



*New animal shelter  
will touch the lives  
of thousands of pets  
and their people*

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## Contact Us

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[www.harfordshelter.org](http://www.harfordshelter.org)



## THE PAW PRINT POST

# A Home for Marleigh

**M**arleigh is a 3½-year-old female Hound mix who was surrendered to The Humane Society of Harford County on March 11, 2014 because of her separation anxiety issues. Her prior family said that other than the separation anxiety, she was the perfect dog, but recently she had destroyed some furniture and they could no longer keep her.

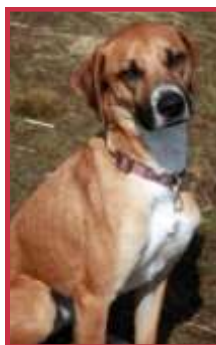
When she arrived at our shelter, Marleigh was beyond terrified. Our shelter technicians were able to examine her, but for days, she laid in her kennel, barely eating, not making eye contact, and not responding to touch or affection. She was reluctant to go outside for walks and would frequently “put on the brakes” and refuse to move. Potential adopters would come to meet her, but because they were unable to make an emotional connection, they would leave without taking Marleigh home.

Things started to change for Marleigh when she went into foster care with our for-



mer volunteer & outreach coordinator, Nicky Wetzelberger. Nicky owns a young outgoing Australian Shepherd named Darra, who quickly bonded with Marleigh and drew her out of her shell. It was amazing to watch the transformation! Outside in our play yard, Marleigh and Darra would run, romp and wrestle with each other. The terrified Marleigh disappeared, replaced with a happy and very confident girl!

In July Marleigh finally found her special someone. Oh, what a feeling! We were so overjoyed to know that Marleigh was with a person who would love her unconditionally and help her overcome her separation anxiety issues.



### Animal Visitation and Adoption Hours

Monday – Friday 11 AM – 6 PM  
 Saturday 10 AM – 5 PM  
 Sunday 12 PM – 4 PM

### Administrative Office Hours

Monday – Friday 8 AM – 4 PM

### Rescue Me! at Harford Mall Hours

Monday – Saturday 11 AM – 7 PM  
 Sunday 11 AM – 5 PM

### Telephone Contacts

**Main number** 410-836-1090  
**Rescue Me!** 410-838-2300  
 Ext. 102 Foster Care & Rescue Coordinator  
 Ext. 104 Volunteer & Outreach Coordinator  
 Ext. 105 Lost and Found  
 Ext. 106 Marketing Coordinator  
 Ext. 109 General Information & Client Services  
 Ext. 111 Office Manager & Human Resources  
 Ext. 113 Shelter Manager

### Adoption Fees\*

Puppies	8 weeks – 11 months	\$250
Dogs	1 year – 5 years	\$160
Dogs	6 years – 9 years	\$ 95
Dogs	10 years and older	\$ 35
Kittens	8 weeks – 6 months	\$125
Cats	7 months – 5 years	\$ 95
Cats	6 years and older	\$ 45
Rabbits		\$ 25

*\*Please inquire about the adoption fees for all other animals*

### REUNITED



Gotti was reunited with his person on November 24, 2014 after getting lost and ending up at the shelter!

"I said, somebody should do something about that!"

Then I realized, I am that somebody."

-Lily Tomlin

**Fostering saves lives**

For more information, contact Vicki at 410-836-1090 or [foster@harfordshelter.org](mailto:foster@harfordshelter.org)

**THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF HARFORD COUNTY, INC.**



# GIMME SHELTER

## RAISING CRUCIAL FUNDING FOR A NEW FACILITY



*Faced with a facility that is sagging, cracking, peeling and crumbling from almost 70 years of use, The Humane Society of Harford County is about to enter into a brand new chapter in its history. By the Fall of 2015, with your help, a critically-needed new facility will be complete, ready to comfort and care for thousands of Harford's homeless animals.*

After years of planning, the new 19,000 square foot home of The Humane Society of Harford County (HSHC) is under construction, and while this is a momentous occasion, our work is not yet complete. The current cost estimate for the project, which includes capital costs as well as related ancillary costs, is approximately \$7.5 million.

Since HSHC serves as the official animal shelter for Harford County, the County has committed to provide \$6 million towards the design and capital costs of building the new shelter. "The rest is up to us," said Mary Leavens, executive director.

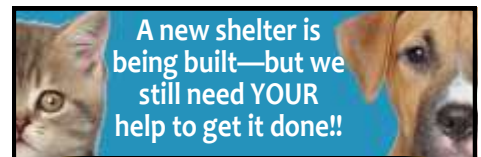
"The goal of our **GIMME SHELTER** capital campaign is \$1.5 million," Leavens continued. "Funds will be used for

items such as medical equipment and supplies used every day, power wash cleaning systems, security and phone systems, computers, copiers and printers, furniture, and other related expenses."

