



SUMMER NEWS 2022

Published by the New Hampshire Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
PO Box 196, Stratham, NH 03885 • 603-772-2921 • www.nhspca.org



Misty, a 5-month-old mixed breed pup, hangs on tight to an Adoption Counselor upon arrival at the NHSPCA on February 22. She was one of six pups on the dog first transport of the year and traveled all the way from Mississippi in search of a family.

Animals from down South find second chances in New Hampshire

Transport Program helps states overwhelmed by unwanted pets

By Amanda Wellman
Transport Coordinator

Why are there so many Southern dogs in New Hampshire shelters? If you've looked at any local [adoptable dog](#) websites, you've probably wondered about this yourself. The answer is both very simple and extremely complex: it is because of Transport Programs just like the one the New Hampshire SPCA helped pioneer in 2005.

Our friends and neighbors in the state of New Hampshire have done an exemplary job of controlling the unwanted pet population. We have a large population of animal lovers who go above and beyond for their pets — we routinely spay/neuter our cats and dogs, and when for some



Lavender, a 7-month-old kitten, soaked up all the love during her time at the NHSPCA after traveling from Georgia to New Hampshire with 11 other cats!

reason we are unable to keep a furry family member, we can almost always find a friend or family member who wants to adopt our pet. Our shelters

See **TRANSPORTS**, Page 7

Five horses rescued from squalor

By Steven Sprowl

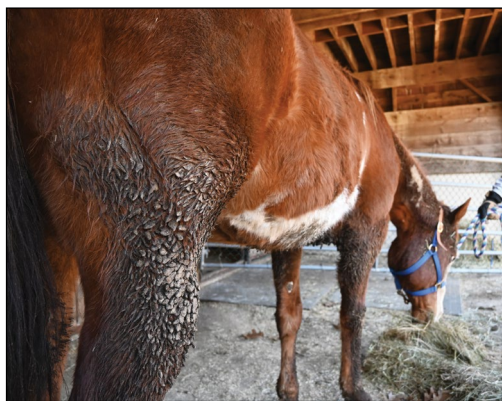
Humane Agent, Field Services Manager

It's that time of year for the start of summer and it's time for a reminder about horses.

Every year we receive calls about horses outside without shelter in the summer. New Hampshire laws only require shelter for horses in the winter months.

If you see horses standing out in the pouring rain, it is not illegal. Most horse owners have a run-in shed in their paddocks for the horses if they want to get in out of the rain, but that's up to the horse to decide. It provides shelter from the direct sunlight as well, but is not required by law.

Horses are required to have a minimum of a roofed, three-sided shelter for horses from November 1 through April 15. Horses



There was no dry area for the horses to lay. When they did lay, it was in their own waste and urine.

es may not be tied into the run-in shed and can use the shelter if they desire to. Horses kept in barns are required to

See **HORSES**, Page 10



PAWS WALK

DON'T MISS OUT ON PAWS WALK!

What you need to know for June 5

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Editor: Sheila Ryan | **Graphic Designer:** Melissa Mower

Dear Friends and Supporters,

So much has been happening over the past few months. We are officially open to the public again! We have been open by appointment only (due to the pandemic and construction) throughout the past two years. This week marked the first time since March 2020 that we have been able to welcome the visiting public into our lobby and animal housing spaces.

What a joy the day was, staff in their uniforms, the building spiffy! Community members were eagerly awaiting the doors opening at 11 a.m. and when they did, adoptions commenced. Five animals went home that day: puppies, kittens and cats and their joyful follow-up photos began to flood our inboxes.

Of course, animals had been adopted throughout the past 24 months but the energy in the building was different. The excitement was now palpable. Staff members who joined the agency in the last couple of years had never experienced the community walking in at their leisure. It was a sense of completeness, a return to "normal".

Currently, we are open Tuesday through Thursday, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. and remain by appointment only on Friday through Monday. We will continue to expand our open hours in the coming months.

We've also recently restarted [community services](#) such as vaccine clinics, low-cost spay/neuter and the Alzheimer's Café that had been temporarily halted. New and exciting opportunities have also begun, such as our Farm Camp for children that took place last week. Transports are back and it's wonderful to know that we are not only helping each animal that comes to us, find their forever home but we are also helping the sending agency that has more animals than they can place. Partnerships with other agencies continue to expand as well, most recently resulting in the transfer of horses here in hopes of providing them a better chance of placement.



The return of service days has begun with springs arrival! Serve with Liberty, Timberland and American Eagle are spending multiple days with us, spring cleaning, weeding, mulching, and building our new Children's Learning Gardens.

What helps us return to pre-pandemic/pre-construction levels is the welcoming back of our sincerely missed volunteers. It has been wonderful to see so many familiar faces assisting us with animal care, programs support, the care of our buildings and grounds and so much more. We couldn't do it without them~!

A lot is happening across the campus, and it feels great to be back fully living our mission each day.

We couldn't do it without you! Thank you for your continued support — you make it possible ~

On behalf of the animals and people we serve, thank you.

Lisa Dennison
Executive Director

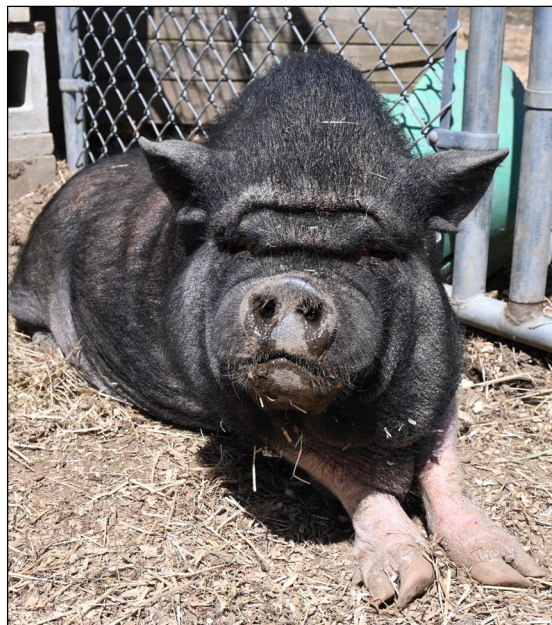
New Hampshire Society For the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

104 Portsmouth Avenue, PO Box 196 • Stratham, NH 03885

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Notes From The Barn

PIG-TURE PERFECT!



