

FALL/WINTER 2016

mSPCA  angell[®]

companion



YES ON 3

PREVENT ANIMAL CRUELTY

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Did You Know...

...that the MSPCA–Angell is a stand-alone, private, nonprofit organization? We are not operated by any national humane organization. Donations you make to “national” humane organizations do not funnel down to the animals we serve in Massachusetts. The MSPCA–Angell relies solely on the support of people like you who care deeply about animals.



You'll Definitely Want to Save These Dates!

We know you're busy, so we want to make sure you get these very important MSPCA–Angell dates on your calendars way in advance. We look forward to having you join us!

IN BOSTON

October 26

Raise the Woof for animals in need:
Cyclorama, Boston Center for the Arts,
6:00 p.m.

December 7

Homeless for the Holidays
Wine Tasting

December 8–11

Homeless for the Holidays
Gift & Bake Sale,
Boston Adoption Center

December 10–11

Santa Photos,
Boston Adoption Center

February 12–14, 2017

Kitty & Puppy Love Valentine's Day
Floral & Chocolates Sale,
Boston Adoption Center

May 12–14, 2017

Mother's Day Floral Sale,
Boston Adoption Center

Call **617 541-5046** for more
information about Boston events,
or visit our website, mspca.org.

AT NEVINS FARM

September 24

Uncorked at Nevins Farm:
Wine Tasting & Art Show

October 22

Horses Helping Horses Beach Ride

November 23

Pies for Pets

December 3

Christmas Feast for the Horses/
Holiday Tree Lighting,
Nevins Farm

Call **978 687-7453** for more
information about Nevins events,
or visit our website, mspca.org.

AT THE CAPE

November (date TBD)

Wine Tasting

December 1

Tree Lighting Ceremony at
the Cape Cod Mall

February 5, 2017

Super Bowl Sunday Polar Bear Plunge

Call **508 775-0940** for more
information about Centerville events,
or visit our website, mspca.org.



CAST YOUR BALLOT FOR COMPASSION

WHEN YOU VOTE, REMEMBER THE ANIMALS!

A YES VOTE ON 3 IS A VOTE FOR ANIMAL PROTECTION



When you go to the polls on November 8, don't forget the animals! Massachusetts voters will have an important chance to speak up for those who can't by casting a YES vote on Question 3.

The MSPCA is a strong and proud supporter of this initiative that simply gives breeding pigs, egg-laying hens, and veal calves enough room to turn around and extend their limbs. It also establishes that meat and eggs (specifically whole eggs and whole uncooked cuts of pork or veal) sold in the state meet this modest animal welfare standard.

Right now, in Massachusetts and across the country, animals—*just like the ones we care for at Nevins Farm*—are kept in cages so small they can barely move. Your YES vote can help change that cruel practice.

More than 170,000 Massachusetts voters—including countless MSPCA members—spoke up for farm animals and signed petitions to get this important question on the ballot this fall. One hundred MSPCA-Angell veterinary

professionals have endorsed the ballot question, along with another 350 statewide. Over 260 Massachusetts restaurants and other businesses have also endorsed this measure. In addition, this ballot initiative has support from food safety advocates, since these intensive confinement practices contribute to an increased risk of foodborne illnesses like salmonella.

On Tuesday November 8, we urge you to cast your YES vote on Question 3. We hope to see you at the polls!

If you would like to get involved and help get out the vote for YES on 3 in your community, please email advocacy@mspca.org. You can learn more at www.mspca.org/citizensforfarmanimals.

HOSPITAL RENOVATIONS ENHANCE ANGELL'S CARE OF ANIMALS

ANGELL EARNS GOLD ACCREDITATION AS FELINE-FRIENDLY PRACTICE

Ongoing Plans for Optimizing Patient Care



Buttercup in her Kitty Kruiser



Cardiologist Dr. Nancy Laste examines Malcolm before his echocardiogram

Fourteen-year-old Buttercup enjoyed a ride on an Angell “Kitty Kruiser” during her visit to see internist Dr. Maureen Carroll. These mobile carts alleviate stress for kitties who prefer not to be eye level with dogs in the waiting area. To further comfort our feline patients, Angell offers blankets to cover cat carriers, a separate feline waiting room, express check in/out in a feline-only area during weekdays, and feline-only exam rooms. These efforts and more have earned Angell Gold-level Accreditation with the Cat-Friendly Practice Program® of the American Association of Feline Practitioners (AAFP).

