

THE SCOOP



The Punky Predicament

Nearly every shelter and rescue faces situations like Punky's: an animal needs costly, lifesaving medical care. Every animal deserves the chance to live a happy, healthy life, and Punky is no exception. Please take a moment to read her story.

Punky, an abandoned adorable gray tabby kitten with a wonderful personality, was left in our care. We soon realized something was wrong. She was sneezing frequently, grinding her teeth, and developed double pneumonia. Our veterinarian also noticed that one eye was larger than the other. Punky was struggling at the shelter and needed specialized veterinary care. Thankfully, Marilyn, an experienced member of our Feline Team, welcomed the nine-month-old tabby into a loving foster home.

Dr. Kim at VCA South Shore Animal Hospital examined Punky and diagnosed her with bilateral inflammatory polyps with infection. Without treatment, the polyps could grow large enough to press on the nerves that control her pupils and eventually become fatal. Without surgery, Punky would lose the ability to open her jaw, eat, or breathe.

Removing the polyps required a procedure called ventral bullae osteotomy, or VBO. The original estimate was \$8,100—an extraordinary expense for a shelter to spend on one kitten. These are the difficult choices shelters face every day. That money could help many animals, but is one life worth saving? We believe it is. Still, the decision had to be guided by facts: Punky was otherwise healthy; she needed surgery, and her prognosis was good. Once corrected, she could go on to live a healthy life.

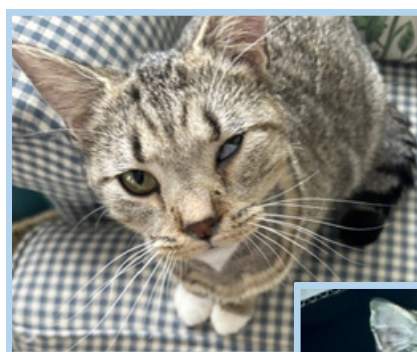
Punky had surgery on July 14 and did extremely well. She is now back with her foster mom and thriving. She will need the same surgery on the other side. It will cost a little less, but it is necessary for her full recovery and a normal life.

We are grateful to Dr. Kim for performing Punky's surgery and to VCA for helping reduce the cost. Including follow-up care, Punky's treatment currently totals \$6,000 and will likely reach \$10,000 after her next surgery.

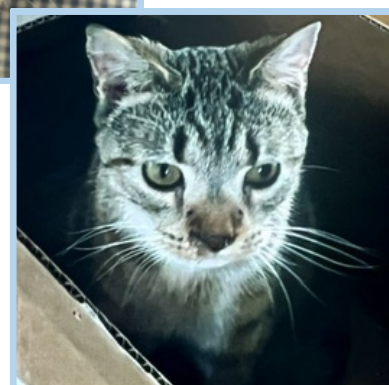
Normally, this type of care would be covered by the Mickey Medical Fund. Unfortunately, the fund is running low, and we need your help. The Mickey Medical Fund allows us to provide extraordinary medical care for animals in need, improving quality of life and, in some cases, saving lives.

Advances in veterinary medicine give us more options than ever, but often at a high cost. We chose to save Punky because we believe every animal deserves a chance. She is one of many animals who receive exceptional medical care from QAS each year. Despite everything she has endured, Punky is full of life, loves everyone she meets, and is truly a very special kitty.

We hope you feel the same way and will consider donating to the Mickey Medical Fund today.



Before...



... After!





Every Dollar Makes a Difference

Join us in directly supporting our furry friends by covering the cost of essential medical care.





\$100
= Medical Exam Fee for One Animal

\$250
= Spay or Neuter Fee for One Animal

\$500
= Above and Beyond Care



Donate Here!





BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

Quirk Auto Dealers

In 2018, QAS volunteer Emily Duff set out to build meaningful community partnerships for Quincy Animal Shelter. While researching local business leaders with ties to Quincy, she discovered that she and Mr. Quirk had grown up in the same town. Emily wrote him a personal letter, sharing their connection and explaining the shelter's mission. He responded, and that letter marked the beginning of a relationship that has made a lasting difference for QAS. At the time, the shelter was located at 56 Broad Street, where the grounds were in rough condition, and the dog play yard was often flooded and muddy. After visiting and seeing the need firsthand, Mr. Quirk sent his Quirk team to landscape the play yard and complete other repairs, finishing the work in just a few days. Since then, Mr. Quirk, Subaru of America, and Subaru of New England have continued to support QAS by being a sponsor at our charity golf tournament, the annual Subaru Share the Love Event, and a free yearly microchip clinic held at Quirk Subaru. Their generosity and ongoing commitment have helped countless animals, and we are deeply grateful for their partnership and support.