Abby has plenty of fans here at the NHSPCA! This lovely pig was transferred to us from the MSPCA, where she began her weight loss journey. Unfortunately for Abby, her poor diet of dog food and human food in her last home really caught up with her. Since welcoming Abby, we've kept her on a strict, more appropriate diet and house her in a large pen to encourage exercise. She'll make someone very happy, but we're enjoying caring for her in the meantime!

Interested in adopting a farm animal?

Click [here](#) to view available horses and other farm animals!

NHSPCA teams up with the MSSPA!

By Michelle Murch

Equine & Farm Program Manager

The New Hampshire SPCA and the Maine State Society for the Protection of Animals, MSSPA, are now partners in Equine rescue and each is celebrating 150 years! The missions and visions of both organization are almost identical, and our goals are the same. We are all here for the horses.

Horse rescue is a breed all its own. There are rescues for horses but simply not enough to meet the needs of so many equines. At times, certain shelters are overwhelmed with inquiries to surrender horses or hold equines as evidence in a criminal cruelty case and others are in a lull. Some horses move with ease through the rescue, rehabilitate and rehome journey and others sit and wait for months and some even years, to find the perfect match. There are the horses that get adopted but then come back into the shelter for various reasons as well.

It's important to have options for all the equines. Every single horse and their circumstances are different. Maybe one facility isn't the best setting for a specific horse and another location would be beneficial to their wellbeing. Occasionally just a new audience or pool of adopters is the answer to finding these deserving animals their forever homes. There is even the training aspect. Possibly one rescue has tried certain methods with a horse, and it seems there is something missing. New eyes on a problem and different techniques or even personality can sometimes resolve an issue.



Thanks to our partnership with the MSSPA, Ducky (pictured here) was transferred to the NHSPCA in March and found his home within one month!

Our first transfer horses from MSSPA, Ducky and Sunny, each in their 20s with varying abilities were transferred to us in March and both were adopted in April to wonderful forever homes.

Sometimes timing is everything.

We are looking forward to a wonderful partnership with MSSPA for many years to come.



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Community programs, friendly faces return

By Kate Young

Community Programs Coordinator

We are pleased to announce that much of our community programming is returning to the New Hampshire SPCA!

We have partnered with volunteer veterinarians to bring back [Rabies Vaccine Clinics](#) this spring to help pet owners keep their furry friends up to date for rabies protection. Utilizing the new Veterinary Center space, we were able to vaccinate more than 30 dogs and cats at the end of April. Another Clinic is scheduled for May. This is particularly popular in the spring so those doggies can get their town licenses!

We have also returned to offering [low-cost, “quick fix” spay and neuter clinics](#) for cats. Occurring monthly, these clinics enable members of the public, who otherwise may not have access to spay and neuter surgery, to have their cats and kittens altered. Access to affordable spay and neuter surgery is critical in helping to keep the population of unowned cats low, curb unplanned litters and promote the health of the cat population in our community.

We are thrilled to also be offering the [Alzheimer’s Café](#) again as well! We started back up in February to offer the monthly Café for those with memory challenges and their caregivers to join us for an afternoon of conversation and visits from friendly animals. It has been a joy to gather again for this monthly event in our brand-new Community Meeting Room space to offer guests the chance to visit together and have some snuggles from some lovable friends.



We’re happy to once again host the Alzheimer’s Café at the NHSPCA! Mr. Pickles — a NHSPCA alumnus featured in the last newsletter — made a very special appearance at the Café in April and put smiles on every face. Want to read more about Mr. Pickles, a rescued mini horse who was once terrified of humans and now spends his time spreading happiness? Click [here](#)!

The Alzheimer’s Café takes place every second Thursday from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Are you involved in a group or club? Interested in visiting the NHSPCA for a behind the scenes guided tour? We are welcoming small groups to contact us to inquire about schedul-

ing a small group tour of the new facility and to see how our shelter cares for animals and the positive impact we have on the community.

For more information about tours or our other Community Programs at the NHSPCA, please contact Kate at kyoung@nhspca.org.

HAPPY TAILS



Shrimp (formerly Rosalind)

Rosalind has been renamed Shrimp and her personality is really coming through now. When we first got her, we were not able to really touch her for about two weeks — our attempts were met with hissing, spitting, and lots of claws. Our vet said she appeared to be semi-feral and wasn’t sure if she would ever really become a “people cat”.

After a lot of patience, she has

turned into a tiny ball of love. She follows us around, plays with our resident cat and dog, and loves snuggling with us on the couch or bed. She still gets surprised if we try to pick her up from behind or approach her quickly — but, she’s sassy, confident, and very vocal. We couldn’t imagine the house without her now!

— Ashley and Paul

Keeping families together, one bag of food at a time

Food Share Program helps combat local food insecurity

By Dianna Currier

Manager of Adoption Programs

The New Hampshire SPCA [Food Share Program](#) helps anyone having difficulty feeding their pets by giving food from our supply. We supply individuals that reach out as well as many local food

pantries. Donating food to the pantries helps them reach their existing clients who might be considering giving their pets up due to food costs becoming an issue. Receiving food at the pantry where they already receive assistance helps them keep their pets and their family together.

Food insecurity is a growing concern as the price of food increases and families need to make tough choices about whether they can continue caring for their pets.

NH's Gather Food Pantry of Portsmouth is one of the pantries the NHSPCA has a working partner-



Grazie, Roberta Swagel's dog, helps distribute pet food supplied by the NHSPCA! Roberta oversees the animal donations at Gather Food Pantry.

ship with keeping families and their beloved pets together during tough times. The pantry has been assisting the community's food insecurities and is focused on meeting the needs of the entire family. We supply Gather with 200 pounds of nourishing pet food and treats bi-weekly to assist with their pet food outreach.

Roberta Swagel is a dedicated volunteer who has been volunteering for Gather for four years now. She was given the position to oversee animal donations. Roberta and others at Gather hear many stories from recipients when they come to pick up food. She tells us that people do extraordinary things to care for their pets. People experiencing homelessness love and rely on their pets for companionship and unconditional love, needing that connection as much if not more than others. They share their own food with their pets or go without so their cat or dog doesn't go hungry, even refusing permanent shelter because it would mean having to choose between their two 15-year-old dogs, because only one dog would be allowed in public housing. Roberta spoke of one young man who just wanted old blankets for his dog who lived with him in a tent so he could be warm. Lots of stories show how close people in crisis are to their pets.