Working with a local architectural firm and with guidance from Shelter Planners of America, the safe and modern new shelter will feature:

- A large, inviting lobby with an adoptions & information entrance and an animal surrender entrance;
- 26 larger indoor/outdoor dog kennels & 18 smaller indoor/outdoor dog kennels;
- 2 cat community rooms with outdoor access;

*(continued on page 14)*



**Make a lasting contribution!**

**\$25**  
**CARE**

Provides food bowls, kitty litter, leashes & other daily supplies

**\$50**  
**COMFORT**

Provides comfortable new beds for the new dog kennels and cat quarters

**\$100**  
**PROTECT**

Provides stainless steel cages, medical supplies & other long-lasting professional equipment for our first-ever procedures room

Use the envelope provided or donate online at [www.harfordshelter.org](http://www.harfordshelter.org).



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"You and I will meet again, when we're least expecting it. One day in some far off place, I will recognize your face." –Tom Petty, singer/songwriter

Would you recognize your beloved pet if a year and a half had passed since you last saw him? In July, a grey and white male cat was brought into the shelter by a Good Samaritan who found him wandering in her fields in Monkton. Initially, she thought he was a feral cat, but after trapping him, discovered that this little guy was much friendlier than she thought.

This picture of Buddy was taken as soon as he came in, and as you can see, he was dirty, had a scratch on his nose, and had obviously been on his own for a while, but he was friendly and allowed our staff to examine him.

One of our standard procedures is to scan stray pets for microchips – and as luck would have it, "Buddy" as we named him, had a chip.



We called the microchip company, retrieved the owner's contact information, and left a message with Buddy's mom.

In the meantime, he was given his shots, flea & tick preventative, medication for his nose, and treatment for a case of ear mites he had developed while living outside on his own. Buddy didn't have long to wait. His mom was soon on the phone with us, totally astounded that Buddy had been found – because she hadn't seen Dr. Whovy (Buddy's real name) around her White Hall home for a year and a half!

Buddy is back at home today because of his microchip. If your pet does not already have a chip, \*please\* contact your veterinarian today to get one because neither time nor distance can break the human/animal bond!



Consider making a tax-deductible donation to the shelter! A donation for the animals is a thoughtful gift with special meaning. An acknowledgement is sent to you and one is sent to the person or pet you're honoring. Visit [harfordshelter.org](http://harfordshelter.org) or contact Cathy at 410-836-1090, x103 to make your gift today!



[harfordshelter.org](http://harfordshelter.org)



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## WIN A HANDMADE QUILT

This quilt is destined to become a family heirloom that will be treasured for years to come, and you could win it! Lovingly handmade and donated by Wendy Wehner and Diane Hoover, this beautiful Queen sized Carpenter Star pattern quilt with a dog accented motif is being raffled off to benefit the Humane Society of Harford County's GIMME SHELTER Capital Campaign. All funds raised will help build and equip our new animal shelter.

Tickets are \$5 each or 3 for \$10. The winner will be drawn on May 1,

2015 at our Bow Wow Boogie fundraiser (see page 7 for details), and the winner does not have to be present to win. Purchase tickets online at [www.harfordshelter.org](http://www.harfordshelter.org) or at the following locations:

- Humane Society of Harford County, 2208 Connolly Road, Fallston
- Rescue Me! at Harford Mall, 696 Belair Road, Bel Air (*next to Vision Works*)

You may also call Kim at 410-836-1090, x111 to pay over the phone. Kim will mail you your tickets. Good luck!



## I AM NOT A CAT PERSON

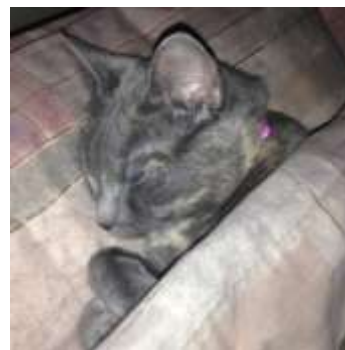
BY MARK MYERS

I am not a cat-person. From the time I was two or three to when I moved out on my own, our family always had dogs. We never had a cat and never wanted one. I don't understand cats, and I don't really care for them. They don't come when you call them. They sit there and stare at you. They're strange, moody, and inscrutable. And I have a mild allergy to cat dander on top of all that. So when my wife, Cathy, wanted to foster cats for the Humane Society of Harford County, I was not exactly thrilled with the idea. But she insisted, and our kids, Keiko and William, were definitely on board and excited. I was—as is usually the case—out-voted.

