

ANIMAL *lover*

News from the Montgomery County Humane Society

Fall 2021



photo courtesy of Karina R.

Ruffles and his family ham it up on a sunny day.

Ruffles, the family dog

“He’s the best dog ever! He’s cuddling with me right now!” adopter Karina R. says about Ruffles, the toy poodle mix her family adopted in August. She and her husband, Michael, decided that after ten years without a dog, it was time to finally get one. “We had three criteria: it couldn’t be a puppy; it couldn’t trigger anyone’s allergies; and it had to be a rescue.” When they read about Ruffles on the MCHS website, they thought he’d be the one.

“We were a little worried about how he’d be with our youngest child,” Karina says, but reports that they have become fast friends. When the 18-month-old is napping on the floor, Ruffles cuddles up next to her. He loves the other kids, too. On the first day of school, Ruffles jumped in the van and tried to go with them. Now, he walks with Karina to pick the kids up every day, and “is super excited” to see them.

Ruffles especially enjoys playing fetch and going for car rides. “He’s the best family dog ... even if he did chew someone’s toothbrush today!”

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 or use the enclosed envelope.



Jerry retires

When the pandemic hit, Jerry G. Pig and his colleague Ben, both MCHS humane educators, suddenly found themselves out of work. As the pandemic wore on, it became clear that their education days would be delayed indefinitely, so we wanted them to retire and just enjoy life. Ben was adopted in the spring, and Jerry in September.

“He’s such a sweet, mellow pig, and he’s really happy to be here,” says his adopter, Karen D. “It took five or six days for him to warm up, but now, when he hears me, he shakes the cage and demands treats!”

Karen says that Jerry loves attention. She says he enjoys being scratched under the chin, and holds his head up, looking happy, just as he did at MCHS.

“Rest assured, he has a good home,” Karen says.



MONTGOMERY COUNTY
**HUMANE
SOCIETY**

Let's be humane together®

Dear friends,

I hope you are staying well and safe. At MCHS, we remain very careful, at both our rescue building and our thrift store, to require masks, maintain distance and disinfect. It's still so important.



Despite COVID-19 and the extra diligence it requires of all of us, MCHS is busy with plans for the fall and next year. Our spay/neuter clinic has a new veterinarian, Dr. Toni Price, whose team now offers spay and neuter surgeries three days each week for cats and dogs. We have plans to offer vaccine days once a week starting soon, and are looking into further ways to expand our services for the community.

We're also working on video and podcast releases designed to keep our animal-loving community informed and engaged. And this fall, our thrift store will move into new space (in the same shopping center) where it will have a new look and feel that we know you'll love!

The challenges still abound, but your support has been steadfast, keeping MCHS on track so we can carry out our important work. We are so grateful.

A handwritten signature in cursive script.

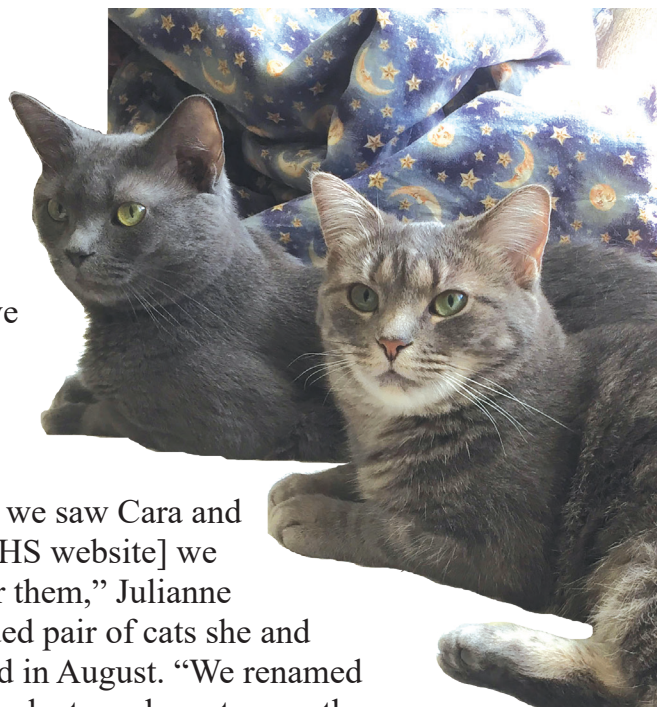
Cris Bombaugh
President and CEO



Shadow, my current office mate, sends his thanks for your support.

