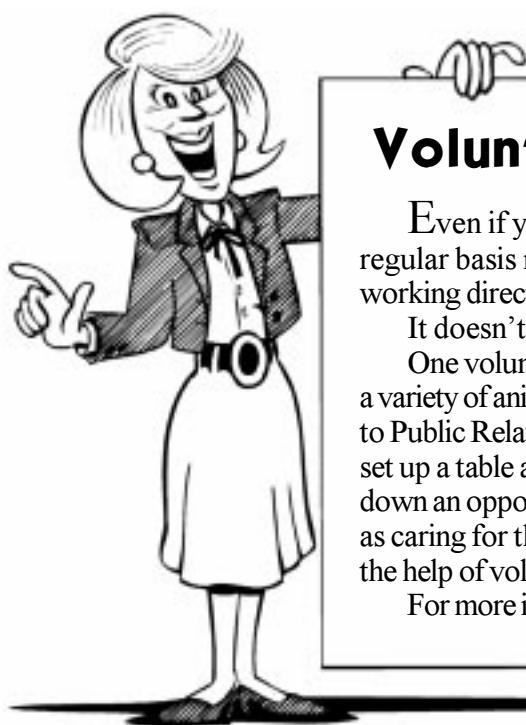


Employee Of The Quarter



Congratulations to Ryan Jordan, employee of the quarter. Officer Jordan's work has been above and beyond what is expected for animal control officers and cruelty investigators. He always does whatever is necessary to make the department run better and more efficiently. He assisted in writing the employee training manual and developed a computer program designed to make typing search warrants, seizure orders, and other frequently used forms faster for all the investigators in the department. He also has designed many new forms, and redesigned most of the old forms used by the department. He worked diligently on the purchase and installation of surveillance equipment for animal control and the shelter to assist in abandonment cases. Most recently he has designed another software program designed to help the animal control dispatcher enter officers' daily activity information in a faster and more organized manner. Officer Jordan is incredibly compassionate both towards animals and people. He has a great sense of humor, and is always able to find humor even in the most stressful situations. He is constantly seeking ways to improve the department and takes the initiative to make sure these ideas are implemented. He is a vital member of the animal control department.



Volunteers Help Through Education

Even if you have a deep love for animals, volunteering at the shelter on a regular basis may not work for you. Many people would like to help AHS, but working directly with the animals is too difficult physically or emotionally.

It doesn't matter - there are still jobs you can do to help!

One volunteer job that is fun, and provides education to the community about a variety of animal care issues is manning a AHS booth at various events. According to Public Relations Director Elizabeth McHatton, there are many opportunities to set up a table at a variety of venues in Buncombe County. "We never want to turn down an opportunity to meet the public and give them information on such subjects as caring for their pets and the importance of spaying and neutering. But we need the help of volunteers to accomplish this."

For more information, email Elizabeth at publicrelations@asvillehumane.org.

Coordinator Helps Staff With Volunteer Efforts

Maureen Fitzgerald expresses exactly what people who perform volunteer jobs have learned; "It feels so good when you give!" She had always performed charitable work, so when she moved to Asheville she looked for one activity to donate her time to. Luckily for AHS she found our shelter.

Realizing that "there is such a need," Maureen has spent over a year coming to the shelter one day a week to walk the dogs, play with the cats, and most importantly, remind them that "someone loves them and their lives will be better soon."

Now, in addition to her time with the animals, she has taken on the task of Volunteer Coordinator. She provides introductory training at the shelter for new volunteers and works with the staff and established volunteers on ways they can best help the animals.

"The volunteers need to understand the stress the staff experiences on a daily basis," Maureen explains. "The people working in this shelter are extraordinary people performing tasks that most people do not want to hear about, let alone do." In turn she encourages staff to take the time to greet the volunteers with a smile and appreciation for what they do.

Jim Fulton, Assistant Shelter manager says Maureen has helped tremendously. "She has made it so the volunteers are more a part of our daily operation. There is a definitely a better relationship between our staff and everyone who comes in here to help us."

For more information about joining the AHS volunteer program you may access our website at www.asvillehumane.org and download an application. Or you contact Maureen at mpainefitz@cs.com.

Asheville Humane Society



180 Merrimon Avenue
Asheville, NC 28801
www.asvillehumane.org
(828) 236-3885

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Paw Prints

A publication of Asheville Humane Society/Buncombe County Friends for Animals, Inc. WINTER 2003

Reworked Ordinance Protects Animals And People

Animals in Buncombe County are now more protected, as is the public. After many months of work by AHS Executive Director Shelly Moore and Mimi Paige Foundation Chairperson Ellen Frost, Buncombe County commissioners approved final changes to the County Animal Control Ordinances on December 2.

