



FALL NEWS 2022

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Rescued Beagles find homes in New Hampshire!

By Sheila E. Ryan

Director of Development & Marketing

The New Hampshire SPCA was proud to be among four New Hampshire shelters to participate in the rehoming of young beagles rescued by the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS). HSUS has been working to find placements all over the country for the 4,000 beagles removed from a mass-breeding facility riddled with animal welfare concerns. The facility in Cumberland, VA bred dogs to be sold to laboratories for animal experimentation.

Thirty-three beagles arrived at Monadnock Humane Society on Tuesday, August 16th. Staff from the NHSPCA picked up seven puppies ages three and four months old. The rest of the beagles were dispersed to other shelters. Our magnificent seven settled into their kennels by 9:00 p.m. that night and began enjoying life as the pets they were meant to be rather than a future of lab tests.

It was so interesting to see them walk on grass for what may have been the first time in their little



lives. They are snuggly and wiggly and oh, so adorable. For those of us, like you I'm sure, who love animals, these precious babies are a reminder of how cruelly animals are still being treated in parts



HSUS removed 4,000 beagles from a mass breeding facility riddled with animal welfare concerns in Virginia. We have truly loved every minute we've spent with the seven that came to the NHSPCA in search of a better future and forever families.

of our own country. The facility that they came from was sited for dozens of violations, including awful practices of euthanasia without anesthesia,

See **BEAGLES**, Page 3

As many chances as it takes

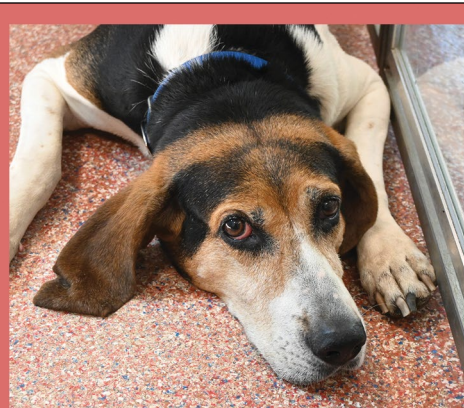
By Courtney Vavra

Annual Fund & Digital Marketing Manager

There is no better feeling than when an animal walks out of our doors with a smiling, happy family. We celebrate each adoption, and many times staff will stop what they are doing to witness that moment when the new family all hop in the car and happily drive off into the sunset. Those joyful moments sustain our work and lift our spirits when things get tough, as they often do in animal welfare.

But when an animal is returned, it can be really confusing for the animal and tough on the staff caring for them. We constantly need to remind ourselves that sometimes things fall apart so better things can come together. Every time an animal is returned,

See **ELLIE THE HOUND**, Page 13



MATCHING GIFT OPPORTUNITY!

YES! I want my gift to **DOUBLE** to help save twice as many animals!

Celebrate with Us!
AUCTION
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Editor: Sheila Ryan | **Graphic Designer:** Melissa Mower

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Like many emergency responders, one of the challenges that those of us in animal sheltering experience, is both the practice of planning and adapting to an ever-changing landscape. By this, I mean we can plan for the daily care and processing of animals in our facilities, be strategic in coordinating a transfer of animals from an overcrowded agency and then receive a call to respond to a national large-scale rescue of animals.

Such was the call we received when HSUS reached out to their Emergency Placement Partners for assistance relocating 4,000 beagles. Of course, we wanted to help. We have assisted HSUS with other rescues both at the time of the removal and at the field location that they create each time they must house large numbers of animals. We know the consequences for each animal that makes it out and how critical it is to have partners that can help in the recovery and placement process.

You may recall the Great Danes from the lake's region. We sent staff and volunteers to assist in the care of these giant beauties and then welcomed some to our location and found them forever homes. Then there were the Korean Meat Dogs transferred from tragic circumstances and ended up as loving companions, spoiled furry friends with local community members. This took months of rehabilitation and training to help them transition from terrified and traumatized animals to loved pets.

There were also the responses in New York and North Carolina following terrible storms. Staff and volunteers from our agency traveled to assist in the caring of animals held in temporary care while their owners searched to find them and perhaps, their own temporary housing. This partnership goes back even further than Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans.

The call we received regarding the plight



of the beagles was no different. This is one of the largest relocation efforts that I recall and of course, we wanted to support them in any way we could. This time, it was in accepting seven beautiful beagle puppies that would travel to New Hampshire and find their new homes among our amazing community. We didn't know who would arrive, what their ages or dispositions would be, but we knew that it would make a lifesaving difference to each and every one of them, much like the starfish thrown back into the ocean in the famous proverb.

We had a plan for a transfer of dogs from Mississippi arriving on Tuesday, but then the call came. Could we accept some beagles on the same day? We knew we needed and wanted to help. We said yes.

Without your support, this would not be possible. We are forever grateful that we can count on you to make a difference to each and every one of them.

On behalf of the animals, thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Lisa Dennison'.

Lisa Dennison
Executive Director

New Hampshire Society For the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

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Reflecting on my wildest experiences in animal rescue

By **Steven Sprowl**

Humane Agent, Field Services Manager

I was recently asked about my 20-year career with the New Hampshire SPCA and what some of the craziest experiences and animals I have had to deal with were. I thought it would make a great article for our readers.

A surprise in Berlin...

I took a team of employees and volunteers on a three-hour tour (no, not by boat) to Berlin one morning at the request of the police department to remove some animals that were abandoned.

Upon arrival, the police informed me that there were rabbits running around the property that we had to capture and remove. But, we quickly learned that there were also approximately 39 pigeons locked in a coop that needed to be captured and taken back to the NHSPCA.

In the end, the pigeons found new homes flying around the friendly skies in the Seacoast.

Emuing...

I was called to Goffstown, NH in regard to an emu that was roaming the streets and out into traffic. I was requested by the local police to assist in capturing this oversized bird to prevent an accident or injury to the bird.

Now, I had never even been close to an emu before, but the job seemed easy enough...

NOT!

Upon arrival, the police showed me the location of the emu and every time I tried to approach it, of course, it ran away from me.

I had one idea: I am certified in Chemical Capture using a dart gun. I never had training



Steve and his team were in for a big surprise when they went to Berlin, NH to remove some abandoned rabbits and discovered that there were 39 pigeons locked in a coop! He is seen here surrounded by the pigeons after arriving at the NHSPCA.

on darting a large bird, so I called a veterinarian and together, we worked on a proper solution of drugs to calm the big bird. I then proceeded to dart the emu under the wing in a meaty portion of the leg and waited for it to show signs of the drug taking effect.

TADA... success.

We loaded big bird into the trailer and brought it to the NHSPCA. Two days later, the owner recovered his emu from us.

An alligator in a bathtub...

I was called by Animal Control in Portsmouth years ago by my friend Austin Wallace as he had a predicament involving an alligator in a

bathtub. We wound up removing the alligator and turned it over to the NH Fish and Game Department as they are not allowed in this State except with special permits.

