

ANIMAL *lover*

News for you from the Montgomery County Humane Society

Spring 2016

You helped Haley, so she could help Sam

Haley is a friendly retriever mix who came to us in December, after being saved from an uncertain future at a rural shelter by the MCHS rescue team.

Sam, a Marine Corps veteran, who has suffered from PTSD, was looking for a four-legged companion to share his new home.

In January, one of his friends visited the MCHS website and found Haley. She thought Haley would be perfect for Sam, and suggested he meet her.

He agreed, and decided to visit MCHS. When Sam met Haley, it was love at first sight. "She was just quietly sitting there looking at me," he says, "I knew she was the one I wanted."

He spent some time talking to the staff about Haley, then took her into a room to play. When all 49 lbs of her climbed into his lap, he knew that she wanted him, too.

Haley is enjoying her new home. She follows Sam around everywhere, and is incredibly curious about everything. The first time Sam left her by herself, she went around and opened every cupboard and closet she could reach. "She didn't get into anything, though."



Sam with Haley: your support made this moment possible

She just had to see what was in there."

"I can't thank you enough. I can't put into words the impact you've had on my life."

Sam says he can't imagine life without Haley. "Haley is a Godsend. She's provided me with more mental and emotional support than anything I've ever experienced. I couldn't have prayed for a better blessing. It's been life changing for me, and

I'm sure if Haley could talk she'd say the same thing."



Your dollars always make a difference

Our work is 100% funded by private donations. Your gift is **guaranteed** to change the life of a homeless animal. Please give today. Visit mchumane.org or use the enclosed envelope.



In this issue:

Starly's adoption
Lenny and Squiggy
Lucky's lucky story
A teenager's support
and more

We're so grateful

In April we mark our second anniversary as a fully independent, no-kill rescue.

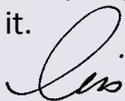


Cris with Teddy

Since then, we're very proud to have adopted out more than 1,000 animals, and we look forward to helping many thousands more. Every animal we help, as well as every education and outreach program we hold in the community, is possible because of the support of friends like you.

Since you're the source of our success, we're launching this new newsletter for you, to share stories and updates about what your support is accomplishing every day. I hope you enjoy it.

Cris Bombaugh
President and CEO



Bereavement support sessions help grieving pet owners

Each month, Dr. Mary Knipmeyer leads a group discussion to help pet owners work through their grief and share ideas on coping after a loss.

Pet bereavement seminars are held at MCHS once a month. There is no cost, but reservations are required. Please call (240) 252-2555 to reserve a spot in the session.



You gave Starly the care and the time he needed

When Starly arrived at MCHS in January, we could tell he was a little different from the other cats we've rescued: His head was always tilted to the right, and he would shake it back and forth whenever he looked at us. His back legs were a little unsteady, and they'd wobble whenever he'd jump off of a surface onto the floor. He was deaf. And, we soon discovered that he also likely had feline herpes.

Starly spent the next few weeks in the MCHS infirmary, where your generous support provided him with the medicine he needed to aggressively treat the respiratory infection triggered by the herpes. Best of all, you provided him with the time he needed, as well as a comfortable place to rest while he healed.

Some cats with special needs wait months before they find their new home. But not Starly. The first weekend he was available for adoption, his adopters visited MCHS. They'd never had a cat before, but when they first met him, they said "he just played and played" with them.

Now that Starly's in his new home, he enjoys meowing in the bathub, and playing with his new, large family.



Saved from a dumpster, Lenny and Squiggy now teach about compassion

A few years ago, Lenny and Squiggy, a pair of Guinea pigs, were rescued from a trash dumpster. Today, they live at

MCHS as part of our humane education team. Your support sends them throughout Montgomery

County, spreading the word about responsible pet ownership, compassion and respect for animals. In 2015, they met with several thousand children and adults in classrooms, scouting meetings, churches and community centers, and they have a full calendar of events for 2016.



