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Tax Exempt Status Update

The Scott County Humane Society, Inc., is pleased to announce that we received 501(c)(3) tax exempt status from the IRS, retroactively effective to our date of incorporation, June 28, 2004.

We are THRILLED that donations made by our members and donors are now tax-deductible. This is a great advancement for the SCHS and we hope that it will encourage

continued support of our programs.

Tax exempt donations may be mailed to SCHS Inc., P.O. Box 1535, Gate City, Virginia, 24251.

Other donations needed:

- Food
- Bedding Supplies
- Crates/Kennels
- Leashes/Collars
- FOSTER HOMES

Please note: The SCHS does NOT currently have a shelter or facility for animals in need of adoption. We rely completely on foster homes to house animals that come into our care.

Therefore, one of our greatest needs is additional foster homes and donations earmarked for our long-term goal of opening a shelter for animals in need of adoption.

Ft. Blackmore Man Charged with Cruelty to Animals

When Scott County Sheriff's Deputies responded to serve a warrant at a Ft. Blackmore residence on December 17, 2007, they found four severely malnourished dogs at the home. Animal Control Officer Rick Barger responded and charged the owner, Clyde Lee Lane, with four counts of cruelty to animals.

All four dogs were transported to the Animal Shelter and were later relinquished by Lane to the shelter. Sadly, one dog was in such poor condition that it died at the

shelter; another later died in a foster home.

Officer Barger contacted Bob Barker, SCHS Treasurer, and requested assistance with care for the dogs. Barker promptly took the three surviving dogs into his care. The SCHS provided all funding for the medical care and upkeep of the dogs, thanks to help from our generous donors.

The three dogs were treated by veterinarian Dr. David Redwine, also the Chairman of the Scott County Board of

Supervisors, and the surviving two are expected to make full recoveries from their previously extremely malnourished conditions.

Lane was convicted of all four counts of animal cruelty in Scott County General District Court on February 21, 2008. He was sentenced to twelve months of supervised probation, ordered to pay court costs of \$804, and is prohibited from ever owning companion animals again. The surviving dogs were later adopted from the SCHS.



OVERPOPULATION: A PROBLEM YOU CAN HELP SOLVE!

SCOTT COUNTY'S OVERPOPULATION PROBLEM

According to statistics from the Scott County Animal Shelter, in 2006, **572** dogs entered the shelter. Of those, **481** were euthanized and **ONLY 16** were adopted.

DID YOU KNOW??

Scott County's Animal Shelter currently only houses dogs? Unwanted cats have no place to go for temporary shelter in Scott County, so thousands of unwanted cats remain homeless, with no chance of adoption.

Help Us Reduce These Statistics!!

DID YOU KNOW??

The Humane Society of the United States estimates that 6-8 million dogs and cats enter shelters across the county each year, and 3-4 million are euthanized.

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The SCHS, in conjunction with the Margaret B. Mitchell Spay & Neuter Clinic in Bristol, Virginia, has hosted four spay and neuter clinics this year throughout the county. The MBM Clinic offers spay or neuter surgery for free or at a reduced cost to help combat the overpopulation problem in southwest Virginia. In 2008 to date, **over seventy animals** throughout Scott County have been spayed or neutered through these events. Special thanks to SCHS Member Delta Purkey for all her hard work organizing these events! **Contact the SCHS at info@scotthumane.org or call a member if you are interested in participating future spay/neuter clinics.**

The SCHS is dedicated to continuing to combat Scott County's overpopulation probation through community education, hosting spay and neuter clinics, and offering limited financial assistance for spay and neuter surgery, based upon donations from the community. Further, every animal that is adopted from a SCHS foster home **MUST** be spayed or neutered within a reasonable period of time, or, depending upon age restrictions, when medically recommended by a veterinarian.

Please—spay or neuter your pet today!! You'll help to decrease overpopulation and contribute to the overall health of your pet!

How Can You Help??

- SPAY or NEUTER your pets!
 - FOSTER a dog from the Scott County Animal Shelter!
 - ADOPT a dog from the shelter!
 - MICROCHIP your dog so that you can be reunited if he is lost!
 - DONATE to the SCHS so that together WE can make a difference in our community!
- (See page 5!)



Advice from the Desk of... *Dr. Nancy Broadwater, D.V.M.*



Vaccinations are an essential part of keeping your pet healthy, and proper timing can be critical to providing protection.