We fostered a pretty calico named Tinks for a couple of months as an experiment. She and I got on tolerably well. I

found myself talking to her and petting her occasionally. My allergy was easily managed by regular hand-washing and an antihistamine now and then. When we returned Tinks to the shelter, it only took a few days before she was adopted. It seemed like a successful experiment. So even though I'm not a cat-person, I agreed with Cathy and the kids to foster another cat.

We picked up a year old tortoiseshell cat named Baka from the shelter in October, 2013. We were originally going to foster a different cat, but the folks at the shelter asked us to take Baka because she had been there for several months and they felt she had some special needs we might be able to provide for.



Baka was the proverbial "scaredy-cat." She was very nervous, on edge, and stressed-out. She had no desire to explore or socialize. She just hid. We understood why we were asked to foster her. Baka needed a good

foster home environment where she could learn to feel safe and grow accustomed to being around people.

When we brought her home, Baka cowered behind the toilet for several hours. She finally ventured out slowly, but

stayed in the bathroom. She often hid under her bed or would dash away when we approached; even the slightest household noise alarmed her. But we were patient and gentle with her. We were determined to give her as much time and space as she needed to start to feel

at home. It was a full two weeks before Cathy noticed her purring one evening—very faint—but definitely there.

After a couple of months, Baka started to come out of her shell. She didn't run away as often when we came around. Her appetite improved. She started to explore the upstairs part of the house a little. She let us pet her now and then. I discovered that she loved to have the back of her neck massaged gently. She would close her eyes, relax, and purr. I would speak to her gently and tell her what a pretty cat she was.

By the time the Christmas season

(continued on page 13)



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# TICKETS SELL OUT FAST!

**DON'T WAIT TO GET TICKETS TO THE BEST PARTY OF THE YEAR**

# Bow Wow Boogie

Friday, May 1, 2015  
7:30-11:30pm

~  
Richlin Ballroom  
1700 Van Bibber Road  
Edgewood, MD

**Harford County's largest party for the animals, featuring...**

- ♦ Raffle for a luxurious vacation to Cancun
- ♦ Raffle to win a handmade queen-sized quilt
- ♦ **"Bull & oyster roast" buffet & dessert bar**
- ♦ Draft beer, wine & sodas included
- ♦ Live & Silent Auctions
- ♦ Learn the Bow Wow Boogie dance move
- ♦ More fun than ever before!



For tickets and sponsorship information:  
CALL Mary Leavens at 410-836-1090, x101 or  
EMAIL [mleavens@harfordshelter.org](mailto:mleavens@harfordshelter.org)

TICKETS are \$50 per person or \$450 for a table of 10  
Must be 21 or over to attend  
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Visit [harfordshelter.org](http://harfordshelter.org)  
for tickets

Event Sponsor:



Proceeds benefit the homeless and neglected animals of Harford County

# Thank You!

THE PAW PRINT POST

## 2014 Was a Banner Year

WE HAD A LOT OF FUN—ALL FOR THE ANIMALS!



Ellen Rosenberg (l.) and Kim Peters (r.) held a DogtoberFest party in their home and presented executive director Mary Leavens with a check for the animals!



The SC&H Group, LLC volunteered in June to do yard work and make our property pristine.



The Aberdeen Lions Club held a Pancake Supper and brought all kinds of donations to help us care for the animals.

Homeschoolers Making a Difference made cage pads for the cats at Rescue Me! at Harford Mall!



We held several huge adoption events at Hickory Veterinary Complex in 2014 and adopted out dozens of dogs and puppies!

Erika Dedrich (left) held a quarter auction on June 14th and donated cash!



A great time was had by all at our Bow Wow Boogie party. We auctioned off a motorcycle; sports memorabilia; a beach-front vacation to Emerald Isle, NC; a week's vacation at Deep Creek Lake; a deep sea fishing tour; and lots more. Don't miss this year's Boogie on May 1st! Photos courtesy of Linda Napfel & Dr. Amy Hubbard.



The Art Rooms Professional Art Supplies in Havre de Grace hosted The Town Goes to the Dogs & Cats art competition early in 2014. Purchase your figurine or canvas now! Details at [www.harfordshelter.org](http://www.harfordshelter.org).







Rising country music starlet, Jessica Lynn, played a benefit show at The Bel Air Armory on Sept. 20th.  
*Photo courtesy of Gary Patek*

In 2014 we learned that the readers of *Harford Magazine* voted us as Best Charity/Nonprofit!!

**BEST<sup>OF</sup>  
HARFORD  
MAGAZINE**  
READERS' POLL  
**WINNER 2013**  
**BEST CHARITY/NONPROFIT**



Our 2nd annual Basket Bingo on Aug. 15th was jam packed with players, fabulous prizes and raffles, food and fun!

