

News from the Animal Center



3201 Division Street, Knoxville, TN 37919 (865) 215-6599 www.knoxpets.org

The Animal Center's Online Newsletter, February 28, 2007

How's Your Mew Year?

Although the year is already zipping by, it's hard not to think of the holidays as being just yesterday. The Animal Center thanks everyone who adopted a pet during the holidays, purchased an adoption gift certificate for someone, and made monetary and other donations to the Center. Last year, just short of 17,000 animals received care at the Young-Williams Animal Center, and many were placed into loving, forever homes. We appreciate you thinking of us at holiday time and throughout the year. Your support means that no animal will ever be turned away, and all animals will receive the very best care available. Your continued support will help us one day reach our ultimate goal: eliminating euthanasia of adoptable animals through an aggressive spay/neuter campaign, pet adoption, strong relationships with our rescue friends, and humane education. It can be done. Together, we'll make it happen.

The Year of the Pig

Did You Know?

- The Chinese New Year began on February 18, and it's the Year of the Pig?
- Shepherd's Green is a rescue just for pigs, and they have been an Animal Center Pet Placement Partner since the Center opened in 2001?



Shepherd's Green Sanctuary
www.9sites.com

February Goes Out Like a Bunny and March Comes in Like a Guinea Pig

Isn't that the old saying?

February is Adopt-a-Rescued-Rabbit month, and it has been a great month for the Center's resident rabbits. All Animal Center rabbits are spayed or neutered before going home with their family, and they are working on mastering their litter box. The Animal Center follows the recommendations of the House Rabbit Society and asks that adopted rabbits live indoors with the family. With an average lifespan of just two years, outdoor (hutch) bunnies have a challenging life, and can literally be frightened to death by people, cars, and other animals passing by.

The Animal Center is pleased to announce its second year as a partner in "Make Mine Chocolate" (www.makeminechocolate.org), an educational campaign about the responsibilities of having a pet rabbit. House rabbits can live as long as 10 years or more, have a complex diet and suite of behaviors, and require a lot of attention every day. Many people are not ready for the

commitment. Those people are encouraged to resist the temptation, especially at Easter time, of bringing a bunny home. Instead, we hope they'll make theirs chocolate—yum! If you enjoy rabbits but aren't ready to have one as a pet, consider volunteering with shelter bunnies, donating supplies to a shelter or house rabbit society chapter, or helping a rabbit owner transition their bunny from outdoors to in. Everyone can get the rabbit habit!

March marks Adopt-a-Rescued-Guinea Pig month. Be sure to check out Knoxville Guinea Pig Rescue's special ad in the March issue of Critter magazine. KGPR has saved the lives of more than 850 guinea pigs in just over five years. All cavies live indoors, and many live with other cavies in KGPR custom-made cages. Visit www.petfinder.com/shelters/TN82.html to learn more about this Animal Center Pet Placement Partner and about purchasing your cavy cage.

Knox Pets Is Not Just an Award-Winning Website

Knox Pets is also the name of the Animal Center's program on Community Television of Knoxville (CTV). Executive Director Tim Adams hosts this weekly broadcast each Saturday from 7:45pm to 8pm on cable channel 12. All topics-animal are discussed, and guests include area animal-welfare workers and the occasional four-legged visitor, too. Do you have a topic you'd like to see on Knox Pets? Email tslemmer@knoxpets.org with program ideas. Be sure to tune in!

Are You Crafty?

If you replied, "yes," we need your help. However, this project is so easy that all those who said "no" are needed, too!

The Animal Center has had many socks donated. Socks, you say? You bet! Our shelter cats love catnip socks. To make a catnip sock toy you put a pinch of loose catnip in the toe of the sock and tie a knot in the sock so the catnip doesn't fall out. It's as easy as that! You can make this favorite toy fancier by adding a cotton ball and bell to the toe and by coloring the sock with permanent markers. However, a plain sock toy is a huge hit with our cats.

The Animal Center has plenty of catnip for this project, too, so volunteers need only donate their time. If anyone can make a few cat toys for our felines awaiting forever homes, please contact Taylor Slemmer at tslemmer@knoxpets.org. It's a fun, favorite project.

Transport Help Needed

There are two transport needs by our local animal-rescue community. Please read the details of each carefully. If you would like to be put on a list of volunteers who transport from the Animal Center, please contact Karen Lively at klively@knoxpets.org.

Transport #1

Help is needed for leg 7 of 11 total legs! A couple of drivers are needed or just one with a van perhaps. 11 animals have homes waiting. This is not an Animal Center transport, but if you can help, please email Lorene directly at lsteffes6114@earthlink.net ASAP.

Transport Date: Saturday, March 3, 3:10pm

Origination: Knoxville, TN

Final Destination: Kingsport, TN (101 miles/1 hr 35 min)

Transport #2

Two of our shelter Bassetts desperately need a ride to Chattanooga. If you can help with this life-saving transport, email Haley Wilson, with Basset Rescue of Alabama, at bassetmom@scottsboro.org ASAP. The Bassetts are being picked up from our shelter Tuesday night by a local rescue contact here in Knoxville, but they need the ride to Chattanooga on Thursday to get to their ultimate foster homes in Alabama.

Transport Date: Thursday, March 1, 3pm
Origination/Agency: Young-Williams Animal Center, 3201 Division St, Knoxville, TN 37919
Final Destination: Chattanooga, TN (100 miles or so)

Barkitecture, May 12, 2007

The Young-Williams Animal Center is hosting this exciting event benefiting homeless animals. Local First Tennessee banks will display one-of-a-kind dog dream homes and cat condos created by East Tennessee builders, contractors, and architectural firms for three to four weeks before the big night. The event will finish with a gala evening that will include a live auction of the houses and condos, a silent auction of high-end items, refreshments, music, prizes, and more.

Visit the Animal Center lobby to see an example of what animal lovers can create. If you've visited the Animal Center even one time, this building should look familiar. This model of the Animal Center was built by Rentenbach Constructors Inc. and will be one of the houses auctioned at the event!

For more information about the event, visit www.knoxpets.org or contact David Bolton, Event Coordinator at dbolton@knoxpets.org or (865) 215-6664.

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