The biggest addition to the ordinance is the requirement that all dogs and cats six months or older residing in unincorporated Buncombe County must be spayed or neutered, or the owner must purchase an "unaltered animal permit" for \$100.

"I am very optimistic about this change," says Moore. "It will probably take more than a year or two for our shelter to begin to see the results of this unique law. Although it is only complaint driven, it brings the issue to the forefront of pet owners' minds. People who were not thinking about getting an animal altered now see it as more of a priority."

Asheville Humane Society, Animal Compassion Network, and Asheville Kennel Club all have low or no-cost vouchers available for any resident who cannot afford the cost of the surgery. This portion of the ordinance goes into effect on February 1, 2004, and for 60 days after that date only warning citations will be issued for unaltered animals without a permit.



According to Moore, another integral piece to the animal overpopulation issue is addressed by the

Publicity Breaks Abandonment Case

Animal Control Director David Long says one of the worst animal cruelty cases he has seen concerned a chow-shepherd mix left tied to the door of a veterinarian's office with a choke chain deeply grown into the flesh of its neck. The dog had to have been in terrible pain for a long time, and it took several surgeries to repair the problem.

"We had no leads in the case until the local TV station, WLOS, picked up the story," recalls Long. "The publicity caused the owner to turn himself in. The city charged him with one count of abandonment, and we (AHS) charged him with two counts of cruelty to animals."



The injured dog, Kyra, was placed in a foster home until the case could be resolved. She had some behavioral problems; in particular, she wasn't very friendly towards men. The foster mom would call and check in every week or so at first, and always had positive news about her recovery. "The last time I checked on her, I pulled up and saw Kyra running back and forth with her Kong toy, and playing with her foster mother. I could tell she was really enjoying all the attention, especially being petted. Her physical injuries were almost completely healed, and I could see that she was healing emotionally as well."

On December 9, 2003 Jonathan Paul Anderson pled guilty to one count of abandonment and one count of cruelty to animals. One count of cruelty was dropped as part of a plea agreement. Mr. Anderson was sentenced by Judge Peter Roda to a 30 day suspended sentence, one year of probation, a \$200 community service fee, court costs, and 50 hours of community service to be served at the Animal Shelter. In addition,

... continued on page 3

... continued on page 2

Calendar of Events:

JANUARY 25, SUN: "Chip-N-Chat" at the AHS Shelter. Microchip your companion animals, 2:00 - 3:00, tour the shelter, and enjoy light snacks, 1:00 to 4:00.

FEBRUARY 27-28, FRI & SAT: *Book Sale* to benefit the animals; Relaxed Reader Cafe & Used Books, 721 Haywood Road, 8:00 to 7:00.

MARCH 6, SAT: *Rabies Clinic*, at Pet Supplies Plus \$5 per animal, bring current receipt for 5 year shot, and provide restraints for all animals! 9:00 to 1:00.

APRIL 3, SAT: *Rabies Clinic*, at Pet Supplies Plus \$5 per animal, bring current receipt for 5 year shot, and provide restraints for all animals! 9:00 to 1:00.

MAY 1, SAT: *Anti-Cruelty Walk* and Cat Photo Contest; Asheville City/County Plaza; registration at 9:00. *The Shelter will open at 12:00 today.*

Tremendous gratitude is expressed to Elizabeth Moorefield, having bequeathed a portion of her estate to Asheville Humane Society. Her generosity will help Asheville Humane Society greatly in its work to further improve the quality of life for all animals in Buncombe County.

How to Remember AHS in Your Will...

YOU CAN GIVE "the gift that keeps on giving" by making a bequest to Asheville Humane Society in your will. Gifts to the shelter are retained as a permanent endowment to aid Asheville Humane Society in the areas of education, assistance and cruelty investigation. If you'd like to help assure the quality of animal assistance in our area for years to come, have your attorney insert a provision in your will, such as: "I give the sum of \$_____ (or _____% of my estate) to Asheville Humane Society, a division of Buncombe County Friends for Animals, Inc."

For more information, contact us at (828) 236-3885.

Your Dog's Doghouse May Not Be Doing the Job...

Make sure your dog stays warm this winter. Call us today for FREE doghouse plans that you can use to build a cold-proof shelter for your dog.