Thank you, Dan Quirk, for your continued generosity and support.

SUCCESS STORIES

Look at the shy ones, the old ones, the sick ones, and the ones that have been here a long time. You won't be sorry. You will be a happy hero!



Oliver

Oliver was diagnosed with a history of urinary obstruction, chronic colitis, and cardiac dx. Jessica and her partner, Jackson adopted him in April of 2026.

"We were happy to see how well cared for all the animals were. We knew we wanted to adopt an older cat because their personalities are already developed, making it easier to find the right fit for our family. We also loved the idea of giving a cat that might otherwise be overlooked the chance to have a loving and happy home.

Lisa Donnelly gave us a tour of the shelter and introduced us to many cats. She shared valuable insight into each cat's personality, habits, and unique quirks. Oliver immediately stood out to us. He confidently jumped out of his crate and greeted us. Even though he is a small cat, he has a big personality. He is confident, vocal, curious, and loves to explore. We spent time with Oliver in a larger room to get to know him better. He was not shy at all. He enjoyed looking out the window, walked around with his tail held high, welcomed affection, loved to play, and wasn't afraid to use his voice. His friendly and outgoing nature made a lasting impression on us.

At first, Oliver's medical history seemed a bit overwhelming. However, with the education and guidance Lisa provided, along with Oliver's incredible personality, our decision was an easy one. We knew he was the perfect cat for us.

We are so happy with our decision to make Oliver a part of our family. Our favorite part of each day is when he snuggles up with us and gives us affectionate headbutts. He has become the cutest alarm clock, waking us up with his meows and biscuit-making. Oliver has brought so much joy into our lives, and we are grateful every day that we chose him."



Jasmine

Jasmine has been with us for over 6 weeks now and she has really settled in. She is the perfect dog for us. Jasmine is smart, a quick learner and a real cuddle bug. We couldn't have had a better experience with QAS!



Coco

I'm Coco, and I just turned 10 years old! My humans threw me a "Weenie Bit Older" birthday party, which was only fitting for a queen like me. I spend my days living by the ocean and keeping watch from my balcony overlooking the boardwalk. Nothing gets by me. It's a full-time job!

My favorite adventures are boat days with my humans, long walks, and especially car rides. If someone asks, "Do you want to go for a ride?" I'll immediately start spinning in circles until they open the door. I have my own car seat, and my head is always out the window so I can feel the breeze. I only have four teeth, so my tongue is almost always hanging out. Don't let that fool you though—I can still inhale string cheese faster than anyone expects!

I'm a total daddy's girl and love my dad more than anything. Other dogs? Well...I'm pretty sure I'm the queen, so I don't have much interest in them. My humans say I have a lot of personality, but I just know what I like!

Two years ago, I was adopted and found my forever family. Since then, I've spent every day showing my parents just how much love, sass, and happiness I can bring into their lives. I'm so lucky to have found them, and they feel just as lucky to have me.



Cupcake



Cupcake was diagnosed with hyperthyroidism, hypertension, atopy, and chronic medical conditions.

After the very recent passing of our beloved son, Peeta (the larger-than-life tabby cat who was also well known as the former Mayor of Quincy Animal Shelter), it didn't take us long at all to decide we wanted to adopt another long-term feline resident of QAS just as Peeta would have wanted... When reading up on cats waiting to be adopted, we found that the lovely and dear Cupcake- who is as sweet as her namesake- was calling to us! When we came by for a visit before adopting her, Cupcake greeted us right away and let us know that she was ready to start her new life in our family. We saw that Cupcake is a very gentle, loving, and classy woman of a certain age and we intended to give her the dignified and elegant lifestyle that she was deserving of for many years to come.

We've only had Cupcake for a few short weeks, and she has already become a cherished member of our family. Although very affectionate to people she just met, she had a shy first week in our home, usually keeping her distance as she became used to her new environment. But slowly, she gained her confidence and opened up to our love as she became the affectionate little cuddle bug we knew she would blossom into. Cupcake loves nuzzling, is very chatty and opinionated with her little 'mrow' noises, plays like a kitten and has already appointed herself as a deputy of bug-catching in our home and, in her free time, is an avid birdwatcher. We're so grateful for the love she has filled our home with!