The circus was in town...

I was asked by the Manchester Police Animal Control Department to assist them once on inspecting a circus that came to town. This was the first time I had ever been up close to real lions and tigers. I was thankful they were all in sturdy cages.

An elephant was being led around the street by it's handler and I did get to pet it, but that was the closest I ever wanted to be to such a huge animal.

By the way, there were no problems the way the animals were housed and kept clean, so the circus was allowed to go on. I got a chance to see monkeys and snakes during that visit to Manchester.

While the emus, monkeys, pigeons and other unique experiences are interesting to look back on, most of my 20 years has been spent assisting police agencies across the state in animal cruelty investigations.

It's the day in and out helping dogs, cats, chickens, horses, donkeys and a myriad of other animals — most cases involving animals living in such sad and deplorable situations — that make my job meaningful.

So far, it has been one heck of a journey for myself and the Field Services Department. I am hopeful that someday there will be no more animal cruelty in New Hampshire, but, sadly, we still have a long way to go.



Rolling Meadows
PET CEMETERY
a memorial resting place for pets

Rolling Meadows Pet Cemetery is a wonderful place of tribute located on Union Road in Stratham, NH. The cemetery grounds welcome visitors with flowering trees, decorative gardens and a feeling of serenity. There are several burial options for Rolling Meadows, each designed to respectfully meet individual needs. We also offer crematory services. Call 603-773-5739 to learn more.



We have loved seeing these pups go home with families that will love and cherish them forever!

BEAGLES...

Continued from Page 1

inadequate veterinary care, unsanitary conditions and even inadequate food.

We are confident that by the time you are reading this article that these seven and hopefully thousands of others across the country will have found loving forever homes with people who will heal and support them and treat them like the special beautiful dogs that they are. We look forward to helping more beagles from this case find homes and to a world where this kind of treatment no longer is tolerated.

Playgroup leads to a forever friendship

By Amanda Wellman

Transport Coordinator

One of the best things about working at the New Hampshire SPCA is getting to be part of epic adoption stories like the one about Rhodey and Bumblebee.

Bumblebee is a one-year-old stray Pit Bull mix from an overcrowded shelter in Macon, Georgia. She was transported to the NHSPCA on Memorial Day weekend and stayed with us for two months while looking for the perfect home. She

Adopt your best friend

Click [here](#) for a complete list of available animals!

became a staff and volunteer favorite during her stay thanks to her adorable face and silly antics.

Rhodey is a one-year-old stray Shepherd mix from an overcrowded shelter in San Antonio, Texas. He made a two-day journey to the NHSPCA on Fourth of July weekend to find himself a family of his own. He had no manners at all but his charm more than made up for it. The staff worked hard to help Rhodney learn some commands and he proved to be an apt pupil. He had no trouble winning the hearts of staff and volunteers alike while he was here with us.

One day, our Manager of Animal Care noticed that Rhodney and Bumblebee had similar play styles, so she introduced them and it was an immediate cute couple alert! They had a blast during their off-leash time in our oversized play yard together. They greatly looked forward to their daily play sessions. Bumblebee and Rhodney would chase each other, wrestle, leap around (and sometimes over each other), and generally entertain anyone lucky enough to watch them.



Bumblebee (left) and Rhodney (right) became best friends during their stay at the NHSPCA and loved to play in the pen together. They ended up being adopted by sisters who live next door to each other... meaning play dates can continue forever!

When Rhodney was made available for adoption, we made sure to mention on his kennel card write-up that his best pal at the shelter was Bumblebee.

One day, a pair of sisters who are also neighbors came into the Adoption Center to adopt a dog for one sister. She knew immediately that

Bumblebee was perfect for her family and sat down to fill out an adoption application.

Meanwhile, her sister was still in the Dog Pavilion visiting with our resident dogs. Have you ever had that moment when you see a dog and you both know that the dog is meant to own your heart? Well, that moment happened when she set eyes on Rhodney, and when she read that his best friend was Bumblebee, she *KNEW* that she had to adopt him because he was clearly meant to live next door to his best friend.

Both families already had resident dogs. Bumblebee's people have a gorgeous and well-trained Great Dane while Rhodney's people have a young female Shepherd/Husky mix and a young female German Shepherd. We made an appointment for dog introductions the next day and everyone — adopters and staff alike — went home filled with excitement.

Dog intros started with Bumblebee and her Dane and it went spectacularly well. They immediately loved each other and were happy to be together. Next up was Rhodney and his two Shepherd girls. The German Shepherd made it clear that she was in charge and both Rhodney and the Shepherd/Husky agreed, so the playing commenced and everyone had a great time.

It was official: Bumblebee and Rhodney were adopted by sisters who are also neighbors! They will be BFFs and playmates for life, plus they both went home with awesome dog-loving families who do everything they can to help their dogs live their best lives.

Truly an epic adoption story and the reason the NHSPCA is a favorite destination for transport animals. We love making stories like this possible and we are so grateful to our community for their unwavering support. We could not do it without you!



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CoreMEDICAL GROUPSM



Here for our community in times of need

Safe Pet Program is a direct response to domestic violence

By **Kate Young**

Community Programs Coordinator

There are many ways we can help the pets and people of our community. Often, individuals and families simply need a temporary helping hand so that pets can stay with their loving owners and avoid surrender.

Need help?

If you could benefit from this program, please click [here](#).

One of the programs that we can offer is our [Safe Pet Program](#), which can provide temporary care for dogs, cats, rabbits, birds, guinea pigs and other small animals on behalf of an owner on a short-term basis.

For more than 15 years, the New Hampshire SPCA has been addressing abusive domestic situations that involve pets by helping individuals and families access safety by providing temporary housing



For more than 15 years, the New Hampshire SPCA has been addressing abusive domestic situations by providing temporary housing for affected pets.

for their pets.

Sadly, we have witnessed firsthand the threat domestic violence poses to pets. To help eliminate that danger and to assure victims that their animals will be safe when they leave an abusive situation, we established the Safe Pet Program. In 2019, this program was expanded to include individuals and families facing housing transition due to other factors, such as loss of housing and short-term hospitalization.

When traditional pet boarding is not an affordable option for pet owners, we can utilize the resources we have as well as our network of foster homes to offer temporary refuge for pets while their owners get back on their feet.

Typically, temporary care is provided for two weeks. Often, we can provide vaccines and basic preventatives as well and include the pet in our Food Share Program so that when the pet is picked up, they can go home with a supply of food to help with the transition.

Occasionally, we can even offer spay/neuter surgery if the owner would like that taken care of. We can connect owners with support agencies in the area and will work alongside those organizations to help the owners with their housing search or rehabilitation needs.

For many years, the Safe Pet Program has provided victims of domestic violence, those facing imminent loss of housing and those who will be hospitalized for routine care, free housing for their pets so that they don't have to consider surrender and we can keep pets with the owners who love them.

