



Take Me Home



Are you ready to bring home your new best friend? Your local shelter is the perfect place to start your search!

National Adopt a Shelter Pet Day is observed each year on April 30. The day was created as a way to raise awareness for thousands of pets that are waiting for (and needing) adoption from the shelters.

In Madison County, two animal rescues — Metro East Humane Society and Partners for Pets — are the ones who find homes for the majority of all cats and dogs that come into Animal Control.

In 2018, there was a total of 753 dogs and 1,086 cats brought into Madison County Animal Control. Of those animals, MEHS rescued 145 dogs and 292 cats and Partners for Pets rescued 148 dogs and 391 cats.



To recognize the National Adopt a Shelter Pet Day Madison County is hosting an microchip/vaccine/adoption event from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the courtyard between the Administration Building and Courthouse. Both MEHS and Partners for Pets will bring animals up for adoption as well.



Animal shelters require year-round assistance. Dogs and cats come in daily and the shelters work to ensure the animals are healthy so they can be adopted.

This year Madison County is hosting an adoption event from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the courtyard between its Administration Building and Courthouse.

Animal Control is inviting both MEHS and Partners for Pets to bring animals that are up for adoption.



Those who attend the event will also have a chances to win prizes.

For anyone unable to adopt a pet, there are other ways to help. Give your time by volunteering or check a shelter's donation list and bring items you are able to give.

Easter Dangers for Pets

There's a lot to love about Easter—time with family, egg hunts, candy aplenty—but this fun-filled holiday can be hazardous to pets.

Easter is a time when different items are brought into the house, like chocolate candies in foil wrappers, poisonous plants, and plastic objects, like eggs, toys, and synthetic grass, which can be dangerous if ingested by your pet

Keeping potentially dangerous items out of your pet's reach is the best way to ensure his safety during the holiday, Ross says. But knowing the signs that your pet may have ingested something toxic is just as important.



Chocolate

Chocolate contains a chemical called theobromine, as well as caffeine. Dark chocolate and unsweetened, bitter chocolate are the most toxic, because they contain the highest concentrations of the methylxanthines (theobromine and caffeine).

Candies and Foods Containing Xylitol

Xylitol is a sweetener often found in sugar-free candy, sugar-free baked goods, and sugar-free gum. It can also be found in some common household items like toothpaste and vitamins. Xylitol rapidly releases insulin into a dog's bloodstream, causing an extreme drop in blood sugar and can lead to liver failure.



Lilies

Lilies are highly toxic to cats and can cause kidney failure or even lead to death if not treated properly. "Some 'fake' lilies, like lily of the valley, are also toxic to cats. All parts of the lily plant can be deadly to cats, including the leaves, pollen, flower, and even the water the lilies are stored in. Prompt treatment after ingestion is needed to save a cat.

Easter Basket Fillers

Plastic grass, plastic eggs, foil wrappings, and Easter toys are popular fillers for Easter baskets, but they may also attract pets who can chew and swallow them. "The result can be obstruction in your pet's digestive system.



A new day at the Paw-ffice

Fitz the Facility Dog joins courthouse staff

Madison County Courthouse welcomed its more recent hire — Fitz, a highly trained facility dog.

Chief Judge Hylla, Associate Judge Maureen Schuette and Circuit Judge David Dugan worked the past year into bring a facility dog to the courthouse.

“Fitz will be an amazing resource for children and adults in courtroom situations and those in need of comfort and support,” Schuette, who initiated the drive to obtain the dog, said. “Oftentimes, the children in our courts are directly or indirectly involved in cases and we want them to just be kids and not worry about everything going on in the courtroom.”

In March, three specially selected handlers —Tiffany Brooks, Emily Bell, and Angela Warta — from Madison County Courthouse received training at Duo Dogs in St. Louis. On day 2 of the training, Duo Dogs paired the black labrador with the handlers

“We are honored to be selected to receive the first facility dog for our courts from Duo Dogs in St. Louis,” Hylla said.

“Fitz has been specially trained for two years to provide calm and empathetic emotional support to those caught up in difficult situations.

Hylla said they are grateful to Duo Dogs for selecting Madison County to receive the additional staff member and to the Madison County Bar Association for its financial support, and for veterinarian Dr. Daniel Butler or Bethalto Animal Clinic for providing free veterinarian care and services for Fitz.

Duo is a national not-for-profit organization providing highly skilled service dogs to individuals with disabilities and uniquely trained therapy teams in the community, offering dignity, hope, and independence to those we serve.



Spring *Kitties*



Here we are, smack dab in the midst of the feline phenomenon referred to as “kitten season.” Have you heard of it? If not, this is the time of year when every unspayed, female cat is likely to have a belly full of babies, or a litter of youngsters by her side.

It is during kitten season when humane societies and animal shelters are filled with the felines.

The season tends to start with a few litters showing up in shelters in early spring. By summer, they’re pouring in.

Unspayed kitties typically experience their first heat cycle (estrus) sometime between five and nine months of age. A queen who is in heat is exceptionally likely to become pregnant for the following reasons:

A female cat will repeatedly come into heat, approximately every two weeks, throughout the entire breeding season.