In addition to adding feline-friendly exam rooms in June, Angell completed construction of all-new dentistry, cardiology, and endoscopy suites through the generosity of donors to our Angell Centennial Campaign. Following treatment in these modernized care centers, patients now convalesce in a larger, brighter, and more comfortable recovery area.

A state-of-the-art clinic for administering diagnostic tests has also opened, and the all-new I-131 suite, for treatment of feline hyperthyroidism, is receiving patients. These renovations have come after the 2015 installation of Angell’s all-new MRI which ensures the hospital can offer the most advanced digital radiography, ultrasound, and fluoroscopy imaging services necessary for precise diagnoses that optimize patient care.

To see what’s next, visit angell.org/2016renovations.

LEGISLATIVE VICTORY FOR ANIMALS

GOVERNOR BAKER SIGNS ANIMAL PROTECTION LAW

A CELEBRATION OF COMMON-SENSE COMPASSION



Photo courtesy of Matt Stone

On August 24, 2016, Governor Charlie Baker signed into law the first animal protection bill to reach his desk since he was elected.

The bill, entitled *An Act Preventing the Suffering and Death of Animals*, protects:

- **animals in hot cars** by allowing intervention by law enforcement and individuals (in certain circumstances) when pets are kept in hot cars;
- **chained/tethered dogs** by restricting the number of hours that dogs can be chained/tethered;
- **dogs kept in cruel conditions** by enhancing enforcement of state by allowing MSPCA and Animal Rescue League of Boston law enforcement officers to implement this key law.

Visit mspca.org/hotcars for updates. We are grateful to the legislature for working to keep Massachusetts a leader in animal protection issues.

MSPCA-ANGELL LAUDS PITTSFIELD AND CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCILS FOR BANNING WILD ANIMALS FROM CIRCUSES



In August, Pittsfield became latest Massachusetts city to ban the display of exotic animals in circuses, following Cambridge in March. These cities join Somerville, Plymouth, Weymouth, Revere, Quincy, Braintree, and Provincetown, all of which have adopted similar ordinances to ban wild animal displays.

These cities will never again support acts forcing wild animals to live in captivity while suffering in stressful, substandard, unnatural conditions. The MSPCA testified and worked on these measures with local advocates, and congratulates all involved on this action, which tells circuses their inhumane business model is unwelcome. The MSPCA's advocacy team encourages all citizens to act locally to change laws in their city or town for the benefit of animals. Learn more at mspca.org/circus.

CAPE COLLABORATES WITH HOPEHEALTH PROGRAM

PET VISITATION PROGRAM FOR KIDS IN HOSPICE

CHILDREN + CUDDLY ANIMALS = LOVING COMFORT



In collaboration with HopeHealth, the MSPCA on Cape Cod is pleased to announce its pet visitation program for children with life-limiting illnesses.

The PediPal program at HopeHealth provides pain and symptom management, assessment and case management, spiritual care, social services, and counseling for children and other family members—especially other siblings. Over the course of several months this past spring, two members of our Cape staff were specially trained to be certified to work directly with children in hospice. They will bring a cuddly furry friend to participants, providing mutual love, kindness, and comfort.

mspca ®
campaign for cape cod

To date, the Campaign for Cape Cod has raised more than \$2.4 million in gifts and pledges. We are excited to begin moving forward with the project this fall. Please visit www.mspca.org/capecampaign for the most up-to-date news!

WHERE MILITARY & POLICE DOGS REST IN PEACE

HEROES AT HILLSIDE & K-9 ROW

LOVE AND RESPECT FOR DEVOTED CANINE CITIZENS



The Heroes at Hillside program at Hillside Acre Animal Cemetery, Nevins Farm, offers free private cremation and burial for any U.S. Military War Dog, whether killed in action or adopted post-service. The same benefits have now been extended to Police K-9s as well, with final resting spaces in a special section known as K-9 Row.

The newly designated area is marked with a monument honoring all K-9 heroes, although there are police dogs buried elsewhere throughout Hillside.

