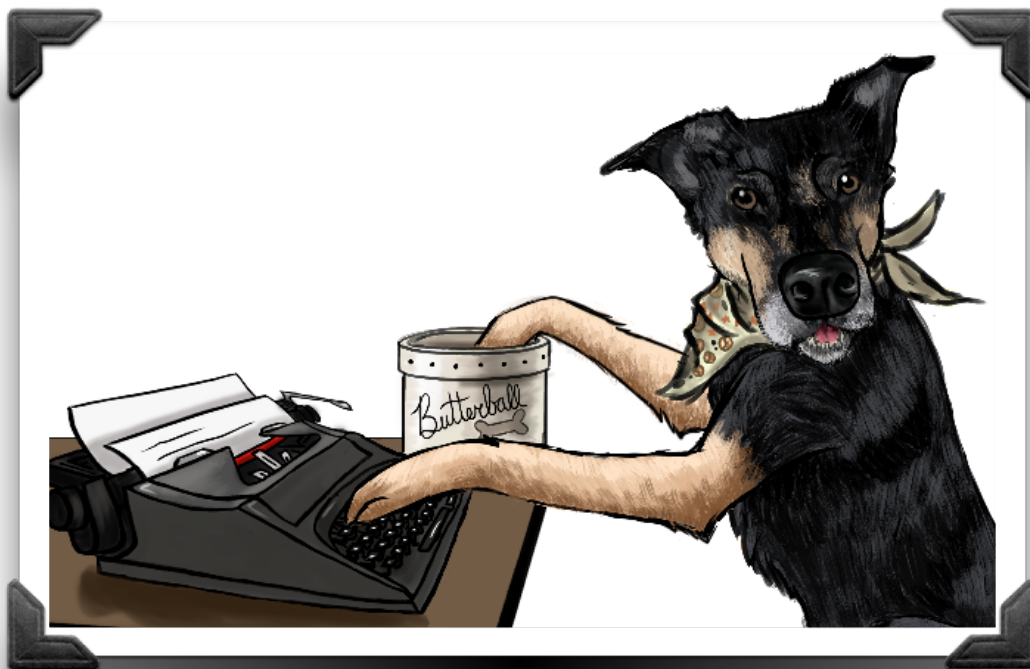


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# Action for Animals Maine Newsletter

*Volume 2, February 2021*

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## **Butterball Chronicles**

Hello Dear Readers,

Since I am the inspiration for the creation of Action for Animals Maine, I get my own newsletter column, and it is great to be able to say more than just “Woof”! Although I am now on the other side of the Rainbow Bridge, I can still celebrate my birthday! I will be ten years old on February 14<sup>th</sup>. My “humom” always said I was such a sweetheart! That must be because I was born on Valentine’s Day. The good news is that because I am over here, I can order any kind of birthday cake I want, including chocolate! And angels will sing “Happy Birthday” to me!

Please think about giving your loved ones a special Valentine’s gift from the Action for Animals Maine on-line store! Not only will you find some really nice gift items, you will be showing your love for animals by making a donation to support urgent veterinary treatment for pets whose owners could otherwise not afford the cost of the medical care. The “Cat’s Meow” column in this newsletter highlights some of our newest products, and I think they are just heavenly! And don’t forget to give a special treat to your animal companion too, along with extra hugs and kisses! You will find a new section in this newsletter with a recipe for home-made pet treats. That should help you make that “something special” for your pets. Look for AFAM around town! There are donation boxes and fund raising options everywhere!

Happy woofs to you, Butterball

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## Virtual Events:

**Please check our Facebook & Instagram pages often to read about the contests we are offering!**

February 14<sup>th</sup>: Home heating fuel give-away by raffle drawing

February 20<sup>th</sup>: National Love Your Pet Day – contest will be announced

Tasty Treat Tuesdays: featuring pet treat recipes and product reviews by our furry taste testers.

Wacky Wednesdays with Wisecracking Stuffing: this dog is a real comedian and will do his best to make you laugh!

Friday Foresights with Professor Kit T Cat: this bougie kitty will give us all an interesting pet fact but with a snarky twist.

