From Something Really Bad — Came Something Really Good

The shocking announcement on the west coast of Michigan sent reverberations throughout the whole state. Over 350 small dogs had been rescued from a 500 square foot house and garage in Allegan County. What a nightmare for any shelter.

The Allegan shelter is small and not equipped for such a disaster. Yes, 350 incoming animals would be a major disaster at any shelter. Questions were asked: how will we care for them? Where will we put them? How will we get their medical needs taken care of? Who is going to pay for all this? Those are just a few of the long list of questions any shelter worker would be asking.

However—those questions were quickly answered and the ending to this story is nothing short of a miracle. The staff members and volunteers of Wishbone Pet Rescue who run the Allegan Shelter stepped up to that enormous plate and went to work. They reached out to shelters, rescues and humane societies statewide. Ingham County Animal Control immediately put calls out to Voiceless-MI and Capital Area Humane Society to ask for help on behalf of the Allegan shelter. Between the three agencies we were able to bring over 50 dogs to the Lansing area where they were treated by veterinarians and groomed by volunteer groomers. Nearly all the dogs have been re-homed—a few still require treatments and more veterinary care due to heartworm, pregnancy or other illnesses. Their new homes will come soon.

But the real story here is the spirit of collaboration that took place: shelters helping shelters by communicating, sharing resources, and networking. How did it happen that over 350 dogs were relocated safely to shelters and rescues all over the state in less than 72 hours? Unimaginable. Yes, 72 hours folks. In animal welfare that’s a miracle. Do you know how hard it is to get animal welfare groups to work together? Is this the start of something big? Gee, I hope so. Here at ICAC we’re already working to keep that momentum going. We’re meeting with other shelters to talk about mutual aid agreements that allow shelters to assist each other when disasters like this occur. Shelters are discussing further collaborative efforts that would result in resource sharing—thinking regionally, and not just about our tiny speck on the map—sharing best practices to help all of us be better than what we are now.

This tragedy proved to all of us that we are so much more powerful united. We can move mountains even if it’s one puppy mill at a time. This horrible story has many happy endings—every animal will have a home and best of all, the collaborations that took place will be ongoing and will have a lasting impact on all animals for years to come in Michigan. We now know that when we ask for a helping hand we’ll probably find hundreds on our doorstep. For more information on the Allegan Shelter story go to www.wishbonepetrescue.com or www.alleganshelter.com.
HELP US SAVE A LIFE

I WANT TO HELP THE ANIMALS

DONATION FORM

All donations to the Animal Care Fund help the homeless animals at the Shelter

Enclosed is my tax deductible gift for:

☐ $10  ☐ $25  ☐ $50  ☐ Other $______  ☐ $25 Newsletter Memorial or Honorariums

Name: _________________________________________________________________
Address: __________________________________________________________________
City/State/Zip: ___________________________________________________________
Phone: ___________________________________________________________________
Email: ___________________________________________________________________

☐ Memorial  ☐ Honorarium for: _____________________________________________

Please notify the following person of my contribution. __________________________

Ingham County Animal Shelter  |  600 Curtis Street  |  Mason, MI 48854  |  517-676-8370

Wish List of Items Needed

- Big dog chews
- Dog Kongs (all sizes)
- Cat toys
- Canned food for both dogs and cats
- Kitty litter (most kinds)
- Hot dogs (for giving medication)
- HE detergent for laundry (we do 20-30 loads a day)
- Clorox
- Paper towels
- Dish soap
- Pens, markers, pencils
- Copy paper
- Zip ties (lots!)
- Duct tape

Ask the Vet

ICAC would like to introduce Dr. Leeann Fosdick DVM who joined the shelter in October. She performs all the spay/neuter surgeries, and attends to hundreds of sick and injured animals, in addition to testifying in court cases dealing with animal abuse and neglect. She is an extremely busy woman. We are always looking for veterinary assistants to volunteer alongside Dr. Fosdick. It’s a great way to gain very important experience—however it does require a commitment of at least 4 hours each week. Contact Jessica McNally, the volunteer coordinator, if interested (517) 676-8372.

The third annual Woofer Walk is to be held on Saturday May 19th at 10 am along the Red Cedar River on the MSU campus. Register online at ac.ingham.org and click on the Woofer Walk link.