PAWS WALK THANK YOU
For walking with us!



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ICL and its employee owners are proud sponsors of the NHSPCA Paws Walk.



Riley blossoms with her foster family

By Beth & JD Seale
Volunteers/Foster Family

We have had the wonderful experience of fostering [Riley](#) over the past couple of weeks.

Riley was brought to the New Hampshire SPCA through an emergency veterinary hospital, so the staff at the New Hampshire SPCA didn't have any knowledge of how she would do in a home environment.

Additionally, poor Riley has been homeless since October 2021. That's a long time to be in a shelter environment.

Want to make a difference?

Click [here](#) to apply to be a foster family to help animals like Riley!

When the staff asked us to foster Riley to see if she was more comfortable in a home than in the shelter, we were excited to see how she did.

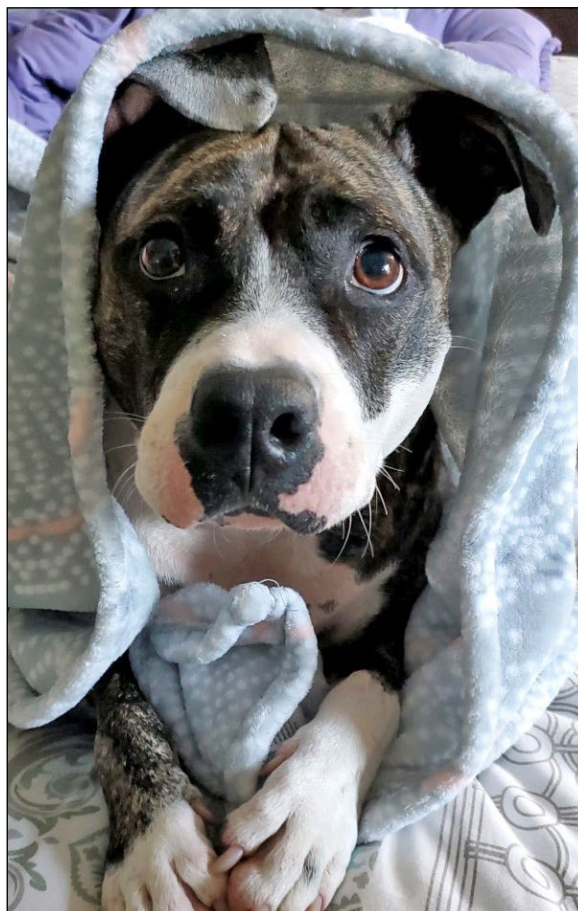
We can definitely say Riley is totally different in a home — in the best possible way. She is a medium-energy dog, is housebroken and loves to play. She is so much more relaxed at home and we have so enjoyed seeing her blossom and become a much more confident dog.

Despite Riley's difficult past, she absolutely loves people and proves it with her endless supply of affection. She is *always* down for some snuggle time and will happily roll over for a good belly rub.

Riley is a goofy girl who can brighten anyone's day with her silliness and playfulness. She is happiest when she is playing with her people, but she is also happy to entertain herself with her toys.

She can be a couch potato and will watch TV with you or gladly just hang out beside you if you work from home. Riley loves to burrow under a blanket at bedtime and is happy to either get up early to go for a walk or stay in bed and snuggle. One thing is for sure, though: she *always* wakes her people up with good morning kisses.

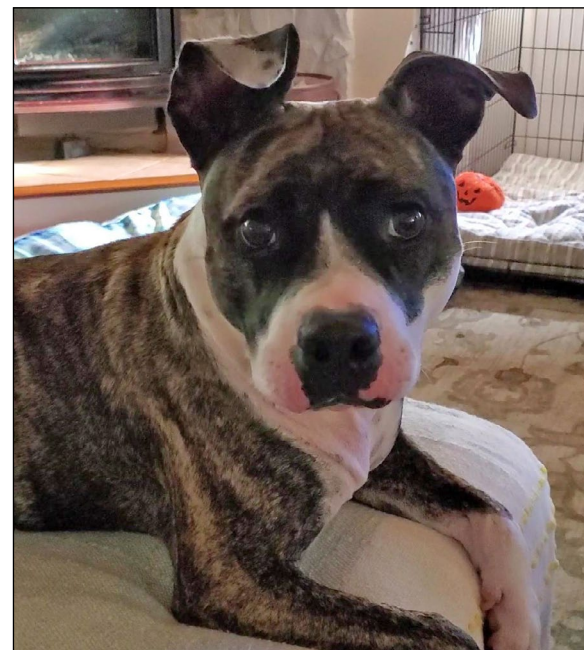
Riley loves squeaky balls, sunbathing, nap time,



rolling in the grass and playing hide and seek and fetch in the yard. She is a very special girl and bonds quickly to her people and showers them with love.

She is super smart, remembers everything, and follows commands really well. So far, she knows sit, stay, down, come, paw and we are working on her manners on walks around the neighborhood and during car rides.

Riley has soulful eyes that light up when you talk to her and expressive ears that bounce around when she is happy, playing, or just going for walk. She does the cutest little head tilts when



Riley, who has been waiting for a home for close to a year, recently moved in with her foster family! It came as no surprise to us that she has been a delight and has been showering them with love.

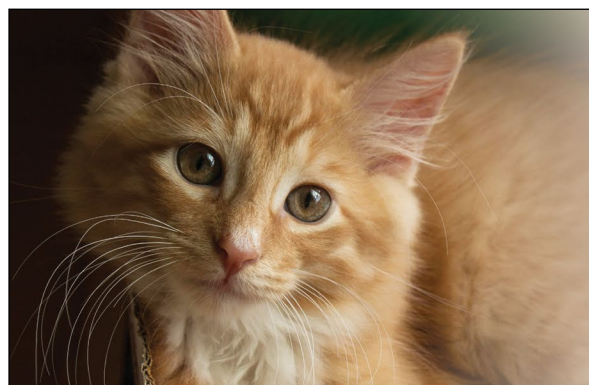
trying to figure something out.

While Riley does need to be the only pet in the house and is working on being less reactive to other dogs, any time invested in helping Riley work on what needs fine-tuning will be rewarded with a loyal companion and sweet dog with a loving heart and zest for life.

Many people have been a part of getting Riley ready for adoption. All that care and patience has helped her begin to overcome her past.

She has been a source of happiness in our home since the day we began fostering her. Anyone lucky enough to adopt her will have their days filled with fun, laughter, and love.

Does [Riley](#) sound like your kind of dog? Email info@nhspca.org to inquire about her today!



Commemorative Gifts

We are so grateful for every gift received in support of the animals. Commemorative Gifts are especially touching. Gifts to remember or honor a beloved family member, friend or pet or in celebration of a special life event, a birthday, wedding or promotion, are all very special to us. We are honored to be a part of your lives in this way.