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Contact Information:
Shelter: 253-6807
Animal Services: 253-1195
Administration: 236-3885
www.ashevillehumane.org

David Long Promoted to Animal Control Director

When Asheville Humane Society decided to honor our workers by selecting an "Employee of the Quarter," the first choice was an easy one. Using words like "conscientious, thorough, self starter, and compassionate," his supervisors selected Animal Control Officer David Long.

Long had always been interested in a career in law enforcement, receiving a degree in Criminal Justice from AB Tech, and working private security jobs. He says, "I didn't even know this world [of animal control] existed before I applied to AHS. My course work did not address animal issues at all." Since his hire by AHS he has taken classes in criminal investigations relating to animal control, illegal animal fighting, rabies control, and chemical capture.

When the position of Director of Animal Control became available, Officer Long applied for the job. AHS Executive Director Shelly Moore thought he would make a good director, but to ensure that AHS hired the best available person, she advertised the position nationwide. Dozens of good applications were received, and several candidates came to Asheville to be interviewed. Again, Long was the first choice.

"David's work ethic and true understanding of the legalities of enforcement and due process are balanced with his commitment to helping the animals," says Moore. "It is hard to find that balance in a

person, but it is what you need to be successful in this business." Long has decided, "This is definitely the career for me. I really enjoy seeing my work pay off in making this community a better place for both the animals and people."

Join Us!

If you are not currently a member of Asheville Humane Society, please consider taking a moment to join us in our efforts to make Buncombe County a better place "for both the animals and people," by using the envelope provided within this newsletter. *We depend on YOU for support.*

Wish list:

- ☞ Purina dog and cat products
- ☞ Toys-especially Kong
- ☞ Newspapers
- ☞ Blankets & towels
- ☞ Dog biscuits
- ☞ Rinsed aluminum cans
- ☞ Kitty litter
- ☞ Bleach
- ☞ Disposable bowls (Cool Whip containers, etc. for animal control officers to leave animals food)
- ☞ Kodak film: 35mm, 400 speed
- ☞ Used dog houses

Now, a convenient drop-off location east of Asheville for your donations to the animals:

Bone-A-Fide Bakery and Botique in Black Mountain, at 118-C College Street, behind Black Mtn. News.



Abandonment Case ... continued from page 1

Mr. Anderson is not allowed to own any other animals while residing in Buncombe County.

"Publicity and the help of the public is always needed to fight animal cruelty," says Long. "We can't find these animals by ourselves, we rely on those phone calls, alerting us to abandonment and cruelty."

Kyra has been adopted by her foster family, and has been given a safe and loving environment in which to heal. AHS could not have solved this case without the help of WLOS/News 13. Thanks to Asheville City Animal Services, AHS staff, WLOS, and the District Attorney's Office, and of course Kyra's foster family, Kyra was given a voice and it was heard. Cases like this one help send a message that cruelty to animals will not be tolerated in Buncombe County.

Looking Forward to DC 2004

Last October provided us with just a taste of what rain can do to a Doggie Carnival. Although the day turned out to be beautiful, it was preceded by 24 hours of deluge, and many chose activities that would not include the aroma of their soggy canines.

For those who came out anyway, the races and contests were on, and hundreds of dog lovers competed for trophies including "Asheville's Fastest Dog" (winner pictured here with his tired Husky), "Mixed Breed Beauty Contest," and "Dog and Owner Look-Alike Contest." A fun day was had by all, and we are looking forward to a doggone good carnival again this October of 2004!



Reworked Ordinance ... continued from page 1

prohibition of displaying any dog or cat in a public place (such as parking lots) for the purpose of selling or giving the animal away. "This is intended to reduce the number of animals indiscriminately bred and to reduce impulse adoption or buying of animals [usually unaltered] which therefore reduce the number of animals brought to the county shelter," said Moore. All Buncombe County non-profit, 501(c)(3) animal welfare organizations may receive a free permit for public adoptions.

Other sections of the ordinance that have been refined include definitions of such phrases as: Abandoned animal; Cruelty to animals; Significant food, water and shelter; Keeper (as opposed to owner); and Secure enclosure.

Changes to the leash law now stipulate that animals off their owner's property must be physically restrained as opposed to voice restraint. Again this provision is complaint driven.

Standards have been established in the ordinance

Results Of Survey

It is a fact in business that when you ask for customer feedback, the majority of what you will receive will be from dissatisfied customers. People who are happy with the status quo rarely take the time to say so.

Imagine then our surprise, when we included a "Paw Prints Reader Survey" in a Paw Prints newsletter last summer, and from the over 100 responses, there were less than half a dozen expressing dissatisfaction with

the newsletter.

