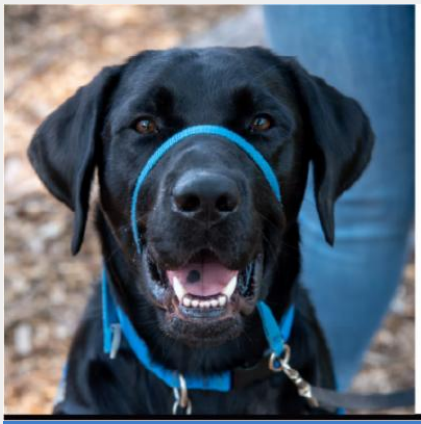


THE CANINE CHRONICLE

News for NEADS Puppy Raisers

July 2025

Dear NEADS Puppy Raiser Community,

As summer heats up, we're reminded of the incredible dedication you bring to raising the next generation of NEADS Service Dogs. Whether you're welcoming a new pup, supporting a dog through advanced training, or helping out behind the scenes, your commitment continues to change lives.

This month's Chronicle is packed with updates, from our plans for Puppy Raiser Appreciation Day to exciting team changes and important seasonal tips from our Medical Team. Be sure to RSVP for our September event so we can celebrate and thank you for all you do.

Together, we've built a community full of heart, humor, and hard work. Thank you for being an essential part of the NEADS mission.

Warmly,

Heather Romanoff
Manager of Raiser Operations

RSVP for 2025 Puppy Raiser Appreciation Day

Saturday, September 6, 11:45am-2:30pm
Kimball Farm, 400 Littleton Road, Westford, MA



We're taking the party off campus and bringing our incredible Puppy Raisers together for a day of fun, connection, and gratitude at Kimball Farm!

This day is all about YOU, our volunteers, who give so much to raise NEADS Service Dogs in Training. Whether you come for the legendary ice cream buffet, mini golf, or the

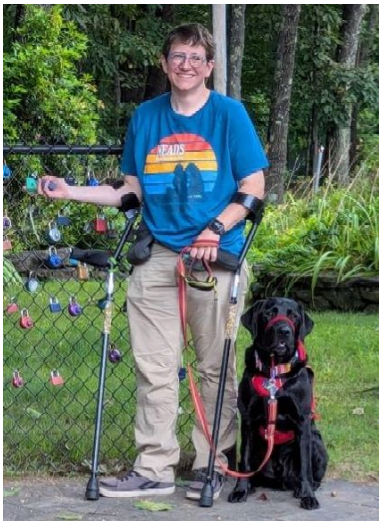
chance to catch up with fellow Raisers, we can't wait to celebrate what we've accomplished *together*.

Your ticket includes (access until 4pm):

- Unlimited Ice Cream Buffet
- Mini Golf, Bumper Boats, & Bumper Cars
- Batting Cages, Pitch & Putt, and More
- Field Games, Driving Range, Volleyball
- Event Discounts at the Zip Line & Country Store

Special Guest Speaker:

NEADS Client Kate Thurman and her Service Dog Pally will join us to share their journey and celebrate the life-changing role Puppy Raisers play.



Don't Miss Out - RSVP by August 22

- **Space is limited** to live-in, immediate family only. We'll help with Dog Sitter support if your pup isn't cleared to attend.
- Registration open until August 22.

Details and Registration

Passwords:
Weekend Puppy Raisers: PuppyRaiser
Full Time Puppy Raisers: FTRaiser

Let's make memories and honor the impact you've made - RSVP today!

Paw It Forward

"A mentor is someone who allows you to see the hope inside yourself."**– Oprah Winfrey**



DIANA THOMAS

Diana Thomas is the glue that brings the raising community closer together. Even though she has been a Raiser for many years and has seen many changes, she rolls with the ups and downs of raising and brings forward a positive and supportive attitude. She is dedicated to following NEADS training protocols and loves finding interesting ways to bring the raisers together with activities and outings.

