

SPRING/SUMMER 2017

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companion

**Severely Injured Cat
Left for Dead:
Now Sweet Gingerbread's
Headed Home**

Law Enforcement Victory:
Guilty Plea in Springfield Hoarder Case

Cock-a-Doodle-Do!
Nevins Celebrates the Year of the Rooster

INSIDE: Have you visited George T.
Angell's grave? See page 12

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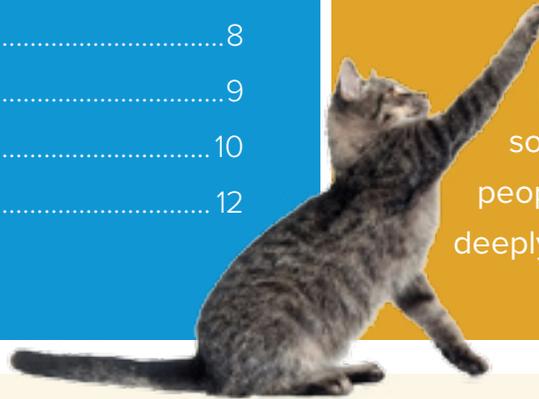
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Did You Know...

...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

May 21

Fast and the Furriest 5K: Run, Walk, Wag—DCR Baxter Park, Assembly Row, Somerville

June 21

Dogs on Deck, Fenway Park

October 25

Raise the Woof—MSPCA Gala, the Cyclorama, Boston Center for the Arts

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

AT NEVINS FARM

May 21

Fast and the Furriest 5K: Run, Walk, Wag—DCR Baxter Park, Assembly Row, Somerville

July 22

Tails and Ales Craft Beer Tasting

September 10

Pet Memorial Sunday, Hillside Acre Pet Cemetery

September TBD

Blue Jeans Ball: Celebrating 100 Years at the MSPCA at Nevins Farm

October 2

Horses Helping Horses Beach Ride, Crane Beach, Ipswich

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

AT THE CAPE

June 8

Pints & Paws at Cape Cod Beer

July 15 & 16

Paw Palooza at Dennis-Yarmouth Regional High School

September 7

MSPCA—Cape Cod Fall Gala, Wychmere Harbor Club, Harwich Port

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



RESCUED JUST IN TIME BY A CARING PASSERBY

SEVERELY INJURED CAT LEFT FOR DEAD NEAR DUMPSTER

SWEET GINGERBREAD NOW ON THE ROAD TO HAPPINESS



The carrier in which Gingerbread was found

Forsaken, hungry, and in great physical distress, Gingerbread had every reason to give up on life, but she never did.

“See something, say something.” We’ve all heard that excellent advice, and luckily for Gingerbread the cat, a good-hearted person saw her sad predicament and said something to the Waltham animal control officer. Otherwise, Gingerbread would have died a lonely and painful death.

One-year-old Gingerbread, found locked inside a cat carrier alongside a neighborhood dumpster on a freezing day in December, had been very seriously injured. There was a blanket in the carrier, but no food or water.

The officer rushed Gingerbread to MSPCA–Angell West, where staff veterinarians stabilized her. Realizing her injuries needed even more specialized treatment, they sent her on to Angell-Boston.

Gingerbread’s jaw was shattered and Dr. Emily Ulfelder pieced it back together (that’s why her mouth looks odd in the cover photo, but it will heal completely). The poor cat’s right front leg had to be amputated. It appeared that Gingerbread had been hit by a car, but no one knows who abandoned her so callously near the dumpster.

Forsaken, hungry, and in great physical distress, Gingerbread had every reason to give up on life, but she never did. Now that she’s recovering, her wonderful, friendly personality is fully on display. By the time you read this, Gingerbread will be in a new, protective home, basking in comfort and kindness instead of wondering if she’d make it through another day.

ANGELL'S NEW COMFORT CARE PROGRAM

WHEN A KIND TOUCH AIDS HEALING

VOLUNTEERS SOOTHE CRITICALLY ILL PATIENTS



Birdie in Angell's Critical Care Unit



Comfort Care volunteer Jez Magarinos, RVN, CVT, VTS (anesthesia/analgesia) spends a few quiet moments with a canine patient in Angell's Critical Care Unit.

