



# wall st. tails

Monmouth County SPCA Fall Newsletter

**2017**



## **Are You Kitten Me?**

Hundreds of kittens are cared for with the help of donations and foster homes this year!

*PLUS...*

Howell Hoarding  
Dog Reunion

Volunteer  
Spotlights

Happy Endings  
from Sad Beginnings



Monmouth County  
**SPCA**

Connect  
with us!

Follow us on social media  
to keep up with events,  
outreaches & our adorable  
adoptable animals!



Monmouth County SPCA



@TheMCSPCA



@MCSPCA



Monmouth County SPCA



An electronic version  
of our newsletter is  
also available to view  
on our website at  
[monmouthcountyspca.org](http://monmouthcountyspca.org)!  
Check out our available  
animals while you're there!

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Chief Ross Licitra with  
some of his animals on  
his Marlboro farm.

On behalf of the Monmouth County SPCA, I'd like to thank all of our supporters for their dedication and outpouring of generosity. Thanks to your support, we are well on our way to meet and surpass our 2017 goals. This past April, we celebrated our **23rd annual Dog Walk + Pet Fair** at Brookdale Community College where we raised almost \$140,000 for the homeless, neglected and abused animals of Monmouth County. Our **Law Enforcement Team** continues to grow and thrive in our community, bringing the social injustices brought upon animals into the light. In 2016 alone, our team responded to **almost 600 cruelty calls**, generating approximately \$66,000 in fines which in return go back to our animals. Our shelter programs continue to outperform the already high expectations we have for them. Our adoption numbers are up and already on track to beat the numbers of 2016 - that means more than 5,000 animals will be saved this year alone!

We are able to fulfill our mission **because of YOU!** Your continued support allows us to provide shelter, medical attention, compassionate care and a safe haven for thousands of animals as they await adoption. Although we are making a huge difference for the animals of Monmouth County and beyond, there are so many more in need of our help!

**Together we can save  
even more lives in 2018  
and in the years to come!**

Ross Licitra, Executive Director  
Chief of Law Enforcement

### LOCATIONS

Monmouth County SPCA  
& Homeward Bound Adoption Center  
260 Wall Street  
Eatontown, NJ 07724  
732-542-0040

Freehold Mall Adoption Center  
Lower level next to Sears  
3710 Route 9  
Freehold, NJ 07728  
732-637-1960

### DIRECTORY

**Customer Service** 732-542-0040  
**Vogel Spay/Neuter Clinic** 732-542-3125  
**Humane Law Enforcement** 732-542-0040  
**Volunteer Program** 732-440-1558

**Maureen O'Brien Thrift Store** 732-542-5342  
**Pet Food Pantry** 732-440-1150  
**Dog Obedience Training** 732-440-1524  
**Adoption Department** 732-542-5962

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**Daran Haber, MD** Chairman  
**Bob Baerenbach** Vice Chairman  
**Josephine Joel** Secretary  
**Christopher Nalbandian** Treasurer  
**Sean Byrnes** **Laura Saker**  
**Katie Christopher-Bogardus** **Kathleen Schatzmann**

## Animal Control Expands

### MCSPCA Animal Control contracts increase reach.

In 2017, the Monmouth County SPCA officially started to contract towns for animal control calls. Since the initiative began, we've taken over animal control contracts for towns in Monmouth County including Asbury Park, Neptune City, Farmingdale and Ocean Township. With the expansion, we have **taken over 300 additional calls** regarding stray, injured, sick or abandoned animals thus increasing our animal intake and need for resources to care for them.

“It has been my experience that the MCSPCA provides a higher quality of care and better environment for the animals” said Deputy Mayor Amy Quinn in a written statement. “Their state of art facility, stronger infrastructure and more robust volunteer program [which even allows some volunteers to take dogs home for brief periods to unwind] will ensure Asbury Park’s strays have a better quality of life for the duration of their stay, giving them a better chance to be rehomed and not euthanized unless for medical or behavioral reasons.”

The MCSPCA is not limited to dogs and cats when it comes to animal control. This year already we've responded to calls regarding deer, a boa constrictor, ducklings and other water fowl, skunks, a countless number of baby animals and piglets! There is no limit to how far we'll go to help an animal in need and it's **because of you** that we're able to do so!



Monmouth County SPCA Animal Control Officer, Dehlia Gant, consoles a sick, abandoned piglet.