Gather has been extremely grateful for our ongoing support. We look forward to continuing our beneficial partnership with this great organization, and all the food pantries with whom we partner.

We would not be able to provide this support in the community without the generosity of each and every person who contributes financially or by giving food [from our Wishlist](#). Thank you for feeding the shelter animals and those in need in our community.

BUSINESSES SUPPORTING SECOND CHANCES!

The team from McGovern Subaru and Subaru of New England visit the NHSPCA to present a huge supply of Barkboxes full of fun toys and treats for the adoptable dogs.

Later, they presented a check for \$15,000 to help care for the animals! Amazing! Thank you!



Thank you to our friends at Seacoast Kettle for raising over \$4,000 at their "Lift Heavy. Rescue Pets." event. On April 9, health conscious and active animal-lovers hit the gym at their Portsmouth and Dover locations, breaking a sweat for the animals and proving that their cardio was way more than just petting dogs.

The greatest gift is being a foster parent!

By Shannon Houde
Adoption Counselor

Being a foster parent to homeless animals is incredibly rewarding. You get an inside scoop on this particular animal's personality, likes, and dislikes, and what kind of home may suit them best.

Want to become a foster family?

Click [here](#) to fill out an application today!

I've been a foster parent for the New Hampshire SPCA for about five years now and have had a few different scenarios involving many different animals!

My all-time favorite fosters to receive are neonate or very young or feral kittens. Sometimes that means just providing a safe place for them to grow, and sometimes it involves getting up every two hours to feed hungry mouths.

I love the challenge of getting these babies to warm up and eventually love people! It's a long journey, with many ups and downs, but seeing the babies in their forever homes and getting updates on how well they're doing makes it all worthwhile.

The first fosters I brought home included a mama cat and her three new babies. I got the opportunity to name the babies, so this litter was Constellation-themed! Introducing Luna, Orion, and Perseus. My next litter came a year later, consisting of three little semi-feral siblings. These ladies took nature-themed names and were called Fern, Willow, and Ivy. In no time at all, all three babies were adopted to wonderful homes; Fern even went home with a grumpy grandpa cat named Rocky, and melted hearts everywhere!

My next fosters were a little different. One at a time, I took in three different rabbits, these guys were named Cow, Milhouse, and Sideshow Bob!



Meet some of my foster animals!

This was my first-time fostering buns and I loved it, they make excellent, goofy companions.

My most recent litter consisted of a mama cat from the NHSPCA Kensington case involving the rescue of about 80 cats from one home. This mama gave birth to four kittens upon arriving at the NHSPCA. She was very protective of her babies and it took some time to gain her trust. Eventually, that trust was earned, and she felt much more confident in herself and her babies. Introducing the Greek Gods: Mama Demetria

and babies Arion, Hades, Persephone, and Ares!

The hardest part of fostering is giving the animal back. A lot of people realize fostering isn't for them when it comes time to say goodbye. It can be really hard, especially after forming such a bond. It's important to remember that there are always more animals who need help! If given the chance, fostering is an amazing way to make a difference in an animal's life. It provides an opportunity to spend cherished, quality time with animals who really need some extra love.

Become a Faithful Friend!

We are so thankful for the special group of committed friends that have set up a gift to be automatically made each month. Becoming a Faithful Friend is an easy, cost efficient way to provide the NHSPCA with a reliable source of funding. Monthly donations are charged to a credit card automatically and can be changed or canceled at any time.



To learn more or sign up, please email isherman@nhspca.org!

Adoption
Angels

Do you want to help animals overcome their past and give them a chance at a new loving, forever home?

Then you should be an Adoption Angel! Angels help the New Hampshire SPCA provide nourishing food, a warm cozy bed, necessary medical care, behavior modification and training when needed, and most importantly the time to recover, heal and find a home.

Become an Adoption Angel today!

Visit nhspca.org, click "Donate" then "Sponsor an Animal"

Thank you for making compassion possible.

Adoption
Angels

In Memory Of:
Luke

The Clark Family

New Hampshire
SPCA

TRANSPORTS...

Continued from Page 1

and rescues are well-funded by our caring communities and are always there to help adoptable pets in need of new homes.

In contrast, many other states are overwhelmed by the amount of unwanted adoptable animals.

Looking to adopt?

Your next best friend could be on an upcoming transport or already at the shelter waiting to meet you! Click [here](#) to view all available animals!

Spaying and neutering is not as routine as it is up here, so there are many strays who produce nearly continuous unwanted litters. Shelters and rescues in these areas do their very best to save as many as possible, but the sheer numbers of cats and dogs combined with

fewer resources make this job seem impossible.

This is why transport programs are so important in animal rescue. Transport programs take adoptable dogs and cats from overcrowded shelters and transport them to receiving shelters who have more space, more resources, and more adopters. This is a win-win situation for all involved and has resulted in hundreds of thousands of lives saved across the country over the past two decades.

In fact, our original transport partner from 2005 no longer transports dogs — they have solved the canine overpopulation problem in their area!

Recently, we had a sweet 18-month-old dog named Selma transported to us. Her origin story was very moving: a 78-year-old veteran in South Carolina found her as a stray & brought her to his local shelter (Aiken County Animal Shelter) with tears in his eyes. He told the shelter staff that she was a perfect girl and he'd love to keep her, but he felt that at his age it was not responsible to keep such a young and active dog.

Selma was a star at Aiken County Animal Shelter — she was a friendly little wigglybutt who loved meeting new people and new dogs. The shelter staff knew that she was an excellent candidate for transport, so they funded all her veterinary care and arranged for her to be transported to St. Hubert's Waystation, a shelter in New Jersey that acts as a "hub" for transport dogs coming to New England from the South. St. Hubert's then transported Selma and seven of her doggie friends to us. Once we verified that the transport dogs were healthy, spayed/neutered, and had all necessary vaccines and preventatives, they were ready for adoption.

Selma was chosen right away — she didn't even make it on to our website! A mom and daughter



We were so excited to welcome Cheddar, an 8-month-old kitten, and 11 other cats from an overcrowded shelter in Mississippi in mid-April. We currently have dog and cat transports arriving every other week.



NHSPCA Executive Director Lisa Dennison takes a moment to snuggle one of the eight 11-week-old puppies that were transported from Mississippi.

with an approved application came in to visit another dog but decided that dog was not the right fit for them. When we brought out Selma, both mother and daughter knew she was the one right away, and Selma agreed! Selma immediately adored both of her new people but especially loved her little girl. And who wouldn't love a sweet, smart child who promised to be Selma's best friend forever?



