

Paw Print

The Newsletter Of The Humane Society Of Morgan County

Winter 2010

Animal Shelter & Adoption Center Plans Progressing

HSMC members and volunteers are getting excited as progress is made each day toward the construction of the **Humane Society of Morgan County's** Adoption Center. This center should be a wonderful addition to our community and, with 5,000 square feet of space, will be able to house up to 100 animals at any given time. With our ongoing spay/neuter efforts and the ability to house that number of animals, we should be able to make a tremendous positive impact for homeless pets in our area!



Artist's Rendering

As this newsletter goes to print, approval from the City of Madison has been obtained and bids for construction of the facility are being taken. So, groundbreaking is just around the corner. That's cause to celebrate! Once complete, the HSMC adoption center will include indoor/outdoor runs for adult dogs, a separate room just for puppies, and a multi-purpose cat center for adult cats and kittens. We'll also have large play areas and exercise areas, and several indoor and outdoor "get acquainted" areas for potential adopters to spend time getting to know the animals. This is going to be a wonderful place for animals and the people who love them.

The location of the adoption center gives us another reason to celebrate. Thanks to a very generous land donation, we will be able to open the adoption center on Fairgrounds Road, right behind the Madison Wal Mart! Being in such a high traffic area will make the center easily accessible to both potential adopters and volunteers. And we'll need plenty of both. We hope that this center will be a cheerful place that people looking for a new family member will flock to. We are also hopeful that many members of the community will plan to get involved as volunteers once the center is open.

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Don't Forget Fido This Holiday Season! Make Your Own Treats

Don't forget Fido this Holiday Season! These treats make great stocking stuffers for your 4 legged family members.

Ingredients:

- ◆ 1 cup molasses
- ◆ 4 tablespoons honey
- ◆ 1 cup water
- ◆ ½ cup vegetable oil
- ◆ 6 cups all purpose flour
- ◆ 2 teaspoons baking soda
- ◆ 1 teaspoons cinnamon
- ◆ 1 teaspoon ground cloves

- ◆ 2 tablespoons chopped fresh ginger or one tsp. of dried powder ginger

Directions:

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Combine the molasses, honey, water, and oil in a medium bowl. In another large bowl mix the flour, the baking soda, cinnamon, cloves, and ginger. Slowly add the dry ingredients to the wet ingredients. Combine well. Divide this dough in four sections and roll each piece into a ball, wrap each ball in

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The Cause for the Paws

A Warm & Fuzzy Tail

The volunteers at the Humane Society are having a hard time figuring out how a dog with as much to offer as Jezzi Bell is still in foster care. We know that there's a perfect family out there for her, and they are going to be very lucky to find her. She's a really beautiful dog with a gorgeous, shiny coat and bright intelligent eyes. She's completely house trained and crate trained, gets



along well with other dogs and cats, and she loves children. Jezzi is about 11 months old and weighs about 55 lbs. A great size for a family dog! She'd love to be in her very own home in time for Christmas.

Of course, Jezzi has been spayed, she's up to date on vaccinations, microchipped, and on heartworm and flea preventatives. Now, all she needs is a happy home for the holidays! If you'd like to give her the chance to start the new year with a whole new life, please visit the Humane Society website to learn more about this beautiful girl. ❧

Save The Dates...

Adoptions

Held the first and third Saturday of each month at PetsMart in Conyers - 11 am to 2 pm

\$10,000 Raffle Returns in 2011

It's back - your chance to win \$10,000 while helping homeless pets. Be on the lookout for an announcement in January!



Volunteer Spotlight

The Gustin Family

So often, the animals that come into our care need some extra TLC before they're ready for adoption. When it's a cat or kitten needing that extra loving care, they are fortunate to find themselves in the home of the Gustin family. Gary and Malica Gustin and their family began fostering kittens for the Humane Society after their family moved from North Carolina to Morgan County last fall. In addition to fostering kittens for the Humane Society, the Gustins have been a long time foster family for children in need, and have 5 adopted children in addition to their 2 biological children.

The Gustin children play a very active role in the care of the cats, and the family specializes in taming feral kittens. Says Malica "We love working with the wild ones. Around here, everyone is wild." The children have become so involved, that they've even had business cards printed. 8 year old Zachary ordered the cards. On his business card, he lists himself as the "President" of the cat rescue. Brother Michael's card announces his official position as "Trainer," and mom Malica enjoys the title of "Cage Cleaner."

The Humane Society is fortunate to have such wonderful volunteers providing excellent care for the animals! ❧



Kind News! Good News!