*Photo courtesy of Linda Napfel*



Forest Hill Lanes was packed for last year's Bowl-a-Rama. Teams of bowlers collected pledges to support the animals in our care.

*Photo courtesy of Linda Napfel*



Volunteers walking shelter dogs and proud pets that were adopted from HSHC and their parents all marched in the Bel Air Christmas Parade on Dec. 5th.



The Lynx Motorcycle Club held a Poker Run on May 18th that kicked off from The Humane Society of Harford County. The run raised lots of dollars to benefit the animals.

Our annual calendar contest was back this fall, with Jasper Jinx voted as the cover winner. Every pet that entered was a winner because all proceeds from the contest provide for the care and comfort of the animals.



Friends and family of Tyler Anderson held their 2nd annual memorial disc golf tournament and donated proceeds to be put toward our new building fund.

## Memorial Gifts

Donations thoughtfully made for the animals in 2014 in memory of a loved one.

All other donations are listed on our website at [www.harfordshelter.org](http://www.harfordshelter.org).

### IN MEMORY OF LOVED ONES

#### Buddy Alexander

\*Kara Banks

#### Tyler Anderson

\*Churchville Rec Council, Inc.  
\*The Cooptown Car & Truck Show Committee

#### Betty Bageant

\*Bel Air Elementary School

#### Velva Blevins

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\*Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Knight  
\*Mr. & Mrs. Harold Woodruff

#### Richard Borig

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#### Frank J. Casper

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 \*James & Sheryl Kohl  
 \*Donald H. McKinstry, Sr.  
 \*Michael McMillion  
 \*Betsy & Kathy Ross  
 \*Michael Schrufer  
 \*Michael Thomas

**Jan Scheibler**

\*The Book Club

**Gloria Sedney**

\*Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Brandow  
 \*Richard Broomfield  
 \*Judy Levenson Coven  
 \*Joyce Doherty  
 \*Michael & Carole Drabo  
 \*Linda Hopkins  
 \*The John Carroll School Class  
 of 2015  
 \*Carolyn Krebs  
 \*Joycelyn Sedney  
 \*Mr. & Mrs. Edwin Sturtevant  
 \*April White

**Jackie Stewart**

\*The Senior Lunch Group of  
 Fallston Presbyterian Church

**Mary Ruth Thompson**

\*Judy Yocum

**Dr. Angelo Tirri**

\*Mary Heubeck

**Jeneward Voss**

\*Harriet S. Ingehart  
 \*Carol Kees  
 \*Linda Adel McDonnell

**Lynn Watkins**

\*Mr. & Mrs. Paul Littmann

**Stan West**

\*R. Jane Ireland

**Ida Wheeler**

\*Jodie Marie Seling

**Max "Chip" A. White, III**

\*Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Blackburn  
 \*Regina Bolduc  
 \*Roger & Paula Drake  
 \*JoAnne Fleming  
 \*May E. Fotia  
 \*Carol Gover  
 \*William Gover  
 \*L. G. Hoffer  
 \*Peggy Lawrence  
 \*Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Pollard, III  
 \*Virginia Slyker  
 \*Warren White  
 \*Barbara Wooddell

**Marion Davis-Wieboldt**

\*Nancy Donovan Reed

**Helen Gill Williams**

\*Mary Ellen Adams  
 \*Susan Cooper Brundick  
 \*Patricia M. Bullis  
 \*Patricia Cataldi Cecala  
 \*Gary & Mary Leavens & Family  
 \*Anna Marie Ohler  
 \*Jessica Sweigart

**Michael Williams**

\*Friends at the Attorney  
 General's Office  
 \*Frances Snyder  
 \*Gray Kirk Vansant Advertising,  
 Inc.  
 \*Carole, Shirley, Roz, Gail,  
 Patrick & Doug

