

COMPANION

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Kindness and Care for Animals®

SPRING/SUMMER 2009

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FUN IN THE SUN

**Keeping Your Pet
Safe This Summer**

ANIMAL TALES WARM HEARTS

Inspire Generosity

CUTTING-EDGE MEDICINE

**Meet One Angell
Doctor Without
Borders**

FEATURED STORY

LEFTY

**Angell Puts Lefty
on Right Track**

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Calendar of Events

JULY 16

2nd Annual Party Animals Event

AUGUST 6

MSPCA–Nantucket’s Canine Couture Fashion Show

SEPTEMBER 13

MSPCA–Angell Walk for Animals in Boston, Methuen and Hyannis

OCTOBER 22

MSPCA–Angell’s Animal Hall of Fame Dinner

DECEMBER 5

MSPCA–Nantucket’s Bake Sale and Coffee Bar

DECEMBER 6

MSPCA–Nantucket’s Pet Photos with Santa

For more upcoming events, please visit www.mspca.org/calendar

Contact Information

ANGELL ANIMAL MEDICAL CENTER SPECIALTY SERVICES

-  Avian and Exotic
-  Cardiology
-  Dentistry
-  Dermatology
-  Diagnostic Imaging
-  Emergency and Critical Care
-  General Medicine
-  Internal Medicine
-  Neurology
-  Nutrition
-  Oncology
-  Ophthalmology
-  Pain Medicine
-  Surgery

To schedule an appointment, please contact:

Cardiology Service

617 541-5038
cardiology@mspca.org
www.mspca.org/cardiology

Dermatology Service

617 524-5733
dermatology@mspca.org
www.mspca.org/dermatology

General Medicine Service

617 524-5653
www.mspca.org/generalmedicine

Neurology Service

617 541-5140
neurology@mspca.org
www.mspca.org/neurology

Oncology Service

617 541-5136
oncology@mspca.org
www.mspca.org/oncology

Ophthalmology Service

617 541-5095
www.mspca.org/ophthalmology

Pain Medicine Service

617 541-5140
painmedicine@mspca.org
www.mspca.org/painmedicine

To schedule an appointment for all other specialty services, please call 617 522-7282.

MSPCA ANIMAL CARE AND ADOPTION CENTERS

Boston

350 South Huntington Avenue
Boston, MA 02130
617 522-5055
www.mspca.org/boston

Cape Cod

1577 Falmouth Road
Centerville, MA 02632
508 775-0940
www.mspca.org/cape

Metro South

1300 West Elm Street Extension
Brockton, MA 02301
508 586-2053
www.mspca.org/metrosouth

Nantucket Island

21 Crooked Lane
Nantucket, MA 02554
508 825-2287
www.mspca.org/nantucket

Nevins Farm

400 Broadway
Methuen, MA 01844
978 687-7453
www.mspca.org/nevins

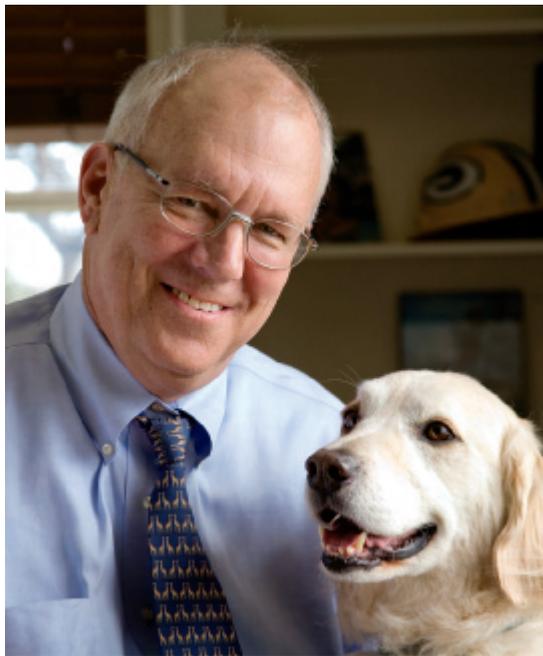
For hours and directions to an MSPCA Animal Care and Adoption Center closest to you, please call 617 522-7400 or visit www.mspca.org/directions.

Suspect animal cruelty? Please call: 800 628-5808

Healthy Pet Blood Donation Program Please call: 617 989-1504 or email blooddonor@mspca.org

Angell Poison Control Hotline 877 2Angell (877 226-4355) 24 hours a day, every day





Letter from the President

Lefty, the Boston Terrier puppy featured in this issue, faced seemingly insurmountable odds in his battle for health. Thanks to an outpouring of donations from supporters like you, Lefty, his four siblings and parents survived, healed and found new homes. Lefty's is a story of new beginnings and hope that spring from focused determination. The MSPCA-Angell gives new beginnings to animals every day and in many ways, we are facing our own new beginning. As we chart a new course, it is with the same optimism that fuels stories like Lefty's.

Many charities, including the MSPCA-Angell, have had to make difficult decisions during the recession. For the MSPCA-Angell, these decisions followed years of responsible stewardship of your donations, and helping millions of animals heal, be safe and find homes. Despite these challenging times, we remain committed to helping animals, and 89 cents from every dollar donated to the MSPCA-Angell continues to go to the direct hands-on care of animals.

Earlier this year, we announced the devastating loss of \$11.4 million (25%) to our endowment and the heart-wrenching decisions that followed. We reduced our programs as well as staffing, and announced closure plans of our adoption centers in Brockton, Martha's Vineyard and Springfield. Yes, these are challenging times, and we have taken action to safeguard the long-term health of the MSPCA-Angell and our ability to help as many animals as possible.

As the MSPCA-Angell adapts to overcome today's challenges, we continue to speak out when animals are treated cruelly, heal pets that have been wounded, offer shelter to those with no home and repair human/animal bonds when they have been broken. Thank you for all of your support that has made this possible for animals in need.

In Brockton, Martha's Vineyard and Springfield there is now a need for transition. We have made constructive strides in partnering with the affected communities, to move toward solutions that will enable these areas to provide self-sustaining, ongoing animal care. We are working diligently to aid the residents of these three communities as they work to form new partnerships and organizations. Through the resourcefulness of these communities, new options have started to emerge. The newly formed Animal Shelter of Martha's Vineyard has already taken over operations of our Martha's Vineyard facility as of May 1, 2009. We are lending our guidance and support as plans in all three communities evolve.