The best part of the results, for our Paw Prints editor Elizabeth McHatton and her volunteers, was that many readers took the time to tell us exactly what you would like to be reading in Paw Prints.

Some requests, while good ones, we won't be able to fulfill at this time. Suggestions of adding color or more pages are too costly. Including animals for adoption would be difficult because of the amount of time it takes to lay out, print, and mail each issue. The

continued on next page . . .



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FALL MEMORIALS and honorariums

- Jules Bradshaw in honor of **Alison, Lindsay, John, Sidney, Grady and Brett**
- White Oak Financial Management, Inc. in memory of **Ally**
- Georgeanna Heintz in honor of **Asheville Veterinary Associates** and **Charlotte Street Animal Hospital** for the loving care they took of Missy
- Caryl Houghton in honor of **Aussie, Kipper, and Baby Roo**
- Sondra Allison in memory of **Barney**
- Jim and Mary Ann Hannah in memory of **Richard Berger**
- Janet Mondoux in memory of **Richard Berger**
- Howard Overholt in memory of **Richard Berger**
- Mr. and Mrs. Gary Panovec in memory of **Richard Berger**
- Catherine Overholt in memory of **Richard Berger**
- Ned and Adelaide Davis in honor of **Katherine and Mark Brooks**
- Todd Chambers in honor of Machel Cathey
- John Ptak, Patti Digh, Emma and Tess, in memory of **Chatham**
- Colleen and Jack Ramsey in memory of **Chief**
- Joseph Godden and Valerie Ann Leff in honor of **Nancy Clark**
- Ed and Ruth Crowley in memory of **Leonard "Len" Colwell**
- Kathy and Mark Bohan in honor of the **Cutler Family**
- Mary Prichard in memory of **Little Daudi**
- Elizabeth and John Campbell in memory of **Dixie**
- Janet LeFrancois in celebration of the marriage of **Cindy Dollar and Randy Richards**
- Donna and Fred Pratt in celebration of the marriage of **Cindy Dollar and Randy Richards**
- Ann and Mike Young in memory of **Dini Green**
- Susan Jumper in honor of **Beth Gunn**
- G.B. Nordlander in honor of **Robert Hulett**
- Fred and Liz Chandler in honor of **Ann Lewis**
- Shirley, Ernest, James and William Ferguson in memory of **Lug**
- Terry Henderson in honor of **Miss Fannie**
- Bob and Jan Beebe in honor of **Colleen Ramsey's** birthday
- Barbara Mills in honor of **Mrs. Ellen Richardson**
- Jerald Breitman in honor of **Dr. Richardson's** first appointment with Toya
- George Statler Jr. in memory of **Dan Staley**
- Jill Hartmann in memory of **Gladys Stephens**
- Rev. Ines Waring in memory of **Tim**
- Gary Miller in memory of **Travis T**
- Lissa and Herb Pierson in memory of **Mrs. Jack West**
- Stuart Kaufman in honor of **Adam Benjamin Winston**
- Kathy and Arnold Hansen in memory of **Jan Wood's mother**

Trail Hound Gear Shop

Congratulations to the Trail Hound, having transitioned nicely into a cozy new home with Soapy Dog. Trail Hound is focusing on a brand new line of custom handmade gear which is available now, and the "Leash Masters" dog hiking club on Sunday continues. Please RSVP to attend, it is FREE. A new and improved website at www.trailhound.com is frequently updated and is a source for dog happenings of all sorts. AHS has its own bulletin board at the new Trail Hound, so stop by and say hello for us!

Results ... continued

animals would already be adopted by the time *Paw Prints* was in our readers' hands. In addition, our website, www.ashevillehumane.org, provides a listing of adoptable animals which is updated daily.

Other ideas were in conflict: "The type is too big . . . if it were smaller you could fit in more articles," and "The type is too small. I am elderly and have trouble reading."

Some requests have already been implemented: rights and responsibilities of an AHS membership were covered in our Spring 2003 issue (archived on our website), and we have begun regular articles about our employees under "Employee of the Quarter" feature in each issue.

By far the most requested type of articles were those concerning cruelty cases, and their results. But nearly everyone mentioning this subject was quick to add they wanted to hear only "happy endings." We will begin to include more of these stories, but like the cases themselves, not all endings are happy ones.

Other survey ideas which we will try to incorporate into future issues include, a children's section, successful adoption stories, and training and education tips for pet caretakers.

Thanks for your input and for your continued support.