



Friends of Beverly Animals
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Our New/Old Dog Two Squares & Three Walks Daily

by Oliver T. Cook

We have always had cats and dogs while raising our family. They were considered family members. Yet since our dogs Chester and Tubbs died six years ago, there's been a hole in our lives. Thus we started looking around for a replacement, experiencing a few false starts, such as the border collie who dug under our fence and ran away twice in one afternoon.

However, things turned around last summer when I attended a memorial service in Ipswich. Elaine, age 93, had been a long-time friend and client. At one point, the minister asked if anyone was willing to give her ten year-old dog a home. I raised my hand. Two days later I drove Samson to his new home. His possessions were few: a collar and leash, a bowl and a sleeping pad. My wife, Sharon, whom I'd decided to surprise, was speechless; eventually she and Samson became BFFs. And though he likes our two cats, Mr. Black and Chiquita, they, in turn, ignore him.

Samson, a Lab/Chow mix, had had two previous owners. His first family surrendered him after eight years, turning him over to the Cape Ann Animal Aid. Not long after that, my client Elaine, from Topsfield, adopted him.

Upon Samson's first visit to Dr. Friedman of Beverly Animal Hospital, the veterinarian congratulated me for "adopting an older dog." Samson was deemed in good shape. Nonetheless, he is a big dude with a ferocious appetite along with a purple-spotted tongue

common to Chows.

At night, Samson sleeps with his eyes open, a disconcerting sight, especially when he snores. Yet every morning we're up at 6:30 for a walk. Additionally, I leave my law office early to walk him in the afternoon. My wife walks him at night. In the past few months I've gotten acquainted with fellow dog owners around town. I might not know all their names, although I know their dogs' names.

The Rev. Tad Meyer, a former rector at Beverly Farms' St. John's Episcopal Church, was a great dog lover. During one sermon, he claimed that adopting a dog was a "leap of faith." Most likely we'd outlive our pets, he said, yet we don't let that fact stop us. Adopting an older dog is a huge leap of faith. It means taking life one day at a time. It means enjoying our walks one step at a time. For those who are on the fence, I encourage you to make that leap.

Oliver T. Cook of Beverly Farms has been practicing law on the North Shore for over fifty years. His wife, Sharon, is Vice President of FOBA and a successful author of four books and many newspaper articles and opinion pieces.



Oliver & Samson pay a visit to Cygnet Restaurant in Beverly Farms for a complimentary dog biscuit



Who we are...

Heidi Roberts, President
Sharon Cook, Vice President
Christine Letterman, Treasurer
Bonnie Hannable, Secretary
Lisa Vince, Board Member

Cheryl Mezack
Director of Fostering
& Adoptions
978-578-0588
cmezack@aol.com

Plus many dedicated volunteers

For more information, please
visit our website at
friendsofbeverlyanimals.org

Please "like" us on Facebook
and help us spread the word
about the animal rescue work
we do and the need for a
shelter in Beverly.

Friends of Beverly Animals
is a 501(c)(3)
charitable organization.
Donations are tax-deductible
to the extent
permitted by law.

Make your pet a star in FOBA's 2018 Calendar!

Please send us a favorite photo or two (no more than three of each pet, please!) of your dogs, cats, hamsters, birds, horses, any animal you care about, even one of a back-yard squirrel or raccoon will be considered, as long as it's a good and interesting photo. The deadline for submitting is July 15, 2017. Send to bhannable@gmail.com and include the words "**2018 calendar**" in the subject line. For more details, please visit our website friendsofbeverlyanimals.org and our Facebook page. Here's the cover page of the 2017 calendar.

The 2018 calendar will come out in the Fall.



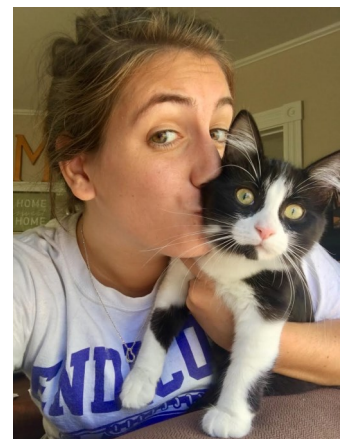
News Article

The Salem News published an excellent article about FOBA in its *Beverly Magazine Spring 2017* issue. *Helping The Helpless* was written by Kelly Burch, with great photos of Heidi Roberts, Cheryl Mezack, adopter Kristen Bemis and several kittens and cats rescued by FOBA. It tells why Heidi founded our organization, due to the heartbreaking story of Millie, a cat she became aware of about nine years ago, and how FOBA has saved and placed hundreds of cats in good homes since it began. Beverly has no shelter and handles dogs (but not cats). Heidi said she had met with Mayor Cahill and that the Animal Control Officer is on board with having a shelter, but that the project still needs city support and significant funding from the community. The full article appears on FOBA's Facebook page.