All Commemorative Gifts are posted quarterly on our website and are honored there for a year or more.

Please visit our Commemorative page at nhspca.org/commemorative-gifts/ to view our new listing.

Thank you for all you do for the animals.



BOLT!

By Colleen O'Keefe, CVT
Veterinary Technician

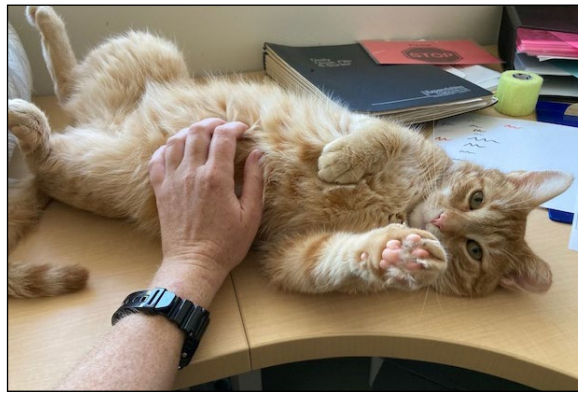
Bolt is an amateur lap cat. He wasn't born into it like some other, more privileged members of his species. He came from a big family of Community Cats. They lived together in a colony and didn't have much use for humans.

Bolt had big dreams though: he wanted the life of a spoiled pet. He just had to figure out how.

He took every opportunity offered to him, even hopping into the big scary traps the humans left out in the hopes that they'd carry him into a home. The first time he tried it, the humans took off the tip of his ear! (They also took a couple other things, but Bolt feels it's impolite to discuss that.)

Unfortunately, due to some miscommunication about the services Bolt was expecting, he was returned to his colony to be with his family. This was a setback, for sure, but Bolt wouldn't give up on his dream. His family told him he was wrong to trust the humans, but he wouldn't be dissuaded. He waited patiently for the humans with the traps to return and he tried it again. This time he would be clear about his intentions, even if he was scared.

The humans could see that he was already "neutered". (Bolt doesn't know what that word means, but he thinks it has something to do with where the tip of his ear went.) The humans wondered



Our animal care staff had fun getting to know Bolt, street-cat-turned-lap-cat, during his stay with us!

why a cat would fall for the same trap twice. Maybe he did it on purpose. The humans carefully and slowly reached toward Bolt, and Bolt thought "it's now or never." He leaned into their hand, and he started to purr. This time, the humans understood what he was telling them. This cat wanted a home. His next stop would be the NHSPCA.

Once Bolt got to the shelter, he started thinking maybe he had made a mistake. It was very scary. It was loud, and it smelled different, and he was in a cage that he couldn't get out of. He tried to be brave and show the humans that he belonged in a home, but sometimes it was all too much for him and he couldn't help but... BOLT!

The humans could tell he needed a change of scenery. He was moved into a quiet office in the new Veterinary Center. There, he had all the time he needed to start to feel comfortable, and most importantly, he had the space he needed to run



if he got scared and hide until he felt safe. He started coming out of his hiding spot a little at a time. First, he started to feel safe with the human he shared the office with. Then he started meeting other humans, and they seemed safe, too. Especially when they brought him food!

He started to learn all kinds of things. For one thing, he learned that his mouth wasn't supposed to hurt a lot! He had no idea, his just always had. The humans took almost all of his teeth out and he's been feeling so much better. He's learned that sometimes humans sneeze! It's so scary! But if he runs away and hides for a little bit they stop, and then it's safe to jump back into their lap. He's learned that sitting in a human's lap is probably the best thing ever, and he was right to take the risk and make his dreams come true.

One thing that Bolt hasn't learned yet is that he's getting adopted today. Good luck Bolt!



Sesame (left) and Guinness (right) loved to play in the pen during their stay with us earlier this year. We love matching up dog-friendly dogs who have similar play styles so they can enjoy the benefits of socialization while waiting for their forever homes.

Socialization, a pawsitive impact

By Ashley Conte
Adoption Counselor

When we send our dogs to dog daycare or sign them up for puppy play groups, we all have the same goal: socialization.

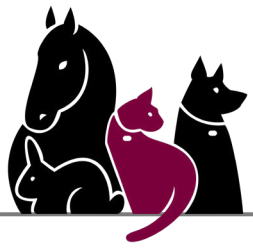
We all want our dogs to learn and be the best versions of themselves. Why should it be any different for shelter dogs? Oftentimes, there is a stereotype of shelter dogs as being overly fearful or under socialized simply because we don't know their backgrounds. For those that are surrendered by their owner, we usually have more information. And, if they have been with other dogs, we work hard to keep them in practice.

Shelter life can be frustrating for dogs, but it doesn't have to be. Socializing dogs with other like-minded dogs helps them adjust to their time in the shelter and keeps them happier. They need interaction and it helps them feel acclimated and comfortable in their environment. It brings down

their fear, and anxiety in the best way.

Socializing dog-friendly dogs with others is a great way to give them what they need. Playtime with their own species can be very beneficial as it allows them to expend energy and even learn a thing or two from each other. Some dogs simply need a friend or like being in the company of another dog. It makes them feel safe in a way that only dogs can do for each other. For example, placing a shy dog with a more outgoing dog can help that shy dog come out of their shell.

One of my favorite things about working at the NHSPCA is watching dogs have a fun play session or a nice walk together. These interactions can totally change their mood. We see a difference when those paws romp around in the grass, with tongues hanging out, as they tumble around. It allows our dogs to tell us what they need to keep them happy and healthy mentally. It enables us to let our dogs be dogs and it's one of the greatest things we can do for them.



CELEBRATING

Memorable cases, famous and infamous people and animals...

By Sheila E. Ryan

Director of Development & Marketing

The NHSPCA has been here a long time. We're in our 150th year in case you hadn't heard! Over those years, the one thing we always did was protect animals from overuse, abuse and neglect. This is what we were founded on, way back in 1872 in Portsmouth. Mrs. Sarah J. Pickering wanted to stop the cruelty against horses who were working animals on the streets of her city. She and the other founders were truly visionaries, and we are grateful to continue their legacy.

Also, over those years, there have been some cases that are quite memorable. Some were memorably heinous, others were peculiar, and others involved people who were famous or infamous in their own right. Here are just a few of them...

In 1977, just a year after we moved to our current property, one of the most famous stories came out of the NHSPCA. The story of a Shetland pony found in a renovated garage in Plaistow. King the

Pony was found buried to his neck in his own waste. It was estimated that King had been closed in the 'barn' for approximately four years.



A children's book was written about King, the "Leprechaun Pony!"

Remarkably, aside from malnutrition, lameness and horrifying appearance, King was well enough to recover. He also had serious laminitis, so much so that his hooves had grown 16 inches upward and curled over like elf-shoes. He became known as the "Leprechaun Pony" because of his hooves — and probably because he was lucky enough to have survived the terrible ordeal.