Small Business Saturdays: featuring a local business with a gift card give-away.

## Past Events:

We've had some great events this year, and kudos to all the sponsors who invited us to have events on their property, to all the volunteers who worked tirelessly for the events, and to all who stopped by to support us and make a donation.



Brady's Restaurant in Boothbay Harbor hosted a fantastic "Haunted House" event on October 2020.

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## Spotlight on Sponsors

In every issue of this newsletter we acknowledge one of the many very generous sponsors who support our organization. We are so pleased to have the longstanding sponsorship of the Coastal Maine Popcorn Company and we would like to express our gratitude for their support!

Julie and Paul Roberts opened their unique popcorn store in 2008, and as soon as their doors opened, customers began to drop by to try the wide variety of flavors they have created. You can always tell what flavors are in production on a given day, by the aroma out on the sidewalk. It is reminiscent of going into an ice cream shop and asking to try a flavor before ordering. Taste testing is encouraged, and with up to forty flavors to choose from, it can be hard to decide! Flavors range from hot and savory, to sweet. Kids love the “unicorn toots” flavor! When asked how they come up with new flavors, Julie said: “It is a combination of experimentation, collaboration with our team, customer suggestions and following food trends, such as last year’s sweet chili lime flavor.”

Julie also stated that Action for Animals Maine is dear to them because a few years back, when their beloved Molly needed surgery to repair an ACL, they did not have the funds to cover the cost, and family members were able to help them with that. She hopes that other people who love their pets and are faced with difficult choices will be able to keep their pets healthy.

Last spring, Julie offered to create a flavor just for Action for Animals Maine, and she calls it “Muddy Paws”! A portion of each bag sold is donated back to AFAM. We suggest you try it! This is an irresistible combination of chocolate, caramel and sea salt. This would make a great Valentine’s Day gift for the chocolate lovers in your life!



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## The Chit Chat Cat

Our chit chat cat dishes on news about our activities. You'll see why our organization starts with the word "Action!"



## Action for Animals Films a Commercial

Action for Animals Maine delved into the exciting world of film-making for one great day! A lot of work went into the making of the 30 second finished piece! On Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, our volunteer videographer/producer, Kaci Rankin arrived at Barrett's park accompanied by a colleague who has real chops as a director, Joe Lambert. *(Our newsletter editor, Butterball interjects: "CHOPs! Did someone say chops? I love chops!").*



Also arriving at the park without a red carpet, were our professional actors, cast as a family with an ailing pet. Cast as "dad and mom," Joseph Lugosh and Nanette Fraser have played main roles in the locally renowned, Heartwood Theater. Paige Scala, a very talented child actress, played the role of their daughter. She has been in a Star Wars film, as a Jedi trainee and was also on the Castle Rock T.V. show. She has made regular appearances in productions at the Portland Stage Company. And our key canine actress, Molly, agreed to chase the ball as many times as needed to capture the right

moment. Being a golden retriever, retrieving is a natural talent! Thanks to Julie Roberts, Molly's owner who also owns Coastal Maine Popcorn, for spending the day and maintaining Molly's hair and make-up, along with serving as acting coach to her!

In true Hollywood fashion, we filmed the ending first, to show the happily recovered pet and family playing in the park. The next video segment was filmed at the Boothbay Animal Hospital, featuring Dr. Dean Domeyer as the veterinarian who treats the sick dog. We are so glad that Dr. Dean was able to do this and the fun fact is that he owned the Boothbay Playhouse and occasionally participated in theatrical endeavors in the past! The last part of the filming, which was actually the first scene in the finished commercial, was done inside the home of one of the Action for Animals Maine volunteers, Nancy Pederson. After eight hours of filming, Kaci took all the raw material back to his studio for editing and the finished commercial premiered early in November on a variety of Spectrum channels. The purpose of this commercial is to increase awareness and interest in our organization. It really hits the mark!



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## Pantry Donations



Did you know that Action for Animals Maine collects and distributes pet food for those in need through local food pantries and direct delivery?