Walter (above) and Esau (below).

HAPPY TAILS
Spring 2012

SUPPORT OUR ANIMAL COPS

Ingham County Animal Cops

Please welcome the newest addition to the ICAC Animal Cops Team--Animal Control Officer Marc McCrumb. Marc comes from a law enforcement background having served in law enforcement in Florida. Marc has served as the licensing Officer for ICAC for the past 11 months and is very familiar with Lansing and the surrounding areas. You may recognize him from the Neighborhood Licensing events as he is the coordinator of that program. ICAC officers will respond to over 6000 complaints in the community.

Convicted of Animal Cruelty

A Lansing man, Bryan Virgil Cooney of Larch Street, was convicted on two counts of animal cruelty pertaining to a dog’s death on April 16th in District Court Lansing. Animal Control Officers responding to a complaint concerning animal welfare discovered a dead dog stuffed inside a dog food bag at Cooney’s residence and multiple other dogs on chains in poor condition. Officers impounded all the dogs and began the investigation that led to charges against Cooney.

The two counts are misdemeanors that could result in one year of jail time, $2,000 in fines, up to 300 hours of community service, or any combination of penalties and discretionary sentencing. The judge could order psychiatric evaluation, jail time, fines and no pets allowed for the duration of probation.

Warrant Issued

A warrant was issued for Jessica Leeann Mattice of Lansing for one count of animal abandonment/cruelty to one animal—for failure to provide an animal adequate care, which is a misdemeanor which could result in 93 days in jail, $1,000 fine, and 200 hours of community service.

Animal Cruelty in Allegan County

George and Cheri Burke of Cheshire Township were arraigned on felony animal cruelty charges following the seizure of 352 small dogs from the couple’s Cheshire Township home by Animal Control Officers with the Allegan County Sheriff’s Office. The Burkes were arraigned at the Allegan County Jail, according to a news release from the Allegan County Sheriff’s Office.

The Burkes posted bond, which court records showed to be set at $5,000. Wishbone Pet Rescue continues to work toward the goal of finding homes for the animals, which the couple surrendered to authorities. Volunteers have flooded the shelter with donations and offers of help since news of the animals broke. The animals were filthy and matted. “The Sheriff’s Office appreciates the public’s patience as this investigation has unfolded. This has been an emotionally charged event and proper investigations take time,” the news release said.

“The outpouring of support from the public is truly appreciated by those involved in this case.”

Ingham County Animal Control was able to assist by taking in 19 of the dogs. Several of the dogs were heartworm positive, all the dogs were infested with internal and external parasites, and some were still heavily matted with feces and urine-stained fur. Five of the dogs were pregnant; one gave birth the day after they were impounded. The majority of dogs have been adopted and the remainder have received requests for adoption when their health improves and they become available.

Pleaded guilty to animal killing or torture

Andrew Thompson, 24, a former Michigan State University medical student charged for killing a dozen dogs, pleaded guilty before Ingham Circuit Judge Paula Manderfield to three felony charges of animal killing or torture. The maximum penalty for each charge is four years imprisonment according to the Circuit Court. Ingham County Animal Control Officers sought criminal charges against Thompson for the killing and torture of dogs--all small Italian greyhounds--while he lived in Okemos and East Lansing. A female MSU veterinary student called the ICAC cruelty tip line to report the suspected animal cruelty as she had wanted something done to stop it.

Thompson, of Arizona, allegedly told Animal Control officials that he killed a dozen dogs--including throwing them to the ground or against the wall, grabbing them by the neck or beating them--over the course of several months in 2011.

Thompson was released from the Ingham County Jail in October after four months behind bars when his bond was lowered from $1 million by Judge Manderfield. The judge ordered Thompson to wear a GPS tether to track his location as a condition of his release; he also may not own pets. He has since relocated to Southfield, MI. Judge Manderfield is scheduled to sentence Thompson on June 13.

Are you interested in advertising in the Ingham County Animal Shelter Pet Protector newsletter that comes out three times a year? We are looking for those interested in promoting their business in the upcoming issues of the Pet Protector. If interested please contact Holly Thompson at 517-740-6319 or email at afterhoursstashndash@yahoo.com.
Dog Walking Club

About two years ago a small group of volunteers began getting together on Wednesday nights to walk dogs from the shelter. Throughout the last two years the Dog Walking Club has endured the snow and freezing temperatures of Michigan’s winters, rain in the spring, and the blistering heat of summer. But the volunteers can always count on the dogs barking and wagging their tails with excitement to see them.

