



**Connect
with us
ONLINE**

ON FACEBOOK

fb.com/WVAnimalShelter

ON TWITTER

@WVAnimalShelter



- Enclosed is my check for \$ _____
- My contribution is in memory of _____
- \$15 Basic 1-Year Membership
- \$25 Memorable Contribution
- \$500 Lifetime Membership

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Daytime Phone _____ Home Phone _____

E-mail Address _____

Mail to:

Kanawha/Charleston Humane Association

1248 Greenbrier Street

Charleston, WV 25311

CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

← *Details inside*

FUR BALL FAST APPROACHING



1248 Greenbrier Street
Charleston, West Virginia 25311
www.wvanimalshelter.com

**NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 2190
CHARLESTON, WV**

Pawprint Press

WINTER 2011

A publication of the Kanawha/Charleston Humane Association



The Life of a Feline Deputy Sheriff

by Sally the Cat

Hi, my name is Sally. I am a Police Cat and I wear a badge. I work at the Kanawha County Sheriff's Office. But life wasn't always this good for me.

Two years ago I was homeless, living on the streets of Charleston. One day while I was foraging for food, I was found behind the Kanawha County Courthouse. I was put into a truck and sent to a place we on the streets called The Shelter. It was the scariest day of my life.

I soon realized that the people who worked at The Shelter were very nice. They took very good care of me and tried to find me a home. Then one day they told me that the Sheriff's Office was calling to check on ME! I couldn't believe it – they remembered me! Next thing I knew, a man from the Sheriff's Office showed up and said he was there to pick up Sally. Finally!!

Someone wanted to take me home!!

My new home was back at the Courthouse, except this time I was inside of a building that they called Headquarters. I loved my new home and all of my new family! When I first moved in, I ran around during

the daytime and stayed in my own office at nighttime. There were some nights I could hear the deputies down the hallway working on important cases and knew they could use my help, so I learned to pull down the door handle and let myself out of my office so that I could be with them. It took them a little while, but they finally realized that I was an important asset on investigations (and they couldn't contain me in my office), so I was allowed to roam free 24/7 in headquarters.

My job is tough, but I love it. Sometimes I get to visit with children and adults who come in upset about things that have happened in their lives, and my job is to show them some love and try to get them to smile.

I have taught the deputies to properly throw little sponge balls, to wiggle strings, to buy me scratch pads and to rub my belly. I am also on a strict feeding schedule: everyday at 3pm. I have even trained some of them to visit me and keep my feeding schedule on the weekends.

Yes, life is good as a Feline Deputy Sheriff.



Police Cat Sally

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Kanawha/Charleston Humane Association is to promote the humane treatment of animals by way of education, humane animal population control and care for injured, homeless, strayed and lost animals.

SHELTER HOURS

Mon-Sat 12:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.
Sunday 12:00-3:00 p.m.

ADOPTION FEES

Cats/Kittens \$61
Dogs/Puppies \$76

Fees include first set of shots, worming and spaying/neutering. Cats and dogs (three months or older) also receive rabies shots. An additional fee is necessary for the required license tag for adult dogs. We accept cash, Visa or Mastercard. Sorry, no checks for adoptions.

CONTACT THE SHELTER

Donna Clark, Director
304-342-1576

HUMANE OFFICERS

Michael Hanna
Jeff Allen

NEWSLETTER EDITORS

Matt Browning
Mary Jo Hansen

NEWSLETTER DESIGN

Rob Russo, TWELVE TWO Design
twelvewtwo.com

NEWSLETTER PRINTING

KOMAX Business Systems



PUPPY MILLS: WHAT THEY ARE AND HOW TO STOP THEM

by Kay Michael

Sweltering in a simmering August heat, animal welfare workers struggled to remove nearly 1,000 dogs and puppies from a compound tucked away in the Wood County hinterlands.

Temperatures hovered well over 90 degrees on that summer day in 2008 as they gasped through the stench of feces and urine. Most of the creatures, some born just hours earlier, were saved.

Authorities had been alerted by an anonymous tipster complaining that dog waste was polluting a dry creek bed. When they arrived, they found over 900 creatures crammed into wire cages. It wasn't the state's only puppy mill. In 2010, 100 dogs were seized from a Martinsburg kennel and another 114 from a Falling Waters facility.

