



Shelter News

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NEW SHELTER DEDICATION CEREMONY SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER 21, 2007



On October 21, 2007, we will celebrate our new shelter and honor our supporters with an open house and dedication ceremony scheduled for 2:00pm to 5:00pm on that day. All of our friends and supporters are invited. When completed in early 2008, the new shelter will have been built entirely with funds contributed by our generous donors. This remarkable achievement, which is the culmination of over seven years of tireless effort, would not have been possible without the support of so many kind and compassionate individuals and foundations.

The new shelter, which is located on Route 360 in Prince Edward County approximately two miles East of the old shelter, sits on a 21-acre parcel of land that we acquired in 2004. The shelter consists of three buildings, including the main building, the puppy building, and the dog building. The puppy building, which can accommodate 15 litters of puppies, and the dog building, which can accommodate 45 dogs, have been completed and are fully occupied by furry friends and loving companions.

Significant funding for the dog building came from Megan Lindberg and Peter Read of Lafayette, California. Their gift was made in memory of Carol Read of the Otter Cove Foundation, and the building will be dedicated and named in accordance with the Foundation's wishes. The puppy building will be dedicated as "Heidi's House" in honor of the late Anne Carter Robins Mallory and the late Walter R. Robins, Jr. Heidi was Ms. Mallory's beloved pet. Generous donations from the foundation established by the Robins' provided significant funding for the puppy building. The main building, which will accommodate 60 dogs and 100 cats and kittens and provides space for a reception area, office, and

medical clinic, is currently under construction and is scheduled for completion in early 2008. This building will be dedicated as "April's House" in honor of April, the beloved dog of Drs. Waverly Cole and John Cook who contributed much of the funding for the main building. Words cannot express the extent of our appreciation to the Otter Cove Foundation, the Robins Foundation, and to Drs. Cole and Cook for their wonderful support.

The new shelter was designed not only to be safe and comfortable for the animals, but also to provide a pleasant environment for our staff and volunteers. Features such as power washers will reduce the time and effort needed to clean and maintain the facility. The new office will provide the work space needed to organize and maintain our records, and the new clinic will enable us to provide enhanced onsite medical care for the animals. The reception area and overall design of the facility will permit us to begin adopting animals at the new shelter in addition to adoptions at the PetsMart and Pet Club stores in the Richmond area. We also plan to use the new shelter as an education center where staff and trained volunteers can provide instruction and information to residents of Southside Virginia on caring for their pets and the importance of spaying and neutering.

In summary, the new shelter is much more than a replacement for our old shelter. It offers the opportunity to attract additional financial support and volunteers and to expand our programs in furtherance of our mission to bring about a better informed, more compassionate Southside Virginia community.

David E. Evans
President, Southside SPCA Board of Directors

The Little Shelter That Could

[Editor's note: the following was shared by one of our volunteers]

Dear Friends of Southside S.P.C.A.,

Today I drive from Chesterfield County to Meherrin to deliver donated food and supplies as I often do. I stopped in at the new shelter to see where the staff wanted me to leave my load. I did not go in to see the puppies as I might set them a-yapping. So I moved on to the building where some of our adult dogs are now housed. What I saw when I walked in made me want to cry tears of joy. Staff member Molly was cleaning out a pen while some of the dogs were eating. The inside of the building was very bright. The dogs did not stampede to the front of their pens to greet me. But they all looked so happy and proud of their new surroundings. Some were out cold on their new Kuranda beds. Some were sitting or sleeping on their little area rugs and what I noticed was contentment and security, not stress. This got me thinking of how many people it has taken to get to this place in time.

There are our fundraisers, our big-money donors, our small-money donors, our director Sandy, who never takes no for an answer, and is always in motion to save as many lives as she can, our weather-beaten staff, our thrift store volunteers, those who open their hearts and homes to foster our charges, our friends at Sterling Animal Shelter in Massachusetts, and our van drivers who have logged many a mile transporting our dogs and puppies. The sweet, sweet people who bring us wonderful things to sell at our thrift store, as well as those who have brought us shredded paper in the past, our adoption counselors, of which I am one, those who write our literature, and other volunteers I might not know about. Even other shelters have donated goods to us. With such a tiny staff, and small pool of volunteers, I am amazed at how we keep going, which is why I think that together, we have made Southside S.P.C.A., "The Little Shelter That Could."

