Supporting Massachusetts Police dogs - helping provide essential equipment, training and dogs.

Remembering Anna Oberlander, Board Member and Extraordinary Volunteer

"Anna's Not-Yet-Done Fund" is launched in memory of Anna Oberlander, who died suddenly 8/19/16. Active in all aspects of Massachusetts Vest-a-Dog, Anna was also a dear friend, who we know still had many plans. "Anna's Not-Yet-Done Fund" donations can be made here: http://bit.ly/2binnz

Inspired by her enthusiasm, joie de vivre, and fierce independence to accomplish whatever she wanted, despite wearing an ankle brace and needing a walker, we launched this fund, which will continue her efforts to support Massachusetts police dogs, providing ballistic K-9 vests and K-9 first aid kits.

Anna was a generous donor, sponsoring three K-9 vests, K-9 first aid kits and more. Being a donor wasn't enough, though. She assisted at our events, assembled K-9 first aid kits...including one especially memorable marathon day of assembling FIFTY kits! She joined our Board of Directors in 2014, and also served as the Board's Clerk, tapping her vast business experience. The thoughtfulness, enthusiasm, and kindness she brought to all her efforts on behalf of Massachusetts K-9s is deeply and sorely missed.

K-9 Bodden & partner, Sgt. Joe Riley of Essex County Sheriff's Department with Anna Oberlander. Anna donated Bodden’s vest. PHOTO: Lauren MacDonald

Early 2017 Events

Check our website EVENTS page for details and more 2017 events!
Congratulations to Trooper Stucenski and K-9 Frankie, receiving two Medals of Merit

During the 2016 Fall State House Awards Ceremony, a total of 66 people were recognized and presented with awards for their roles in 18 separate incidents or investigations. Congratulations to all of the recipients! And special Congratulations to Trooper David M. Stucenski and his K-9 partner, Frankie, who received two Massachusetts State Police Medals of Merit.

"On April 30, 2016, Mr. Chad Grybko was a witness to an erratic driver and continued to follow the suspect while communicating his direction of travel to State Police Springfield via cell phone. Mr. Grybko followed the vehicle to an auto dealership. The operator noticed Mr. Grybko following him and drew and brandished a handgun at Mr. Grybko and his girlfriend.

Trooper David Stucenski and his K-9 partner Frankie arrived on scene causing the suspect to run. During the pursuit, the armed suspect turned and fired at Trooper Stucenski and Frankie. Almost simultaneously, Frankie jumped and made contact with the suspect. Trooper Stucenski and Frankie, with the assistance of Trooper Martinez, subdued and apprehended the suspect. The suspect’s .357 revolver was recovered as a result.

For his actions and commitment to civic duty in reporting the flight of an armed assailant, resulting in the apprehension of a felon, Chad Grybko is hereby commended in Personnel Orders and awarded the Massachusetts State Police Distinguished Service Award.

For their brave and decisive actions in the preservation of law and public safety, through the pursuit and apprehension of an armed and dangerous assailant who shot at them in an attempt to evade capture, Trooper David M. Stucenski and his K-9 partner Frankie are hereby commended in Personnel Orders and awarded the Massachusetts State Police Medal of Merit.”

In the early morning hours of May 22, 2016, Auburn Police Officer Ronald Tarentino, Jr. was shot and killed while making a traffic stop. Police said the driver, Jorge Zambrano, fled the scene, spurring a manhunt across Central Massachusetts. Hours later, members of the State Police Special Tactical Operations (STOP) team entered an Oxford duplex where the suspect “was lying in ambush,” law enforcement officials said. In that shootout, an 18-year veteran State Trooper was shot in the left shoulder and two tactical teammates returned fire against the suspect. Those troopers and the other tactical entry team members, including Trooper Stucenski and K-9 Frankie, received Medals of Merit for their assistance in that dangerous operation.

Perfect gifts for a holiday or any day!

Visit www.mavestadog.org to order now!
Follow us on Facebook!

Massachusetts Vest-a-Dog provides a SWAT K-9 vest to France’s RAID Team

Paris, Dallas, Nice, Baton Rouge - and our own Boston Marathon Bombing. Such heartache, lingering fear, vigilance.

Last November, following the Paris attacks, Todd Randall and his daughter, Alexis of Danvers, reached out to MA Vest-a-Dog and said they wanted to send a K-9 vest to France, in memory of Diesel, the police dog that was killed in the final raid on the Paris attackers. But Randall also gave his generous $2400 gift in honor of the Danvers Police Department, saying, “Everybody can make a difference, even if it’s one small step at a time.”

It’s especially heart-warming to see police departments’ posts include many acts of kindness in support of their job, especially in light of the recent officer deaths in Dallas and Baton Rouge… but did you know that as of November 30, 2016 there have already been 133 officers and 32 K-9s killed in the line of duty this year?
All Massachusetts Vest-A-Dog calendar proceeds will be used to support Massachusetts police dogs. Help purchase vests, essen-tial equipment, training and dogs.

2017 Massachusetts Vest-a-Dog Calendar $10 donation per calendar, plus S&H, includes a FREE Window Decal! Full color, 8 ½ X 11, featuring all Massachusetts police dogs. Danvers Police Department, Mendon Police Department, Massachusetts Environmental Police, Massachusetts State Police, MBTA Transit Police, Manchester-by-the-Sea Police Department, Southbridge Police Department, Westford Police Department, Danvers Police Department, and even an adorable puppy in training! [ALL PHOTOS: David Shilale]

Available online and at select retailers.

www.mavestadog.org

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P.O. Box 48
Walpole, MA 02081

2017 Calendars Now Available!

2017

Police Dog Support
Massachusetts
Thanks for
the equipment, training & dogs.

[AL]'T PHOTO'S: Dwarf Shilale]