

ANIMAL *lover*

News for you from the Montgomery County Humane Society

Summer 2018

Who says black cats are unlucky?

Erica R. had always had a cat growing up, and after buying a condo last year, she knew it was time to pay a visit to MCHS. That's where she met Chicago, a two-year-old domestic shorthair you helped rescue from an overcrowded public shelter in March.

Black cats often have a harder time finding homes. But not Chicago. "As soon as I met Chicago, I knew she was the one" Erica tells us. She brought her home the same day.



Chicago, who is now Athena, is very inquisitive, Erica says. "She has to explore everything, but in a non-destructive way. I really appreciate that!" she jokes. When Athena's not exploring her home, she can be found playing with shoelaces or 'talking' to the birds through the window. She also enjoys following Erica, who works from home, from room to room: "It can be hard to get things done. She's so cute. It's very distracting!" We know, Erica, we know.

Erica shares a laugh with Athena at home.



You're building bonds between pets and kids

The only thing nine-year-old Hayden M. wanted for her birthday was a kitten, and at the end of May, she got her wish when her family adopted Jane Grey (now named Storm). "Hayden absolutely dotes on Storm," Hayden's mother, Stacey says. "She is the one who feeds and takes care of her. Storm loves being carried around and cuddled like a baby, and the two of them are always playing or napping together."

When you contributed to MCHS, you rescued Storm, and you made it possible for these two pals to have a lifetime of bonding and great memories together. Thank you!

Your gifts always matter

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.



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Keeping the celebration going!

Dear friends,

As you probably know by now, MCHS is celebrating its **60th Anniversary** this year. Our official birthday is May 24, 1958, the day the MCHS Articles of Incorporation were approved. **But we're celebrating all year!**

Last month we reached the new milestone of **2,500 homeless cats and dogs adopted** since MCHS became independent in 2014. Our humane education programs are reaching thousands of children and adults, and our reputation for quality programming is spreading across the region. And we're planning a game-changing future for animal welfare, in which MCHS can become the model for creating a more humane community.

Our next big Anniversary event is coming up on **Saturday, Sept. 22**, when we'll throw a big party – **an Anniversary Gala** – to mark 60 years of success, and to look forward to 60 more!

The Gala will feature a cocktail reception, a three-course dinner, a commemorative video, and the talented and high-energy dance band, *New Monopoly*. It's a great way for all of our supporters to enjoy celebrating the hundreds of thousands of animals we've helped, and the new work we'll do TOGETHER.

Mark your calendars for Sat., Sept. 22, 7–11 p.m. at Lakewood Country Club in Rockville. Tickets are selling now – you probably received an invitation in the mail. You also can register online at <https://mchumane.org/60>.

I hope we'll see you there!



Cris Bombaugh
President and CEO



Meet the staff

James Nolan

MCHS Director of Development James Nolan was three years old when his family adopted his first kitten, a gray shorthair named Punchy. Soon, a wire-haired terrier/cocker spaniel mix named Gabby joined the family, and James was hooked – he became an animal person for life.

James joined the Montgomery County Humane Society in December 2015. He says, “I took the job because I wanted to help save the lives of homeless animals, but I quickly realized we do much more than that. We change the lives of hundreds of people every day of the year, too.”

His favorite thing about working at MCHS is seeing the pure joy experienced by the pets and their new adopters every time a cat or dog goes home. “I love what we do,” he says.

James shares his home with Snowball, a two-year-old, domestic shorthair he adopted from MCHS in December.



Zena's a charming girl and she needs a home

Friendliness and large, brown eyes are just two of her endearing qualities. She's also beautiful – black and brown, tall and lean. But these wonderful qualities still haven't landed Zena a new home. This sweet, 4½-year-old Doberman came to MCHS in January, and is patiently seeking her new best friend and her new home.