Fondly,
Pam Wilms
Volunteer (since 1998)

Puppy Van Collections Continue

Our thanks to the generous **employees of Capital One!** So far over \$ 4,000.00 has been donated for a van by Capital One employees.

Thanks also to Wendy Miller, Jackie Adams, Mary and Marge Owens, who collected cash, pet food, and Thrift Store donations.



Marge Owens visits with Noni as she drops off donations.

We're going to Massachusetts!



Mattison Payne raised \$102.00 for a new Southside SPCA Puppy Van by making "Toad Abodes" and selling them. Toad Abodes feature a little frog sitting on top of an upside-down flower pot with little legs and lots of pretty butterflies and flowers. Lots of love and work went into each of them. Thank you, Mattison!

Marcy Durrer's first to fifth grade classes at the Mechanicsville Elementary School raised \$62.10 for a new Southside SPCA Puppy Van. Thank you, Ms. Durrer and students!

Rebel Update!!

You may remember Rebel from our last newsletter. When he arrived at Southside SPCA he was just 4 weeks old and covered with severe bite wounds. Our vet treated his wounds, and in May he was transferred to the Associated Humane Societies in New Jersey where he received surgery at the Garden State Veterinarian Specialist, and further treatment by Dr. Baris from the Popcorn Park Animal Clinic and lots of love from their wonderful staff.

We are happy to report that he is now running on both front legs and will go September 7th to a carefully selected home.

We are so happy for Rebel and extend our thanks to the many caring folks who helped give him a home and a normal life...things we wish for every unwanted pet in our service area.



BETHEL'S NEW BEGINNING

On Monday the answering machine revealed a stray dog with six puppies in someone's yard. Sandy called and the woman said she could hold them until Saturday when Sandy would have a place to put them.

On Saturday Sandy arrived to pick up the 'stray' and three pups. The woman explained that she had found homes for the other three puppies. The mother, Bethel, was a severely underweight but adorable lab mix, only a year or so old. Her neck bore heavy and old collar marks - she had likely been tethered her entire life.

Once at Southside SPCA Bethel quickly gained weight and muscle mass. The photos below were taken 7/15/07 and 7/31/07. Bethel was quickly accepted into the SOS-PenPals Program, and will undergo basic obedience training before going to her new forever home. She has already been pre-adopted; see the email to the right from her soon-to-be owner.

Bethel is one of many unwanted animals helped by Southside SPCA in 2007.



To: Southside SPCA
From: Jane Mattias

Sandy Wyatt rescued a female lab-hound mix (Bethel) who I am going to adopt in a few weeks and take home to live with me and my dog, Annie.

Bethel has a horrible history, but that is now behind her. Her name has been changed to Grace and she is currently in jail undergoing obedience training, at which she is excelling!

After she has become used to living in a house for the first time ever and being a normal dog, I'm going to see if she can become certified as a therapy dog - I want to take her to Walter Reed to work with injured Soldiers.

So, from the good that Southside has done will hopefully come goodness to share with others who are suffering. At the very least, Grace will fill a gap in my life (and Annie's, too) created when my 16-year old lab mix died a few weeks ago.

In the names of Sandy and Grace, I just made a donation to your wonderful organization. Many thanks and blessings for what you do every day.

Happy Endings

Hello, We wanted to let you know that one week ago we adopted a beautiful puppy from the Sterling Animal Shelter in Sterling MA. She is a mixed breed lab & chow (we think) with a beautiful red coat and a tongue which is mostly blue. We have named her Foxy Belle because she has the look and color of a fox and she is a "southern belle" from Virginia. She was spayed at the Sterling Animal shelter the day before we adopted her and has been to her first visit with our veterinarian... and is in excellent health. She is very gentle, playful, now sits on command and is learning to walk on a lead.

She likes our long walks each morning and playing in the yard. She is being crate trained and basically is in the crate from 11:00 PM to 6:00 AM. The rest of the day she is free to roam several of the rooms in the house and of course spends time outdoors. Her house breaking training is going well and she has not had an accident since the first night. Next week we will start obedience training through a local group called the Doggie Den... very nice people there... our former pet went there for grooming.



