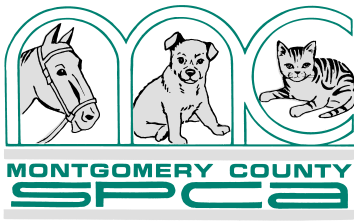


MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Shelters At
Perkiomenville
Conshohocken
Abington



REPORTER

Since 1909

VOL. 44, NO. 4

Summer, 2005

A new feature starts in this Summer Reporter and will continue in future bulletins. Our veterinary staff, **Dr. Trina Russell** and **Dr. Theresa Woodard** will be writing articles that will assist readers with veterinary pet care information. Thank you, doctors!

Warm Weather Tips

Ticks and Fleas



Warm weather is here, which means biting bugs are out to get your furry friends. The following tips are for keeping the biting bugs (ticks and fleas) from becoming attached to your pets and what to do.

1. Mow your lawn low. Keep grass and weeds well trimmed.
2. Give your pets a careful exam when they come in from outdoors. Pay attention to legs, around ears, abdomen and near the tail(s).
3. If you spot a tick, first spray lightly with a tick insecticide (please read directions carefully, especially for cats), take a pair of tweezers, grab the tick as close to the pet's skin as possible and gently pull it out. After removal, dab the area with a topical antiseptic such as a triple antibiotic cream or isopropyl alcohol.
4. For fleas, consult your veterinarian for the appropriate products. Preventative measures are strongly recommended. Discuss with your veterinarian the new products available for once a month flea and tick control.

Pets in Parked Cars

1. Never leave your pet unattended in a parked car in the warm weather.
2. The temperature can reach 120 degrees F. in a matter of minutes.
3. When a dog or cat's internal body temperature rises above 104 degrees F., damage to the brain and other organs can occur, or possibly death from heat stroke or suffocation.
4. Signs of heat stress are heavy panting, glazed eyes, rapid pulse, unsteadiness, a staggering gait, vomiting, or a deep red or purple tongue.
5. If your pet becomes overheated, lower the body temperature by applying ice packs or cold towels to head, neck and chest, or run cool water over the body.
6. Take your pet to a veterinarian right away.
7. If you see an animal in a car showing signs of heat stress, call your local animal care-and-control agency, or call the police immediately!

Perkiomenville Spay/Neuter Day. 58 cats were spayed and neutered. Participating veterinarians were, Dr. Theresa Woodard, Dr. Trina Russell, Dr. Dorothy Claire, and Dr. Marye Byrd. Assisting the vets were: Mary Beth McCarthy, Tracey Graham, Rhonda Hemming, Marla Moran, Rachel Delconte, Patti DeLong and Christopher Langiotti. Humane Educator, Kim Bonanni and Dr. Woodard chaired the event.



More Classy Charity From Kids and Classes

Nancy C. Fortmann, of Ambler, drew our attention to the fact that **Georgina Risell, Wissahickon Middle School**, completed a volunteer project in which she purchased fabric and supplies for 16 cat beds. Georgina quilted the cat beds and then turned them into the Conshohocken shelter.

Glenside/Abington United Methodist Church Nursery School, collected pet food and pet supplies and turned the items into our Abington shelter. Brenda L. Morrison is the nursery school director.

The Kindergarten Class, Brookside Montessori School, in Bechtelsville, conducted a dog biscuit making enterprise. After the dog biscuit sale the class donated half of their proceeds to our Perkiomenville shelter. Mrs. Ellen Bowman is the kindergarten teacher.

St. John of The Cross School, Kindergarten Class, Roslyn, conducted a unique program that combined physical skills projects (tying shoes, writing names) with completion rewards of placing pet food in a special box. After six weeks the pet food was turned into our Abington shelter. Teacher, Lisa Coer, reported, "The children were very excited to learn that they can do things and that they can help animals at the same time."

Abington High School senior, **Matt Buglak**, collected pet supplies and cash from family, friends and neighbors. In addition to money, he delivered litterboxes, canned pet food, cat toys, food bowls and pet treats to our Abington shelter.



ANNUAL MEETING

Executive Director's Report For 2004

Our focus over the last year has been to put in place the steps required to achieve our goals of eliminating animal cruelty and pet overpopulation.

One such step is the institution of spay days for felines, three to four times a year, and the neutering of feral cats on a weekly basis. We have stepped up our effort to raise our percentage of feline adoptions by entering into a cooperative relationship with feline rescue groups. And, we have started the first formal foster care program for felines. **Kim Bonanni** and our veterinary staff are to be commended for their efforts in making these new programs work.

Our canine adoptions remain at an astonishing 90%! We have expanded our media and print exposure to never before realized heights. The much-needed publicity and media attention we received in 2004 is a major contributing factor to this high adoption rate. Kim Bonanni, along with fellow staff members, has been tireless in seeking out the media, and attending community fairs and events. Our Adopt-A-Pet Program, coordinated by **Mr. Dan Birkbeck**, Horsham, furnishes print media advertisements for our adoptable pets on a monthly basis through the Montgomery Newspapers.