**Dorothy Wright**

\*Mr. & Mrs. Dale Clements  
 \*Robert Krasniewski  
 \*Sharon K. Taylor

**Frank Yaeger**

\*Mr. & Mrs. Gary Leadore

**Marie Zientak**

\*Mr. & Mrs. Gary J. Daniel  
 \*Mr. & Mrs. James Drabo  
 \*Terry Romine

## IN MEMORY OF SPECIAL PETS

**A Special Pet**

\*Jennifer Bates

**Abner, a beloved dog**

\*Curt, Anna Marie & Matthew  
 Ohler

**Angel, a faithful friend**

\*Donna O'Leary

**Annie, a cherished pet**

\*Walter & Barbara Schneider

**Awesome Reed/Strassner, a beloved cat**

\*Deborah Lee Sullivan

**Bear, a treasured pet**

\*The Hall/Pancio Family

**Boh Boh, a special pet**

\*Mr. & Mrs. George Stiles

**Brodie, a beloved dog**

\*Melissa Harrah

**Brutus, a cherished pet**

\*Kathleen Costa

**Buddy, a beloved dog**

\*Barbara Beitscher

**Buddy Hyde, a dear cat**

\*Mr. & Mrs. Walter Pratt

**Buster, a faithful friend**

\*Mary Laukaitis

**Buster Testerman, a dear pet**

\*Beth Freeman & Bill Harlan

**Buster Weyant, a special pet**

\*Kristen Rellihan

**Carly, a special pet**

\*Kelly Bock

**Casey Butler, Nikki Sanford, Smokey, Ziggy & Mittens, special pets**

\*Deborah Butler-Sanford

**Champ, a cherished dog**

\*Mr. & Mrs. Harmon

**Chester, a Cocker Spaniel**

\*Henry Bradley

**Chester, a special dog**

\*Curt, Anna Marie & Matthew  
 Ohler

**Chubby, a precious pet**

\*Mr. & Mrs. R. Donald Awalt

**Clyde, a faithful friend**

\*Riley Cooper & Karen Johnson

**Coby Tegges, a cherished pet**

\*Jane Shapiro

**Dakota Bayne, a special pet**

\*Rosaria Buonaugurio

**Dakota, a treasured dog**

\*Craig & Danica Campbell

**Dip Stick/Dipper, a special dog**

\*Judith K. Schmoll

**Duke, a special friend**

\*Joshua Drescher

**Fire, a precious pup**

\*Nicole Policare & Room 1  
 Program Aides

**Gabriel and Schatz, two special pets**

\*Suzan Highland

**Galaxy, a precious horse**

\*The Leavens Family

**Ginger, a special dog**

\*Harvey & Maureen Cohen

**Ginger, a cherished cat**

\*John Kennedy

**Gunther, a very special dog**

\*Lois Brooks  
 \*Mary Leavens  
 \*John & Erin Long  
 \*Curt, Anna Marie & Matthew  
 Ohler

**Gus, a special pet**

\*Katherine Danish

**Harlee, a beloved pet**

\*Lisa Darcey

**Harley Turansky, a faithful pet**

\*Barbara Ann Wheeler

**Holly, a cherished pet**

\*Michael Mayer

**Holly Caylor, a beloved pet**

\*Bill Harlan & Beth Freeman

**Holster, a special pet**

\*Karen Meredith

**In Honor of All Our 4-Legged Children, Living & Deceased**

\*Paula Mitzel

**In Memory of Precious Pets**

\*Angela Davis

**In Memory of three special cats**

\*Barbara Sewell

**Isabel Crist, a beloved pet**

\*Alice Yvonne Crist

**Isabella, a special friend**

\*Georgia Brandstadter-Palmer

**Jake Casey, a dear cat**

\*Rudy & Merideth Fischer

**The Jehnert Family pets**

\*Bernadette Jehnert

**Lady Tobash, a special pet**

\*Joshua Tobash

**Lincoln, a treasured dog**

\*Lois W. Phipps

**Lucy Marie Rogers, a dear dog**

\*Rosemary Rogers  
 \*JoAnn & Pete Spencer

**Marmalade, a special dog**

\*Lawrence Aiello

**Matilda, a beloved pet**

\*Ellen Byington

**Mickey Flanigan, a dear friend**

\*Timothy & Mary Jane Flanigan

(continued on page 12)



## All in a Day's Work

### MAN WITH DEMENTIA REUNITED WITH HIS DOG

When a Rottweiler was brought into The Humane Society of Harford County in August 2014 by Harford County Animal Control with no information other than a note saying "owner at Harford Memorial Hospital; dog seized by MD State Police", shelter manager Blaine Lang knew he needed to intervene. With no other information to go on, Lang contacted the police. Apparently, a man in the early stages of dementia and travelling from Richmond, VA on Interstate 95 had suddenly gotten confused and stopped his vehicle beside the road. The officers who responded could not find any identification on the man, and they discovered he was travelling with a dog, so they contacted animal control and took the man to the nearest hospital.

Next, Lang contacted Harford Memorial Hospital and learned that staff had no idea who the man was or where he was from. So Lang retrieved the dog's only identifica-

tion – a rabies tag – and located a veterinarian in Virginia who fit the missing pieces of this puzzle together. The Rottweiler is named Molly and her owner is Robert A. (last name withheld for privacy). The veterinarian

told Lang that Robert is an excellent pet owner and also gave Lang an address and an emergency contact number. When Lang dialed the emergency number, he was connected with Robert's neighbor who confirmed that Robert was missing and that he has no other family.

