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Paw Prints

December 2020 Issue

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Thank you

We would like to extend our appreciation to our 2020 Mountaineer Tail-waggin' Tailgate Party sponsors. While everyone missed our annual gathering at the river lot, we could not have been more humbled by the continued support we received for this event. Thank you to everyone who sponsored and bought a ticket for our first virtual reverse drawing. We were able to make this another successful fundraiser thanks to each of you.

PAWS Expansion and Renovation Update



For anyone who has followed our expansion and renovation project, you know it has not been an easy task. We had numerous setbacks from the start. The original plan did not include constructing a new building and adjoining to the original structure. Instead, we had planned on building behind the original shelter. Turns out the soil was not conducive to running footers, let alone holding a major structure! We went back to the drawing board and came up with a new plan. We are so pleased with the changes made and can finally say the expansion is finished!

Now we can move along on the renovation portion of the project. Staff and volunteers moved everything from the old building to the new. Crews are working and have started removing the old block walls from the large dog kennel areas. They will also begin renovating the portion of the original shelter that will be designated solely for cats. This will create a quieter and more peaceful environment for them.

Our staff has done a great job adapting to many changes this projected has created. They are extremely excited about the end result this project will bring. Barring any major setbacks, we are projecting the renovation will be done early this winter.

We cannot express our gratitude enough for all the support we have received from the community during this project. It would not have been possible without everyone who contributed.



Due to the current pandemic, we were not able to host our live and silent auctions at the annual tailgate party in August. In lieu of having a physical event, we decided to have our first ever, virtual auction! This event is being conducted by Fouss Auction & Appraisal. It is currently live and will begin closing on November 30, 2020. We have more than 115 items you can win including:

• Five \$1,000 gift certificates from Family Carpet/Family Kitchen & Bath • 1.25 karat diamond ring • North Myrtle Beach condo vacation • snowblower • smoker • Kate Spade purse • Neal Brown signed football • Danny Carpenter photo prints • gift certificates for local businesses including Scots Landscape, Greenleaf Landscape, Worthington Golf Club, Crazy Bones Pet Spa, Boxers Bed & Biscuits, Vienna Eye Clinic, and more • numerous handmade items including a throw and quilts • various themed gift baskets • many, many more items

Here is how it works:

- Visit <u>foussauction.hibid.com</u> and look for the HSOP auction.
- 2. Open the catalog for the auction and browse the items available.
- 3. When you see that first item you want to bid on, click "Register to Bid" under the entry and complete the registration with a credit card. Make sure you read the terms and
 - condition of the auction. You only need to register once making it easy to bid on additional items.
- 4. Place your maximum bid on that item. The system will bid for you in increments up to the limit you set.
- 5. Continue browsing the remaining items and placing your bids!
- Keep checking back and make sure you do not get outbid. If you do, set a new limit!

Once the auction ends, your credit card will be charged for your purchases and you will receive a copy of the invoice via email. We will provide the location and times you can pick up your items.



Shelter Life in 2020



We can all agree, 2020 has been a year like no other. While the world adapted to a change in everyday living, the shelter too was adapting to a new way of life.

Due to the Coronovirus pandemic, we had to shut our doors to the public knowing it would likely be a long-term situation. We decided that volunteers would stop cuddling cats and would not be walking dogs every evening. We knew this would be a hard adjustment for not only the humans, but the pets. The staff jumped in and agreed to alter schedules allowing them to stay longer in the evening for them to walk the dogs. Shelter Manager, Samantha Tannous, received a crash course in photography and was able to take photos of the new animals as they came in. This greatly contributed to our ability to keep the numbers of animals down as they were getting adopted quickly.

We also changed the way we are adopting our animals. Potential adopters complete an application online. Once it is approved, a staff member contacts that person and discusses what animal they are interested in. At that time, an appointment is scheduled for the adopter to come in and meet their potential new family member. Our adoption rate remains steady during the pandemic and rescue groups we work with continue to help us out.

With most fundraising events being cancelled throughout the year, we had to come up with some creative ideas to raise money. We made our annual Walk Your Paws event virtual. While some were skeptical, it was remarkably successful. We also did a virtual reverse drawing for our annual Mountaineer Tail' Waggin' Tailgate party reverse drawing. We sold all 300 tickets in record time.

Many people within the community continue to drop off much needed supplies. Shelter staff keeps a wagon sitting outside for donations. It is overwhelming to see the reaction and response anytime the staff posts on Facebook the need for specific supplies. It would be nearly impossible to name everyone who has shown up or shipped items to us. We truly hope they all know the level of appreciation we have for them.

Words cannot express the gratitude we feel to everyone who has supported us during the difficult year. We are so proud that we were able to continue giving the best care possible to the animals who came through the shelter. Never once did we feel like we could not do it. We never get tired of using the phrase "it takes a village." We think our village is the best!