For the past five years, The Humane Society of Morgan County in conjunction with the Bryans Family Foundation has provided all students in the Morgan County Primary and Elementary Schools with a wonderful resource called KIND News.

KIND News is a bi-monthly publication of the National Association for Humane and Environmental Education which students receive from September through May. It's similar in style to the Weekly Reader publication that most of us are familiar with.

For children in the lower grades, KIND News features fun games, puzzles, and stories on animal related topics. In the higher grades, students read articles of interest that promote good character.



humane ethics, compassion for animals, and respect for natural habitats.

Throughout the school year, various classrooms and students are asked to participate in counting and sorting the newspaper for delivery to the classrooms. Pictured here are students from Mrs. Lamb Eggers second grade class who took over the newspaper delivery responsibilities in the fall of 2009 as part of the democratic learning process. ❧



Paw Print

The Quarterly Newsletter Of Your Humane Society Of Morgan County

P.O. Box 1266 ♦ Madison, GA 30650

Urgent Needs!

Foster Homes - Save a life! Become a foster home. We supply everything you need to foster a homeless pet – food, vet care, crates, pens, bowls, etc., you supply the love and care for a homeless pet awaiting adoption.

Cargo Van - To be used to transport foster animals to adoptions, transport animals to and from vet appointments, and for picking up animals from the pound to take into foster care.

Adoption Volunteers - We urgently need volunteers to help at adoption events at the Petsmart in Conyers. Involves going to PetSmart one Saturday afternoon per month (or more often if you'd like) to help the animals in foster care find their forever families.

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Friendly Game Of Poker Pays Off For Meals-On-Wheels

When Frank Hustek contacted the HSMC to wanting to volunteer, he wasn't sure what he'd be able to do to make the most difference for animals. Being a small business owner in these tough times, he didn't have a bunch of spare money to donate. He and his wife, Stacy, work hard, and works odd hours, so they didn't have a bunch of spare time either. But they wanted to help. Frank and his mother Peggy had



Pictured left to right are: Jerry Ellerbee, Peggy Hustek, Stacy Hustek and Frank Hustek

rescued a dog named Lucky that he loves, and he wanted to do something to make a difference in the lives of other homeless dogs and cats.

After talking at length with HSMC President Betty Straw Brown, Frank and his family found their perfect volunteer opportunity. When Betty told him about the upcoming fundraiser that Georgia Military College was putting on for the Pet Meals on Wheels program, Frank had an idea. He organizes an Amatuer Poker League in the lake area. The players don't play for money, but Frank felt sure that the participants would be willing to put some dog and cat food on the table. And put it up, they did. In the first week, 266.4 lbs of dog and cat food was donated for the Meals on Wheels program. The following week, they brought in another bounty of about the same size. They hope to collect food for the Pet Meals on Wheels program on a regular basis to keep our pantry well stocked. The HSMC is very grateful to the Hustek family for making such great things happen for the senior citizens in our community and their pets!

If you have a unique, creative, or even a simple idea for a way that you'd like to help the HSMC, please give us a call at 706-343-9977. 🐾

Meals-On-Wheels Program Benefits From Some "Military" Support

For the past couple of years, the folks at the **Madison Campus of Georgia Military College** have partnered with the Humane Society of Morgan County to provide dog and cat food to local Meals on Wheels recipients who have pets. This is an invaluable service, as the elderly often depend on their pets for companionship and even protection. Many Meals on Wheels recipients are homebound and/or lonely, and their pets are the only company they have. Feeding those pets shouldn't be a source of stress for them. That's where the Humane Society and Georgia Military College try to help by collecting donations of pet food to provide to elderly pet owners.



Under the guidance of director Leigh Aldhizer, Georgia Military College students solicit donations of dog and cat food and raise funds to purchase any additional food needed. On October 23 the faculty and students of GMC held a fall festival as a fundraiser for the Pet Meals on Wheels program. The festival included booths featuring games, face painting, build-your-own- scarecrow, and a cake walk. Hot dogs, chips, soda, and ice cream were also available for sale. As dogs were welcome at the festival, Frosty Paws – an ice cream treat for dogs – were also available. The fundraiser was a great success and many bags of dog and cat food were collected as well as monetary donations to the program totaling over \$100. Thanks to the students and faculty at GMC for their dedication to this wonderful program!

