



wall st. tails

Monmouth County SPCA Fall Newsletter

2023



NJ Wildlife

Life-Saving Rescues

Shelter Events



Monmouth County
SPCA

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A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

It really feels like this year has flown by already – an organization like this one, that never stops, will do that to you! In 2022 we cared for over 6,000 animals and this year we're on track to do the same, if not more. That's thanks to our incredible, hard-working staff and volunteers, and the live-saving community programs we're working so hard to grow. The numbers really do speak for themselves, and our average 97% live-release rate is something we're immensely proud of. Our Animal Control Division is out on the field every day, servicing nearly 30 towns in Monmouth County (and growing!) Still, a pillar of the Monmouth County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals is our Humane Law Enforcement Division, which continues to investigate and prosecute cruelty offenders under the power of the Monmouth County Prosecutor's Office - countless animals have been removed from abuse, neglect, and cruelty thanks to the hard work of our officers. Our most recent and important fundraiser of the year, the Fur Ball Gala, was a huge success and raised critical funds that will help save a lot of lives! Next, we're getting ready for our 3rd Annual Polar Plunge on Saturday, November 25th, a fun and family-friendly event that's becoming a community favorite.

Heading into the holiday season and colder months are when we always see an uptick in animal surrenders, stray pets, and sadly neglect. **We understand the hardships people undergo due to the rising cost of living, but we are not immune to this economy either and that's where you come in.** We want to thank everyone who reads our newsletters, follows our stories, adopts, fosters, or volunteers for our organization, and especially those who donate to keep us up and running. You help us remember to keep looking forward - for our organization, our future, and most importantly - all of the animals who need us.

Sincerely,

Ross Licitra
Executive Director



2023 Shelter Directory

260 Wall Street | Eatontown, NJ 07724

Tax ID/EIN: 21-0679893

Main Shelter: 732-542-0040

Vogel Veterinary Care Center: 732-542-3125

Adoption Center: 732-542-5962

Animal Cruelty Hotline: 877-898-7297



Scan here
for more
FAQs



From Left For Dead To Living The Life!

Puppy Matilda beats the odds.



Matilda upon intake - she was barely 5lbs at 8-weeks-old

This past May, our Animal Control Division responded to a call about a puppy left on the side of the road. Our team responded to the call and took custody of an emaciated 8-week-old puppy that was abandoned nearby in Neptune - what we saw was beyond words.

Skin and bones, labored breathing, and unable to lift her head, a puppy we named "Matilda" was on the brink of death. Our medical team believed that if she hadn't been found on that night, she would have only had hours left to live.

Matilda's Road To Healing

Matilda's next few days were critical and there were times when we weren't sure she was going to make it, but little by little she started showing small signs of improvement. Matilda received IV fluids, and special hand-feedings to help her safely gain weight - she was so happy to finally feel full! Bloodwork showed that she was anemic due to untreated intestinal parasites but she still kept fighting through it. After weeks in a medical foster with consistent treatment, Matilda was able to be transferred to another foster home so that she could take the final steps to her journey home. For the short time in our care, Matilda's weight was back to normal for her size, her bloodwork was clear, and she was able to live a life without fear, pain, or loneliness.



Healing in her foster home



One happy family!

Matilda's Big Reveal

At our Fur Ball Gala, we always tell our most heartwarming stories to really show our supporters how their donations are hard at work. At this year's Gala, we were so happy to tell Matilda's story and have a surprise entrance with her new family, the Kleins, who are long-time friends and supporters of our shelter. Matilda now lives a wonderful life in New Jersey with canine siblings and a family who loves her unconditionally!

Our 2023 Fur Ball Gala : A Lifesaving Event



On a beautiful and sunny day in June, we held our 2023 Fur Ball Gala at the elegant and picturesque Shadowbrook at Shrewsbury. This year's gala honored Fran & Paul Turner and their love for animals and their commitment to supporting animal welfare. Executive Director Ross Licitra shared, "The Turners have been instrumental in the support of our lifesaving programs and initiatives here at the Monmouth County SPCA. We are so grateful to have them as friends of the shelter and we look forward to many more years of saving lives together. Their dedication to animal welfare is an inspiration to us all."

Throughout the evening, guests were able to visit with adoptable puppies and kittens, plus meet some of the pets whose success stories have been made possible by their generous support. The evening's program welcomed some memorable rescue animals like Mama, a discarded breeding dog who has since been adopted by her foster family; Luca, a 13-year-old poodle with a heart murmur left by his owners and recently adopted; and Matilda, the 5-month-old puppy left starving on the street whose story spread nationwide. Guests loved seeing all of the highlighted animals in the ballroom, but the most memorable appearance was Matilda, whose transformation since being found was breathtaking. Matilda's entrance earned a standing ovation, accompanied by her new family, the Kleins.



