiraled out of control when a few led to many, 41 and counting.

There is a growing recognition that we need to approach hoarding cases with more empathy and less judgment in order for people to engage in treatment that will help prevent relapse. We stepped in immediately when asked to assist to offer the pet owner confidence that the animals would go to a place that has the capacity

to properly care for them. The cats would be safe at the Potter League for Animals. We took in the 19 adult cats that were most in need behaviorally and medically. The rest, mostly kittens, have gone to another local rescue.

Medically, all of the cats were suffering from a range of issues. One, named Piglet, had experienced trauma and needed his eye removed. Most had upper respiratory infections, and nearly all of them were malnourished, had fleas, and were infected with parasites. Behaviorally, they had spent most of their lives with other cats and had very little contact with people. Many were fearful of their new situations, especially when meeting new people. However, our cat Behavior Team put behavior protocols in place, allowing them time to decompress and adjust.

Within days we saw hope return to their eyes. They finally knew what it was like to be loved and cared for, and we found each of them loving homes.

Vulnerable animals like Piglet, Butterfly, Brian, and Nick got second chances at the Potter League for Animals because of your continued support.

B-MOD Graduates

After working with the Potter League for Animals Behavior Team, Sophie and Norma Jean were official Behavior Modification (B-Mod) graduates and ready for their loving homes.



Norma Jean

After Norma Jean's previous guardian had passed away, there was no family left to take care of her, and she was brought to us by a member of the community who helps local individuals that find themselves facing homelessness. Norma Jean was petrified when she arrived at Potter League, and after months of working with our cat behavior staff, she transformed into a sassy and loving cat who began to enjoy pets and playtime. Norma Jean was adopted in November 2020.

Adoption Corner



Jasper

At 13 years old, Jasper, a teddy bear-like Pomeranian, had never seen a veterinarian before arriving at the Potter League. His previous caretaker could no longer provide for him, so we promised Jasper everything would be all right and committed to keeping him safe.

We learned Jasper was completely blind, suffered from skin issues, and had muscle wasting in his hindlimbs. We gave him medicated baths for his skin, groomed him, put him on some joint supplements, and gave him lots of love and comfort.

Even as a senior, Jasper had plenty of pep in his step and loved going on walks and exploring. However, as brave as he was, he was in need of a good-hearted person to be his "seeing-eye human." Fortunately, Jasper's lack of sight did not phase him in the least, often bumping into new objects while exploring the world around him.

It's hard to imagine Jasper's fate if he hadn't found himself in the care of the dedicated Potter League team. The good news is, we don't have to. Jasper is now a beloved, happy member of his new family.

We're committed to giving our community a helping hand, and with your support, we will be there for Jasper and the hundreds of animals just like him, no matter what.



Moxie

What are the odds that when a young child found a severely injured cat in their backyard and went running to their babysitter — that babysitter would be an employee of the Potter League. Fate sometimes works in amazing ways and that snowing and freezing December day was proof of that.

Moxie arrived at the Potter League and after an examination by our Shelter Medicine Team, we discovered she had horrific trauma to her tail and was rushed into emergency surgery before infection spread to her spine. Moxie's tail had a severe injury where the skin and tissue were ripped from the underlying muscle with black necrotic soft tissue remaining on her tail. Through everything and the tremendous amount of pain that she was in, she remained friendly and affectionate, trusting us completely.

Moxie's surgery was a success and we were able to stop the spread of further infection. Slowly, she began to feel more like herself again. After two weeks of recovery, Moxie had stolen the hearts of the family who found her and became a permanent member of the family!

How long she had been outside on her own is unknown, but because of you, we were able to keep our promise to Moxie that she would only know a warm home and kindness for the rest of her days.



Sophie

Upon Sophie's arrival she exhibited signs of fear, anxiety, and stress when she found herself in a strange and new environment. She seemed untrusting and afraid of most sounds, sudden movements, strangers, objects, and other dogs. It was as if she was anticipating threats around every corner. Our Behavior Team got to work quickly by providing Sophie with comfort, building her confidence, and reassuring her she was safe. She spent ten weeks under behavior modification before she was ready to find a new home. Sophie was adopted in November 2020. Her adopter reports they love her to pieces and she even has her own Instagram account to document her journey: @sophieswagstoriches.

Uncover the True Magic of

NO BASH

FOR ANIMALS

BENEFITING THE POTTER LEAGUE

We count on the Love Bash for Animals as our largest source of donations each spring, providing animals and their families with the resources they need.

Even though we can't physically be together this March, we invite you to celebrate the spirit of Love Bash by making a gift to our 2021 No Bash for Animals campaign that will help provide thousands of animals with the hope, healing, and magic of second chances. You'll also provide the resources necessary to care for pets for people who require it right now.

There are many opportunities to give, including our popular online silent auction. We invite you to save the date to join us for the auction which will go live March 24 – April 14 and feature a unique and inspiring selection of experiences and mission-driven auction items along with some all-time favorites. Visit www.PotterLeague.org/Event/NoBash-for-Animals/ to learn more and sign up.

If you would like to sponsor or donate to the auction, please contact SusanR@PotterLeague.org or call 401-846-0592.

Save the Dates



No Bash Campaign

March 24 - April 14

Learn more at: www.PotterLeague.org



Annual P.S. I Love You Photo Contest

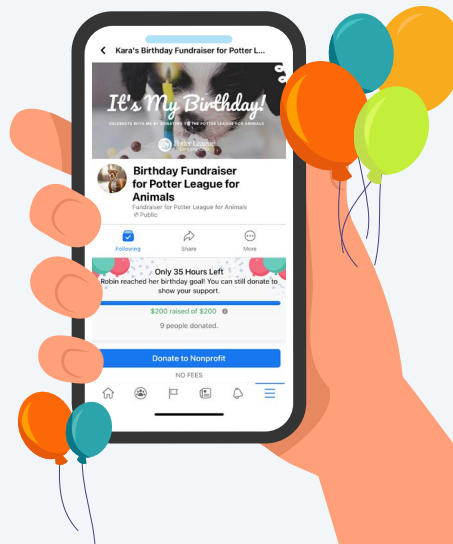
February 1 - March 8

Enter now at: www.GoGoPhotoContest.com/PotterLeague

Donate Your Birthday to Animals

Celebrate your birthday by helping animals in need!

Create a personal fundraising page on Facebook and ask friends and family for a birthday gift that helps provide safe refuge, medical care, and love to an animal in search of a new life. You can personalize your page with your own message and pictures. Every dollar raised helps the Potter League for Animals continue the important work of creating a more humane world for dogs, cats, and critters.



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)

Pets In Need Veterinary Clinic

40 Amara Street
Riverside, RI 02915

401.270.3832 (p)
401.270.3487 (f)

www.PotterLeague.org

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