Shadow

I first met Shadow when I went to the temporary shelter with my sister to drop off some supplies. My sister was chatting when I noticed this very large cat in a room by himself and the lights were off. I was told he had just come in and was very shut down and not yet available for adoption. I asked to see him. I didn't even recognize him as a cat. He had been shaved due to severe matting and was very obese. His coloring made him look like a baby seal. I must have spent 45 minutes talking to him, and when I went to leave the room, he gave me this look that broke my heart. I had recently lost my beloved Cat Grayson and was still grieving his loss. I had no intention of adopting, but that sorrowful look just got me. I knew he needed me and I needed him. I knew it would be a long journey back to health for him and to feel love again, but after one year Shadow went from 35 pounds to a svelte 18 pounds.

He is now a beautiful black cat who follows me everywhere, always by my side he helped me get through my grief and has been so worth the journey I adore him. In fact, he pretty much rules the household with my other cat Lucia and my two rescue dogs.

My message is when you see an animal at the shelter that is so afraid and shut down that you cannot visualize the personality that is hidden in all that fear. Please don't discount them. They just need lots of love, patience, and understanding. Shadow is living proof of that, and I am happy I took this journey with him. I am now a QAS volunteer and focus my efforts on those sweet souls so that they can shine too.

Marv now Maize. It had taken me about a year to feel ready for another cat after my 16-yr. old mama's boy died. I knew that I couldn't get anyone who resembled him, a grey tabby tiger, so I started frequenting the shelter websites. Scrolling for the furry face that jumped out at me. First, I thought I'd look for an orange tiger. Then I thought about looking for a torty girl. I was on every shelter site in the Boston/Quincy area. I just hadn't found the right face.

Then two faces at QAS caught my attention, an orange girl and a sassy tuxedo girl. But it was Marv's face that melted my heart. I read about her family having to surrender her and the spicy personality and thought, do I have the perfect home for you little diva! I lived alone, she would be the only cat, with plenty of space to hide in, and practiced patience with a cat finding their way (growing up we took in at least 6 strays over the years, and all turned into wonderful marshmallows). I was looking forward to seeing how her personality would evolve.

My neighbors joined me in visiting QAS. While we met all the cats available, I couldn't be dissuaded from meeting Marv. She was in a room all to herself, I felt so bad - I mean I knew it was for her sake as well as everyone else- but poor baby! As soon as I walked into the room she jumped out of her perch and wound her way through my legs. We were warned she'd probably swat at us, and she did, but it was halfhearted. I was smitten and asked her if she wanted to come home with me. Clearly, she chose me as much as I chose her.

And now Marv is Mistress Mazakeen of the Lillum Hylton, Maize for short (or really my Maizie Daisy) As soon as I brought her home, she was up on the sofa, near me, but far enough away we didn't touch. And she wasn't shy about letting me know her boundaries. It was only a week for her to decide I was worthy of snuggling with! Now almost a year later she still has her sassy side but mostly she's a goofy, clumsy, love bug. And I'm so glad she's mine.

Marv**Bella**

James and Dale are so happy to have Bella in their lives. "She is definitely the one in charge and we would not have it any other way. We love you Bella aka Bellybutton".

Thor

Thor is living the good life with his new family. He just loves car rides, pup cups, hitting the beach and playing with dog friends. He loves his mom and dad but has a real sweet spot for dad. He loves his treats. Thor wakes up his mom and dad with kisses and big hugs. What a handsome boy!



Please Support The Mickey's Medical Fund

We urgently need your support to rebuild our medical fund. QAS is required by MDAR regulation to provide routine care including exams, vaccines, and spay/neuter surgeries, but we also cover emergencies like surgeries and treatments for injuries or chronic conditions.

Mickey's Medical Fund was created in memory of Mickey, a beloved pit bull who inspired us to help animals in need after his sudden passing from antifreeze poisoning. Over the past 27 years, QAS has delivered exceptional veterinary care, but rising costs have strained our resources.

Your donation to Mickey's Medical Fund will help us provide essential care so animals can live healthier, happier lives.