Our financial performance in 2004 speaks volumes of the confidence that members and supporters have in our commitment to animals. For each dollar donated to the Montgomery County SPCA, 87 cents goes directly to our animal related care programs. Ever mindful of the need to use donated funds effectively, we search for and find ways to reduce our overhead. We do this by selecting vendors and maintenance work through a competitive bids process.

Mr. Malcolm Schoenberg, Treasurer, and the Finance Committee, monitor our investments and are keenly aware of the organization's invested capital. Their guidance is invaluable for our long-term financial well-being. Our financial security is dependent upon our contributors along with those generous supporters who in their wills and estates remembered the Montgomery County Society For The Prevention Of Cruelty To Animals.

Through the generosity of such bequests, we are taking steps to expand the Conshohocken shelter. We are in the process of honoring the bequest of both the late **Lillian and Harold Fehr**, whose joint wish was that an addition be built at the Conshohocken shelter. This addition will provide a pleasant setting for prospective owners to get to know the pet they are interested in adopting.

In closing, I would like to express my gratitude to **Mr. Richard Urwiler** and **The Board of Directors** for the confidence and support you have shown me. To our **members**, I thank you for your continued support and trust in the way we take steps to improve on our mission.

At the core of our achievements are the unwavering efforts of our **employees**. Their steadfast focus on the successful execution of our policies is to be commended. Going forward, you can be assured that I and our managers and staff will be every bit as dedicated in 2005. We will continue to take the steps required to ensure that this organization moves forward, finding new and innovative ways to help and save animals in need.

Sincerely,

Carmen J. Ronio, Executive Director

REPORTER

Published bimonthly by the Montgomery County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

CARMEN J. RONIO, Executive Director

John W. Hendler, Editor

Administrative Office & Shelter – 610-825-0111

19 E. Ridge Pike • Box 222 • Conshohocken, PA 19428-0222

Perkiomenville Shelter, Pet Cemetery and Horse Farm – 610-489-7510, 610-754-7822

1059 Sweisford Road • Perkiomenville, PA 18074

Abington Branch – 215-886-8802

1006 Edge Hill Road • Roslyn, PA 19001

Kindly call or visit the shelter nearest your home for service.

MEMBERSHIPS

Annual \$10.00 Sustaining \$25.00 Contributing \$50.00
Benefactor \$100.00 Life \$500.00

Beeghley & Beeghley, Attorneys At Law, Counsel
Maillie, Falconiero & Company, Certified Public Accountants

A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

website www.montgomerycountyspca.org
email mcsPCA@voicenet.com

COMMUNITY CAPITAL

The board of directors and the staff of the Montgomery County SPCA, thank the following community groups for gifts of cash, pet food and pet supplies

Fins, Feathers, Paws & Claws, Inc., Harleysville, **Page Bluhm**, Marketing Coordinator.

American Infrastructure, Worcester, with following companies: **Allan A. Myers** and **Independence Construction Materials**, via **Karen Dobson**, Administrative Assistant.

Glenside Gardens Civic Association, **Alma, Klees**, Chairwoman.

Prudential Financial, Welsh Road, Dresher, **Michael Pace**, Chairman.

KATIE...

Bruce Springsteen's fans think he's "the boss." **The Glicks** of Lafayette Hill really know who's "the boss." It's their pet canine, **Katie**. In the more than 45 years the Glicks have owned dogs, the couple admits that Katie is the most remarkable.

Katie, for all intents and purposes is a Dandie Dinmont. She is about 18 years old, and a little over 16 years ago the Glicks adopted Katie from our Conshohocken shelter. Katie was lost in the Upper Dublin area and her only ID was a collar with a rabies tag. The search for her former owners was not only very extensive, but also fruitless. So, it's hard to really say whether the Glicks adopted Katie, or Katie adopted the Glicks.

Katie rapidly adapted to her new home. In her lifetime she has traveled to many states and recently returned from a Florida trip. She loves her canine pals, but stands at the top of the stairs and enforces her own code of no other dogs on the second floor except herself. While her recent Dandie pals are therapy trained, Katie lets them do their excellent work with her approval, blessing and canine friendship.

Mr. & Mrs. Glick's daughter raises pure-bred cats. When Katie visits that home, she shoos the cats upstairs and won't let them come downstairs while she's there. And, the felines obey. While Katie loves other dogs and cats, she protects Mrs. Glick and won't allow unknown dogs near her owner.

Katie's veterinarian marvels at the dog's health. Katie loves to walk and run through the snow even though she has just a tinge of arthritis. While the vet says Katie has a slight hearing problem, the Glicks state that wherever she is in the house, she can hear the refrigerator door open and immediately races to her feeding bowl for some of her special senior dog citizen diet.

The affection and rapport between Katie and her owners is fantastic to see. Katie also befriended your editor and came over to be petted, rubbed and to obtain a tiny treat from her own special jar.

Katie is truly a contented canine. She is obviously happy to be in her environment, while at the same time she handles her self-appointed managerial responsibilities with quiet dignity and aplomb.