Birdie's family rushed her to Angell's Emergency Service after she was attacked by another dog. She suffered a severe "degloving" injury that pulled off much of her skin from her entire midsection. Angell's Emergency/Critical Care team oversaw her care before Birdie underwent surgery. Fortunately, Birdie's family acted quickly and this six-year-old Chihuahua made a great comeback.

Animals like Birdie benefit from Angell's technology and expertise, of course. But there's another important healing tool that Angell uses: "comfort care." The hospital recently developed the volunteer-driven Angell Comfort Care Program, which is modeled after human hospitals' neonatal units and their use of the power of touch to supplement medical technology.

The program is the brainchild of Drs. Lisa Moses and Megan Whelan, who understand that while Angell can deliver increasingly sophisticated medical care, many critically ill or injured animals experience reduced anxiety and pain sensation and recover faster when trained volunteers spend time with them.

"I see the animals soften and relax just by offering my presence and my attention, and it's a reminder of how impactful these simple measures can be," said Jez Magarinos, a certified veterinary technician at Angell and Comfort Care volunteer.

**Volunteering for the Comfort Care program is limited to trained MSPCA-Angell employees.*

UPDATES FROM MSPCA ADVOCACY

YOU HELPED US WIN A LANDSLIDE VICTORY!

MORE NEW BILLS TO PROTECT ANIMALS



Photo courtesy of Matt Stone

Here's what's been going on with our Advocacy efforts. Never a dull moment!

Question 3

In November, Question 3 won a landslide victory with 77.7% of voter support! The new reforms, which ensure hens, calves, and pigs will have enough space to turn around, stretch, and lie down, will take effect in 2022. The MSPCA joined the Citizens for Farm Animal Protection coalition to push for its passage.

New Legislative Session

The MSPCA has filed several bills to combat animal cruelty. For example, legislation would address the sale of animals from puppy and kitten mills, prevent ivory trafficking in Massachusetts, update animal cruelty laws, and ban elephants in traveling shows.

Governor Signs Bill Updating Animal Cruelty Law

At the end of the last legislative session, Governor Baker signed into law H. 1220, a bill that updates a law relating to the care of animals seized in cruelty cases. Filed by Rep. Linda Dean Campbell (Methuen) this bill made several updates to an existing law that allows a court to require a defendant to post a bond to care for animals seized in animal cruelty or fighting investigations.

To get involved, sign up with the Animal Action Team at mspca.org/jointheteam. To learn more about pending legislation and see a full list of bills, visit mspca.org/advocacy.

SHOWING CHILDREN HOW TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

MSPCA-CAPE COD FOCUSES ON COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

ADOPTION CENTER EXPANSION TO AID EDUCATIONAL EFFORTS



The MSPCA-Cape Cod has made Humane Education a cornerstone of the adoption center's growing community programs for all ages.

Designed to foster compassion, responsibility, and respect toward animals, each other, and the environment, many of the programs are currently hosted offsite at schools, libraries, and local museums.

Classroom visits by staff members show children and teens how they can make a difference for homeless pets. During the summer, staff members collaborate with the Cape Cod Children's Museum to enable young children to socialize with animals and learn about animal welfare.

A growing focus on literacy and animals has helped successfully launch Little Bookworms Story Time, providing age-appropriate activities that foster a sense of responsibility and compassion in young participants. Tales for Tails allows children to read to the shelter animals, which increases their comfort, socialization, and quality of life while providing community youth the fulfilling experience of volunteerism.

In November 2016, the Cape broke ground for its new Animal Care and Adoption Center, which will have a formal Education and Training space that will host all these programs. The new facility will enable expansion of community outreach with animal welfare experts, and will also create new behavioral training programs for animals.

Please visit mspca.org/capecampaign for the most up-to-date campaign news.

