

Humane Happenings



Humane Society of Citrus County FLORIDA INC.

Volume 3, Issue 8

August 2009

PUPPY MILL AWARENESS DAY - SEPTEMBER 15

Puppy mills are nothing new. These mass dog breeding operations have been around for decades. They continue to thrive because they prey on consumers who are smitten by too-cute-for-words puppies in pet store windows and on fancy internet sites. But behind the friendly façade of the local pet shop, the pastoral scenes on a breeders website, or the neighborhood newspaper ad, there often lies a puppy mill. These canine breeding facilities house dogs in shockingly poor conditions. Life is particularly bad for “breeding stock”, dogs who live their entire lives in cages and are continually bred for years, without human companionship and with little hope of ever becoming part of a family. These dogs receive little or no veterinary care and never see a bed, a treat or a toy. After their fertility wanes, breeding animals are commonly killed, abandoned or sold to another mill. The annual result of all this breeding is thousands of puppies, many with behavior or health problems.

Several hundred thousand puppies are shipped cross-country to be sold in pet shops but many are sold in newspaper ads or internet sites and are often accompanied

by false claims such as “We’d never sell puppies from a puppy mill” or promises that the puppies are “home raised”, “farm raised” or “raised with kids/grandkids”. The ploys of the puppy mill are designed to dupe a well-intentioned family into buying a puppy and keeping the engine of cruelty working overtime.

Because a puppy mill is a business, they are designed purely for profit, not for the well being of dogs. Laws are on the books to provide minimum care standards but enforcement has been spotty at best. The USDA licenses and inspects for violations of the Animal Welfare Act. But puppy mills can successfully navigate around these laws simply by selling directly to the consumer or avoiding the reach of law enforcement who are understaffed and overworked.

Continued page 3

Our Mission:

THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF CITRUS COUNTY FL INC IS A 501(C)3 CORPORATION DEDICATED TO THE PROTECTION OF ALL ANIMALS. IT IS OUR GOAL TO RESCUE AND FIND FOREVER HOMES FOR AS MANY ABANDONED, ABUSED PETS AS POSSIBLE AND TO TRY TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC TO THE IMPORTANCE OF SPAY/NEUTER TO ALLEVIATE THE PROBLEM OF THE OVER-POPULATION OF UNWANTED, ABUSED, ABANDONED PETS..

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TRAINING YOUR DOG

- ◆ MAKE TRAINING ENJOYABLE. MAKE SURE YOU'RE IN THE RIGHT MOOD
- ◆ MAKE IT SHORT, 5 TO 10 MINUTES
- ◆ REWARD ONLY WHEN HE PERFORMS THE TASK
- ◆ THE OPPOSITE OF REWARD IS "NO" REWARD, NOT PUNISHMENT
- ◆ EXERCISE BEFORE TRAINING SO HE IS NOT BURSTING WITH ENERGY
- ◆ USE SMALL, BITE-SIZED REWARDS SO YOU DON'T LOSE HIS ATTENTION WHILE HE CHEWS
- ◆ USE HIGH, SING-SONG PRAISE
- ◆ REWARD A COMPLETED TASK WITHIN 1 SECOND SO HE RELATES THE TREAT TO THE TASK
- ◆ USE SHORT COMMANDS-COME, SIT, STAY, DOWN
- ◆ ALWAYS END ON A POSITIVE NOTE, REWARDING A COMMAND YOU KNOW HE CAN PERFORM

Humane Happenings

"UNFORGETTABLE" A NIGHT TO REMEMBER!



THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF
CITRUS COUNTY

PRESENTS

"UNFORGETTABLE"

A NIGHT TO REMEMBER

Do you remember your Senior Prom? Come join us for an "Unforgettable" evening of dining and dancing to the music of "Re-Mix" and remembering that wonderful evening years ago when you and your special someone danced the night away to the oldies you remember. If you didn't get to go to your prom, now is the time to create a new memory with someone special.

NOVEMBER 14, 2009

6:00 PM - 10:00 PM

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

HWY 581 - INVERNESS

Formal/semi-formal. All proceeds will benefit the many companion animals we rescue and find forever homes. Tickets are \$35 and can be obtained by calling 352-341-2222.

OTHER WAYS YOU CAN HELP!

