

Thanks to local businesses who donated gift certificates and to our volunteers who sold tickets, our calendar raffle was a success.



We will be having another one this Spring!

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THANK YOU



Senators Paul V. Jabour, William A. Walaska and Representative John M. Carnevale.

Your generosity has helped to fund our FREE Spay and Neuter program. We have been able to fund spay and neuter surgeries for Rhode Island residents needing financial assistance for their dog(s).



Jen of All Trades

Volunteers come and go but our core group is a bunch of tough, opinionated, dedicated women. Sorry guys- lol.

Her days are spent as an Assistant Administrator for the Rhode Island Judiciary. When the work day ends, work doesn't end for Jen.

Jen has spent countless hours applying for grant money, soliciting donations, selling raffle tickets and facilitating entire fundraising events.



Jen at our softball tournament held in CT.

www.almosthomersq.org



Sit, Stay, Read

Tails of our Rescue

Character is how you treat those who can do nothing for you

If you would like to donate :



A YOU CARING page has been set up to help us with funding their stay indoors. It can be found by going to www.youcaring.com and search for "Brutus the rottie".

There are many homeless people living in Rhode Island who go unnoticed. Please support efforts like House of Hope - CDC who work tirelessly to assist those who have fallen on hard times.



Since our inception in 2006, our mission has been rescue shelter Rottweilers from the fate of euthanasia. Within two years, requests to help other breeds outweighed the need to help one breed, so being breed specific went out the window, and we opened our hearts and homes to all breeds of dog. The Rottweiler remains very dear to the heart of our Founder and Director, Carla Ciccone.

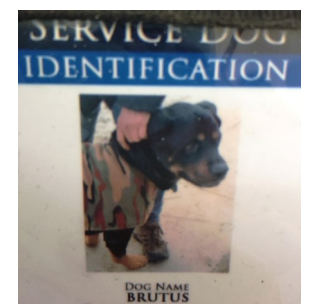
About two months ago, she was approached by an employee who worked on the grounds of her job, telling her that there was a couple who walked around with a Rottweiler and they appeared to be homeless. The search was on! Each day, she would look for this couple. Not having any luck with locating them, she began to ask other employees from various agencies to call her if they were seen. What seemed like weeks would go by before a friend and colleague at the RI DMV called her with a sighting. She befriended the couple and asked if their dog, Brutus, needed anything. She asked them to wait while she ran to the pet store and came back with bags of supplies for Brutus, a goofy- yet handsome older Rottweiler. Through their conversation

she learned that the trio lived outdoors in what they referred to as "camp". Ralph, a Vietnam veteran, informed Carla that he rescued Brutus from starvation and that the couple had refused housing that was offered to them because Brutus could not go with them. And this kept her up at night wondering if Brutus was laying on the hard, cold ground. To make matters worse, the news stations were warning of an upcoming snow storm. This notion got her thinking about what could be done for Brutus and his people. So, she took matters into her own hands. She secured a room at a local hotel that would accept Brutus and did not discriminate against his breed. The rest of the AHR Board scrambled to buy supplies, clothing, toiletries and food gift cards to give to Ralph and Katie. A representative from House of Hope- CDC posted on our Facebook page that they are also assisting the couple with other services. Within a few days, Ralph and Katie with Brutus in tow showed up at Carla's office to proudly show off Brutus who was officially certified as a service dog. Finally, they would be eligible for housing that would accept Brutus!! We are



Ralph, Katie & Brutus

funding their stay at the hotel until permanent residency is secured. Ralph, Katie and Brutus are beyond appreciative of their current situation where they can shower, be warm and sleep in a bed. We are happy to help and Carla can sleep again.



Brutus' service badge

There's no place like home!

There's no place like home!

www.almosthomersq.org



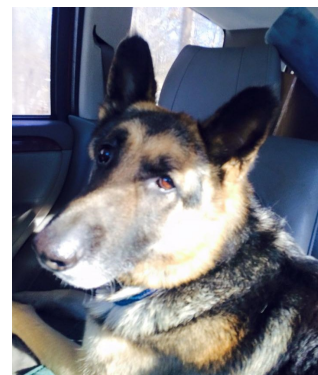
Helping our community



We became aware of Tyson through the North Kingstown Shelter Support Foundation and paid for him to be neutered before he was adopted. Tyson was privately rehomed to people who knew he had Epilepsy. Despite this, they knowingly withheld his medication resulting in 14 seizures. Here he is with his new foster mom, Karen, and we have agreed to pay for Tyson's medication for his entire life.



Zeus' owner contacted us when her landlord insisted that Zeus be neutered or he would have to go. The family just didn't have the funds for surgery. We paid for Zeus to be neutered so that he can stay at home with his family.



Major was adopted to a RI family by a southern rescue. Within weeks the family claimed it wasn't working out and the rescue stopped returning calls. Fearing Major was going to be dumped anywhere by the family, we offered our help. He was placed in foster care and was adopted shortly after to a woman who adores him!

A desperate call for help

Canine parvovirus is a highly contagious virus that can affect all dogs, but unvaccinated dogs and puppies younger than four months old are the most at risk.

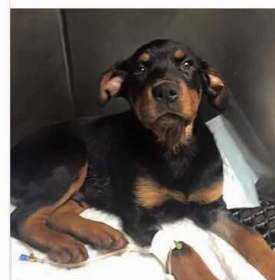
Parvovirus is extremely contagious and can be transmitted by any person, animal or object that comes in contact with an infected dog's feces. Highly resistant, the virus can live in the environment for months, and may survive on inanimate objects such as food bowls, shoes, clothes, carpet and floors.