It is with realistic optimism that I see this as a time of new beginnings. Organizations are taking shape as communities pool resources to care for the homeless and abused animals of Massachusetts. We have actively participated in this planning, doing everything we can to help these communities and groups succeed. Lefty and his family are only a few examples of the animals that have experienced the difference that the focused energy of a community can accomplish.

After 140 years, we remain committed to our mission to help animals in need, and we intend to continue that mission in the decades ahead.

Carter Luke
President
MSPCA-Angell

About COMPANION

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Companion is published by the MSPCA-Angell, a nonprofit organization founded in 1868 by George Thorndike Angell. We do not receive any government funding nor are we funded or operated by any national humane organization. Our work relies on the generosity of those who care about the well-being of animals. Beginning with *Our Dumb Animals* in 1868, the MSPCA-Angell has continuously produced a publication about animal care and protection.

Companion is sent to MSPCA-Angell donors who annually contribute \$15 or more. To ensure that *Companion* keeps coming your way, please use the enclosed gift envelope or visit www.mspca.org/companion. Thank you for making this a better world for animals.

MSPCA-Angell Officers:

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Bonnie Jarm, Vice President, Marketing

Kathleen K. Collins, Vice President, Human Resources

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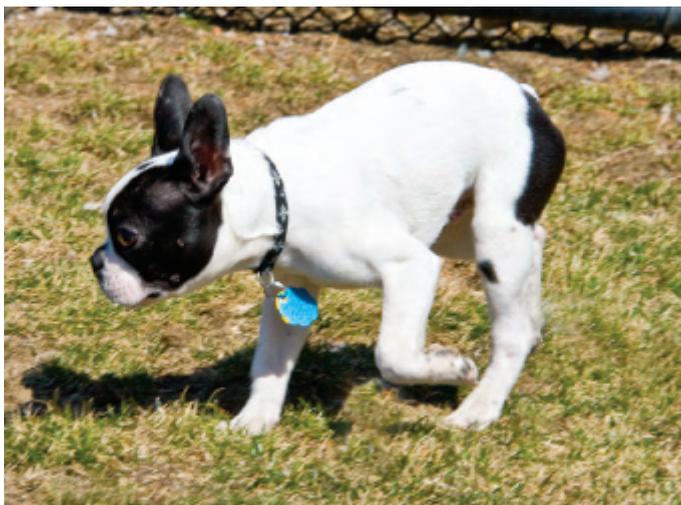
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Mike Halsall

Roy Hagerty

Judith Tacelli

Angell Puts Lefty on Right Track



Lefty recovering at Angell and playing after recovery.

He has been adopted into a wonderful new home with Linda Stice and Ken Tarabelli, and while Lefty still requires monitoring for his food issue, in his new mom's words, he is now a **“friendly, spirited, curious, energetic, cuddly pup.”**

“After 18 years of having pets — two dogs, two mice, one rabbit and three cats — our family was just getting used to being an animal-free house. After our beloved Boston Terrier died last March, we decided to spend a few years free of [expenses,] dog and cat hair on the sofas, landmines in the backyard and earplugs to block the dogs' snoring. That was what our minds told us.



With his new mom Linda.

“Our hearts, as it turned out, had a different agenda. From the moment we first learned about Lefty, we lost our minds, and our hearts went into full action mode. We filled out the adoption application, obsessing over every word to make sure it conveyed how much we wanted this little guy. When we were chosen, we couldn't believe how lucky we were!”

— Linda Stice, *Lefty's new mom*

With your support, the MSPCA—Angell has helped thousands of animals overcome insurmountable odds. You have heard many stories of abused, neglected, sick or injured animals that have crossed our doorstep. These are animals that fight to survive every day despite the hardships life has presented. These animals teach us what it means to be strong. Lefty's story is no exception. His inspiring journey begins with his arrival at the MSPCA.

In early 2009, two Boston Terriers and their five 10-week-old puppies were surrendered to the MSPCA's Noble Family Animal Care and Adoption Center in Methuen. They were found in deplorable and neglectful conditions, and the young pups suffered from multiple ailments, including severe eye infections, respiratory disease and intestinal parasites. They required immediate treatment to survive.

Following extensive treatment, six of the Boston Terriers were adopted into caring homes. One pup, however, needed additional critical care.

Lefty had a severe eye infection that soon caused his eye to rupture, requiring urgent surgery at Angell Animal Medical Center. It was not long after the removal of Lefty's eye that he

was diagnosed with a congenital vascular defect that made it nearly impossible for him to swallow. Lefty became severely underweight, and his chances of survival grew dim.

Lefty underwent open-chest surgery to fix his constricted esophagus. The intrusive surgery required oversight by Dr. Lisa Moses of Angell's Pain Medicine service, who lessened Lefty's discomfort by blocking nerves on every rib and monitoring his pain levels throughout the successful procedure. However, as with any major surgery, he still faced a bumpy road to recovery.

Unfortunately, that first bump came very quickly. Just as Lefty was placed into a loving foster home to recuperate, he developed pneumonia and a yeast infection, and suffered from a partially collapsed lung. In true Lefty style, with your support and the help of his foster mom, he overcame these issues. He has been adopted into a wonderful new home with Linda Stice and Ken Tarabelli, and while Lefty still requires monitoring for his food issue, in his new mom's words, he is now a “friendly, spirited, curious, energetic, cuddly pup.”

To check out Lefty's journey, please visit his “dog blog” at www.mspca.org/leftyblog.

An Angell Doctor Without Borders



Director of Surgery at Angell, Mike Pavletic, DVM, DACVS.

Edgar had gone missing for several days in the wintry weather. The female, domestic, long-haired cat finally returned home, but to her owner's shock, half of Edgar's face had been skinned off and was hanging down loosely on the side of her head. Her owner rushed her to Angell Animal Medical Center. Angell's Emergency and Critical Care (E/CC) staff evaluated the oddly still-purring Edgar and speculated that a fan belt had peeled off her face. She probably had hidden under the hood of a car to keep warm when the engine started. Angell staff was amazed that she remained calm and appeared to be unconcerned with her severe injury. Thankfully, Edgar was about to meet Dr. Pavletic.

Throughout his career, Mike Pavletic, DVM, DACVS, has continued to break new ground in reconstructive animal surgery. He has seen a range of peculiar cases, from removing a mouse's tumor to reconstructing a gorilla's finger. He is a household name for many pet owners and he is sought by clients from across the country and abroad.