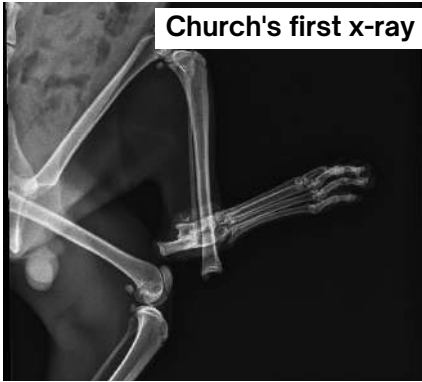
Proceeds from the Fur Ball Gala will provide compassionate care to thousands of animals in need this year. We are so grateful to everyone who makes this event happen!



Rain, Rain, Had Its Way!

One thing we've learned about events is that despite the best planning, you can't control the weather! Sadly, due to rain and dangerous storms, we had to cancel our spring Pet Palooza this year. We want to thank our generous event sponsors, Fran & Paul Turner, Nancy Karpf, Pet Supplies Plus, and Local 400 IBEW plus our top fundraisers, AJ & Melissa Sfarra, Max & Harriet Colby, Barbara Hinnant-Mantore, and Phoebe's Friends for helping us nearly meet our fundraising goal! Hoping for clear skies in 2024 ♥

Church's Journey Home: A resilient kitty who never gave up!

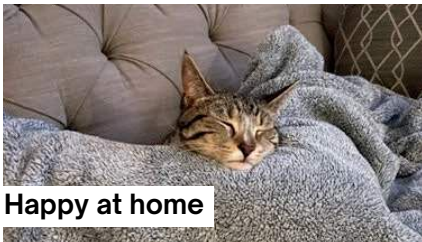


Church's first x-ray

On a cold winter day, we got a call about a cat who was laying in a church parking lot and unable to get up. Usually, when we respond to calls about injured animals, we use caution when approaching but Church was meowing and purring, almost as if he knew he was being rescued! When we got him to the shelter, x-rays showed that he had a badly fractured back leg, and several broken toes on the opposite leg - he must have been in such pain before we found him. Our medical team determined that the fracture was so bad, that he needed a full amputation on one leg, and a cast on the other to help realign his toes. Thanks to donations from our amazing supporters, Church was able to receive everything he needed ASAP so that he could begin to heal. After many weeks of recovery in our vet tech suite, and then in a medical foster home, Church was finally ready to become available for adoption. It only took a few days on our adoption floor before a family fell in love and decided to make him part of their family! Church is now a spoiled house cat who has his own spot on the couch, and whose family shared with us that they are *so in love with him* ♥



Healing after surgery



Happy at home



Church's adoption day

Our Growing Pet Therapy & Humane Education Programs



Read to Dog Program

These amazing volunteer-run programs have traveled all over Monmouth County spreading smiles, tail-wags, education, and more to children and adults. Just this year, Humane Education has held 27 "scout nights" hosting over 400 scouts at our shelter for presentations, tours, and activities, and 12 school events consisting of educating and having therapy dogs alongside children reading - helping over 700 students! Our teams have also attended 2 county events, and 1 wellness fair so that we can continue to spread our mission of love toward animals ♥ Interested in learning more? Email volunteers@monmouthcountyspca.org

Smile, You're Adopted!

Thanks to our Pearly Whites Program dozens of our shelter animals have received dental cleanings and surgeries pro bono from our participating partners. As some pet owners may know, dentals can cost anywhere from \$500-\$1500 and since we want our animals to go home in tip-top shape, it's a huge relief to have our partners cover this before adoption. We're so grateful for the support!



From Rough Start to Rock Star - Our Iggy Pop



Iggy on intake

One of the hardest parts of working here is seeing a dog come in who is so out of hope - Iggy Pop was one of those dogs. Iggy Pop came to us as a stray dog; he was completely emaciated to the point where you could see every vertebra in his spine under his skin. In addition to Iggy being so severely underweight and malnourished, he was covered in untreated and infected sores, and his nails were so long that they were curling into his paw pads. Our Humane Law Enforcement Division followed every lead to find out who could be so cruel, but sadly we were never able to find an owner to charge. Over the following weeks, we made Iggy's health a priority and gave him the highest level of compassionate care.

Iggy remained under medical observation to make sure he was gaining weight safely and steadily - he needed small, hand-fed meals throughout the day, which he had no complaints about! As his skin began to heal from the open sores, his beautiful black coat came through but what shined the brightest - was his smile! Within weeks, Iggy learned sit, down, roll over, go to place, and more, he was a total STAR. His friendly, social demeanor allowed us to place him in a foster home where he's been nothing short of amazing. Iggy's story is a perfect example of not judging a shelter dog by their past because all they look forward to is their future! We hope that by the time you read this, our sweet Iggy Pop will be in his forever home ♥



Happy boy in foster!