The Montgomery County SPCA staff is gratified that Katie enjoys a wonderful life and we share her story as an example of one of our many successful pet placements. The Glicks and Katie nod in assent.

P.S. The Glicks are members of The Montgomery County SPCA and The Dandie Dinmont Terrier Club of America, Inc. Mr. Glick edits the Terrier Club's newsletter.



Eloquent Expressions

From the ED's mailbox

Executive Director **Carmen Ronio**, receives lots of mail. Here are two letters he wants to share with our members and friends.

Dear ladies at the Montco SPCA Abington Branch,

*Thank you for allowing us to adopt **Cali**, (Blue Cream Calico) this week. She has brought much joy and energy into our home. Thanks for all of your help and patience!*

M & K.P.

Dear Montgomery County SPCA,

*In March of 1988, I was an enthusiastic 23 year-old who walked into your Perkiomenville branch in search of a long-haired female kitten. About 20 minutes later, I went home with a short-haired male kitten. Well, when you're a sucker for cats, I guess that kind of thing happens. On our way home, I named him **Crook** because he snuggled the whole way home in the crook of my arm. So much for the meaty literary name I wanted to bestow on him, and so much for the travel box you gave us.*

This past Friday, after a brief bout with an aggressive cancer, Crook was put to a peaceful rest. In the intervening 17 years, he led the best of cat lives, enjoying sunshine, good health, and the spoils of being a pampered and adored pet. But the joy of it all was mine, every day, for those years. He was the best of companions, more affectionate than I deserved, and my home and heart are unspeakably empty without him.

On that day in March, I paid \$7.00 for Crook, an embarrassingly small sum for the joy that cat brought to me. Enclosed is a donation to your branch – put it towards food for the cats in the shelter, or use it to give a cat an extra day or two in the hopes that some enthusiastic twenty-something-year old will walk in the door offering a forever home for just the right cat.

Thank you so very much for all the work you do for these animals. Believe me when I tell you that, on more than one occasion, I thanked my lucky stars that your branch was there for both me and Crook.

*Most sincerely yours,
K.M. (from Massachusetts)*

Pop Quiz

How's your MC SPCA IQ?

1. When will the Montgomery County Society For The Prevention Of Cruelty To Animals celebrate its one hundredth anniversary of founding?
2. Who is the incumbent president of the MC SPCA Board of Directors?
3. What words do the letters HSPO stand for?
4. Who is the current executive director?

5. How many sites does the MC SPCA have in Montgomery County? Location(s)?
6. Which animals in our shelter system receive no-cost spaying or neutering?
7. How would you rate our humane education outreach? (a) moderately busy, (b) busy, (c) very busy?

The answers will appear in the Early Fall Issue of The Reporter.



Montgomery County SPCA

19 E. Ridge Pike Box 222
Conshohocken, PA 19428-0222

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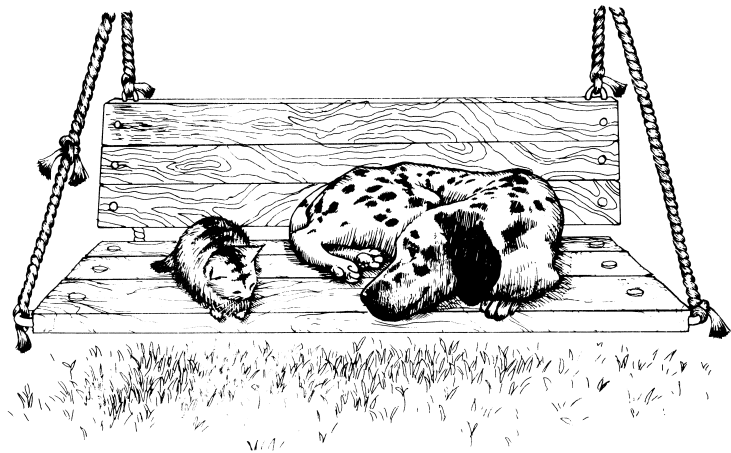
In This Issue...

New Veterinary Article
All about Katie
Executive Director's Report
And, much more

The death of former Montgomery County resident, Terri Schiavo, has left all of us with a somber but important lesson. That lesson deals with prescribing our life's finale.

What we want for ourselves in our closing days of life and beyond our mortality should be spelled out completely and legally for our survivors, future executors and trustees. If we also want to remember the future needs of animals in our **Wills**, we should be specific by naming the Society's full name and address as follows:

*The Montgomery County Society For
The Prevention Of Cruelty to Animals
19 E. Ridge Pike
Conshohocken, PA 19428-0222*



Summer Adoption Hours

Monday - Friday	12:00 PM to 5:00 PM
Saturday	10:00 AM to 3:00 PM
Sunday	12:00 PM to 3:00 PM

Animal Turn-In Hours

Conshohocken	Perkiomenville & Abington
All week 9:00 AM to 9:00 PM	All week 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Fall Fest Planned For October 22nd at Perkiomenville
Sarah Smyth & Volunteers Organizing Autumn Event
Complete details in the Early Fall Reporter