TOO MANY ROOSTERS, TOO FEW HOMES NEVINS FARM CELEBRATES THE YEAR OF THE ROOSTER

GET READY FOR #EVERYONENEEDSAWINGMAN



When we think “rooster,” most of us can probably almost hear their famous cock-a-doodle-doo ringing out boldly. The word “cocky” also comes to mind, and maybe even “strut.” Well, all of that is true of these fine feathered friends, but that’s what makes them so very special.

The recent popularity of backyard flocks has produced an overabundance of roosters being surrendered to shelters. If people purchase chicks without knowing their genders, and if they only want hens for egg-laying, they surrender the roosters. Other people forget to check with their neighbors, or check their town bylaws to see if the birds are allowed.

In this Year of the Rooster, we hope to raise the profile of roosters—and all farm birds. As we go to press, Nevins Farm harbors about 120 roosters, and we’d love to find real homes for them.

Roosters are true individuals with unique personalities, and Nevins is promoting a social media campaign to sing roosters’ praises, developing hashtags like #everyone needs a wingman. Staff members are also designing educational seminars, International Respect for Chickens Day happenings, a rooster photography exhibit, and “Chicken Camp,” a workshop where dog trainers can hone their techniques using chickens instead of dogs.

Roosters of certain breeds, like Cochins and Silkies, can make great pets, and adding a rooster or two to your backyard flock can enhance flock protection and order, and provide enrichment for the hens.

Are you ready to share your yard with a gorgeous, intelligent bird? Check out mspca.org/nevinsanimals, call 978 687-7453 x6113, or pay a visit to Nevins!

NEWSWORTHY NOTE: WE FIX BROKEN HEARTS!



One-year-old Shih Tzu Petie arrived at our Boston Adoption Center with, quite literally, a broken heart: she was born with a condition that needed urgent surgery to avoid heart failure. Moreover, the frightened dog—found on the steps of a city apartment block—would need a new home once she recovered, since no one came forward to claim her. Fortunately, Public Relations came to the rescue! Our media relations campaign not only secured headlines for Petie in major Boston area media, such as *The Boston Globe* and *The Boston Herald*—but in *People* magazine as well. The exposure generated hundreds of adoption inquiries—so many that our staff could select from the pick of the adoption-candidate litter. And that’s not all: Petie’s story raised an astonishing \$15,000 in donations to our Boston Adoption Center Spike’s Fund, which meets the healthcare needs of animals before they are placed into new homes. Petie was soon adopted into a loving new home. Her medical bills are paid in full, and the remaining money will help ensure the next Petie who comes to us will receive the care she needs, too.



The Cape Walk for Animals

The Cape Walk for Animals, chaired by Chris Hedetniemi and held in September, raised \$52,000 for the Cape Cod Animal Care and Adoption Center. New to the event this year was a Boston Whaler boat raffle, family friendly games and dog contests. Over 25 vendors attended in support of the MSPCA–Cape Cod.