Selma was one of eight dogs that were brought up from South Carolina, and boy, did this girl hit the jackpot! She was quickly adopted and is so loved.

We took a going home picture and sent it to Selma's original shelter in South Carolina; the shelter staff were thrilled to pass it along to the kind gentleman who found Selma and started her on the path to her perfect forever family!

As you can see, our transport program is an integral part of our lifesaving work here at the NHSPCA and we are excited to have it back up and running.



SAVE LIVES AT #PAWSWALK!

Sunday, June 5 | Stratham Hill Park | Adults: \$35 • Youth: \$25 • Teams of 5: Register together and save! | [Click here to register!](#)

The most pawesome day for the animals!

By Julie Halama

Special Events and Sponsorship Manager

We've got a lot to celebrate... Paws Walk is almost here! It's our 150th year and 30th annual walk for the animals, and we promise the most barktacular day of fun for all, four-legged friends too. Join us on Sunday, June 5 to save lives with every step and directly help animals in-need.

This year, we're back at Stratham Hill Park with the favorite pet-friendly event we all know and love. Come for the animals and stay for the festivities. Hosted by iHeartMedia's Kelly Brown, they'll be a vendor village, doggie demos, meet and greets with adoptable pets, and more. At noon, we'll all hit the trails together on a mile long walk to help every animal find a home.

Don't miss your chance to be a part of this lifesaving extravaganza.

Register for Paws Walk today by clicking [here!](#)



You can make all the difference!

Paws Walk is a celebration of community, companionship, and so much more. As the NHSPCA's largest grassroots fundraiser, it's directly responsible for thousands of second chances each year — all because of animal-lovers like you. Fundraising done by generous and dedicated Paws Walkers is critical to our mission, helping provide rescue services, medical treatment, attentive care, and so much more to save as many lives as possible. When you register for Paws Walk, you are having an immediate impact for good on homeless, neglected, and abused animals.



Walk with us to help homeless & abused animals!



Scan this code with your phone camera to help save lives!

- Date:** Sunday, June 5, 2022
- Location:** Stratham Hill Park
- Time:** Festival opens at 10:00 a.m. We walk at noon!
- Registration:** Adults: \$35.00
Youth: \$25.00
Teams of 5+: Save \$5 each
Teams of 10+: Save \$10 each

Need more information? [Click here to get started!](#)



Calling all photo stars!

Want to show off how ridiculously adorable your pet is?

Now's your chance to show off your pet's glamour shot. Fundraise for Paws Walk and your pet could appear in the official 2023 NHSPCA calendar. Help homeless animals and create a cuddly calendar star!

Top Fundraiser – Your pet will appear as the large photo for the month of June

All participants who raise \$500 – Your pet will appear in the block of whatever date you choose

REGISTER TODAY TO JOIN US!

PAWS WALK

Sunday, June 5 | Stratham Hill Park | Adults: \$35 • Youth: \$25 • Teams of 5: Register together and save! | [Click here to register!](#)

From surrendered to saved

There are so many reasons why animals come through our doors, but it's particularly heartbreaking when a dog's beloved owner is no longer able to provide them with care. Such was the case for Riley and Maddy, who were both unexpectedly surrendered to the NHSPCA this spring



Riley

Riley found herself in an unthinkable situation when her owner became sick and hospitalized, leaving Riley all alone and abandoned after a neighbor neglected to check on her. The stress of the situation was too much, and she came to us

scared, starving, and suffering from a painful skin flare up.

After some much needed medical attention and TLC from our dedicated staff, Riley is now the picture of health and happiness, waiting for her forever home. This is all because of animal-lovers like you and events like Paws Walk.

Paws Walk directly makes second chances possible. Thanks to the support of our

community, this event raises critical funds that give immediate help to animals in-need...



Maddy

animals like Riley and Maddy.

Maddy is a playful Labradoodle adopted at the height of the pandemic. Her owner did everything to make it work, but at one and a half years old, this sweet dog was just too energetic and hard for someone older to handle. Suddenly, like so many other pandemic pups, Maddy found herself homeless, surrendered into our care.

Because of Paws Walk and the generosity of people of like you, Maddy was given a second chance. During her short stay at the NHSPCA, she quickly won over the hearts of many and now lives the dream, playing ball and getting neck scratches in her new home.

You can help save lives and give second chances too. [Register for Paws Walk](#) today to start making a difference.

Teams to the rescue!

Are you looking for a meaningful way to engage your colleagues and friends outside and in-person? Create a Paws Walk team and save lives together!

By working as a team, you can:

- Create a collaborative bonding experience amongst friends, family or coworkers
- Enjoy a little friendly competition
- Broaden leadership, social, and professional skills
- Help give homeless animals a second chance and lifesaving care!

It's more than just a walk in the park. People



BETTER TOGETHER!

Grab your friends, family and colleagues and help homeless and abused animals!

who volunteer report that they feel better emotionally, mentally, and physically, while employees who engage in corporate giving programs have, on average, a 75% longer tenure with their company. *(Non-Profit Source)*

Plus, teams of five or more who sign up together save on each registration. [Start saving lives today by clicking here.](#)

Why are you walking at Paws Walk?

"I love everything about this event: the journey of fundraising, the excitement of the day, the hundreds of dogs that walk with compassionate and loving owners, the vendors that have the same goal of well-being for animals!"

— *Stephanie of Newton, NH, 25th Paws Walk*



"I love animals very much and think every animal deserves a home. Our family lives in a full house of animals including our rescue dog, Ellie, who my mom and dad rescued from the NHSPCA in 2011, before I was born."

— *Evelyn of Nottingham, NH, 3rd Paws Walk*

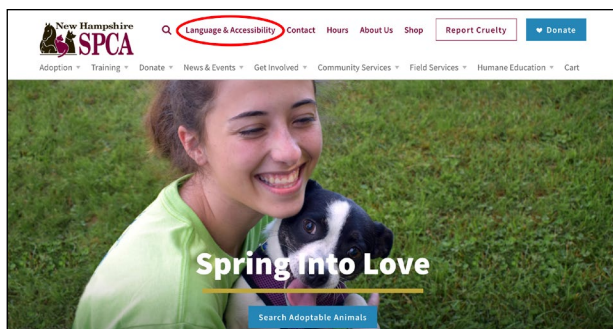
"My true inspiration is our sweet dog, Poncho, who we said farewell to at the age of 17 this past January. He's the one who opened my eyes years ago and made me want to help homeless animals in need."