Diana is the epitome of what a mentor should be. She holds tremendous passion and

dedication for raising and teaching. I learn something new every time I see her; at an outing, class, or just an impromptu teachable moment walking to our cars at pick-up. She is full of knowledge, tips, tricks, experience, and encouragement. She is also there to support, listen, and assist raisers in addressing any challenge. Her outings are always great exposure opportunities as well as a lot of fun! Her enthusiasm is infectious. This is all done with a warm smile and true grace. We are so fortunate to have her as a mentor. She brings something truly special to our community at NEADS. - Terri Morvay

(Artwork by Andrea Robinson)

KIM AND ROB ARICO



Kim and Rob have been strong supporters of NEADS for many years. Not only will they answer the call of a puppy in need and transport to the veterinary practice at any hour but they will also come to the aid of any raiser who needs support, whether it is offering to pick up and deliver a pup or to meet for some training support or deliver supplies.

They also support NEADS with great merchandise ideas and activities for our annual Raiser Appreciation events. They do all of this with kindness, patience and a can-do attitude. While they have raised for many years, they are always open to learning new training techniques and follow the training guidelines diligently. I appreciate their cheerfulness and enthusiasm. We are so lucky to have them supporting NEADS and the JJ Moran community of Raisers. -Susan Nedelman

Kim and Rob emulate the spirit of NEADS and NEADS Service Dogs. They are always willing to help, day or night. They are not just volunteers, but they are a listening ear, a wealth of knowledge and regardless of the ask, their answer is always "YES, what can I do to help?" They emulate the true meaning of the word "volunteer" through their actions, their advocacy and their kindness. My introduction to NEADS was facilitated by Kim and Rob, and I am eternally grateful for having met them, not only as part of the NEADS organization, but also as people. They are truly gems. -Mary Ellen

Kim and Rob were very welcoming, even arranging to meet us at the prison for our first pickup and later at a local coffee shop to help with some handling techniques. They have helped us gain confidence by sharing stories of their own struggles when they were new puppy raisers and assuring us we were on the right track with Bonnie. We always know that we can count on them for advice and help. Their accolades are well deserved! -Barbara and Ken

Kim and Rob have been an incredible support to me in many elements of the WPR experience. Their willingness to meet anytime to work with your puppy; to make sure you have all the necessary supplies; to share information and updates and help you navigate the processes of JJ Moran-- are all things that they do that smooth the path for people taking on puppies.

That is just their general support mode, but in my recent experience with the injured Tinsel, they went far beyond the normal expectations, first, by taking care of Tinsel in the immediate aftermath of her injury, both for the necessary care and while NEADS made adjustments. Then, they helped me think how to adjust my care for Tinsel, manage the

medicines, support Mary Ellen Raposa when she had Tinsel, checking in with me - all of their efforts made sure that Tinsel's care was assured throughout her recovery. They have been integral to helping me learn and grow in the WPR role. -Madeleine

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Summertime Reminders from the NEADS Medical Team



Warmer temperatures pose risks to our NEADS dogs in training. Please monitor the dog closely and see tips below to keep them cool and safe.

Be in the know
Dogs only sweat through their paw pads, so this is not an effective cooling method. They instead rely on panting to decrease their body temperature. If the surrounding air is hot and humid, they can have a tough time cooling themselves. Additionally, our Labradors want to please. They will often be more than willing to go outside for practice, walk, or play in the hot temperatures. It is up to us to limit activity, so they don't end up with heat stroke.

Seek shade
Use shaded areas for playing or resting. If this is not sufficient to help keep the dog cool, then keep them indoors. Make sure their resting place indoors is not in direct sunlight.

Limit exercise
Decrease the length of time working or playing outside to avoid overheating. Plan exercise/play time during the cooler times of day. Substitute outdoor activities for brain games if needed.

Provide constant access to water
Hot weather and panting can lead to dehydration, so make sure water is always available. Adding water to kibble for meals or giving through frozen kong treats can also be helpful. Access to a kiddie pool with supervision can also be a good way to cool off.



Avoid hot pavement
Hot pavement can burn paws. If it is too hot for you to hold the palm of your hand comfortably on the pavement surface for 5 seconds, then it is too hot for them to walk on.

Never leave a dog in the car
The temperature in a car can rise very rapidly and be deadly, even if parked in the shade or with windows cracked.

