

ANIMAL *lover*

News for you from the Montgomery County Humane Society

Summer 2017

You helped Chewy. Now, you're helping Sabrina, too.

Nancy S. was on a mission. Her 16-year-old daughter, Sabrina, had begun suffering from epileptic seizures, and was so afraid of her seizures that she was having trouble sleeping. So, in January, Nancy visited MCHS to look for a dog for Sabrina, hoping that a dog's companionship would help with her anxiety, and allow her to get some much needed rest.

When Nancy met Chewy, a 10-month-old Lab mix who had recently arrived at MCHS, she knew he was the right size for their home. When Sabrina met him, she knew he'd be the friend and companion she needed. But only Chewy (now named Hobbs) knew how special he really was.

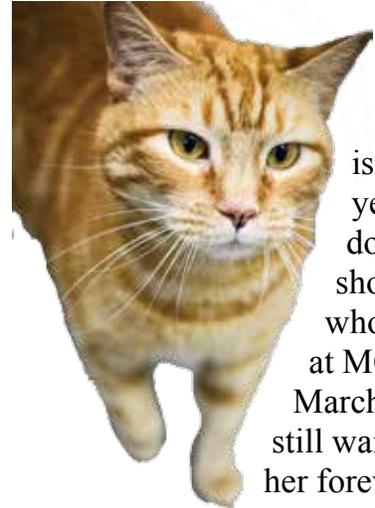
"A few days after Hobbs came home, Sabrina began having a seizure while she was lying on the couch," Nancy tells us. "Hobbs was across the room, and when he saw what was happening, he immediately got up and prevented her from falling. That's when we decided to take him to meet some friends who train service dogs," she said. Hobbs learned in three classes what it takes most dogs to learn in a year. "He knows what his job is," Nancy says. "He follows Sabrina everywhere. When she starts to have a seizure, he gets on top of her and prevents her from rolling over."

Thanks to your generosity, MCHS continues to answer the call to help animals in need. As a result, together we're also helping plenty of people, too.



Chewy (now Hobbs)

Pebbles needs a home



Pebbles is a five-year-old domestic shorthair who arrived at MCHS in March. She's still waiting for her forever home.

Pebbles asks, "Will you take me home?"

This sweet but fiery redhead is the queen of her domain, and wants everyone to know it. She can be very affectionate, but on her own terms, and she sometimes prefers to be alone. She'll do best in a cat-savvy home. Pebbles will make someone a warm (and beautiful) companion.

If Pebbles seems like a good fit for your family, please come visit her – she's looking forward to meeting you!

Your gifts 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.



You're changing the world (or at least part of it)



Dear friends,

If you're like me, you want to leave the world a little better than you found it. Working at MCHS, I'm blessed to know that I'm doing my part to help change the lives of many homeless pets.

Of course, so are you! Every gift to MCHS helps to transform the life of a homeless animal. And there are so many! Millions of cats and dogs enter public shelters each year. But together, we can help keep more of them out of shelters in the first place.

A leading cause of homelessness is the cost of basic veterinary care. We often receive calls from pet owners who are desperate to find affordable spay and neuter services, or even basic care such as vaccines.

In just a few months, and with your financial help, we'll be on the road offering free and low-cost spay/neuter procedures and life saving vaccinations to pet owners who need assistance. We're excited about this new program, and we'll keep you posted about our progress. Thank you for making it possible!

Lis



★★★★★
CHARITY NAVIGATOR
Four Star Charity

You're helping people heal from loss

Bereavement sessions at MCHS help grieving pet owners

Many of us can't imagine life without our pets. They're our constant companions, best friends, members of our families. When a pet passes away, it can be devastating. That's why MCHS offers monthly sessions to help pet owners like Arden R. deal with that special kind of grief.

"I lost Fred, my 17-year-old Shih Tzu terrier on May 6," Arden tells us. "Fred went everywhere with me, so I've been having a hard time dealing with my sorrow. I knew getting in touch with other people who are going through the same thing would help."

And, it did. "I'm so grateful to everyone involved with MCHS.

The experience was cathartic. The therapist [Dr. Mary Knipmeyer] asked each of us to share the stories of our pets and how they passed, and then offered helpful comments and suggestions ... I think everyone in the room understood what each of the others was going through."

To join a pet bereavement session, please contact Geri Bellman at 240/334-4346 or Gbellman@MCHumane.org. Participation is free, but advance reservations are required.



Fred hamming for the camera



Apollo, a four-month-old lab mix, smiles for the camera after playing in the MCHS exercise yard. Your support provides the resources necessary to keep our animals healthy, happy and ready for adoption.

Yappy Hour

Redwood
Bethesda Row

Thurs., Aug. 24, 6 - 9 p.m.

7121 Bethesda Lane, Bethesda

Join us on the promenade!

\$15/person; \$25/couple at the door



Meet your Board of Directors

For as long as she can remember, Piper Moffatt has loved animals. It was that love, and a desire to give homeless animals a voice, that first drew her to MCHS.