Knowing what he had to do, Blaine was soon on his way to the hospital with Molly to reunite with Robert. Both dog and man were overjoyed to see each other! With Molly by his side (and a neighbor who's now Robert's guardian and caretaker), both are back at home together in Richmond, safe and sound.



### MEMORIAL GIFTS, continued from page 11

#### Molly, a dear pet

\*Mr. & Mrs. Phillip Harmon

#### Morla Cristofori, a dear pet

\*Alice Yvonne Crist

#### Murphy, a special pet

\*Michelle Horner

#### Nicholas, a special cat

\*David Truitt

#### Peanut, a cherished cat

\*Matthew Rosser

#### Prancer, the Muzii Family dog

\*Lois Phipps

#### Rae Ann, a special pet

\*John A. Antal, Jr.  
\*Theresia Logan

#### Raven, Taz & Demon, cherished pets

\*Michelle Crawford

#### Ruble, a special rescue dog

\*Rachel Watts

#### Sabrina (Teresa Bagley's dear cat)

\*Judi Miller

#### Sean, a beloved dog

\*Curt, Anna Marie & Matthew Ohler

#### Shilo, a dear pet

\*Audrey & Rachel Buchanan

#### Sissy, a special pet

\*Richard Brinegar

#### Snookie, a faithful friend

\*Rudy & Merideth Fischer

#### Special Pets

\*Anonymous

#### Sunny Luber, a special pet

\*Michelle McCormick

#### Taz & Raven, dear pets

\*Daniel Crawford

#### Tecon, a dear horse

\*Judith K. Schmoll

#### Teddy, a beloved dog

\*Curt, Anna Marie & Matthew Ohler

#### Toby, a special dog

\*Lois Phipps

#### Truman DiRocco, a special dog

\*Lisa Marie Darcey

#### Valore, a special pet

\*Lisa Rogers

#### Wayward Sassy Lady, a beloved pet

\*Mr. & Mrs. George Stiles

#### Wendy, a dear dog

\*Laura M. Zuiderveen

#### Willow, a faithful friend

\*Rudy & Merideth Fischer

#### Zeus, a special pit bull

\*Steve & Christina Harris



# Happy Tails

So many heart-warming adoption stories happen every day at the shelter. If you've adopted your best pal from the Humane Society of Harford County, we'd LOVE to share your story on our Facebook page! Email [kim@harfordshelter.org](mailto:kim@harfordshelter.org) and remember to include a recent photo. Visit [harfordshelter.org](http://harfordshelter.org) to read many more happy tails!

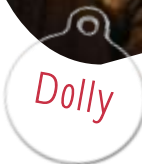


*It was such a pleasure adopting "Patriot" who we re-named Rusty. He is the most amazing and sweetest dog. He is now 3 years old and has adjusted wonderfully with our 10-year-old beagle. He is our 3-year-old daughter's best friend and follows her everywhere. We are so thankful he picked us to love him and give him a furever home!*  
-Love, The Opert Family



*Our names are Buzzy and Benny and we love our new home with our mom Claire. We were adopted on August 2, 2014. Thank you for taking care of us before we got adopted.*

*I adopted Dolly in December of 2011 and she completes my life. I can't imagine a day where she is not home to greet me. I am so thankful for the Humane Society of Harford County for letting me adopt the cutest 8 week old kitten who has grown into a 13 lb big girl!*  
-Brittany



## ***I AM NOT A CAT PERSON, continued from page 6***

came around, Baka seemed quite at home. It felt like Baka was member of our family. Except she wasn't. We were her foster family. Our job was to help get her ready for her future family. And anyway, I'm not a cat-person. So we brought Baka back to the Humane Society. We hoped that Baka's time with us was well spent and that it wouldn't be long before the right family would be willing to adopt her. But it didn't feel right.

Not long after the new year, we went back to the shelter to see how Baka was doing. Baka had reverted to her "scaredy-cat" ways. The staff told us she always hid out of sight, and people who came in could never get even the slightest glimpse of her. How was she ever going to get adopted?

It was at that moment that I made the decision. Not my wife, not my kids. I decided. We were going to adopt Baka. To be fair,

Cathy, Keiko, and William did not object at all, but it was my idea and I'm sticking with that story. So that's what we did. On January 26, 2014, Baka joined our family.

How has it worked out? Well, Baka is extremely happy and content. She gets along very well with each one of us. Of course, like all family members, Baka and I have had a few disagreements. For example, she's under the impression that the chair in the master bedroom where I like to sit and read belongs to her. And she sometimes walks across my stomach at 2 a.m. when I'm in bed and in a hard sleep. But every morning when I get out of bed, Baka greets me with a meow, rubs against my legs, and gives me a kiss on my nose—much to my wife's dismay who's her primary caregiver. Baka sleeps in her bed every night, but once we're up, she likes to sleep the day away in our bed. She always waits until after the bed is made and slips under the covers to lay on the pillows.