Shelter Progress

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The dogs and cats that we take in often need additional socialization and basic training. Volunteering for a couple of hours a week or even once a month, you can help to make the animals in our care more easily adoptable. Currently, all of our animals are housed in foster homes and the foster families give them lots of attention and training. But, for the animals that will be housed in the future adoption center, volunteers to come in and pet them, play with them, walk them, and teach dogs basic commands will be critical to keeping the animals comfortable and happy while they await adoption as well as enhancing their adoptability.

Thanks to the donation of the land to build on, the fundraising efforts of our volunteers, the trust fund established by Mr. and Mrs. Fitzpatrick, and generous donations from the community, we have the funds we need to construct the adoption center. That's great news! But, once the center is open, donations and volunteers are going to be critical to keeping those doors open for all of the homeless pets who need us.

Volunteering at the center will be fun and rewarding, but if you'd like to keep your involvement strictly financial, we welcome that too. Becoming a member of the HSMC or donating to the general fund are some of the easiest ways to show your support. As the adoption center is constructed in the coming months, there will be naming opportunities for those who wish to support the shelter financially. Donating to name a kennel, an outdoor bench, or even a whole puppy room or exercise yard in honor or in memory of a special pet or animal lover in your life can be a wonderful permanent tribute. Plans for naming opportunities haven't been finalized yet, but please watch for those announcements in the coming months.

Thank you all for the support you've given to the Humane Society of Morgan County over the past 16 years. You have made the dream of an adoption facility possible. We hope we can count on your continued support as construction begins and this long held dream becomes a reality. If you'd like to talk to an HSMC volunteer about donating or volunteering, please email us at hsmc30650@yahoo.com or give us a call at 706-343-9977. We hope to hear from you! 🐾

Happy Tails...

Finn and Fiona

Kathleen Duffy was searching on **Petfinder** from her home in Fall River, Massachusetts when she stumbled upon just the puppy she was looking for. The Duffy family had just lost their beloved American Eskimo Dog to a brain tumor, and the puppy Kathleen found was a beautiful American Eskimo mix named Fiona. She knew that Fiona's sweet face and disposition were exactly what the Duffy household needed. The only catch was that Fiona was all the way in Madison, Georgia – quite a distance from Fall River.



That was a really long trip

to consider making to adopt a puppy, but she called the Humane Society of Morgan County anyway – just to ask some questions.

Then, as Kathleen was still grieving for her dog, and trying to decide about adopting Fiona, the family's 18 year old cat passed away. Kathleen knew that she had to make the trip to Georgia and bring that cute puppy home. As she told one of our adoption volunteers "We need something to smile about around here."



Somewhere along the way, Kathleen decided to also adopt Fiona's brother, Finn. After talking with the Duffy's, their vet, and their references, we approved their application to adopt both puppies and made arrangements to meet Kathleen. She flew all the way down from Massachusetts and was met by HSMC volunteers Cindy Wiemann and Joe Berryman and two adorable puppies. Kathleen and the pups got right back on a flight to Massachusetts where the puppies are now enjoying a wonderful life with Kathleen and her four children.



Stormy

This sad little kittie came to the Humane Society after a 911 call reported a kitten trapped at the bottom a storm drain. Fortunately, City of Madison Animal Control was able to rescue the poor, wet, filthy, little guy from his very unfortunate circumstances and transferred him to the Humane Society. Once in our care, he was named (quite appropriately) Stormy, and went to a foster home for some serious TLC.

Not only had poor stormy been trapped in a drain, but prior to that he'd been on the streets his whole, short life and needed some good nutrition and the chance to get used to people, dogs, and life in a home. He got everything he needed while staying with the Gustin family and grew to be a friendly, loving, and very handsome cat. He has gone on to be adopted by Dan and Reeves Jones of Madison. A wonderful change in circumstance for a little street kitten! 🐾



Welcome to our new members and thanks to our old friends who have recently renewed their HSMC memberships!

