

## 2018 Adoptions:

Cats: 151

Dogs: 77

**\*Total Adoptions: 228**

\*Adoption totals as of 11/15/18



## 2018 Rescues:

Cats: 163

Dogs: 75

**\*Total Rescues: 238**

\*Rescue totals as of 11/15/18

### *December Events*

\*Dec. 1: Petco Colonial Park  
10-2pm

\*Dec. 8: PetValu Colonial Park  
10-2pm  
&  
Petco Colonial Park  
-Photos with Santa  
-1pm-4pm

\*Dec. 9: Photos with Santa @ Animal  
Hospital of Dauphin County  
-1pm-4pm  
- Photos are Free!

\*Dec. 15: Urban Tails- Camp Hill  
11-3pm  
&  
Petco Mechanicsburg  
-Photos with Santa  
-1pm-4pm

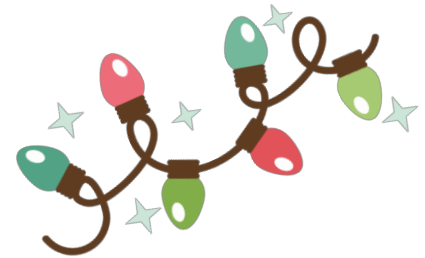
\*Dec. 16: Petco Colonial Park  
-Photos with Santa  
-1pm-4pm

\*Dec. 22: Abrams & Weakley  
10-2pm

# Castaway Critters

*"Offering hope & new beginnings to the lost and forgotten, the sick, and the abandoned"*

*The James A. Hueholt  
Memorial Foundation  
for Animals*



### **Albert**

*Your generous donations enabled us to get this sweet little guy the specialized veterinary care he needed.*

### *Brave Little Albert*

Albert & his siblings were desperate for help. This poor soul was scared, in pain and didn't know what his future held.

The smallest and frailest of the litter, Albert came to Castaway Critters by way of a kind man that had been trying his best to care for stray cats and their spring litters in a not-so-hospitable section of Harrisburg city. When he could no longer afford to feed them, he surrendered 14 kittens to our rescue.

Albert and his two brothers were immediately placed in a foster home where their luck began to change. After being bathed and rid of fleas and worms, Albert was happy to finally have a clean bed to sleep in and a safe environment to play.

It wasn't long after, however, that his foster mom realized his mouth didn't appear to close completely. When he was asleep, his mouth would sometimes gape. Upon closer investigation, she realized he had a severe overbite. In fact, his overbite was so severe that his lower canines (the long "fangs" on the bottom jaw) pierced the roof of his mouth when he tried to close it. Surely this explained why he was so tiny – he had trouble eating and most certainly struggled to nurse from his mother.

Castaway Critters recognized that Albert's quality of life was impacted by his birth defect and wanted to assure he saw the most



accomplished veterinarians to offer a solution.

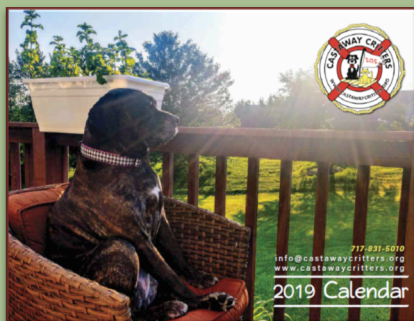
When Albert was 4 months old, he had a consultation with Dr. Jennifer Tjepkema at Animal Dental Center, in York. Dr. T. is a veterinarian that specializes in dentistry. She told Albert's foster mom that he had a somewhat rare condition for cats and would need intervention to alleviate his discomfort and avoid further damage to his soft palate. To make matters worse, a week later, Albert's permanent teeth started to erupt behind his baby teeth rather than underneath them, compounding his problem. After yet another consultation with the veterinarian, it was determined that the longer permanent teeth would eventually pierce completely through his soft palate until they hit bone. This would impede his ability to eat and surely cause him constant pain.

