



wall st. tails

Monmouth County SPCA Spring Newsletter
2022



[Growing NJ TNR](#)

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A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Monmouth County
SPCA
Connect with us!

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



Monmouth County SPCA



@mcspca



@themcspca



Monmouth County SPCA

An electronic version of our newsletter
is available on our website!
Visit www.monmouthcountysPCA.org
to check it out!

2022 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Getting back into the swing of things here at the Monmouth County SPCA has been a learning process for all of us. Shifting away from curbside veterinary service and adoptions by appointment only, back to in-person exams and an adoption floor open to the public is strengthening our mission day-by-day. Being able to see families meeting their first pet, watching our Vogel Veterinary Care Center clients leave with happy animals and seeing the smiles on the faces of our returning volunteers is second to none!

The uncertainties of the future still linger, but if we can maintain our operations and save animals in the midst of an unprecedented, life-changing pandemic, then we feel there's nothing we can't do. I want to personally thank each and every one of our donors for sticking by us! **We know** you missed our in-person events, but you contributed to our virtual ones instead. **We know** you wanted to visit our shelter, but we saw you watched our live "Canine Cam" on Facebook instead. **We know** you continued to support our mission, even when times were at their hardest. We see you out there, and we are so grateful to have you!

Now that things have gotten back to the "new normal", we've finally been able to have some of our annual events back in person. Our first ever Doggy Paddle Polar Plunge at D'Jais in Belmar was a massive success. With over 200 "plungers" we raised over \$85,000 for the shelter and we've already put the Polar Plunge on our 2022 calendar for November 26th! Our 75th Anniversary Fur Ball Gala at the Molly Pitcher was the most elegant of evenings (with that fun MCSPCA flare) where we raised over \$300,000 for the homeless animals and our lifesaving programs. Our 2022 Fur Ball Gala, honoring the late Larry Hesse, will be held on Thursday, July 21st at the Shadowbrook, and I hope you will join us.

Our programs are constantly growing, evolving and creating new opportunities to save animals and help the people in our surrounding communities. We are proud to share our 97% live release rate for 2021, it's a number that makes us remember why we're here, and why we work so hard. To everyone who supports our mission, please accept my sincerest gratitude. My promise to you is to keep exceeding your expectations in 2022 and the years to come!

Sincerely,

Ross Licitra
Executive Director



2021 BY THE NUMBERS



402

DOGS
ADOPTED



594

CATS
ADOPTED



448

PUPPIES
ADOPTED



1424

KITTENS
ADOPTED



82

SMALL + FURRIES
ADOPTED

97% *Live Release Rate*

97% OF THE DOMESTICATED ANIMALS WE
CARED FOR IN 2021 LEFT OUR SHELTER
BY MEANS OF ADOPTION, RESCUE, OWNER
REDEMPTION OR SPECIAL SERVICE PROGRAM



ANIMAL CONTROL

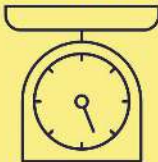
- 2,149 animals taken in
- 15 municipal contracts
- Officers on-call, 24/7
- Over 4,302 fielded calls

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

24,082
POUNDS
OF PET FOOD
DISTRIBUTED



**1,033 CHILDREN & ADULTS
PRESENTED WITH OUR HUMANE
EDUCATION PROGRAM**



434 LOST PETS REUNITED
WITH THEIR FAMILIES

32% increase from 2020



FOSTER PROGRAM



1,426 Kittens
Fostered

178 Dogs/Pups
Fostered

Pets returning from foster homes
are typically adopted in under a week!

VOGEL VETERINARY CARE CENTER

Providing compassionate and affordable full-service
veterinary care for our shelter + community pets

COMPLETED
4,507
SURGERIES
FOR BOTH
COMMUNITY
& SHELTER
ANIMALS



PERFORMED
5,333
EXAMS
FOR BOTH
COMMUNITY
& SHELTER
ANIMALS

HUMANE LAW ENFORCEMENT



**250 ANIMAL CRUELTY
CALLS INVESTIGATED**

Dedicated 24/7 Monmouth County
Animal Cruelty Hotline

877-898-7297

Super Shepherd Makes Her Recovery



Cecelia after being assessed

Our Animal Control team was dispatched early on a fall morning for a dog who was badly hit by a car and had wedged herself under another car that stopped to help her. Cecelia was in shock, had a fractured tibia that had broken through her skin and was suffering from road rash, a laceration to her tongue and a broken tooth.

