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August 2009

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Severely Malnourished Puppies Found in Ditch Near Shelter

One survived and is now looking for a "forever" home.

Covered in fleas and ticks and infested with worms, Ravioli and Rigatoni were found by the shelter staff in a drainage ditch in front of the shelter. Sadly, Rigatoni died at the vet's office of unknown causes, but Ravioli has been nursed back to health and will be ready for adoption by mid-August.





Desperate for food, the puppies had evidently eaten just about anything they could find, including plastic and rope. But thanks to our APL shelter staff—and to YOU, our supporters—Ravioli will never have to worry about food again.

Here are a couple of pictures of this precious pup, who is approximately three months old. If you are interested in adopting her, please contact

Kristine at the shelter at aplpets@bellsouth.net or at 783-2119.

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APL Salutes Volunteer Pat Scully

APL staff honors someone with a heart of gold.



As the full-time staff at the Animal Protection League shelter, we know how important our volunteers are. Believe us, it is hard work running a rescue shelter. With only three of us, it is a challenge getting all of the necessary chores done in a day, so we are very appreciative of the volunteers who take time to show their love for animals in need.

We want to tell you about one volunteer in particular. Pat Scully has been a shelter volunteer for quite some time now. Her first time out, she said her name was Pat in the Hat and that she was 193 years old. Since that time, she has been driving from Irmo almost every weekend, rain or shine, to spend time with the animals.

“Miss Pat” loves all of the pets at the shelter, but she has a few favorites who have become known as “Pat’s Kids.” The dogs know her as the Goodie Lady. Pat does a lot of work at the shelter, including scooping out the pens and helping exercise the dogs. She even collects cans in her spare time and uses the money she earns to buy toys for all the animals. You can see why we and all of our animals have a special place in our hearts for her.

Shelter animals are starved for love and attention. Some of our pets are active and need to work off some of that energy. Others are shy or afraid and need to learn how to trust humans again. But either way, they need the love and attention of folks just like you.

We know it’s a bit of a trip out to the shelter, but if you can find some time in your busy schedule, there are lots of wagging tails waiting to greet you. Spend an hour or spend the day. Run around the grounds with them, or just sit quietly and enjoy their company. Talk to them, comfort them, and let them know it will soon be their turn to find a forever home with a loving



family.

Miss Pat puts her love for the animals into action with every visit to the shelter. Won't you please spend a little time with them, too? Just give us a call at 783-2119 and let us know when you'd like to come out or send us an e-mail at aplpets@bellsouth.net. The animals would love it, and so will you. And thanks again, Pat, for all you do for the animals of the APL. They can't wait to see you again!

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Volunteer Opportunities

It takes a village to fulfill the APL mission.

As in many organizations, a small group of people seems to step up to the plate to help over and over. But they can't do it all. We need YOU to find the volunteer job that suits you best and to get on board:



- Help care for APL cats awaiting adoption at the Lexington PetSmart. We have only three volunteers, and one is leaving for college in the fall. If you can spare an hour a week or even every other week, please contact Mandy at lyssa776@yahoo.com.
- Provide a short-term foster home for small dogs awaiting adoption. These dogs usually find homes quickly, but they need to be in foster care until they can get necessary veterinary attention. Often we are unable to take in highly adoptable small dogs because we don't have enough foster homes. Contact Joyce at joyceandmisha@hotmail.com.
- Help at the adopt-a-pet functions on Saturdays at local pet stores in Irmo and Lexington. We even have a pet store willing to let us have adoption events in the southeast part of town, but we don't have enough volunteers to staff another adoption team. Does this sound like a job for you? If so, contact Joyce at joyceandmisha@hotmail.com.
- Come out to the shelter and play with the dogs and cats awaiting adoption. Read the article above about volunteer Pat Sculley and find out how a dedicated volunteer can make a big difference. E-mail our shelter manager Kristine at aplpets@bellsouth.net and make plans to visit soon.
- Help stuff envelopes when it's time for the next printed newsletter. We still have around 1,500 people who have not yet switched to the e-news. Printing and mailing the newsletter is expensive, but we save money by stuffing the envelopes ourselves. If you can help, please call Debbie at 603-5443.

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Cat Adoptions Have Been on a Roll in Recent Weeks

After several slow months, many of our rescues are finding homes.

Eleven APL cats have been adopted recently! Lilo, Molly, and Peanut were adopted from the Two Notch Road PetSmart adoption center; Buckthorn, Pipernel, Pepper, Garner, Uziah, Warick, and Thistle were adopted from the Lexington PetSmart; and Strawberry was adopted from the shelter.

The staff did a happy dance when Warick (right) went to his new home. When he came to the shelter, he wasn't too fond of humans. At first we thought he might be feral. The original plan for Warick involved TNR—"trap, neuter, release"—to ensure that he could not be responsible for future litters. But everyone who met him hated to think about him fending for himself once again in the wild.



Volunteers came out to the shelter to spend special time with Warick. The staff gave him extra TLC too, even taking him home with them to help him socialize. After many hours of attention, he came around. Now he is doing great in his new home.

Shelter manager Kristine Priede had this to say about Warick: "His is one of those adoptions that make this job worthwhile, despite its many daily challenges. I miss him very much but am tickled to death at the same time."



Pepper's story is also a happy one: She came to the shelter with her litter of kittens and was a great mom. But she scared the shelter staff when she quit eating and dropped down to only four pounds. She spent a week at the vet's office, where she recovered, and now she is living in her forever home, where life is good.

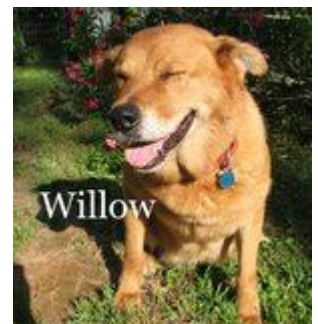
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Which Dogs and Cats Are Still Waiting and Hoping?

We cannot mention them all, but here are a few names and faces.

Annie is still waiting patiently at the shelter, long after her puppies have all found their homes. Willow is also still waiting. Her foster mom, [Christine](#), would love to arrange a meeting if you are interested in meeting Willow.

Litter mates Trista and Pipkin (pictured below) are still waiting for someone to take them home. Their brother Michiko was adopted just last week.





And we must never forget the APL dogs and cats who have been at the shelter a long, long time waiting for someone to fall in love with them. Here are pictures of Pei Pei and Penny, both of whom would give anything to have a home to call their own.

Each of them has a lot of love to give. Rescued by the APL some years ago, these precious animals just haven't had good luck when it comes to finding a forever home.



Pei Pei has lived at our shelter for seven of his eight years. The shelter staff can't understand why he keeps getting passed over for adoption because he is so friendly and enthusiastic. His coat is coarse, but he has the softest nose of any dog we have ever known. Pei Pei is good with other dogs and with cats. He deserves to live out his life with human companions devoted to giving him a place to call home.

Penny has had three different owners, all of whom said she was a wonderful companion. But when they could no longer care for her, she came back to us. A senior gal, Penny wants nothing more than to have a lap to sit on and someone to scratch her behind the ears.



Both Penny and Pei Pei qualify for our "Senior Pets for Senior People" program, which means they are available at no charge to an eligible senior citizen who would like to give either of them a home. Please contact [Kristine at the shelter](#) if you are interested in providing a home for one of the [dogs and cats](#) who are waiting at our shelter.



Did You Know . . .

The average cost for the APL to prepare a female puppy for adoption is about \$115—a sum that includes deworming, all vaccinations, microchipping, testing, and altering at the low-cost spay/neuter clinic. Male puppies cost an average of \$95. Kittens range from \$78 to \$98. Adult cats and dogs range from \$70 to \$126.



Those expenses, of course, do not take into account the ongoing costs of running our shelter, such as rent, utilities, insurance, and salaries for our small staff of animal caregivers. Those expenses are met by our faithful supporters who give steadily—month after month—to support our mission. The fees we charge for adoptions help defray the cost of preparing our rescued animals to be adopted, but they in no way cover unexpected expenses, such as Pipkin's hospital stay or Willow's

heartworm treatment.

If you can help, please click [here](#) or mail your donation to the APL at PO Box 5354, Columbia, SC 29250. Your dollars go directly to the cause.

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August and September Adoption Opportunities

Adopt-a-Pet Events at Local Pet Stores
Saturdays, 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

This month only: *four* locations!



Animal Supply House in Irmo
1674 Lake Murray Blvd.
August 1, 15, and 29; September 12 and 26

Animal Supply House in Lexington
5474 Augusta Road
August 8 and 22; September 5 and 19



PetSmart in Lexington
5135U Sunset Boulevard
August 8 and 22; September 5 and 19

And a special adopt-a-pet event for September only at

Masterfoods

1720 Pineview Drive
September 12, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Cats and kittens are available for adoption every day during store hours at PetSmart on Two Notch Road and in Lexington.

As always, dogs and cats are available for adoption at our shelter at 6080 Old Leesburg Road,

Wednesday through Sunday from noon to 4:00 p.m. or by [appointment](#). For directions to our shelter, visit our Web site at <http://www.aplsc.org/info.htm>.

To see all the APL animals available for adoption, visit our Web site or click [here](#).

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APL-Sponsored Microchip Clinics Are a Big Success

Clinics to be a monthly event.

Our next clinics will be held **August 8** at the Animal Supply House in Lexington and **September 12** at the Animal Supply House in Irmo. Clinics are open from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.



A veterinary technician will be on-site to microchip your cat or dog for the very low fee of \$10. An APL representative will show you how to register your pet's microchip number with 24PetWatch, where it will be maintained in a database free of charge. Learn more about [24PetWatch](#) by clicking [here](#).

Why have your pet microchipped? Millions of pets are lost each year, and the majority of them are never reunited with their owners because the animals cannot be identified. Microchipping offers pet owners the only truly permanent method of ensuring that their pets can be identified and returned home safely.

All animals who are brought into a veterinary clinic or animal welfare organization are now routinely scanned for a microchip. In the event that a microchip is located, the staff will call [24PetWatch](#) to see if the pet is registered in their database. As soon as the match is made, someone will call the owner to let him or her know that the pet has been found and to arrange a reunion.

Ten dollars is a low price to pay for peace of mind, so make sure to bring your pet to the next APL microchip clinic.

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Shelter Wish List



Thanks to those of you who have donated gently used dogloos! Our dogs will be grateful to you during both hot summer days and cold winter nights.



We also thank those of you who donated dog collars. We can always use more. Any

size will do—new or used—but especially ones that are 16, 18, and 22 inches long. They don't need to be fancy, just functional.

Finally, we are grateful to the donor who gave us a new digital camera, memory stick, and printer. Digital pictures of our dogs and cats are essential to our success in finding them homes. Now we will have a shelter camera available whenever we need it—and that need arises nearly every day.

Our supporters are generous people, indeed!

Immediate needs include **dishwashing detergent** (yes, we're out again!) and **flea and tick shampoo**. Ongoing needs include **clumping cat litter**, **paper towels**, and **bleach**.

We can provide a tax receipt for all donations. If you can donate any of these much-needed items, please send an e-mail to Kristine at aplpets@bellsouth.net or call Debbie at 603-5443 and leave a message, which she will return promptly.

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Save the Date: Annual Auction November 7

Auction organizers are already starting to collect items for the silent and live auctions.



If you don't attend another APL event all year (and of course we hope you will!), you won't want to miss the Annual APL Auction. Not only do we raise money to advance our mission, but we also have a great time with other APL supporters.

In the past, live auction items have included airline tickets, hotel accommodations, art, and vacation weeks. Silent-auction items usually include gift certificates for meals, massages, hair cuts, veterinary care, and animal boarding and grooming; jewelry and collectibles from specialty gift stores; and a host of other great items. You can do all your holiday shopping and help animals at the same time!

Ticket price includes heavy hors d'oeuvres, soft drinks, adult beverages—and, of course, the all-important bidder number!

Mark your calendars, invite your friends, and plan on an evening of fun. More details will follow in upcoming newsletters.

You can help make this year's auction a success.

Do you have a service or item that you would like to donate to the auction? Would you be willing to help collect items from our faithful donors? Maybe you can help set up for the event. If you can

help in any way, please contact Debbie at 603-5443. This is our biggest fundraising event of the year, and we need everyone's help to make it a success.

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Over \$5,200 Raised So Far at the Annual Rummage Sale

Final sale date to be held on August 8.



Many thanks to those of you who donated items for our annual rummage sale. After three sale dates, we have taken in over \$5,200. We have one sale date left: Saturday, August 8.

The location is 1727 Laurel Street, in downtown Columbia near the big fire station. We'll be there from 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

Bring your friends and family and come out for some great deals. We still have a store full of items, including two very nice, large entertainment centers, a baker's rack, and a like-new adult's bicycle—and everything must go!

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Feature Your Pet's Photo in Our E-Newsletter

Tell other e-newsletter subscribers why your animal companion is so special!

Each month the banner at the top of our e-newsletter includes two photos: one cat and one dog. Usually these are APL rescues, but now you can share your pet's photos in those spaces.

For a \$25 donation to the APL, you can feature your cat or dog in our e-newsletter banner. We will also include a brief (two or three sentences) write-up about why he or she is so special to you. This is a great way to pay tribute to the beloved animal companions who bring much joy to our lives every day.

If you are interested in this opportunity, please contact Christine at brouwers@earthlink.net.

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In memoriam . . .



This e-newsletter and the recently mailed print newsletter were sponsored by devoted APL supporters Rosemary Calhoun and Robert Adams in memory of their beloved animal companions Flap and Jack. Rescued by Rosie and Robert from deplorable situations when they were puppies, Flap and Jack spent the rest of their long and happy lives with them. Rosemary and Robert had the following words to say about Flap and Jack:

“Both were honorable old fellows, loving and kind, sweet and gentle, humble and undemanding. They were true friends to each other and to us. Jack had cancer and left us in May at age 11. Flap, pictured here in his

Christmas finery, left us in July at age 15. Both losses have left huge holes in our hearts. Although gone, they will live on in our memories.”

Don't forget to click on the button at the bottom of this page to **forward this newsletter** to all your animal-loving friends. Help us grow our subscriber list. Currently we have 405 e-newsletter subscribers. If each of you convinces two friends to subscribe, we would soon have over 1,000. **But we can't do it without your help!**

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