The story goes that over 200 people, including many members of the press, were present when the farrier removed 20 pounds of hoof from his feet and he took off running like he'd been freed from jail!

King went on to enjoy a life with several families and eventually came back to the NHSPCA when he was 24 years old to live out his final years with the people who'd saved him from his torment. King rests peacefully at the NHSPCA's Rolling Meadows

Pet Cemetery here in Stratham.

2002 brought another horrific and heartbreaking case that received a great deal of interest nationally. It was the largest case of fighting dogs ever discovered in New England, still to this day.

Chris DeVito of Newton, NH was in possession of 41 fighting dogs at a time when owning fighting dogs was already a felony in all fifty states. Mr. DeVito was charged with 37 counts of animal cruelty and was accused of breeding and training the dogs to fight.

When police raided DeVito's property, they found dogs with wounds consistent with fighting. They also found a blood-stained fighting pit, dog treadmills and steroids. The authorities also found \$300,000 in cash, which was seized under drug forfeiture laws.

Executive Director Lisa Dennison remembers this being one of the most stressful experiences of her tenure, saying, "There were police in camouflage with guns and we had no idea how this was going to go."

Once the dogs were seized in January of that year, the staff cared for them as best they could for the

The New Hampshire SPCA THROUGH THE YEARS



1872

Sarah J. Pickering founded the Portsmouth Society to Prevent Cruelty to Animals.



1876

New Hampshire Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children is incorporated. The original officers of both agencies were the same and the agencies were run in tandem.



1957

Quote from Annual Agent's report, "No healthy puppy is ever put to sleep."

1974

The NHSPCA opens its first shelter in a rented garage at the intersection of route 101 and route 108 in Stratham.



1980

Modular home built on current property, which later became offices for the agency.



1874

Portsmouth Society to Prevent Cruelty to Animals is first incorporated



1905

First Bequest received honoring Founder Sarah J. Pickering.



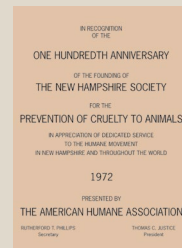
The gift was received from her husband and former NHSPCA President, John Pickering.

Today, there are 220 members of the Sarah J. Pickering Circle of Friends who have each made planned gifts to the NHSPCA.



1875

Corporate name changed to New Hampshire Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.



1972

New Hampshire SPCA celebrates its 100th year of caring for animals!



1976

First shelter opens on current property. Takes in 6,500 animals in first year.

150 YEARS!

Want to learn more?

Click [here](#) to read previous columns in our historical series!

9

next six months. Ultimately, Mr. DeVito went to prison for his multitude of crimes and sadly, the dogs were not adoptable. This case was incredibly difficult for our staff of animal lovers and one that we would prefer to forget.

On a much happier note, a brush with political greatness. In June of 2005, just five months after taking her seat as State Senator for the 23rd District of NH, Senator Maggie Hassan and her family adopted a beautiful three-year-old pup named Honey Mae from the NHSPCA. When they met Honey Mae, it was love at first sight. Though she was not without her training challenges, Honey Mae became the best friend of the Hassan children, especially their oldest son Ben, whose wheelchair may have frightened another dog.

Another great adoption story was that of three-time Olympian, Lynn Jennings, who was living in Newmarket at the time. Lynn adopted a beautiful black dog named Nakita. In her gratitude for Nakita, Lynn organized a road race to benefit the animals and bring runners together in support.

2006 brought two very different and memorable cases. The first was the case of Sheila LaBarre.

Ms. LaBarre is now serving two life sentences

without the possibility of parole. She was accused and convicted of murdering two young men on her property in Epping, NH. At the time of her arrest, there was a menagerie of animals on her farm, three mares, two Shetland ponies, one Dalmatian dog and eight domestic rabbits. The Epping Police Department requested that the NHSPCA gather and remove the animals so they could conduct the investigation that eventually led to the conviction of Sheila LaBarre.

Also in 2006, Sam “The Golden Ghost” was finally caught and returned to his owners. Sam was a young Golden Retriever that was adopted in 2004. After only three weeks in his new home, Sam escaped and went on the lam for over two years. All the technology that existed at the time was used to track and watch Sam as he evaded capture time after time. After two years and 200 capture attempts, Sam was finally caught thanks to his weakness for a

boiled ham dinner. As he gobbled, the net came down, barely capturing him as he tried to make another escape.

His owners, the Sklarskis, were overwhelmed

and grateful for Sam’s return. He had survived two winters, several hunting seasons, and even having been hit by a car. He needed some medical intervention, but all told, he was in good shape and lived a very happy life in his forever home.

Through the years, there have been more stories than we have room to recount. There was the 19 Italian Greyhounds found in a brutally hot attic, the rescue of 125 animals from Berlin including seven goats that arrived in a volunteer’s hatchback, or one of the worst cruelty cases we’ve

seen of horses, dogs and other animals from Middleton, NH. There were the lovebirds that were supposed to be a ‘dozen or so’ and turned out to be 60, a very familiar scenario with cats as well. Then, there was the German Shepherd case which began in 2017. The case dragged on for over two years with 36 shepherds in limbo. Finally, the courts decided and most of the dogs found wonderful homes.

Not every story has a ‘storybook’ ending, but fortunately we see many more happily ever afters.

Thank you for making our happy endings possible.



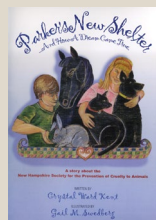
One of the dogs from a horrific cruelty case in Middleton, NH.



One of 19 Italian Greyhounds found in a brutally hot attic

1999

NHSPCA launches capital campaign: Parker’s Dream.



2001

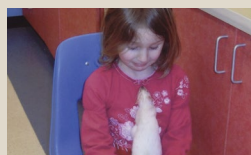
Adoption Center opens July 5.

2002

NHSPCA takes in 2,509 animals.

2007

NHSPCA takes in nearly 4,000 animals.



2015

Humane Education serves more than 10,000 kids.

2020

NHSPCA holds ceremonial groundbreaking celebration to mark the start of construction.



2022

NHSPCA celebrates its 150th year of caring for animals!

1984

First barn built on property, four stalls to house horses and other large animals.



2004

Learning Center opens in May.



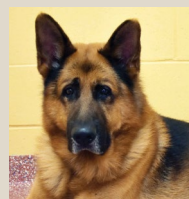
2003

Morris D. Lamprey Barn opens.



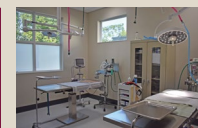
2018

NHSPCA launches capital campaign: Campaign for Changing Times



2017

NHSPCA rescues 36 German Shepherds from Bristol and Alexandria, NH.



2021

Our team starts utilizing our new spaces, such as the Veterinary Center, Hope’s Barn, and the Equine Center for Transformative Care.