Thankfully, our Animal Control team acted quickly and got Cecelia to the shelter where she was assessed. Cecelia was put on oxygen and fluids, was given pain medication, and had an abdominal ultrasound to confirm that she was not in any immediate danger of death.

Once Cecelia was stable, she was transferred to Garden State Veterinary Hospital where she continued fluid therapy, pain management, wound therapy, and aggressive IV antibiotics to prevent infection. Her leg was splinted until she became stable, and in the meantime, our team came up with a plan for her to heal.

A few weeks later, sweet Cecelia was struck with an antibiotic resistant infection that could have been life threatening. The best option for her overall health was to amputate her affected leg, and from there she began to finally blossom!

Free of pain and now a “tri-pawd”, Cecelia finally began her journey into a forever home! She spent some time in our vet tech room, where we learned she liked to spend time with both cats and dogs. Being that Cece was already popular on social media, it didn't take long to find her the perfect family!



Cece now as a “tri-pawd”

You help us create second chances! Pets like Cecelia are able to thrive thanks to your support!

A Foxy Predicament in Asbury Park



Before his rescue

We all know that foxes can be curious, and sometimes mischievous! A young fox recently found himself in quite the predicament in Asbury Park. The adolescent was most likely walking around the ledge of a lake when he slipped in. Thankfully, he found a small ledge where he was spotted by a Good Samaritan who called our Animal Control team. With the help of both the Police and Fire Department, we were able to get ladders down into the water to finally rescue the fox. After a few days in our care to warm up and regain his strength, the fox was released back onto the beach where other foxes live. Another lifesaving rescue for Monmouth County wildlife!



Can you spot the fox?



The Future of Feral

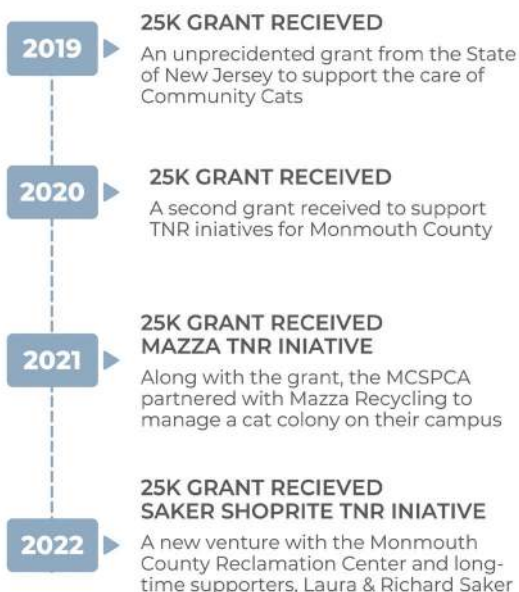
How we're working for the Community Cats of Monmouth County

As the Monmouth County SPCA continues to be the leader in the state for addressing the feral cat population through TNR, we are working to grow the program with new ventures. The start of this robust program came from the help of private donors in 2018, and has been growing steadily ever since. Our goal is to stabilize the population, so the colonies reduce in population through natural attrition. With the help of our donors, coupled with the support of our communities - the goal of this program is to significantly decrease the feral cat population in Monmouth County over the next five years.

What is TNR? TNR stands for Trap, Neuter, Release. Each cat trapped is spayed or neutered, microchipped and vaccinated at our Vogel Veterinary Care Center. These services both decrease the population by preventing breeding and overall, give the cats a healthier, more enjoyable life.

How does TNR work? TNR humanely stops the reproductive cycle. Adoptable kittens and cats brought to the shelter find families, and feral cats are returned to colonies managed by our approved caretakers. Most importantly, comprehensive community education is provided to change the negative perception of TNR.