Jane Phelps • Grayson, Freida & Christie White
Ellen & Edwin Shipley • Pat & Jerry Pedley
Bob & Janet Beauchamp • Warren & Mary
Dugas • Sue & Hunter Foy • June Harrell
Ginger Kroeber • Jane Symmes • Dan Rather
David & Kathleen Miller • Vicki NeSmith
Gary & Laura Jones • Joyce Thomas • Ron & Alice Jean Zay • Jack & Anne Satterfield
Sally Stephens • Cindy Wiemann • Faye Patton
Bob & Gloria Baldwin • Gordon & Jeannie Clark
Flossie & David Dodge • Drs. H.D. & B.K. Johnston • Dr. & Mrs. W. Charles Connor
Carl & Erika Riden • Robert & Mary McCauley
Georganna Tamplin • Dr. Myra Mackey • John Nunn • Walter & Nancy Martin • Vicki & Arthur Blankenship • Sarah & Richard Draut • Sue & Charles Baldwin • Bruce & Judy Gilbert
Dianne Allmond • Ronald & Louise Hess
Stratton & Bonnie Hickey • Jane Estes • Marvin Bone, Jr. • Jennifer & Chris Sides • Dan & Reeves Jones • Lillian Fay Walters • Debbie Mullinax • Jennifer, Robert, Rob, & Mary Cile Pennington • Tempi & Jim Davidoff • Eloise & Mark Grubaugh • Barbara Wilkerson
Bill & Susan Kurtz • Larry Massey • Jerry & Connie Willingham • Jill & Jason Connolly
Kat & Greg Mulkey • Jennifer Innes • Beth Scott • Lisa & Chris Brandon • Guy Notte
Natalie Baddour • Eleanor & James Wheeler
Louis & Susan Briscoe • Cathy Hale • Cathy & John Savolt • Ms. Lara Still's Class • James Jones • Rick & Diana Blanton

Time for Treats

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plastic wrap and refrigerate for 3 – 5 hours. After the dough is well-chilled Put dough onto a lightly floured surface and roll dough out into 1/4" thickness. Cut dough with a cookie cutter into gingerbread men or other fun shapes.

Dress Them Up!

You could use carob bits to form the eyes and buttons if you like. Bake 10 to 15 minutes, or until cookies are lightly browned around the edges and firm. These are great fun for you and your dog. They'll make great gifts for your doggie friends too.

Gift Idea: Wrap a batch of these up in pretty colored plastic wrap, tie with a ribbon and pair with the **3 Dog Bakery Cookbook of Dog Treat Recipes**.

**Just remember the importance of moderation during the holidays. These are meant to be fed as treats. You don't want your Christmas gift for your best friend to be a stomach ache. 🐾*

Be A Part Of The Solution

Since 2001, the HSMC has helped spay or neuter approximately 800 dogs and cats for those families who could not otherwise afford the entire costs to neuter their pets. Grant monies came from PetSmart Charities, the DJ&T Foundation and Walmart. The most recent \$10,000 grant in 2008 - 2010 was administered by Pat Pedley, Jane Estes, Mary Dugas and Jerry Pedley. Two hundred and one animals were neutered through this grant alone. We have applied for similar grants for the upcoming year. In the meantime, Low cost spay/neuter surgery is available at the following locations:

Athens Regional Spay Neuter Center
Watkinsville, GA – 706-353-2287

Paradox Farms Spay Neuter Center
Oxford/Conyers – 770-972-5067

Morgan County Animal Control
Madison, GA – 706-752-1195

The Benefits Of Spaying

- No heat cycles mean that male dogs will not be attracted to your home. Male dogs can smell a female in heat up to a mile away.
- No bloody discharge to stain carpets or furniture.
- Risk of mammary gland tumors, ovarian and/or uterine cancer is reduced or eliminated, especially if done before the first heat cycle.
- Ends crying and nervous pacing of a cat in heat, and ends the frantic efforts of a dog or cat to get outside to mate.

The Benefits Of Neutering

- Reduces the urge to roam in search of a mate, which reduces the risk of fights, injury, poisoning or death.
- Stops spraying from male cats marking their territory - in most cases (where a habit is not established).
- Reduces the urge for male dogs to mark their territory, again if the habit is already established it may not be completely eliminated.
- Studies show that intact male dogs are more likely to bite due to the frustration build up of the mating drive.
- Eliminates the risk of testicular cancer.

Crippled Critters

Our adoption fee (\$125 for dogs and \$65 for cats) covers the basic medical expenses. But, some of the animals in our foster program require additional medical care. Your “sponsorship” of these animals help to pay for these “Crippled Critters” and allows us to continue helping all animals in need - not just the healthy ones!

Cody

When Cody was picked up by Madison Animal Control, he was just skin and bones and he walked funny. Lucky for him, Kelli White, one of the HSMC’s foster parents, saw Cody in the pound and thought he seemed to be begging her to help him. As she said, his eyes seemed to say “Please help me. I promise I’ll be a good boy”. Kelli got him out of the pound and took him right to Dr. Williams office at Main Street Veterinary Hospital in Madison. Dr. Williams found that Cody’s growth had been severely stunted and that some of his ligaments had not developed normally due to his extreme malnutrition. Cody walked with an odd gait because of the ligament abnormality, and Dr. Williams wasn’t sure that the problem was correctable.