For puppies, I advise a vaccination series that, when completed, will protect your puppy against seven common and very serious diseases. A DHPP-C (Distemper, Hepatitis, Parainfluenza, Parvovirus and

Coronavirus) vaccine should be given between 6-8 weeks of age, followed by a DHPP-C booster and a Bordetella vaccine at 10-14 weeks of age. A final booster including DHPP-C, Bordetella and Rabies should be given at 14-16 weeks. Leptospirosis may be added at 10 and 14 weeks, but since this is the component that causes most adverse reactions, you should rely on your veterinarian for advice. This will complete your puppy's vaccine series. Adult boosters are usually done on a yearly basis.

For kittens, I advise a vaccination series that, when completed, will protect your kitten against six common and very serious diseases. A CRD (Feline Rhinotracheitis, Calici, Panleukopenia and Chlamydia Psittaci) vaccine should be given at about 6-8 weeks of age. A CRD booster and a Feline Leukemia vaccine should be given at about 10-12 weeks of age. This should be followed by a Feline Leukemia booster and a Rabies vaccination at about 14-16 weeks of age.

This should complete the kitten series, but remember to have your

adult cat vaccinations boosted on a yearly schedule.

Routine worming of your pet for intestinal parasites is also recommended. The Center for Disease Control suggests worming our pets four times a year.

Remember that the best protection for your pet is also the easiest—simply complete the entire vaccine series. Finally, don't hesitate to call your veterinarian at the first sign of any change in your pet's appetite or attitude. Early treatment of problems, and boosters, will be your pet's foundation for a long and healthy life!











Success Story: **Danny Boy** (above right) is one of the dogs surrendered in the animal cruelty case described on page 1. Danny Boy was adopted and has a new loving home!

Hobo (above left) is a special needs dog looking for a new home! Hobo was rescued by the SCHS from the Scott County Animal Shelter in April. He has since been neutered and had his right front leg amputated due to a severe birth defect or injury. Hobo is a very sweet and friendly boy, reports Foster Mom Ellen Barker, who needs a special home to care for him. Donations are also accepted to help pay for his amputation surgery and medical care.



Be Prepared!

The Humane Society of the United States recommends preparing a **disaster kit**, including the following items:




-  Medications, first aid kit, and medical, and vaccination records stored in a waterproof bag.
-  Current photos and descriptions of your pets in case you become separated.
-  Sturdy leashes, harnesses, and collars.
-  Comfortable carriers, blankets, and bedding.
-  Favorite toys & treats for comfort
-  Bowls, food, manual can opener & water
-  Cat litter & box
-  Cleaning items (paper towels, trash bags, bleach)

Keep these items ready to go in a sturdy container that you can take with you and your pet(s) at a moment's notice.

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Love your pets? Keep them safe! Here, we present some safety tips for the pet lover.





In General


-  Always make sure your pet is properly identified with **current** contact information. It is important to promptly update all address information, even after renumbering for 911 purposes!
-  Consider a microchip for your pet! Give your vet a copy of the microchip number to put in your pet's file.
-  **REMEMBER**—your dogs **MUST** always wear a rabies tag, or they may be picked up and impounded by the Animal Control Warden.

Safety First!

Traveling Tips




Traveling with your pet in a vehicle can present certain hazards. Consider the following:

-  Secure your pet in a carrier or specialty seat belt. Unsecured animals can be seriously injured in accidents. (Note: some insurance carriers cover your pets—ask your agent for details!)
-  **NEVER** leave your pet in a vehicle on a hot day, even with the windows cracked! Otherwise, your dog risks serious illness or even death due to heat stroke or dehydration.
-  Take plenty of water, food, and bowls.
-  Stop frequently to allow your pets for some exercise and to use the bathroom.

-  Use a leash! Unleashed pets can become scared in new surroundings, become lost, or be hit by a vehicle.

Natural Disasters

Thankfully, natural disasters don't occur frequently in our area. However, major catastrophes like Hurricane Katrina and the recent tornado in Big Stone Gap, Virginia, remind us to plan ahead to make sure our pets are safe in the event disaster does strike.

-  Prepare a disaster kit
-  Contact local hotels and motels to find animal-friendly accommodations.
-  Keep a list of local shelters to contact should your pet be lost.
-  **ALWAYS** take your pets with you in case evacuation is necessary.

Dog Tag Reminder!



Scott County dog tags went on sale January 1, 2008. Proof of rabies vaccination is required. Dog tags are \$5.00 & may be purchased from your vet or the Treasurer's Office.