Heat stroke is a medical emergency and is caused by exposure to high temperatures or overexertion. Signs of heat stroke may include excessive panting, restlessness, drooling, decrease responsiveness, or collapse. If you think the dog is experiencing heat stroke, hose them down with water if it can be done quickly, and immediately bring them to the vet. Call and email NEADS medical staff when you arrive after the dog is admitted.

Significance of a Name

KILROY -named by the staff at the Boston Duck Tours. Kilroy is the mascot of the Boston Duck Tours.

LUCKY – named In honor of sponsor's grandchildren Anna, Lily, Gregory, Tom & Rosie. Her grandchildren chose the name – XMAS gift to them from the sponsor.

RANGER - named by a business. Staff members submitted favorite dog names and Ranger was one of them.

SIMON -named after sponsor's grandfather (Francis Adam Chonski) who served in WWII and worked with and trained the dogs in the Army.

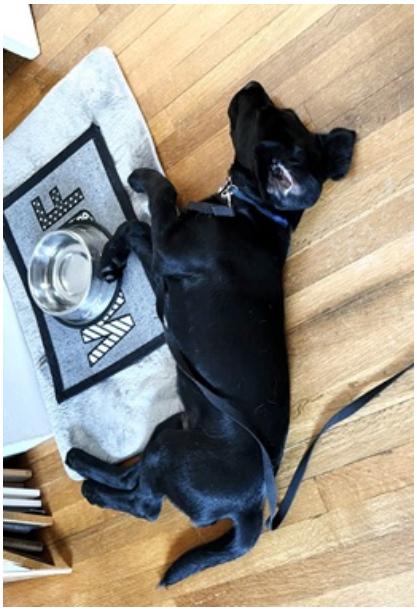
RANGER - named by a business. Staff members submitted favorite dog names and Ranger was one of them.

WILLOW - named after a favorite musician because music has brought the sponsors so much joy and fun. Willow is named for one of Taylor Swift's songs.

AUSTIN – named for a favorite musician because music has brought the sponsors so much joy and fun. Austin is the first name of the musician Post Malone.

SANDY - the name of the sponsor's dog while growing up – her first canine love!

Welcoming New Puppies & Puppy Raisers



Thank you to everyone who is actively raising a puppy! We're happy to report that all of our late spring/early summer puppies have been placed with Full-Time and Team Raisers with the remainder moving into Concord Farm soon.

Our next round of puppies will be available in September. In fact, we have **20 puppies** coming into the program between September and November. If you're preparing to return from hiatus, let your Instructor know so we can get you on our list.

Do you know someone who would love to get involved in our mission? Our Puppy Raisers are our best source of applicants, so please help us spread the word. **Have them apply today!**

Reminder:
NEADS Medical Team Updated Hours and Contact Information

A reminder that the NEADS Medical Team has extended hours and updated contact information to improve our accessibility and service to you. The NEADS Medical Team is

available from 8am to 8pm.

To ensure efficient communication, we highly recommend reaching out to us via email at medical@neads.org. This email address allows all team members to receive your message, regardless of their location, and ensures a prompt response. For urgent matters, we aim to reply within 2 hours, unless there is an unexpected surge in contacts.

Emergency call number: 978-563-1495.

We hope that by having one number, we can streamline the process of reaching someone in the Medical team more efficiently. During regular business hours, we strive to return emergency calls within 30 minutes. In case of a medical emergency, please take immediate action by visiting your nearest urgent veterinary care facility if it is after hours.

If you are uncertain about the nature of your concern, please refer to the Medical Manual available on the Puppy Raiser Portals. The manual provides a comprehensive list of symptoms to help you determine whether your issue is urgent, an emergency, or a non-emergency.

Non-urgent or non-emergency emails will be responded to within 24 hours.

We appreciate your cooperation and are committed to providing the best care for your needs.

Puppy Raiser Resource Center

Weekend Puppy Raisers enter with password PuppyRaiser
Full Time Puppy Raisers enter with password FTRaiser

Please contact **Audrey Trieschman** with questions, issues, or suggestions about the portal.

NEADS World Class Service Dogs | P.O. Box 1100 | Princeton, MA 01541 US

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