To understand the advances of reconstructive surgeons today, you need only look as far as Dr. Pavletic's resumé. After graduating from the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana in 1974, the young veterinarian became an intern at Angell. At the time, animals arrived regularly with severe injuries or ailments that frequently required humane euthanasia to avoid unnecessary suffering. One challenging case involved a cat with a tumor on his face. Using conventional techniques, veterinary surgeons could not remove such a tumor and successfully close the incision. The young doctor looked at the contemporary general limitations of veterinary surgery as a challenge, and he sought answers in an old book in the library concerning human reconstructive surgery. A flap technique demonstrated in a human with a similar lesion became the model for successfully restoring the cat's face. It was the beginning of Dr. Pavletic's interest in plastic and reconstructive surgery for animals.

Throughout his career, **Mike Pavletic, DVM, DACVS**, has continued to break new ground in reconstructive animal surgery.

Dr. Pavletic went on to complete his residency at Angell, followed by teaching positions at Louisiana State University and Tufts University. During his teaching career, he published articles in professional journals about more than 40 surgical techniques he developed. The third edition of his textbook, *Atlas of Small Animal Wound Management and Reconstructive Surgery*, will be released this fall. Dr. Pavletic received the Bourgelat International Award from the British Small Animal Veterinary Association in 1996 for his outstanding contributions to veterinary surgery. He also was the 2007 President and 2008 Chairman of the American College of Veterinary Surgeons.

In 1998, Dr. Pavletic returned to Angell to become the director of surgery and exercise his talent for educating aspiring surgeons at the teaching animal hospital. Over the years he has become one of the "go-to surgeons" for a host of bizarre injuries and intricate oncology cases. Dr. Pavletic consults with other veterinary surgeons throughout the world regarding some of the most challenging cases they encounter.

Over the years, Dr. Pavletic has surgically removed a variety of foreign objects from the gastrointestinal tracts of small animals, including a knife, balls, toys, shards of plastic, teriyaki sticks, string, rope, needles, stones, corn cobs and various undergarments.

With the variety of human cosmetic-surgery programs on television, people confuse the more general term "plastic surgery" with cosmetic surgery. In fact, plastic and reconstructive surgery embrace a variety of surgical techniques to rebuild a body region and restore function after severe trauma or the removal of diseased tissues, including cancerous tissue. In so doing, surgeons also hope to achieve the best possible cosmetic results as an added benefit to the surgical procedure. Dr. Pavletic and other surgeons frown upon cosmetic surgery to simply improve the appearance of a pet. So if you seek liposuction for your overweight dog, Dr. Pavletic will tell you "No."



Edgar relaxes at home after a full recovery.

As for Edgar, clearly she was in good hands. Dr. Pavletic prepped for Edgar's surgery and performed an intense procedure involving the reattachment of Edgar's face and suturing that restored her ability to blink. The once-missing cat was returned to her owner, with an intact face, happy and healthy. Edgar now

joins the ranks of thousands of lives that have been restored thanks to Dr. Pavletic and his pursuit of the unconventional.

Collaborative Care is the Goal of Angell's General Medicine Service

Many clients depend on Angell Animal Medical Center to provide state-of-the-art veterinary care and expertise in 14 specialty services. Some clients, however, are surprised to learn that in addition to our specialty services, Angell's General Medicine staff provides primary and preventative care to our clients. Most importantly, our General Medicine team works collaboratively with Angell's specialists to provide comprehensive care for your pet.

Sharon Larson of Brookline understands the breadth of Angell's services better than anyone. As the owner of three Standard Poodles, two of which are in their teens, Sharon has spent a considerable amount of time visiting Angell to help treat their various ailments. Cole and Mocha are Sharon's oldest dogs, and when Cole began having eye problems, Sharon

"We loved our previous veterinarian, but we have found that **Angell can provide the entire healthcare package all in one place,**" says Sharon.

brought him to Angell to see Dr. Daniel Biros, our board-certified ophthalmologist. Once here, Sharon became aware of Angell's General Medicine service, and realized she could take care of all of her veterinary needs under one roof. Soon Angell's Dr. Angela Mazza became her primary care veterinarian for Cole, Mocha and their younger sister Lola.

"We loved our previous veterinarian, but we have found that Angell can provide the entire healthcare package all in one place," says Sharon. "Angell provides specialized professionals and services — as well as our new primary care veterinarian. It saves me time and provides excellent care for all three dogs."

Between Cole and Mocha, over the last 18 months, they have used Angell's Emergency, Neurology, Dermatology, Ophthalmology and Internal Medicine services. As their primary care provider, Dr. Mazza has worked in tandem with Angell's specialists to ensure the best overall health for Cole and Mocha. Despite the extensive care that her two older dogs require, Sharon is relieved to know she can go to Angell for everything, including pharmaceutical prescriptions.

As Sharon and her crew made their way through the hospital on another recent visit, Lola, Cole and Mocha received a warm welcome from several staff members who recognized the frequent visitors. "The staff is incredibly friendly, helpful and caring. I would not go anywhere else." The good news is she doesn't have to.

To schedule an appointment with Angell's General Medicine service, please call 617 524-5653.

Sadly, just prior to the printing of this newsletter, Mocha passed away. Sharon is grateful for the care Mocha received right up to the end of her senior years by the dedicated Angell staff.



Cole, Lola and Mocha – regulars at the Angell Animal Medical Center.



It's not always easy giving medication to your pet. Angell's Pharmacy is here to help!

Keeping your pet healthy is our number-one priority, which is why the Angell Pharmacy provides you with options to make administering medication a little bit easier. Several prescriptions can be made into treats or liquids which can be easier for your pet to ingest. Pill Pockets, flavored treats that hide pills, are also available.

Please ask your veterinarian about these options for your pet.

To fill a prescription, please call 617 522-7282, ext. 5340, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

The MSPCA–Boston Animal Care and Adoption Center Unleashes New Ways to Serve as a Community Resource for Animals



Lucky, a former “Pet of the Week,” is posted on the Boston Web site in hopes of finding a new home.

If you visited our Web site recently, you may have noticed that all animals up for adoption have their own Web pages through Petfinder.com.™ Within hours of becoming available for adoption, the animals each have unique descriptions posted about their personalities and preferences, as well as photos that highlight their physical characteristics. Our “Pet Paparazzi” volunteers donate their time to photograph animals with skill and style. These volunteers deserve many pats on the back for all of the adoption stories they helped generate through their work. If you have yet to visit www.mspca.org/boston, please do so today and join the 15,000 others who read our updates every week. Our goal is to reach 25,000 weekly hits to the Boston portion of our site by the end of the year. Please spread the word and help us reach our goal!