We have had dogs as pets for the past 35 years. Our first dog was a cairn terrier who lived to be 17. Shortly after she died we adopted a golden retriever mix from the Sterling Animal Shelter...he was already 5 years old and we had him until he was 13...again after he died we adopted another golden mix (1 year old) from a family who could not care for him. He also lived to the age of 13 and we lost him about a month ago. We stopped by the Sterling Animal shelter last Wednesday just to look at the dogs available for adoption and there was Foxy (they were calling her Bronte). We knew right away that she would become part of our family. The folks at Sterling were emphatic with us that we were not buying but rather adopting her. We told them at we understood that very well as we not only have adopted a few pets in the past, but all 4 of our now grown children were adopted. We understood the commitment we were making. Anyway, we just wanted you to know that she is healthy, in a good home and will be well cared for. Thanks so much for rescuing her and providing her to the Sterling Animal Shelter for adoption.

Nick and Jan - Northborough, Massachusetts

Hi. My name is Sarah and I adopted a dog from your shelter about two weeks ago named Fig. Thought I would drop by and let you know that she's doing fantastic and has adjusted very well to her new home. Her name was changed and is now Lexy.

She is enjoying walks in the park and spends plenty of time running around her new yard. She really is a true joy for us to have in our home and I would like to thank everyone involved in our adoption process. We feel so fortunate to have found her, I can't believe we've only had her for a couple weeks!



Lexy (formerly Fig)

I want to show you Piper and Lucas. Both were adopted through the animal shelter in Sterling Mass and came from your shelter. I don't know if you know the turnover at Sterling. On Wednesdays you literally have to take a number to adopt a dog. The puppies are usually all adopted by the end of the day.

Piper is now almost 4 years old, and Lucas is 4 ½ months. He is already over 40 pounds - not quite the little bundle shown in this picture. I have 2 other rescued dogs as well and it's one big mutual admiration society. Thank you for everything you do. Bari

Happy Endings



Hello - My husband and I adopted a 5 month old pup from the Sterling Animal Shelter in late September 2005, and we wanted to let you know how much joy she has brought to our lives. I believe she and her littermates (and mom, a white Eskimo Spitz) arrived at Southside SPCA around 6/9/05. It looks like she got to Sterling with her brothers and sisters in late September, 2005.

When we saw her at the Sterling shelter, her name was "teacup" - she was the smallest of her litter - and she was very timid. But she picked us right out. I remember bending down to see the pups at their level, and she came right over to me, put one paw on each of my shoulders, and started licking my face. We knew then that she was our girl.

Since then, she has been to obedience class, taken dozens of walks, made dozens of trips to the dog park, and given us countless more kisses along the way. Lily is now just over 2 years old, 42 pounds, and not very timid anymore. She'll walk right up to strangers now, let little kids pet her - no problem.

She is just the best little girl and has made such a positive impact on our lives. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts for caring for her and doing the important work you do at the shelters. Kind regards, Paris and Greg, Somerville, MA

Hi there,
Violet, or Vi, is doing very well. We had a vet visit last week and she checks out 100%. We'll go for her boosters in a few weeks.



She purrs almost non-stop and is finding her voice, especially when I open a can of tuna... found that out first time, she was instantly at my feet and made it very difficult to eat my lunch! Anything, even her tail, is a target for attack, and she seems to be enjoying life around here.

Vi is a wonderful little girl and we're looking forward to years of enjoyment with her. July 22 will be a special day as that's when she came into our lives!

Thank you, Beth

My name is Tiffany and I just adopted "Morley" who we now call Ben!

He is such a joy. So sweet and well behaved. He already is completely housebroken and sits perfectly anytime he is asked! So sweet. We are so happy to have him here. He was the perfect addition to our family!

Thank you for taking care of him for us! I attached some pictures so you can see how he has grown.
Tiffany and Joe



Did you know? In just 2 years a single unspayed dog and her offspring could produce 100 puppies, and a single cat and her offspring could produce 250 kittens. Every spay/neuter counts! Thank you for making a difference.



Just wanted to share some pictures of Rocky. He was adopted at the Sterling Animal Shelter in Sterling MA on July 11th. We hope to have a good friend in Rocky for a long time to come.