A few weeks later, Albert underwent surgery

*Continued on Page 3*



## Need a stocking stuffer?



Our 2019 Rescue Calendar is perfect! Only \$10 and proceeds help the critters. Order from our website or come to one of our events to buy one or many!

## Happily Ever After's- Seniors & Long-Timers

Sure puppies & kittens are adorable.

However, the older ones are just as loving and cute. Below are stories of some of our golden critters enjoying their "retirement".



**Duke:** This Senior beagle mix was returned to us after 7 years. He was with us for another 3 years until he finally found his forever home this year. He is spoiled rotten with multiple dog walkers, a behavior consultant and the best care he could receive. We will miss you Duke. You are such a sweet guy!



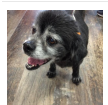
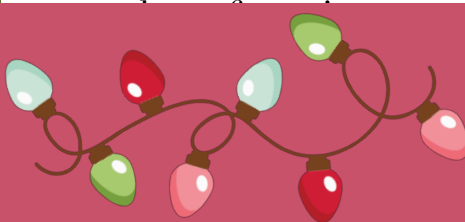
**Snow White:** This 11 year old toy poodle mix came to us with her jaw wired shut. She was a stray running around after being hit by a car. She also had an eye missing. This poor gal was a mess. Even though she was in pain she was the sweetest. A couple ladies that have a soft spot for senior poodles adopted Snow White. She is now treated like a princess!



**Romeo:** After living with his family for his entire life, this 11-year-old dachshund was dumped at a high kill shelter. This poor guy never saw a vet before coming to us. He had to have all of his teeth removed. This was immediate as our vets were concerned about his amount of pain. He also had to have a painful mass with a hematoma on his neck removed, along with a large cyst on his head. The name Romeo fit this love bug well. He is now living a life filled with snuggles, walks & car rides!

WANT TO SAVE A LIFE?  
Fostering saves **many** lives!

\*Castaway Critters is ALWAYS looking for dedicated dog and cat fosters! Email us at [info@castawaycritters.org](mailto:info@castawaycritters.org) for more information



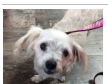
**Moon:** This old man was simply the best! Dumped at a high-kill shelter, this gentle Pekingese mix was a perfect gentleman. Moon loved people, kids and just about any animal. We knew we couldn't let him stay in that shelter to die. We had to pull him right away. We couldn't believe it took four long months for him to find his forever home, but he is certainly enjoying his golden years with his new family!



**Ethel:** Tiny, matured, no nonsense Ethel found herself in a high kill shelter at almost 11 years old. This girl was so laid back and just went with the flow. She got along with the other animals and just wanted to be around her foster mom. Now Ethel is her new family's little shadow. They go on slow walks and just hang out together. She is truly living in her paradise.



**Galaxy:** Rescued from the terrible cold over 3 years ago, Galaxy was just as sweet as could be. This poor guy waited and waited for his forever home simply because he was FIV+. Galaxy now cuddles and gives loving head-butts to his new mom. He enjoys snuggling with his family in bed and playing with his toys. **FIV+ cats make great companions and can live long and healthy lives.**



**Jace:** This active senior guy was dumped at a high kill shelter. All he wanted in life was some love and walks. Well now this boy has that! Jace and his new dad exercise, play fetch and travel together. Jace is living his dream life!

Please give a senior animal or perhaps a harder to adopt cat or dog a chance. You'll be pleasantly surprised with the outcome.

## Adoptable "Elves"



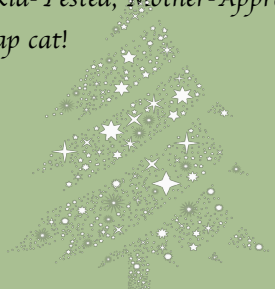
### Iggy Pearl

\*4 ½ years young  
\*Great Dane/Shepherd Mix  
\*Enjoys the luxuries of being the only animal in the house. Does best in a house without young children. Iggy Pearl is such a fun & loving pup!