— *Karen of Kensington, NH, 7th Paws Walk*



"I hope the funds raised can help other animals like our dog Atlas, who was transferred to the NHSPCA from Mississippi in 2017, and provide support for all the essential programs and services the NHSPCA provides to our community."

— *Lindsay of Stratham, NH, 7th Paws Walk*



Click the “Language and Accessibility” button in our website’s toolbar to access our new assistive feature!

Creating a diverse and inclusive online experience!

By Sheila E. Ryan

Director of Development & Marketing

To support everyone throughout our community, the NHSPCA now provides enhanced accessibility support online to create a barrier-free user experience.

We pride ourselves on being an organization that goes the extra mile to improve communication and quality of service for all. To fulfill this mission, we now provide Recite Me assistive technology on [our website](#), which enables our visitors to customize their experience in a way that best suits their individual needs.

One in four people in the US has a disability that can prevent them from reading and understanding online content. Those who are most susceptible to access barriers are those who struggle with:

- Decreased vision
- Learning difficulties
- Literacy
- Language/linguistic problems
- Attention disorders
- Physical disabilities

Recite Me assistive technology provides support for all of these, making our website an inclusive environment where people can access information hassle-free.

The Recite Me accessibility toolbar includes screen reading functionality, multiple reading aids, and an on-demand live translation feature that boasts over 100 languages, as well as options to customize styling, including adjustments to font size, type, and color.

To access the assistive toolbar on our website, click “Language and Accessibility” in the top left navigation of our website.

HORSES...

Continued from Page 1

have dry, ventilated stalls that are of sufficient size that the horse should be able to lie down, and have adequate and suitable exercise in an arena, paddock, barn yard or pasture.

With that said, on March 25, I was asked to assist a local police agency on a horse investigation. Upon arrival at the location, I was informed the police officer had been sent to another call and I was asked to check on the horses. The complaint was that the horses were kept locked in the barn all winter and not let out for exercise. The paddock fencing was a mess and horses kept getting out of the paddocks. Lack of water and feed was another issue brought to our attention.

During my investigation, it appeared to be a justified complaint of neglect of the five horses. I filed my report with the local police officer and the police proceeded to obtain a search warrant. The Assistant State Veterinarian would be on site as they proceeded to serve the warrant. I was asked to stand by with trucks and trailers if the horses needed to be seized.

On March 29, 2022, the NHSPCA responded with two trucks and two trailers to the area and waited for the State Vet to examine and investigate the condition of the horses. Once his investigation was completed and he found probable cause to remove the horses, the NHSPCA staff proceeded to remove the five horses and bring them to safety here at the NHSPCA in Stratham. Here they will be well cared for while they are held awaiting court action.

Since arriving at the NHSPCA, they have been seen by an equine veterinarian and a farrier came to work on their hooves. With the case still under investigation and the defen-



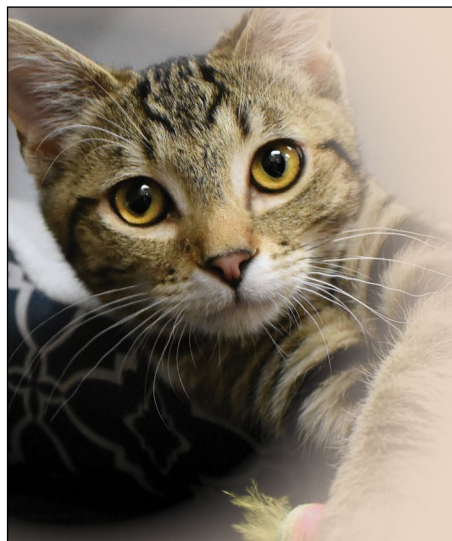
Taken the day the NHSPCA was asked to assist in an investigation of possible neglect.

dant awaiting trial, we can’t disclose details of the horses’ individual physical condition. I will say that the horses were kept in barns all winter without stall cleaning. It was quite a mess with no dry area for the horses to lay. When they did lay, it was in their own waste and urine.

There were stall boards that were eaten away and laying on the stall floors. I think this went far beyond cribbing. They did have horse blankets on, but they were so covered in waste and wet with urine that we just left the blankets behind when we rescued the horses.

Empty water buckets were found in each of the five stalls. The way these horses were living is NOT an acceptable way to keep horses. It’s not right and it’s against NH Laws. Now it is up to the prosecutor to see that the horses get some form of justice.

If you would like to help the NHSPCA care for these and other victims of cruelty or neglect, please send your tax-deductible donation to the [SOS Fund](#) at New Hampshire SPCA, PO Box 196, Stratham, NH 03885, or by visiting us online 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.



It's SO nice to have our volunteers back!

By Juli Tyson
Volunteer Coordinator

After two long years, the New Hampshire SPCA volunteers are making their long-awaited return!

It is so wonderful to see all the familiar faces returning to our facilities, performing cat care and kennel cleanup, dog walking, small animal care, and farm help.

Interested in volunteering?

Please click [here](#) or email Juli at jtyson@nhspca.org to learn how you can get involved!

With so many transports arriving, we need the help!

Volunteers are also helping us with office

operations, [fostering](#) and gearing up for [Paws Walk!](#)

We are so grateful that so many of our volunteers waited for us to be ready to welcome them back. Returning to animal care volunteering just takes a quick refresher training and then you are good to go.

Volunteers are also successfully using our new software, Better Impact, where they can sign up for as many shifts in advance as they would like from our calendar and clock their hours electronically. This software allows staff to track who is coming and when. It also keeps everyone aware of what shifts are full and what shifts still need coverage.

The timeclock is especially great because it cuts back on data entry time, leaving more time for me to spend getting to know all our lovely volunteers and training them to care for our animals! It also provides more accurate tracking of hours and we use that data when we apply for grants... and *more* grants means *more* opportunities to save and care for *more* animals!

We are also getting ready to welcome new volunteers. It will be so exciting to greet fresh faces



We are really fortunate to have such a caring community! Members from Serve with Liberty came to the NHSPCA on May 3 to spend the day volunteering and helped us with various landscaping projects. All the extra hands and this act of kindness really makes a difference and is greatly appreciated!

arriving to the NHSPCA for animal care or other volunteering duties.