Nyx before:



Nyx after:



NYX'S STORY

By Volunteer Roberta Allision

Nyx, a young German Shepherd, came to the attention of Quincy Animal Control after concerned individuals noticed she was severely underweight, missing large patches of fur, and covered with open sores. A veterinarian determined that Nyx was most likely suffering from a severe flea allergy dermatitis—a skin condition caused by an allergic reaction to flea bites. The relentless itching led her to scratch and bite herself excessively, worsening her injuries. To begin her recovery, Nyx received medicated ointments and regular medicated shampoo baths to soothe her skin and promote healing.

Despite the pain and discomfort she endured, Nyx never lost her joyful spirit. She especially loved playing fetch with her favorite pink tennis balls and eagerly sought opportunities to play. It was also clear that Nyx had been trained before arriving at the shelter, as she already knew several basic commands. Once Animal Control stabilized her condition, dedicated shelter volunteers continued her care with patience and compassion. Over the following weeks, her coat gradually grew back, her skin healed, and the constant scratching and biting came to an end.

German Shepherds are well known for their courage, intelligence, and unwavering loyalty, and Nyx embodied all these qualities throughout her recovery. Just over two months after arriving at the shelter, she found a loving forever home. Today, Nyx is thriving—healthy, active, and enjoying the exercise, care, and affection she always deserved. Her story is a testament to the remarkable resilience of animals and the life-changing impact of compassionate veterinary care, shelter staff, and volunteers.

Nyx's new mom reports that she is doing very well in her new home. She is currently enrolled in training classes and is a wonderful student!

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



Amy Fox Shortall

I first began volunteering as a dog walker in 2016. I had previously been involved in community service throughout my college career and as both a new graduate and a new resident of Quincy, I was looking for a way to meet people and volunteer within my community. QAS was a natural fit, as it allowed me to marry two of my passions: volunteerism and animal welfare. I'm now in my second stint at QAS, having moved out of MA in 2018, then back in 2021.

There have been many dogs who have come through QAS that have left a lasting impression upon me. One example that sticks out is a hound named Calvin. Calvin was found as a stray and brought into the VCA with a deadly condition, bloat. Without immediate medical intervention, bloat is fatal. QAS took a chance on Calvin having never even met him and agreed to cover the cost of his lifesaving surgery. I remember Calvin because I was the one who got to pick him up at VCA after his surgery and bring him back to QAS for the very first time. Without QAS he would never have gotten a chance at a happy ending. And despite starting out his QAS journey on the cusp of death, he ended up becoming one of the strongest dogs I've ever walked!

Dogs like Calvin are what keep me coming back to QAS. When I look back over the years, I feel truly humbled to have been even a small part of so many rescue and adoption stories. While some of what we see in rescue can be heartbreaking, the dogs bring an incredible amount of joy into my life. There is nothing more rewarding than watching a shut-down or anxious dog come out of their shell, or seeing a sick dog nursed back to health. Their resilience and openness to love are remarkable. Every dog that comes through QAS's doors, regardless of their circumstances, has had their world turned upside down. Suddenly, they find themselves in a strange place, surrounded by a rotation of unfamiliar people, yet often, they allow us in and choose to trust us, even when their trust has been broken before. They are extraordinary creatures, and my life is better for having had the privilege to know and care for them.

Adopting an animal is hard work. There are inevitably challenges that come from bringing a rescue animal whose history you know little about into your home. But every single challenge I have ever faced with a rescue pet has been overshadowed by the bottomless well of love that my pets have poured back into me. It is always worth it. And for however hard every obstacle or loss was – I would do it again in a heartbeat. If you can, adopt! It saves lives.



Tim Martin

I've lived in Massachusetts my whole life and work full-time as a Regional Manager at DB&S Lumber. I decided to start volunteering at Quincy Animal Shelter because I wanted to give back to my community while spending time with animals. I've always loved animals, and volunteering has been a great way to help them while meeting other people who care just as much about giving them the best chance at finding a home.

At the shelter, I primarily help care for the cats by cleaning, feeding, socializing them, and making sure they have plenty of attention. One of my favorite parts of volunteering is watching shy or nervous cats slowly come out of their shells. Seeing their personalities develop and knowing that a little extra time and patience can help them become more adoptable is incredibly rewarding. Every Thursday is something I genuinely look forward to, and it's become one of the highlights of my week. Some of my favorites at the shelter were Johnny, Franklin and Artemis!

Outside of volunteering, I enjoy staying active, cooking, reading, volunteering and spending time at the beach. I'm grateful to be part of such a welcoming group of volunteers and staff, and I'm thankful for the opportunity to help the amazing animals at Quincy Animal Shelter.