Squiggy

"I found a charity that's a good steward of my donations"

Until her retirement last year, MCHS's newly elected Board Chair, Lisa Kingsley, spent nearly 40 years in finance, operations and accounting for both profit and non-profit organizations, such as National Public Radio and the University of Maryland's Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center.

That experience is particularly useful whenever she and her husband Roger are considering charities to support.

She says, "I give to MCHS because I love animals and don't want to see any of them homeless. I like that MCHS is no kill, and as a CPA I'm really impressed with how well-run the organization is. I was impressed with how low their overhead is." Lisa became MCHS chairman last month. "The staff is really dedicated and does a great job," she says. "I hope everyone will join me in supporting the Montgomery county Humane Society."



Lisa Kingsley, MCHS
Chairman of the Board,
tells why she gives

Lucky is lucky to have friends like you



Lucky shortly after he arrived

Lucky first came to us as a puppy and returned to us a few months ago when his adopter had unexpected health issues and couldn't care for him while she recovered. We took him in for re-adoption, and quickly discovered symptoms that were diagnosed as Cushing's disease. He began losing his fur, and infections starting ravaging his body. The Cushing's weakened him, and other problems surfaced, including demodex mange and hypothyroidism.



Lucky today

Today, thanks to your support, Lucky got the intense medical treatments he needed, and he looks like a new dog. His health is restored, and his coat is soft and silky black, though he'll need medication for the rest of his life.

Lucky hopes to find his new family soon. If it might be yours, please call us at (240) 252-2555.

Have fun with your friends, and help homeless animals too!



Paws in the Park

Sunday, April 24 12-4 pm

Dog walk and festival

Bohrer Park, Gaithersburg, MD

Washington Nationals game

Tuesday, April 26 7:05 pm

Nationals vs Phillies, Nationals Park

Proceeds to benefit MCHS

For tickets, call Kathy Dillon (240) 252-2555



Cold Ones for Cats and Dogs

Saturday, April 30 2-7 pm

Weyerbacher beer tasting

Downtown Crown Wine and Beer

303 Copley Pl., Gaithersburg, MD

Pups and Pints Yappy Hour

Wednesday, May 18th 6-9 pm

Yappy hour with your dog

Live music by The 19th Street Band

The Irish Inn at Glen Echo

6119 Tulane Ave., Glen Echo, MD



Teenager's loss becomes gain for homeless animals



photo by Jack Clifford

Last Memorial Day, the Clifford family suffered a loss when their faithful companion, a 10-year-old Goldendoodle named (appropriately enough) Faith, passed away. The loss was particularly devastating to 14-year-old Noah.

Noah's father, Jack, tells us: "Noah has a servant's heart," so it was no surprise to his family when he decided to use the loss of his friend as an inspiration to help animals in need.

On December 6, 2015, he spent all day playing his saxophone in downtown Silver Spring, and raised more than \$400 for the animals at the Montgomery County Humane Society. Since then, he's started a philanthropic club at his school, and plans to do even more to help MCHS.

Thank you Noah!



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New cats and dogs arrive every week



MCHS staff member Cyrus Zahraie helps "Georgia" as she arrives from one of our public shelter partners in March. We've saved more than 1,000 homeless dogs and cats since becoming independent in April 2014.

SUNDAY, APRIL 24 12-4 PM

Paws
in the
Park
Dog Walk & Fest

BOHRER PARK
AT SUMMIT HALL FARM
GAITHERSBURG, MD



MUSIC & GAMES
CONTESTS FOR
DOGS & OWNERS
COMPETITIONS
KIDS' ACTIVITIES
VENDORS
FOOD, FUN &
MORE!

IT'S FUN FOR YOUR FAMILY,
AND A BLAST FOR
YOUR DOG! **NEW! DOG**
ACTIVITY
CENTER

PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE WORK OF THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY
PRESENTED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE CITY OF GAITHERSBURG

REGISTER AT: WWW.MCHUMANE.ORG