Kelli took Cody home and started in with some major TLC. She worked to heal him both physically and emotionally. He was scared and shy, and seemed to have been through a lot in his short life. All of Kelli’s hard work paid off when Michelle Johnson and her family met Cody and fell in love. The Johnsons had adopted a dog from the HSMC the previous year, and we had been working with them to find a great companion for their dog, Emmy. All has worked out well for Cody and he and Emmy have become the best of friends. He also has a little girl named Elizabeth to love. He’s a very happy boy who is now walking normally thanks to all of the extra care he was able to get.



Cindy (an update)

After appearing in the Crippled Critters section of our last newsletter, sweet Cindy has finally found herself a wonderful home! Cindy spent more than a year in foster care before Cathy Breedlove spotted her in the newsletter and felt a connection to her. Cathy had recently lost her elderly dog, Lady, who she had adopted through the HSMC years ago. She missed Lady and had a void that needed to be filled.

Cathy had been a foster parent for the HSMC when Lady came into our care with her sister, Jackie several years ago. Both were older dogs with multiple health issues and Lady was recovering from a broken leg at the time. Cathy ended up adopting both of the old girls and took wonderful care of them until Jackie died a couple of years ago and Lady just a couple of months ago.

Cathy has a soft spot for the older special needs dogs that so many other people shy away from, and Cindy is a very lucky girl to have found her way into Cathy’s heart. We were thrilled to hear that Cathy is continuing Cindy’s care with Dr. Pentlarge, a specialist in Athens, for her Glaucoma. 



Donations Are The Lifeblood Of Our Operation. Thank you!

The **Humane Society of Morgan County** thanks our thoughtful donors who have made recent contributions to our programs, shelter fund, or in honor or memory of a special person or pet in their lives. We truly appreciate your support.

Memorial Donations

Dave, Kathleen, Ivy and Will Miller - in memory of **Shorty**

Honorary Donations

The Miller Family - in honor of **Dr. Stenette Brooks** and the staff at Madison Vet Clinic for their incredible compassion through Shorty’s battle with cancer.

Meals on Wheels for Pets Program Donations

The Frank Hustek Family, Georgia Military College

Sponsoring Members

Dan Rather, James Jones, William and Margaret Connor, Debbie Mullinax, Bill and Susan Kurtz, David Dodge, Dan and Reeves Jones, Rick and Diana Blanton, Stratton and Bonnie Hickey

Donations to our General and Shelter Funds

PetSmart, Ruth McSween, Ye Olde Colonial Restaurant (donation box), Robert and Mary McCauley, Jennifer Innes, Gives Back Company, Bob and Gloria Baldwin, Marvin Bone, Jr., Lisa and Chris Brandon, Michael Tyson

Supply Donations

Richard and Candace Dineley

Can We E-Mail You?

We are updating our database and would like to include email addresses. We promise not to bombard you with constant emails and will not share your email address with ANY-ONE. There’s just a lot that happens in between newsletters and we’d like to be able to send you information about any upcoming events, board elections, etc. Please email us at hsmc30650@yahoo.com with a note to add the sender email address to the database and the name that we should attach that address to. Thank you!

Happy Holidays!

Bark-In-The Park A Big Success!

On October 2, 2010, people gathered at Heritage Park for Picture Day. HSMC was there hoping to match some wonderful dogs with new homes and making its presence and cause known in the community. Buddy was adopted to a wonderful family from Rutledge, and he has already found his niche and brought them much joy. The children who dropped by to visit with the animals were treated to face painting, candy, bracelets, and pencils. Although solicitations were not allowed, our donation box received many generous contributions. Special kudos to Mary Cile Pennington for donating her expertise in face decorations. To each and every volunteer who made it happen and to all who stopped by, we so appreciate you.



Your membership will help his dream come true.

By joining **The Humane Society of Morgan County** you’ll help us find homes for unwanted dogs and cats. And your support will help us as we combat the problem of pet overpopulation in our community through spay/neuter programs and education.

Please join us in making a difference!

- ☐ Family Membership \$30.00
- ☐ Individual Adult Membership \$20.00
- ☐ Junior Membership \$5.00
- ☐ Pet Membership \$10.00
- ☐ Donation \$_____

All contributions are tax-deductible and every penny goes to help the animals!

New Member Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

Date _____

Or you can become a member online at:

www.humanesocietyofmorgancounty.org

Please return with payment to:

HSMC  P.O. Box 1266  Madison, GA 30650