Those raids grabbed headlines. But in truth, there's no way to know how many puppy mills

operate around the state. Breeders are required to neither register nor report the extent of their operations. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) ostensibly licenses and inspects large-scale facilities under the Animal Welfare Act. But officials of the Humane Society of the United States have found that federal guidelines are minimal and don't address the number of dogs that may be stuffed into wire cages, a lack of human contact and failure of kennel owners to exercise the dogs. So breeding animals spend their lives in cages, some spinning obsessively or chewing on themselves. In extreme cases, and to keep down noise, operators "debark" their animals. Because

veterinary care is expensive, some reportedly shove pipes down the throats of dogs to crush their vocal cords.

Astonishingly, puppy mills were spawned by the USDA, the very agency that purports to inspect and regulate them. The Federation of Humane Organizations of West Virginia has reported that in the 1940s, the USDA promoted puppy mills as a way for Midwest farmers to make money following a widespread crop failure. So puppies became and remain a cash crop.

The federation also estimates that 99 percent of dogs sold in pet stores began their lives in puppy mills.

99% OF DOGS SOLD IN PET STORES BEGAN THEIR LIVES IN PUPPY MILLS

Many state legislatures have passed laws regulating the number of breeding dogs an owner may keep. That hasn't happened in West Virginia. Each year, representatives of animal welfare organizations lobby lawmakers to approve such legislation. And each year, opponents succeed in killing the measures.

Among those fighting reform measures is the American Kennel Club, which contends such laws would be harmful to reputable breeders.

But their argument makes no sense. Proposed legislation wouldn't affect owners with no more than 10 breeding females. Those with 11 to 30 dogs would be required to receive a Class 1 Breeder License that carries a \$250 fee. The proposal would mandate that those with 30 to 50 dogs receive a Class 2 license at a cost of \$500. No breeder would be allowed to house more than 50 dogs.

The legislation would also spell out procedures to ensure that the dogs are humanely treated. Solid floors would be required in cages. As it

stands, most mills equip enclosures with wire mesh floors so that feces can pass through the openings and onto the area below. As a result, many creatures who have spent their lives in these enclosures are terrified of grass and carpet.

There's no way to know if our lawmakers will enact humane legislation. But you can make a difference. Puppy mills can't operate if there's no market for their "wares." If you're in the market for a pet, check your area animal shelter.

If your heart is set on a purebred dog, you just may find it there. If not, look for warning signs that the pet you're considering is from a puppy mill. Never buy from a pickup truck in a parking lot. Beware of sellers who advertise online and offer to ship the puppy to you. Insist on visiting the breeder's premises and seeing the parents of the puppy. And never buy from a pet store, even if you are told the dog is from a USDA-inspected dealer. That means nothing.

There's no denying the urge to snap up a pet that has come from such circumstances. But as long as we do business with pet shops, puppy mills will thrive. And the suffering will continue. Meanwhile, it's likely that puppy factories will proliferate in West Virginia as other states enact humane legislation. Pennsylvania, where Lancaster County was once dubbed "Puppy Mill Capital of the East," has cracked down on commercial breeders, making our state even more attractive to those who regard living creatures as nothing more than a cash crop.

If you would like to help persuade lawmakers to end the cruelty, please contact the Kanawha-Charleston Humane Association at 342-1576.

"50 Haircuts..." fundraiser a success

TOURING STYLIST VOWS TO MAKE THE EVENT AN ANNUAL OCCURRENCE

by Matt Browning

In August, KCHA took part in "50 Haircuts in 50 States in 50 Days," a nationwide fundraiser coordinated by master stylist and Guinness Book record holder Patrick Lomantini.

Lomantini stopped by the My Shoppe Hair Salon in Cross Lanes to cut hair for one day as part of his cross-country trek with

proceeds going to the Kanawha Charleston Humane Association's spay/neuter program. To date, over \$2,000 has been raised by the event with more money still coming in from merchandise sales.

"We were very excited to be a part of Patrick's record-setting venture," says Kimberly Hutton, KCHA board president. "We are very appreciative that he contacted us and are thrilled

that he surpassed his 50-haircut goal in Charleston. We look forward to welcoming Patrick back next year!"