MUZZLE UP

By Volunteer Amy Fox Shortall



Muzzles Are More Than Reactivity Tools. Many people feel uneasy when they see a dog wearing a muzzle. Muzzles are often unfairly associated with “bad” or aggressive dogs, which can make owners feel embarrassed or afraid of being judged for using one. Muzzles are an important tool for responsible dog ownership. They can help manage many behaviors and situations safely.

For example, muzzles can prevent dogs who scavenge from eating things that could harm them. On walks, some dogs may pick up trash or even other dogs’ waste. A muzzle can help stop them from ingesting dangerous items.

Other helpful uses include:

- Supporting safe introductions between animals
- Providing safety at the veterinarian, especially when a dog is sick or needs uncomfortable but necessary handling
- Helping during grooming or nail trims
- Meeting travel requirements, when needed

The best time to teach a dog to accept a muzzle is before it is ever needed. By building a positive association early, owners can use a muzzle safely and confidently in an emergency.

There are two main types of muzzles: soft muzzles and basket muzzles. Soft muzzles, often made of mesh, are usually intended for short-term or emergency use. They typically hold a dog’s mouth closed to help prevent snapping or biting, but they also prevent panting, which dogs need for temperature control. For that reason, soft muzzles should not be used for long periods or during exercise.

Basket muzzles are made of vinyl, hard plastic, or metal and form a basket around the dog’s nose and mouth. A properly fitted basket muzzle gives a dog enough room to pant and drink water, and many styles also allow owners to offer treats. They come in a variety of shapes, sizes, and colors to suit different dogs’ needs and personalities.

Rhubarb, shown here, gets nervous at the vet and can be reactive when touched in ways he does not expect or want. He also eats waste from the ground and has contracted giardia twice as a result. To keep him and others safe, he wears a muzzle on walks and during veterinary visits.

Rhubarb is modeling his basket muzzle from The Muzzle Movement. The hard plastic basket is bite-proof and prevents him from picking up trash or waste. From the side, you can see that the basket is roomy enough for him to pant, making it safe for longer wear and exercise.

Muzzles have an undeserved bad reputation. Rather than punishment, a muzzle is a safety tool that gives dogs more freedom to move through the world safely. All dog owners should feel encouraged to muzzle train their dogs before an emergency arises. The next time you see a muzzled dog, we hope you will view the dog and owner with understanding. And if your own dog wears a muzzle on walks, you can do so with pride, knowing you are helping keep your dog safe.



GUARDIAN ANGEL SPONSORSHIP FORM

Quincy Animal Shelter offers many ways to donate in honor or in memory of your loved ones. Our Guardian Angel Sponsorships are available for 3-, 6- and 12-Month durations. The space you choose can be dedicated to a family member, friend, beloved pet(s). We now offer large spaces for annual sponsorship. Perfect for corporate sponsorships and Group dedications.

STEP 1 Decide and check off the type of space you wish to dedicate.

STEP 2 Circle how long you wish to sponsor the space.

☐ Cat Cage

☐ Dog Kennel

☐ Cat Bonding Room

☐ Dog Bonding Room

☐ Open Cat Playrooms

3 Months \$75.00	6 Months \$150.00	12 Months \$300.00
3 Months \$75.00	6 Months \$150.00	12 Months \$300.00
		12 Months \$500.00
		12 Months \$500.00
		12 Months \$500.00

STEP 3 Name of the person or pets: _____

Your Message: _____

**Optional:* Send us a photo! Email photo to guardianangel@quincyanimalshelter.org

STEP 4 Make your tax-deductible donation:

Pay by Check: Quincy Animal Shelter
P.O. Box 690088
Quincy, MA 02269-0088

Pay through our website:
QuincyAnimalShelter.org

DONATION FORM

Support the Quincy Animal Shelter and you will be saving the lives of hundreds of dogs and cats. Each year, QAS rescues, rehabilitates, and finds loving homes for unwanted animals, saving many from a life on the streets and an uncertain future.

All proceeds go towards animal care and operation of Quincy Animal Shelter. Your donation is tax deductible.

Donations

Donation amount:

Quincy Animal Shelter thanks you for donations of any amount.

\$ _____



The Mickey Medical Fund:

for extraordinary medical care.

