

MassPAWS Newsletter

The Massachusetts Progressive Animal Watchdog Society has an eye on animals in Massachusetts, and the animals are the beneficiaries.



Pete Rose - - - by Beverly Alba, President

MassPAWS received a call from a good Samaritan walking his dog in Revere who passed a cat lying on the sidewalk; not moving and didn't respond when they went by . . . even when his dog sniffed him. He said the cat had been there at 8:00 am and was still in the same spot at 2:30 pm. He said it looked like he had been there all night, and "was hurt or very sick". This longhaired black male; not old, not neutered was found in the public housing complex.

Our MassPAWS volunteer Carol went right away and picked him up. She brought him to Revere Pet Clinic in Revere where Dr. Olga saw him as soon as we got there; the clinic was open that day which was a holiday (*thank God for small miracles*). He smelled of tom cat urine and had a large, open abscessed wound on his rear leg resulting most likely from being hit by a car. He couldn't stand up and appeared to be in shock. We were prepared for the possibility that he may lose his leg from his injuries.

Dr. Olga tranquilized him and took X-rays. She treated the wound and did diagnostics. Carol picked him up at 6:00 pm. and was instructed to keep him very warm. They put an e-collar on and had a drain in his leg. The doctor had sewn about 30 sutures into his leg. He was put on 3 medications and other supplements. While under anesthesia, he was neutered and is now in quarantine for 6 months; if he has the will to recover, we will see Pete Rose through to the end. Dr. Olga's charges were less than any other veterinarian and she attended to him right away with compassion and determined to see him get a chance to live.

. . . we are **MORE THAN GRATEFUL** to Dr. Olga.

The ligaments in his knee may not heal and we are waiting to see if he will have the ability to use his leg again. We want him to have a LIFE. \$ 500.00 . . . that's what it takes for us NOT to turn our heads and walk by and leave these poor creatures to die on the street. It was 25 degrees outside; even colder on the sidewalk where he lay. Almost no other organization would have taken care of this little guy. MassPAWS does it for the animals in our communities and we continue to work only with the support and donations of the animal lovers who provide for MassPAW's mission.



An Indoor Cat is a Safe Cat

Yes, we need your help because Pete Rose and far too many others need your assistance. We will not discriminate because Pete Rose is a "\$500.00 cat" instead of an easy '\$100 00 cat'. We will just be more determined to raise money he & others need. We are not above begging for them.

We will have photos of Pete Rose soon. We will give him every chance. Will you pledge to do the same? Thank you, especially to our donors, on behalf of a young cat who got a nasty start in life, and deserves a chance to live out his 9 lives' *he's used a few up already* . . .

Fostering a Dog or Cat

When you foster a dog or cat, you are saving a life! Each animal placed in a foster home frees up one space in boarding, allowing us to rescue one dog or cat from the pound or an abandoned animal left on the streets.

Every week we are contacted to help with stray and abandoned cats and dogs, and we can only get them to safety by having foster homes and by cooperating with other humane organizations who are dedicated to the same goal. Fostering is an important component to saving lives.

Will you help?

Spreading the message of proper care of animals is important too, will you pledge to be a spay/neuter advocate? Contact us if you know of a caretaker struggling to care for a pet; we will help.

"Please Support the Massachusetts Animal -Friendly License Plate Initiative".

www.MassAnimalCoalition.org



FIV: a Bad Case of Rumors

FIV Facts; feline immune-deficiency virus. Despite what many people think, cats with this condition can live perfectly long, happy, healthy lives.

The FIV cats that have problems are the strays who have no-one looking after them; these can fall prey to all the other infections around, usually brought about through fighting for food, territory or females. Without treatment these can escalate. It is mostly the un-neutered toms that fight, and therefore pick up and spread the virus. When one of these cats gets captured and taken to a vet, suffering from all manner of secondary infections, it is often too late.

These cats are the ones that have led to the undeserved fear about FIV. It is the nature of a vet's work that they will see many more ill cats than healthy ones, whereas in fact, there are very many more healthy FIV cats than ill.

1. FIV is a slow virus that affects a cat's immune system over a period of years.
2. FIV is a virus similar to HIV and causes a disease in cats similar to AIDS in humans. It is a highly species-specific virus that infects only felines. FIV is a cat-only disease and cannot be spread to humans or other non-felines.

Thanks to Lynne at Melrose Humane! Mario was adopted to a nice home yesterday. Mario was estimated to be 10 years old, is FIV +, and had his teeth cleaned by Dr. Duca. He is a handsome long haired blue boy, a very sweet cat who had been outside in East Boston for a long time.

Thank you also to Mary Sylvester who fostered him! We called him adoptable and this proves it . . . there is a home for every homeless animal in MA!

3. Most FIV cats live long, healthy, and pretty normal lives with no symptoms at all.
4. It can't be spread casually - like in litter boxes, water and food bowls, or playing and cuddling. It is rarely spread from a mother to her kittens. FIV is not easily passed between cats.
5. FIV-positive cats should be kept as healthy as possible. Confine your FIV cat (as well as all your cats) to the indoors. Keep them stress free and feed them a high-quality diet and monitor their habits & behavior closely.
6. The virus can be spread through badly infected gums, blood transfusions, or serious piercing bite wounds (these types of bite wounds are extremely rare and occur mostly in free-roaming, unneutered tomcats.)

7. If properly introduced, a neutered FIV cat in a home is extremely unlikely to infect other cats. Some vets may not be educated about FIV since the virus was only discovered 15 years ago and may not agree.



"This is Winnie, a very sweet 4 year old Shih Tzu. Winnie has some special needs due to medical issues. Please ask us about her."