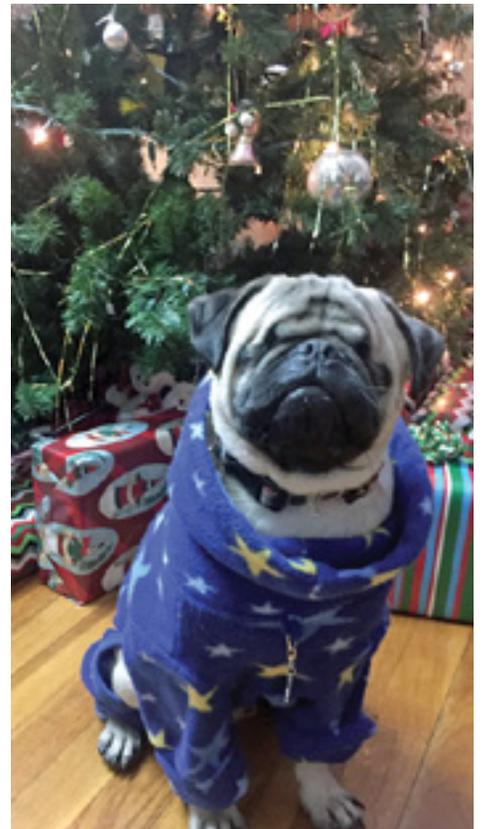
Raise the Woof Gala

In October, at the Boston Center for the Arts Cyclorama, more than 450 animal lovers and about 40 of their canine companions gathered to celebrate our programs and services. Highlights included a “Trick or Treat” Raffle, a program featuring animal celebrity Maverick, and a Fund-a-Need which raised over \$150,000. The Noble Award in Humane Philanthropy was presented to Overseer Robert Beal. Our emcee was MSPCA–Angell’s longtime friend Randy Price of WCVB-TV, and the event co-chairs were couples Robert Davoli and Eileen McDonagh, and Sarah Monaco and Timothy Johnson. Ashley McCown and Henrik Larsen served as vice-chairs. Ticket sales and auctions raised nearly \$660,000 for the animals.

GOOD SAMARITAN SAVES THE DAY

SPECIAL-NEEDS PUG THRIVES IN NEW HOME

GEORDI STILL SEES WHAT'S GOOD ABOUT LIFE



There's just something so expressive about the face of a Pug! But when a good Samaritan found little Geordi at the side of a road in Brockton, his face was really a mess. His eyes were so infected he could hardly see, and he was emaciated, with patches of missing fur. Fortunately, the kind person who found him brought him to our Boston Adoption Center, where the center's veterinarian, Dr. Sarah Carter, looked him over immediately. She said, "It was clear his eyes were painful and the infection required immediate surgery." Dr. Carter had to do two surgeries on Geordi to remove his infected

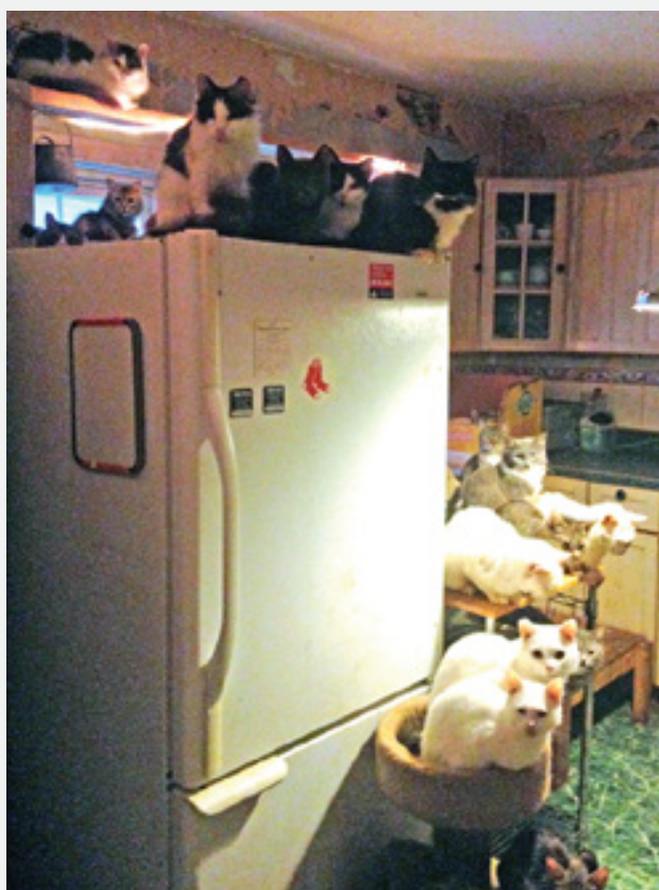
eyes, but even with this handicap he has developed into an adorable, pudgy, loving dog. Geordi recovered in foster care, where he melted hearts with his goofy antics and naughty ways. Transformed from a mask of pain to an emblem of joy, Geordi's handsome face now brings great happiness to his new family.

Please visit mspca.org/adoption-centers to find your new best friend.