Notes From The Barn

Finding Fuego's forever

Horse broken at the hands of humans is ready to trust again

By Michelle Murch

Equine & Farm Program Manager

Fuego, his name means fire. Fuego *is* Fire. Fire is often the symbol of inspiration. Fuego is certainly an inspiring animal.

Stocky, funny, and very lovable, this 23-year-old Morab (Morgan and Arabian cross) pony has

Fun with Fuego!

Click [here](#) to watch a really sweet and fun video of Fuego and Michelle playing a game of follow the leader!

shown such bravery in overcoming devastating abuse in the early years of his life.

Fuego spent the first years of his life being abused by his caretakers. He knew nothing other than cruelty. He was rescued and arrived at our

partner shelter, Maine State Society for the Protection of Animals (MSSPA) over fifteen, yes, *fifteen*, years ago. Fuego was a stallion and extremely untrusting of humans. He had to be handled by two people, one on each side, at a time just to lead him. He was considered aggressive and dangerous.

Horses by nature are willing and seek out approval and acceptance by the herd leader (which can be human), until the leader fails them. Fuego was a horse that was broken at the hands of humans and could not be trusted.

For more than 15 years, Fuego has been cared for and slowly rehabilitated by the dedicated caregivers at MSSPA. They never once wavered on his recovery.

In more recent years, he stole the heart of a staff member or two but one in particular, Kadie, was his guardian angel. Kadie was committed to showing Fuego nothing but love. She gave him all the time he needed and transformed him into a horse with little resemblance to that broken pony who arrived at the shelter in Maine so many years ago.

Fuego trusted humans again because of the dedication shown by Kadie and all the staff at MSSPA. He finally realized he was safe for good.

After spending so long at MSSPA his team of caregivers had the idea that a change of scenery would be a great way to see just how ready Fuego was for adoption! The NHSPCA was honored to once again partner with MSSPA on this special journey to adoption.

Fuego came to us at the NHSPCA in early July. We started working with him immediately. We established a give and take relationship and always looked at situations with awareness and understanding from his point of view.

Fuego received lots of praise for his efforts and his puppy dog personality. He loves a good game of follow the leader (following his human) over poles and tarps... trotting, halting, backing and even turning in circles.

Fuego is good for riding, even out on the trail. This brave boy has never once given us even a glimpse of his former self. He is honest and trust-



We're wild about Fuego at the NHSPCA! This very lovable 23-year-old Morgan and Arabian cross has had a rough start to his life. We're hoping to find him the wonderful family he so deserves.

worthy.

Fuego wants to be with his humans. He knows we will keep him safe, and he is content.

Fuego is ready. Ready to go home. We know Fuego's forever family is out there waiting just for him!

While this newsletter was in production, Fuego was adopted by a very loving family!

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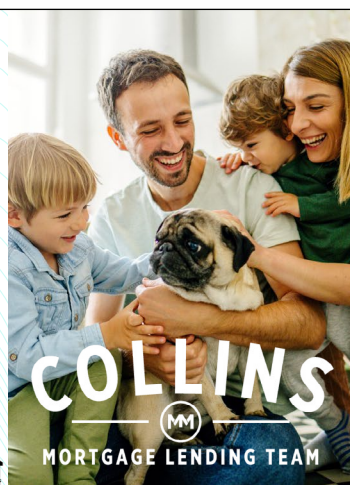
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Taking a moment to thank our volunteers!

By Juli Tyson
Volunteer Coordinator

Our volunteers are absolute rockstars and we are infinitely grateful for each one of them! Thanks to their hard work all morning animal care is completed before the public arrives either by appointment or during open hours. They keep up with laundry, helped execute an extraordinary Paws Walk event, and always continue to provide exceptional care for our animals.

Interested in volunteering?

Click [here](#) to learn more!

They get right to work when they arrive, and our staff sees and appreciates *every-single-thing* they do.

Imagine volunteering to walk dogs or mucking horse paddocks in 100° heat or helping clean and feed the many cats we cared for in June, or how about hours and hours of laundry?

There are days when the staff wonders how they will get everything done, and then our volunteers show up and take on the day, making animal care a breeze.

Truly, these are special people, and we can't thank them enough for their help!

Among those volunteers showing up every day are our brand-new volunteers!

In fact, over 100 new volunteers have joined the volunteer program since May! Many of these folks have already become regulars, taking weekly shifts, or even coming in multiple times per week. Whatever amount of time our volunteers give, we are always grateful.

And, there is always room for more animal lovers to join in!

So, thank you, thank you to all our volunteers who show up each, and every, day.



Volunteers from UNH Upward Bound spread woodchips in Bella's Woods to provide dogs like Max, pictured enjoying some love from the volunteers, a quiet and safe place to walk.



Volunteer groups help out in a very big way

If you have visited us since the end of May, you may have noticed new gardens added this year. In the springtime, we had several company groups come to volunteer and they got a lot of amazing, (and dirty) work done! After our Serve with Liberty group came, we had groups of Timberland employees come over three days, bringing 20 people each day. They were able to build our beautiful new Children's Garden, including installing the fence, planting, and mulching, as well as installing a lovely garden around our generator to spruce it up. Timberland also got our back horse paddocks painted, put catnip planters on our patio, and helped with landscaping at our Rolling Meadows Pet Cemetery. We are so thankful for the hard work that the Timberland crew put in. We could not accomplish projects like this without the help of groups like them.

We also had a crew of American Eagle store managers come for a service event. They were able to utilize our new Community Meeting Room for some team training in the morning, then

donated a splendid pile of goodies to the shelter straight from our donation list, plus a huge pile of American Eagle fleece blankets, and \$5,000 to be put directly to use saving animals' lives! In the afternoon, the American Eagle team helped us spread our enormous woodchip pile onto the new trails in Bella's Woods (a project that was then finished up by UNH Upward Bound). The American Eagle team then installed fun enrichment items in Dog Town, such as a climbing table and tires for tunneling, and also completed the front lily bed. On top of everything they did on their day of service, two of their team members came back right when we opened on the following Tuesday and adopted two kittens and a puppy!

Thank you to our amazing groups of volunteers who have come so far this year, we look forward to working with more groups soon and can't wait to see what they accomplish!

If your company would be interested in completing a day of volunteering, please contact me at jtyson@nhspca.org.



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Thank you for a fun-filled summer!

NHSPCA welcomes largest group of summer campers ever!

By Erin Burger

Manager of Humane Education Programs

Arriving at the beautifully expanded NHSPCA campus each summer morning is an absolute delight. There aren't many better ways to start your day than looking out over the now-flourishing rain gardens, hearing the horses neighing and the birds chirping, and seeing happy dogs stretching their legs on their first walks of the day. The property is regularly bustling with staff members and volunteers, busy providing love and attention to the various animals in our care.

Get involved!

Have or know a child who loves animals? We'd love to meet them! Simply click [here](#) to learn more about opportunities for kids at the NHSPCA.

regularly bustling with staff members and volunteers, busy providing love and attention to the various animals in our care.