\$ _____



Wesley's Wish Feral Cat Fund:

for the care of feral cats.

\$ _____

Your Information

If you've moved or changed your address, you can use this form to update us.

Total amount enclosed: \$ _____

Your name: _____

Company (if applicable): _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip code: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone number: _____

☐ *I want to remain anonymous*

INSTRUCTION

1. Please make your check payable to:
Quincy Animal Shelter
2. Mail the check along with this form to:

Quincy Animal Shelter
P.O. Box 690088
Quincy, MA 02269

DID YOU KNOW?

Your company may match your donation

If your company has a Matching Gift Program, your gift could be doubled, and twice as many animals could benefit! The match could be based on your monetary donation or the volunteer hours you serve.

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

Quincy Animal Shelter

ATTN: Matching Gift Program

PO Box 690088 Quincy, 02269-0088

We are so very grateful when we receive your donations. Your contribution help us to give the care that our special residents need 24/7, 365 days a year.

Quincy Animal Shelter is a public charity classified as exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Our tax ID number is 31-1703439.

Questions?

Call us at: 617-376-1349.



OUR WISH LIST:

Before we ask for anything else, we must say **THANK YOU** to everyone who responds to our Facebook appeals for pet food, treats and paper towels.

Every order helps us to keep our costs down!

Here is what we always need:

- Gift cards to grocery stores, Chewy, Walmart, Staples and Amazon
- Dog and cat food – Purina Pro Plan Adult, Kitten, Puppy and Sensitive Skin and Stomach.
- Dry and canned food
- Stewart's Beef Liver Treats for Dogs
- Fancy Feast – All flavors
- Cat litter – Unscented – Tidy Cat and Fresh Step
- Cat treats – Any brand
- Bleach – Regular unscented
- Greenies Pill Pockets for dogs and cats
- Paper towels
- Trash bags
- Dawn for dishes
- Clean hand and bath towels

WE **CANNOT** TAKE ANY OF THESE ITEMS:

- Open bags of pet food and expired food.
- Used pet supplies, litter boxes, plastic bowls, beds, leashes and collars.
- Linens, bedding, blankets, dog crates, ramps, stairs or gates.

KITTEN WISH LIST:



- Fleece blankets
- Kitten food (Purina Pro Plan, Fancy Feast, Royal Canin canned & dry)
- Milk Replacement (KMR)
- Kitten treats
- Kitten safe toys
- Unscented non-clumping litter
- Baby bottle feeding kits

QAS NEWS

WE ARE HIRING

We are seeking a motivated team leader to help our shelter thrive and continue serving animals and families across our community.

For 27 years, QAS has been part of a caring community that has helped more than 11,000 animals find loving homes.

This full-time role is a wonderful opportunity for an experienced business professional with nonprofit leadership experience and strong skills in budgeting, financial reporting, accounting, and strategic planning.

The [Executive Director of Business Operations](#) will help support QAS's financial stability, ensure compliance with state and local regulations, and guide key efforts in fundraising, grant writing, marketing, event planning, donor retention, and donor acknowledgment. Working closely with the Executive Director of Shelter Operations, this person will help ensure our shelter has the resources needed to care for animals in need and support the people who love them.

Please review the full job description on our website quincyanimalshelter.org. If you share our commitment to animal welfare and community service, we would be delighted to receive your resume and cover letter at president@quincyanimalshelter.org.



KIDS THAT CARE: Ladders 2 Success Program

For four weeks in July, QAS welcomed students from the Quincy Public Schools' Ladders 2 Success program. The program helps students entering 9th grade prepare for future employment opportunities. Participants take part in activities focused on leadership development, job readiness, financial literacy, and career exploration, and earn \$15 per hour while attending!

Each week, a group of students visited the shelter to learn about careers in animal welfare and animal care. With guidance from shelter staff and volunteers, students took part in hands-on activities related to shelter operations. Their experiences included observing a canine spay surgery, discussing careers in dog training and K9 behavior, meeting a Quincy Police K9 officer and his K9 partner, creating a social media post featuring adoptable cats, and learning about animal intake and adoption.

The students asked thoughtful questions and were eager to participate. Some are even considering careers in veterinary medicine. Many also shared that they have pets of their own.



Thank you to Amy Curtin and Chris Ranft of Quincy Public Schools for introducing us to these wonderful students. We are so happy to see young people interested in helping animals!