The group began small, sometimes with as few as two people, but has gradually grown. The group now sees over 15 volunteers most Wednesdays, and has even added Saturday morning walks. Already this year, the Dog Walking Club has logged nearly 250 miles and counting!

These walks have given the Shelter’s furry guests the opportunity to get some much-needed exercise and exposure. Observers have inquired about our guests during walks, allowing volunteers to tell them about adoption and other services the Shelter offers. In addition, the walks provide the Shelter and potential adopters with valuable information about personality and behavior that helps ensure a good match between a dog and a forever home.

The happy faces and wagging tails remind everyone how special a walk can be for one of our furry friends. If you want to be part of this fulfilling experience please email Jason at icacsdogwalkingclub@gmail.com to sign up. Participants must be 18 years old and have attended a volunteer orientation before participating.

MICRO-CHIPPING
Saturday • 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Sunday • 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

VACCINATION CLINIC
Sat. • 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Sun. • 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

ADOPTIONS
Saturday 10 a.m. - midnight
Sunday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

MUTT-MOVIE MADNESS
Drive-in Movie • Saturday - dusk
Free popcorn • Bring your own lawn chair

CANINE COMPETITION
Sunday • Noon - TBD

Sat. June 2 • 10 a.m. thru Sun. June 3 • 4 p.m.
Ranney Park • Lansing
(Next to Frandor)

Petco Foundation is sponsoring this year’s Annual 30-Hour Adopt-A-Fest

Whisker Wednesdays

April 4 through October 10, 2012

Free Cat Adoption
Every Wednesday
Includes spay/neuter, 1st set of vaccinations, FIV tested-neg and micro-chip.

Half-Price Dog Adoption Fees
Every Wednesday
Includes spay/neuter; 1st set of vaccinations and micro-chip; all dogs over 1 year of age are heartworm tested.

What a great deal on a lifetime companion!

Hours: Tuesday & Wednesday Noon-5:30 pm
Thursday thru Saturday 11 am - 3:30 pm
WORKING FOR THE ANIMALS

Animal Shelter Honors Animal Heroes and Humanitarians at Sixth Annual Awards Banquet

The Annual Humanitarian Awards Banquet and silent auction was held on Thursday March 29th at the Kellogg Conference Center in East Lansing. This event celebrated the years’ accomplishments and achievements in the animal welfare community and spoke to what’s in the future for the shelter. It was a special tribute to the volunteers and citizens who have contributed to the adoption and protection of animals, and to the advancement of animal care efforts in 2011 by the donation of over 14,000 volunteer hours. Needless to say volunteers are the backbone to our successes.

2011 Humanitarian Award Recipients

THE BEEBE HUMANITARIAN AWARD
Roxann Wilkinson
HONORABLE MENTION
Jackie Gates, Connie Kapugia, Cinnamon Simpson, Kay Jones, Tina Walton, Larry Hagedorn, Deb Klont, Brenda Sayles

TEEN AWARD
Hailey Oberlin
HONORABLE MENTION
Rachel Southwell

YOUTH AWARD
Baylee Reich

HUMANITARIAN JUSTICE FOR ANIMALS AWARD
Stuart Dunnings III, Prosecuting Attorney
Lisa McCormick Ingham County Chief Asst. Prosecuting Attorney
Jeff Cruz Ingham County Asst. Prosecuting Attorney
HONORABLE MENTION
Honorable Judge Thomas Boyd 55th District Court; Honorable Judge Donald L. Allen, Jr. 55th District Court
Judge Rosemarie Aquilina Circuit Court;
Judge Frank Deluca 54 A District Court

EXTREME FOSTER/RESCUE AWARD
Sheri Eldred & Eugenia Dumont
HONORABLE MENTION
Cinnamon Simpson

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PROJECT
Holly Thompson & Omega Tau Sigma Omicron Chapter
HONORABLE MENTION
Darcy Kelly for the Annual BFF Event

HUMANITARIAN RADIO PERSONALITY
Tim Barron 92.9 WLMI Radio
Lee Cohen & Rick Preuss 1320 WILS