You can also make your love for animals official by becoming a member of the MSPCA–Boston Animal Care and Adoption Center (ACAC). Members receive discounts for human and pet products at local and regional businesses. You will also be invited to exclusive members-only events and learning opportunities. Annual memberships are available for \$30 on our Web site at www.mspca.org/bostonfriends or by stopping in to fill out an application. Best of all, members directly support our work that impacts thousands of homeless animals’ lives each year.

If you have not done so already, please visit our new retail store located in our Boston adoption center. We have thoughtfully selected items that you and your pet will adore, including designer leashes and collars, exciting cat toys, enrichment toys for dogs and unique gifts for pet lovers. Our selection of items also prepares adopters with supplies needed to bring a new pet home. We take great pride in our retail store and only offer the best treats, toys and supplies for your furry friend. Members also receive a 20% discount on all items — including our full line of cat and dog foods.

Whether you shop in our store, become a member or sponsor a pet on our Web site, you too can help animals just like we do, every day. We are grateful for the many ways you show your support for the work we do, the animals we care for and the mission we serve.

For more information, please visit www.mspca.org/boston.

MSPCA–Boston

Hours:

Tues. and Thurs., 2 p.m. – 7 p.m.

Wed., Fri., Sat. and Sun., 1 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Closed Mondays and Holidays

Please visit www.mspca.org/companion to donate.

MSPCA at Nevins Farm Brings Education Outdoors



Pam Nixon, Assistant Manager of the Equine and Farm ACAC, with students from the Bellesini Academy.

In October 2005, the MSPCA at Nevins Farm began a partnership with Bellesini Academy, a private, tuition-free school in Lawrence for boys in grades five through eight. This partnership led to an after-school program that offers hands-on animal care and presentations on topics ranging from shelter medicine to dog clicker training. In 2006 this partnership extended to include Esperanza Academy, a private, tuition-free elementary school for girls in Lawrence. Twice a month, 12 students from each school arrive with a chaperone at the MSPCA adoption center. For one hour, students participate in a demonstration given by a professional in the animal care field. After six to eight sessions, another group of 12 students from each school is invited to participate in similar humane education presentations.

Popular presentations include a demonstration of a horse rescue by our Equine Ambulance program staff. Students not only learn about the specialized needs of these large animals, but they also have an opportunity to work with Lucky, a life-sized horse mannequin. Another student favorite is the discussion of animal cruelty and neglect, presented by MSPCA Law

Enforcement officers. Our officers discuss the circumstances that contribute to animal neglect cases, including animal hoarding. The staff helps students understand that animals are sentient beings capable of a wide range of feelings, and they require a commitment on the part of their human guardians to meet their physical and emotional needs.

Almost 90 percent of students in Lawrence are eligible for financial assistance (free/reduced-price lunch, free breakfast programs and summer meal programs). Many children are considered at-risk because of the high rates of violence and crime throughout the city. The MSPCA at Nevins Farm receives many animals surrendered from this town that are lacking basic care, or have never been taken to a veterinarian for vaccinations or spay/neuter surgery. It is important to the MSPCA, the educators at Bellesini and Esperanza Academies and the Lawrence community members that the children in Lawrence have positive experiences with animals, and an opportunity to feel compassion and respect for them. We hope to continue our relationship with these schools, to ensure that we give the

children of Lawrence a chance to learn the value of the unique emotional bond that develops between guardian and companion animal, and the responsibility and commitment involved in pet ownership.

Since both schools involved in this special program are also nonprofits, we have been providing transportation to and from the adoption center. To continue this outreach effort for both schools, we are in need of sponsorship to offset the costs of transportation. We plan to invite more schools to participate in a similar after-school education program as additional sponsorship becomes available.

For more information about this program, please contact Jen Dupras, Humane Education Coordinator, at 978 687-7453 x6108 or jdupras@mspca.org.

Noble Family Animal Care and Adoption Center

Hours:

Tues. and Thurs., 12 p.m. – 6 p.m.

Wed. and Fri., 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Sat. and Sun., 12 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Closed Mondays and Holidays



Roger Lauze, Equine Rescue and Training Manager, works with students and Lucky, the horse mannequin.

Equine and Farm Animal Care and Adoption Center

Hours:

Tues. – Fri., 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Sat. and Sun., 12 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Closed Mondays and Holidays

Hillside Acre Cemetery

Hours:

Mon. – Fri., 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Closed Sundays and Holidays

Farewell



Supporters enjoy the samplings of wine and chocolate at the Paws for Celebration.



Mickey is one example of the thousands of Metro South animals to find homes thanks to supporters of events like Paws for Celebration.

Over the years, the MSPCA–Metro South Animal Care and Adoption Center has held many fundraisers, including wine tastings and silent auctions. Three years ago, these events were combined into one gala: Paws for Celebration, a gourmet evening of wine and chocolate tasting with a silent auction. It became the event of the year.

On Friday, March 6, 2009 the MSPCA–Metro South hosted the final Paws for Celebration at the Shaw's Center in Brockton as the September closure of the Metro South adoption center approaches. Guests were greeted by photos of animals whose lives had been touched by the MSPCA–Metro South. A jazz quartet filled the air with music while guests excitedly bid on silent auction items, ranging from Cape Cod getaways to gift baskets filled to the brim with cat toys. Everyone in attendance exchanged memories of their experiences at the Brockton facility, and many wrote them down in a memory book. Laughs were shared and friends were made, all to help a great cause: the MSPCA.

Approximately \$18,000 was raised to help with the continued care of the animals at the MSPCA–Metro South adoption center. We would like to thank our generous sponsors who helped make this event possible. Wine samples were provided by the Wine Basket in Brockton and the Wine Guys in Easton. Chocolate samples were provided by Hilliard's House of Candy in Easton and Gowell's Home Made Candy in Brockton. Most importantly, the staff would like to thank all of our volunteers and supporters for helping us care for the thousands of animals that have come through our doors over the years.

MSPCA–Metro South

Hours:

Tues., 2 p.m. – 7 p.m.

