

animal crackers

Spring Newsletter 2022



Mt. Pleasant
Animal Shelter

www.njshelter.org

SURVIVAL, STRENGTH, AND A Bulletproof Smile



There is never a shortage of animals that need medical care. While Mt. Pleasant Animal Shelter (MPAS) provides basic care for all, we also have certain animals that require more extreme medical attention. Often, medical issues can be a barrier to finding permanent, loving homes. This might have been true for Scooby, a Pitbull who came to us from a local rescue. However, your support and Nicky's Second Chance Fund gave him a second chance.

To treat cats and dogs arriving with serious, sometimes life-threatening medical needs, we created Nicky's Second Chance Fund, named after a dog who endured years of abuse and neglect prior to being surrendered to MPAS, where she found love, care, attention, and peace.

All MPAS animals are spayed or neutered, vaccinated, dewormed, and microchipped. But sometimes they arrive with conditions that require more care. Some examples of health issues we treat via Nicky's Second Chance Fund include heartworm, seizure disorders, Parvovirus, dental disease, and more.

When our shelter received the call from an overcrowded local shelter to help find forever families for dogs in need, we leapt at the chance. Scooby was one of those dogs. We didn't know much about him when we took him into our program. Despite his very sweet disposition, he had survived the unthinkable. **Tragically, Scooby had been shot in the face.**

We like to call this smiley boy "Big Head." His amazing, sweet, trusting personality

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AMANDA MCDONALD MEMORIAL FUND

Amanda McDonald, daughter to Kevin and Lori McDonald, always cared about the less fortunate, less popular, and those who could not help themselves. From Amanda's perspective, animals were just that. Her special connection with animals only grew over time, as she was always seeking ways to comfort pets in need.

Amanda was an amazing daughter, known by others to have a heart of gold. Tragically, in 2004, Amanda was hit by a car driven by a reckless driver.

In the spirit of creating a legacy that honors the memory of their daughter, the McDonald family has established the Amanda McDonald Memorial Fund at Mt. Pleasant Animal Shelter. Her parents say, **"When we remember Amanda and do good things in her memory, her spirit lives on."** This fund supports education in the community and finding permanent, loving homes for all the animals we save. To donate to this fund, visit njshelter.org.

YOU MAKE OUR WORK POSSIBLE

Dear Mt. Pleasant Community,

At Mt. Pleasant Animal Shelter, we envision a community working together to eliminate the occurrence of abused, neglected, and homeless animals. This vision has not changed for our 50-year history and has enabled us to save almost 40,000 animals since we were founded. Today, we want to share with you some of our successes this past year in helping the cats and dogs in our care find loving homes and happy lives.

According to Best Friends Network Partners, every year, about 625,000 shelter animals are euthanized in the US because of overcrowding. By partnering with organizations such as Bissell Pet Foundation and Pilots to the Rescue, **we saved 469 animals** last year from this fate — animals such as Kris, Legion, and Mildred from Georgia, Swayze and Berry from Texas and Scooby from New Jersey. Now, they are living happy lives in their new homes.

We believe no animal should be left behind because they are sick or injured. Through Nicky's Second Chance Fund, **we invested \$36,000** to ensure treatment and full recovery for Scooby, Tumbleweed, Trouper, and 15 other animals, preparing each one of them to find a forever home.

We became a certified **Fear Free Shelter**, giving us the tools and training to reduce fear, stress, and anxiety in our shelter pets. While in our care, our dedicated staff and volunteers work tirelessly to enrich the environment through music, play, and training. But we also know that being in a shelter is not ideal for any pet, which is why we are **growing our foster program**, so that our animals can thrive in a more natural environment while waiting for their forever home.

But we couldn't have achieved any of this without you! Only by working with you, our community, can we do our life-saving work. Thank you for your support.

With gratitude,

Lorri Caffrey
Executive Director

Henry Ristuccia
Board of Directors President



SURVIVAL, STRENGTH, AND A Bulletproof Smile

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teaches us so much about survival, strength, and endless optimism.