### Ms. Charlie

\*8 years young  
\*Tortie  
\*"Young" senior girl that would make a great addition to ANY family. Kids? Grandkids? No Problem! Little Ms. Charlie is a Kid-Tested, Mother-Approved lap cat!





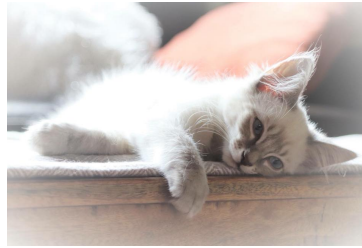


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to remove several teeth and is currently back home recovering. Thanks to Albert's foster mom, Donna Casner's care and attentiveness, Albert finally knows what it is like to no longer be in pain.

Albert's surgery cost \$1,700 and would not have been possible without the support from Castaway Critters' generous donors.

**Without your support, animals like Albert would suffer in silence.**



Albert lounging & enjoying his new pain free life!

**Every gift – whether large or small – goes a long way to improving the lives of the cats and dogs entrusted in our care.**

**Please consider making a donation to help others like Albert to live the happy, healthy life they deserve. THANK YOU!**

## *This is the One?*

*By: Jennifer Setlak (Foster Caregiver)*

Fostering has many challenges: introduction to resident pets, time commitment, expenses, and emotional attachment. But the main focus should be on finding that right home. I've come to realize that there will never be that "perfect home". If finding the "perfect home" is the goal, the foster will never be adopted. Animals are resilient and will adapt to various environments – or maybe that not so perfect home ends up exceeding expectations.

They say dogs are intuitive, in-tuned with their environment, and understand feelings and dynamics of the people around them. Often times, dogs decide to like or dislike someone upon introduction even without any interaction. Something in the dog's senses triggers a defense response and the dog will either not warm up to a particular person or, conversely, it may show an immediate connection.

Over ten years of fostering, my husband and I have seen over 150 dogs/puppies come and go with their own challenges, but all with the same challenge of finding that "perfect home". None stands out in my mind more than Sydney, an Australian Shepherd mix puppy. Shy, quiet and reserved, she wiggled her way into our home, pack and hearts almost immediately.

Although on the rescue's website for weeks, few applications came, and all but one fizzled out. That applicant lived three hours away. In reviewing the application, I saw occupations listed as pediatric physician (wife) and college professor (husband). Would these people have the time to give our pup the life, love and exercise she deserves? With no previous dog experience and a townhouse in the city, would they really be that

"perfect fit"?

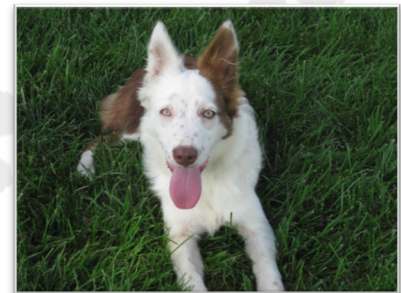
Home visits were consistently our standard decision-making time, with my husband and I having a secret sign to each other if the adoption was a go or no-go. With the three-hour distance one way working against our tight work schedules, doing our own home visit was not an option. A local rescue was contacted and agreed to fill in answering our specific questions/concerns. In a nutshell, their feedback from the home visit included that the applicants home was organized and spotless; they were aware of their own inexperience yet open to suggestions; and they asked a lot of "intelligent questions".

With no real reason for a "do not adopt" decision, my next contact with them was to set up a meeting with our girl Sydney at our home. We figured if they were willing make the drive, they must be seriously interested.

They were an hour late, arriving at dusk. I met them with Sydney on leash to greet them. As they got out of the car, my first observation was that the wife was pale, appearing frail. The husband appeared fine, but his first comment was the question, "What is your practice for dental hygiene?" Really???? Showing uncertainty, they knelt down to pet our girl. Sydney, normally shy and reserved, wiggled and backed her butt into the wife, sitting herself down at her feet and looking up towards her face.