“I am so impressed with the staff and leadership,” she says, “their dedication and warm spirits are evident in how hard they work to care for the animals and ensure that each one goes to a happy, loving and safe home.”

Piper joined the MCHS board in 2015 after retiring from a distinguished career in both the private and public sectors. She most recently served as vice president of the International Relations Policy Group at the Export-Import Bank. In January she was elected to serve as MCHS Vice-Chair.

Piper is excited about helping more animals – and the people who love them – as MCHS expands its impact in the community this year and beyond.



Piper Moffatt

Rescued from a roadside

Maltese finds new home and new best friend.

Gaia is a two-year-old Maltese who, along with her sister, Aura, was rescued from the side of the road by one of our partner shelters. When the dogs arrived at MCHS, they were matted and covered in filth and ticks. They also were terrified of people.

William and Karen A. had spent the past three years looking for a small dog. Karen walks with a cane, and needed to find a dog that she could handle. But try as they might, they weren't able to find that special one. Then in May, on a whim, they visited MCHS, and they met Gaia.



Gaia (now Destiny)

“The moment I met her, she crawled right into my lap,” Karen tells us, “and she’s been there ever since.” Karen and William say they renamed her Destiny “because we weren’t supposed to be there and neither was she.” Gaia’s previous adoption had fallen through days before.

When Destiny isn’t following Karen or William around the house, she plays with an orange tabby that lives in their neighborhood. “They’re the same size,” Karen explains, “so they can greet each other nose-to-nose whenever they meet, and they absolutely love to lie and roll around in the grass together.”

You turn tragedy into hope

Imagine you’re a sweet, one-year-old kitty. You’re happily living with an owner who loves and cares for you. Then, one day, everything changes. Your owner falls down and never gets up. And no one knows you’re there.

That’s exactly what happened to Wilson, who was rescued by MCHS in June. His owner died unexpectedly and Wilson was discovered by a realtor who found him – living in the chimney – as they were getting the house ready for sale. The realtor brought him to one of our partner shelters, and when our rescue team met him, they knew we could find him a new, loving home.

Wilson’s story isn’t unique. Lots of animals suddenly lose their homes for a variety of reasons, including the sudden death of an owner. Such stories are tragic, but every gift you make to MCHS turns heartbreak into joy for a very deserving animal. Wilson

was adopted in June, thanks to your generous support.



Wilson



601 S. Stonestreet Ave., Rockville, MD 20850

mchumane.org • (240) 252-2555

mchs@mchumane.org

Federal Tax ID# 52-6044968

United Way #8330 • CFC #54823

Marilyn Young hopes you'll help cats

Long-time MCHS supporter, Marilyn Young, began her love of cats early in life, when her father told her, "If you're lonely, get a cat – he'll always love you and he'll never leave you."

Her father's words have stayed with Marilyn, fueling a life-long commitment to supporting animal welfare here in Montgomery County, as well as in her hometown of Buffalo, New York.

In April, Marilyn made a very generous gift to MCHS. Her contribution prompted MCHS to name Marilyn the sponsor and patron of one of our cat rooms, which now bears her name.

Marilyn hopes others will be inspired to make personally significant gifts to support our work, and, hopes our visitors will take her father's advice and "get a cat!"



Marilyn Young

Is MCHS in your estate?

With this simple sentence, you can save thousands of lives: "I give the sum of \$X (or Y percent of my estate or Z percent of the remainder of my estate) to the Montgomery County Humane Society, Inc., a non-profit organization that currently resides at 601 S. Stonestreet Ave., Rockville, MD 20850. Tax ID 52-6044968."

If you already have a will, your lawyer can add this sentence as a codicil. It really is that simple!

If you have any questions, or if you plan to include MCHS in your estate plans, please contact James Nolan, Director of Development, at 240/616-1973 or jnolan@mchumane.org. He'll be happy to help.

We're ALWAYS here for them

Senior cat returns after losing her owner

"We have one of your cats. Do you want to come get her?" came the call from the county's public shelter when Buttons arrived at their door. The answer, of course, was "Yes!"

At the beginning of June, Buttons, a nine-year-old Maine Coon, was relinquished to the shelter. Her owner had just passed away, and the family took her to the shelter, not realizing she had been adopted from MCHS. When we got the call, we rushed to pick her up.

Every pet adopted from MCHS goes home with a micro-chip, which allows shelters to easily identify our adopted animals.

All of our adoptions come with a lifetime commitment – if something happens that prevents their owner from keeping the pet, we'll always take them back.

Buttons arrived back at MCHS somewhat traumatized by her experience, and carrying a lot more weight. She's currently on a strict diet of TLC and special food as we work to get her healthier, and ready for her new home.



Buttons

Save 10% at our amazing thrift store!



Wagging Tails Thrifts and Gifts
features 12,000 square feet of treasures!

Wagging Tails

MCHS's Amazing Thrift Store

10% off your entire purchase (excluding furniture).
Coupon may not be combined with any other sale or coupon. No item below \$1.00.

Expires October 31, 2017

1310 East Gude Drive, Rockville • (301) 279-0345