

Pants & Purrs

MONONGALIA COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY

VOL. 11-01

P.O. Box 390, Morgantown, WV 26507

April 2011

The Monongalia County Humane Society (MCHS) is a private nonprofit organization supported by membership dues, donations from the public, and fund-raising events. It is governed by a Board of Directors who serve without compensation.

To contact the Monongalia County Humane Society, call 304-296-6247/MCHS or email us at moncountyhumanesociety@live.com. Please leave a message. Messages are checked daily. To report lost animals call the Canine Adoption Center (Dog Pound) at 304-291-7267. To report animal abuse or neglect, contact the Monongalia County Sheriff's Department at 304-291-7260.

MCHS holds public meetings the second Wednesday during the months of March and October. Meetings are held at the Euro Suites Hotel on Chestnut Ridge Road at 7:00 pm.

The President's Corner

We have been fortunate this Spring to have eight West Virginia University students working with us to assist with our programs. They will be hosting a booth at the All Pets Expo on April 1-3 at Mylan Park to provide information about all of our programs. They plan to participate in a feral cat spay day activity, write a grant to provide additional funding for the feral cat program, man a booth in the WVU Mountainlair to educate students about responsible pet care, deliver brochures to local veterinarian offices, and assist in any other way they can. It is wonderful to see young people so involved with programs to help local animals. Please stop by their booth at the All Pets Expo to meet them.

Although the Christmas food drive is now over, we provide pet food to food pantries in Monongalia County throughout the year. Needy families with pets require help to provide for these pets on a regular basis, not just at Christmas. We continue to provide low-income assistance with spay/neuter and were heartened by the number of people at the Christmas food distribution who had already taken advantage of this program. Collecting and distributing food and toys is a wonderful activity, but it cannot continue without members who are willing to provide some of their time to assist the program. Without additional volunteers, this program may have to be discontinued. If you can give us some of your time, especially during the food drive and distribution, you can help many families and their animals.

On another note, the West Virginia legislature is finishing its business this year. Although they failed to act to strengthen legislation against animal fighting, bills to protect horses by requiring inspections of horse rescue facilities and to protect dogs through limitations on large scale breeding facilities are still alive. Our legislators vote for bills that their constituents ask them to support. If you want the legislature to strengthen animal laws, please contact your local delegates and senators to let them know. We need to express our concerns about animals to our elected officials on a regular basis so they are knowledgeable about citizen concerns.

If you would like to support our efforts to protect feral cats, distribute pet food to the needy, or fund spay/neuter programs you can contact us at 304-296-6247, moncountyhumanesociety@live.com or by mail to P.O. Box 390, Morgantown WV 26507-0390.

As always we appreciate your membership and your support.

--Susan

Holiday Card Contest

Students enrolled in Sonda Cheesebrough's fifth grade honors art class at North Elementary recently participated in a contest to design a holiday postcard for the Monongalia County Humane Society (MCHS). Holding the winning postcard is Kayla Whipple (center). You should have received her postcard in December.



GIVE A GIFT - HELP AN ANIMAL

Would you like to honor or memorialize someone special? For a \$20.00 donation, a gift card will be sent to your designee with the following message:

A gift given in your name has provided care and medical help to a stray animal or needy pet. The Monongalia County Humane Society and the animals of Mon County thank you!

Your gift was given by _____



To give a gift, please send your check for \$20.00 made out to the Monongalia County Humane Society along with this form to: Monongalia County Humane Society, PO Box 390, Morgantown, WV 26507-0390

Your Name _____

Your Address _____

Your Phone# _____

(In case we need to contact you)

Card to be sent to:

Name _____

Address _____

A Special Thanks to the Community

We would like to thank the residents of Monongalia County and participating businesses for their donation of pet food and supplies distributed at the 29th Annual Toy and Food Distribution held at the Armory on December 16. Over 5,000 pounds of donated pet food and supplies were distributed to more than 1,000 needy pets.

We would like to thank the following stores for acting as pet food donation drop sites: Kroger on Patteson Drive, Kroger on W.Va. 705, Kroger in Sabraton, Giant Eagle on Green Bag Road, Giant Eagle at University Towne Centre, Dollar General in Sabraton, and Glenmark Shop N Save.

We would like to thank the following businesses for their donations of pet food: Exotic Jungle, Petco, Sam's Club, Paw Prints Veterinary Clinic, and Hillcrest Veterinary Clinic.

We also would like to thank Wayne Long for providing us with a location to store and bag the donated food, the students enrolled in Communication 112: Small Group Communication at West Virginia University who helped prepare the food for distribution, and Air Service of West Virginia for transporting the food to the Armory.

Thanks again to everyone who contributed to the MCHS pet food drive this year. The community outpouring of time, food and money means the world to local animals in need.

Spay / Neuter Report

We are proud to say that 156 animals were altered in 2010!

Here's the breakdown:

Cats: 63 spayed / 46 neutered.

Dogs: 29 spayed / 18 neutered.

Please have your pet spayed or neutered. It helps reduce the pet overpopulation and gives your pet a longer and healthier life. Too many pets do not have enough homes. Help us end the needless killing of pets.