Mik, a German Shepherd from the Middlesex Sheriff's office, was interred in September of this year. Mik served, with the rank of Patrol Officer, from 2007 to 2016. His job was sniffing out jail contraband and drugs. He assisted with the transport of prisoners, and was also used for

searching for suspects in criminal cases. Mik also once worked with a nonprofit that raises funds to purchase bullet-proof vests and other K-9 equipment.

When Mik was first brought to Hillside, the staff received a call that his remains would be escorted here by his handler. But when the day came, Mik had a full escort of about a dozen vehicles. Our staff members were deeply moved to see so many of Mik's human colleagues, with tears in their eyes, filing through the visitation room to pay their respects to their brave and handsome friend.

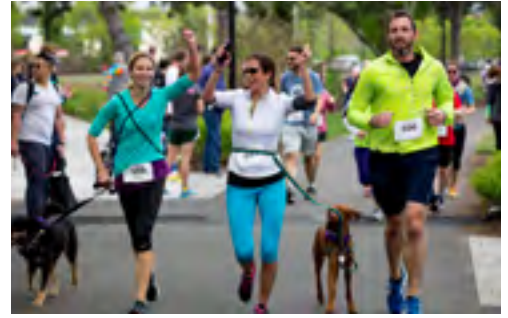
To learn more about Heroes at Hillside, please contact Dave Gordon at 978 685-0632 or dgordon@mspca.org.

MSPCA-ANGELL RESCUES DOG WHO CHEWED OFF HIS OWN FOOT WHILE TETHERED OUTSIDE



The MSPCA–Angell’s communications operation broke records when it pulled in more than \$75,000 in donations by publicizing the story of Maverick, a German Shepherd who chewed off his own foot to escape his tangled tether, requiring emergency surgery at Angell Animal Medical Center. We immediately crafted a press release and blanketed the New England media with news of Maverick’s plight, and just how costly his treatment would be. By the end of the first day the story had been covered by *The Boston Globe*, Boston.com, and many print outlets, and we “ran the table” with local TV news affiliates: every station in the Boston metro area came to the MSPCA to meet Maverick. By day two, his story began to spread around the country. *People* and the *Huffington Post* picked it up and donations poured in. By the end of the week this brave dog’s story had made its way to Canada, Europe, and Asia, and our Boston Adoption Center medical fund now has the extra funds it needs to look after the next Maverick, and the next, and the next. Pictured here is Maverick recovering comfortably in his new and loving home.

Note: See page 3 to read about the new law that restricts the number of hours dogs can be tethered.



Fast and the Furriest 5K—Run, Walk, Wag

Our first annual Fast and Furriest 5K—Run, Walk, Wag was a tremendous success! Nearly 2,000 humans and hundreds of canines attended the family-friendly event held at Assembly Row in Somerville on Sunday, May 22. The event, which included a 5K run, a one-mile walk, and a “ducky dash” for kids, raised more than \$185,000 for animals. Stay tuned for details on the 2017 event, which will take place on Sunday, May 21, 2017.



Dogs on Deck at Fenway

We had a “barktail party” June 28th at Fenway Park...and lots of dogs came. People, too! Thanks to all of you for making the inaugural Dogs on Deck a smashing success. More than 200 people and 50 canines came together in a rousing celebration of the MSPCA. Best of all, the event raised over \$45,000 to fund our law enforcement, advocacy, sheltering, and veterinary services programs!



Furry Affair

We are thrilled to report that the 15th Annual Furry Affair generated well over \$300,000 for the MSPCA Cape Cod! Thanks to Chair Margaret D. Ahearn and the Furry Affair Committee, this marked the most successful Furry Affair to date. Hundreds of animal-loving enthusiasts joined together on a beautiful evening at the Willowbend Country Club on June 17 to celebrate the strength and beauty of the bond humans and animals share—with a focus on those on Cape Cod.