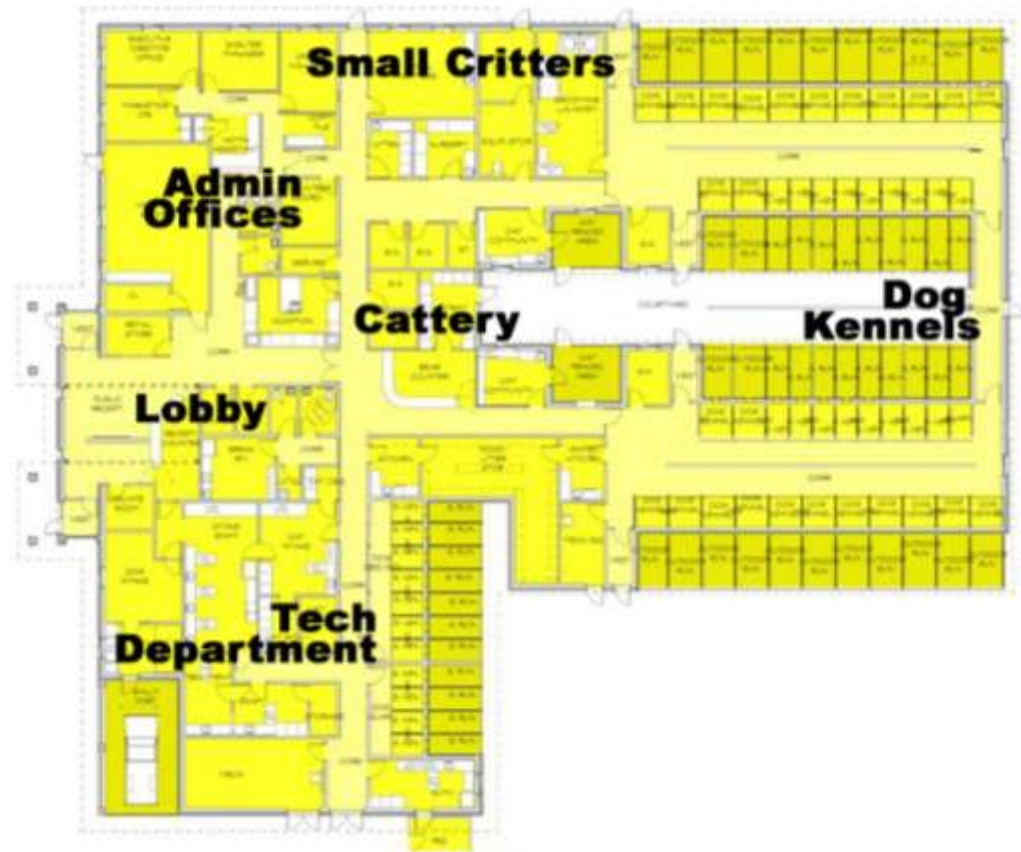
I'm still not a cat-person. But I love Baka. And Baka loves me.



## GIMME SHELTER, continued from page 3

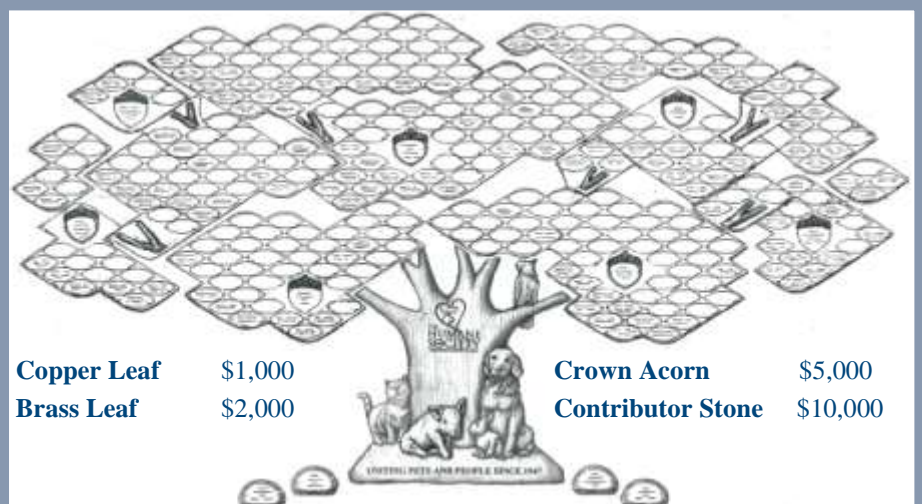
- A kitten room & a nursery;
- Private, individual cat and dog “get-acquainted rooms” to promote bonding and adoptions;
- Modern medical treatment facilities and separate isolation/quarantine for sick animals;
- A procedures room for exams and spay/neuter, to ensure that procedures are performed prior to animals being adopted;
- An expanded Small Critter room;
- Dog bath area;
- Separate stray cat holding area;
- Separate dog & cat intake areas;
- Expanded outdoor recreation space for dogs and cats to exercise;
- Epoxy flooring and partially heated flooring;
- Multiple air handling systems with 100% fresh air exchange with 8 changes per hour;
- A retail shop;
- Lighted parking lot with 70