A queen who is in heat is quite the precocious creature. She will do whatever it takes to find herself a tomcat, and she will breed with multiple males.

The domestic cat is an induced ovulator — her eggs lie in waiting until 30 to 50 hours following copulation, at which time they are released from her ovaries. This timing ensures that the eggs and sperm cells encounter one another.

During the breeding season, queens quickly come back into heat after giving birth, even before their kittens are weaned.

Become a hero this kitten season, no matter what your age, ability or resources are. In fact, it can take as little as five minutes to help save lives. You can foster a litter of kittens with your neighbors, donate old towels and blankets to your local shelter, or share a post on social media from a group that’s looking for volunteers or adopters.

April Events

click photo to find out more

6

80s & 90s Music Trivia
Benefitting Partners for Pets

Saturday April 6th

Doors Open 6pm
Trivia 7pm

Knights of Columbus Hall in Highland, IL
\$25 per person / Table of 8 \$200

Prize for Best Costume
1st, 2nd, 3rd Prizes for Table Decoration

6

Trivia Night

FAHR Trivia Night
Saturday, April 6th, 2019
Alton KC Hall (Spaulding Club) - 405 E 4th St
Doors open at 6PM- Trivia Starts at 7PM!

\$20 per person
8 people per table

Cash Prizes!!
50/50

Doublers & Mulligans!
Cash Bar!
Silent Auction!
Beer and Soda included
Outside food welcome!

I LOVE FAHR Trivia!

Call or Text 618-330-9579 or email foodshoundrescue@gmail.com to reserve your table. We will respond with a confirmation if we cannot get to the phone.

Event sponsored by: **FOIANO & HOUND RESCUE**

All proceeds benefit Food & Hound Rescue.

6

GRANITE CITY APH ANIMAL SHELTER
ANNUAL SPRING TRIVIA NIGHT
SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 2019

17TH KENNEDY DRIVE
MARIETTA, IL

DOORS OPEN AT 6:00 PM
TRIVIA STARTS AT 7:00 PM

8 PLAYERS PER TABLE
\$30.00/TABLE OR \$15/PERSON
TO RESERVE CALL 618-558-0581
DRAFT BEER AND SODA PROVIDED
HONEY DRINKS MAY BE PURCHASED

6666 PRIZE MONEY AWARDED FOR TRIVIA WINNERS 6666

SILENT AUCTIONS 50/50 DRAWINGS
MULLIGANS PET PHOTO CONTEST

BRING YOUR SNACKS & WE WILL SEE YOU THERE!!!!
ALL PROCEEDS DIRECTLY BENEFIT THE APH ANIMALS

13

PUP CRAWL
BENEFITTING PARTNERS FOR PETS

\$25 REGISTRATION INCLUDES:
DRINK SPECIALS
GAMES - PRIZES
LIVE BANDS
PUP CRAWL T-SHIRT*

PARTICIPATING LOCATIONS:

HURRICANE'S
Friday's South
Who Dat's
SLOAN'S PUB HOUSE
Old Herald

SATURDAY, APRIL 13TH, 1-5 PM

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!
Tito's Handmade VODKA
A CUT ABOVE PET SALON, INC.
Northgate

REGISTRATION STARTS AT NOON AT WHO DAT'S
*MUST PRE-REGISTER BY APRIL 1ST TO RECEIVE A T-SHIRT

20

adult spelling bee

BENEFITING METRO EAST HUMANE SOCIETY

20

Easter EGG HUNT
BENEFITTING METRO EAST HUMANE SOCIETY

21

Cattin' Around
A GALA NIGHT FOR ANIMAL SHELTER 5A'S



20

Puppies & Pilates on the Patio!

April 20, 2019
11 AM - 12:15 PM
*12:30 - 1:45 PM

\$50 per person (25 guests maximum)
Includes pilates class, brunch, mimosa, and puppy play-time!
hosted at Mike Shannon's Grill in Edwardsville
100% of the proceeds to Partners for Pets

*The second session will only be offered if the first event sells out.

#PILATES AND BARRE

28

DOGGIE Easter Egg Hunt

HOPE ANIMAL RESCUES
HOPERESCUES.COM

30

National ADOPT-A-SHELTER-PET Day

SNIP SNIP saving lives



SNIP Alliance (Spay-Neuter Illinois Pets), a nonprofit organization dedicated to reducing pet overpopulation and the destruction of healthy animals, will hold a spay-neuter clinics on April 13 and 14 in Alton.

Spay-neuter surgery for male dogs and cats lengthens their life span and drastically reduces the chance of testicular cancer and prostate disease. For female dogs, it reduces the likelihood of ovarian, uterine, breast cancer and pyometra, an infection that requires emergency surgery. Statistics show one female dog and her offspring can have 67,000 puppies in 6 years; one female cat and her offspring can have 66,088 kittens in about 6 years.

