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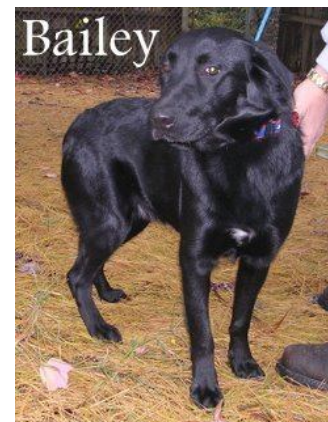
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Happy Adoption "Tails"

Here are three happy endings to remind us why we support the mission of the APL.

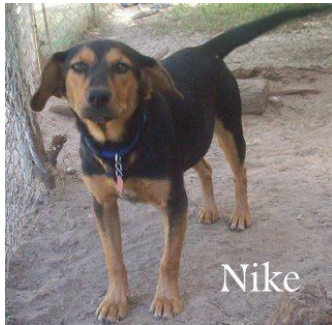
Often our newsletter is filled with heart-wrenching rescue stories and profiles of animals who are still looking for homes. As our holiday gift to you, our faithful supporters, in this issue we are going to focus on three dogs whose "tails" have recently found happy endings:

Bailey, a one-and-a-half-year-old black lab, came to the shelter November 9, 2009, after living with a family who



left him in the yard all the time and gave him very little attention. He is a playful, attention-seeking boy who is easy to please.

It took almost a year, but recently Bailey found a home to give him the attention, exercise, and discipline he needs.



Nike, a black and tan beagle-and-lab mix under a year old, came to the shelter on March 20, 2010, after someone found her and her three litter mates in the woods. The others found homes, but Nike ended up at the APL.

She is a sweet and playful girl who is good with dogs, cats, and children and who loves attention and toys. Shelter staff was happy to see her finally get a home.

Duncan, a yellow and white one-year-old lab mix, was a puppy when he came to the shelter with his two sisters, all of whom had been rescued from the streets and brought to the shelter by a kind soul.

Though the playful lap dog was good with dogs, cats, and children, Duncan didn't adopt out as quickly as his sisters. When he finally was adopted, the shelter staff was ecstatic.

These are just three of the animals who are now in safe, loving homes. Christmas came early for them this year, and with your help, the APL will make it possible for others to find their forever homes in 2011.



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There Is Still Time to Honor Loved Ones This Holiday Season with a Black Pearl Gift

Make a donation in someone's honor or memory, and we will send your gift for you.

For a donation of \$50 or more, you can honor or memorialize a loved one with one of **three** Black Pearl gift options:

- A two-toned cotton tote bag with the Black Pearl logo on both sides.
- A card announcing that your gift in the special person's honor or memory will be used to help spay



or neuter a Black Pearl cat or dog.

- A shirt with an embroidered Black Pearl logo.



Each gift will include a letter explaining the Black Pearl program and—for the first time this year—a picture collage of many of our APL black pearls.

The APL has worked for years to draw attention to the plight of Black Pearls—those precious black dogs and cats who end up in shelters across the country in disproportionate numbers and who are statistically more likely to be euthanized than other cats and dogs.

To honor or memorialize someone this holiday season, fill out the [sponsorship form](#) and mail it in along with your donation to the APL, PO Box 5354, Columbia, SC 29250. We have extended the deadline through December 22 for local orders. We cannot guarantee delivery by Christmas Day for orders sent out of town, but we are sure that your loved ones will enjoy the gift at any time.

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Another Perfect Last-Minute Gift Idea



Your purchase of these sterling silver charms will help the APL and ASPCA.

The good folks at [Roof Jewelers](#) at 6829 Two Notch Road have always been big APL supporters. Now they have teamed up with a national campaign to sell sterling silver charms to benefit both the APL and the ASPCA.

Each sterling silver “Dog Lover” or “Cat Lover” charm is approximately the size of a nickel. It would make a great addition to a charm bracelet or could be worn on a chain as a necklace.

Here is the best part: when you purchase these charms for just \$30 each, \$10 of the purchase price goes to support the APL and another portion goes to support the ASPCA in its national efforts to prevent cruelty to animals.

One of these charms would make a perfect gift for all the special women you'd like to honor during the holidays.

Call [Roof Jewelers](http://www.roofjewelers.com) at 803-788-2644 to find out more about these charms. Stop by the store today to buy one for all the special animal lovers in your life. You can visit Roof Jewelers online at www.roofjewelers.com.

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Surrogate Mom Nurses Four Kittens

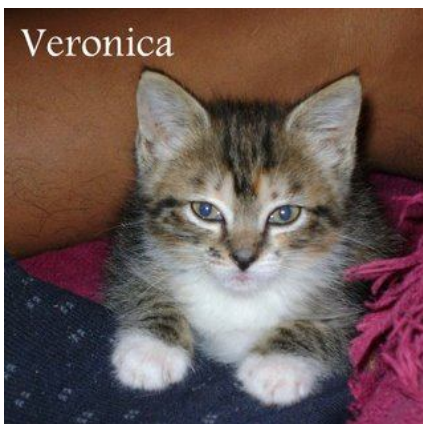
All four kittens are now weaned and in foster care.



Remember the story of the four tiny kittens who came to the shelter before they were weaned? Helen came to the rescue.

Although her milk had to be supplemented, she was a good sport and nursed these babies after she had finished nursing her own kittens.

Now weaned and under the care of one of our big-hearted foster families, the kittens—named Archie, Veronica, Betty, and Reggie— will be spayed or neutered in January and will soon be ready for adoption. Any one (or two!) of them would love to become part of your family and would make an excellent addition to your home in 2011!



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Pet (and People!) Photos with Santa

This fundraising event was held at local pet stores throughout December.



APL volunteers have been taking photos of Santa with people's pets at various Animal Supply House and PetSmart locations throughout December.



For a \$10 donation to the APL, people received a photo of their pets in Santa's lap, and each photo came with a festive holiday frame. They now have a precious keepsake they can enjoy for many years to come.

If you didn't make it out to the Animal Supply House or PetSmart this year, then mark your 2011 calendars now for next December, when we'll be back in various pet stores taking pictures with Santa again.



Like all fundraising events, the success of this one rested on our faithful volunteers. A big thank-you goes out to our two Santas, to our photographers, and to the others who registered people for their photos. We couldn't have done it without you!

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APL Salutes Pinto and Buster

Meet two of our shelter animals who are waiting patiently for someone to take them home.

Pinto is a two-year-old cat with a diluted orange coloring. He is quiet but does seek attention. He has occasionally



been known to play bite, but he is not aggressive In the words of the shelter staff, Pinto "acts like he owns the place."

They believe that Pinto should be an "only cat" because he can play too rough. He would be best in a home with no small children because he has been known to whap with his paw when his space isn't respected. Pinto will hiss at dogs when he first meets them.

Buster is a nine-year-old black and white lab-beagle mix. He is shy; in his pen he woofs at strangers and people he barely knows. Then he runs to the farthest corner from them. But in the end he turns out to be a very sweet boy.



Because Buster loves toys and is very protective of them, the staff recommend that he be an "only dog." He loves cats and children, but due to his shyness, he will probably be better with older children.

If you have room in your heart and home for Pinto or Buster, contact [Kristine](#).

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Shelter Wish List: Special 2010 List for Santa

If your organization would like to collect items for the APL this holiday season, please consider asking for these much-needed items:

- Dry **puppy** food (any brand)
- Dry **kitten** food (any brand)
- Dry lamb and rice dog food (any brand)
- Laundry detergent
- Dish soap
- Clumping cat litter

Most of the adult cat and dog food we use at the shelter is donated by local pet food manufacturers. Specialty food items, however, such as the ones on this list, have to be purchased. While we appreciate all donations, these food items are needed more than anything else.

Even though clumping cat litter costs more initially than the cheaper non-clumping kind, in the long run it is actually less expensive. All the cheaper, non-clumping litter has to be thrown out often, whereas the clumping litter can be scooped frequently and, therefore, kept clean and fresh for a longer period of time.

Of course, the resource we need most of all is your financial support, which gives us the means to pay the rent, the utility bills, and the enormous veterinary bills we run up taking care of the animals we rescue, rehabilitate, alter, vaccinate, and ultimately place in loving homes.

Please consider the APL when your office, school, or civic group is deciding which organizations to help this holiday season and throughout the year.

To make your donations, please contact our shelter manager, [Kristine](#).

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Upcoming Adoption Opportunities

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

December 18, January 15 and 29
[Animal Supply House, Irmo](#)
1674 Lake Murray Blvd.

January 8 and 22
[Animal Supply House, Lexington](#)
5474 Augusta Rd.
and
[PetSmart, Lexington](#)
5135U Sunset Blvd.

APL cats and kittens are always available for adoption during store hours at PetSmart in [Lexington](#) and on [Two Notch Road](#).




Visit our shelter dogs and cats Wednesdays through Sundays, noon to 4:00 p.m. Go to our [Web site](#) to see pictures and profiles of all available [dogs](#) and [cats](#) and to find directions to our shelter.



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Microchip Clinics to Resume in 2011

APL-sponsored events at Animal Supply House give pet owners peace of mind.

 Plan to bring your pets to one of our APL-sponsored microchip clinics in the new year! Microchip Clinics will not be held in November or December but will resume in January.

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Did you adopt your cat or dog from the APL?

[Send us](#) your story and a few pictures so we can include them in a future newsletter.
Thanks!



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