



Mosby's Mission

All About the Dogs!

PO Box 1978, Staunton, VA 24402 • 540-885-2260 • info@themosbyfoundation.org • www.themosbyfoundation.org

NEWSLETTER OF THE MOSBY FOUNDATION

Pouring Love into Rubin

Hartford, CT

Melissa didn't see it coming but there it was, a notice of employment termination. Several of her co-workers received the same notice. The year was 2019 and COVID was looming, and businesses were running scared.

Despondent and scared, she headed back to her apartment. There she was wildly greeted by her two dogs, the two joys of her life. When life gets you down, dogs sure know how to lift you back up. Their excitement at seeing her made her feel loved, especially after such an awful day.

But the months dragged on and she still had no work. Her puggle died of seizures because she was unable to afford medical treatment. It was excruciating watching her beloved dog die right in front of her eyes.

Not only was it physically hard, fearing for her safety every day, but the devastation ate at her soul.

Then the health department condemned her apartment building, and she was forced to leave. With nowhere to go, Melissa and her German Shepherd, Sandy, lived on the streets for a year.

Not only was it physically hard, fearing for her safety every day, but the devastation ate at her soul. Finally, Melissa received a section 8 housing voucher. The relief of having a roof over her head, running water, and a bed were like luxuries to her.

Then Sandy died of kidney failure. Her grief was all consuming. The one slip of joy she had was now gone. Deeply lonely, Melissa answered an ad on Craigslist.

"Healthy puppy needs to be rehomed. Bassett/Beagle-mix."

But when Melissa arrived at the woman's motel room, her first thought when she saw four-month-old Rubin was, "Oh my God. You poor animal."



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The Mosby Foundation
PO Box 1978, Staunton, VA 24402
540-885-2260



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NEWSLETTER

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MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD



I am truly honored and deeply excited to begin this journey with The Mosby Foundation.

Several years ago, our family had to make the painful decision to say goodbye to our beloved dog, Monroe. In the days and weeks that followed, reminders of her presence remained throughout our home. One of the most poignant was her dog food—something I found myself looking at each day, unsure of what to do with it. In searching for a meaningful place to donate her food and toys, we discovered The Mosby Foundation. I remember feeling immense gratitude that such a compassionate organization existed, one dedicated to supporting dogs in our local community. Your team accepted Monroe's food and toys with warmth and compassion, and it brought us comfort to

know that other dogs would benefit from what she could no longer use. That act of kindness brought us a measure of peace during a very difficult time.

The Mosby Foundation graciously accepted the donations, ensuring that what our sweet Monroe could no longer use would bring comfort and care to other dogs in need. That simple act of kindness helped ease our pain and allowed us to feel that Monroe's legacy would live on in some small but meaningful way.

It took time for us to open our hearts again, but eventually, we were fortunate enough to be rescued by Pippa. Welcoming her into our lives has brought joy, healing, and a renewed sense of purpose. Our two sons cherish coming home to her wagging tail and enthusiastic kisses—she has truly become part of our family, our 'ohana.

Thank you for all that you do. As we embark on this new chapter, I hope our family can give back to The Mosby Foundation and contribute to preserving Mosby's remarkable legacy. We look forward to walking alongside you in this mission with full hearts and a shared purpose.

In support of canines,
Kelly Peters, Executive Director

Our First Flash Tattoo Fundraiser was a howling success!

Over \$2,000 was raised to benefit our community and pets in need. Our food pantry will be stocked with some good kibble thanks to our friends at **Old Wharf Tattoo!**



Pouring Love into Rubin

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The puppy was so emaciated she could see his ribs. He was filthy dirty and seemed very scared. Even so, Rubin allowed Melissa to pet him. Her heart melted, and she knew he was her dog.

When she got him home, she told Rubin, "This is your new home, and I love you." Melissa then kissed the top of his head. Rubin didn't know what to make of that. So, he camped out by the front door, nervous and scared.

For her part, Melissa quickly learned how abused the first four months of Rubin's life had been. His breath smelled like a "diaper dumpster," and his teeth had black spots on them.