In May, June and July, we will be hosting a few corporate volunteer groups. These groups will help us complete larger projects, as more than 100 people will show up excited to donate their time! They will tackle landscaping, painting, and other larger-scale projects.

Our thanks in advance to Timberland, Serve with Liberty, American Eagle, SNHU among others!

Our first orientation to catch up with those who have already returned was May 11. The next new

volunteer orientation will be held in late-May.

I am keeping a list of those interested in becoming volunteers with the NHSPCA, so if you or a friend has never volunteered with us before but are interested, you can fill out the inquiry form [here](#) or email me at jtyson@nhspca.org.

Similarly, if you were a volunteer in the past and still have not been in touch with me this is another call out to you to return if you would like.

Thank you so much for your help and support of the animals! We can't wait to see you around the NHSPCA soon!



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.

Please call 603-773-5739 for more information.



In early April, the NHSPCA welcomed eight dogs from an overcrowded shelter in South Carolina. To help these pups find their forever homes, the talented and thoughtful After-School with the Animals Club members created beautiful and informative posters to hang on each individual dog's kennel.

A new generation of animal lovers!

By Erin Burger

Manager of Humane Education Programs

The Humane Education department at the NHSPCA has a long history of meaningful connections with children and adolescents in the surrounding communities. Many of our current teenage [Junior Volunteers](#) and Junior Camp Counselors were introduced to the NHSPCA by enrolling in [after-school clubs](#), participating in [vacation camps](#), and attending [birthday parties](#) in our Humane Education Classroom.

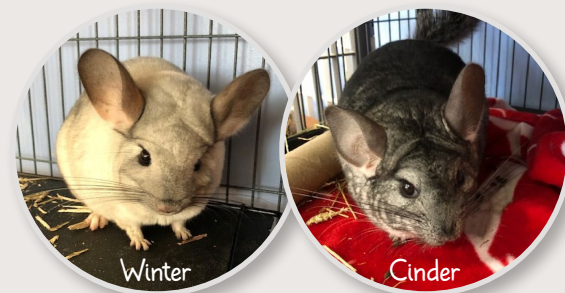
After a long pause in programming due to COVID, we have been excited to begin welcoming children back into the classroom! One of the most exciting things for me as a newer staff member has been seeing the attendance at our [After-School with the Animals Club](#) grow from two kids per month to groups of eight or more! For many of the participants, this has been their first time attending a Humane Education program at the NHSPCA, and we've enjoyed sharing our knowledge and love of animals with them. Our club participants learn about how to care for common animals, interact with our classroom ambassador animals, visit our Adoption Center and barn, and discuss ways to help support and advocate for adoptable animals.

Recently, our Adoption Center welcomed eight dogs from an over-crowded shelter in South Carolina. As part of the After-School club, our members made heartfelt posters with photos and descriptions of the dogs telling

potential adopters all about them. As you can see in the photo, they were incredibly proud of their hard work! The posters are now hanging on the doors of the dogs' kennels and will go home with them when they find their forever families. One of the dogs was adopted by a staff member and his poster is now prominently displayed in her office!

Fostering a new generation of animal lovers also means that it is important to keep coming up with new and creative ways to engage children, families, and communities. We are very fortunate to be partnering with our Equine and Farm Program Manager, Michelle Murch, and her team to offer our first-ever Farm Squad camp during April Vacation week this year! The NHSPCA is well-known for our care of cats, dogs, and other common companion animals, but many people don't realize that we are also able to rescue, care for, and rehome horses, pigs, goats, and farm fowl.

Our Farm Squad campers will assist our NHSPCA Farm team with different aspects of daily animal care while interacting with farm animals, learning about the responsibilities of owning them, completing fun crafts and activities, helping us with the start of our Children's Garden for the season, and offering enrichment opportunities for the animals in our care! We're thrilled to be able to share this part of the NHSPCA's work with such compassionate and devoted children and we look forward to continuing to build lasting relationships with them.



Meet Winter and Cinder!

By Elizabeth Segeberg

Humane Educator

Would you like to learn some fun chinchilla facts? We can help you! We are Winter and Cinder, two social, fun-loving chinchillas. We are the newest ambassador animals in the Humane Education classroom at the NHSPCA.

1 Chinchillas have the densest, softest fur of all land mammals. We have about 80 hairs from 1 follicle. You have 1 or 2 per follicle so you can imagine how thick our fur is! Our thick fur protects us from the cold temperatures in our native habitat high in the Andean mountains in Chile.

2 Another fun fact about our silky, dense fur is that we cannot get wet! Our fur would mat and not dry. How do we stay clean, you ask? We take volcanic dust baths twice a week. We love to roll around in the dust to remove grease and any loose material in our fur.

3 There are two chinchilla species: short-tailed and long-tailed. We are long-tailed chinchillas. We are rodents who live relatively long lives, up to 15-20 years. We are very social animals and, in the wild, we live in groups with from 14 to 100 members. A group of chinchillas is called a herd.

4 Chinchillas have large ears. Therefore, we have excellent hearing. This helps us easily detect predators. We also have long whiskers that are as wide as our bodies. They allow us to safely navigate our dark burrows.

5 Did you know chinchillas are extremely agile? We can jump 6 feet in the air. We are very inquisitive and love to explore our surroundings. We are nocturnal so we are active during the night.

6 Chinchillas have open-ended teeth which means they continue to grow throughout our lives. We need plenty of wooden chew toys to keep our teeth trim. We are herbivores so we need lots of grass hay to eat.

We hope you can visit us soon in the Humane Education classroom and learn more chinchilla fun facts. You can see how cute we are with our long whiskers, large ears, and very soft fur!

See you soon,
Winter and Cinder

You don't have to grieve the loss of your pet alone

Pet-Loss Support Group offers help to those navigating grief

By Marla Andrews

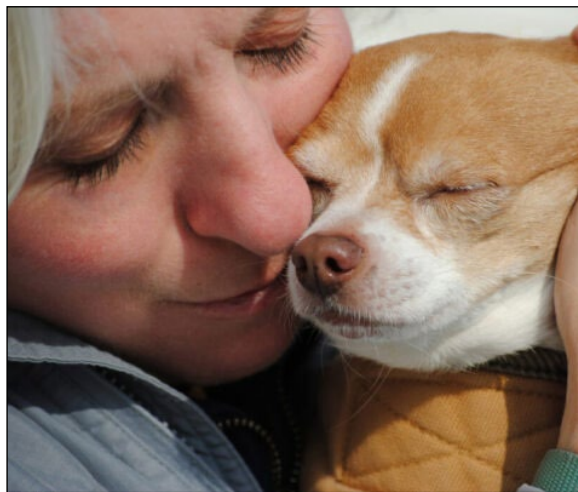
Pet-Loss Grief Support Specialist (Humane Hearts, LLC)

We are excited to announce a monthly Pet-Loss Support Group at the New Hampshire SPCA.