The visit went along with question after question. We went inside to show them her temperament in the home as well as continuing the discussion of her grooming and dietary intake and elimination habits. Each time the wife stood still, Sydney was at her feet looking up as if asking for her approval and love. Finally, we left them alone with Sydney as they walked the yard with her.

Without a specific reason not to, we allowed them to adopt her that evening. As they drove away, tears came to my eyes and questions in my head. Had we done the right thing, is this the right home?



Sweet Sydney living her best life

Eight years have passed since that night of doubt. Fortunately, only joy has followed that adoption with initially frequent e-mails, photos and stories of the joy Sydney has brought them. Photos of being off leash in numerous parks, going to outdoor cafes and family gatherings. This educated couple opened the world to our foster.

We have moved twice since that night. After not hearing for an extended time, I was thrilled to receive an e-mail stating that over the years, Sydney had opened their hearts enabling them to adopt another dog in need. But she didn't stop there, Sydney also brought them down to earth. They were now expecting a two-legged family member. The wife was pregnant.

The decision to adopt to this couple was not ours, but Sydney's. Her expression of love, connection and choice was all her own doing. We just followed her lead. Being driven to find the foster animal the "perfect home" may hold back a potentially great adoption. This couple had many strikes against them yet that night we allowed Sydney to make the call. She knew what was meant to be. Instead of tears of sorrow, I have tears of joy when I think of her. Thank you, Sydney, for showing us "This is the one!" Email [info@castawaycritters.org](mailto:info@castawaycritters.org) for more information about fostering!

Castaway Critters depends on your donations to continue to save the lives of homeless pets. We cannot do what we do without you. Thank you for your generosity.

☐

\$50 Spay/Neuter Surgery (Cat)

☐

\$200 Approx. 200 lbs of Cat & Dog Food

☐

\$75 Guardian Angel Sponsorship (1 Cat)

☐

\$260 Guardian Angel Sponsorship (Dog)

☐

\$125 Tests & Vaccines (Dogs)

☐

Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Donations may also be made via PayPal or credit card on our website. Please make checks & money orders payable to Castaway Critters.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

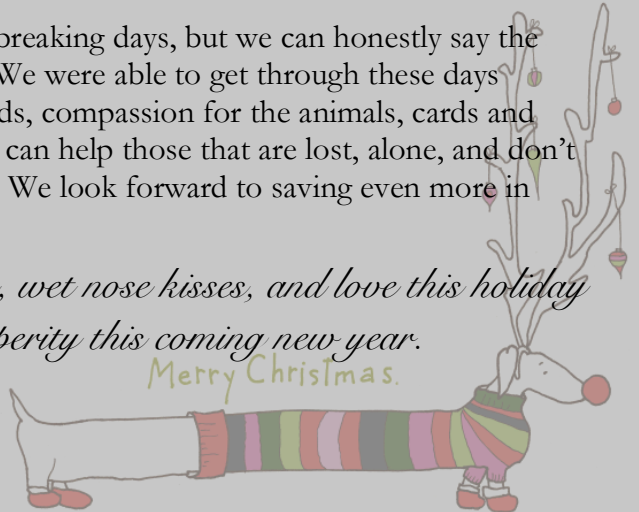
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## *A special message from our family of volunteers*

2018 has been a very eventful year. We have had some heartbreaking days, but we can honestly say the purrs, tail wags, and happily ever after's made it all worth it. We were able to get through these days because of YOU. Because of your support, encouraging words, compassion for the animals, cards and generous donations we are able to continue our mission. We can help those that are lost, alone, and don't have a voice. From the bottom of our hearts we Thank You. We look forward to saving even more in 2019.

*Wishing you and yours lots of laughter, belly rubs, wet nose kisses, and love this holiday season, as well as good health and prosperity this coming new year.*

*Merry Christmas.*



The Official Registration and financial information of Castaway Critters, The James A. Hueholt Memorial Foundation may be obtained from the PA Department of State by calling their toll free number, within PA, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.



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