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Mag picks P-town as top dog for canines

By **DONNA GOODISON**

Provincetown is known for its tolerance, and that extends to certain four-legged creatures.

Selectmen recently approved the addition of a water fountain on the grounds of Town Hall that'll include not only a spigot for humans, but one for canines.

It's those kinds of touches that prompted Dog Fancy magazine to honor Provincetown as "Dog-Town USA 2010" for being the country's most dog-friendly community.

P-town was hailed for its dog-friendly open spaces, the Pilgrim Bark Park — ranked No. 2 in the publication's national rating of dog parks — and its promotion of animal welfare, among other criteria.

"All dog owners know of a few local shops or restaurants that allow dogs, but it is remarkable to have an entire town where virtually every establishment opens



PHOTO COURTESY CHUCK ANZALONE

DOG TOWN: A magazine has named Provincetown the country's most dog-friendly community, giving particular praise to its Pilgrim Bark Park.

its doors to dogs — even the bank," Ernie Slone, editor of Dog Fancy, said in a statement. "Where else can

you take your dog along for a whale-watching or sunset cruise, walk miles of off-leash scenic beaches year-

round and enjoy one of the nation's finest dog parks?" Even prior to yesterday's announcement, it's been

the Provincetown Office of Tourism and Visitor Services Board's goal this year to promote the town as a pet-friendly destination, said Bob Sanborn, the town's tourism director.

"Many of the local business owners have realized the positive economic impact that pet-friendly tourism results in," he said. "Increasingly, we've been finding that people don't like to leave their dogs at home. They're part of the family, so we frequently get calls asking, 'Do you have accommodations for me and my pet?'"

Thirty-plus Provincetown hotels, inns, bed and breakfasts, private cottages and campsites welcome pets, and more than a dozen restaurants are pet-friendly.

"The local banks, the post office — pretty much most of the establishments in town — have little dog treats when you bring your dog in or, certainly, water bowls," Sanborn said.

— dgoodison@bostonherald.com