In the Humane Education department, these glorious summer days serve as the backdrop for

our largest summer camp yet. With construction fully completed around our campus, we have been able to welcome 24 campers each week this year, offering two classrooms running simultaneously each day. We've finished eight out of nine weeks of camp so far and have been thrilled to share our campus with dozens of animal-loving children. As always, the goal of summer camp at the NHSPCA is to foster empathy, kindness, and compassion for all living creatures. Our team strives to encourage campers to develop even more respect for animals by teaching them about proper care and responsible pet ownership, safe animal interactions, and ways to advocate for the well-being of all animals. In addition to spending time with our ambassador animals, staff pets, and adoptable animals, we work to achieve this mission by inviting presenters to speak to the campers and getting the campers involved in the many tasks that NHSPCA staff members are responsible for each day.

Each week, campers help care for our classroom ambassador animals, learning about proper enclosures, checking animal wellness, and providing food, water, and enrichment opportunities. They enjoy a tour of the adoption center, meeting our adoptable dogs, cats, and small animals. They take a walk around the campus, starting at the Ambassador Paddock at the front



This summer was one for the books! We had such a great time welcoming children to our campus and seeing them learn about and interact with animals of all sizes. Thanks to our recent expansion project and the ability to split the group between two classrooms, we were able to welcome 24 summer campers each week — the most we have ever been able to host at a time!



Maura and her rabbit, Elliot, who was a camper favorite this summer!

Once a camper, now a classroom educator!

One of the things the NHSPCA team takes the most pride in is the long-lasting relationships developed with participants in our programs. Our youngest attendees often stay involved for many years, becoming some of our most passionate adult supporters and advocates. This year, the Humane Education team was lucky enough to welcome Maura Linnehan as our second classroom educator. Maura was a regular attendee of our summer camp for 8 years while she was growing up, before becoming a Junior Camp Counselor, a Junior Volunteer, and then a volunteer dog walker. Maura has a wealth of animal care knowledge and has a variety of pets of her own, some of which have been regular visitors to summer camp and have quickly become camper favorites!

of our property, stopping at the newly updated Children's Garden, traveling along the Ring Trail through the rain gardens and past Dog Town, and ending up at Hope's Barn and the new riding arena. Campers have demonstrations of things like grooming, clicker training, the needs of farm animals, the intake process when animals first arrive, how the foster program works, how transfers from other shelters are coordinated, how fundraising helps support the NHSPCA and the animals in our care, and how the NHSPCA adoption counselors work to find the right home for each animal. Our older campers also had special

visits this summer, during which they learned about cruelty investigations and animal rescues, what the role of an Animal Control Officer is and how they work with the NHSPCA, and how our development team plans and coordinates large-scale fundraising events, like Paws Walk and the Auction for the Animals. Campers even worked to brainstorm their own fundraising events, sharing some very creative and fun ideas!

With just one week left to go at the time of this article, our team is excited to finish out the summer strong and continue providing memorable and meaningful experiences for all our campers!

Taking the opportunity to invest in our team

By Sheila E. Ryan

Director of Development & Marketing

The New Hampshire SPCA is many things to our amazing community. We are where your current, past or future pets have come from, we are a resource should you need to re-home or train your pet. We are where your child went to summer camp or had their 6th birthday party. We are the folks to call if you suspect an animal in your neighborhood is being mistreated or if you need help with feeding your horse or furry family member. And, honestly, so much more.

But did you ever think of us as an employer?

According to the NH Center for Nonprofits, NH is home to 6,547 charitable 501(c)(3) organizations (as of 2019). And 2,590 of them employ over 83,000 people in our state. The New Hamp-

shire SPCA employs 45 people in full and part time capacities. We are proud members of the Nonprofit sector and want our employees to feel the pride of being the best that we can be and that they are doing good in the world.

As a result, whenever possible, we try to offer new or enhanced training for our staff to keep us all on the cutting edge of the work that we do and the world that we live in. In recent months, we've renewed our First Aid and CPR training which also included training on our new AED. We also conducted an Active Threat Training offered by the Stratham PD and the Department of Homeland Security. Both of these focused our staff on proactive safety in every situation, whether in the work environment or out in the world.

Our entire Adoption Center staff has been

certified in Fear Free Sheltering, a huge accomplishment that directly impacts the lives of the animals in our care. The goal of the Fear Free Shelter Program is to improve the experiences of animals by educating employees and volunteers about their emotional needs. The program uses key strategies and techniques designed to reduce the negative emotional states that are commonly experienced by shelter animals — including fear, anxiety, stress (FAS), and frustration — and increase their enrichment opportunities.

In the coming months, some staff will train on CPR/First Aid for horses, and separately a similar program for other companion animals, as well as continuing the journey of expanding Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging.

Our staff is the best. Come visit the animals and meet them in person!



After waiting a long 129 days, Ellie finally went home to the most perfect hound-loving family. It was definitely worth the wait. For a limited time, [your donation](#) can be doubled to help twice as many animals like Ellie. Our former Board President and current Trustee, Jo Lamprey, has once again offered to match, dollar-for-dollar, any gift you send by September 30th, 2022, up to \$20,000! Thank you for helping the NHSPCA continue to be a safe haven for animals like Ellie.

ELLIE THE HOUND...

Continued from Page 1

we receive valuable information on their behavior and personality and ultimately, it helps us find the very best fit and a family that will stick.

Ellie, a beautiful hound, was originally brought to us because her owner passed away. Poor Ellie was adopted and returned a few times because she was a lot to handle when it came to managing her behavior around food. Like most hounds, Ellie exhibited the classic trait of being laser focused. In her case, her focus in life was food! In one home, she even managed to open a freezer and eat an

entire frozen lasagna!

Thanks to your support, we never gave up on sweet Ellie! We knew the perfect family was out there. Each time she came back, we doubled our efforts to find her a home that would understand her quirks.

Finally, Ellie was placed in the home of her dreams. Her new family has lots of experience with her breed and she now shares her life with three other wonderful hound dogs!

Every year, we care for hundreds of animals just like Ellie. All our animals require different care. While some simply need vaccinations or basics like food and shelter, others need serious medical

care and extended therapy or training.

This care really adds up, which is why we need your help. **For a limited time, your donation can be doubled to help twice as many animals.**

Our former Board President and current Trustee, Jo Lamprey, has once again offered to match dollar-for-dollar any gift you send by September 30th, 2022, up to \$20,000! Please send your gift today or donate online by clicking [here](#).

Because of your support, the NHSPCA remains a safe haven for animals. And more than just offering a place to stay, animals like Ellie can find healing, love and as many chances as it takes to find a forever home. Thank you!

Welcome to our new Behavior & Training Manager!

