

ANIMAL *lover*

News for you from the **Montgomery County Humane Society**

Spring 2018

Puppies rescued from parking lot are now in new homes

Four pit-bull puppies, Brooklyn, Bronx, Queens, and Manhattan, were terrified. They were abandoned in a plastic container next to a dumpster in March, underweight, covered in urine and feces, and suffering from intestinal parasites.

Fortunately, you were there when they needed you. Thanks to you, MCHS was able to provide them with the medical care they needed, as well as a safe place to rest, recover and play while we got them ready for adoption.

Andrea S. wasn't expecting to adopt a dog the day she visited MCHS, but when she explained to our staff that her dog, Zoe, had died in February, they suggested that she meet some puppies who were ready for adoption. When she met Manhattan (now Manny) they both fell in love.

"None of the other dogs were interested in me," she says, "but little Manny just came up and licked my hand." After Andrea and Manny spent the next two hours bonding, she knew he was the one.

"He's just a delight, and he's great with kids and other dogs, Andrea says." Manny has started his puppy classes, and he's doing great. When he's not in class, he enjoys playing with his toys and soaking up rays in a sunny spot.



Brooklyn, Bronx, Queens and Manhattan had a rough start in life, but they are all adopted now. They say, "Thank you for saving us!"

WE'RE 60 1958-2018

How time flies! MCHS is 60 years old this year! We're very excited about reaching this important milestone, and we're celebrating the wonderful work we've been able to do for homeless animals with your support.

Watch your mail, our website and Facebook for more information on how we're celebrating this year, including our "Celebrate 60" gala on September 22 at Lakewood Country Club. We couldn't do it without you – thank you!



"When Star came home, he saw my other cat drinking water out of a glass. Now he wants his own, so I have to keep two glasses of water out at all times!"
— Karen S., who adopted Star in March.

Let's Be Humane Together™

Dear friends,

It's an exciting year for MCHS!

We're celebrating 60 years of helping homeless animals and the people who love them – it's a very special milestone! Over these past 60 years, we've helped hundreds of thousands of homeless animals. We're honored to have served our community for 60 years, and are proud of the trust and support we've earned. Thank you!

In concert with our 60th Anniversary, we've updated our look. Our logo is refreshed, and our new tag line, "Let's be humane together,™" represents our emphasis on partnering with our community to create a better world for animals and for people.



Our 60th Anniversary celebration will last all year – watch for more information about our 60th Anniversary Gala, "Celebrate 60," on Saturday, September 22 at Lakewood Country Club. It will be a very special event in which we'll celebrate MCHS's accomplishments and its plans for the future.

Together, we'll continue to make a wonderful difference!

Sincerely,

Cris Bombaugh
President and CEO



A cat was the answer

Ana's six-year-old son, Alejandro begged for a dog. When she explained that they wouldn't be able to give a dog the attention he needed because she worked and Alejandro was in school, he suggested quitting school to be home with the dog. "You can't quit school, since you want to be an astronaut," she told him, and suggested that they consider a cat instead. And they turned to MCHS.

Ana said she was drawn to Magnus because he was black, and she knows that black animals often have a harder time finding homes. When they met Magnus, they fell in love. "He was so easy going," she says "he let Alejandro pick him up without any fuss." They applied to adopt him, and took him home the same day.

Unlike most cats, Magnus (now Cosmo) likes riding around in the car with his human family. He also likes spending time in his windowed cat back-pack. When not traveling with his new family members, he enjoys playing with his blue feather toy, and dragging bananas and toys under the bed.



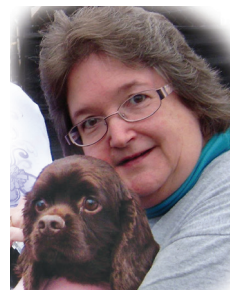
Cosmo

Meet the staff Kathi Alexander

If you've ever called MCHS to make a donation, then you've spoken with Kathi Alexander, our donations coordinator, webmaster and graphic designer. She's also "Mom" to Barney, whom she adopted from MCHS, and who serves as the MCHS humane education dog ambassador and works alongside his Guinea pig colleagues to teach children compassion for animals.

Kathi joined MCHS in April 2004, but her relationship with the organization goes back even further, serving as a liaison with a Cocker Spaniel rescue when MCHS operated the public shelter. Kathi began with MCHS as our foster coordinator, and two years later moved to the development department.

As someone long involved in animal rescue, Kathi loves being able to make a life-saving difference every day. In addition to Barney, she shares her home with Lady and Pitzer, two Cocker Spaniel/Shih Tzu mixes.