We have been very busy collecting and bagging pet food to deliver to the Boothbay Food Pantry! Just in the month of January, we have delivered the following supplies to them:

360 lbs. of dog food  
167 lbs. of cat food  
30 lbs. of dog treats  
7 bags of cat litter

We know there are still a lot of hungry pets out there, so if you would like to donate pet food, please contact us to arrange a pick-up time. We greatly appreciate all donations!

## Tail-Wagging Gratitude

In this section of the newsletter we highlight a volunteer, donor, or organization for their outstanding support of Action for Animals Maine.

In the “Chit Chat Cat” section of this newsletter, you will read more about the filming of our first ever live-action commercial! This was made possible by one very special person, who is the subject of our tail wagging gratitude in this issue of the newsletter.

Kaci Rankin, a highly skilled videographer, who holds a degree in Communications Technology from Husson University, donated his time and expertise to create a story board, recruit a director, song-writer and actors to make it all happen! Kaci states: “ I’ve been doing video commercials, films, and photography for about 6 years now. I officially started my own video business last year. I absolutely love telling people’s stories and making them come to life in a commercial, film, or photo. To contact me: e-mail: [kacirankinsmedia@gmail.com](mailto:kacirankinsmedia@gmail.com) or text to 207-350-9355”



The song in the soundtrack was written by Greg Winningham in memory of Butterball.

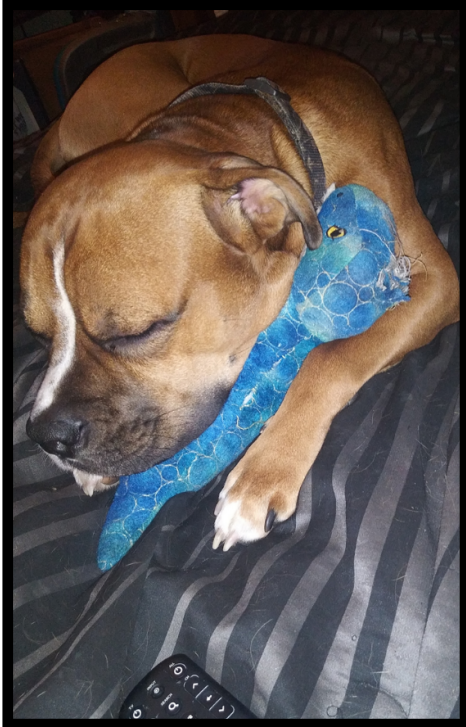
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## Yappy News



In this section of the newsletter we share with you a happy story about a pet we have helped. Meet this month's very happy animal companion, Beaux! Beaux managed to break his leg and needed urgent treatment! His mom took him to Portland where he was able to have emergency surgery. Beaux says he had his staples taken out on January 22<sup>nd</sup> and his leg is mending nicely. He sends a big thank you to Action for Animals Maine!



## The Cat's Meow

This section of the newsletter highlights products offered by Action for Animals Maine for our fundraising. We hope to inspire you with some Valentine's Day gift ideas! Later this year when we can gather at live events, we will have a variety of products on display. For right now, our items can be ordered on-line.

### *How to order AFAM Products:*

To order an item, please go to our website, [www.actionforanimalsmaine.com](http://www.actionforanimalsmaine.com) and click on the "Donate" button and fill out the form with your name and contact information and select "Product Donation". In the "Notes" window, describe the product you are ordering. We will confirm your order via e-mail and set up delivery for you. If we have any questions about your order we will contact you.



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**Our Harbor Tote Bag - suggested donation \$25.00**

This roomy tote is perfect for packing for a boat ride this summer, and for shopping in all seasons! For an extra special Valentine's gift, fill the tote bag with items your loved one will love!

**Action for Animals Maine Mug – suggested donation \$12.00**

This heavy duty pottery mug will keep your coffee or tea hot even on the coldest winter days. Settle down in a sunny spot like a cat and enjoy a mug of your favorite morning beverage! What a great Valentine's day gift this will make! Add some specialty tea bags for a real treat!