It meant life or death for a 12 week old puppy named Jake. Jake was purchased by a woman from an unscrupulous breeder who never vaccinated the puppies. As a result Jake became very sick, was lethargic, snubbed his food, was vomiting and had diarrhea.

In the rescue world, signs like this mean one thing—PARVO!

His owner brought him to Warwick Animal Hospital to be examined, and they quickly determined he had the parvovirus. Unfortunately, his owner never returned.

While no specific drug is available that will kill the virus in infected dogs, treatment consists primarily of efforts to combat dehydration by replacing electrolyte and fluid losses, controlling vomiting and diarrhea, and



preventing secondary infections until the dog's immune system is able to fight the virus. Due to the highly contagious nature of parvovirus, infected dogs must be isolated in order to prevent the spread of the infection.

We were asked if we would commit to this little guy and without hesitation, accepted.

At one point, his progress regressed and it was uncertain if he would pull through. He received round-the-clock care and won the hearts of all staff at Warwick Animal Hospital.

Jake got stronger with each day and we received news that he was ready to be dis-



charged.

He's been living with a foster home and has done remarkably well. He loves people and dogs and we know he is going to bring his new family so much joy!

Jake is receiving his last round of age-appropriate vaccinations and will be ready for adoption.

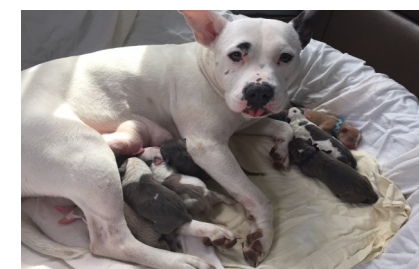
Until a puppy has received its complete series of vaccinations, pet owners should use caution when bringing their pet to places where young puppies or dogs with unknown vaccination histories congregate.

Diamond, truly a gem!

It was a typical day for the rescue. Numerous calls coming in from people looking to surrender their pets. Mixed in with these messages was a call from a rescue partner who has ties to the Crossroads Community. She was desperately looking for someone to take a female pit bull mix dog named Dia-

mond, whose owner became homeless. We didn't have an open foster home but wanted to at least meet the dog to see if we could network her in hopes of finding her a safe place. We headed out to a run down area in South Providence. The dog was passed to a woman who was looking after her while

the owner struggled to get herself a roof over her head. It was during this brief meeting that we were told the owner promised a few people "a puppy". We were not previously told that she was pregnant but knew for her



Diamond with her pups

sake, we couldn't leave her behind. So we loaded her into the car. Weeks later, Diamond delivered 10 puppies; 9 survived. Her puppies have all been placed in loving homes and are doing wonderfully with kids and other animals. Diamond is still in our care which isn't unordinary. People tend to look for puppies. Diamond is still in search of her forever home and, in the meantime, is an extraordinary representative of bully breeds. She is superb with children and is social with dogs of all sizes, even cats.

She recently visited with a class from Sweet Peas Village Daycare in East Greenwich. We are glad we took a

chance on this gem!



Diamond with her friend, Eddy.

Kaya hits the jackpot

One of the most frustrating situations we deal with is when a family wants to surrender a dog for no good reason. And so begins the story of Kaya.

Kaya was purchased by a gentleman who loved her very much. He brought her to several training classes to ensure she would be an obedient dog. The wife in the home never liked the dog. It didn't matter that Kaya never did anything wrong or that her worst habit was chewing paper towels. In our interview with the family, the wife stated she "hated the dog" and wondered if she was "going to bite the kids one day".

Fearing she may just dump her anywhere, we loaded her in the truck and headed to one of our most dedicated foster homes. We want to point out, it wasn't the husband who felt this way about Kaya, but you know how that goes!

It was evident Kaya was a great dog and we were hoping another family would recognize that also.

Enter the Matera family. They had suffered a great loss when their female rottie unexpectedly became ill.

During our meet & greet, Kaya won them over and we agreed to allow a trial run in the home to make sure it was a good match. Needless to say, Kaya couldn't have found better parents. This placement was one of the many we are proud of and as the saying goes, things happen for a reason. Shortly after, Kaya tore cruciate ligaments in both knees which is a significant cost to repair. Kaya underwent surgery to repair the tears and has since fully recovered. They include her in everything they do and she is loved. She most likely would not have received

these surgeries had she stayed in her first home.

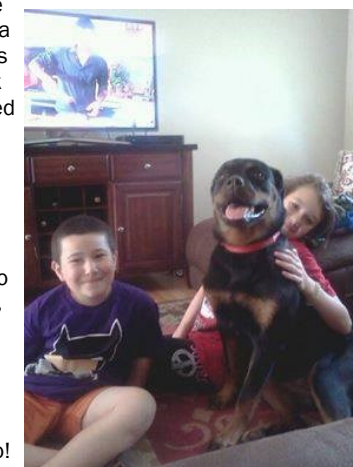
In our search for a home that would adore Kaya, we found both friends and supporters of this rescue.

They are involved in all we do whether it's a raffle or a fundraising event. Maria's mom, Ann Moran, is quick to offer her delicious baked goods for our events.

Most recently, we were overwhelmed with Ann's generosity when she sent us a check to contribute to the cost of keeping Ralph, Katie and Brutus (cover story) at the hotel.

We can't thank them enough for all that they do!

"The wife of Kaya's first owner told us she, 'hated the dog'".



Kaya in her new home.