Before heading out to the store, go to www.goodsearch.com and select the Humane Society of Citrus County as your favorite charity. You can shop online at Wal-Mart, Pet Smart, Barnes & Noble, Office Depot and many other stores and we receive a percent of the sale. Also, check out www.humanesocietycitrus.com and click on the Pet ID and Stuffed Adoptions link. Remember also to go to www.freekibble.com. We receive free food when you click.



SOME OF OUR HAPPY TAILS!



GANDOLPH & NEW MOM & DAD



CALYPSO & NEW MOM & DAD



TRIXIE & NEW MOM & DAD



ADRIENNE AKA ROXANNE & NEW MOM & DAD

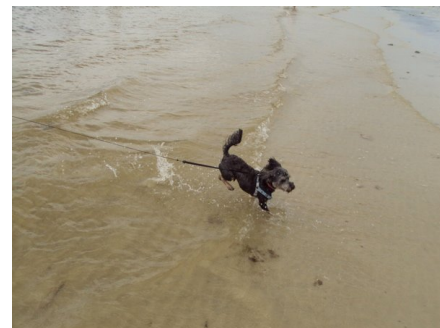
CASSY & NEW DAD



NAOMI AKA MAGGIE & NEW MOM



MAX AKA TOBY ENJOYING HIS FOREVER HOME



Continued from page 1: Puppy Mills

With millions of unwanted dogs and cats dying every year in animal shelters, there is simply no reason for animals to be bred and sold for the pet-shop trade. Without these stores, the financial incentive for puppy mills would disappear and the suffering of these dogs would end. The best way to find an animal companion is through an animal shelter or rescue group.

Please don't buy animals from pet shops or breeders. Each puppy purchased from a pet shop, a backyard breeder or from the internet serves an industry with no conscience. Thousands of unwanted animals of all ages and breeds are euthanized every day. Adopt and spay or neuter a rescue companion to help break the cycle of suffering, misery and death.

OFFER PROPER DOG TOYS

When you are looking to keep your dog entertained, you'll find that toys are very important. Like children, dogs love to play and need to be stimulated and having the right toy to play with and chew on is good for them. You should never give your dog an old shoe or shirt to play with. They will assume any shoe or any shirt is appropriate.

Remember, just because your dog wants to play with it, doesn't make it a great toy. While dogs love things with buttons, string, ribbon and rubber bands, any of these things can be a choking hazard to your dog. Just because a ball is too small for your dog, doesn't mean he won't want to play with it. It could become lodged in his mouth or throat. Similarly, bones might count as toys but if he chews them up and swallows a lot of splinters, he could end up with gastrointestinal distress and be in a fair amount of pain.

So what kind of toys are good for your dog? The first type are hard plastic toys that are good for playing fetch. They will be too large for your dog to swallow and too tough for him to rip to bits. Rope toys that have been knotted to prevent fraying are another good choice. And while dogs love tennis balls, they can be a choking hazard for large or even medium sized dogs.

Some dogs love having soft toys to cuddle or to satisfy their "kill" instinct. If your dog only wants to carry it around, make sure it's small but not small enough to be a choking hazard. If he loves to pounce on it and shake it, try to find a toy that is about the size of prey they would naturally chase.

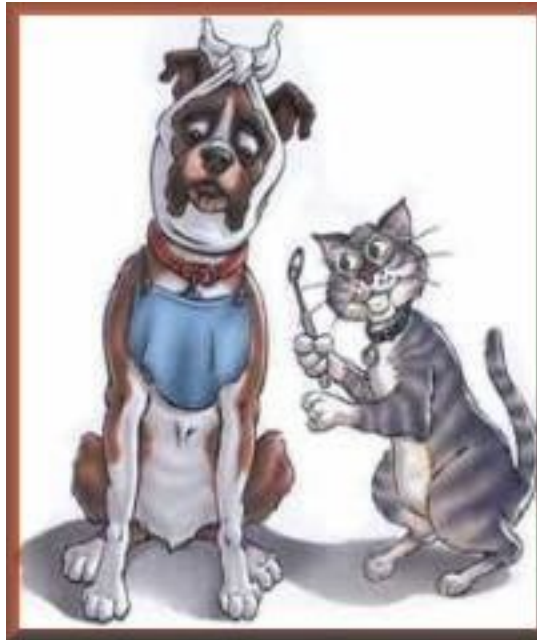
Take some time and really consider what toys are going to be healthy and stimulating for your companion.