Cara and Amelia are at home together

"We usually have more than one cat at a time, and we were looking for a bonded pair," says Julianne M. "When we saw Cara and Amelia [on the MCHS website] we decided to apply for them," Julianne says about the bonded pair of cats she and her husband adopted in August. "We renamed them Lacey and Wanda, two characters on the Canadian sitcom, *Corner Gas*."



Lacey (left) and Wanda

Like the characters on the show, the cats have strong personalities and can be feisty, Julianne says. "It's amazing that a little cat can have such a strong personality." While they're both playful and affectionate, she says that "Wanda is absolutely crazy about affection." Meanwhile, Lacey is a performer. "Lacey will be sitting in the middle of the floor when suddenly she'll start chasing imaginary prey ... she'll run around in circles and leap at things in the air. She'll sometimes do this for ten minutes." Wanda, on the other hand, is learning to appreciate watching *Jeopardy!* with the family.



The Combined Federal Campaign is underway! If you're a Federal Employee, please consider choosing MCHS when you make your gift this year. It's a great way to make a meaningful difference to pets in need here in our community.

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Blue finds his new best friends

“Mary and Blue are best friends. They play together, they sleep on top of each other, and it only took a couple of days,” Josh D. tells us about Blueberry, the eight-month-old pit mix he adopted in July, and his previous MCHS adoptee, a terrier named Mary.

“I bring them to work with me in my glass blowing studio. Sometimes they sleep, and sometimes they run around and play.” Josh says that he was a little hesitant to adopt Blueberry (now “Blue”) because of some warnings he received about pit bulls. But he says, “He’s just a big goofball. When he walks up to you, he just wants to kiss you all over. Mary’s the ‘tough’ one.”

“Blue is just the best dog,” Josh says, adding that the best thing about him is that “he’s mine. ... I’m just so happy with him!”



“Best buds” Mary and Blue (right) take a nap.

A big dog with an outsized presence

“Having a larger dog that likes to run and play is fantastic,” adopter Bob S. tells us. His family adopted Scooby, a Lab-pit mix puppy, after losing Sparky, a 12-year-old Bichon Frise. Scooby’s photo on the MCHS website inspired their visit. “We took him home that day!”

“Scooby is very inquisitive and has a lot of energy. He gets into everything!” Bob tells us. Puppy proofing the house was more challenging for a larger breed, since “Scooby can reach food on the counters and the table.” Playing in the yard, Scooby “manages to find every twig, stick and piece of scrap wood that there is.” He also enjoys lying in the sun and hanging out with his new family on their deck. But he’s still growing into his legs, which is most apparent on the stairs. “He either hops down them like a rabbit, or he slides down instead!”



Rowly makes a house a home

Diane P. lost both her beloved cats last year, and was heartbroken. As the pandemic progressed, she knew she needed another cat in her life. She found Rowly, a one-year-old tabby, in April and fell in love.

“The first night, he let me pet him but wouldn’t come to bed with me – he slept upstairs by himself,” Diane says. The next night, though, he came down the stairs, crawled into her bed and cuddled up next to her, and has done so ever since. “I love that he sleeps with me,” she says.

Rowly’s very vocal, and was demanding food every time Diane walked in the kitchen. Her vet reminded her that if she feeds him every time he asks, he’ll gain too much weight. She’s holding the line now, even when he demand seconds!

Favorite Rowly activities are watching squirrels and birds, and batting around a pom-pom he knocked loose from his tunnel toy. “He means so much to me,” Diane says. “He’s made my house a home again.”

The Montgomery County Humane Society thanks those who make our life-saving work possible.

Here we recognize Leadership Circle members for Fiscal 2021 (July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021):

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MCHS also recognizes members who have included MCHS in their estate plans:

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Wanda Martinez
James Ernest Owens
Patricia Romans
David S. Schwartzman
Luda C. Shields
Max and Mary Van Balgooy

THANK YOU!

"I had my two cats neutered yesterday, and I just wanted to thank you ... for your kindness and work. I once had a cat neutered somewhere else, and the difference ... is huge. [The surgery area] looks so healthy and well treated. Thank you so much!"

— Valeria D.

