The Potter League has designated 2013 as “The Year of the Cat!” Although the Chinese calendar states it is the Year of the Snake… here at the Potter League we feel differently. We will be concentrating our efforts on a wide range of cat issues and challenges as well as spreading the word about the joy of sharing your home with a cat (or two!). Not only can you look forward to new promotions, but we will be offering informational sessions such as Potter Pet University on a number of cat topics. Also, every cat adopted this year will be microchipped at no extra charge.

In honor of The Potter League’s Year of the Cat, we will be featuring one cat a week for the low adoption price of $20.13. This promotion will run all year long. Every Monday a cat will be featured on Facebook. On Tuesday, the featured cat will also be highlighted on our website at www.PotterLeague.org. The featured cat will only be available for that price through Sunday at 4 pm when the shelter closes for the weekend. Every Monday a new cat will be selected as Cat of the Week. Become a friend of our Facebook page to get the featured Cat of the Week before everyone else. Together we can make this year the best for our feline friends! Stay tuned for an exciting year ahead. Go Cats!
Dear Potter League,

I am writing you this letter to thank you for helping me overcome my anxiety around our dog Lulu. I have had the pleasure of keeping company with a few dogs in my life. At one point I witnessed a really scary dog fight that left me with some serious anxiety around dogs meeting and playing with each other. It got to the point that I would go out of my way to avoid going to any place where my dog might get the chance to interact with other dogs. I knew that this was bad for both our new pup Lulu and for me. She needed to meet other dogs and be socialized and I needed not to have a panic attack every time I walked her. Potter League to the rescue!

A few different people recommended Potter to me. One person spoke about puppy playgroup. She said it was a chance for the puppies to play and that it was facilitated by a trainer. She said it was a ton of fun (I thought it sounded like my nightmare). Other people spoke about the training classes. No one had anything but positive things to say so I decided that Lulu and I would go to puppy playgroup.

Puppy playgroup was quite an adventure. Lulu loved it! At first she was a bit shy but after a few times she was running around and rough housing with all the others. I, on the other hand, was a nervous wreck. Byron Davies, Director of Behavior and Training, had to talk me through the whole thing. She talked to me about normal dog behaviors about how dogs interact with each other. She pointed out play behaviors and constantly reassured me that everything was going fine. We would go every Friday morning. I would come in with questions and she always very patiently answered me. I can’t tell you how much I appreciated it. Dog Obedience Trainer Sue Sullivan was another huge support to us. We went to training classes with her. I needed the training more than Lulu did (though it helped both of us). She told me that she really wanted to help me to enjoy Lulu. With Sue and Byron’s patience and instruction I got more comfortable and confident with Lulu.

Potter League isn’t only for the animals, it’s also for their families. Our lives got infinitely better because of all the help we received. I went from a person who couldn’t think about walking her dog past another without huge anxiety to one who goes to the beach looking for doggie playmates. I can’t tell you how much we appreciate all the help.

Thank you so much,
Lulu and Carla

Lulu and Carla
Camp Happy Tails introduces kids to the wonders and wows of the animal kingdom while learning compassion and respect for the world around them. Our hands-on educational program allows kids to explore behind the scenes at the Potter League and unleashes a love for making a difference in animals’ lives.

This summer the Potter League will be offering new themes for all grade levels. Grades 2 and 3 will have the choice of Animals of Aquidneck, Get Set for a Pet, Common Senses and Paws, Claws, Whiskers & Wings. Grades 4, 5 & 6 can choose The Road to Adoption, Friends for Life, Careers with Critters, and Breeds & Needs. Full day sessions are in partnership with the Newport County YMCA. Transportation between the YMCA and the Potter League is included.

**WEEK  TIME  THEME**

**Grades 4, 5 & 6**
- July 8 - 12  Half day  Careers with Critters
- July 15 - 19  Full day  The Road to Adoption
- July 29 - August 2  Full day  Friends for Life
- August 5 - 9  Half day  Breeds & Needs

**Grades 2 & 3**
- July 15 - 19  Full day  Animals of Aquidneck
- July 22 - 26  Half day  Common Senses
- July 29 - August 2  Full day  Get Set for a Pet
- August 12 - 16  Half day  Paws, Claws, Whiskers & Wings

Sessions fill up fast, so enroll today! For more information visit our website, www.PotterLeague.org.

