

## ELCCT'S VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH – MARTHA KANE

Martha grew up in and lives in Canton and has loved animals for as long as she can remember. Martha volunteered at a cat shelter that found homes for about 500 cats a year for 7 years. In the spring of 2016, when she was looking for a new position with animals, she found ELCCT online looking for volunteers to work on the farm. When she came to meet Erin, the volunteer coordinator, ELCCT reminded her of how she became interested in nature and animals as a child from people bringing animals to her classroom from the local nature center.

*“Educating kids about animals and nature is a worthy cause and ELCCT was the perfect place for that with all the exciting programs..the reptiles, birds, hiking, the farm, and the camps.”*  
So, knowing absolutely nothing about farm animals, of course Martha said *“I can do this! Like the cats, the farm animals need water, food, a clean, safe environment and people who care about them. Same thing basically, with bigger buckets and shovels!”*

Martha loves opening the farm when the day is new. *“The animals eat like it's the best meal they ever had! Every time. Such zest for life! Nina is the Queen of the Barn, which the sheep grudgingly acknowledge. The chickens have their constant chatter. Mabel the pot-bellied pig is special. She loves popcorn and snorts her thanks when she's finished. The turkeys, with quiet dignity, are the friendliest creatures on the farm!”*