## Saving Animals Through Foster

The Monmouth County SPCA is an open-admissions shelter, which means we never turn away an animal in need of our services. Being that we take in almost 5,000 animals a year, it's expected that some of those animals won't adjust to the shelter environment as easily as others. Our **Foster Program** has been a critical factor in helping some of our animals find their forever homes, mainly by giving them break from the shelter environment. Brooklyn (pictured) was surrendered to the MCSPCA when her owner couldn't care for her as she was pregnant. **Brooklyn went to foster ASAP because stress during pregnancy is something that's neither healthy for mom nor the babies!** After a few weeks, Brooklyn gave birth to 8 plump pups who quickly found their homes after they were weaned from their mama. Brooklyn came back to the shelter for a short period where she didn't do so well and we thought it best to send her back to foster. It turned out, the woman who took Brooklyn to foster was a player for the Sky Blue FC Women's Soccer Team! Brooklyn has become their unofficial mascot where she goes to games, meets fans and is an adorable **ambassador for foster dogs everywhere!** Without our Foster Program, dogs like Brooklyn would not have the second chance she deserves! For information on fostering animals, email us at [fostering@monmouthcountyspca.org](mailto:fostering@monmouthcountyspca.org)!



Brooklyn with her Sky Blue FC friends!

Brooklyn on the beach with her foster mom, Nikki.

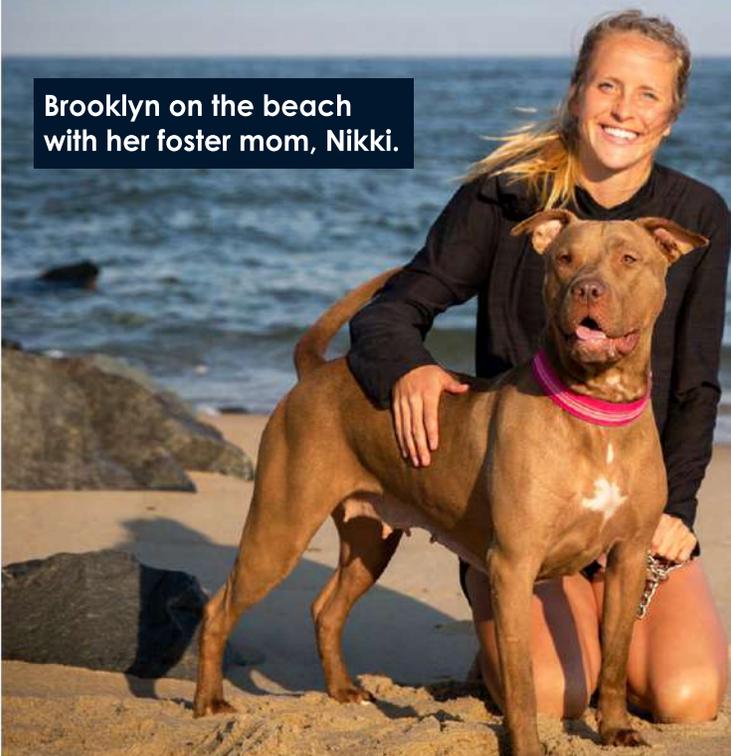


Photo Courtesy Victor Bubadias Photography



## Howell Hoarding Case Reunion

In early June of 2016, the Monmouth County SPCA was faced with one of the most memorable yet also most difficult challenges. Our Law Enforcement team responded to a loose dog call and discovered **nearly 300** dogs crammed into a resident home in Howell, living in squalor. Our team along with partnering shelters, spent over 12 grueling hours inside of the house until each dog was recovered. The MCSPCA's medical and behavioral team worked for months and months to heal these dogs, both physically and mentally, as their emotional scars were much more severe than the physical. After months of work, our Howell dogs are now happily in loving homes, living the lives they dreamed of. Recently, in celebration of the 1 year reunion, several of the adoptive parents organized a meet-up where they shared laughter, tears and stories of how their newest family members have been faring on their road to recovery. The Howell Case was a national news story and generated a great deal of attention for our shelter, however it's because of dedicated supporters **LIKE YOU** that a true difference has been made in the lives of these dogs! **To learn more about the MCSPCA and the animals we help, visit [www.monmouthcountyspca.org](http://www.monmouthcountyspca.org)!**



Beatriz Fernandez, (MCSPCA Volunteer and organizer of the reunion) with her chihuahua mix, Pennylane.