Ask The Trainer - Name Recognition You'll need : A marker sound & high value treats

1. Say the dog's name, make some "kissy" or whistle noises to get the dog to look at you. The moment the dog looks at the handler, click/or say "yes" and give their reward treat. Repeat this step at least five times before moving to the next level.
2. Say the dog's name, the moment the dog looks at the handler, Click/or say "yes" and give the reward. Repeat this step at least five times before moving to the next level.
3. Strengthen behavior by increasing your distance from the dog. At any time your dog does not respond, go back to the step before. Always work on training with your puppy/dog in a low-distraction, quieter area so you have them set up for success!



Kathy Derry - Behavior Manager

We want to set your dog or puppy up for success! Enroll in our classes for hands-on, instructor-led training for every level. Email behaviortrainingacademy@monmouthcountyspca.org to learn more!

Dozens Of Cats Rescued & Rehomed

As more towns request to have us take over their animal control, we've been coming across more cases of animal hoarding. Most recently, we dealt with a case in Wall Township where nearly 50-60 cats were living on a property, both inside and outside of the house - many of them were newborn kittens. There were so many kittens, that we didn't know which of the babies belonged to which of the moms! We decided to house them all together and found that many of the female cats would care for every kitten, almost like a community - it was beautiful to see ♥ We are still in the process of getting all of these cats adopted - but for now, they're in the best of hands (and paws!)



Some of the cats/kittens rescued



It's Wild Out There: New Jersey's Finest Friends Some of our recent Animal Control rescues!

The best place for wildlife is in the wild! Always consult with a professional before intervening. Animal Control and local police can help if you're in a situation where wildlife may need help.



A fawn separated from her mom. They were reunited later that day!



An Eastern Red Bat who was stuck in a parking garage and then released.



A Northern Flying Squirrel found trapped in a home's bathroom.



An infant possum who lost her mom. She was rehabbed and then released.



A Barred Owl fledgling who needed a little help navigating the yard.



Another rescue was this fox kit who was most likely hit by car and then couldn't keep up with his family. His leg was broken but with some medical care and TLC, he was recently released!

What do we typically see?

Orphans: Springtime means baby time! Once the warm weather starts, we see an influx of orphaned baby animals. They're cute but require intensive care!

Injured: A lot of wildlife come to us injured or sick and need immediate medical care. Our experienced staff is always ready & we have rehab facilities on-call too!

Displaced: Sometimes baby animals get separated from their mom and require professional intervention. Many times we can put the baby back for a happy reunion!

Visit our [Wildlife Resources](#) page and bookmark it for later! There are tips and information about all different native species ♥



Community Thank You's



Circus Foodtown Register Fundraiser

Thank you so much to our friends at Food Circus Supermarkets who did a campaign at their stores to support our shelter! **Their family-owned stores collected donations at their registers and raised over \$6,000!** We were so happy to welcome them to our shelter to meet some of the furry babies the donations work towards saving. We love having the support of our community, it keeps our mission strong ♥



Porsche's 75th Birthday Fundraiser

This past June, The Porsche Club of America: Jersey Shore Region gathered at Porsche of Monmouth in West Long Branch to celebrate a "Driven by Dreams" themed event for Porsche's 75th Birthday. We were so honored to be invited and bring some of our adoptable animals, which also held a collection of dog and cat food and treats. Members of the club who attended all made donations to our organization and raised over \$2,000 for our animals and programs!

Adoption Spotlights



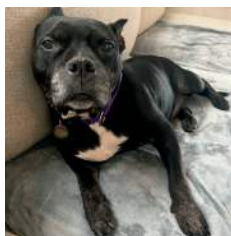
Hogan

With 1 year and 7 months in our care, Hogan finally hit the jackpot and was adopted by his foster family! He's a total sweetheart who loves "hangin' with the boys!"



Rudy

14-year-old Rudy came to us when his owner went to a nursing home. His age and hypothyroid issues didn't stop his new family from taking him home!



Mama

Discarded after not being able to breed anymore, Mama was left on the streets. She was in bad shape but with some TLC, she found a perfect family!



Can't Adopt? Sponsor Instead!

Our **Sponsor A Pet Program** provides for the routine care of one of our shelter animals for one month.

This provides:

A safe and comfy place for them to live
Nutritious food and treats • Routine medications
Exercise, play + enrichment • Lots of TLC

Sponsors will have their names advertised on a special sticker placed on the animal's cage card ♥

Scan your phone here to get started, visit monmouthcountyspca.org/sponsorapet or give us a call at 732-542-0040 x 7



Save the date for our 3rd Annual Doggy Paddle Polar Plunge 🐾
Saturday, November 25th at D'Jais in Belmar!