New Kid’s Dog Training Class

A new 5 week class for kids and their family dog. Learn tricks, new commands and strengthen the bond between child and dog.

**Thursdays at 4:00 pm  March 14 – April 11  $100 for 5 sessions**

For children ages 9 – 12 years old with some dog handling skills. Dogs must be 5 months or older and must have some prior training.

Please contact Anastacia at 401.846.8276 ext. 120 for more information or to register.

Annual Doggy Biscuit Hunt

Using their remarkable sense of smell, leashed dogs will hunt for eggs filled with biscuits & other surprises for dogs & their people!

**Saturday, March 23  3:00 pm**

at the Potter League  $10 per dog

The hunt will be held outside, rain or shine. Dog and people friendly dogs only please. Pre-registration not required.

A Special Thank You to the Newport Skating Center and Newport Waterfront Events for choosing the Potter League for Animals as their Community Partner
Van Donated for Transport Program

Thanks to an anonymous donor, the Potter League has acquired a new van to be used primarily for the transporting of homeless animals through our Fetching Friends Transport Program. Fetching Friends is a lifesaving program that the Potter League started in 2000. We transport animals from high volume/low adoption shelters to our facility in Rhode Island where adopters are eagerly awaiting their arrival. In 2012, the Potter League acquired 296 animals through this program. Transports are generally dogs but in November, the Potter League assisted in recovery efforts after Superstorm Sandy and brought cats from New Jersey for adoption.

Save the Date

POTTER PET U
Wednesday, March 20 - 6:00-7:00 pm
Low-Stress Veterinary Care for Your Cat
presented by Dr. Toni Ellis

Wednesday, April 17 - 6:00-7:00 pm
Clicker Training presented by Barbara Scavotto

ARTISAN CRAFT SHOW
May 4 & 5
Potter League’s Training Center, 87 Oliphant Lane,
Middletown

CRITTER GLITTER SPRING SALE
May 4 - 10
Potter League, 87 Oliphant Lane, Middletown

HEART & SOLE WALK FOR THE ANIMALS
Sunday, June 2
Glen Park, Portsmouth

The Potter League proudly feeds Hill’s Science Diet to all the cats and dogs in our care. Hill’s Pet Nutrition has a mission to help enrich and lengthen the special relationships between people and their pets. Learn more about Science Diet® and Prescription Diet® pet foods at HillsPet.com.
Celebrating 40 Years of the Have a Heart!

Rain, wind, sleet or snow could not keep our Potter League friends away from the 40th Annual Have A Heart Cocktail Party and Silent Auction. Close to 400 friends, neighbors and animal lovers joined us at The Hotel Viking on February 12th after the infamous Blizzard of 2013!

Raising almost $90,000, these event funds will directly support the Potter League in continuing to provide shelter, medical and general care to our loving homeless animals.

Auctioneer John Silvia emceed the event and hosted a face-paced live auction featuring destination packages to St. Lucia & Costa Rica, yacht excursions and exquisite jewels. The silent auction featured over 300 items, including jewelry, golfing and sports packages, spa and beach get-a-ways, fine works of art and vintage wines.

This year, Kathy Barilla won the 50/50 raffle winner which raised $3,985.00! Special attention was given to The Year of the Cat. Our guests contributed to this agency initiative which will assist us as we plan special community educational and outreach programming, support vital cat issues across Aquidneck Island and address the needs of all things feline.

Once again, we are truly humbled to see such overwhelming community support. A heartfelt thank you to the hundreds of folks – our volunteer committee, our Ruby, Emerald and Cat’s Eye sponsors, our party sponsors, the fabulous Viking staff, Exquisite Events, Chanterelle Boutique Catering, violinist Ilana Katz and staff – all for their time, treasure and talents.

Regardless of the challenges the weather has provided us, the 2013 Have A Heart was a beautiful, warm and heartwarming success.

Our hearts are full of gratitude because of you. THANK YOU!
Celebrating 40 Years!

Have A Heart Cocktail Party & Auction

Thank you to our
Ruby Sponsor
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WPRI 12 FOX Providence
The Animal Print

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BankRI

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Greenvale Vineyards
Horizon Beverages
Hotel Viking & PSAV Services
Newport Storm
Ilana Katz

Photos by Al Tetreault