The backs of his ears were bare. She bought an ointment from Amazon that treated it, with the fur growing back. But there was more. Rubin had both diarrhea and gas. "He could clear a room," she said.

And the starvation this young dog had endured now became a behavioral problem for Melissa to resolve. Rubin would attack the garbage can looking for food. When she was eating, he would try to steal the food from her plate.

When it was time for Rubin to eat his chow, he ate so fast he hardly knew he had eaten at all. Melissa bought a slow feeder to help him regulate his food intake, and she made sure he got several biscuits a day.

It's hard to imagine a puppy so ill-treated right from birth, and with such a background of abuse, you would think Rubin would be mean, or have social issues, or dislike kids. None of that was true.

Rubin took the long view. He was cautious, always waiting to see what Melissa would do to him or withhold from him.

For her part, Melissa had truckloads of compassion to give, and she gave it freely. The dog that lay scared by the front



door finally found that the couch was quite comfy. He also found her bed was a gloriously extended dog bed with big pillows. And wonders of wonders, Melissa would feed him regularly and give him treats!

The two became inseparable. "He loves belly rubs and car rides. Rubin loves to be outside and play with his toys." In other words, Rubin found the love of his life.

Within a few weeks, with regular, nutritious food, the diarrhea and gas disappeared, but his teeth and breath were still a big issue. She took Rubin to the vet about his teeth and his cherry eye, a condition that causes a dog's third eyelid to become swollen and red, covering part of the eye.

The vet wasn't nearly as concerned about the cherry eye as she was about his teeth. He had periodontal disease with many of his teeth rotten. But dental extractions were out of the

question because Rubin was still extremely malnourished and generally unhealthy, despite Melissa's excellent care.

Eight months later, Rubin was finally healthy. Now Melissa had to get dental extractions for her one-year-old dog. With very little money but an absolute commitment to the health of her dog, she applied with No Animal Left Unfed in Hartford, Connecticut. Founder, Shonya Harrison, helps financially struggling pet parents obtain pet food and supplies, as well as gain access to medical care grants.

When Melissa filled out the online form for medical assistance, Shonya said, "I just felt compelled to call her. Perhaps we could at least help with a sick visit or something like that."

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Gimme Shelter

We are helping so many dogs, we do not have space to list them all!



Pebbles, Port Hueneme, CA

We want our beloved pets to be in our lives with us as long as possible. Pretty Pebbles was beginning to show signs of pyometra. Increased drinking, vomiting, and loss of appetite are a few symptoms of this bacterial infection. After receiving funding from The Mosby Foundation, along with a successful surgery, this friendly Frenchie is back to romping at the dog park, playing with her favorite green ball and Frisbee, enjoying life to the fullest. Make a lifesaving move and have your female dogs spayed to prevent pyometra.



Legend, St. Louis, MO

Bang! Was that a balloon popping? A car backfiring? Noise from the TV? It was so much worse than this family could imagine. Their one-year-old Lab/Pit mix had been shot. Legend's left leg was broken and shattered. Time and money were running out. GoFundMe and other contacts were made, but it still wasn't enough to pay for his amputation. With your remarkable donations, Legend has had a speedy recovery and is doing awesome! "Life can't knock him down." He peacefully sleeps with his big purple teddy bear by his side. He's only one and so much more fun ahead!



Precious, Pasadena, MD

Seeing is believing isn't always the case. This young Yorkie was blind in both eyes due to a disastrous dog attack, but that wasn't keeping this spunky girl from wanting to be petted, hugged, and pampered. Money could not replace her sight, but she has many years left to give love and be loved. Precious is doing well thanks to support from generous Mosby donors. You all are the best!



Cooper, Glade Hill, VA

Poor Pitbull Cooper had a rough start. The handsome boy was sold, returned, and was going to be put to sleep until his current pet parents said enough is enough. Cooper settled in, surrounded by love and affection. Unfortunately, another hurdle was in his future. He was diagnosed with cancerous mast cell tumors. The biggest obstacle now was paying for the procedure. The Mosby Foundation was contacted, and we were able to help have the invasive tumors removed. Two words sum it all up, Thank YOU!