TNR TIMELINE



The most recent TNR initiative for the shelter was a partnership with the Monmouth County Reclamation Center and Laura & Richard Saker of Saker Shoprites. The proposed plan will be to establish a managed colony of cats at the Monmouth County Reclamation Center in Tinton Falls, allowing the MCSPCA to humanely re-home community cats to a natural environment. Establishing a TNR colony at the MCRC (which encompasses over 900 acres that also borders an additional 10,000 acres of federally owned land) lends itself to an ideal location for this program.

The new colony will also provide a "green" way to control the rodent population at the MCRC. Saker Shoprites, as an environmentally conscious corporation, feels as though this project simultaneously addresses multiple community concerns in natural way.

The plight of community cats is a cause close to Richard & Laura Saker's hearts. The couple have been long-time supporters of the MCSPCA and Laura sits on the MCSPCA's Board of Trustees. Both personally, and through Saker Shoprites, the Sakers have raised a tremendous amount of money and awareness for animal rescue. The generous sponsorship of this program by Saker Shoprites will support the costs associated to manage the new colony.



Richard Saker & Ross Licitra

For more information about our TNR program, email info@monmouthcountyspca.org



Our sweet boy Ronan, handsomely posing for his adoption photo!

Not All Heroes Wear Capes Some are just cute cats!

When Ronan arrived to our shelter as a stray, little did he know that one day he'd help improve the lives of dozens of sick kittens. Being an open admissions shelter, with a strong focus on animal control, we take in thousands of stray kittens and cats each year. Sadly, the spread of disease through outdoor cats is common, and having it come into the shelter can be unavoidable. Over the summer, we were struck with Panleukopenia, or FVP, a serious and highly contagious virus that can be fatal for kittens. Ronan, being a healthy, vaccinated cat was getting bloodwork per his normal exam and was able to "donate" a little extra for our sickly kittens. The spun down serum was then used as an injectable "treatment" to boost the immune systems of kittens who are not fully vaccinated. This was done to help prevent and reduce disease transmission! Ronan was adopted shortly after - if only he knew of all of the lives he saved!

Beer Label Photo Contest Success

We love a little competition, especially when it supports the MCSPCA! In a new partnership with Jughandle Brewing in Tinton Falls, we launched a voting-based photo contest where the winners got to have their pet on a limited edition beer can! The contest was neck-and-neck right up until the last minute, a real paw biter! In the end, we had 4 lucky winners and raised over \$30,000 for the Monmouth County SPCA!



Can't Adopt? Sponsor Instead!

Pet owners everywhere know how much of a commitment it can be to have a furry friend. We understand that not everyone is ready to have pets, which is why we created our Sponsor-a-Pet Program. The program is designed so that animal lovers can still care for shelter pets in ways they need it most. Sponsors support a full month's care for one of our shelter pets while having their name displayed on the pet's cubby. Over 40 of our shelter pets have been sponsored since 2021 with this new program and we couldn't be more thankful!



Scan here to learn more!



Humane Education & Pet Therapy

Our Pet Therapy and Humane Education teams are composed of a small group of volunteers, and their certified pet therapy animals, who travel to various venues to promote kindness and compassion. **In 2021, our Pet Therapy and Humane Education teams visited with over 1,000 children and adults in Monmouth County!** Each therapy animal undergoes training and testing with our instructors to ensure they're a perfect match for the program - we've had dogs, cats, rabbits and even a rat become certified therapy animals! The largest population of people who benefit from our Humane Education, Pet Therapy and Read to Dog programs, are children, mainly scout troops and classroom groups. With the development of our "Cool to be Kind" curriculum, children follow along with a hands-on presentation of everything they need to know to treat our companion animals with love and kindness. Our tiny but mighty group of volunteers continue to make a difference in our community, one animal at a time!