Update by Bruce Ayers, State Representative

On July 15, the House approved legislation that strengthens animal welfare protections, modernizes animal care laws, and improves public health and consumer protections across the Commonwealth. The bill now returns to the Senate for further consideration.

Below is some information I wanted to share on the key provisions included in this bill:

- Strengthens kennel oversight and dog licensing laws by improving inspection requirements, enhancing reporting by local licensing authorities, ensuring dogs housed in kennels are properly licensed, and permitting the use of microchips and other approved forms of identification under certain circumstances.
- Enhances protections against animal neglect by establishing a clearer legal process that allows law enforcement and animal control officers to seek timely court intervention when animals are suffering from neglect. Courts will have expanded authority to order appropriate care, remove animals from unsafe conditions, and prohibit animal ownership in serious cases.
- Expands protections for animals used in research by increasing opportunities for dogs and cats to be adopted after research concludes, requiring greater public reporting, and limiting the use of animal testing when validated alternative testing methods are available.
- Improves consumer protections for pet owners by updating Massachusetts' pet insurance laws to reflect nationally recognized standards.
- Creates a statewide pet ownership program for older adults living in public housing, prohibiting blanket bans on pets while allowing housing authorities to adopt reasonable policies that protect residents, animals, and public housing facilities.
- Strengthens accessibility protections for individuals with disabilities by establishing meaningful penalties for transportation network companies (such as rideshare services, like Uber) and drivers who unlawfully refuse service to individuals traveling with service animals.
- Establishes a statewide licensing program for veterinary technicians, creating professional licensing standards, expanding the Board of Registration in Veterinary Medicine to include licensed veterinary technicians, and providing a transition period for full implementation by 2031.
- Invests in animal health and welfare programs by expanding the allowable uses of the Homeless Animal Prevention and Care Fund and directing additional revenue into the fund to support programs that improve animal care across Massachusetts.

TRIBUTES

April 1, 2026 – July 31, 2026

IN MEMORY OF

Joanne McCarthy, Sandra Competiello, Sally & Frank Mong, Jane Hovey, Linda Iannaco

John T. Kay, Amy Raposo, Marcia

McCarthy, Janet & Mike Feehily

Mary Ellen Johnson, Denise Kaplan

Mark Elias, Lois Tufts Pod

Mary "Gigi" Gaquin, Donna Muldoon

Arthur Ralph, Pamela Snaith

IN MEMORY OF SPECIAL PETS

Ollie Loos, Amy MacKay

Winnie, Sandra Lee

Max Dimant (QAS Alumni), Tracey Dimant

Henry, Nancy Reed

IN HONOR OF SPECIAL PEOPLE

In celebration of my Dad, volunteer, Bill Rogers' 80th Birthday, this donation is made to the Quincy Animal Shelter for his time, dedication and love for all of the animals in need! Happy Birthday!!!

Love- Steve, Amy & Gemma (woof!)

Kathleen Milano, Catherine Driscoll

Harriet Hutchinson, Janet McGovern,

Myrna Dacey, Elaine Martell

Nick Malvesti, Quincy ACO, Peg O'Brien

Pat Lynch, Andrew Lynch

Cooper's 10th birthday, Joan O'Leary

Lynn Buskey, a very good friend,

Debbie Holland

QAS Tuesday Morning Breakfast Club,

Nikolay Zholnerkevich

IN HONOR OF SPECIAL PETS

Phoebe & Fozzi, Leslie Griffin

Mia & Peanut, Catherine Fulton

Velvet & Charlie (QAS alumni),

Gina Muscato

Roo, Kristin Scott

Knox, Mary Vozzelli

Facebook Birthday Tributes

Many thanks to those who had a FB birthday Fundraiser in 2026

SPECIAL THANKS

IHO George Regan IV's Christening,

Love Ronnie and Steve Kanarek,

LeeAnn & Steven Horner

Residents of Jonathan's Landing

-Braintree, wish list items and gift card

Ice Tea Stand Kovich Family, cash donation

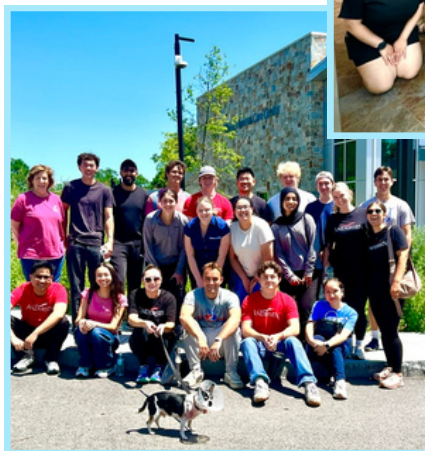
Quincy College Staff, Quincy, donations of wish list items