Many of you have asked how you can help our efforts to give homeless and abandoned animals a new life. Besides fostering, transporting and trapping (the BIG 3), and spreading the message of responsible pet ownership, here are other ways you can help!

We can always use volunteers to videotape dogs for Petfinder ✦ gas cards for our trappers and transporters *who often drive many miles to get animals safe* ✦ Petco & Petsmart gift cards ✦ food and supplies for foster cats, feral cat feeders and needy homes ✦ Kitty condos ✦ volunteers at adoption days ✦ adopters

Please Help Save the Animals! Your Donations are Tax Deductable.

These and many more animals are being cared for by MassPAWS. Please call MassPAWS to make a donation to help with their care: (617) 846-5586 or donate with www.PayPal.com to MassPAWS@aol.com



Rosie



Chip



Boss



Bucky



Angus

Patty

This is Patty. She was being cared for by people who fed her in East Boston. Patty was part of a colony of cats that live in their yard. Not too long ago, they caught her and called MassPAWS to ask if we get her medical attention. These folks contacted us because they noticed that she looked very ill. We agreed. Carol brought her to the Revere Pet Clinic where she was examined by Dr. Olga. Patty has severe conjunctivitis, ulcers on her tongue, severe herpes, is very thin and we estimate is about 2 months old.

Dr. Olga showed Carol how to administer fluids so she wouldn't have to be brought to the Angel Memorial Hospital in Jamaica Plain. The emaciated kitten was caught by folks who care enough to help her and we will make sure she will get Veterinary care until she is well. With your generous donations, this little angel will be saved.

A HUGE Thanks to All of You!



MassPAWS is proud to have received grant monies from: The PETCO Foundation, PetSmart Charities and from the Massachusetts Animal Coalition License Plate Program.

Help Homeless Pets in your Neighborhood;

Please participate in the PETCO Foundation and PetSmart Charities fundraising programs; *they work!*



The Massachusetts Progressive Animal Watchdog Society, Inc.

MassPAWS.Petfinder.com

Spay / Neuter Information

Thousands of kittens, cats and dogs are stray, abandoned, homeless and unclaimed every year in Massachusetts; sadly, many are destroyed. Please have your pet spayed or neutered, show your love and keep them safe!

- Find upcoming low cost **CATMOBILE** Spay/Neuter clinics at MRFRS.org or call (978) 465-1940 or email Catmobile@MRFS.org
- The **S.T.O.P. Clinic**; this mobile unit drives to many cities performing low cost Spay/Neuter (cats only, fee includes initial vaccinations) www.TheStopClinic.com Call the S.T.O.P. clinic at (617) 571-7151
- Low cost Spay/Neuter certificates at **Friends of Animals** www.FriendsOfAnimals.org or call (800) 321-7387
- Animal Rescue League SPAY Waggin'** (877) 590-7729, a mobile unit that provides low cost spay and neuter for cats and dogs under 60 pounds, fee includes initial vaccines. www.arlboston.org
- Alliance For Animals** offers low cost Spay/Neuter services 232 Silver St., South Boston, (617) 268- 7800 www.afaboston.org
- MSPCA SNAP** (617) 541-5005 & **Shalit-Glazer** (617) 541-5007 programs, assisting low-income households with Spay/Neuter needs; go to: www.mspca.org and search SNAP or Shalit-Glazer
- Merwin Animal Clinic** 542 Cambridge St. Allston (617) 782-5420 Walk-in clinic open 12-3 Mon-Sat (cash only). Low cost spay and neuter by appointment.

NOTE: will spay/neuter Pit Bulls for FREE.

Since its inception,
MassPAWS has saved and adopted out hundreds of cats and dogs.

MassPAWS.Petfinder.org

MassPAWS aids in the re-homing of homeless and abandoned cats, kittens and dogs, and most of all, we encourage kindness to all animals.



One of my very favorite quotes in reference to the decisions we make in the community and in shelter medicine, "No other disease or condition of companion animals takes as many lives as euthanasia. In fact, no other disease comes close" -
—Janet Scarlet, DVM PHD

MassPAWS has received funds from the sale of the license plates for seven years in order to Spay/Neuter over 600 cats & dogs from our North Shore area.

MassPAWS

Address

PO Box 520136,
Winthrop, MA 02152

Phone

617-846-5586



We love to honk at other
Spay/Neuter plates !

We're on the Web!
MassPAWS.PetFinder.org

The Causes of Overpopulation in Animals

Abandoned Animals; Abandoned pets increase the overpopulation statistics. While some pet owners keep their pets for life, others treat them as though they are disposable. Some of these animals are altered while others are not. When owners grow tired of pets, some take their unwanted animals to shelters, while others merely drop them off away from home to fend for themselves. The ASPCA reports "Approximately 5 million to 7 million companion animals enter animal shelters nationwide every year, and approximately 3 million to 4 million are euthanized (60 percent of dogs and 70 percent of cats)."

Environment; Environment plays a large part in the overpopulation of animals. Some animals are chosen over others and are provided shelter by humans. The animals that are taken in by humans are less likely to reproduce as 75 percent of animals, namely dogs and cats, that reside in rescues or in personal homes have been or will be altered. However, their homeless counterparts greatly contribute to overpopulation. According to the ASPCA, it's nearly impossible to give an accurate number of homeless dogs and cats in the United States as of 2011, but estimates approximately 70 million homeless cats alone. Animals that have never had a home most likely have not been altered and are free to reproduce, which creates more neglected animals.



Looking to adopt a cat or two? MassPAWS cats may be seen at Petsmart Salem with our friends from PALS and at Petsmart Saugus with our friends from Melrose Humane Society. Be sure to adopt not shop!!