**Action for Animals Maine Travel Mug – suggested donation \$20.00**

This travel mug is ready for action! Keeps your drink hot or cold for hours, easy to take with you in the car and your co-pilot pet won't be able to spill the contents!



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## Barking and Baking

This is a new feature for our newsletter, featuring “foodie pet” recipes that you can make at home when you’d like to give your furry kids a special treat. Thanks to Veronica Robertson, the chef who comes up with the recipes and tries them out in her “test kitchen”. A panel of judges samples the treats, including Stuffing! The first recipe can be modified for your not-so-furry kids too!

### Doggie Valentine’s Day Treats - Mint to Be Pupcakes

*These are pup and kid friendly ( I suggest adding a little honey for the kids)*



*1/2 ripe, mashed banana  
1/2 c Plain nonfat Greek yogurt (I used Fage)  
1 egg  
1/2 c quick oats (recipe called for unsweetened bran like the cereal All Bran, so I improvised)  
1/2 c whole wheat flour  
3/4 t of baking powder  
1/4 t salt  
4 strawberries, chopped into small chunks  
4-6 mint leaves, finely chopped*

To start, preheat the oven to 350 degrees and grease a mini muffin pan (You should have enough batter to fill a mini muffin pan, for a total of 12).

Next, dice banana and mash it up. Mix in the yogurt, egg, and oats. Let sit for a couple minutes. Meanwhile, mix the dry ingredients: flour, baking powder, and salt. No need to use a sifter, I just used a whisk and gave it a good mix. Add chopped strawberries to the flour. Make sure they are well coated. (This prevents them from sinking to the bottom of your muffin and helps absorb the liquid as they bake). Mix in the chopped mint. Combine the wet and dry mixtures, give them a good stir. If the batter seems too dry, add a tablespoon of water at a time, and if it appears too wet add a sprinkle of flour.

Fill your muffin pan with mixture and bake muffins for 15-20 min.

Make sure to let muffins cool before serving and store them in an airtight container in the fridge. They stay fresh for about 2 weeks.

I'm 'berry' sure your pups (and kids) will love these!

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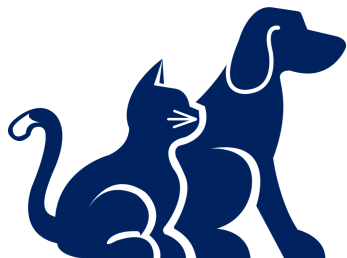
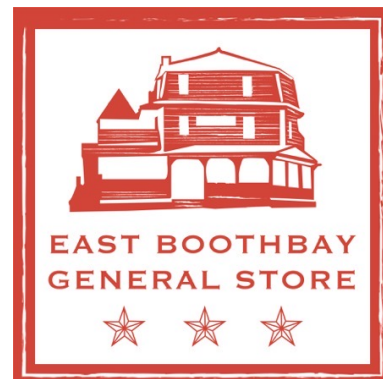


## Footbridge Brewery

The Footbridge Brewery in Boothbay Harbor has been working with us to create a unique beer just for us! The style of beer, and the name of the beer have not yet been determined, but details will be forthcoming soon! A portion of every pint sold will benefit Action for Animals Maine, so please keep watching our Facebook page for an update regarding the unveiling.

## Upcoming Events:

We are not scheduling live events yet, as we are waiting for better and safer times to gather. However, we will be offering frequent gift certificate "Give-Aways" featuring local businesses. This is a win-win proposition! You will have a chance to win a valuable gift certificate, and we support the local businesses which support us! We'll be featuring gift certificates from Pinkham's Gourmet Market, Coastal Maine Popcorn, East Boothbay General Store and the Boothbay Animal Hospital. Please check our Facebook page often to read about the contests we are offering!



**AC+ION**  
for animals Maine

Extending life to your pet

## Action for Animals Maine Who's Who: Board of Directors

Giselle Armstrong, President

Clint Miller, Vice President

Faye McNall, Secretary & Communications Coordinator

Jaymes Shive, Marketing & Branding Coordinator

Betsy Pitcher, Events Coordinator

Tammy Walsh, Resource Coordinator

Jackie Helinski

Veronica Robertson