Visit to a senior community

Monmouth County SPCA Receives \$1 Million Donation

The Monmouth County SPCA, who has been a model organization for other animal welfare agencies in the state of New Jersey, is thrilled and honored to be chosen to receive a large donation from Sheldon Vogel. Sheldon and his late wife, Anne, who have been long-time patrons of the Monmouth County SPCA, funded the Vogel Spay/Neuter Clinic decades ago, and most recently supported the expansion of the Vogel Veterinary Care Center, a full-service veterinary clinic where affordable vet care is available to all.

The generous gift will provide means of expansion in a multitude of ways, all meticulously outlined, so that every dollar is put to its best use to serve the shelter and its surrounding communities. A strengthened infrastructure with updated exam rooms, more efficient diagnostic equipment, as well as salary allotment for additional veterinary staff, are just a few of the proposed developments. The growth and enhancement of the VVCC will increase the amount of community and shelter pets able to receive compassionate and professional care.

In 2021, the Vogel Veterinary Care Center completed more than 4,500 surgeries for both community and shelter pets and has performed more than 5,300 exams. Revenues generated help to support the Monmouth County SPCA's primary mission to protect, care and advocate for all animals.



Volunteer Handyman on our Side!

A hammer, some nails, and a love for our MCSPCA mission & shelter animals!

Is there anything our volunteers *can't* do? Charlie Ruggirello, a shelter volunteer since 2020, has been contributing his skills to our shelter in more ways than one! Aside from walking dogs and helping with our events, Charlie has put his carpenter experience to work and has built us benches, enrichment dig boxes and even a portable wall! We're so grateful for our volunteers!



A custom bench/litter box hideaway built for our cats!

Go for Goat! We're not just dogs and cats!

When people think of an animal shelter, they usually think of dogs and cats - but we are far from it! In 2021 alone, our Animal Control Division fielded over 4,302 calls from the public and took in over 2,100 animals in need of intervention. We've seen everything from infant chipmunks to deer, to turtles and even a baby alligator! Our ACO team is trained to safely handle anything that comes our way. One of our cutest encounters was this baby goat who made his way onto someone's porch and was crying to go inside! Our team responded quickly and we were able to find the farm he belonged to.



The runaway getting a hug!

A Triple Adoption!

If you know New Jersey, you know Chef David Burke - a veteran chef and restaurateur, who also happens to be a huge cat-lover! David recently visited the shelter after having to say goodbye to his beloved cat. Chef Burke was drawn to three of our older, shyer kittens who had been overlooked, and adopted the trio!



Adoption day photo!

Events You Won't Want to Miss!



Our 2021 Polar Plunge was such an ice-breaking success that we already have 2022 on the calendar! Get your beach towels warmed up because we'll be plunging again for homeless animals on Saturday, November 26th 2022! Details coming to our website soon!

"Freezin' for a good reason!"



An action shot from our 2021 Plunge!

New! Pet Palooza 2022



2022 PET PALOOZA!
OUR DOG WALK - REIMAGINED
April 30th, 2022 🐾 MCSPCA Campus

We're bringing
it back home!

April 30th at
the MCSPCA.

Scan here!



Monmouth County
SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION
OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS
Fur Ball Gala

THURSDAY • JULY 21, 2022
THE SHADOWBROOK, SHREWSBURY

HONORING THE LIFE, AND COMMUNITY
PHILANTHROPY OF *Larry Hesse*



Learn more by
holding your phone's
camera above

We're Hiring!

Hold your
phone
camera
here to
learn more



The MCSPCA is
currently hiring for
different positions
at our Eatontown
shelter! We offer

competitive salaries, health
benefits, paid time off and the
opportunity to work with caring,
compassionate animal lovers!

Legacy Giving

Making a planned gift to the Monmouth County SPCA is an excellent way to ensure that your love and compassion for animals continues to benefit orphaned pets for many years to come. With your gift, the Monmouth County SPCA is able to care for the community's lost, abused and unwanted pets.

Contact us to talk about planned gift options to support the MCSPCA. **Please help us fulfill our mission and vision to save more animals.** For more information about legacy giving, please email barbara@monmouthcountyspca.org