Scrappy, Weyers Cave, VA

Winning the lottery and celebrating by purchasing a puppy Pitbull did not have a happy ending for Scrappy. He was almost thrown into a creek to drown in an effort to keep him from crying. Scrappy "won" the lottery when a friend welcomed him into a loving home. He had a noticeable limp. It was off to the vet, only to discover that his hipbone ball joint was deteriorated. Amputation of his leg was the only solution. Scrappy, you hit the jackpot when The Mosby Foundation stepped in to help with your medical needs.



Sugar Bear, New Washington, ID

Sugar is sweet, and so is Sugar Bear. Pound for pound, she's the best Rottweiler/Lab mix around. Speaking of pounds, Sugar Bear had over a pound of HUGE bladder stones (you heard correctly!) that were successfully removed. After wearing the cone of shame to prevent her from pulling out her stitches, Sugar Bear received a clean bill of health and is recovering well. "Thank you all so much for everything you did to help us save our girl." Another happy ending, thanks to our dedicated donors.

Pouring Love into Rubin

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Shonya was moved by the adversity the young woman had experienced, and she was very concerned about her ability to get Rubin medical help because of her finances. But when forces of good come together, anything's possible. Shonya reached out to The Mosby Foundation on behalf of Melissa and asked for a grant. We, too, felt Rubin deserved a second chance at a good life. We said yes!

Shonya put out a financial appeal on Facebook, telling the story from Rubin's viewpoint. The response was heart-warming. "People were moved by the story, because, like us, they believe that pet ownership shouldn't be a privilege. Melissa needs Rubin now more than ever." Shonya said.

Thanks to the financial efforts of No Animal Left Behind and The Mosby Foundation's grant, Rubin had all of his decayed teeth removed, which meant he had very few teeth left. Shonya also made sure Melissa had a 44-pound bag of Pedigree dog food.

Here at The Mosby Foundation, we believe we're a better community when we work together. And like Shonya, we believe Melissa needs Rubin now more than ever. Studies prove over and over again, that a pet enriches the life of the pet parent.



When a person has a dog to take care of and to love, life is just better, in spite of circumstances.

But you don't have to tell Melissa that. "I'm just so grateful to The Mosby Foundation and No Animal Left Unfed. Rubin means everything to me." While Melissa is still struggling, life is easier because Rubin loves her to the moon and back. 🐾

Thank You!



VIRGINIA FEDERATION
of HUMANE SOCIETIES
SINCE 1959

**We were awarded a
\$5000
Spay/Neuter Grant!**

Memorials

IN MEMORY OF DOGS

Moose, I still miss you every day, from Donna Bengen

Howard and Moose, who were so very loved by their humans, John & Sian, from Traci Zimmerman

Granddog Tundra, Melvis, & Spanky, from Yolanda Beasley

Bubba & Patrick, both loving Great Pyrenees who will always remain in my heart, from Amy Scheuer

Happy, from Shirley Harrelson

Yeller, from John Warren

Tammy. Miss my baby girl so much, love Jan Johnson

Buddy, Belle, & Bogie, from Darla Golden

Bess, from Virginia Anslinger

Rosie & Jax, from Dianna Donovan Alger

Topaz 2, from Bruce Rogers

Reggie & Alex Hiserman, from Charlene Plunkett

Buddy Boy (2009-2024), from Sally Burger

Paisley, from Margaret Ballin

Linda Wenger's devoted dog, Barry, from Joan & Rich Eberly

Rufus, from Joyce DeWitt

PeeWee (pet parents Mr. & Mrs. Barry Gum)

Yukon (pet parents Mr. & Mrs. Frank McAllister)

Mia & Luci (pet parent Mrs. Stella Hildebrand)

Bailey (pet parents Mr. & Mrs. Brett Zimmer)