If you have recently lost a pet or know the time is coming for your beloved pet and are looking for compassionate support, our group provides a kind and judgement-free setting to help you move through your grief. Loss comes in many forms: you may be coping with the death of a pet from illness, accident, or natural causes; a pet may have been lost, stolen, or given away; you may have had to give up a pet because of circumstances beyond your control; or you may be anticipating the loss of a pet.

We hope to offer you a place to discuss your individual journey, as well as find healthy coping skills that will foster a lightness in your heart and a place of honor for your pet.

Losing a beloved pet can be a lonely and devastating time in your life. The mission of this Pet-Loss Support Group is to help alleviate pain by lifting each other up and by sharing our feelings and experiences. Each session will highlight a different aspect of grief and will involve a combination of specialist-led discussions, presentations on the grieving process, coping and healing strat-



We believe no one should have to grieve the loss of their pet alone. We are so happy to be able to offer a new Pet-Loss Support Group, which is overseen by a professional and meets monthly.

egies, and non-judgmental peer support. Participants are encouraged to share as much or as little as they feel comfortable, with the understanding that everyone has their own individual needs.

Our support group session, led by Marla Andrews of Humane Hearts, LLC, meets on the second Tuesday of each month from 7:00 p.m. to 8:15 p.m. in the Community Room at the NHSPCA. Online preregistration is required, as space is limited. \$15.00 per session, with financial assistance available (email education@nhspca.org for details).

Get to know Marla Andrews

Marla Andrews holds an M.Ed. in Humane Education and Animal Welfare and is certified as a Pet-Loss Grief Support Specialist (American



Institute of Health Care Professionals). With literally a lifetime of work in animal welfare, Marla brings her own vast and personal experiences working in veterinary hospitals,

animal rescues and shelters, aquariums, academic research, farm sanctuaries, and animal advocacy groups. Most prominently, she spent over 17 years helping the MSPCA build their Humane Education Programs, for which she and her beloved rescue pit bull and Education Dog, Comet, received the 2009 MSPCA Animal Hero of the Year Award, alongside two other MSPCA Education Dogs and their people. Marla has a most compassionate heart, coupled with a strong connection to people of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities, and an innate love for animals of all kinds. With a calling to work for animals and a passion for helping others, she brings a deep empathy and notable sense of humor that often helps to lighten and brighten the seriousness of the issues at hand.

For those looking for one-to-one specialist support, Marla also offers private grief support sessions through Humane Hearts, LLC. Contact marla@humanehearts.com for more information.



FUN AT FARM CAMP!



A brand new offering, Farm Camp, was a total hit in late April! This week was totally hands-on with activities ranging from cleaning stalls and pens to brushing horses like Eustace, pictured, and even going on pony rides!

Put your pup's skills and instincts to the test!

Help satisfy your dog's desire to work by taking a sports class

By Annie Riecken

New England Agility Team (NEAT)

*Why would I do dog sports with my dog?
And what the heck are dog sports anyhow?*

Let's start with "what are dog sports?" Dog sports describes an amazingly wide number of organized activities that use the different skills and instincts that dogs have.

Take a class!

In addition to all the well-known benefits, training classes are a great way to bond with your dog. Click [here](#) to browse our current class offerings!

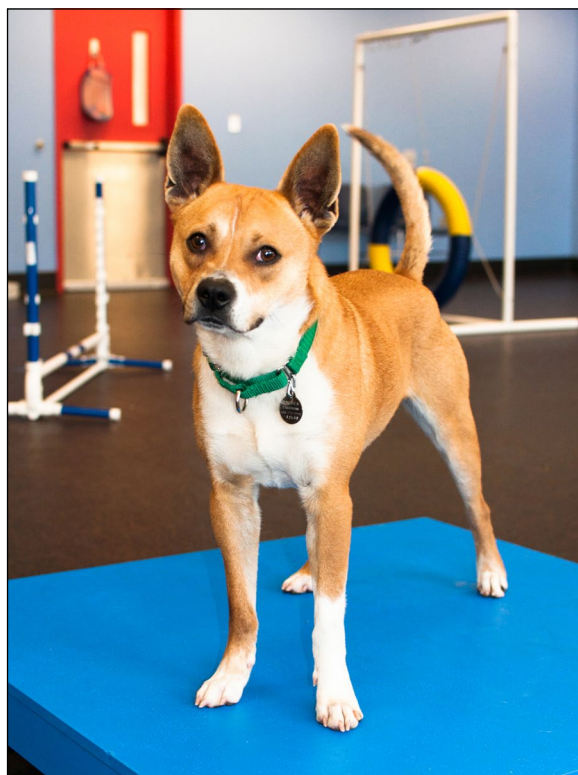
There are sports that use a dog's terrific ability to smell things — scent detection, mushroom hunting, search and rescue, and more. There are sports that speak to the traits we developed in terriers —

earth dog, barn hunt, happy ratters.

There's obedience, rally, freestyle, dock diving, pulling, disc dog, canine parkour, fitness, herding, and possibly the best known, most athletic, and maybe the flashiest, dog sport — agility.

Now, why would you want to do any of these things with your dog?

The most common response from people is that "it builds your relationship with your dog." What does that mean? Canines and humans have a long history of working together. It may have started with some cooperative effort to get food, that was job number one before modern times. Dogs helped us move stock. They hunted rats that ate the grain that fed us and our farm animals. They found game and retrieved it when we hunted.



Did you know couch chewing, door scratching, barking, counter surfing and yard digging are often signs of a bored dog? Dog sports are a great way to entertain and challenge your pup!

Now that humans and dogs have pretty good food security, dogs are kind of unemployed.

