

The Quarterly Barker



SUMMER 2017, EDITION #8

Moving Forward—Let the Fun Begin Mutts in Need

Dog Walk of Fame Parade

I find it hard to believe that our Mutts in Need event is creeping up on all of us. Our first meeting was in January, and every month staff and volunteers worked together. Our first task was to reach out to our local businesses for sponsorship, which we achieved. From there we de-

veloped a great menu, entertainment, auction themes, getting an auctioneer and MC, a generous grand raffle, raffle gifts, a shelter power point presentation, decorations, flowers and calling on our adopted dogs owners for our "Walk of Fame".

crowd made a point to tell me that she came to our event only out of obligation for her mother who was not a pet owner. She, however, worked for a nonprofit and was in-charge of organizing fundraisers. She said the dog "walk of fame" had her smiling, crying, wanting to not only adopt a dog from our shelter but also wanting to contribute to the shelter.



When we first came up with the "Walk of Fame" dog parade I never knew it was going to be so powerful. The folks who adopted dogs from our shelter and were willing to be on stage and show everyone their dogs were excited, nervous and proud to show the crowd their prized dog. A young woman from the

What is the Dog Walk of Fame parade, you say? Well, first the MC read a script about our dogs' stories simultaneously with a photo of how they looked when they came to us. Music played and the "new dog" walked the walk of fame with their proud owner. Often when the dogs first walked into our shelter they were thin, hairless, and in need of vet care. Some were terrified, others shut-down and afraid of the world. The parade of fame came to the grand finale when all the dogs and owners gathered together onstage. The audience exploded with applause, and the volunteers and staff who knew them came unglued. This was such an amazing celebration and reunion that it will be repeated this year.

We look forward to seeing you once again on August 19th.

— Leslee Colucci
Shelter Director

Volunteers

I looked up the definitions for volunteers in the dictionary; there were many. A few examples include: someone working without getting paid, to do something by choice, and the definitions went on.

I would like to add what a volunteer means to me as the director of our regional shelter. Volunteers that work here do it for the love of the dogs and their community. The Mutts in Need event would be non-existent if it were not for our volunteers. They are an amazing group of people that come to night meetings in the middle of the winter and many other meetings throughout the year up to the day of our Mutts in Need Event. They provide ideas, suggestions, make changes to enhance. These individuals gather on their own to get many tasks done, all to pay tribute to our shelter's dogs. The definitions in the dictionary say so little to describe what our team of volunteers do for the Mutts in Need for our shelter and for me personally. They have changed the way I view people forever.

— Leslee Colucci

Gabi's Corner: Looking Back

As we gear up for our 5th year Shelter fundraiser we look back on the previous years and wonder at the amazing community and volunteer support that allows us to produce it. The Mutts in Need fundraiser is our biggest fundraiser for the Dog Shelter and all the funds raised go directly towards the medical needs of the dogs and day to day care of the dogs for the upcoming year. We wouldn't have such a successful event without the help from the community. The local Businesses that sponsor the event and the local artisans that donate for our raffles and auctions allow us to raise the much needed funds for the Shelter.

Last year we held a live auction as well as a raffle and we had some amazing items being auctioned off. We had oil paintings, framed sketches, and watercolors from local artists. We had a camping package worth over \$400.00, and a garden basket of equal value. We had Wine and Chocolates as well as amazing baskets for the dogs and cats. We had items for the sports enthusiast. This year we expect to have even more incredible items in our live auction.



Shelter dog Hobbs is ready for his new home.

Most of these items were donated by Volunteers, supporters and local business owners. So far this year we have handmade quilts, home grown canned goods, another camping package, a Bar-B-que package, as well as professionally framed photographs and artwork. If you have an artistic talent and would like to donate to the auction we would love to speak with you! We also have a number of themes for our raffle and auction items and we are always looking for assistance in filling those items by donations.

Please save the date of August 19th, and join us at the Mutts in Need fundraiser at the Millers Falls Rod and Gun Club. Enjoy a wonderful catered meal, bid on the incredible auction items enter the raffles and maybe win a door Prize! Tickets are now on sale at the Shelter or online at <https://www.eventbrite.com/o/friends-of-the-franklin-county>. Please join us on August 19, 2017. We look forward to seeing everyone there!

— *Gabi Trudeau*
Shelter Office Manager

Message from Media Coordinator

I would like to take this opportunity to thank some of the people who generously give of their time year after year at our Mutts in Need Fund Raiser.

These people include Jason Antes who handles the sound equipment for the event and very patiently helps us with some of our crazy ideas.