Sampson (per parent Ms. Morgan McDonald), from Hope Delight Gillespie

Luca, the bestest boy to his human, Peggy, from Traci Zimmerman

Koka, my wonderful Dane/Shepherd, Frederic Aldhizer

Yeller, from Sheila Roeder

Norman Kassem, from Alicia Shelton

Bennie, beloved Yorkie of The Goodrow Family, from Sharon Goodrow

Rosie, beloved dog of Steve & Mary Ann Velluto, from Jeanne Hoffman

Sophie, from Krisna Hoffman

Sadie, a patient of Dr. Paling at Virginia Veterinary Specialists, from Cora Diamond

Norken, beloved fur baby of Sunny Kendra Sanger, from Nancy Wadley

Daisy Hunter, from Pat Hunter

Alex (pet parent Jennifer Lewis) & Piper (pet parents Diane & Adrienne Hoffman), from Jeanne Hoffman & Bobbie Whitescarver

IN MEMORY OF PEOPLE

Rachel & Mike Parks, from Shirley Harrelson

Henley Gabeau, from Rebecca Schad

Tommy Eavers, from Malinda Eavers

Dr. Rufus Gardner, from Robert Johnson

Tom & Bonnie Swisher, from Martin Good

Beryl Miller, from Beverly Faulkenberry

Ronald W. Hiserman, from Charlene Plunkett

Wayman Garnett, who loved dogs, from Barbara Bradley

Henley Gabeau, RIP, my almost lifelong friend, from Betsy Anthony

Bob & Jean Stern, who loved dogs, from Kathy Mason

IN HONOR OF DOGS

Toby, from Yolanda Beasley

Baylee, our special rescue, from Mary Ballew Martin

Piper, beloved dog, from Barbara Bradley

Sassy, from Karen van Es

Blue Hiserman, from Charlene Plunkett

Sky, Chocolate Lab, from Webb Lutz

Toby, from Yolanda Beasley

Hank, who we sadly said goodbye to a year ago. Hoping these funds will support someone else to have the most time possible with their pet, from Courtney Reece

Norman, Carole Kassem's dog, from Caylee Henderson

IN HONOR OF PEOPLE

Ann Sommers, from Morrison Heights Baptist Church
Carol T. Warren, from Judith Warren
Dixie, from Karen van Es
Dorothea McGay, from Margaret Mudrowsky
Elliot Evans, from Margaret Ballin
Carole Kassem & her dog Norman that brought light & joy to her life, from Gregory Arbogast
Carole Kassem, from Alicia Shelton
Betsy Young, from Betsy Anthony
Stacy Reeder, in appreciation of your kindness, from Philippa Proulx

IN MEMORY OF CATS

Squeak, from Betsy Anthony

Heartbreak to happiness!

It was an interesting way to start the week. Phone calls and text messages were coming into The Mosby office. We were being told that the statue of Mosby at our local dog park was missing. A call went out to the Staunton Parks and Recreation Department, as they are the owners of the space where the statue stood. They shared that the situation was something that they would remedy soon.

Less than a week later, there is a new Mosby greeting the dogs who come to Staunton to play in the local dog park. To say we are relieved is an understatement.

We want to thank all of the people who reached out with words of support and love for Mosby as well as Staunton Parks and Recreation for acting so quickly.

Next time you visit Staunton be sure to stop by and say 'Hi' to Mosby.



Sunday

Monday



IT'S TIME TO

OTE

IN THE

2026 CALENDAR CONTEST!

July 18 through September 5

Vote at the **THEMOSBYFOUNDATION** Facebook Page



Raise funds for
dogs in need
of critical
medical care!



In Memory of
Dr. Valerie Weiss



The Mosby Foundation 5-K

November 5, 8am-11am

Gypsy Hill Park, Staunton, VA

photos from 2010 & 2012



Walk/Run or Hang Out!

Dogs on leashes are welcome!



The Mosby Foundation
 PO Box 1978
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 The Mosby Foundation

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

"It came to me that every time I lose a dog they take a piece of my heart with them. And every new dog who comes into my life gifts me with a piece of their heart. If I live long enough, all the components of my heart will be dog, and I will become as generous and loving as they are."
 - Unknown

Mosby's Mission

The Mosby Foundation is organized exclusively for charitable purposes, to assist in the care of critically sick, injured, abused and neglected dogs through financial support and public education. We are a 501(C)3 non-profit organization.

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