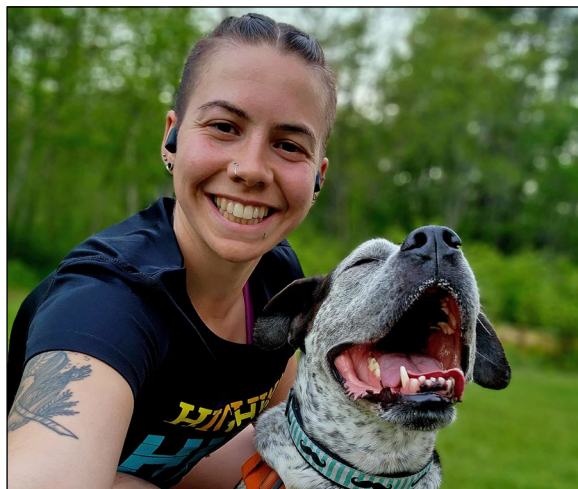
By **Brianne Wood**

Director of Programs and Administration

We would like to introduce Casey Morrison, our new Behavior and Training Manager, who joined us at the very end of June 2022.

Casey has a strong background in working with shelter animals and has learned a great deal about animal behavior and training over the years. She recently decided she was ready to transition into being a fulltime trainer.

Casey grew up working on farms, pet sitting for family and friends, and always had a house full of animals. During her time in college, Casey had the opportunity to work for an animal shelter and everything changed. It had never occurred to her that she could make a career out of working with animals. She fell in love with helping the animals that needed it the most — the ones that were surrendered due to being too high energy for their family or the ones that came from the south and just needed extra time, patience, and a lot of high value treats to warm up. She learned a lot about animal behavior and training. Working in a shelter and caring for animals has given her a



We're excited to welcome Casey Morrison to our team. Judging by the smile she brings to her dog Cash's face, we think your pups will love her!

sense of purpose.

Casey is ready for the next stage in her career and is excited and inspired to help families build those special bonds with their animals that will last a lifetime. She wants families to be proud of the skills and work that they have put into train-

ing their dog. There is no greater joy than watching your dog successfully complete a trick that you have been putting time in to teaching them.

Take a class!

Please click [here](#) to view our behavior & training offerings!

Casey has some great plans and ideas for the Behavior and Training Program. She wants this program to be a resource of knowledge for the community. She

wants to provide support and help to those with their first puppy, adult dogs that need manners, or troubled dogs with behavior quirks. She wants to help families learn how to help their dog(s), which will create a better bond and a healthier and happier environment. Her biggest hope is to help families that are on the verge of surrendering their dog due to behavioral issues, and give them the tools, support, and training assistance to help turn things around.

If you haven't taken a class before, wish to try something new with your beloved pet, or need some extra support, please check out the [behavior and training offerings](#) on our website. New classes are regularly added, so check back often.

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Planned Gifts Received

The New Hampshire SPCA greatly appreciates the concern shown by donors who give of their financial resources to assist the Society with its mission. Through their planned gifts, the following individuals made generous contributions toward the ongoing programs and services of the NHSPCA.

January 1, 2022 - August 1, 2022

From the Estates of:

Gail Oberlan Bates
Exeter, NH

Betty Roberta Cathey
Summertown, TN

Lorayne V. Dodge
York, ME

Joy L. Kimball
Dover, NH

Dianne Koerner
Stratham, NH

Nancy M. Mathey
Exeter, NH

Margaret M. O'Connell
Manchester, NH

Maurine Stard
Hampton Falls, NH

THE END OF AN ERA



Three amazing women (from left: Executive Director Lisa Dennison, former Board President and current Trustee Jo Lamprey, and former Trustee Mae Bradshaw, Esq.) come together to honor Mae at her final Trustees meeting after decades of service. The animals have been so lucky to have had Mae working on their behalf for so many years and we cannot thank her enough for her support and dedication!

A gift of stock can yield significant benefits for you and the animals

A gift of stock can yield significant benefits for you and the animals.

When you give appreciated stocks you may receive an immediate tax deduction and savings on capital gains taxes. Your gift of stock or mutual funds can also be used to fund a charitable gift annuity which can provide income for your lifetime after retirement.

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For information about gifts of stock, you can speak with your financial advisor or call Lisa Dennison, Executive Director, New Hampshire SPCA (603) 772-2921 ext. 107 or by email ldennison@nhspca.org

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The Auction through the ages!

Come celebrate with us as the tradition continues on Saturday, November 19th!

By Julie Halama

Special Events & Sponsorship Manager

The *Auction for the Animals* is widely known today as the New Hampshire SPCA's signature fundraising gala, bringing to mind beautifully staged ballrooms, champagne toasts, and sweet pups mingling amongst the bedazzled guests. It's hard to imagine a time without this spectacular event, but so was the case 28 years ago. As we celebrate our 150th anniversary, we've found ourselves reflecting on the auction and its rich history.

The NHSPCA held the very first event of this kind — then called the *Gimme Shelter Auction and Dinner* — back in 1995 at the Sheraton Portsmouth. It was an informal affair, with ticket sales beginning just a few weeks in advance. While the early years of the auction may have looked quite different, the goal was always the same: to help



As we prepare for the upcoming *Auction for the Animals*, we've been taking some time to reflect on all we have to celebrate from our 150 years as an organization.

every animal in our care find a safe and loving home.

As the auction grew in popularity and scale, we found ourselves searching for a new venue, and in 2006, began our tenure at the event's current home: the Wentworth by the Sea Hotel. We've seen some incredible live and silent auction items over time, including an African Safari, a luxury sports car rental, romantic vacations to Tuscany and Paris, and VIP tickets to every single Boston sports team.

Year after year, the most anticipated part of the evening has been the Special Fund presentation — a call to donate for one of the NHSPCA's most urgently needed programs. Who can

forget the record-breaking Special Fund of 2018, with the gut-wrenching story of 36 German Shepherds rescued in a now infamous cruelty case?

The generosity and support of our donors has made the *Auction for the Animals* possible for 28 years and counting. After successfully navigating not one but TWO virtual auctions, we are excited to be fully back in-person for this year's gala.

Join us on Saturday, November 19th, 2022, at the Wentworth by the Sea as we celebrate hope and companionship — and our 150th year — together once again. Your support has made the *Auction for the Animals* our most successful fundraiser, and we are so grateful!

Celebrate with Us!

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19TH, 2022
AT WENTWORTH BY THE SEA HOTEL

Celebrate with us! Be there, in person, for an unforgettable and inspiring evening of generosity to help every animal find a home. Raise your paddle to bid on stunning and unforgettable items from our Live and Silent auctions, and so much more.

MORE WAYS TO HELP THE ANIMALS

Shop our Online Auction from November 1st through December 2nd or enter our exclusive Best of Live Raffle beginning October 25th for your chance to win one of our most coveted items. Attendance not required.

To purchase tickets for or learn more about the *Auction for the Animals*, please visit nhspca.org today!



AUCTION
FOR THE
Animals