Volunteer Day Work Groups

Chewy.com

GRAY, GRAY & GRAY, LLP

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Animal Rescue League Spay Waggin'
Dr. Amy Capraro & Braintree Veterinary Care
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VCA South Weymouth Animal Hospital
Weymouth Landing Cat Clinic & Hotel
Dr. Susan Holt
Ashley Zibura, DVM, MS, DACVO
Brad Brittain, RVT

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WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

Understanding QAC and QAS

We have now been at our new location for more than a year. We often get questions about what the difference is between Quincy Animal Control and Quincy Animal Shelter. Although we have many of the same goals, our responsibilities and authority are very different.

Since 1999, QAS has worked successfully alongside Quincy Animal Control (QAC); only the location has changed. The City of Quincy owns the City of Quincy Animal Care Center and, by agreement allows us to operate independently.

QAS is a separate nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization licensed to rehome cats and dogs. QAS pays all animal-related expenses, including food, veterinary care, office supplies, and cleaning supplies. Its annual operating budget is about \$450,000, which includes modest salaries for four full-time staff members.

QAC primarily handles stray dogs and cats, along with some owner surrenders from Quincy residents. QAS also accepts Quincy strays and surrenders. Quincy residents receive priority, though QAS may take in animals from outside Quincy when space allows and if that animal will thrive in our shelter. QAS staff and volunteers do not have the same authority as Animal Control Officers. They are not required to pick up stray or owned animals and have no legal authority to do so.

When a Quincy stray dog or cat has no known owner, the city retains ownership and control for the first seven days as required by Massachusetts law. The legal stray-hold requirement applies to dogs, but we hold cats during this time to give owners a chance to reclaim them. During the hold period, QAS staff and volunteers provide daily care, food, walks, and enrichment.

If the animal is not claimed after seven days, QAS usually assumes ownership and becomes responsible for veterinary and all other care costs. Once the animal is medically and behaviorally cleared, it is made available for adoption.

QAC may also accept surrendered dogs or cats from Quincy owners. These animals are usually transferred to QAS for continued care and adoption placement.

In some cases, an animal remains under QAC's care and decision-making authority. This may include animals involved in criminal matters or legal disputes, animals whose owners are hospitalized or incarcerated and do not wish to surrender ownership, animals considered dangerous, or animals with serious behavioral or medical concerns. In these situations, QAS does not assume ownership, and QAS volunteers do not provide care for those animals. QAS is responsible for raising its own funds mainly through private donations. QAS does not receive any state or federal funding.

We have a very successful relationship with QAC and the city, and we hope it continues for many years to come. We will be here as long as there are homeless animals in need.



INFORMATION

For more information, visit:

QuincyAnimalShelter.org

STREET ADDRESS

99 Quarry Street,
Quincy, MA 02169

MAIL ADDRESS

P.O. Box 690088
Quincy, MA 02269

PHONE

(617) 376-1349

EMAIL

info@quincyanimalshelter.org

OUR HOURS

We are open

Tues, Wed, Thur, Sat
(Friday by Appt. Only)

11am – 4pm

We are closed Sunday,
Monday and Holidays.

**Animal surrenders are by
appointment only.**

We offer shelter tours
during our open hours.

**Check out our online
Volunteer Application:**



www.QuincyAnimalShelter.org

SIGN UP TODAY!

This edition of The Scoop was designed by Em Harford



This Edition of the Scoop is Dedicated to:

our Adoption Team

Adoption is our number one goal. Finding the right home for an animal is not an easy task. Our adoption team members are all volunteers. They show up each week to greet the public and help match the right pet for that person or family. Adoptions across the country are down but our team is making great adoptions happen every day. In July we sent home 33 animals to loving homes. Thank you to our amazing team of adoption representatives, greeters and receptionists.

We can't do this work without you!

Sign up for our email newsletter today on www.QuincyAnimalShelter.org

Let's save animals and trees.

MDAR License # 0035

(617) 376-1349

P.O. Box 690088, Quincy, MA 02269-0088

www.QuincyAnimalShelter.org



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