I Loved Fostering...

I have grown up with animals my entire life, and when I moved into my first apartment I realized how empty life was without

pets around! I contacted FOBA, and soon after my life was much less lonely with foster cats to take care of. The cats that I had the privilege of fostering brought endless laughter and smiles to my apartment. Unfortunately, I got super-attached to the pair of kittens and their mother, and it was heart-breaking to see them leave my care, but all of them went to fantastic forever homes and that IS the ultimate goal. I had the best time caring for animals who needed my help, and it was truly a rewarding experience. I will never forget the memories I made with my foster babies. They hold a special place in my heart and I am grateful to FOBA for giving me the opportunity to meet them.



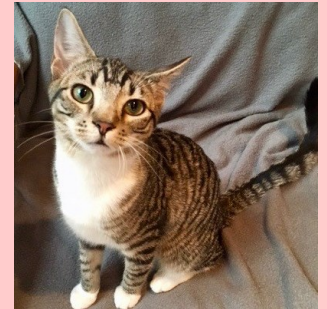
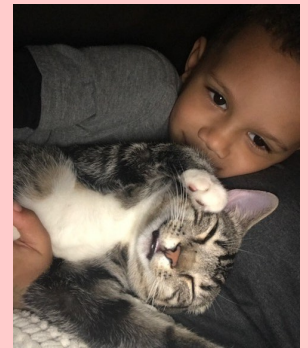
-Madison McKinley, 23, Beverly MA

RECENT HAPPY ADOPTION STORIES

NAHLA, A TRUE LADY

Chloe (whom my kids renamed Nahla from the movie *The Lion King*) is doing great! My two kids are in love with her, and she is great with them. Nahla has a ton of kitten energy and plays with the kids all the time. She also really enjoys all of the kids' toys. She chases my son's wind-up cars all over the place and even tries to get in on games of catch when my husband and son play ball! She also loves all of the pretty and sparkly things in my daughters' room as well—she is a true lady! She now sleeps in a pretty pink polka dot pillow under a castle tent upstairs in our home. She has a little window to look out; when someone walks in the hallway, she peers out her castle window and promptly chases after their feet! Nahla has adjusted well and is much loved by the entire family. Thank you for checking in on her!

- Naomi McGaw Lopez, Lawrence, MA



MILO, THE SNUGGLE BUG

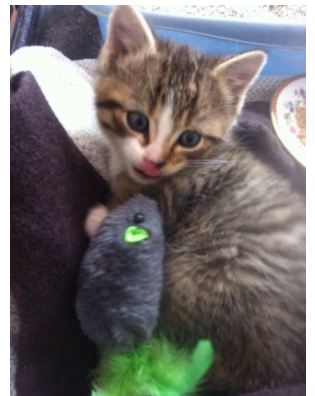


Milo has been a great addition to our family. He loves to play and tease his big sister Elsa. Milo is such a snuggle bug. He loves to snuggle up on people but especially loves to snuggle on his mommy at night. He is so used to being called handsome boy, that we think he thinks that is his name. We are so glad that we made the decision to adopt him and give him a furever home.

- Kristen Bemis, Beverly, MA

Just In...Bitsy!

This adorable kitten we've called Bitsy, is believed to be about 4-5 weeks old. She was just found under a rarely-used porch in Beverly. The homeowners were able to catch her, and we are now trying to find the mother and other kittens who ran away, so that we can trap and tame the kittens while they are still young. We are setting up a camera so we can see what's going on when there are no people around. This kitten is now in our foster care. Although it was very frightened the first night, she is now eating well, playing and purring. We gave the homeowners some food and asked them to put it out to see if the mother and kittens come back. Look for Bitsy to become available soon on our website and Facebook page.





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Spring/Summer 2017 Newsletter



FUR BALL THIS FALL

Please mark your calendars! The 2017 Fur Ball will be on Saturday, October 14th at the Franco-American Club, 44 Park Street, Beverly, from 6:30-10:30 PM. We will need items for Raffles/Auctions, volunteers to help sell tickets, put up posters, help with set-up and people to attend. This is our major fundraiser for the year.

It's always a good time, great food, live band, dancing, and more.
Help FOBA rescue and find loving homes for more precious animals!

**We always need more foster homes; please contact Cheryl at cmezack@aol.com
978-578-0588 or Heidi at heidiroberts@comcast.net 978-927-4157
if you are interested in fostering. FOBA pays for veterinary care, food and supplies.**

There are many ways to help... Click on "Help Us" on our website for further information, or use this form to send us a donation.

Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Amount Enclosed _____

Please mail your check to
Friends of Beverly Animals (FOBA)
PO Box 3378, Beverly, MA 01915

To donate online at friendsofbeverlyanimals.org click on "Help Us." We accept **PayPal**

Many animals need your help, and FOBA needs your help. Thank you for caring!