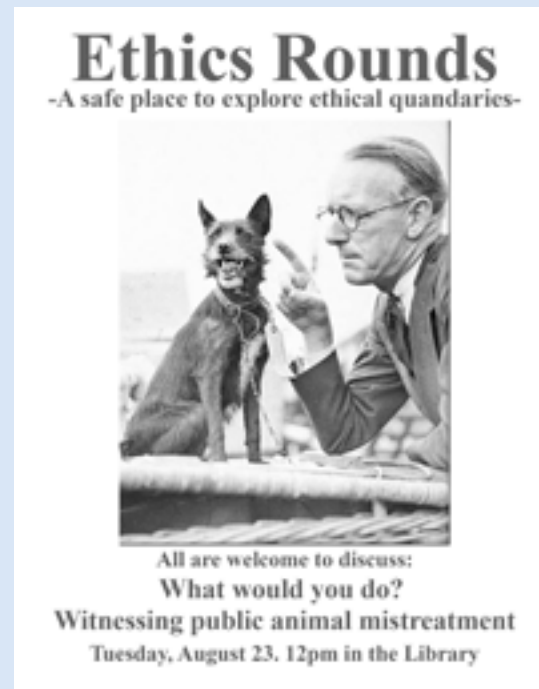
A GOOD QUOTE TO REMEMBER

Many of us are quite familiar with this quote from MSPCA founder George T. Angell, and yet we feel it's more than worth repeating.

"I am sometimes asked 'Why do you spend so much of your time and money talking about kindness to animals when there is so much cruelty to men?' I answer: 'I am working at the roots.'"

It's Not "Just a Job" to Us MSPCA-ANGELL'S ANIMAL ETHICS DISCUSSION GROUP

POPULAR STAFF FORUMS EXPLORE SENSITIVE TOPICS



Nearly all of our employees, even those who don't provide direct animal care, work here because animals are essentially important to them. Almost a year ago, two of our staff members—Robin Grammer, a veterinary technician in Cardiology, and veterinarian Dr. Lisa Moses, a bioethicist who leads Angell's Pain Medicine Service—invited all MSPCA-Angell employees to participate in open discussions on a wide range of animal-related controversies.

This unique forum, dubbed Ethics Rounds, brings together hospital staff, adoption center staff, and people from all levels of the administration, offering them an opportunity to explore and appreciate different perspectives on the treatment of animals in a variety of challenging situations. The group meets at lunchtime in a relaxed atmosphere, and while participation is encouraged, "just listening" is fine as well. So far, the discussion group has covered topics including the best method of selecting animal adopters, whether zoos and aquaria are ethically defensible, and how pest control should be handled in a building where some of those "pests" are patients. Topic experts from different parts of the organization are sometimes brought in to lend their factual knowledge and point of view.

The increasing popularity of these sessions speaks to their value, as staff members frequently confront these kinds of sensitive subjects in their work.

SEIZURE OF SUFFERING DOG LEADS TO CRUELTY CHARGES

BOSTON POLICE & MSPCA OFFICERS SAVE NEGLECTED DOG

Working Together for a Compassionate Society



When Boston Police officers went to pick up a Dorchester man on a warrant, they noticed an emaciated male Pit Bull with overgrown nails in the man's untidy house. They immediately called MSPCA Law Enforcement.

MSPCA Officer Nadya Moreno visited the Boston Police Department to read their report. Based on the information she found there, she obtained a warrant to seize the dog from its owner.

With the assistance of Animal Welfare Agent Ashley Fitzpatrick and two Boston Police officers, Officer Moreno navigated a potentially dangerous confrontation with the extremely agitated man who had just recently returned home after his arrest and was adamant that he would not hand over his dog. The team successfully seized the dog and brought him to Angell Animal Medical Center. Cody appeared hungry, but had a good disposition and was happy to ride with Officer Moreno in her car. After medical treatment and a re-feeding program, Cody was returned to health. The owner was charged with animal cruelty, a felony in Massachusetts.

While we don't yet know how this case was resolved in court, we can happily say that within only a few weeks of the seizure, the dog was ready for adoption and is now living with his new forever family.

To report suspected animal cruelty anywhere in Massachusetts, please call: **617 522-6008** or **800 628-5808**, Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. When calling after hours, leave a brief message along with your name and a phone number where you may be reached during normal business hours. In the event of an emergency after hours, contact your local city/town police department.

SOCIALIZATION MEANS CONTENTED KITTENS

ARE YOU KITTEN ME? KINDERGARTEN FOR KITTENS?

