



ANGELL AT 100

A Century of Compassionate Care for Animals and Their Families
at ANGELL ANIMAL MEDICAL CENTER

by KAREN CAMPBELL

MY WIFE AND I have the greatest respect for Angell. The veterinarians there have attended two of our cats through some harrowing emergencies, each time carefully navigating difficult diagnostic waters while keeping us up-to-date at every juncture. We feel safe trusting our beloved animal companions to this amazing place.

Jerry Mitchell

MY BELOVED DOG Bear suddenly collapsed one morning and I took him to Angell for emergency treatment. The efforts of the emergency staff at Angell brought Bear back from the brink of death, gave him six weeks of good-quality life, and allowed us to share our lives a bit longer. It was a wonderful gift for him and for me.

Thomas Forbes

I ADOPTED a pearl cockatiel, Arya, from the MSPCA at Nevins Farm and we formed an incredibly strong bond. When Arya became very ill, I took her to Angell. The staff could not have been more caring and compassionate. I've had many animals in my life, and this was, by far, the best veterinary experience I've had. I'd like to extend my deep gratitude to the staff at Angell.

Melissa Ziembo



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Page 16, Angell Animal Medical Center building, 2015, credit Topher Cox

Page 86, Charlie receiving his chemotherapy treatments, credit Stacey Escalante

Page 102, Carter Luke, credit Topher Cox

Page 105, The bustling lobby of Angell Animal Medical Center today, credit Topher Cox

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Page 127, Dr. Douglas Brum, credit P. Carey Reid

Page 133, Siggy manning the phone, credit Jeanne David-Lee

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To a century of generous donors—those individuals, companies, and foundations—who have contributed so much to make Angell Animal Medical Center the world-class hospital it is today. And to a century of Angell staff members, who have given so many animals the precious gift of their expertise and loving attention.



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Contents

<i>Foreword</i>	9
<i>Introduction</i>	13
<i>Part One: From Protecting to Healing, 1915–1976</i>	
1. George Thorndike Angell: “Working at the Roots”	21
2. The Vision of Dr. Francis H. Rowley	25
3. Growth of the MSPCA— And a Trailblazing Hospital Opens Its Doors	29
4. The Age of Specialization	43
<i>Part Two: A New Beginning, 1976–2000</i>	
5. A Seminary Transformed	65
6. Breaking New Ground	73
<i>Part Three: Angell in the Twenty-First Century</i>	
7. Carter Luke and Angell’s Expansion	103
8. Specialty Services	107
9. Regroup and Reaffirm	139
<i>Coda: Looking Toward the Future</i>	143



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Foreword

The MSPCA–Angell is an animal welfare organization that was founded in 1868 and is dedicated to making the world a better place for animals. Our history reflects our values. It was in our forty-seventh year, 1915, that significant change occurred in our thinking about what animal welfare really means. Animals in Massachusetts were facing a crisis: a shortage of veterinary care. Very deliberately, we took steps to address the problem. We built the Animal Hospital, and we dedicated it to our founder, George Angell.

That bold action was a statement that animal health and animal welfare are inextricably linked.

As we enter the one hundredth anniversary of that decision, I can't help but reflect on how that has made such a significant difference in real animals' lives. Animals face a lot of challenges in the world today. The MSPCA–Angell has many ways to help them with those challenges. Angell's doctors, nurses, technicians, interns, and residents have played a critical role in serving animals in need. Our medical team at Angell serves not only owned animals and their families, but also our cruelty investigators, our shelters, and our legislative efforts. The programs within our organization mesh. Angell treats, saves, rescues, diagnoses, and helps in a million ways to aid and inform the efforts of our non-medical wing—the Animal Protection Division. Our programs are inextricably linked.

One of the best examples of this is a dog named Stella. Stella was a five-month-old Lab mix, good natured, shy, and not completely house-broken. One night after she'd had an accident in the house, her owner decided to have some friends "get rid of her." But in the middle of the violent attack she suffered at their hands, she was rescued. She was brought to Angell alive, but with fourteen stab wounds. She needed the best veterinary treatment to survive, and she got it. Our law enforcement officers were notified, and the case went to court. Her case made headlines, and the

laws were strengthened to make animal cruelty a more serious crime. And after her recovery, Stella got a new home.

The MSPCA–Angell recognizes that the fate of animals within our society is dependent upon the willingness of human beings to acknowledge the significance of their fellow creatures and to accept responsibility for their well-being. We are committed to programs and activities that create an enlightened and compassionate citizenry that is actively concerned with the protection of animals. We are all in this together. Inextricably linked.

Personally, my link to Angell began in the late 1970s. I was home in Wisconsin with my son, an infant who had some kind of visual problem. An ophthalmologist said that in order to diagnose the problem, a special test with some new technology was needed, but there were only three places in the country that had this technology: a hospital in New York, a hospital in Los Angeles, and a place in Boston called “Angell.” He smiled and noted that the Boston hospital was for animals. Must be a special place, I thought . . .

Fast-forward to my first day with the MSPCA in 1985, when I was hired to oversee some of the Society’s animal welfare programs. Chief of Staff Dr. Gus Thornton called me and told me that there was a piece of specialized ophthalmology equipment that needed calibrating, but he wanted it to be done using an animal already under anesthesia. He didn’t want to take the risk of anesthetizing an animal just for the calibration. He wanted to find the safest and most humane way to achieve the end result.

Just before I moved to Massachusetts, I had adopted a new puppy, and it was time for her to be spayed. Great timing. I volunteered my young Lab, Chelsea, and during her surgery, she “helped” calibrate the machine. And that was the same machine that had helped diagnose my son Caleb’s visual condition. Inextricable links and synchronicity.

A few years later, I met a young Critical Care veterinarian at Angell during a moment of sheer pandemonium. I had heard good things about her, but we hadn’t been introduced yet. I was overseeing a cruelty case involving some cats that had ended up in the hospital. The cats weren’t healthy, and they were all stressed and not very socialized. During a medical exam, one of the cats escaped and was loose in an exam room. It is not an easy task to capture a stressed and unsocialized cat. She was literally climbing the walls and cabinets, looking for a place to hide or escape. She

knocked all kinds of things from the shelves—medicines, bandages, bottles, and equipment all flying across the room. It was chaos. There were two of us in the room: me and our new Critical Care doctor. I was about to ask her to leave the room, but she was calm and attending to the situation, and she safely and humanely captured the cat. Didn't need me at all. I was quite impressed. I've come to recognize that Emergency/Critical Care doctors are always focused like that in the midst of chaos. And they make good leaders. That doctor's name was Ann Marie Manning (now Greenleaf), and a few years later, she became Angell's Chief of Staff.

Angell is now one hundred years young. From the early years, animals and the MSPCA have been fortunate to have great people working for our cause. There is optimism in the house. The next one hundred years will be even better.

CARTER LUKE
President and CEO
MSPCA–Angell



The first Angell hospital