Doing dog sports mimics the essential tasks our dogs used to do for us. That fills the need to work that so many of our dogs have. A "job" means a lot to them. It can keep them mentally and physically satisfied, which can help prevent our dogs from making their own fun. And a lot of the ways that dogs make their own fun look, to humans, like bad behavior. Couch chewing, door scratch-

Agility helped my shy rescue gain confidence

*"I fell into agility because my kids had all graduated college, and my 3-year-old cattle dog mix was becoming a handful. The only class available was Intro to Agility. Taking that first class was the best decision I could have made. It helped me learn how to communicate with my dog and understand things from his perspective. We both enjoyed learning together, and it gave my dog a job. He's 10 now, and we are still learning and enjoying agility along with the pretty ribbons he's earning while competing. **My shy rescue has become a confident dog that I love being with.**"*

— A New England Agility Team member

ing, barking, counter surfing and yard digging are often signs of a bored dog.

Training classes for a dog sport provides a structured program to learn things together with your dog. It could lead to competition, or not. It provides mental enrichment for your dog, and the same to you as you learn something new. It's a way to meet people with a common interest and if you like, it can be a new social activity for you.

Any of the dog sports that interest you and that your dog might like are certainly worth a try.

The New England Agility Team (NEAT), has years of collaboration with the New Hampshire SPCA, where experienced club members offer a variety of agility classes.

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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 — May 1, 2022

From the Estates of:

Seth and Nancy Ames

Kittery Point, ME

Constance (Huckaday) Bosen

North Hampton, NH

Betty Roberta Cathey

Summertown, TN

Constance D. Eldredge

Derry, NH

Marilyn E. Freer

Salem, NH

Alphonse Gerrato, Jr.

Rochester, NH

Elizabeth L. Johnsrud

Hampton Falls, NH

Doris M. Powell

Saint Johns, FL

Protect your future today

By Sheila E. Ryan

Director of Development & Marketing

Your support of the New Hampshire SPCA has enabled us to save the lives of thousands of companion animals through rescue, rehabilitation, and adoption, and we are so grateful. The NHSPCA wants to ensure you can care for your **FREEWILL** future the same way you've supported ours. To make this possible, we've partnered with FreeWill: a free estate planning resource that can help you write your legally valid will and create other important estate planning documents.

Creating a will may seem like an intimidating and expensive process, but it doesn't have to be. Our partnership with FreeWill ensures that every member of our community has the power to easily protect their future through a legal will, at no cost to them.

Since 2017, FreeWill has helped nearly a half-million people write their will, making estate planning free and accessible for all. FreeWill has been featured in Forbes and Oprah's 31 Best Ways to Make a Difference. And everyone should have a will, regardless of their age, health, wealth or life circumstances. Creating your will is a way to express your values: it protects your loved ones, preserves your assets, and can be a powerful way to support the causes you care about. FreeWill makes it easy and fast!



Our partnership with FreeWill ensures that every member of our community has the power to easily protect their future through a legal will for free!

The NHSPCA wants to make it easier for our supporters to find peace of mind and protect what they love. By creating your will, you may also wish to support the NHSPCA for generations to come by leaving a planned gift. It costs nothing today, and ensures the NHSPCA can fulfill our vision of a safe and loving home for every animal.

Are you ready to define your legacy with us? Click [here](#) to get started.

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CELEBRATING 150 YEARS!

Who's Who... The Founders, Members and Supporters of the New Hampshire SPCA

By Sheila E. Ryan

Director of Development & Marketing

If you review the list of people involved in the early animal welfare movement in New Hampshire, it is a veritable Who's Who of well-known 'influencers' of the day. The names will be familiar to many simply because their families have become synonymous with beaches, and parks, playgrounds, streets and museums.

Want to learn more?

Keep an eye out for the next column of our historical series in our next newsletter!

The original incorporators of the NHSPCA were Ichabod Goodwin, Daniel Marcy, Sarah J. Pickering, William H.Y. Hackett, Margaret W. Haven and Elizabeth H. Pearson.

Take the Honorable Ichabod Goodwin for example. Mr. Goodwin was a retired merchant and shipmaster and former Governor of NH (1859-1861). The Goodwin mansion is now a permanent historic building at Strawberry Banke Museum and Goodwin Park on Islington Street, Portsmouth is named for him. The Honorable Daniel Marcy (of Marcy Street fame) was a ship-builder and politician. He served several terms in the NH House of Representatives as well as being US Congressman from 1863 to 1865.

Sarah J. Pickering was our Founder and first President of the NHSPCA.

Mrs. Pickering was one of the first to recognize the cruelty and horrors being inflicted on the working animals in Portsmouth. Horse, oxen and mules were routinely beaten and overworked to the point of collapse.

Mrs. Pickering had seen the same occurring in NYC where Henry Bergh had subsequently formed the very first incorporated animal wel-



fare organization, the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, now routinely known as the ASPCA.

Mrs. Pickering was determined to stop animal suffering here in NH and formed what would become the New Hampshire SPCA.

Sarah's maiden name was Jenness (Jenness Beach, anyone?) but married John Jacob Pickering in 1858.

The Pickering name goes all the way back to American Revolution days, perhaps even further. John Pickering's great grandfather was a Judge commissioned by George Washington himself!

Of course, the Pickering name continues to be recognized all over Portsmouth and the Seacoast.

John and Sarah married later than usual for that time. They had no children.

Sarah predeceased John but when he passed,



LEFT: A portrait of Sarah J. Pickering, the Founder and first President of the New Hampshire SPCA.

RIGHT: Former New Hampshire Governor, merchant and shipmaster, Ichabod Goodwin.

he made the very first bequest to the NHSPCA in honor of Sarah. Thus, the Sarah J. Pickering Circle was born and we are blessed every year to receive financial support from wills and bequests that help care for animals every day.

What a legacy Sarah created for herself and the animals.

William H.Y. Hackett was a teacher and principal at Portsmouth High School. He was also a lawyer, a NH State Representative and was admitted to the Bar of the US Supreme Court. Mr. Hackett's memoir is on file at the Library of Congress and is available still on AMAZON!

We know less about Elizabeth Pearson and Margaret Haven, only that they were willing to put their names on the charter of a new movement. They were, with their fellow incorporators, brave enough to stand up for animals that could not speak for themselves.

As we celebrate our 150th year in existence, we reflect on all of the people who have helped our organization pursue its mission.

From the founders, to each and every board member, trustee, staff member, volunteer, donor, adopter and animal lover, thank you for being brave enough to care for animals then, now and in the future.