Thurs., Sat. and Sun., 12 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Closed Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays



Everyone in attendance **exchanged memories of their experiences at the Brockton facility**, and many wrote them down in a memory book. Laughs were shared and friends were made, **all to help a great cause: the MSPCA.**

Volunteers Bring Dedication and Skill to the Adoption Center

Many times our schedules become so hectic caring for the animals at the MSPCA–Cape Cod facility, we sometimes take for granted the many volunteers who generously and consistently give their time and support. To all of our volunteers, from the foster parents who care for the pregnant cats and orphaned kittens to the folks who provide animal care and enrichment, we would like to extend our sincerest gratitude. It is difficult work at times, yet each volunteer shows up with a phenomenal attitude and an eagerness to help.

Mary, for example, loves the cat adoption room. Two or three times a week she arrives and spends hours cleaning and making sure their “home” feels like a home. Tracy arrives every Tuesday and Saturday to ensure the dogs are always happy and



Before finding homes, animals like Ty and Kane benefit tremendously from the efforts of volunteers.

well fed. George enjoys watching their ears perk up when he brings them tennis balls. Jack, another volunteer, also dedicates his time to the canine residents.

We call Adam the cat whisperer. He has such a way with the felines; it is heart-warming to watch even the most

frightened kitten start to purr as he approaches the cage. His gentle voice and demeanor win them over every time. Other volunteers who work effortlessly include Steve, Alex, Kristie, Liz, Alexis, Charlene, Vicky, Natalie and Jules.

To all of you who touch the lives of the animals at the Cape Cod and other MSPCA adoption centers, thank you for your time and dedication to the animals awaiting their new homes. You are truly a cornerstone of our mission.

To learn more about volunteering, please visit www.mspca.org/cape.

MSPCA–Cape Cod

Hours:

Sun., 12 p.m. – 3 p.m. (for adoptions only)

Tues. – Sat., 12 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Closed Mondays and Holidays

The “Homeless Cat Enrichment Project”: A Breath of Fresh Air

Fresh air. Sunshine. Room to safely roam. Finally, the cats at the MSPCA–Nantucket Animal Care and Adoption Center will have all of these luxuries and more. Thanks to a \$5,000 grant from the M.S. Worthington Foundation, Inc., our homeless cats are receiving some long-awaited outdoor living space.

On Nantucket, we are in the fortunate position to provide shelter for the cats in our care until they find their own homes — no matter how long that takes. This sometimes means, however, that cats are living in our facilities for extended periods of time, some for as long as two years. Though all cats receive time out of their cages each day, they do not roam outside to smell spring in the air or to feel a fall breeze on their fur. Now, that is all about to change!

The generous “Homeless Cat Enrichment Project” grant allows for the purchase of three freestanding outdoor enclosures that will be placed outside of our current cat rooms. Strict zoning laws on our historic island do not allow us to change the actual footprint of our building by adding on, so detachable “enclosure kits” were the best option for our cats.

In the warmer months of the year, cats that get along with each other will be able to move from the indoor cat room to the outdoor enclosure through a series of windows and tunnels. Cats that are less enamored with other cats will have some “alone time” in the outdoor spaces. Each enclosure will have ladders, hiding boxes, climbing trees and toys.

An additional grant of \$5,000 from the M.S. Worthington Foundation will allow us to continue to spay, notch, vaccinate for rabies and provide food and shelter for the island’s feral cats, of which we rescue about 200 annually.

These generous grants have arrived just in time for the warm months ahead, promising a wonderful summer for the cats of the MSPCA–Nantucket.



For more information about the MSPCA–Nantucket, please visit www.mspca.org/nantucket.

MSPCA–Nantucket

Hours:

Tues. – Sat., 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Closed Sundays, Mondays and Holidays

Free Veterinary Care: Helping Families Survive in Morocco



Hakim with his family's mule at the American Fondouk.



Dr. Denys Frappier, Director of the American Fondouk.

With operations and an endowment overseen by the MSPCA–Angell, **the American Fondouk is a charitable animal hospital providing free care to the animals of Morocco.**

In this economy, many Americans are struggling. There is still the underlying hope, however, that we will soon emerge from the recession and our country will thrive again. For many countries with longtime economic woes, recovery is less likely. Unfortunately, for Hakim's family, struggle will probably last a lifetime.

Hakim is an eight-year-old boy living in Morocco. His father, Mohammed, works in the Old City section of Fez and depends on their mule to transport his wares along steep, cobble roads. Without his mule, Mohammed could neither work nor feed his family.

Recently, Mohammed's mule experienced declining health that reached a desperate state. The animal urgently needed to stop working and receive help. While Mohammed worked to sell his remaining wares, he sent Hakim to the American Fondouk with their sick mule.

With operations and an endowment overseen by the MSPCA–Angell, the American Fondouk is a charitable animal hospital providing free care to the animals of Morocco. Each year, American Fondouk Director Dr. Denys Frappier and his team of nine treat over 22,000 animals for all kinds of maladies: infections, infestations, wounds, fractures, tumors, lesions, dehydration, lameness, saddle sores, deformed hooves, parasites and ingestion of non-food items. All of these animals are treated free of charge.

Together, Hakim and his ailing mule walked two miles to the Fondouk. When they arrived, Dr. Frappier diagnosed the mule as having scabies, a painful skin disease. After bathing and treating the mule, Dr. Frappier gave Hakim instructions on how to care for the animal, and asked him to return in a week to check on the recovery. Fortunately, the mule healed beautifully and continues to faithfully work and provide for Hakim's family, only now without the pain of scabies.

Animals, just like humans, feel physical and emotional pain. The working animals of Morocco labor ceaselessly so that their owners' families can survive. Morocco is a poor country, where people depend on the labor of donkeys, mules, horses, sheep and goats to help them earn their livelihoods. Even with the animals' help, there is little to go around, no money to spare should an animal become injured or ill. The Fondouk provides a haven for these animals when they need help.

The Fondouk is a blessing not only for animals, but for people, too: people like Hakim's family who can continue to earn an honest living because of this free care. The Fondouk goes beyond treatment and educates people about proper animal care, empowering them to nurture their animals and offering dignity and hope. The Fondouk represents a unique form of people-to-people foreign aid and goodwill through the medium of helping animals.

For more information, please visit www.fondouk.org.

On the Hill, Online or on the Race Route: Advocating for Animals

Run for Animals Program: Get Fit, Help Animals



The Run for Animals program is an easy, fun way to participate in an athletic event and raise money for animals at the same time. You can choose the event in which you want to participate — a 5k, 10k, marathon or triathlon — and we provide the tools to help you raise money for the animals. These tools include your own Web page to collect pledges and post photos. As this program grows, we hope to offer even more benefits, including training runs, speakers for your event and T-shirts. Thank you Conover Tuttle Pace for the new logo (above). We also continue to request numbers for the Boston Marathon's charity program, and will have a team in place when we receive numbers. Visit www.mspca.org/RunForAnimals for more information.