HUMANITARIAN TELEVISION PERSONALITY
Ann Emmerich WLNS TV 6 Anchor

SERVICE AND EDUCATION AWARD
Community Based Instruction CBI-Mason
High School & Transitions -Mason

OUTSTANDING ANIMAL WELFARE ORGANIZATION
Voiceless & Animal Blood Resource International

JAMES HERRIOT AWARD
Dr. Joyce Heideman, Dr. Joe Leppanen & Staff,
Dr. Lee Ann Fosdick,
Haslett Animal Hospital & Staff, Lake Lansing Animal Clinic & Staff

LAW ENFORCEMENT AWARD
Officer Judy Hood - Meridian Police Department & Officer Shannon Thielen - Lansing Police Department

CORPORATE HUMANITARIAN
Jackson National Life
Highland Engineering, Inc.
Fraternal Order of Eagles #3734
Lansing Chiropractic Clinic, P.C.

ANIMAL CHOICE AWARD
Gail Sinnaeve; Deputy Jodi LeBombard;
Deputy Timothy Martin; Deputy Juan Delatorre; Deputy Marc McCrumb; Brenda Sayles; Deb Kaufman

Honoring those who made a difference in lives of the Homeless animals
**IN HONOR AND IN MEMORY OF**

In our hearts forever...

**IN HONOR**
- Sheryl Adragna
  In honor of
- Justine Bell
- Paula DeJongh
  In honor of
- Barbara Hubbuch
  Brenda Laird
  In honor of
- Dr. Heather Laird-Eick
  Angelika Decker
  In honor of
- Franky, adopted from ICAC
  Betty Miller
  In honor of
  Her dog Buffy
- Kathy Poole
  In honor of
- Jamie Norton
  Sally Bartz
  In honor of
- Kurt and Cathy's 25th anniversary
  John Russell & Zane Balks
  Russell
  In honor of
- Larry & Darlene Watterworth, James & Cindy Lawrence, Chuck & Ellen Story
  Michelle Buck
  In honor of
- Paloma and Seuss, beloved kittens
  Lorraine Pierce
  In honor of
- Ruth Holzman
  Judy Hood
  In honor of
- Scooter
- Animal Blood Resources
  Judy Dendy
  In honor of
- Sweet Pea's adoption
  Roy & Annette Aldrich & family
  In honor of
- Shimmy
- Tony Assaff
  In honor of
- Cheyneen
- Paula Clegg
  In honor of
- Merle, adopted by the Duling
- Linda Cullimore
  In honor of
  Mac