I admire your work and hope that you can get more animals spayed/neutered so that there are less casualties in the dog world.

Stacey and Mike



Hello, Everybody,

We were adopted January, 2006, from the Pet Club in Richmond. We have been entertaining our new house partners, Tom and Sue, ever since we were brought to our new home.

We wanted to say "HI! To all our old friends at the Southside SPCA and to thank them again for helping us when we needed it the most. We hope the enclosed check will help some other deserving animals find a new home, too.

Your old friends,

ChooChoo (grey and tan tabby, formerly "Aggy") and LuLu (petite Tuxedo kitty, formerly "Kate")

Artwork: Oil Paintings for Sale

Many thanks to Sandee Cosby for donating a number of beautiful oil paintings to the Thrift Store. This beautiful artwork is available for sale and we expect they won't last long. Thank you so much, Sandee!

Our Wish List:

- Folding chairs
- Extra-large trash bags
- Paper Towels, liquid hand soap
- Canned cat food
- Cat Litter
- Bleach, Laundry detergent
- Canned dog food
- Dog/puppy toys
- Throw rugs
- Thrift Store items

Remember, donation receipts are required for tax purposes on your 2007 taxes.



**Pet Safety on
Halloween**

Halloween can be a scary time for your pets. They're safer in a quiet room during trick-or-treat. Other risks to keep in mind:

- burning candles around fur or wagging tails can burn your pet or even your house
- when handing out candy, don't let pets escape
- electrical cords in unusual places - your pet might chew or become entangled in them
- chocolate and candy are not good pet treats
- candy wrappers can cause blockage



Be vigilant with your pets during the days before and after Halloween, some pranksters are up to no good. Its best to keep them inside when you aren't home.

Thrift Store News:

Tail Waggers, Keysville, VA
Hours: Monday, Friday and Saturday
10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (except Holidays)

Tail Waggers is our Thrift Store and is staffed entirely by volunteers. Proceeds go to the shelter for the animals, and donation receipts are available on request.

The first Saturday of October Tail Waggers will have a \$1 a bag sale on clothing; regular price for clothing is .50 each or \$3 a bag. This sale, to be advertised in the Farmville Herald, will bring in new business from our community as well as help clear out summer items from the store in time for the Holiday season. If you have friends in the area, mention Tail Waggers to them, they may just become regular supporters!

Our Thrift Store will once again feature a Furry Angel Tree, starting in Mid-November.

Christmas is just around the corner, so please consider donating your gently used items to the Thrift Store. As you dispose of your excess Christmas decorations remember that proceeds go to the shelter, and many folks in the area count on the Thrift Store for items they can't otherwise afford.

Donations may be dropped off at Tail Waggers or at the shelter. Small loads may be dropped off at PETSMART Car Mia Way Saturdays before 2:00 pm; please call E.D. at (804) 795-4914 to make sure we know you're coming to PETSMART and we will be there. If you have a large load, contact volunteer Carol at (434) 736-0522 and she or Dave will try to arrange pick-up.

Please note for large furniture items: If one person can't pick it up, it may be too big.

Thank you for helping your community!

MEMORIAL AND HONORARY DONATIONS

In Memory of:

Barney Walker by William & Deborah Hayes Downs
 Mary C. Bynum Booker by Betty A. Eike
 John Nesbit by Dr. Carolyn Wells
 My dear, dear old dog "TSOL" by Ethel W. Wells
 Theo, Wiggy, Chris & Gizzie
 by Beverly & Philip Sturm
 My Little girl "Heidi" by Betty Anne Fretwell
 Chukka by M. R. James
 Bogie, Durc & Scarlett by Harvey & Lisa Parks
 Mattie Wright by Ethel S. Southall
 Precious "Muffin" by John Cook & Waverly Cole
 Brendy Hendrix by John Cook & Waverly Cole
 Leah Hochart by Patricia & Robert Reed
 Chrissy, my beloved cat by Barbara M. Lyda
 Cutsie, Boydee, Violet & Joe by Jane M. Sheema
 Casey & Tyler by Linda & Charles Enroughty, Jr.
 Mr. Kat & Yin by Celia & Richard Elzay
 My beautiful Dobergirl, Jessie
 by Debra & Steven Edmondson
 Luke & Percy by Sandra Erickson
 Ocracoke & Rocco by Mr. & Mrs. Miller M. Cole
 Jody by Gloria J. Irvin
 Bo-Bo by Fred C. Ridgway
 TJ & Sheba & Happy
 by Judy Mullen & Thomas Jaszewski
 Carroll Bailey by Jeannette Wright
 Carroll Bailey by Virginia Dickhoff
 Carroll Bailey by Evelyn Harland
 Richard H. Allen by Kathy & Richard Bozard
 Mildred Reynolds by Barbara R. Sheffield
 Sugar & Cuddles by Blondell & Riley Bowman
 Carroll Bailey by Evelyn Harland
 Lucifer by June Evans
 Bub, Rascal & Doc by Hodges L. Stone
 Buddy, beloved dog of Cheryl & Mark Batich
 by Linda Johnson
 "Pumpkin" Pinsker by John Cook & Waverly Cole
 Freckles by Nancy D. Brown
 Maggie by Edgar & Camille Hubbard, III
 John "Sonny" Crostic's Birthday by Patsy Crostic
 George by John & Patricia Cogbill, Jr.
 Luciano Quizzard by Linda S. Hochstein
 Pooma, a rescue cat, a special love
 By Martha & Ben Pope

In Honor of:

Dr. Waverly Cole & Dr. John Cook and April
 by Neil and Sara Belle November
 Charlie by Leander O'Neal
 Sandy Wyatt and Grace by Jane Matthias
 Marge Owens by Christine & Stephen Cole
 Dr. Waverly Cole by Jerry & Daphne Cole
 Sweet Milo, SPCA adopted cat, by Martha Pope
 Cassie by Elizabeth K. Browning
 Sheena, Koko & Milo Pope, very sweet babies,
 by Sandra Erickson
 Dr. John Cook & Dr. Waverly Cole
 by Louise E. Hart
 Molly by Jean & John E. Carr, III
 My daughter's Golden Retriever,
 Maggie Hubbard by Maryanne Lambert
 Winston & Snookie Moody, two wonderful
 little boys by Sandy Erickson
 April & Drs. Cole & Cook
 By Stanley & Ann Reed, Jr.

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**BUILDING FUND
 SEEKS MATCHING GIFTS
 TO COMPLETE CONSTRUCTION**

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Double your Donation! Southside SPCA has recently received a \$5,000 matching grant. This grant may be matched by a single donation or multiple donations from individuals.

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This grant, when matched, will give us the funding needed to complete construction of the main building and keep us on schedule for opening the final phase of the new shelter in early 2008.

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Please consider a donation to the building fund in the next few weeks (as always, your donation may be made in honor of, or in memory of, a friend or loved one).

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Our Mission Statement:

- To provide humane care and shelter for abandoned animals.
- To provide loving and responsible homes for our residents.
- To educate the public about spay/neuter programs in order to reduce the overpopulation of unwanted dogs and cats.

Help Wanted: Clerical support. A part-time position in the main lobby, we're looking for a cat lover to provide cat care assistance and clerical support. Computer skills desired. If interested contact Sandy at info@southsidespca.org

Volunteer(s) wanted:

Help with cats at the Pet Club on Parham Road. A volunteer visiting the store regularly increases adoptions. Time flexible: 1-2 hours/week. For more info contact E.D. at (804)795-4914.

Help at adoption stands. Contact E.D. at (804)795-4914.

Coming Soon: Want to help out at the new shelter once the main building is complete? Email info@southsidespca.org and put Volunteer in the subject line. Or contact E.D. at (804)795-4914. Start the new year as a Southside SPCA volunteer!

Upcoming Events:

Tail Waggers - \$1 a bag for clothing,
First Saturday in October

Shelter Dedication
October 21st from 2:00 to 5:00 pm

Markel Corp. Adopt-a-Thon
October 26th from 3:00 to 6:00 pm

Tail Waggers - Furry Angel Tree

Photos with Santa Claws,
Weekends in December at PETSMART

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Fall 2007

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The Southside SPCA is a Non-profit tax-exempt organization under Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code