

MAX'S PET CONNECTION

Adoptions Report

MPC has adopted out 40 dogs in the second quarter but 36 new dogs were added to our rolls.

Facebook Update

Our Facebook page shows many of our currently available dogs.

Find us on Facebook and share your stories and photos of your rescue dog. Click on Facebook and then search maxspetconnection to reach us.

MPC Website

Go to our Website for our history, goals, applications, and available dogs.

Click on

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Hurricane Preparation for Your Pet

The Hurricane Season started officially on June 1, and lasts through November 1 as most of us know. However, the forecast was recently updated from a “less busy” season to a “busier” one in just the last few weeks. Do you know how to keep your dog (or other pets) safe if you need to evacuate? Here are some guidelines issued recently:

- Never leave your pets behind, even if you think you will be gone only a short time.
- Don't assume you will be allowed to bring your pet to an emergency shelter. Although many shelters have loosened restrictions, find out pet-friendly shelters early or pet-friendly hotels outside of the storm's path. Remember you will need to have a carrier or crate for your dog in order for it to stay in the shelter.
- Keep an updated list of “pet-friendly” places including phone numbers.
- Ask friends or relatives outside your area whether they would be willing to shelter you and your pets.
- Consider a kennel or veterinarian's office only as a last resort. Make a list of available places beforehand.

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Max's Pet Connection

Board of Directors

- Maxine Hirsch
- Mark Handley
- Joan Ramonaitis
- David St. Peter
- Donna Stroup
- Jean Welch

"HOT PAWS"

Did You Know ?

If the air temperature is 77°, asphalt pavement becomes 125°.

If the temperature is 86°, asphalt pavement becomes 135°.

If the temperature is 87°, asphalt rises to 143°

At 125°, skin destruction occurs and it can happen in 60 seconds!

Hurricane Preparation continued

Your Dog Emergency Kit:

- Current photos of you with your dog as well as descriptions of it in case of separation.
- Written information about your dog's feeding schedule, medical conditions, and behavior issues. The name and phone number of your vet.
- Medications, copy of medical records (including shots) and a first aid kit.
- Leashes, harnesses, and secure pet carriers.
- Five days of food and drinkable water, bowls, and a manual can opener if your dog eats canned food. Bags for pet waste.
- Blankets for calming or carrying a fearful dog.
- The dog's bed and/or toys if easily transportable.

In case you are not at home when an evacuation order arrives:

- Make advance arrangements with a neighbor, friend, or family member to take your dog to meet you at a specified location.
- Make sure the caregiver knows where your emergency kit for the dog is located, especially medical records.
- Give them a key to your home.

Protect your dog from the H3N2 Canine Influenza in Florida. Call your veterinarian for vaccine information. More info: UF College of Veterinary Medicine <https://vetmed-hospitals.sites.medinfo.ufl.edu/files/2017/05/Info-for-Pet-Owners-on-Canine-Influenza-1.pdf>

WHAT IS THE *SPIRIT* OF RESCUE?

Many wonderful people adopt our dogs at Max's Pet Connection and each person has a different reason for adoption— a pet for their children, the replacement of a loved dog who has passed away, a companion for an existing dog in the home, or company after a spouse has died — the list is endless. Most people have certain adoption criteria and they are looking for the best fit. There are others who uncritically adopt a dog who has a less than perfect past but they are willing to welcome the animal “as is.” That is what we mean by the *spirit of rescue*. That open mind was recently exemplified by the couple who adopted a pair of dachshunds, and, in response to a query of how things were going, said “We are still in the process of learning to adapt to each other.”

We know some wonderful examples of this open-heartedness. One older couple adopts only senior dogs and gives them a loving home for the final phase of their dogs' lives. They usually are caring for several dogs, and when one animal passes away, the couple replaces it with another older dog.

Another couple with four children (two adopted) taught them a good lesson in compassion. Although a puppy seemed appropriate to their family, the parents chose an older beagle who simply needed a home. While the children and the dog enjoy each other, the beagle's heart lies with the father and royally welcomes him on the dad's return home. Does the dog know who saved it?

Then there are the adopters who choose an “ugly” dog, if there is such a thing, because they were not sure anyone else would adopt it. A lady adopted a Chihuahua with a lolling tongue because the dog had lost her front teeth. We thought this dog was going to be a hard sell. But this dog is having the time of its life tucked in a shoulder pouch and going everywhere with its new owner. This lady had enough love to adopt several other dogs as well.

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Spirit of Rescue continued

We salute the people who adopted the puppy with only one eye; the other had to be removed after children put its eye out. There have been people who have adopted a blind senior dog. Five different families have adopted dogs recovering from surgery for broken legs. Numerous people have adopted heartworm-positive dogs even though they know it will take time for the “slow” treatment that we use to take effect. Other people have taken dogs, after surgery to remove kidney stones, who will need to be on more expensive diets for the rest of their lives. All these people who have rescued a special needs dog are themselves very special people. We always have special rescue opportunities and we want to introduce some dogs who need your help:

Bumper is a six year old, 21 lb. puggle mix (pug and beagle) with rather handsome brown, white, and black markings. Bumper lacks peripheral vision and sees only shadows on the side. His vision problems makes him appear aggressive in his crate. He is startled easily by people and other dogs he can hear and smell but approach him sideways. When he is outside the crate, the real Bumper has an entirely different persona.

His foster describes Bumper as a very loving dog who goes along with the flow of activity — either playful or quiet as needs be. He loves company and cheerfully greets home visitors. His attitude towards

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other dogs is on a case by case basis (fine with some and not with others.) He enjoys walking on a leash, is very alert to his environment, and is housetrained. His foster considers him a great companion and a joy to have around. Since his appeal is not immediate to the casual viewer, please spend a little time getting to know him. He just may be your next dog.

Next on the roster is **Lilly**, a 10 year old lab, 37 lbs. Lab mix, saved from a kill shelter. She is a sweet dog who knows basic commands, such as sit and come. She has limited vision but, with her Lab personality, she likes to play outside and keep active. She has an even temperament and gets along well with people and other dogs. If you have room for a slightly larger dog, Lilly may be the dog for you.



UPCOMING EVENT

Please keep our upscale garage sale in mind (tentatively set for October 11, 2017. Call Maggie Mastalka at 352-396-9109 or e-mail her at maggimastalka@gmail.com to offer your help or donations.



Coki is a 8 years old dachshund-chihuahua mix and, as you can see, is very attractive. She is a sweet dog, not at all aggressive, good with other dogs, and likes to hide under blankets in her crate. Unfortunately she is going deaf and ultimately will have to depend on hand signals for commands. Although she now uses a doggy door, she is not fully house- trained. Her true playful personality does not come across when she is crated. Be sure to ask to see Coki outside of her crate in order to see her very sociable nature. She would do best in a house with a fenced-in back yard, rather than depending on walking to get her exercise.

If, after reading this, you feel compelled by the *Spirit of Rescue*, come see our dogs at Pet Smart from 10 am—2 pm on Saturday. But be warned, you may fall in love not just with a calendar worthy “oh so cute” dog, but one who has a great heart and deserves yours.

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We are looking for a volunteer to lead our fundraising efforts. Please contact Jean Welch (jwelch1@embarqmail.com) if you are interested. We continue to need volunteers to help get the dogs ready for adoption and to assist at the pet store on Saturdays.