Advocates Speak Up for Those that Can't

On April 14, the MSPCA held its annual Lobby Day for Animals. Dozens of animal advocates from across the state came to learn about issues, hear from legislators and lend their voices to those that cannot speak for themselves. We cannot emphasize enough the importance of legislators hearing from you, their constituents. A few of the MSPCA's priority bills include:

Senate Bill 406 — Updating the state's animal control laws, including the creation of a spay/neuter fund and strengthening dangerous-dog laws without being breed-specific

House Bill 1499 — Allowing judges to add pets in temporary restraining orders issued in domestic violence cases

Senate Bill 778 — Creating an optional check-off on state income tax forms, allowing filers to donate to spay/neuter funding and prevent homeless animals

Senate Bill 1870 — Prohibiting the use of the bullhook and ankus on traveling elephants



Rep. Peter Koutoujian and Rep. Katherine Clark discussing the bill to include pets in domestic violence orders.

If you missed the event, you can still help. Please sign up at www.mspca.org/JoinTheTeam to join our Animal Action Team and receive updates on these bills, as well as other pending legislation.

How Do Your Legislators Rate?

The MSPCA has updated our legislative scorecard. This is a resource that animal advocates can use to find out where their legislators stand on animal welfare issues. The very best way to find out, of course, is to talk to them. Many have convenient local district hours. To find out more about meeting with your legislators or to download the scorecard, visit www.mspca.org/GovernmentAffairs.



Sign Up for the Animal Action Team Blog!

Want to know more about animal advocacy and key animal protection issues in Massachusetts? Sign up for the Animal Action Team blog at www.animalactionteam.blogspot.com.



Please visit www.mspca.org/companion to donate.

Fun in the Sun: Keeping Your Pet Safe This Summer



Get your pet checked.

Test dogs for heartworm and groom pets regularly to check for fleas and ticks. Ask your veterinarian about heartworm and flea preventative medication for both dogs and cats, and be sure that all your pets' vaccinations are current.

Show some ID.

Always have your pet wear a collar and up-to-date ID tag. Spring and summer are especially busy times for "lost pet" calls to adoption centers. If your pet does not have a collar or ID tag, the chance of finding him diminishes greatly. We also recommend microchipping your pet. Please visit www.mspca.org/microchip for details.

Be cool.

Hot weather is hard on pets as well as people. Try to exercise pets in the early morning or late evening when the weather is cooler. Keep pets safe at home rather than taking them in the car. The inside of a car can heat up to 110 degrees in 10 minutes on an 80-degree day, even with the windows slightly open. Your pet could be in danger even on a moderately hot day.

Signs of overheating in your pet include drooling, excessive panting and weakness.



It takes just 10 minutes for the inside of a car to reach 110 degrees on an 80 degree day.

Heads up!

Be aware of local hazards, such as poisonous reptiles, toxic plants and fertilizers in your yard, at the park or on your walk route.

Beware.

When enjoying a backyard barbecue, keep pets safely away from lighter fluid, matches and bug repellents such as citronella candles. Also, monitor the foods with which they may come in contact, including corn cobs and food on skewers. Ingested skewers wreak havoc on a dog's internal organs,

and such cases are frequently treated in the Angell Emergency and Critical Care unit during the barbecue season.

Safe travels.

Think twice before bringing your dog to the beach or park on very hot days. When there is not enough shade or access to drinking water, dogs can quickly become dehydrated. When taking pets for walks on hot days, be sure to pack plenty of water for you and them! And, if you are planning a trip with your pet, make sure to review all travel requirements, including transport limitations based on weather and temperature.

Don't make a splash.

Do not leave pets unsupervised by the pool and do not let your pets drink pool water (the chlorine and other chemicals can cause digestive problems). Remember, not all dogs are meant to swim, so your dog should be introduced to water gradually.

For more information about safety tips for your pets, please visit www.mspca.org/tips.

MSPCA Law Enforcement: Cases Closed

Five Years Later, Justice Is Served

In mid-2004, MSPCA Officer Martha Parkhurst investigated an allegation that animals had been abandoned by a couple in two different apartments in the same housing complex. After obtaining and executing two search warrants, Officer Parkhurst removed one deceased cockatiel, two deceased cats and three live but emaciated cats. The fleas that swarmed over the live cats were so numerous that the officer herself was covered with hundreds as she left the apartment.

Although the defendant disappeared from the court system for several years, the charges against him remained. Eventually, he was unable to stay in hiding. In early 2009, the defendant entered into a plea agreement in which he agreed to serve one year in jail.

Working Toward a Compassionate Society

In 2008, Officer Nadya Branca heard of allegations that numerous animals were suffering in unsanitary living conditions in a house in central Massachusetts. When she arrived on the scene, she discovered more than 150 animals — dogs, cats, other small mammals and birds — living together in dark, filthy, crowded conditions.

Past experience has shown an alarmingly high relapse rate in some cases involving the “hoarding” of animals, and these investigations often end with sadness. In this case, however, the owners voluntarily surrendered animals into the MSPCA’s care and allowed Officer Branca to help educate them about animal hoarding and proper animal care. A social worker and a professional cleaner helped the owners work through their hoarding issues. Months later, Officer Branca returned to inspect the premises and found a



Officer Nadya Branca of MSPCA Law Enforcement.

spotless home; the owners were providing proper care and affection for their few remaining animals. Grateful for Officer Branca’s kindness and assistance, the residents wrote a letter of thanks to the MSPCA. In some instances, animals and people are well served without involving the court system, as this case illustrates.



The surviving cat found by Officer Hampson was able to recover after being abandoned for several weeks.

Abandonment Leads to Conviction

In early 2008, MSPCA Officer Lesley Hampson investigated a young man who had allegedly abandoned two cats in an apartment for several weeks. Officer Hampson obtained and executed a search warrant. Unfortunately, one of the two abandoned cats in the apartment was too emaciated and dehydrated to respond to treatment. Shortly before trial, the defendant entered into a plea agreement in which he submitted to probation for nine months and completed 30 hours of community service.

Continuing to Move Forward

Even with staff reductions throughout the MSPCA, including Law Enforcement, the MSPCA remains committed to investigating allegations of animal cruelty. The department will continue to wisely and efficiently further the MSPCA’s mission, and will leverage its collective knowledge by helping other agencies to understand animal cruelty and its significance. We investigate an average of 3,000 allegations every year and we appreciate your assistance more than ever.