THANKS TO OUR JULY SUPPORTERS

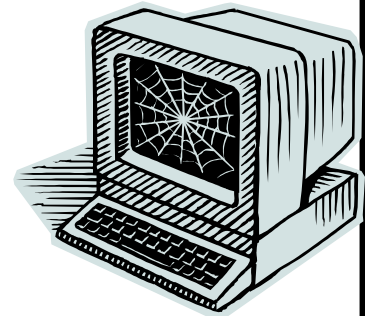
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|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| * Una & Alex Burgos | * Richard & Virginia Fitzgerald | * Patricia/Daniel Cyr |
| * Wayne & Geraldine Gangler | * Charles & Sandra Stobber | * Adrienne/Matt Fox |
| * Fred & Donna McEwen | * Philip & Helen Perrone | * Jim/Jean Janicki |
| * Betty Lindskog | * Doug & Juanita Oxford | * Jim/Cheryl O'Hara |
| * Capital City Bank | * Employees of Progress Energy | * Nadia Caron-Davis |
| * Novie Greene | * Thomas & Bianca Fox | * Cathy Collette |
| * Pat Rupp | * Sandra Knapp | * Richard Bradmuller |
| * Genevieve Verdone | * Roger & Hazel Carlson | * Publix |
| * Lydia Peck | * BowWow Boutique | * Mr/Mrs Buzz |
| * Linda McCallister | * Joan Scott | Fredrickson |
| * Lance & Carolyn Smith | * Francoise Haasch, Esq | * Rick Corneliussen |
| * Doris Sartorio | * Barbara Slade | * R&B Car Sales |
| * Charles King | * James & Helen Meek | * Franklin Realty |

PET TIP OF THE MONTH

Bad breath in a dog is often dismissed as “doggy breath” but it can often signal periodontal disease. Preventing this disease can result in longer, happier lives for your pets. Dogs and cats rarely get cavities but plaque and tartar can lead to tooth decay, bleeding gums and tooth loss. The bacteria can flow through the bloodstream causing damage to your pets major organs. Make sure your pet’s annual visit to the veterinarian includes a dental checkup and a cleaning if necessary.



**WE'RE ON THE WEB
AT:
www.humanesocietycitrus.com**



**IMPORTANT: 4th
week of September-
National Deaf Dog
Awareness Week**

**HOW LONG
WILL YOU
BE GONE?**



Looking For Their Forever Homes



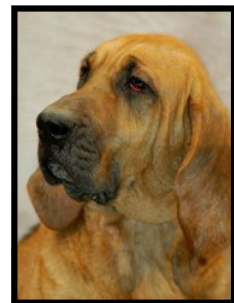
JUDGE



BELLE



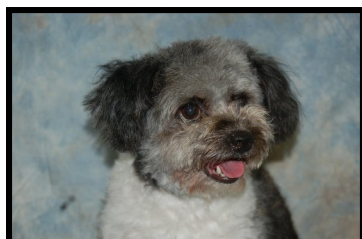
CLIPPER



ELLIE MAE



FLICKER



SUGAR



SPICE



SOCKS

The world is a dangerous place, not because of those who do evil but because of those who look on and do nothing.

Humane Society of Citrus County

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If you would prefer we e-mail your newsletter, please let us know.



**PAWS-ITIVELY
PETS ADOPTION
CENTER**

NEXT GENERAL

MEETING:

September 12, 2009

10:00 AM

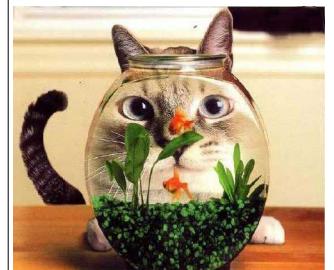
New Members, Volunteers and guests are always welcome to join us at our monthly meetings. We are always looking for new ideas to help rescue more of the many pets who find our door. Please join us!

DONATIONS

The Humane Society of Citrus County FL Inc. receives no funding from any State or Local agency. We do not receive funds from the Humane Society of the United States. That's why local donations are so important to the continued success of our Mission. Thanks for your support.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY

"When I play with my cat, who knows whether she is not amusing herself with me more than I with her" ~ Montaigne



OUR LEGAL STATUS: Doc #745226 issued December 12, 1978 on file in Tallahassee. Registered with Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Affairs. Copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling toll-free 800-435-7352 within the state. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval or recommendation by the State. All dues and contributions are tax exempt to the full extent allowed by law. Our registration number issued by Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services is CH1815. 100% of all contributions are retained by Humane Society of Citrus County, FL, Inc. No percentage is retained by any professional solicitor.