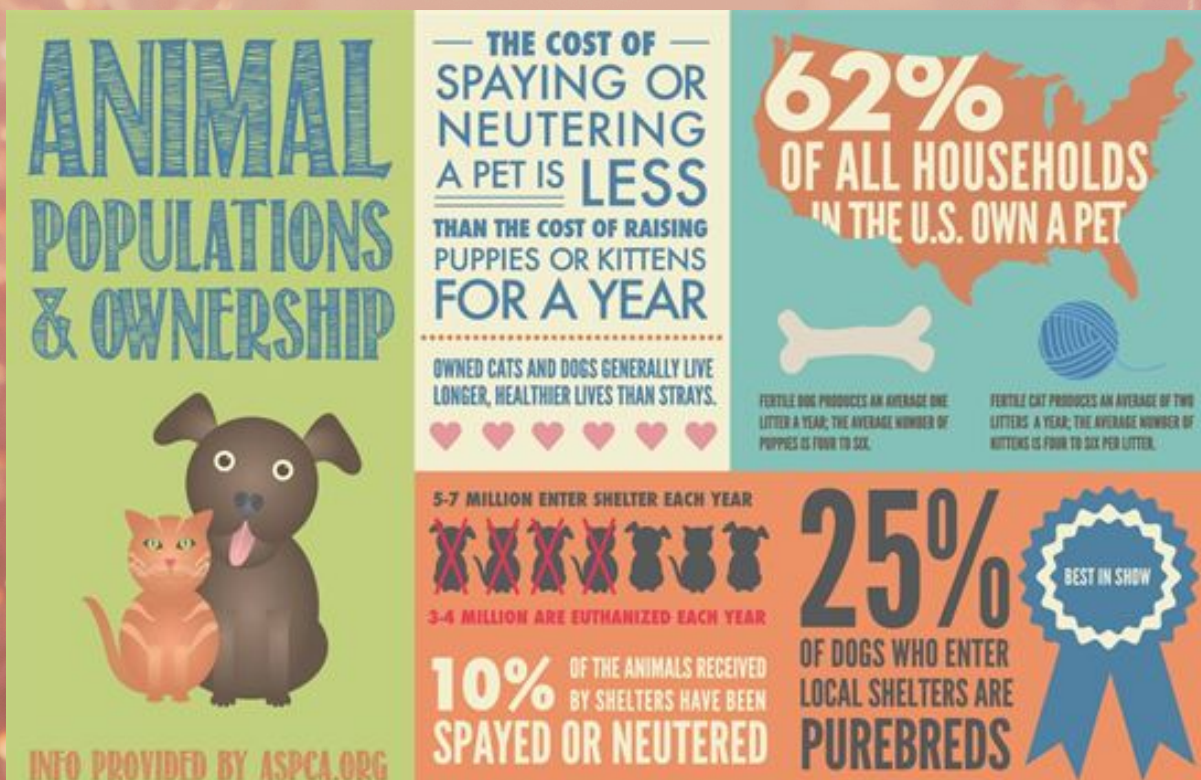
While eligibility for the clinics is determined through grants and donations, the organization is scheduling for pet owners who are Madison County residents and are on either Social Security, disability or food stamps; low-income pet owners (income \$20,000 or less for single or \$32,000 for married) with no residency requirements;



and individuals feeding outdoor community cats or barn cats.

You must bring a copy of the pet's current rabies vaccination. If the rabies vaccination is not up-to-date, we are required to administer the rabies vaccination. An additional fee of \$15 is charged to receive a Madison County rabies tag.

Call (618) 550-7647 to schedule an appointment. For more information on the organization, visit www.snipalliance.org.



DIY Marshmallow Peeps for Dogs

Ingredients

3 Tbls Plain, Unflavored Gelatin
1 cup Honey
1 cup water (split in two)
1 tsp vanilla extract
1/4 tsp Salt
Coconut flour for dusting

First, take your Gelatin, and 1/2 cup of water and put it into your mixing bowl. Stir it slightly with a spoon. While that sits, take a saucepan and put your honey, 1/2 cup of water, vanilla extract and salt into the pan. Heat on a medium to high heat, mixing constantly, until you bring the temperature of the mixture to 240 degrees Fahrenheit. This will take around 6 - 10 minutes. Once your mixture reaches the right temperature, remove the pan, slowly and carefully pour it into you mixer while on the low setting

Once it's all poured in, slowly increase the speed of your mixer being careful not to splash the hot mix all over. Once your mixer is on high, let it mix for around 10 minutes, or until you have a nice fluffy consistency.

While the fluff is mixing spray your pans (bunny molds work well) lightly with Bakers Joy. After the mix is fluffy, you can spoon it into a pastry bag to make filling your mold easier.

After your pans are filled, let them sit for at least 4 - 5 hours so that the mixture can properly set. Now you can remove the Marshmallow Peeps from the mold. They will still be sticky, so take a cutting board, and dust it with coconut flour. Lightly tap the Marshmallow Peeps in the flour to help coat the sticky parts, and that's it! You have now created Marshmallow Peeps for dogs! And yes, you can eat them too!



recipe courtesy of Gone to the Snow Dogs