Suspect animal cruelty? Please call: 617 522-6008 or 800 628-5805

2009 MSPCA-Angell Walk for Animals



The annual MSPCA-Angell Walk for Animals is a fun way to support an important cause. Animal lovers of all ages will be walking statewide (with or without their favorite canine companions) in Boston, Methuen and Hyannis on the same day, at the same time, for the same reason: to raise funds to help homeless, injured and abused animals.

Register, Raise Funds, Save Lives.

Help us reach our goal of \$300,000 that will benefit the hundreds of thousands of animals in our care. Please sign up at WalkForAnimals.com and encourage your friends, family and fellow animal lovers to participate. Even if you can't make the event, you can still make a difference by donating at WalkForAnimals.com. Registration is \$25 per person and includes a Walk for Animals t-shirt distributed at the event.



Fundraising Prizes

Our goal is to raise \$300,000 and we need your help! We encourage you to set a fundraising goal of at least \$300. As a special thanks to our hardest-working fundraisers, we offer incentive prizes, including a GPS Navigation System. Visit WalkForAnimals.com for details.



Event Activities

- 🐾 Raffle, Contests and Prizes
- 🐾 Music and Food Including Special "Pupcakes"
- 🐾 High-Flying Frisbee Demonstrations from Blue Dog Group
- 🐾 Cat Table
- 🐾 The Hill's PetFit Challenge
- 🐾 Kids' Corner Activities
- 🐾 And More!



Special Thanks!

A special thanks to **Especially for Pets** and **Hill's** for their generous sponsorship of the 2009 MSPCA-Angell Walk for Animals.



Please register online at WalkForAnimals.com.

Lessons on Life from Two Canine Soul Mates: A Letter to the MSPCA–Angell

To our MSPCA–Angell Family,

The course of my life was determined by a cigarette. Forty years ago, my family fell into a spiral it never recovered from when my mother, long-suffering from [multiple sclerosis], burned to death in a hospital bed after dropping a lit cigarette. I was eight years old, the youngest of nine children.

My father never recovered from this loss and when he died last year it was a relief to him to finally go and join the woman he loved. My brothers and sisters, well, they never recovered either. God bless them, I still root for them. But being the youngest and with a grand view of all of them, I wanted something more. I loved them, but didn't want to be anything like them. And so the past four decades became a quest to seek a path where there was none to follow. Sometimes awkwardly, often blind, I wandered and tried to find my way to the top of a mountain I had dreamed of. Step by step, piece by piece, I put together the life I had been seeking through the best and the worst of times.

Because of what [the MSPCA–Angell staff] does for a living (and obviously for love) you will appreciate that the last steps could only be taken after being touched by two wonderful dogs, my dear Max, whose ashes now grace the top of each of the forty-eight 4,000-foot [mountains I have climbed] and, of course, dearest Atticus, who helped



Atticus enjoying the view at the top of the mountain.

me spread those ashes. I did all I could do to reach the mountaintop I had dreamed of in the darkest hours of loneliness, but there are some things a man needs help with, some things he cannot do alone. I learned what I could on my own, but I needed these two souls to teach me what I could not learn by myself — love.

When Atticus got sick last year I feared I would lose it all.

That's where you came in. What hit me most about Angell was not that I thought you all could solve anything, but that you brought us hope, and hope is a very bright star on the darkest of journeys. It is what is needed most, especially when it seems so far away. There are thousands who have received much more from Angell than Atticus and I have, but I wanted you all to know if you touched us as deeply as you did them, and in knowing that you will always be there for us, there are so many others out there who feel just as deeply and appreciative for what you do as we do.

We both thank you for being perfect at what you do. I'm sure you hear such things quite often, but as far as I am concerned, you all can never hear it enough.

Onward, by all means,
Tom Ryan & Atticus M. Finch



Tom Ryan and Atticus.

Archives



Did you know that John Quincy Adams II and Ralph Waldo Emerson served on the MSPCA's first Board of Directors? The MSPCA–Angell has a fascinating past and the MSPCA–Angell Archive Project is dedicated to preserving and protecting all material in its possession related to the Society's rich history. Please see www.mspca.org/history for more details of our history, the mission and the collection.

Unfortunately, the project suffered a significant setback in March 2008 when an electrical fire damaged and destroyed portions of the collection. While much of the collection was salvaged and then treated professionally (repairing water damage from the fire hoses as well as eliminating the smell of smoke), the recovered contents remain in boxes. We are seeking donations to purchase appropriate archival supplies in order to display and preserve the collection. We also welcome knowledgeable volunteers who can inventory the contents of the boxes and assist in proper display in order to be enjoyed by interested donors, the public and researchers. Please contact Jan Holmquist, Assistant to the President, if you are interested in the Archive Project at jholmquist@mspca.org or 617 541-5005.

Donors Ease Pain for Animals and Owners



Carter Luke with donors Ronney and Stephen Traynor.

Heather Schirmer and Tom Mahoney first came to Angell for their dog's emergency surgery, and were so impressed with the hospital's service that they made a significant gift to the Pet Care Assistance Fund, which offers financial aid to qualified clients who cannot afford medical care for their pets, as well as animals in need that arrive through our Law Enforcement department and adoption centers. Jeff and Elizabeth Barnes, longtime Angell clients and supporters of the Angell capital campaign, honored the memory of their dog by naming an Angell client room.

These are just a few of the many Angell clients to step forward and help fill our needs to help animals. Although Angell lends support in so many ways to animals and people all across the Commonwealth, we receive no public funding whatsoever — which makes support from our friends all the more critical.

If you would like to offer your own gift to our Angell Animal Medical Centers, please contact Alice Bruce at 617 541-5045 or abruce@mspca.org.

Pet lovers who bring their animals to Angell for expert care increasingly find ways to **thank their veterinarians, honor or commemorate their pets and help less fortunate clients pay** for their own pets' needs.

Angell Animal Medical Center still looks shiny and new, so sometimes people forget that it is a nonprofit veterinary hospital. Staffed by veterinary experts in specialties like cardiology, dentistry, ophthalmology and surgery, Angell also frequently offers treatment to animals from our MSPCA adoption centers and those rescued by our Law Enforcement officers. The fees collected for Angell's services to the public can never fully cover the expenses of running this state-of-the-art facility.