(continued on page 15)



## Honoring your support on the donor tree

Become part of this attractive, hand-carved wooden interior tree that will be displayed prominently in the new Adoption Center Lobby with stones, acorns, and brass and copper leaves bearing the names of special animals or people. Donors can honor a pet, person or family, either living or deceased, or a business on this beautiful tree to be seen by thousands of visitors for years to come. For more information, contact Mary Leavens at 410-836-1090 or [mleavens@harfordshelter.org](mailto:mleavens@harfordshelter.org).





# Leave your mark

**T**he GIMME SHELTER campaign needs and welcomes gifts at all levels.

With a variety of giving levels, the campaign provides numerous opportunities for donor recognition, including naming rights for individual areas within the new facility, as well as for dog and cat kennels, benches and landscaping. A plaque recognizing your name or company name will be placed in/on the area for the following naming opportunities:

✓ Shelter Building	\$1,000,000	✓ Small Animal Suite	\$25,000
✓ Two-Story Pole Barn	\$500,000	✓ Cat Nursery	\$25,000
✓ Adoption Center Lobby	\$250,000	✓ Kitten Room	\$25,000
✓ Education/Training Room	\$100,000	✓ Counseling Area (4)	\$10,000
✓ Dog Kennel Wings (2)	\$50,000	✓ Puff & Fluff Grooming Area	\$10,000
✓ Leaves of Love Donor Tree	\$50,000	✓ Get Acquainted Rooms (6)	\$10,000
✓ Medical Treatment Suite	\$25,000	✓ Dog Kennel (44)	\$5,000
✓ Cat Community Room	\$25,000	✓ Cat Condo (32)	\$2,500
✓ Outdoor Play Yard	\$25,000	✓ Outdoor Bench (10)	\$1,000
✓ Courtyard	\$25,000	✓ Outdoor Trees (unlimited)	\$500

For more information, contact Mary Leavens at 410-836-1090, x101 or [mleavens@harfordshelter.org](mailto:mleavens@harfordshelter.org).

## GIMME SHELTER, continued from page 14

parking spaces; and

- So much more!

Everyone has the opportunity to contribute to the new facility. Whether making a general donation toward the care and comfort of the animals, naming an area in or around the building, or purchasing a commemorative "Leaf of Love" on the Donor Tree, help make the new shelter a reality. Gifts can also be made in honor of or in

memory of a person or pet. Simply use the enclosed envelope or visit [www.harfordshelter.org](http://www.harfordshelter.org) to make a gift. Gifts by check should be made payable to The Humane Society of Harford County.

To learn more, please contact Mary Leavens at 410-836-1090 ext. 101. Mary would be delighted to show you the designs of the new building, give you a tour, and just have a friendly informative conversation.



Over 100 dignitaries, major donors, volunteers & staff gathered on September 4th for the official groundbreaking of the new home for the Humane Society of Harford County.



# THANK YOU

To our donors, volunteers, foster parents, adopters, the Harford County veterinary community, our rescue partners, our staff, the business community, all of our friends near and far... THANK YOU for all that you do for the homeless animals of Harford County!

## BUY A BRICK

and help pave the way to a new park for our canine friends!



**T**he Friends of Rebel's Dog Park invite all to help fund the building of our new dog park in 2015. Honor your pet, business, family or a friend by ordering an engraved brick with your personal message. These bricks will then be permanently integrated into the landscape of our new dog park on the grounds of the Humane Society of Harford County in Fallston.



For more information or to order a brick, visit [www.rebelsdogpark.com](http://www.rebelsdogpark.com)



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**St. PAWtrick's Day!**



Spin the wheel to win prizes or discounts off your adoption!  
\*Fallston location only

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**ADOPT**

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**RESCUE ME! AT HARFORD MALL**  
*a deluxe cat adoption center*  
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Mon-Sat 11-7 | Sun 11-5  
[harfordshelter.org](http://harfordshelter.org)

**THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF HARFORD COUNTY, INC.**  
Uniting Pets and People Since 1947