CARES Act Impacts Charitable Giving for 2020

Congress passed and the President signed into law the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act on March 27, 2020. Among the many aspects of this stimulus package, a few have impacted charitable giving this year.

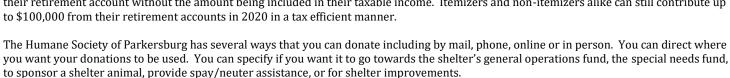
New Deduction Available: You can deduct up to \$300 per taxpayer, \$600 for married couples, for charitable contributions. This applies for taxpayers who do not itemize, rather take the standard deduction on their tax return.

New Charitable Deduction Limits for Individuals: Individuals who itemize on their tax returns can take up to 100% of their 2020 Adjusted Gross Income (AGI). This amount increased from 60% previously.

New Charitable Deduction Limits for Businesses: Corporations may deduct up to 25% of their taxable income in 2020. This is up from the previous limit of 10%.

Required Minimum Distributions: A component of the CARES Act waived the requirement of take a minimum distribution from retirement accounts. In the past, many people used Qualified Charitable Distribution provision of RMD's to make a charitable distribution from

their retirement account without the amount being included in their taxable income. Itemizers and non-itemizers alike can still contribute up



This information is not intended as tax advice. Please contact your tax preparer to see how charitable giving can benefit you.

2020 Donor Acknowledgements

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Humane Society of Parkersburg. Please watch for our next edition where all 2020 donors will be listed.



450P Hosts Trunk or Treat

Volunteers and staff joined forces and hosted their first annual Trunk or Treat. It is estimated that more than 200 little ghosts and goblins made their way through the socially distanced course. They had 16 trunks to stop at where they collect their yummy treats. The volunteers and staff who attended certainly showcased their creativity when they dressed up and decorated their cars with incredibly unique themes. There was a pumpkin patch photo booth set up to purchase pictures. Mark Monhoney, owner of All American Kettle Corn, donated 200 bags kettle corn for us to sell. That was a big hit! Parents and kids also brought donations of much needed supplies. It was a successfully night and fun was had by all.









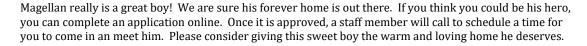
Spotlight Dog Magellan



Meet Magellan. He is one of the longest waiting dogs in the shelter. He arrived in February 2019. That's right, almost two years ago! He is just over 3 ½ years old which means he has spent over half of his life in the shelter. Why has he been there so long? We can't figure that out. He would be the perfect companion for a single or married couple with an active lifestyle. He will likely need to be the only fur child in a home. He will also need to go to a home where there are no small children. Magellan loves to play and loves toys, so he may not know the difference between kid toys and his toys.

Magellan loves to play outside. He will chase balls for hours if you let him! He also LOVES the pool! He could not wait for volunteers to fill a pool up for him during the summer. Most of the time, he jumps right in while it is filling up. Once he has tired out though, Magellan is all too ready to go inside and hit the couch for a nice long nap. One of the volunteers has taken him home a couple of times for the afternoon and said he is a dream inside the home! He is also wonderful in a car and loves to go hiking.

We all were very curious as to what breed he is. One of the volunteers ordered a DNA test to find out. Turns out he is 55% American Staffordshire Terrier, 13% Great Pyrenees, 12% Rottweiler, 12% Golden Retriever, and 8% White Swiss Shepherd. The DNA report also shows that he is clear of the 29 genetic conditions he was tested for! Magellan's adopter will receive a copy of his DNA report.







Chewy supports the HSOP. They will donate \$20 for every new customer purchase! Make your first purchase at:

https://www.chewy.com/rp/10040

Did you know you can ship donations directly to the shelter? When you are checking out, just change the shipping address to:

Humane Society of Parkersburg 530 29th Street, Parkersburg, WV 26101

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The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the Humane Society of Parkersburg.



We are enrolled in the **Kroger Community Rewards** program. Kroger made it easy to for

you to help in our fund-raising efforts. All you do is swipe your card whenever you shop, and the Humane Society of Parkersburg is given a percentage of sales from your purchases. To register your Kroger Plus Shoppers card, visit:

www.krogercommunityrewards.com Choose Humane Society of Parkersburg, Organization #85292.

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Humane Society of Parkersburg

Mailing Address:

PO Box 392, Parkersburg, WV 26102

Physical Address:

530 29th Street, Parkersburg, WV 26101

Phone: 304-422-5541 **Fax:** 304-485-4261

Emergency: 304-424-0034

Shelter Hours

Monday - Friday: 10:30 to 5:00

Saturday: 10:30 to 4:00

Sunday: Closed

SPOT Clinic

Mailing & Physical Address:

506 29th Street, Parkersburg, WV 26101

Phone: 304-917-4275 **Fax:** 304-917-4279

