



## Montclair hosts special pet days in August

Three events for pet lovers are coming to Montclair this August. CPAW will be doing mobile spaying, adoption fees will be waived at The Montclair Animal Shelter and Anonymous for the Voiceless is coming to town.

**CPAW holds spay day Aug. 27**



People for Animals (PFA) to bring the SpayStation Mobile Surgical Unit to Montclair on Aug. 27.

CPAW NJ and People for Animals, Inc. will hold a Beat the Heat Spay Day for cats only, Aug. 27, 7 a.m. - 3 p.m. at the Acme Market parking lot, 510 Valley Road. A special discount of \$45 will be granted to the first 20 Montclair residents who register by Aug. 15. Shots are not included or \$30 for feral shots. Pre-registration required; [cpawnj@gmail.com](mailto:cpawnj@gmail.com).

**National Clear the Shelters Day is Aug. 17-18**



*Daisy Sanchez of Newark stops by one of the cages sheltering rescues last year at Clear the Shelters Day. ADAM ANIK/FOR MONTCLAIR LOCAL*

Montclair Township Animal Shelter, 77 North Willow St., is again participating in the NBC/Telemundo National Clear the Shelters Day. Adoption fees will be waived for all approved adoptions on cats and dogs ages one and older, during Saturday, Aug. 17, and Sunday, Aug 18. All animals are spayed/neutered and up-to-date on their shots.

**Speak out for animals on Aug. 16**



*Courtesy Anonymous for the Voiceless*

Montclair will play host to animal activists from Anonymous for the Voiceless on Friday, Aug. 16, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

The event will be held on the sidewalk near Mundo Vegan Restaurant at 20 Church St.

Anonymous for the Voiceless is an animal rights organization that specializes in street activism, advocating for people to switch to a cruelty-free vegan lifestyle.

Activist stand in a cube with monitors wearing masks while other activists without masks stand by to answer questions.

Animal advocates with a variety of knowledge in animal welfare will be available to the public to discuss and answer questions on a variety of topics, including how we can end animal exploitation, the benefits of a plant based vegan diet, and how animal agriculture is a large contributor to climate change.

For more information about Anonymous for the Voiceless visit their website [anonymousforthevoiceless.org](https://anonymousforthevoiceless.org).

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## Montclair Local Pet of the Week: Ella



*Ella*

*Courtesy Montclair Township Animal Shelter*

Ella is about 2-years-old. She would love a quiet home full of love. Come meet Ella.

The Montclair Township Animal Shelter, 77 North Willow St., is open daily from noon to 4 p.m.

For information, call 973-744-8600.



A salute to animal control officers



Julie Hamer-Kahn, left, Shaune Jones, Ryan Urbano, and Michele Shiber are all ACOs who work at MTAS. COURTESY MONTCLAIR TOWNSHIP ANIMAL SHELTER

## Montclair Township Animal Shelter

Animals available for fostering and placement

[montclairnjusa.org/government/departments/animal\\_shelter](http://montclairnjusa.org/government/departments/animal_shelter), 973-744-8600

**By KELLY NICHOLAIDES**

*For Montclair Local*

Montclair's animal control officers are tasked with capturing injured or sick animals, investigating dog-bite incidents, helping shelter animals get adopted, providing surrender-prevention services, reuniting stray animals with their owners, and removing deceased animals from public property.

As essential workers, their work hasn't stopped, and has been even tougher with the coronavirus shutdown.

Last week, April 12-18, was animal control officer (ACO) appreciation week. Montclair has much to appreciate.

Disease-prevention measures such as hand washing, disinfecting, and wearing surgical gloves are a normal part of the officers' day. Now they wear personal protection equipment (PPE) when engaging with the public. COVID-19 has changed how they educate and interact with residents, shifting almost completely online.

"Everyone is home to observe what's happening outside, and spring is when wildlife is giving birth. It's a double whammy. We're getting calls about bunnies that aren't really abandoned. The moms return to the nests at dawn and dusk. Fledglings sometimes fall out



ELIZABETH MORGAN

of their nests or mom kicks them out to go on their own," said Elizabeth Morgan, ACO and director of the Montclair Township Animal Shelter.

MTAS has facilitated the placement of 45 cats and 27 dogs in foster homes during the pandemic. Ten cats and four dogs are left at MTAS. Two senior cats were abandoned in a box outside the shelter last week directly under a sign that read “Stop! Do not leave your animal. Call us.” And the MTAS is supplying pet food for residents who are too cash-strapped to provide for their animals, Morgan said.

Adoptions take place in the courtyard and by appointment only. ACO supervisor Michele Shiber conducts adoption interviews.