People like Chris Collins who last year acted as our Master of Ceremony and made our Doggy Walk of Fame a true touching experience and our Raffle a fun and exciting event.

People like Joe and everyone at the Millers Falls Rod and Gun Club who went above and beyond in helping us get this event put together efficiently.

This year Kevin at Bear Country Radio has agreed to help us by acting as our Auctioneer for our Live Auction. We all know that Kevin will make this auction a not-to-be-forgotten event.

Please know that we thank you for every minute you donate to our event.

When you see these individuals at the benefit let them know they are appreciated.

— *Kathy Dwyer*
Media Coordinator





5TH ANNUAL FUNDRAISER FOR OUR
MUTTS IN NEED

**Millers Falls
ROD AND GUN CLUB**

3:00 pm

\$25 food · cash bar · live auction · raffle
door prizes · shelter alumni parade
live music by **DOGWALKER**

08.19.17

Gold Paw Sponsors

Brown Motors Inc.

Silver Paw Sponsors

Dillon Chevrolet | Eddie's Wheels | Greenfield Savings Bank | Judd Wire Inc. | Lundgren Honda | Mighty Clean Mutt | Perkaraki's Sausage LLC | Steve Lewis Subaru

Bronze Paw Sponsors

A. H. Rist Insurance Agency, Inc. | Bernardston Hillside Pizza | Bob Cook Excavating & Asphalt Paving LLC | Gilmore and Farrell Insurance Agency, Inc. | Greenfield Moose Lodge No 897

Learn more about the shelter
413.676.9182 • <http://fcrdogkennel.org/>

**GET YOUR
MUTTS IN NEED 2017
EVENT TICKETS**

Available at:

- Mighty Clean Mutt, 52 French King Hwy, Greenfield (413) 772-9367
- Greenfield Farmers Co-op, 269 High Street, Greenfield, (413) 773-9639
- World Eye & Magical Child, 134 Main Street, Greenfield, MA (413) 772-2186

Raffle Tickets Available at:

- Franklin First Credit Union
- Scotty's
- AH Rist
- JP Tire and Auto, Inc.

Both Tickets available at the Shelter: 10 Sandy Lane, Turners Falls, Ma 01376 (413) 676-9182

Go to Facebook –

www.facebook.com/fcrdogkennel and click on 2017 Mutts in Need page to find out how to buy your tickets online.

Tickets will also be available at the door on the day of the event.

Mutts In Need Dinner Menu

- Assorted Appetizers
- Barbequed Pulled Pork
- Barbequed Boneless Chicken
- Barbequed Tofu
- Roasted Red Potato Salad
- Pesto Pasta/Tortellini Salad
- Baked Beans * Garden Salad
- Corn on the Cob * Assorted Desserts
- Watermelon * Freshly Popped Popcorn



Friends Marcia Hendrick & Ted Lewis two really nice people making really great music always a musical treat to see and hear them perform.

ENERGY SAVER HOME IMPROVEMENT RAFFLE

RAFFLE PRIZE:
DAIKIN DUCTLESS MINI-SPLIT SYSTEM - DOTATED BY DAIKIN WITH INSTALLATION DONATED BY TOGNARELLI HEATING AND COOLING

\$25.00 each or purchase a
 Ticket to the Mutts in Need event also and save \$5.00
 Drawing will take place on Sat, 8/19/17 @ Mutts in Need

HOME WEATHERIZATION PACKAGE DONATED BY IDEAL HOME IMPROVEMENT THIS PACKAGE INCLUDES AN ENERGY AUDIT, ATTIC INSULATION UP TO 1500SF, WALL INSULATION, BASEMENT INSULATION, AND WHOLE-HOUSE AIR SEALING

Tognarelli Heating & Cooling
IDEAL HOME IMPROVEMENT, INC
"four home energy conservation specialists"



**FRIENDS OF THE FRANKLIN COUNTY REGIONAL DOG SHELTER
 Mutts in Need
 Home Improvement Raffle Information Sheet**

\$10,000 Total Value – No Sales Tax!!

The winner receives:

Home Weatherization Service
Donated by Ideal Home Improvement, Inc. and General Insulation Corp.

\$5,000 Value

Includes:

- Home energy audit
- Attic insulation (blown cellulose) up to 1500 square feet
- Wall and basement insulation
- Air sealing for the entire house

AND

Daikin Mini-Split Ductless cooling & heating system
Donated by Daikin Comfort and Tognarelli Heating and Cooling

\$5,000 Value

Benefits of a ductless system:

- Controls heating and cooling by room or by zone
- Doesn't require air ducts installed in walls or attic
- Quiet, wall-mounted plug-in units, one for each zone
- Eliminates the need for window-unit air conditioners in summer
- Eliminates the need for space heaters for cold spots in winter
- One small outdoor unit operates the whole system
- Greater control saves energy costs

Raffle tickets \$25 each, or \$20 if purchased with a Mutts in Need admission ticket.