John Alfieri and Ashley Donato, with their rescued chihuahua mix named Cooper.



Michelle Fino (MCSPCA Volunteer) and her son Kieran with their rescued chihuahua/pomeranian mix named Wookie.

# ASK THE TRAINER

## Housebreaking: 101

Having a healthy relationship with your pet is a key factor in enjoying your lives together! The MCSPCA is always there as a support system for the public so that people and pets can thrive in their homes together!

- 🐾 **During the process, your dog should never have free range of the home.**
- 🐾 **Periodic bathroom breaks are a must!**
- 🐾 **Accompany your dog every time they go outside to eliminate.**
- 🐾 **Reward any elimination outside and “mark” the behavior with a “Yes!” cue followed by a treat.**
- 🐾 **Avoid scolding for accidents that have already happened. The important thing is to prevent the accident from happening.**
- 🐾 **The key times your dog will need to eliminate are: upon walking after naps, after play, after eating or drinking.**
- 🐾 **Pay attention to signs that your dog needs to eliminate; sniffing the ground, pacing, circling.**

*The MCSPCA offers dog training and classes at a minimal fee!  
For more information on how to sign up, call 732-440-1524*



Canine Behavior Manager  
Melissa Torres, Dip. CBST

## Pet Therapy Program Continues to Thrive

The Monmouth County SPCA Pet Therapy Program continues to grow every year and with that, we are able to spread our message! Our volunteers and their certified therapy animals visit schools, nursing homes, rehab centers, libraries and more! The testing and certification is all done at our Eatontown location and we are always looking for new animals to join our team! Don't forget, our animals are not limited to dogs and cats; we just certified our first rat as a therapy animal this past July! Questions about the program? Email [rachel@monmouthcountyspca.org](mailto:rachel@monmouthcountyspca.org)!



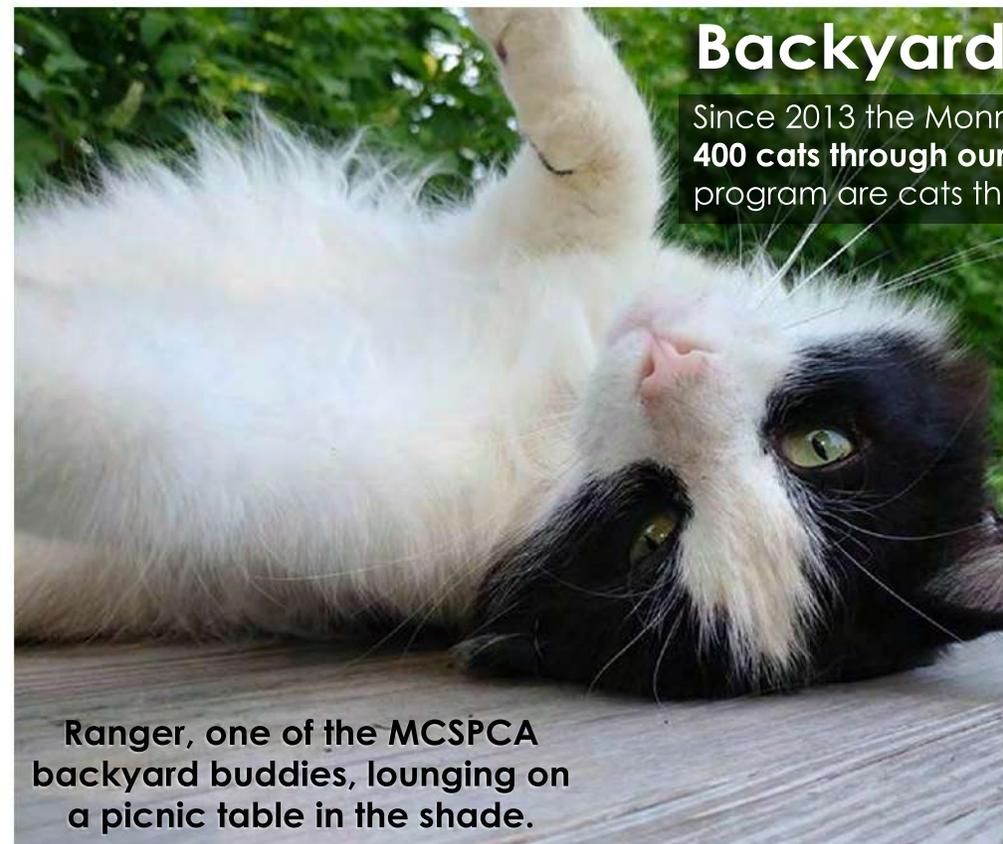
**Penny, the MCSPCA's  
newest Pet Therapy member**