Kathi and friend Ollie

Kingston's second chance pays big

Kingston is a Maltese terrier who was rescued by MCHS in early 2016, was adopted, and enjoyed the next two years in his loving home. But earlier this year, Kingston's owner called us because Kingston had become increasingly aggressive with the other animals in the home. She was concerned that he was unhappy, and that the tension was creating stress for all the animals.

Your support enables MCHS to make a lifetime commitment to every animal we adopt into a new home. We will always take them back when things don't go as planned, and we welcomed Kingston back. We were confident that we could find him a suitable home, and knowing more about his behavior helped with this.



Michelle S. visited MCHS looking for a dog to adopt. She met Kingston, and he spent the next 25 minutes in her lap, carving a place in Michelle's heart. When we explained Kingston's story, Michelle knew she had the time and the resources to help him find comfort and confidence in her home.

"It was a great decision," she tells us. Kingston (now King) and Michelle have attended a number of dog training courses to address his possessiveness, and they continue to work on adjusting some of his bad habits.

King loves running with Michelle, and at the end of the day, enjoys cuddling in her lap. He had the chance to start again in a new home, thanks to you.

Dog Park Primer

It's warm weather, and that means dog owners will be looking for great places for their dogs to burn off energy. Montgomery County operates six public dog parks, located throughout the county, and there are dozens of others throughout our region. In Montgomery County, all dogs must have current licenses and rabies vaccines, and you should be familiar with the rules before you arrive. You can learn more at tinyurl.com/mocodogparks.

If you're looking for parks in the greater metropolitan area, check out these recommendations from *Washington Family* magazine: tinyurl.com/metrodogparks.

Your gifts always save lives

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.



Get your pets ready for spring

The coming of spring means fleas, ticks and mosquitos. These parasites spread illnesses such as Lyme and heartworm diseases, and can make your pet miserable. Cats are increasingly affected, too. Now's the time to talk to talk with your vet about the best protection.

Warm weather also means more chances for pets to wander. Longer days, longer walks and nice weather are opportunities for dogs to escape leashes. And the warmth and smells make it more tempting for your indoor cat to slip out the door. If your pet does escape, you can help him or her find home by attaching an ID tag with your contact information. Even better, get them a microchip – a tiny piece of circuitry implanted under an animal's skin that, when scanned, allow shelters to identify the owner.

MCHS can microchip your pet. Call us at (240) 252-2555 for more information.



MCHS alumna, Dakota, enjoys new spring grass

photo courtesy of David Causey



MONTGOMERY COUNTY
**HUMANE
SOCIETY**

Let's be humane together™

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First time dog owners discover the joy of pet ownership

When you rescued Marco, you changed three lives

Gagan and Soni S. had never owned a dog, but at the beginning of December the newlyweds realized it was time.

"I'd always wanted one," Gagan tells us "and now that we had our own place together, we were ready." They planned to get a puppy, but after speaking with our adoption staff, they realized that Marco, a one-year old beagle/shepherd mix might be a better fit.

"He came right up to us" Soni says. "I was so sure he was the one that when we left, we immediately bought him a bed and some toys." They were right! When they adopted Marco the next day, he walked in the door and immediately went to his bed. He knew he was home.

Marco (now Ringo) is living large. He enjoys collecting sticks, ripping up his chew toys, and making new human friends. He's quick to greet people on the street or at home, and when visitors leave, Ringo makes a point to say "goodbye" to each of them.

"I never understood the joy dog owners felt until I actually had one," Soni says. Your support gave Ringo a home, and gave joy to two new dog owners!



Ringo poses with his family on obedience class graduation day.

Is Lance your next cat?

Lance, a handsome, 3½-year-old Domestic Shorthair, arrived at MCHS at the end of November. This sweet tabby loves his window perch, where he can watch the world go by, and is a favorite among staff and volunteers because of his cool, classic cat demeanor. But he hasn't yet found his home, and he wants to know if he's the one for you. Lance can become overstimulated with a lot of attention, but he's a very affectionate (and talkative!) lap cat once you gain his trust. He'll thrive as an only pet in a cat-savvy home. If he seems like he'd be a good fit for your family, check him out at www.mchumane.org/adoptions!



New T-shirts, just in time for warm weather!

To celebrate our new look, MCHS offers newly-minted t-shirts featuring our new slogan, "Let's be humane together™." The black shirts are printed in white and your choice of purple or teal on the back, with the new MCHS logo in white on the front. \$15.00 each – stop by our location at 601 S. Stonestreet Ave. in Rockville for yours! We're open 11 to 5 every day.