

Anna Reed-Young shares her birthday with the animals at the Humane Society (see story, page 1)

The Animals' Voice



Happy Birthday to the Humane Society

We don't know the actual birthday of the Humane Society of Morgan County – we only know that the Humane Society was established in the county nearly 35 years ago.

But others do remember their birthdays, and several folks decided to share their birthdays with HSMC during the past year.

Anna Reed-Young (see photo, upper right) decided to ask for supplies for the Humane Society on her birthday this year. She is pictured with some of the many products she collected for the cats and dogs. Anna also decided to generously donate her birthday money to the shelter.

Ian Simko of Baltimore also honored HSMC for his birthday this year. He donated half of the money he received for his 11th birthday. His family visited the shelter to bring his donation and visit the shelter animals.

Ed Vogel celebrated his 65th birthday and asked his friends and relatives to donate cash and supplies to HSMC. Many others kindly made donations to HSMC to honor celebrations in their friends' lives.

Thanks so much for everyone's generosity!

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Gina – the “perfect dog”

“Gina is as close to a perfect dog as can be. She fit in with “the Pack” within an hour and has NOT even had ONE accident in the house. Gina sleeps in the same room as her sisters and is a happy family member. Gina is loving and affectionate with everyone she comes in contact with. Why people are afraid of adopting an older dog is beyond me.

Thank you for all you do for all the animals in your care and for letting us adopt Gina. THANK YOU!”

By Ruth and James Bruce, Gina’s adopters

Choose the Humane Society of Morgan County, WV as your charity on iGive.com. Then do your holiday shopping through the iGive.com website. Each purchase you make through this website will generate a donation for the Humane Society at no cost to you! Many stores participate at iGive.com.

The RAG Shop program

Please donate your gently used household items and furniture to the RAG Shop in Berkeley Springs. When you bring items to the RAG Shop, let the personnel know that your items are to benefit the Humane Society. Then when your donated goods are sold, Trish Shunney (the owner) sends a portion of the proceeds to HSMC. The animals, staff and volunteers at the shelter greatly appreciate your donations. And thanks to Trish Shunney for setting up this generous program!

**The RAG Shop
109 N. Washington St.
Berkeley Springs, WV 25411
304-258-7742**

Holidays are coming

The holidays are fast approaching and we are once again requesting donations to keep the Humane Society operational through these hard economic times. Last year, due to the generosity of donors, HSMC found homes for more than 150 homeless cats and dogs and spayed or neutered more than 150 stray and feral cats. We hope to continue to find new ways to increase the number of adoptions.

Here are some ways that your donations will help:

- \$21 will provide a week of cat litter
- \$30 will provide a week of cleaning supplies
- \$60 will sponsor vaccines and spay/neuter surgery for a cat
- \$100 will sponsor vaccines and spay/neuter surgery for a dog
- \$300 will sponsor the operation of the shelter for a day

The Humane Society of Morgan County is a non-profit private organization that runs solely on donations. Any grant money received can only be used for the specific purpose of the grant and cannot be used to pay our operating expenses. The financial downturn has severely reduced charitable donations but we cannot continue our work without your support. All donations will be used to care for and find new homes for the county’s homeless pets and will be greatly appreciated by the animals, the staff, and the volunteers at your local Humane Society.

Thank you for your support!

Financial donations to the Humane Society of Morgan County are tax deductible. An EIN can be provided for your tax reporting purposes.



Harper plays in one of the two dog yards at the Humane Society. (He found his forever home recently!)

It Takes A Team

It definitely takes a team to run an animal shelter! Our team at HSMC consists of 10 board members from the community, our manager, our paid staff, and a number of other dedicated volunteers. Please allow us to introduce you to the HSMC staff:

While most of us are still asleep, Janet Ace arrives at the shelter to clean every cat housing unit in the adoption trailer and provide fresh food and water for the cats. Before she begins her routine in the trailer, Janet checks on each cat and dog in every building to make sure they are all in good health and that they have plenty of clean drinking water. Jeremi Zahm or Eric Ginck arrives later in the morning to clean the kennels and other buildings, and to provide clean water and fresh food for the cats and dogs in those buildings. Joy Dailey comes to the shelter every evening to give a second meal and water to all of the animals. Joy also checks the well-being of each animal. And Joy cleans the adoption trailer's cat housing units on week-ends.

Every housing unit and kennel is scrubbed with bleach or other anti-viral cleaner each day. We are thankful that these fine folks are willing to scoop poop, sanitize litter pans, swab floors and walls with bleach water, and do a lot of heavy lifting each day while also finding the time to hug and talk to each cat and dog at the facility. Janet, Jeremi, Eric and Joy all care very much about animals and are essential to the good health and well-being of all of the shelter animals.

Barbie Ginck is the HSMC assistant manager. Barbie arranges all veterinary appointments for our shelter animals – she makes sure that each animal is spayed or neutered and up to date on shots before going to an adoptive home. On surgery days, Barbie comes to the shelter to transport the animals to the veterinary hospital before most of us have had our first cup of coffee! Barbie also reviews and checks references on each adoption application. Barbie always takes the time to give advice and answer any questions the new adopter has about the challenges that come with adopting a shelter animal. Barbie constantly networks with Morgan County Animal Control regarding lost or found
(Continued on Page 4 – see “Teamwork”)



Marvin Finds a Family

“My wife and I are a childless couple. A month ago we adopted Marvin. He has added so much joy to our home. While he looks like our lion cub, he is more like Garfield. All he wants to do is play. We can't tie our shoes without Marvin thinking that this is some kind of exciting adventure for him to be involved in. He likes Chess and tries to act serious, as you can see from my chess pieces on the floor. But he is mostly happy. When we are a bit down in spirit, he always seems to know and will gently put his little paw on our cheek. We are convinced that pets (animals) are God's gift to humans who only show love - a small but large part of the love that He has for humanity. They give so much and ask for so little.”

- By Mr. T. Alston, adopter of Marvin

The Humane Society of Morgan County

5366 Valley Road
PO Box 705 (mailing address)
Berkeley Springs, WV 25411
304-258-5592
hsmc-wv@peoplepc.com

*Finding homes for our homeless cats
and dogs*

Find us on the Web:
www.hsmc-wv.org

Visit our Facebook page at
Humane Society of Morgan
County West Virginia

Teamwork (continued from page 3)

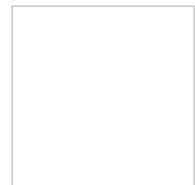
dogs.

Along with staff volunteers, Barbie constantly takes telephone calls in the shelter office and advises or otherwise tries to help the callers with their animal problems and concerns. And of course, Barbie is always very pleased to introduce a prospective adopter to our animals or give shelter visitors a tour of the facility. Barbie's other duties and accomplishments at the shelter are too numerous to list, and her commitment to animal rescue is crucial to our team.

Santa Claws® is coming to Petsmart!

Bring your pet to the Petsmart in Hagerstown on Saturday December 10 from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm and have your picture taken with Santa Claws®! You will receive one 4" x 6" digital photo of you and your pet with Santa for \$9.95 when you use your PetPerks® card. \$5 from each photo package will be donated by Petsmart to the Humane Society of Morgan County for Santa Claws® photos taken that day. See you there!

The Humane Society of Morgan
County
5366 Valley Road
PO Box 705 (mailing address)
Berkeley Springs, WV 25411



[Recipient Name]