ENRICH YOUR KITTEN'S LIFE WITH USEFUL SKILLS



Kittens are wiggly, snuggly, and hilarious, but they can also be quite a handful, and not every new kitten owner is equipped to deal with these tiny bundles of energy and meows. The early weeks of a kitten's life are crucial to social development; kittens need to be comfortable around people and other cats. Traditionally, lots of fun early socialization classes are offered for puppies, but here at MSPCA-Angell we are righting this injustice with a new set of classes called "Kitten Kindergarten." Kittens (and their humans) can attend four classes in a drop-in format. The kittens will learn how to socialize with other kittens and people,

and will also learn how to relax while being handled and groomed or being examined by a veterinarian. Feline youngsters will pick up skills like coming when called, and their human companions will acquire helpful ideas for enriching their kitten's life and preventing behavior problems. Kindergarten classes are taught by MSPCA-Angell behaviorist, Jocelyn Strassel.

Visit www.mspca.org/kittenkindergarten for more information.

Especially For Pets



Especially for Pets is a chain of stores in Massachusetts that sells pet food, pet supplies, pet services, and offers educational resources for responsible pet care. Founded in 1988, Especially for Pets has seven locations throughout the state. The relationship between Especially for Pets and the MSPCA–Angell stems back almost 20 years, during which time they have contributed over \$111,000 to our organization through event sponsorship and general donations. Additionally, the company annually contributes thousands of dollars on inventory and gift cards for use at fundraising events. Especially for Pets was a top sponsor of the Boston Walk for Animals, and, most recently, the top sponsor of our new Fast and Furriest event, and one of the first sponsors to sign up. The company employs more than 150 people, all of whom share a deep commitment to pets in general and to their own in particular. Their company culture revolves around supporting humane efforts to improve the lives of pets.

Margo Wereta & Michael Chalifoux



Long-time donors who attend almost every Leaders Circle Forum, Margo Wereta and Michael Chalifoux have been involved in many aspects of our organization. Margo says, “Over the years, we have gotten to know MSPCA staff, volunteers, and supporters and we want to be a part of this community.” Her first contact with the MSPCA was 35 years ago when her son asked for a cat and they came to us to adopt one. Margo has volunteered extensively in our Advocacy department, fostered cats, volunteered in the adoption center office, assembled ornaments for our Holiday Trees, and helped with many of our adoption center fundraising sales. Mike helped out with a huge Advocacy project digitizing archival VHS tapes. The two are devoted fans of Dr. Jean Duddy, who helped save their cat Jack O’Lantern with Angell’s I-131 program, a treatment for hyperthyroidism. Margo and Mike later contributed to this program. Jack O’Lantern had been a stray cat who received care through the Boston Adoption Center’s foster program and Spike’s Fund, and Mike and Margo made a gift to that program from an inheritance Mike had received. Pictured here is their current cat, Moonlight, whom they also originally fostered.

Vanessa Marie Cox



Vanessa Marie Cox connected with animals so strongly when she was a child that her family called her “the animal whisperer.” Her very first love was a dog her father brought home in a cardboard box. Vanessa’s compassion and joy enriched all who knew her, and her love of animals spurred her to become a strong supporter of the MSPCA–Angell Animal Medical Center in particular. An extremely gifted athlete, Vanessa excelled at lacrosse and coaching, and was department administrator for Brandeis University’s Athletic Department, but animals were always first in her heart, especially her dog Ollie and cat Molly. In 2015, when she was just 31 years old, a tragic car accident claimed Vanessa’s life, and her family encouraged donations in her memory to the MSPCA–Angell. More than \$14,000 in donations poured in from Vanessa’s friends and family. We are honored that these donations will help heal animals in Vanessa’s name.



Photo courtesy of Darlene Woodward

NO, WE’RE NOT KIDDING

All 46 goats that arrived at Nevins Farm in July as part of a Law Enforcement case have been adopted! The lively herd included pregnant females, and some gave birth to their adorable kids at Nevins. One goat, Gary, adopted by a family in Lynnfield, was neutered (“wethered”) at Angell by Dr. Mike Pavletic, who is usually found performing miracles for cats and dogs. Pavletic admitted Gary’s case wasn’t as challenging as many of his others, but said he certainly treated it just as seriously, and wished Gary a speedy recovery.

