

# ANIMAL *lover*

News from the Montgomery County Humane Society

Spring 2019

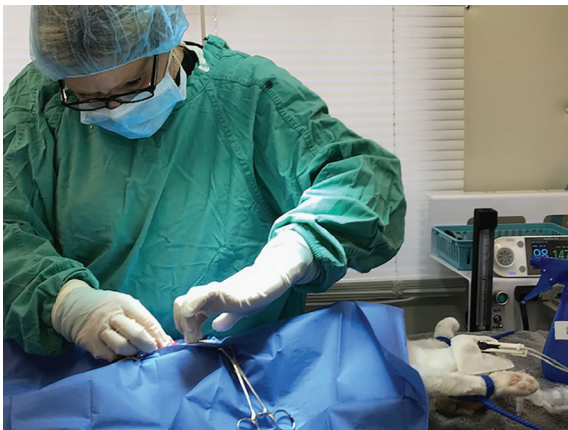
## Getting to the root of overpopulation MCHS clinic offers affordable options

Every year, thousands of cats and dogs end up in shelters simply because their owners can't afford to spay or neuter them, and the litters become overwhelming. MCHS receives dozens of calls every month from people looking for affordable spay and neuter options. Historically, options in Montgomery County have been very limited. "There are many loving pet owners in our community who want to alter their pets, but they simply can't afford to," says MCHS President Cris Bombaugh. With the help of our generous financial supporters, MCHS now offers that opportunity at its location in Rockville.

Altered pets are happier, healthier, have fewer behavioral problems, and are less likely to escape or wander – behaviors that can lead to living homeless on the streets or being relinquished to shelters. "We're so pleased to be able to offer this help to

pet owners," says Bombaugh. "It will go a long way towards our goal of ending animal homelessness in our community."

Appointments must be made in advance, and can be scheduled by calling MCHS at (240) 252-2555.



## "Rose" blossoms in her new home



Shannon and her husband, David, were looking for a companion for their cat, Luna. When they visited MCHS in mid February, it didn't take long to find Rose, a sweet, brown and orange 'Torbie' (tortoise shell and tabby mix), who charmed them immediately.

"We chose Rose (she's now "Ava") because she was sweet and did well with the other cats," says Shannon. "I love how affectionate she is. She greets us at the door whenever we get home, and follows us around the house."

Shannon and David have nicknamed Ava "baby-squirrel" because of her large, fluffy, static-filled tail. "She normally wakes us up by licking our noses," Shannon said, "but once, she laid down on my chest, waved her tail right in my face, and licked my belly button instead. It was really funny."

## Your gift always matters

Our work is 100% funded by private donations, and your gift is **guaranteed** to change the life of a homeless animal. Please give today.

Visit [mchumane.org](http://mchumane.org) or use the enclosed envelope.



MONTGOMERY COUNTY  
**HUMANE  
SOCIETY**

Let's be humane together®

Dear friends,

This time of year I'm more than ready to get

outside, as I'm sure you are. Good thing we have Paws in the Park coming up – a wonderful, annual outing with our dogs and fellow animal lovers!

I recently came across an article in *The New York Times* ([www.tinyurl.com/mchsdogwalk](http://www.tinyurl.com/mchsdogwalk)) which stated that only 60% of dog owners walk their dogs. That's surprising and disappointing, since walking a dog brings so many health benefits to both the dog and owner!

Walking a dog (or two, or three...) builds an important bond between you and your pet. It keeps dogs better socialized with people and other dogs, and it ensures that you both get that all-important exercise and fresh air. Exercised dogs also tend to be healthier and better behaved in the home.

Paws in the Park will be great fun again this year. We're bringing back the popular contests, agility competition and kids' activities, and we're adding a silent auction since, after all, this is our biggest fundraiser of the year! We're also bringing members of our mobile clinic medical team to talk about our services and answer questions from pet owners.

The event is coming up on Sunday April 28, 12 – 4 p. m. I hope we'll see you there!



Cris Bombaugh  
President and CEO

**Let's be humane  
together®**



## Meet your Board

### Mindy Farber

Civil rights attorney Mindy Farber is a life-long dog lover who adopted her first rescue, a Cairn terrier named Abbey, 15 years ago. She's been a passionate advocate for homeless animals ever since.

"I used to have a second home in Delray Beach (FL)" Mindy says, "and there was an expensive pet store right on the main strip. I learned that they were sourcing from some of the worst puppy mills out there." Mindy put her legal and political skills to work, and was soon drafting the city's ordinance to make pet stores illegal. She also worked to get similar laws passed elsewhere, including here in Montgomery County.