During his neuter, it was learned that he still had pieces of metal in his gums and throat. Scooby was placed in foster care while we searched for a surgeon specializing in this type of care to bring an end to this chapter of his life. Free from the challenges of his past, Scooby is now living his best life with his new family.

Nicky's Second Chance Fund gives us the opportunity to provide animals like Scooby with a second chance at life. Thank you for your support.

GROW YOUR LEGACY

Start building your legacy with Planned Giving! Planned Giving provides ongoing gifts to help Mt. Pleasant Animal Shelter (MPAS) save lives well into the future. Planned Giving, as opposed to a charitable donation, is when you make a significant gift as part of your financial or estate plan. With Planned Giving, there are tax and financial benefits for both the donor and the chosen organization.

There are several methods of Planned Giving that will help you grow your legacy:

- 1 Make a Will or Living Trust. Designate MPAS as the beneficiary of a bequest to support our mission.
- 2 Designate MPAS as the beneficiary of your retirement plan, IRA, life insurance policy or commercial annuity to allow for flexibility in giving.
- 3 People who are 70 ½ years of age and older can give qualified charities a tax-free rollover gift without paying income taxes on the money in an IRA rollover.



- 4 Donate shares of stock owned for more than one year that have gone up in value. This will not only help a good cause, but it will also enable you to benefit from tax savings.
- 5 Recommend a gift from a donor-advised fund. Your contributions to these types of accounts qualify for federal income tax charitable deductions.

To set up your Planned Giving, consult with your financial planner or legal advisor to determine which option is right for you. Then, give us a call and learn even more about how far your gift can go.

UPCOMING EVENTS

An Evening with Hannah Shaw: Kitten Lady

April 27, 2022

Pet Palooza

June 11, 2022

Brick Paver Reveal

July 3, 2022

50th Birthday Celebration

August 13, 2022

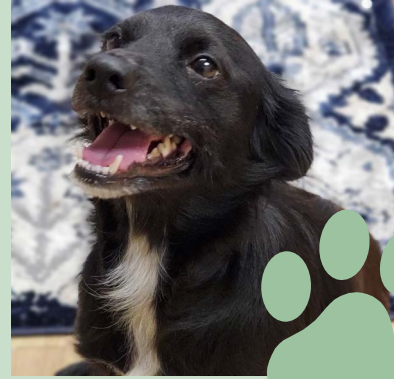
Tribute Tree

September 18, 2022



Nicole: THE JOURNEY HOME

Not every home is the right fit. Nicole is one dog at Mt. Pleasant Animal Shelter (MPAS) that has struggled to find her family. Because of behavioral issues, including nervousness and nippiness, Nicole did not do well in her first foster home. **Fostering can give insight as to how an animal will behave in their new home.** It gives both the animal and the family a chance to develop a bond and see if it is a right fit, prior to adoption.



Nicole's new foster-to-adopt family is providing the love and care necessary for Nicole to thrive. "My wife and I are working alongside Nicole to manage and improve her nervousness. We are impressed with how quickly she has let her guard down. She even enjoys being picked up and held like a baby!"

Nicole is also undergoing treatment for heartworm. Until she is finished with her treatments, she is in loving arms and being well-cared for. Animals like Nicole often require medical care before they can be adopted. In those cases, fostering becomes an even more important part of the process.

Learn how you can get involved to help foster animals on our website at njshelter.org, or email brisa.prada@njshelter.org.

CATTERY RENOVATIONS

Have you been to Mt. Pleasant Animal Shelter lately? We've been making changes! We are renovating to improve our practices, the number of animals we can admit, and the care we provide. We are developing a second examination room for our in-house veterinary care to be used exclusively for felines. Separating feline and canine examination rooms will reduce fear, stress, and anxiety in our four-legged friends.

Come visit us and check it out!

Mt. Pleasant Animal Shelter
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ADOPTION HOURS:
Daily: 11 AM to 4 PM

We are a 501(c)3 non-profit organization

Stay connected with us and see how your gift is helping