ENDING FARM ANIMAL CRUELTY

ANOTHER BATTLE IN AN OLD WAR



Consistent with its mission, the MSPCA has been fighting for better treatment of farm animals for many years. Our current “Vote YES on 3” campaign is another major step we are taking along this road. Here we offer you two excerpts from 1880 that point to the constancy of our fight to end the suffering of animals used for food.

From *Our Dumb Animals*, January 1880

- **“National Board of Trade:** At its recent meeting in Washington, we are very glad to see that this representative body passed the following resolution upon the subject of Cattle Transportation:

Considering the vast abuses that now exist in the transportation of livestock in the United States, abuses which not only unnecessarily torment the animals themselves but also materially injure the quality of the meat as food,

Resolved, that we respectfully call the attention of the Congress of the United States of America to the importance of passing, during the present session, a law for the transportation of livestock throughout the land, which will be an improvement on the present one, and will ensure proper food, water, and rest to the animals in transit.”

- **From the MSPCA Directors’ meeting, December 1879, Boston**

“Some recent cases of abuse were reported—one being that upon the New York and New England Railroad, six cars of hogs were kept more than 28 hours without food—and received careful consideration, and it was

Voted that inquiry be made as to whether such neglect has been guarded against in the future.

Voted that such action be taken as all the facts shall seem to justify.”

We Could Be Thanking You Twice!

When you make a donation to help us help animals, we love to thank you! But did you know that we might be able to thank you twice? If your company has a Matching Gift Program, your gift could be doubled, and twice as many animals could benefit.

Please check with your company's Human Resources department to see if they'll match your charitable donations. If they will, ask for a form and mail it to us at:

MSPCA-Angell
ATTN: Matching Gift Program
350 South Huntington Ave.
Boston, MA 02130

The MSPCA-Angell is a public charity classified as exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Our tax ID number is 04-2103597.

Questions? Please contact Raffaella Torchia at **617 541-5011**.

OUR MONTHLY DONORS ARE ANGELLS OF KINDNESS!

OVER 65,000 ANIMALS A YEAR RELY ON US...and we rely on our monthly donors. Can we rely on you? Funds from our reliable monthly donors allow us to be ready whenever animals need us. These contributions support our adoption centers, hospitals, law enforcement team, and advocacy efforts through our general fund.

Once you sign up, your contributions will automatically begin to help animals in need—no need for you to take time out of your busy life to write a check or make an online donation every month. Four times a year, you'll receive the heartwarming story of an animal helped by Angells of Kindness donations.

All you have to do is decide how much you'd like to pledge each month, and choose electronic funds transfer or credit card. You may stop or change the amount of your pledge at any time, and we will send you a receipt that includes all your gifts at the end of the year. Please visit mspca.org/AOK or call **617 541-5046** to become an Angell of Kindness and extend your wings over animals in need!



Honor Animals with a Beautiful Necklace

In honor of animals everywhere, Amelia Rose Design has teamed up with MSPCA-Angell to create a beautiful paw-print pendant to help raise money for the kindness and care of animals. This pendant is available in sterling silver or gold vermeil for a contribution of \$60 (all but \$15 is tax deductible). For more information or to place an order offline, please contact Sandra Wong at MSPCA-Angell at **617 541-5046** or swong@mspca.org or visit mspca.org/necklace.

About Companion

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depend on donations from friends like you to carry out our mission to protect animals, relieve their suffering, advance their health and welfare, prevent cruelty, and work for a just and compassionate society.

Companion is sent to MSPCA-Angell donors who contribute \$25 or more annually. To ensure that you receive the next issue, please use the enclosed gift envelope or visit mspca.org/donate-now. Thank you so much for making this a better world for animals!

Let us hear from you! If you have questions or comments about Companion, please e-mail companioneditor@mspca.org or write to MSPCA-Angell Companion, Managing Editor,

350 S. Huntington Ave., Boston, MA 02130.

MSPCA-Angell Senior Team

Carter Luke, CEO

Alice Bruce, Vice President, Development

Kathleen K. Collins, Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer

Kim Gazzola, Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

Ann Marie Manning, Chief of Staff, Angell Animal Medical Center

Joseph Silva, Vice President of Strategic Initiatives

Jean Weber, Director of Animal Protection





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The mission of the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals–Angell Animal Medical Center is to protect animals, relieve their suffering, advance their health and welfare, prevent cruelty, and work for a just and compassionate society.

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