HUNDREDS OF ANIMALS REMOVED FROM MISERABLE CONDITIONS

GUILTY PLEA IN SPRINGFIELD HOARDER CASE

MENTAL HEALTH EVALUATION A CONDITION OF PROBATION



In July 2015, MSPCA Law Enforcement Officer Christine Allenberg responded to a complaint about a large number of animals being neglected in Springfield and was met with an overwhelming stench of waste and decay the moment she stepped out of her vehicle. After conducting her investigation and orchestrating the removal of hundreds of living and deceased animals from the property, she filed charges in August and attended numerous court dates after that. In December 2016, the accused (a couple) pled guilty in Hampden County Superior Court to keeping over 100 domestic and wild animals in poor health and squalor, and having over 250 deceased animals stored in refrigerators and freezers. Judge Ferrara sentenced both defendants to five years' probation, and enacted conditions including a stipulation that the couple could not act as caregivers for any animals, domestic or otherwise, and would have to submit to inspections by probation officers and/or the MSPCA. In addition, the female defendant must engage in mental health evaluation and treatment as directed by the probation department. The MSPCA Law Enforcement department is especially pleased with the conditions imposed.

You can follow all of Law Enforcement's recent cases on the Animal Cruelty Blotter section of the MSPCA website: mspca.org/cruelty-prevention-categories/animal-cruelty-blotter/.

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.

ANGELL'S HEAD OF SURGERY HONORED

DR. MICHAEL M. PAVLETIC WINS AWARD FOR CAREER ACHIEVEMENT

WE CONGRATULATE OUR "DR. PAV"!



Just after our last issue went to press, Dr. Michael M. Pavletic, director of surgical services at Angell, received the American College of Veterinary Surgeon's (ACVS) 2016 Founders Award for Career Achievement.

The award recognizes the service of ACVS Diplomates who have distinguished themselves in the pursuit of surgery by making significant contributions to the development of surgical techniques and methodology and the dissemination of knowledge to colleagues, residents, and students.

Dr. Pavletic has dedicated his entire veterinary surgical career to the pursuit of excellence in soft tissue surgery and has developed over 50 original reconstructive surgery techniques used in small animal surgery today. Most recently, you might recall hearing about the work he did on Maverick, the German Shepherd who needed specialized surgery after chewing part of his paw off to free himself from a tangled tether.

Dr. Pavletic's book, *Atlas of Small Animal Wound Management and Reconstructive Surgery*, has become the standard textbook for reconstructive surgery in small animals.



AMAZON SMILES ON MSPCA-ANGELL

A percentage of what you pay for your purchases through Amazon.com will be donated directly to our animals in need simply by selecting MSPCA-Angell as your "charity of choice" while shopping through Amazon Smile. For more information, visit: <http://smile.amazon.com/about>.

For this edition of Companion, we went to a few of our faithful supporters and asked them to “Please tell us how you first became connected to the MSPCA–Angell.”



CATHY BERNSTEIN

My first connection with Angell was in 2010 when I moved to Boston and needed to find a good vet. My two dogs have been treated there both for simple things and very intricate and complicated medical issues. With each visit, I am humbled by the immense compassion and excellent care that is provided. I wouldn't take my animals anywhere else!



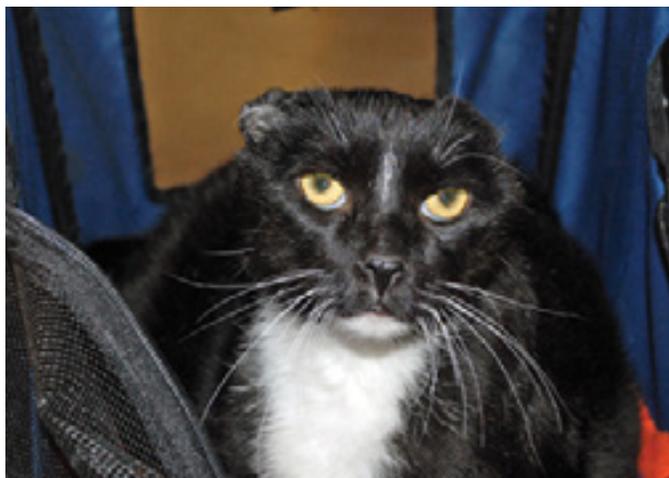
RICHARD LEIGH PEMBERTON

My mother brought me to the MSPCA–Angell when I was six years old to pick out my first pet—a wonderful tabby cat named R2D2. That was my first connection to the MSPCA–Angell, a connection that has now spanned decades (and many amazing pets) and has led to my huge appreciation for the organization, its staff, and its mission.