August 19, 2017, 3:00 PM at the Millers Falls Rod and Gun Club

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT FOR ANIMALS EVERY TIME YOU GET BEHIND THE WHEEL

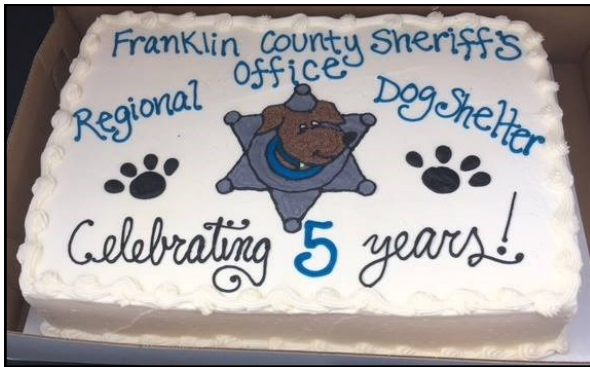
The Friends of The FCRDS would like to thank the Mass Animal Coalition for the grant we received. This grant will help us with the cost of spaying and neutering our shelter dogs!



Mutts in Need Event

Five-Year Anniversary Celebration

April 30



SHELTER EVENTS!

Starting with our second Rabies clinic of the year, on April 1st, spring got very busy very quickly. The clinic was a bit quiet but we marched right on to the Franklin County Spring Parade in Turners Falls on April 12th. The theme was "Candyland" and we decorated the truck, ourselves and some dogs accordingly. Our big five-year celebration party was next on the 30th of April and was well attended by the public and their dogs. It was hard work but we all enjoyed the result as much as the community did.

Caught our breath in May and on June 12th we headed to the Greenfield Savings Bank in So Deerfield for their Ice Cream Social. There was another "Ask the Trainer" session on June 14th and on the 2nd of July we "set up shop" at Lundgren Honda's 4th of July Sale.

COMING UP!

July 29

Brown Motors Car Show

August 5

Pioneer Valley Kennel Club Dog Show

August 19th

Our 5th annual Mutts in Need fundraiser

September 7-10

Franklin County Fair Demolition Car Event

October 21st

Franklin County Pumpkinfest

We would like to thank all the volunteers that give their time to help promote the shelter. If just one new person learns about us from one of these events, it is worth it...and who knows how much fun can be had!

— FCSO Event Team



FCSO truck at Franklin County Spring Parade

Foster Program Update

The foster program continues to thrive and plays a key role in rehabilitating dogs that enter the Shelter for medical, behavioral or senior health related issues. I first want to thank our wonderful foster homes that have welcomed these dogs into their homes and have transformed them with loving care.

In the last four months, we have had 9 dogs enter foster homes for medical/



Fostered dog Molly

senior health issues, two for behavioral issues and three for “Foster-to-Adopt” situations. Two of the dogs who entered foster care for medical issues were Molly, a Sheltie, and Sage, a Beagle mix. Molly had numerous bladder stones removed, some being very large in size, along with extraction of many teeth. She made a wonderful recovery which allowed her sweet and frisky personality to shine through and is enjoying life in her forever home.

Sage, a deaf Beagle mix, had mammary tumors that were initially suspected to be malignant but after the removal of a sampling of the tumors, the diagnosis confirmed the tumors were benign and as a result, no further surgery was needed. Sage was adopted into a loving home with another Beagle.

It is with great anticipation and excitement that we look forward to seeing



Fostered dog Sage

many of our previous foster dogs (“Alumni” as we call them) return for our annual “Mutts in Need” benefit for our “Walk of Fame” dog parade. Please come join us on **August 19, 2017** for “Mutts in Need” to see many of these great dogs for a day of dog-loving fun!

— *Nancy Ambo*
Foster Coordinator



From the Friends Board of Directors

The Board of Directors of the Friends of the Franklin County Regional Dog Shelter report with extreme sadness that board member Ray Brown passed away in July. Ray was an original member of the Board and he assumed many crucial roles.

In addition to being the Treasurer, Ray volunteered his expertise in overseeing the architectural design of the plans for the new



Board member Ray Brown

Shelter; he arranged for the printing of all the publications for the Shelter; he kept meticulous financial records; and he was a professional and polished ambassador for the Shelter with numerous area businesses and supporters.

The Board extends our deepest sympathies to his family. We are greatly saddened — and diminished — by his passing.