A long-time supporter of MCHS, Mindy joined the Board of Directors last September. She's especially interested in making the new MCHS campus in Aspen Hill, Md. a reality. The New York native is a graduate of Johns Hopkins University, and currently lives in Potomac with John Camp, a fervent animal activist, and their three rescue dogs, Cara, Nicky and Chelsea. They recently lost Cookie, a deaf and blind dog they rescued in 2017, and miss her dearly.



## Sweetie LOVES the home you gave her

Maryam S. and her boyfriend adopted "Sweetie," a two-year-old domestic shorthair, after visiting MCHS in the middle of February. Maryam has always loved cats, and was looking to adopt after returning back to the U.S. from living overseas.

"Sweetie came up to us and just started playing," Maryam says. Sweetie (she's now Lilac) took that playful demeanor home, and is "playing up a storm" in her new home. She loves leaping to catch a toy mouse attached to a rubber string, and loves to chase a laser light around the house.

Lilac is also very affectionate, and enjoys cuddling and sleeping with her new human family members. "She follows us around everywhere," says Maryam, "and when we go to the bathroom and close the door, she'll stick her paws under [the door]. It's really cute and funny."





## Tristan is shy and needs to build confidence in a new home

Tristan, a shy, handsome five-year-old, was rescued by MCHS at the end of February, and he's still waiting to find his new home. Typically, black cats like Tristan take a little longer than others to be adopted. But as we enter kitten season, both his age and his coloring are likely to make it harder for him to be noticed by potential adopters, since most will be attracted to the kittens first.

Tristan is a more mature kitty, who won't tear through the house and climb curtains like a kitten will. He'll do best in a family with prior cat experience that will encourage him to regain his confidence on his terms. If Tristan might be right for you, visit [www.MCHS.org/adoptable-cats](http://www.MCHS.org/adoptable-cats), and if he's there, please come meet him!



## Benny Blanco and Riley welcome a new little brother

"He's happy, he's adjusted and he's home!" says Matt L. about Charlie, the one-year-old Schnauzer mix he adopted from MCHS in February.

Matt and his wife, Susie saw Charlie featured in an MCHS web site video and wanted to meet him. They believed their senior West Highland terriers, Benny Blanco, 14 and Riley, 12 would benefit from the addition of a younger dog.

"The moment I saw his face in the video, I knew I needed him in my home," says Matt. I went [to MCHS] first thing that Saturday morning. The whole family met him, and we applied to adopt him." Matt says he was particularly impressed with the easy, but thorough, adoption process. Charlie's now blending in nicely with his two older "brothers."



# Yappy Hour

**It's warm weather,  
and MCHS Yappy Hours  
are back!**

*The first two events are  
coming up:*

**Denizens Brewing Company**  
1115 East-West Highway  
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Thursday, **May 30**, 6 - 8:30 pm  
and  
Thursday, **June 27**, 6 - 8:30 pm



**Remy is 'photobombed' by his best friend, Tiberius the cat.** Remy spent months at MCHS undergoing lifesaving treatment for heart worm disease. He was adopted a year ago. Your gifts help animals like Remy every day. Thank you for saving Remy's life, and for bringing these two friends together!



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[mchs@mchumane.org](mailto:mchs@mchumane.org)  
Federal Tax ID# 52-6044968



## Adelaida finds her Romeo

Romeo, a handsome two-year-old cat adopted as part of the *5th Annual Bill Beckner Cat Adoption Campaign*, has a particularly endearing habit: when he wants attention from his adopter, Adelaida, he rolls around on the bed, building up a static charge on his fur. When Adelaida pets him, she gets zapped! Very clever, Romeo!



## Ringo recommends Paws in the Park!

Gagan and Soni had never owned a dog before they adopted Ringo from MCHS. They were smitten, and signed him up for Paws in the Park, which Gagan says was “a great bonding experience for the entire family, and we learned a lot about our dog!” They entered Ringo in every contest, and “he showed off the whole time!” Ringo’s family has since moved to California, but say they would definitely recommend the event to others. Last year, his fundraising team raised \$280, he won two contests, and he won first place in the Paws in the Park agility competition! Ringo is shown above with “Team Ringo” on the day of the event.

- 1-mile dog walk
- Agility course
- Silent auction
- Contests, prizes
- Music
- Food
- Vendors
- Kids’ activities

**Grab your  
best  
friend!**  
**JOIN THE  
FUN!**

**Paws  
in the  
Park**  
Dog Walk & Fest

Brought  
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**Sun., April 28 • 12 - 4 pm**  
**Bohrer Park, Gaithersburg • [mchumane.org/paws-in-the-park-2019/](http://mchumane.org/paws-in-the-park-2019/)**