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CAP News

March, 2026



The weather outside was frightful, but the canine love? Delightful!

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President's and Vice President's Letter to the Membership

Dear Loyal Members,

Introducing your first peek at CAP's new logo! The hats are long gone, and the previously featured cat is elsewhere, but CAP's signature red scarf remains to brighten these sometimes dreary days. Work to update our website is ongoing. The new version should make its use more manageable for you and visitors to our site. In the days ahead, look for news of the availability of CAP gear featuring our new logo.

Behind the scenes, planning is in the works for our gala celebration in honor of CAP's 40th anniversary. It's scheduled for Saturday, September 12, with a rain date of September 19th. It will be held at the Barnstable County Grounds, 3195 Main Street, Barnstable. Save the dates! As we get closer to the occasion, you will receive an invitation via email.

In this newsletter, meet two new teams who have recently become certified. Two other teams who have passed their evaluations are awaiting orientation, and we wish them the very best of luck. Our CAP community welcomes its new arrivals.

Get ready for spring!

Sincerely,

Mary Wills, CAP President

Michele Granger, CAP Vice-President

Children and Adult Specialty Program Visits



Eli Fiore makes a new friend

Children and Adult Specialty Program visits carry on bringing warmth and joy to Cape Cod residents despite some less than welcoming weather.

These teams participate in a wide variety of visits from schools and libraries to adult participants in day programs, hospital patients, staff, and also take part in one-time community events.

If you are not a qualified Children and Adult Specialty Program Visits team member and would like to become one, you must have at least 6 visits at adult care facilities to apply. Learn more at companionanimalprogram.com/members/ for information about the requirements and program application. Contact [Susan](#) with any questions.



Rhett Butler Ouelette gets and gives a little lovin'



Luna Pease enjoys her first visit to Riverview School

Visiting Updates



Sophie and Rob Schain brighten the day for a resident at Liberty Commons

It's been a busy winter for our CAP Teams. At times, they were dashing through the snow to make their visits.

On the Lower Cape, two new Captains came on board. Susan Gordon (Millie) and Cindy Sia (Theo) will co-captain at Cape Cod Post Acute Care in Brewster, taking over for Linda Johnston (Teddy). Susan Gordon also serves as Captain at Maplewood. Thanks to both Susan and Cindy for volunteering for these important leadership positions.

HELP! The Lower Cape is seeking additional teams to visit at The Alzheimers' Family Support group at The Truro Senior Center on the 4th Thursday of the month, 10:30-11:30. Contact [Ellen](#) if you can help.

Still Seeking Your Expertise

The **Upper Cape** continues its search for a **Visitation Coordinator**. This position can either be held by one person or shared with a friend. Visitation coordinators interview the contact person when a new site requests CAP visits and vet the venue for its suitability for our services. The Visitation Coordinator is also the contact person for Captains who need additional teams and provides overall assistance. When a member wants to add a new site to their schedule, they contact the Visitation Coordinator. If you enjoy working with others, this opportunity could be the right fit for you! Interested? Contact [Mary](#).

If you have questions about a specific visiting site, you can reach out to your Captain or to the Visitation Coordinators, [Kerry](#) Walton and [Mary](#) Wills, Upper Cape; [Ellen](#) Hewins, Lower Cape; and [Susan](#) Hunt, Children's and Adult Specialty Visits. They will answer any questions you have about CAP and the many monthly visits we have on our schedule.

Running low on your dog's "business cards"? Contact [Kerry](#). She places orders monthly.

Click on the link for a complete listing of adult visiting sites. www.companionanimalprogram.com/adult-visits.html and on The [Member Portal](#) for dates and times. Click on either [Ellen](#) (Lower Cape) or [Mary](#) or [Kerry](#) (Upper Cape) to check availability.

Did you know?

All members are welcome to join any of CAP's committees. You do not need to be a board member in order to participate. A description of all CAP's committees can be

found in your Membership Directory. Familiarize yourself with the various committees, and get in touch with [Mary](#) if you'd like to become involved.



Louise and Luna Miller share a tender moment with a resident

CAP Training News



Bertie Williams responds to the, "Bertie, look!" command right on cue

Spring classes in Falmouth will begin on March 26th at 9:00 AM and will run for 7 consecutive weeks. **If you know of someone who might be interested in becoming a CAP team member, invite them to attend our free CAP presentation on March 21st from 3:30-4:30 at Waquoit Congregational Church in Falmouth.** We hope to have another CAP training class for the Lower Cape at Tail Waggin' Dog Training in South Dennis sometime before summer. Anyone interested should check the CAP website for dates and times.

Click [here](#) for more information and to register for a class.

If a team does not possess the prerequisite AKC Good Citizens Certification (CGC), they have the option of taking a CGC course and test, or simply taking the test with one of our evaluators. If that option is preferred, we will work with them to schedule an evaluation. Contact [Mary](#) with any questions.



CAP's Lower Cape Training Team at Tail Waggin' Dog Training Heather Garre, Trainer, with CAP Evaluators, Jean Fenton and Deb Cabillos assisting

Love Is in the Air!



Nelli Devine puts the "Happy" in Happy Valentines Day



Who could refuse this Valentine delivery from Dessy McNair?



Maahi Mattioli was granted an audience with a Valentine Queen at Community Connections in South Yarmouth



Teams accept a generous donation to CAP from the students at Mullen Hall School (some of whom emptied their piggy banks to contribute)



CAP was represented by our teams at a dog lovers' meet and greet with other canine-related organizations and vendors

This Could Be Eggsactly What You're Looking For!

Hot Diggity's annual canine Easter egg hunt is scheduled for



Saturday, April 4, 2026,
at 11:00 AM sharp on the Village Green
at Mashpee Commons. The free, rain-or-shine event features 4,000 treat-filled eggs, including special, color-coded, allergy-friendly options for dogs. Attendees should bring leashes and baskets. [ARTS Barnsta... +2](#)

Shannon and Stanley Reilly Show Off This Year's "Stanley Calendar"



Each year, Shannon creates a calendar featuring her CAP therapy dog, Stanley, and some of his CAP friends. This year, she gave out the calendars for free with a message encouraging recipients to donate to CAP. It was a great way to support CAP and a wonderful marketing tool, too. Thank you, Shannon and Stanley!

CAP Therapy Dog, Maahi Mattioli, Competing at The Westminster Dog Show in NYC



It was an honor to qualify for this level of competition. Maahi may not have won, but doesn't he look regal? Congratulations to Maahi and his CAP teammate, Karla!

Introducing New Kids on the Block

CAP Welcomes Our New Teams



Karen Bissonnette and Tilly



Kristin Torres and Princess Leia

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Did you know that:

Half of CAP's income comes from membership?

The balance of our income comes from contributions & fundraising. Please help today. Give a gift in honor of or in memory of an animal lover or a favorite pet who has crossed the rainbow bridge.

The Companion Animal Program | P.O. Box 453 | Chatham, MA 02633 US

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