**IN MEMORY**
- Patricia Holden
  In honor of
- Bryce Myatt
  Alix Jenkins
  In honor of
- Alix's music students
  Loretta Johnston
  In honor of
  Silko
  Monica Larner & the Australian Cattle Dog Rescue
  In honor of
  Pepper
  Silvija & Janis Meija
  In honor of
- Eddie, Suzie, & Ziggy
  Cynthia Smith & Alana Kelley & the Sunshine Fund
  In honor of
- Judges Thomas Boyd, Donald Allen, & Magistrate James Pahl
  Kellie Sue Sweitzer
  In honor of
- Amanda Tabbert
  Susan Toth
  In honor of
- Carolyn Kieft & Heath Anderson
  Nancy & Jim Culdeback
  In honor of
- Lake Lansing Road Animal Clinic
  An anonymous donor
  In honor of
- Sandie & Fiona Kelly
  IN MEMORY
  Susan Sabourin
  In memory of
  Alan Sabourin
  Christine Daniels
  In memory of
- All her animal pals who have passed
  James & Barbara Paul
  In memory of
- Beloved Biscuit & Middy
  Mary Shutt
  In memory of
  Bill Eastman
  Betty Jones
  In memory of
- Brandi, a beloved dog
  Anonymous donor
  Douglas Austin
  Dawn & Allan Brink
  Edward Castellani
  Camilla & Michael Cavanaugh
  Shane Cavanaugh
  Kevin & Deborah Coveart
  Sheila Cummings
  Steven Dougan
  Peter & Mary Dunlap
  Susan Flores
  Fraser Trebilcock Davis & Dunlap PC
  Matthew & Amy Goodman
  Great Lakes Hand Surgery Center
  Patrick & Rebecca Green
  Mark Harper
  Kathleen Herrick
  Mary & Max Hoffman
  Lara Kapala
  Samantha Kopacz
  Sally & Patrick LeBlanc
  James & Mary Michner
  Amy Cavanaugh & Janet Moore
  Susan & Michael Perry
  Norman & Helen Post
  David & Cynthia Ramsey
  Michael Reilly
  Daniel & Jill Shaver
  Janet & Terry Southwick
  Rosemary Sullivan
  Nora Thompson
  James & Jacqueline Urban
  Elaine & Michael West
  Lawrence Wilhite
  IN memory of
- Brian Cavanaugh
  Merle Hunter
  Corey Thomas
  Gail Thomas
  IN memory of
- Chad Thomas
  Maryal Barnett
  Colin Parks & family
  IN memory of
- Cleo Parks
  Gina Garrett
  IN memory of
- Donald Anderson
  Bonnie Clark
  IN memory of
- Dr. Watson
  Kathleen & Peter Kempel
  IN memory of
- Fancy, a quarter horse mare
  Barbara Ripper & Colleen Casey
  IN memory of
- Francine Minnick's mother
  Sandie Phillips
  IN memory of
- GiGi, a miniature American Eskimo
  Patricia Curran
  Mary Cusack
  John & Roberta Davis
  Marlene Ferguson
  Golf Association of Michigan
  Marshall & Janet Hines
  Walter & Joanne Holz
  James & Rosanne Klunzinger
  Janice Lawson
  Marilyn Meyers
  Marilyn Mueller
  Harold & Joan Nelson
  LindaRussell
  Ellen & Robert Semmer
  David Anderson & Cathy Stull
  Sara Troutman
  Leslie & Sharon Tyvela
  Jack & Margie VanAlstine
  Jeanette & Michael Watts
  Leslie & John Wilhelm
  Janice Williams-Mayhew
  Marilyn Wischer
  Renee Zumberg
  IN memory of
- Karen Hartwig
  Janet Olszewski & Dennis Paradis
  Robert Benjamin
  Barry & Sharon Hitchcock
  James & Shirley LaPine
  IN memory of
- Kersten Monroe
  Rick & Cynthia Evans
  Russell Nisse
  IN memory of
- Linda Nisse-Meyer
  Judy Parks
  IN memory of
- Lynn Parks Jr & Dale Parks
- Paula Battistini
  IN memory of
- Hana
  Naomi Marvin
  IN memory of
- Jack
  Curtis Family
  Alan and De Etta Archambault
  Annabell Zemer
  IN memory of
- James Munro
  Joyce Weinheimer
  IN memory of
  Judy Harper
  Brian & Robin Aslakson
  Lisa Bartmann
  Dina Battaglia
  Joanne Bennett
  Emerson & Joanne Boettcher
  Helen Crum
  Patricia Curran
  Mary Cusack
  John & Roberta Davis
  Marlene Ferguson
  Golf Association of Michigan
  Marshall & Janet Hines
  Walter & Joanne Holz
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  James & Shirley LaPine
  IN memory of
- Kersten Monroe
  Rick & Cynthia Evans
  Russell Nisse
  IN memory of
- Linda Nisse-Meyer
  Judy Parks
  IN memory of
- Lynn Parks Jr & Dale Parks
In our hearts forever...

Overheating kills! Don’t put your pets in danger!

The “dog days” of summer can be dangerous for dogs — especially those dogs left inside hot cars. Every year, countless dogs die after being locked in cars while their owners work, shop, or run errands. These tragic deaths are entirely preventable. On an 85º day, it only takes 10 min for the inside of a car to reach 102º even when the windows have been left open an inch or two. Within 30 min, a car’s interior can reach 120º.

If you see a pet unattended in a hot car showing signs of distress, like panting heavily or in a panic, take action. Have the owner paged in the store, or call Ingham County Animal Control or the police. If you see a dog overcome by the heat you can bring down body temperature by soaking the animal in cool (not ice) water, but make sure water does not get into the mouth or nose of an unconscious animal. Seek immediate veterinary care.

Check out www.mydogiscool.com for lots of great information and free downloads to spread the word! Let’s work together to keep all our companion animals safe this season!