2007 Rewind

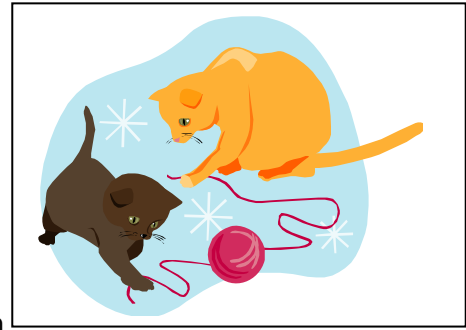
What did we do in 2007? Well, we're happy to tell you we stayed busy! Here's a brief recap:

-  501(c)(3) Tax Exempt status achieved
-  Participated in the Clinch Mountain Music Festival (6/16/07) and Duffield Daze (9/1/07) with booths, information, and animals for adoption at each event.
-  Participated in the Community Fellowship Block Party on 6/30/07 with an information booth.
-  Fostered 7 dogs and 19 cats.
-  Adoptions: 6 dogs (1 through "In His Hands Rescue") and 19 cats found new homes!!
-  Sadly, 1 dog was euthanized under medical direction due to extreme behavioral issues.
-  Held information booth at Food City in Weber City on 10/22/07.
-  Donated to the Smyth County Humane Society for assistance with the rescue of many pets from a large puppy mill.
-  Opened the doors of communication with our local vets at a "get to know you" dinner.
-  Hosted Scott County Animal Control Officer

Rick Barger at a SCHS meeting, to learn more about the current state of affairs in animal control in Scott County.

-  Hosted Kingsport Humane Society President Sue Lewis at our 10/13/07 meeting.
-  Members Bob and Ellen Barker participated in a TRAIN (Transporting & Rescuing Animals in Need) event on 10/28/07, helping transport several dogs from Meridan, MS, to their new homes!

Stay tuned to the Scott County Virginia Star and upcoming issues of Pawprints to stay up-to-date with 2008 activities!



To Chip or Not to Chip? That is the Question....

Microchipping your pet can be a wonderful tool for reuniting owners with their lost pets...**IF** local shelters are equipped with scanners **AND** if the scanner will detect the type of chip implanted in their pet. There are currently two types of microchips available, 125-kilohertz and 134-kilohertz, but scanners will only read one type of chip—there is no universal scanner that will read the frequency emitted by both types of microchips.

While the debate continues, many pet owners will still have their pets microchipped, which greatly enhances the likelihood of a reunion with your pet. Collars and tags can be removed or come off your pet. Microchips, however, are internally implanted by a simple injection and, therefore, cannot fall off or be removed from your pet.

With help from the SCHS, the Scott County Animal Shelter acquired a microchip scanner

earlier this year that will detect EITHER type of microchip.

In addition, the SCHS is exploring the possibility of hosting a microchip event, to encourage pet owners to have their pets microchipped, which will, in turn, help reunite pets in the Scott County Animal Shelter with their owners and reduce the number of euthanizations there each year. Details will be announced in the near future.

Purina® Weight Circle Program

Clip & Save Purina® Weight Circles from many packages of Purina® pet foods and send the weight circles to the SCHS.

Purina® Weight Circles can be redeemed by the SCHS for pet food AND rebate checks for veterinary services.

You may mail weight circles to: P.O. Box 1535, Gate City, VA 24251 OR you may also leave weight circles in a donation jar at any Scott County vet's office.

Interested in participating in a microchipping event hosted by the SCHS????

E-mail us & we'll keep you posted on the details of the event!!

info@scotthumane.org

The Tail End

CONTACT US!

P.O. Box 1535
Gate City, VA 24290

E-MAIL:

info@scotthumane.org

COMING SOON!!

A website for the Scott County Humane Society is in development!

Our address is:

www.scotthumane.org

For now, see our available pets at:

<http://www.petfinder.com/shelters/VA456.html>

We hope you've enjoyed our first issue of **Pawprints**, the newsletter of the Scott County Humane Society.

We are dedicated to making a difference in the treatment of



Upcoming Meetings.....

Meetings are held the 2nd Saturday of each month at 10 a.m. at the Gate City Town Hall. Join us July 12 & August 9.

animals in Scott County and we want YOU to help us!

Remember, all donations are tax deductible, as the SCHS is an approved IRS 501(c)(3) organization.

Future Events:
See our booth at
Clinch Mountain
Music Festival
June 14, 2008
Downtown Gate City



Donate to the SCHS via Food Lion MVP cards!

Here's how it works: Sign up on FoodLion.com to link your MVP card to our organization. Every time you shop at Food Lion and swipe your MVP card, a donation is made to us, at no cost to you!! Go to www.foodlion.com then:

- Click on "Lion Shop and Share" under the "In the Community" section on the left-hand side.
- Click on "Register MVP Cards"
- Click on "Select an Organization". Scroll through and Click on VA and Gate City.
- Click on "Scott County Humane Society"
- Click "Add MVP Cards"

*Complete the process by following the prompts and you're all signed up!!

SCOTT COUNTY
HUMANE SOCIETY, INC.
P.O. BOX 1535
GATE CITY, VA 24251



TO: