



“Until one has loved an animal, a part of one's soul remains unawakened.”

~ Anatole France, French poet, journalist, and novelist

NEW CHANGES ON THE WAY

Happy 2014, everyone! During the course of this new year, PAHS supporters will notice many fresh changes, updates, additions, and innovations. So keep your eyes open and you'll be amazed!



Feast your eyes on our new logo heading this issue of the newsletter! Isn't it great? Web-designer Shaun Thomas owns Faith Tech LLC, a small firm dedicated to providing technological support for religious organizations, small businesses, and non-profits. He volunteered his time to carefully craft this symbol of our shelter. When asked about his creative process Shaun explains, “The color selection and placement are designed to focus the clients' attention from left to right in a normal reading pattern and prevent shifting to figure out what the logo conveys. The animal images were designed to show playfulness between them and evoke a feeling of joy.”

Not only has Shaun helped us with our new logo—which will soon be featured on our Facebook page and Bark in the Park 2014 t-shirt—he is devoting a great deal of time to redesigning our website, giving it a fresh, user-friendly, and up-to-date look. Supporters will be able to download volunteer forms, foster applications, view adoptable pet profiles and photos, keep up with upcoming events, and learn about the benefits of spaying and neutering. We anticipate the new site hitting the Internet by the end of March. Shaun, we appreciate your time and creativity very much!

AROUND TOWN

You have probably noticed the plastic PAHS donation boxes that have been placed around town in different businesses. We want to thank the following businesses for allowing us to place donation boxes in their establishments: Fat Boy's Bar-B-Que Ranch, Jose's Cantina, A & B Appliance Inc, Animal Care Center, Cobbs Ford Pet Health Center, Animal Medical Clinic East, Animal Medical Clinic Downtown, Jim's Restaurant, Pasta Mill, Fanci Free, Chris' Bar-B-Que, Cow-a-Bun-Go, House of Java, River Region Vet Clinic, Pepper Tree Steak & Wine (Montgomery), Gallery East (Montgomery), Super Suppers (Montgomery), Mexico Tipico, Vanity Fur (Millbrook), Maids on the Move (Montgomery), and LaDonna's Barbershop.

In just a few short weeks these little boxes have collected over \$265 for our "No Room for Rover" kennel expansion fund. Many thanks to folks who dropped their coins and dollars into one of our donation boxes. Please support these businesses



and thank them for supporting our humane shelter. We still have a few of these boxes available and if you would like to have one in your business please message us on Facebook!

SOMETHING'S COOKING

PAHS's first **EVER** cookbook will be hitting the streets in mid-April. *Paws for a Bite* published by Morris Press features over 500 recipes submitted by friends and supporters of the shelter who reside all over the country! There is also a section devoted to homemade treats for

Fido and Kitty. We are so excited for this cookbook to make its debut, as it will continue to raise money for our shelter animals for years to come. Each cookbook costs \$20.00. Make plans to give these as birthday and Christmas gifts for family and friends; tell them it is for a worthy cause!

SAVE THE DATES!

Get your planner out and your pen ready! PAHS has a full spring calendar and we want to invite you all to have some fun, maybe adopt a new family member, donate some supplies, or just come by and say hello!

March 15, 2014—2nd Annual Scavenger Hunt: 5th ALA Iron Warriors Motorcycle Club \$20 per team. Registration: 8-10am at Chappy's Deli in Prattville. All proceeds benefit PAHS.

March 29—Bark and Bingo: 6-9pm Prattville American Legion Hall (details forthcoming)

April 19, 9am-1pm Supply Drive: Prattville Walmart

April 26, 11am-4pm: 9th Annual Bark in the Park Rainout date is April 27, 1pm-4pm. It will take place, as always, at Cooter's Pond Park in Prattville. PAHS will still need lots of sponsors and vendors. We know this will be the best one ever!!

May 3, City Fest-Sponsored by the Prattville Chamber of Commerce

May 24, 11am-2pm, PAHS Volunteer Appreciation Picnic: Cooter's Pond Park in Prattville. Hamburgers, hotdogs, desserts. Bring your dogs and let us show our volunteers how much we appreciate you! RSVPs will be appreciated. More details to follow.

1st and 3rd Saturdays each month: Prattville Petsmart Dog and Cat Adoptions, 11am-3pm. PAHS staff and volunteers bring adoptable animals to offer folks a convenient location to come by and see these little guys! In addition, if you adopt a puppy or a cat (always available in the Cat Adoption Center), you receive a large booklet of coupons for various pet supplies courtesy of Petsmart.

MEET CARA WILLIAMS: FAITHFUL FOSTER MOM!

The volunteers who contribute countless hours to Prattville Autauga Humane Society are one of our most

important assets and do an outstanding job helping to take care of and play with the animals, taking pictures of the animals to place on adoption websites, collecting much needed supplies, and fostering dogs and cats within their homes. Fostering is such an integral part of PAHS;



these loving people open their homes to litters of puppies and kittens, and also help animals who may need a little help with socialization. One of our most devoted and respected fosters is Cara Williams.

Cara recently moved to Prattville last year; her husband, Kristopher, is a student at ACSC at Maxwell AFB. Her family is no stranger to fostering. They fostered kittens and puppies for two years while in Pennsylvania, and for another two years in Japan. Being in the military often restricts the number of pets a family can have, so Cara finds that fostering allows her to have several "pets" at any one time: "I want to help out as many animals as I can wherever I am. Fostering is the best way to do this. It is so rewarding to see them grow, become socialized and adoptable. And it's fun!"

When asked what the largest litter she has ever fostered, she remarked it is her current litter of nine Catahoula pups and their mother. The above photo shows Cara with one of those babies. Cara says, "There was one time we had several litters of kittens in our house. Eleven kittens total! That's the biggest group we've ever had!"

She does insist that fostering is indeed a calling and can be challenging. Cara says, "As a foster, you need to know what your limits are. This takes a great amount of effort, time, patience, and work. When the young ones are old enough to find homes, you need to be willing to let them go. That can be really hard for some people, so it's important to manage your expectations."

Along with being an amazing foster for PAHS, Cara also cares for her family and pets at home. She and Kristopher have three children—Olivia, Benjamin, and Dalton—and two cats, Ethan and Little Kitty. Cara, we appreciate all you do for our shelter pets!



SHELTER NEWS, NEEDS, AND NOTES

Our “**No Room For Rover**” building project is still in full swing. In fact, we anticipate breaking ground late this summer or early this fall! We are so excited to reach this milestone after three years of fundraising. **We have raised roughly \$95,000.** The building is estimated to cost approximately **\$150,000.** The new construction will include the following additions: 18 indoor/outdoor dog runs, a small dog/puppy room, a cat room, a feeding/bathing/work space, a medical examination area, and a storage room. If you would like to donate you can do so in person at the shelter, via mail (mail to PAHS, P.O. Box 680697, Prattville, AL 36068), or online through PayPal on our website. Please specify that the donation is for “No Room for Rover.” **All donations are tax-deductible!!**

While monetary gifts are always welcome, PAHS also accepts supply donations. Here is a list of our current needs:

- Bleach, Fabuloso, dish and laundry soap
- Cat litter, canned/dry cat food,
- Dry/canned dog/puppy food
- Hand sanitizer, Band-Aids, Peroxide, Neosporin
- Toilet paper, plastic trash bags, dryer sheets, towels
- Office supplies, copy paper, black pens, Sharpies, scotch tape
- Gift cards to Wal-mart, Target, Lowe’s, K-Mart, Dollar General, Dollar Tree, PetSmart, Office Depot, etc.

Foster Ambassadors

PAHS is always accepting applications for Foster Ambassadors. Foster families are very important to non-profit shelter organization.



Fostering an adult dog and puppies or a mother cat and kittens is a rewarding experience. **In fact, we are fast**

approaching kitten season! Adoptable dogs that are sent to out-of-state rescue organizations must be in a foster home for two weeks before they are transported. This type of short-term fostering is a feasible option for many people who are unable to permanently own pets. If you are interested, contact our Shelter Director, Claudia Rigsby, at 334-358-2882. An interview process and home visit will be required.

Feral Cat Trap-Neuter-Return Program

We have resumed our TNR program for people who live in the Prattville city limits **only**. If you would like to help reduce the numbers of feral cat litters by spaying and neutering, please contact the shelter at 334-358-2882 and ask for Claudia Rigsby.

A LETTER FROM NEWLY-ELECTED PAHS BOARD PRESIDENT, MRS. ANGIE COUSINS

Let me begin by saying that I am honored to be your newly-elected president of the PAHS Board of Directors! I previously served as Treasurer and am thrilled to continue my service on the Board.

My husband and I live on a farm with nine dogs, all of whom were either rescued or adopted from our shelter. We also have chickens and horses. When I’m not volunteering time to the shelter or PAHS fundraising efforts, I enjoy needlepoint, reading, cooking, and catering.

During my three years on the Board, I have volunteered at many events: car shows, Bark in the Park, the Zombie Prom, adoption events, supply drives, yard sales, working on our new cookbook, and serving as a transport for dogs headed to out-of-state rescues. Most of these things were held for a sole cause: to raise money for our “No Room for Rover” (NRFR) kennel expansion. As you know, PAHS is a small shelter and this is why NRFR is so important to us. We will increase the space needed to house more animals until they are ready to be adopted. In fact, we are almost there! This fall, we

anticipate breaking ground and can barely contain the excitement!

The backbone of every non-profit is its volunteers and we hope 2014 will bring more individual volunteers, volunteer groups, and foster families. This year, I hope to see the shelter increase our number of adoptions, return-to-owners, and dogs transported to rescues. We can do it!

Before I close, I want to personally thank former Board members Sheree Ward, Alice Floyd, and Robin Dennis for their dedication to shelter animals and service on the Board. They devoted many hours of volunteer work and charity in a way that bettered the shelter and moved it in a forward direction. Thank you.

Again, I am honored to serve you, the shelter staff, and our beloved shelter animals. I foresee nothing but wonderful things ahead!

Sincerely,
Angie Cousins