## Backyard Buddies

Since 2013 the Monmouth County SPCA **has placed over 400 cats through our BYB Program.** Candidates for the program are cats that could live in an indoor/outdoor

environment such as a farm, stable, warehouse or backyard. Backyard Buddies don't necessarily need a home environment to thrive and tend to live long and happy lives under the care of their "adopters." The MCSPCA provides each cat in the program with spay or neuter surgery, microchip, flea and tick preventative as well as vaccines. This program has provided so many cats with a way out of the shelter that suits their lifestyle! To learn more about becoming a BYB Participant, email our program coordinator at [nina@monmouthcountyspca.org](mailto:nina@monmouthcountyspca.org)

**Ranger, one of the MCSPCA backyard buddies, lounging on a picnic table in the shade.**



# Adoption or Bust!

Buster's Journey to a Forever Home

A few months ago, an anonymous call was made to our Law Enforcement Team about a dog who was chained up in the freezing cold, looking as if he was struggling to stay alive. Buster was rushed to the MCSPCA where he was immediately given IV fluids and a pain reliever because of his visibly swollen joints. With further assessment, poor Buster was covered in fleas, had festering ear and skin infections, a mouth full of rotted teeth and all of his muscle mass was severely lacking. We did our best to keep Buster comfortable while putting him on a very specific feeding schedule to help him safely gain weight.

Buster began to improve with the constant care of our medical team and was placed in foster where he continues to thrive! His foster family says they'll keep him for as long as it takes until he's adopted. Without your support we wouldn't be able to jump into action to save animals like Buster! His success story is a true example of what compassion can do!



**Buster's incredible transformation on intake vs. 2 months later in foster!**



## Planning for the Future

Year-end financial planning maximizes the benefit to you and the shelter animals in our care. Here are some tips!

### Gifts by Check

Should be made by the end of the year in order to qualify

### Gifts of Stock

Deductible up to 30% of adjusted gross income

### Gifts of Property

Includes bonds, mutual funds, real estate and other property

### Company Matching Gifts

Another great way to increase your capacity for giving

### Bequests/Planned Giving

Many long time supporters will choose to select us as the beneficiary in their will or life insurance policy.