The More, The Merrier ~ Join the Board!

The Humane Society is always looking for good board members. We would like for our members to think about serving on the board for at least a three year term. New people give us new ideas and keep us from getting in a rut. If you are interested in becoming a board member, just give us a call.



Membership Challenge

One of the best ways you can support animals is by helping us increase our membership. We'd like to issue a challenge to all of our members. Please help us by recruiting some of your friends ~ we need to increase our membership base!

By our next newsletter, we would like to double our membership! Help us meet our goal...pass this newsletter along to a friend so that they can fill out the membership form and join up!



Monongalia County Humane Society Membership/Volunteer/Donation Form

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

I am sending a donation for the following:

\$ _____ Membership dues (\$20/yr., \$500/lifetime)

\$ _____ Adopt A Teacher
(\$25/yr., \$600 Endowment)

\$ _____ Needy Pet Food

\$ _____ Feral Cat Program

\$ _____ Spay/Neuter program based on financial need

\$ _____ Injured Stray Animal Emergency Medical Services

\$ _____ General donation

\$ _____ TOTAL

I would like to volunteer for one (or more) of the following:

_____ Work at a fund-raising event

_____ Donate Baked Goods

_____ Other (Please specify)

_____ Serve as a Board Member

(please indicate your donation selections)

S-11



Feral Cat TNR Program

We are proud to announce we have started a Trap Neuter Return program for feral cats. This is a nationally known program for feral cats. They are trapped, neutered, and returned to their colony. Optimally, they have a caretaker watching over the colony. Their left ear is tipped. This is the symbol notifying us that they have been neutered so, if trapped again, they are simply released.

We can help if you have a feral group. Feeding and providing shelter is important, but spaying or neutering is vital to preventing reproduction. Altering the cat also reduces the chances of males fighting over mates and helps reduce the spread of disease. While we can help you with traps, we do not have enough volunteers to do the trapping and transport to vets for you.

Kitten season will be in full swing by the end of March and first of April. Now is the time to have your pet spayed or neutered to prevent unwanted litters. Feral cats are unaltered cats lost, dumped, or left to fend for themselves. Initially, they may have been strays, but after a generation of living on their own, having kittens and no social human contact, they become feral. Since they are not altered, reproduction is a natural event. More kittens are born continuing the life style and growing in numbers. They generally do not make good housepets unless the kittens are trapped and socialized early in their lives.

The program's goal to help control the feral cat population through spay/neuter far outweighs our financial capabilities. This is an expensive and time consuming program. Please help us keep this program alive with your donations.

Join Us at The All Pets Expo

This year's All Pets Expo is scheduled for April 1-3, 2011 (Friday-Sunday) at the Mylan Park Community Center. The Expo promises great entertainment, pet supply vendors, great food, pet treats, and more! We will have a booth at the Expo, so stop by and say hello. The hours of the Expo will be from 4:00-9:00 p.m. on Friday, 10:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m. on Saturday, and 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. on Sunday. Pets are more than welcome as long as they are on a leash. Tickets are \$6.00 per day or \$15.00 for a weekend pass. For more information on the Expo, visit <http://allpetsexpo.com>



Check out MCHS online!!!
www.moncountyhumesociety.org



Morgantown, WV 26507-0390
P.O. Box 390
unsheltered

Monongalia County
HUMANE SOCIETY



NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
MORGANTOWN, WV
PERMIT #78

June is Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Month

If you suspect an animal is the victim of abuse or neglect, it is important to file a report with the proper authorities. In Monongalia County, you can either call the police (911) or the Canine Adoption Center (Dog Pound) at 304-291-7267.

The following is a list of unacceptable animal treatment:

- Lack of adequate shelter from the weather.
- Animal does not get fed everyday.
- Animal does not have clean water.
- Collar has not been loosened as the animal has grown.
- Animal has mange which causes pets to suffer from horrendous itching resulting in loss of fur, and possibly sores caused by scratching & biting of the pet to relieve incessant irritation.
- Animal appears to be suffering, either from inadequate food, untreated disease and/or parasites.



June is Adopt-A-Shelter-Cat-Month

Celebrate the month and help raise awareness of the life-and-death situations faced by cats in pounds. Millions of cats enter shelters across the United States each year. Many are healthy and considered adoptable but must be euthanized because of space and resource limitations. If you are ready to adopt a fur-baby, visit a shelter. Remember, when you adopt a shelter cat, you give a desperate animal the gift of life.



A Legacy of Love

Did you know that a great portion of our total funding each year is a result of gifts from wills, trust and other estate plans? These thoughtful contributions help to ensure the future of our organization. In addition, we are able to assist even more animals in need. As an animal lover, we hope you'll consider adding our name as a beneficiary when you plan your estate. To include us in your will or estate plan, you must specify our legal name, street address and tax identification number. For more information about making a bequest to us, please call 304-296-6247.

Be a hero to an animal in need and report mistreatment
Animal abuse hurts us all!

" The greatness of a nation can be judged by the way its animals are treated. "

- Gandhi