Zena befriends all people, and she's learning to like some dogs (no cats!) but, she'll do best as an only pet. She's never slowed down by an old leg injury, and she's strong (no small children, please), so she'll need more training from a dog-savvy owner. If Zena sounds like your next dog, please check www.mchumane.org/adoptions first, then, come and meet her!



Pets have emotions? Yes, and we have a program for that!

Every gift to the Montgomery County Humane Society moves our community closer to ending animal homelessness. Of course, animal rescue and adoption play an important role, but just as important is addressing the root causes of pet homelessness.

That's where the MCHS humane education team comes in. "Our goal is to impress upon children and adults a new sense of respect, understanding and love for animals. They learn about pet emotions and our responsibility to care for those who depend on us," says Addie Soares, MCHS's humane educator.

Addie and her team of volunteers and animal ambassadors meet with children in programs such as Linkages to Learning, which helps at-risk kids overcome challenges that affect their performance in school, at home and in the community.

The kids in this program agreed that they will carry with them much of what they learned. Kevin, 8, has never owned a pet, but he instantly fell in love with our dog ambassador, Barney. "I love this dog!" he said, giving Barney a big hug, and says he learned that "it's important to leave animals alone while they are eating or playing with toys." Jenny, 9, said she learned that, "you have to ask someone's permission" before you approach their pet. Both are important first lessons that can lead to a lifetime of fulfilling pet ownership.

To schedule a presentation, please email Addie Soares at ASoares@MCHumane.org.

"This program is a truly amazing experience for children, to help them understand the responsibilities of pet ownership."

— Sarah Connelly,
Rosemary Hills/Girl Scouts



MCHS humane education ambassador Barney prepares for a presentation before a group of children. Your support allows Barney and his Guinea pig team members Lenny and Squiggy, to meet with thousands of children, teens and adults each year.

Upcoming events:

Yappy Hour

Wednesday, Aug. 8, 6-8:30 p.m.
Tommy Joe's, 7940 Norfolk Ave.
Bethesda \$15 single, \$25 couple

Enjoy a Summer Brau

Through Aug. 5: Purchase a Summer Brau at the Gordon Biersch Brewery in Rockville and \$.25 per beer will be donated to MCHS.

Celebrate 60!

MCHS's 60th Anniversary Gala
Saturday, Sept. 22, 7-11 p.m.
Lakewood Country Club, Rockville.
Reception, dinner, dancing to live music and more!
Register at <https://mchumane.org/60>



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Adoption and animal care staffers Maria Mendez, left, and Haley Atkins examine eight-week-old "Virgo" the day she arrived at MCHS. Your support ensures that we can provide quality care for the cats and dogs in our care.

Making a life-saving legacy

"I can't think of a better cause," says Kathy Gall when asked why she decided to select the Montgomery County Humane Society as the beneficiary of her will. "When I moved to the Washington area in 1969, one of the first things I did was find MCHS and make a donation." She's been a supporter ever since.



Kathy's love of animals was passed to her from her mother. Her parents were the first to instill the importance of helping those who can't speak for themselves, and "leaving something behind when we're gone." But it was her sister's decision to make a bequest to her local animal rescue in Cincinnati, coupled with her own commitment to helping animals, that inspired Kathy to bequeath her entire estate to MCHS. She hopes others will follow her example and include MCHS in their estate plans, too.

Estate gifts are vital to ensuring that MCHS can continue its lifesaving work. To learn more about designating MCHS in your will, or if MCHS is already named in your estate (thank you!), please contact James Nolan, MCHS Director of Development, at 240-616-1973 or JNolan@MCHumane.org.

Celebrate with us!

60th Anniversary Gala

Saturday, September 22, 2018 • 7 – 11 p.m.

Lakewood Country Club

13901 Glen Mill Road, Rockville, MD 20850

Reception • Dinner • Dancing

Live entertainment by New Monopoly



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**We love them too, but
please – no pets at this event**

Cocktail attire/black tie optional

For more information:

<https://mchumane.org/60>,

mchs@mchumane.org or 240/252-2555

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