**For more information on donating, call us at 732-440-1557!**

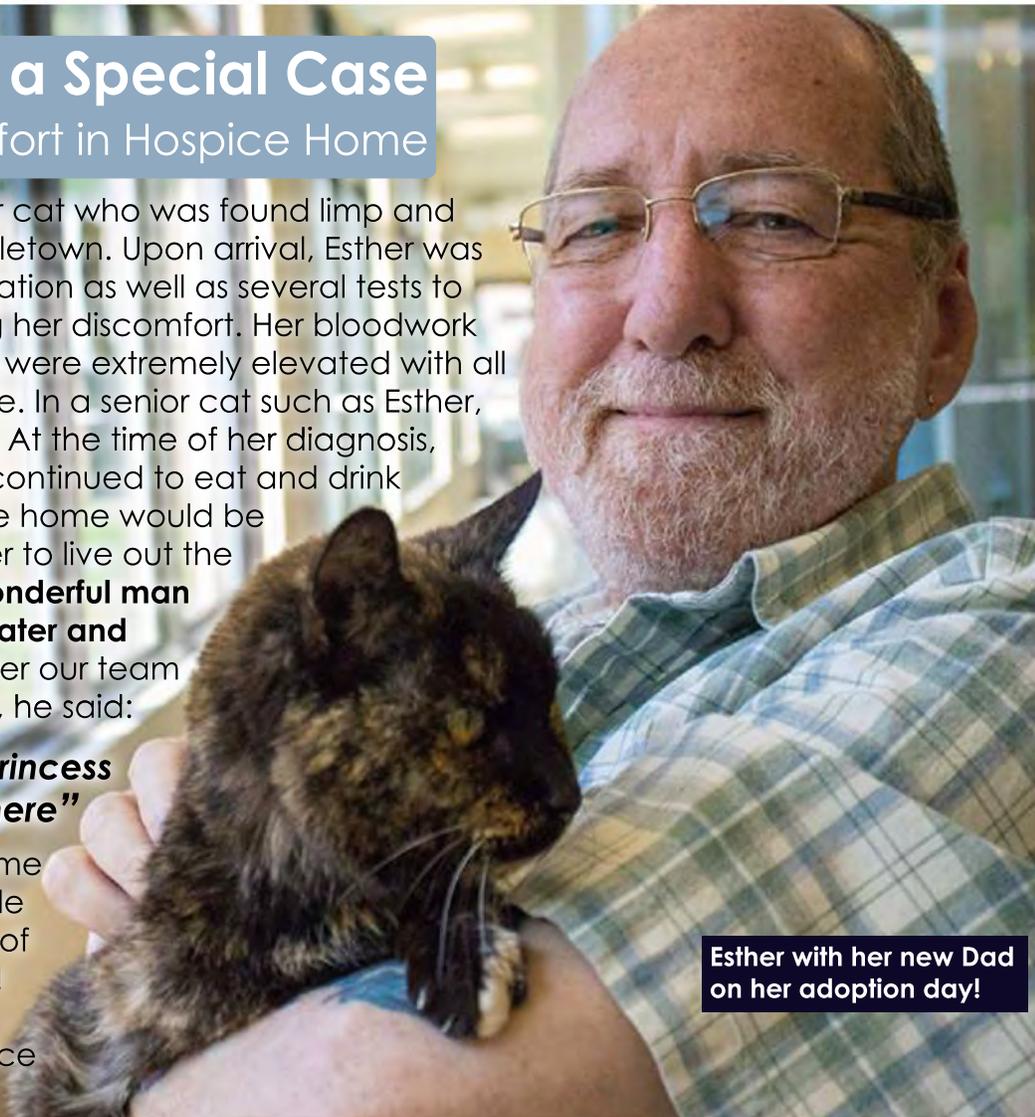
## A Special Place for a Special Case

Esther the Cat Finds Comfort in Hospice Home

Esther is a sweet and gentle senior cat who was found limp and moaning on a front porch in Middletown. Upon arrival, Esther was given IV fluids to help with dehydration as well as several tests to determine what could be causing her discomfort. Her bloodwork showed that Esther's kidney levels were extremely elevated with all signs pointing to acute renal failure. In a senior cat such as Esther, the long term prognosis was poor. At the time of her diagnosis, Esther was still in good spirits and continued to eat and drink normally so we decided a hospice home would be the best possible chance for Esther to live out the rest of her days comfortably. **A wonderful man came into the shelter a few days later and instantly fell in love with Esther.** After our team explained Esther's situation to him, he said:

***"I just want to treat her like a princess for whatever time she has left here"***

Esther has been in her hospice home for a few months and is inseparable from her new canine brother and of course, spoiled by her new owner! We're happy to be able to give animals like Esther a second chance at having a happily ever after!



**Esther with her new Dad on her adoption day!**

**Esther receives complimentary in-home vet visits as part of our "Senior Cats for Senior Laps" Program. Please email [nina@monmouthcountyspca.org](mailto:nina@monmouthcountyspca.org) for more information about this unique initiative**

# A Close Call for Chi-Chi

Emergency Medical Care Saves Neglected Dog

Chuchuka (renamed Chi-Chi) is a 3 year old Maltese mix who came to the Monmouth County SPCA through a law enforcement confiscation due to her being in very poor condition. **She was frail, lethargic and underneath her severe matting, she was just skin and bones.** Chi-Chi would barely eat, was unable to walk more than 10 steps at a time and couldn't hold her urine or bowel movements. The MCSPCA set up an emergency surgery at NorthStar VETS where a **bladder stone the size of an avocado** was removed from her tiny body. Chi-Chi's recovery was slow-going, it took constant care to ensure her vitals remained at safe levels due to the fact that her health was neglected for so long, but our dedicated staff was there for her every step of the way. After three weeks in a foster home, Chi-Chi was put on our Facebook page and adopted within a few short days; she now lives happily with her new canine sister and receives unconditional love and care from her new parents. Thanks to donors like you, we are able to provide a second chance to ALL animals in need! The resources we utilize are only available due to your support and animals like Chi-Chi are flourishing because of you!