MELINDA JULBERT

I used to take my cockatiel Jeffrey to a practice in Hanover. He finally became so ill that they told me I needed to go to Dr. Connie Orcutt at Angell. I was terrified, but this turned out to be the beginning of a wonderful relationship. Jeffrey, Beauregard, and now Alexander (Sandy—pictured here) have received the best possible care throughout their lives. Although the doctors and techs that were there at the beginning are no longer there, I love Dr. Simone-Freilicher. Everyone at Angell has been extremely kind to me and my birds for a very long time.



CAROL MCGARVEY

I was introduced to the MSPCA–Cape Cod as a volunteer for veterinary care and quickly became a foster to cats in need, starting with bottle-baby orphan kittens and escalating to some of the most medically complicated cats. In caring for and ultimately adopting Toby (pictured here), I was able to experience, first hand, the compassion that exists throughout the entire organization, including the Angell Animal Medical Center and Law Enforcement.



WENDY CULTICE

My first connection to MSPCA–Angell, like many clients, happened because of a sick pet and a referral from my local veterinarian. That was in 1985! My first dog Poco and my second dog Sadie were treated with such kindness, compassion, and great medical care that I was hooked as a super fan forever.

CAN YOU SEE INTO THE FUTURE?



You don't need a crystal ball to know that animals will always need our help. We've been helping them, with the support of friends like you, since 1868.

Please, as you make your estate plans, consider a bequest to the MSPCA–Angell as a fitting continuation of your lifelong love for animals. And when you do, please let us know! We'd like to invite you into our Circle of Friends and acknowledge your thoughtful concern for the future of our organization. By providing for the animals in your own future plans, you become an essential member of our Society.

For more information, contact Alice Bruce at **617 541-5045**, or abruce@mspca.org.

GEORGE T. ANGELL'S MONUMENT IN MT. AUBURN CEMETERY

In addition to founding the MSPCA in 1868, Angell was a lawyer and social reformer, a well-known criminologist, and an advocate of laws for the safeguarding of the public health and against adulteration of food.



Many MSPCA–Angell supporters know basic facts about our founder, but some may not know that his gravesite is nearby and accessible. When George T. Angell died in 1909, at the age of 85, he was laid to rest at Mt. Auburn Cemetery in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Most fittingly, the inscription on his gravestone reads “Blessed are the Merciful.”

Visitors to Mt. Auburn can find his gravesite at Poplar Avenue, Lot 4738. Recognized as one of the most significant designed landscapes in the country, Mount Auburn was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1975 and was designated a National Historic Landmark in 2003. Those wishing to visit Angell’s grave can find information, including a map of the cemetery, at mtauburn.org.

In addition to founding the MSPCA in 1868, Angell was a lawyer and social reformer, a well-known criminologist, and an advocate of laws for the safeguarding of the public health and against adulteration of food.

Brief facts about Angell can be found at mspca.org/georgethorndikeangell, and the entire text of his *Autobiographical Sketches* can be found at <https://goo.gl/HbijWc> and in the MSPCA Archives (contact Jan Holmquist at 617 541-5005 or jholmquist@mspca.org to arrange a viewing).

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!

MANY THOUSANDS OF 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. In return, we'll send you periodic updates with the heartwarming story of an animal helped by Angells of Kindness donations.

Just 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 Ashley Latta, at MSPCA–Angell at **617 541-5046** or alatta@mspca.org or visit mspca.org/necklace.

About Companion

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Cover photo: P. Carey Reid

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!

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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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