After completing his cross-country trek, Lomantini announced that

the event will become an annual affair, with his visit to West Virginia falling in August of 2012. By the end of his inaugural visit to the Mountain State, he had given

nearly 60 haircuts and hopes to surpass that number next year.

My Shoppe Hair Salon is still selling commemorative t-shirts from the fundraiser with all monies going to KCHA. The cost is \$10. My Shoppe is located at 132 Goff Mountain Road in Cross Lanes. For more information, contact the salon at 304-776-3266.



12TH ANNUAL FUR BALL FAST APPROACHING

by Kim Hutton, Event Chair

Our biggest fundraiser of the year is just around the corner. It's time to get ready for Fur Ball 2012! The event will be held on Friday, April 13, 2012, from 6:00 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the Coonskin Clubhouse. That's right—we aren't superstitious! Come and enjoy a wonderful appetizer buffet, silent auction and dancing as we celebrate our 12th annual Fur Ball. We will have various sponsorship levels available starting in January, as well as single tickets (available about three weeks before the event), and welcome donations for the silent auction.

If you would like more information about the event, becoming a sponsor or donating to the silent auction, please contact Kim Hutton at 304-415-5650 or call the shelter at 304-342-1576.

Donations & Thank Yous

In honor of Mary Adams by Kanawha City Elementary and staff for Mary's retirement.

Thanks to Cunningham, Parker and Johnson Funeral Home for painting the parking spots and directional arrows

Thanks Chester Broyles, Vaughn Shafer and Mark Maltempie

Thanks to Olivia Crews for donations from her birthday

In memory of Jasper LaBarbara by Mary LaBarbara

In memory of Lacu by Teresa Koon

Thanks to Kristi Rhule and Great Expectations Realty for the donations

In memory of Daisy and Cinnamon and Mollie by Robert and Rebecca Cochran

In memory of Hass, Little, Big, and Lady by Nancy and Bob Douglas

In memory of Alice, Missey and Maxx by Kenneth E. Rubin

Memory of Abby and Max, former pet page sponsors, by Elaine Davis

In memory of Mi Ling, Pierre and Dog by Joy Wright

In memory of Sally and Sam by John Burkard.

Thanks to Mrs. Armstead's class at Bible Center Preschool for donations

In memory of Dunmore, Bear Bear and Duke by Angus Peyton

In memory of Misty, Chelsea and Sean by Barbara Seekely

In memory of Peggy Sue by Doris and Rusty Patrick

Thanks to Kanawha Valley Board of Realtors for the wonderful donations

In memory of Sean Thomas-Bane from Norma Thomas

In memory of Peewee by Jacqueline Webb

Thanks to Joshua Telisko for birthday donations

In memory of Roscoe by Gwyn Wolfe

In memory of Lucky the West Virginia Brown Dog by Susan Mischler

In memory of Jennifer Ziegler and Max by Alexandria Vargo

Thanks to Sophia Alexander for donations in honor of her birthday

In memory of Whiskey by Monica Watkins

In memory of Bo by Monica Watkins

Thanks to Wells Fargo Insurance Service of West Virginia for their food drive

Thanks to the parents of two-year-old Evan Holmes for donations to the shelter for his birthday and in memory of their beloved cat Franko

Thanks to Dr. Gina Puzzuoli for the donation to buy a new washer and dryer

In memory of Whiskey by Julie and Jason Watkins

In memory of Prissy by John Derito

Thanks to South Charleston Convention and Visitors Bureau for donations and treats

Thanks to Cheryl and Michael Bast for donations in honor of Heidi Talmage and Chris Nagorka's wedding

In honor of Cassi, Tori, Maci Allen from their Aunt Lisa Lewis

In honor of Christopher Nagorka and Heidi Talmage on their wedding by Edward Weis

In honor of Allan McNeel DVM at Cross Lanes Vet by Shelia and Michael Neal

In memory of Gypsy by Pam Tair and Gary Hart

In honor of Amanda Hurley for birthday donations

In memory of Floralee Cohen

In memory of Kalbee, Jedadi and Tarik by Richard Rashid