Chi-Chi with her foster mom a few days before her official adoption!

Photo Courtesy Victor Bubadiaz Photography



A radiograph & actual photo of the bladder stone that was removed by NorthStar Vets.

To donate to the MCSPCA and ensure that animals like Chi-Chi receive the care they deserve, visit our website today at: [www.monmouthcountyspca.org](http://www.monmouthcountyspca.org)!

## Kittens Upon Kittens

Kitten Season Fills Shelter & Foster Homes

2 stray kittens found abandoned in Long Branch



From March until November, the MCSPCA experiences a well-known period in the animal welfare community referred to as **"Kitten Season."** During the season, we take in hundreds of kittens and mother cats who are either brought to us as strays, surrenders or neglect cases.

**At the peak of this Kitten Season, we've cared for over 200 kittens,** ranging from newborn to a few months old, most of which need to be placed in foster as 60% of kittens come in as orphaned.

The next (and final) influx of kittens this season will be expected in September and due to the NJ weather this summer, we're bracing for a big one! Aside from adopting, fostering and advocating, we rely on the support of our followers through monetary and supply donations to keep lifesaving programs like fostering afloat. Your compassion is critical to giving homeless animals everything they need to survive & thrive! To learn about how to become a foster home for kittens or other animals, email us at [fostering@monmouthcountyspca.org](mailto:fostering@monmouthcountyspca.org) or call 732-542-0040!

To make a donation through our Amazon Wishlist, visit [www.monmouthcountyspca.org/support](http://www.monmouthcountyspca.org/support)

# EVENTS Past & Future



Our staff and volunteers strutted their stuff with their canine companions at the Rumson St. Patrick's Day Parade! Looking forward to next year!



Keller Williams "Red Day" of Volunteering where staff members beautified our shelter grounds!



Celebrating our Valentine's Day Brunch at the Navesink Country Club where we raised over \$53,000 for our shelter animals! A fun and friendly event!



A volunteer cuddling a puppy at our 2017 Dog Walk where we raised \$138,000 for the shelter!

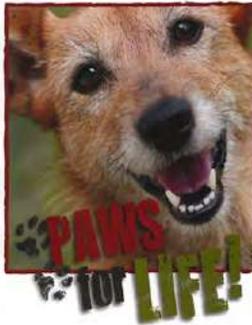
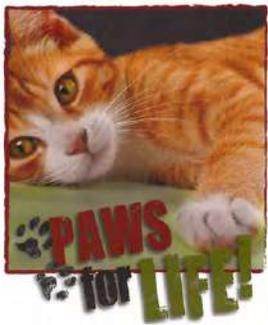
## SAVE THE DATES!

**Fur Ball Masquerade Gala**  
October 14th 2017

**Valentine's Day Brunch**  
February 11th 2018

**Dog Walk + Pet Fair**  
April 28th 2018

*For information on any of our upcoming events,  
email [events@monmouthcountyspca.org](mailto:events@monmouthcountyspca.org)!*



## Paws For Life

Do you have a small business you'd like to use to help support the MCSPCA? Our "Paws for Life" Program is the easiest way to raise money for our animals! We provide you with posters and cards for your customers to sign and hang up! Since 2006, the program has raised over \$160,000 and with your help we can continue to do so! **For information on how to sign up with our program email [events@monmouthcountyspca.org](mailto:events@monmouthcountyspca.org)!**

# VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHTS

**"No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted."**



**Jo-Ann Moyer**  
*Animal Care/Mentor*  
Joanne works part-time as a staff member but volunteers her time to help train and work with our special needs volunteers!



**Jill Zwick**  
*Cat Volunteer*  
Jill works with our harder to adopt cats and also fosters kittens. Jill also is our official cat adoption photographer!



**Tom Bonhag**  
*Clinic Assistant*  
Tom volunteers his time mainly helping to sterilize instruments in our clinic but can also be found helping with puppies!



**Julie Thomas**  
*Humane Education*  
Julie volunteers her time traveling to schools and working with student groups teaching the importance of animal advocacy.



**Debbie Elsinger**  
*Canine Biographer*  
Aside from being a foster extraordinaire, Debbie also gets to know each dog and photographs them to be put onto our website.



**Donna Parciak**  
*Dog Volunteer*  
As a long time volunteer, Donna always takes a certain special dog under her wing and has played vital roles in their adoptions!