Grateful Angell clients, through their generous donations, continue the spirit of giving that built the hospital. Pet lovers who bring their animals to Angell for expert care increasingly find ways to thank their veterinarians, honor or commemorate their pets and help less fortunate clients pay for their own pets' needs. For example, an urgent need to fund one of Angell's most innovative programs, the Pain Medicine service (which offers treatment for animals with discomfort that negatively affects their quality of life), was addressed by a generous grant from the Rogers Family Foundation. The Pain Medicine service, run by Dr. Lisa Moses, has inspired many clients to give back to the program that helped their pets. Clients Gail Schechter and Diane Buchwald helped purchase laser equipment for the service and Maureen Flynn launched a fundraising campaign to raise money in honor of her dog Shadow. Clients Anne Caldera and Steve Traynor helped fund the Pain Medicine service as well.

Grateful clients continue to impact pet care at Angell by funding specialized equipment including a rigid cystoscope (through Lila Goldman, in honor of one of her cherished dogs) and a Universal Hip System (through the Knez Family Charitable Foundation). Michelle and Andrew Feinberg began their commitment to Angell with two branches on the Tree of Life to commemorate their dog Chili, and have since made a generous gift to our General Fund.



New Donor Group Pursues P.E.T. Projects

As an outgrowth of last year's successful "Party Animals" fundraiser, our new P.E.T. Project has engaged an enthusiastic group of young professionals who support the MSPCA-Angell. The P.E.T. Project (Participate, Entertain, Transform), led by Overseer Heather Reed Colleary, seeks to transform our world through member participation in entertaining activities that raise both awareness and funds to benefit animals. Members have already begun to meet and discuss the projects they will undertake this year, and which specific MSPCA-Angell programs will benefit. Possible efforts include raising funds for spay/neuter assistance at our Shalit-Glazer Clinic, for new Law Enforcement vehicles and for hospital equipment like "Bair Huggers," which are used for warming patients.

All of the P.E.T. Project members are dedicated animal lovers who want to show by example that everyone can make a difference in animals' lives. Our second annual Party Animals event is scheduled for July 16 at the Foundation Lounge.

If you would like to learn more about the P.E.T. Project, you can sign up for e-mail updates at www.mspca.org/petproject or contact Maggie McNally at 617 541-5049 or mmcnally@mspca.org.



Guests attended last year's successful Party Animals fundraiser.

Animal Tales Warm Hearts, Inspire Generosity



Jared Leach, Jessica Gifford, Michael Tarshi and Oscar



Event Honorary Co-Chair Emiley Lockhart and Honorary Auction Chair Stacey Lucchino



MSPCA-Angell President Carter Luke, his wife Penny Schiller and event emcee Randy Price



Danielle West with Lori and Matthew Sidman and their dog Monte



Jay and Marlene Lander with Andrew and Michelle Feinberg and their dog Charlie

Close to 300 animal lovers and their canine companions gathered together at the WGBH Studios in Brighton on May 14 to celebrate with us at our annual Animal Tales Gala.

Lively conversation over cocktails and light fare led into the evening's program, hosted by emcee Randy Price. Guests listened intently as President Carter Luke and the Director of Animal Care and Adoption Centers, Jean Weber, narrated the tales of animals whose lives were changed for the better because of MSPCA-Angell programs and services. Honored animals included Hemi, a dramatically rescued pig that was brought to Nevins Farm; Edgar, a cat whose torn face was reattached by an Angell surgeon; and Lefty, one of five Boston Terrier pups that survived in the face of great adversity and has been adopted into a loving home.

Luke also offered sincere gratitude to our generous sponsors and vendors and to the event committee, led by honorary co-chairs Keith and Emiley Lockhart.

Another high point of the evening was the live auction with professional auctioneer Kathy Kingston, including such coveted items as tickets to Boston Bruins and Red Sox games, and tickets to a Billy Joel and Elton John concert. A spirited competition arose for the chance to have the winner's own pet featured on MSPCA direct mail address labels, and the item proved so popular that three winners were announced.

Through the generosity of all the attendees, over \$325,000 was raised for the animals!



Ellie Cornish, Sarah Monaco, Jeanette McSweeney and Annsley McAleer

Planning for the Future?

As you make your estate plans, please consider a bequest to the MSPCA-Angell. For more information, contact Alice Bruce at 617 541-5045 or abruce@mspca.org.

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.

On the Web

MSPCA—Angell e-Newsletter



Find out what's new at the MSPCA—Angell by signing up for our monthly e-Newsletter! Visit www.mspca.org/enews to sign up today!

MSPCA—Angell Online Store

Shop for gifts, pet products and more at the MSPCA—Angell online store, and proceeds from your purchases will benefit animals. Start shopping today and make a difference at www.mspca.org.



MSPCA—Angell Honor e-Cards

Send an e-Card to announce a donation in honor of a loved one or have us mail a card indicating that a gift was made in their name. There is a \$5 minimum donation for honor e-Cards and a \$25 minimum for mailed cards. Visit www.mspca.org/ecard to send an e-Card or call 617 541-5075 for more information.

Angell Pet Portal

Access your pet's health information online: view upcoming and recent appointments, update account information and check your pet's vaccination status. You can even order prescription refills online. The Angell Pet Portal is easy, convenient and free! If you are an Angell client, visit www.mspca.org and click on the Pet Portal Login button to sign up.

Free Animal Ringtones

Visit www.mspca.org/ringtones and download free cat or dog ringtones for your cellphone!

MSPCA—Angell Credit Card



Apply today for your MSPCA—Angell Platinum Plus Credit Card with WorldPoints Rewards. A portion of your purchases will go toward the MSPCA—Angell at no cost to you.

For more information or to apply; visit

www.mspca.org or call toll-free 800 932-2775 and mention priority code LQ6Q.

Become an MSPCA—Angell All-Star

Become a monthly donor by signing up to be an MSPCA—Angell All-Star. We depend greatly on our All-Stars. These dedicated friends provide reliable financial support that allows us to devote more resources to our animal care programs, and fewer to raising the necessary funds. Pledge your monthly gift at www.mspca.org/allstar.



Join the MSPCA—Angell Online Network

Help us spread our mission of kindness and care for animals by joining our MSPCA—Angell community on MySpace, Facebook, YouTube and Twitter at www.mspca.org/community.

Conflicts with Wildlife in Your House or Garden?



Check out our web-based interactive house. Don't know what type of animal it is? The online tool provides a visual depiction and step-by-step instructions on how to recognize and humanely exclude

a wildlife intruder from your home and garden. Go to www.mspca.org/house to try it out!