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READ: [COVID-19: ANIMAL SHELTER SEEKS PARENTS](#)

READ: [ANIMAL SHELTER CAT ROOMS SPRUCE UP](#)

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“I have taken a scared, withdrawn shelter dog home to foster. Her progress is shared on our shelter FB and Instagram accounts daily. One great accomplishment was getting a pair of 85-pound hounds into a foster situation, and it just might turn out to be a foster fail. My job is 75 percent education and 25 percent actual animal handling. There is a lot of public relations involved,” Shiber said.

Shelter dogs get special treatment from ACO Shaune Jones, who takes them outside for play time to reduce stress. Jones often brings them his chicken, turkey and meatloaf leftovers. “I grew up without pets, so I started taking care of my neighbors’ pets,” Jones said.

When a resident’s dog passed away at home, ACO Ryan Urbano put on a Hazmat suit that ACOs normally use to address hoarding situations. He entered the home and took the canine for cremation arranged by the veterinarian. “He was an older dog and did not have any medical problems, it was just his time to go. The woman called Animal Control because she had no clue what to do with him,” Urbano said.

For loose-dog calls, officers check the Montclair Township dog licensing master list, which contains names, addresses, and descriptions. Dog-bite incidents are reported and handled by phone. Calls about animal cruelty should go to the Montclair Police Department.

A resident who lived alone was hospitalized with a COVID-19 infection, so ACO Julie Hamer-Kahn geared up to enter the apartment and take the woman’s cat to Cameron Animal Hospital, where it stayed as the woman recovered. “One of the most difficult parts of this job during the pandemic is the limitations of direct contact with our community,” said Hamer-Kahn, adding that she loves being a voice for wildlife and domestic animals.

Montclair Animal Control operates 24 hours a day, year-round.



## Montclair Local Pet of the Week: Onyx



*Onyx COURTESY COMMUNITIES PROMOTING ANIMAL WELFARE NJ*

Onyx was rescued from a 30-cat colony in Paterson in February where he had to fight for food and shelter. This adorable feline is about 5 and half months old, fully vetted and FIV/FelV negative. He likes cardboard boxes, chasing lasers, watching birds and loves snuggling in bed.

Do you have room in your heart and home for this snuggle bug? Contact CPAW NJ at [cpawnj@gmail.com](mailto:cpawnj@gmail.com) for

more information on how to meet Onyx. Visit [cpawnj.org](http://cpawnj.org).

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## Montclair Local Pet of the Week: Myrtle



*COURTESY COMMUNITIES PROMOTING ANIMAL WELFARE NJ*

Myrtle is about one and half years old and is blind in one eye. She is very a soft gray tabby and sweet as pie. She loves to be pet and just be nearby.

Myrtle is fully vetted and ready to give you lots of love. Contact CPAW NJ at [cpawnj@gmail.com](mailto:cpawnj@gmail.com) for more information on how to meet Myrtle.



## Montclair Local Pet of the Week: Bella



*Bella COURTESY COMMUNITIES  
PROMOTING ANIMAL WELFARE NJ*

Bella is a very confident, affectionate and playful two-year-old calico. She will fill your home with laughs and love. She is very polite, does not jump on the furniture or the tables and is best as an only cat.

Bella is fully vetted and tested negative for FIV/FelV.

Contact CPAW NJ at [cpawnj@gmail.com](mailto:cpawnj@gmail.com) for more information on how to meet Bella.



## Montclair Local Pet of the Week: Sasha



*Sasha*

*Courtesy Montclair Township Animal Shelter*

Sasha is 3-years-old. She is the sweetest girl around and loves everyone she meets. She's guaranteed to make you smile. Come meet Sasha.

The Montclair Township Animal Shelter, 77 North Willow St., is open daily from noon to 4 p.m. For information, call 973-744-8600.

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## Montclair Local Pet of the Week: Ginger



*Ginger*

*Courtesy Communities Promoting Animal Welfare NJ*

Ginger is a very playful, fun four-year-old. She's almost more like a puppy than a cat. She might just try to jump on you as you're walking by, just to get your attention, but not hurtful, just playful. She would be perfect for someone who likes to really interact with their kitty.

She came from the streets of East Orange, and was in one of the colonies that CPAW NJ feeds. Volunteer Kathy Yates said she could tell Ginger was very friendly and then when Ginger was injured it was decided that

the street life was not for her.

Ginger is spayed, vaccinated and tested, and is FIV/FelV negative. Best as an only cat, she will bring lots of joy and laughter to her own human.

Contact CPAW NJ at [cpawnj@gmail.com](mailto:cpawnj@gmail.com) for more information on how to meet Ginger.

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## Montclair Local Pet of the Week: Poppy



*Poppy*

*Courtesy Montclair Township Animal Shelter*

Poppy is a 2-and-a-half-year-old Calico. The shelter is no place for this sweet and snuggly gal.

Come meet Poppy. The Montclair Township Animal Shelter, 77 North Willow St., is open daily from noon to 4 p.m. For information, call 973-744-8600.