

R D R Newsletter

Ring Dog Rescue Needs Your Support!!!!!!

Special points of interest:

- Top Ten Pet Poisons
- Canine Adventure
- Green Leaf Cafe
- Bully of the Month
- Coalition to Unchain Dogs forms Richmond Chapter
- Pet Expo in February

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We are on the web!!!
www.ringdogrescue.org

Ring Dog Rescue urges all of our supporters to strongly support HB429, a proposed piece of legislation currently before the Virginia General Assembly. The purpose of HB429 is to prevent the shelters in Virginia's counties and cities from euthanizing animals based solely on breed. The passage of this bill would be a tremendous strike against Breed Specific Legislation in Virginia.

In the General Assembly sub-committee meeting on Monday, January 25, 2010, HB429 suffered a serious setback and was struck down by a 5-4 vote. Now is more critical than ever for our legislators to hear our voices demanding the passage of this bill. If only one vote can be changed, the potential exists to continue pushing this bill through the Assembly.

At the end of this article, you will find a list of delegates who voted against this legislation. We encourage all Ring Dog Rescue supporters to politely and tactfully contact their personal representatives as well as these representatives who voted against HB429 and express to them your belief that this legislation should be passed into law.

Full text of the bill can be found here: <http://leg1.state.va.us/cgi-bin/legp504.exe?>

101+ful+HB429

Ring Dog Rescue strongly encourages all of our supporters to get in touch with your delegates and ask for their support on this bill. Contacting your delegates is a quick and easy way to increase the power of your individual voice, as well as the voice of the bully community. You can locate and contact your delegate by accessing the information on this link: <http://conview.state.va.us/whosmy.nsf/main?openform>

In order to present you with a brief overview of the key components of HB 429, we have included this excerpt from the bill:

D. If an animal confined pursuant to this section has not been claimed upon expiration of the appropriate holding period as provided by subsection C, it shall be deemed abandoned and become the property of the pound. Such animal may be euthanized in accordance with the methods approved by the State Veterinarian or disposed of by the methods set forth in subdivisions 1 through 5. However, no pound may euthanize, or prohibit the adoption of, any dog based solely on breed. No pound shall release more than two animals or a family of animals during any 30-day pe-

riod to any one person under subdivisions 2, 3, or 4.

As you can see, this bill would be a great amendment to the current legal standard. Just remember, in order for it to pass, everyone in the bully community should make an effort to contact their delegates and express their sentiments. Unfortunately, delegates have a great deal to be concerned with that does not involve dog shelter policy and the wellbeing of our bully breeds. If we want to bring attention to our often overlooked cause, we have to go the extra mile to make our voices heard.

Delegate Charles D. Poindexter
DelCPoindexter@house.virginia.gov

Delegate Richard P. Bell
DelDBell@house.virginia.gov

Delegate Robert D. Orrock, Sr.
DelBORrock@house.virginia.gov

Delegate Matthew J. Lohr
DelMLohr@house.virginia.gov

Delegate Daniel W. Marshall, III
DelDMarshall@house.virginia.gov

FOSTER HOMES NEEDED

As always, Ring Dog Rescue is in need of foster homes. If yourself, friends or family may be interested in fostering for Ring Dog Rescue, please check out the "Foster" tab on our website at www.ringdogrescue.org for more information on the program and next steps.

February 20, 2010

Henrico Humane Society Pet Expo

The Showplace
(Mechanicsville Turnpike)
10am to 4pm

Ring Dog Rescue will once again be attending Pet Expo this year and, as always, will be set up with all of our great merchandise for sale and some adoptable dogs!!!

Pet Expo is a unique indoor event where you can bring your pet to enjoy a day of fun and excitement with the whole family!

All proceeds benefit Henrico Humane Society! Over 90 exhibitors that sell animal-related goods and services will be on hand, plus many animal rescue groups.

Activities are scheduled throughout the day, many of which you can do with your pet!

Admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children"

Canine Adventure

Ring Dog Rescue would like to highlight Canine Adventure for being a huge supporter of RDR and for making differences in the lives of our community's dogs. Canine Adventure, founded by Josh Rickey, is a company dedicated to promoting the health and wellbeing of all breeds of dogs. Through various services, including their famed Adventure Walks, leash lessons, weekday visits, dog sitting, and expert photography, Canine Adventures enhances the quality of life found in the relationship between dogs and their owners. Please take a few minutes to review the Canine Adventure website. Perhaps there is something that Josh Rickey can do for you and your dog?

(www.canineadventure.net)



Small Small

Please Be Sure to Update Your Information

In the event that you have relocated, please ensure that your contact information is up to date with the RDR records. You can email updates to

ringdog@ringdogrescue.org,

Attention: **Jennifer Velez**.

Congratulations to the following dogs, all of whom found great homes in the month of January:

Small Small, Atticus, Clyde, Marty, Spike, Zsa Zsa, Ghost, and Scooter

Green Leafé Café - New Supporter of RDR

Ring Dog Rescue would like to extend a welcome to one of our new supporters, the **Green Leafé Café** in Williamsburg, which is now hosting RDR adoption stands in the Peninsula area.

Check out their website:
<http://www.greenleafe.com>



The Coalition to Unchain Dogs has formed a long-needed Richmond Chapter!

The Coalition provides free fencing and spay/neuter to local dogs in need. We need volunteers! Email Jenn David at unchainrichmond@yahoo.com for more information

Coalition to Unchain Dogs is a non-profit, volunteer effort dedicated to improving the welfare of dogs living outdoors on chains. In the Triangle area of North Carolina alone, Coalition volunteers have already unchained nearly 400 dogs in just three short years. Not only has each of those dogs received a fence; each has also received a free vet appointment including a wellness exam, vaccinations, and spay/neuter.

In 2009, Coalition to Unchain Dogs started two additional chapters. The Raleigh chapter started building fences

last summer and has unchained nearly 25 dogs in just six short months. And in November, they expanded again with the start of our Charlotte Chapter.

Now, the Coalition is headed to Richmond. They have already organized a motivated group of volunteers who are busy identifying chained dogs and purchasing materials to build fences. If you'd like to get involved with the Richmond Chapter of Coalition to Unchain Dogs, email the Richmond Director, Jen David, at unchainrichmond@yahoo.com. Also, check out the Coalition's website, www.unchaindogs.org, where you can see videos of the many dogs they've unchained as well as make an online donation to support the new Richmond Chapter.

Top 10 Pet Poisons of 2009

Excerpt from ASPCA website

With various dangers lurking in corners and cabinets, the home can be a minefield of poisons for our pets. In 2009, the ASPCA's Animal Poison Control Center (APCC) in Urbana, IL, handled more than 140,000 cases of pets exposed to toxic substances, many of which included everyday household products. Don't leave it up to Fido or Fluffy to keep themselves safe. Below is a list of the top 10 pet poisons that affected our furry friends in 2009.

Human Medications - For several years, human medications have been number one on the ASPCA's list of common hazards, and 2009 was no exception. Last year, the ASPCA managed 45,816 calls involving prescription and over-the-counter drugs such as painkillers, cold medications, antidepressants

and dietary supplements. Pets often snatch pill vials from counters and nightstands or gobble up medications accidentally dropped on the floor, so it's essential to keep meds tucked away in hard-to-reach cabinets.

Insecticides - In our effort to battle home invasions by unwelcome pests, we often unwittingly put our furry friends at risk. In 2009, our toxicologists fielded 29,020 calls related to insecticides. One of the most common incidents involved the misuse of flea and tick products—such as applying the wrong topical treatment to the wrong species. Thus, it's always important to talk to your pet's veterinarian before beginning any flea and tick control program.

People Food - People food like grapes, raisins, avocado and products containing xylitol, like gum,

can seriously disable our furry friends, and accounted for more than 17,453 cases in 2009. One of the worst offenders—chocolate—contains large amounts of methylxanthines, which, if ingested in significant amounts, can cause vomiting, diarrhea, panting, excessive thirst, urination, hyperactivity, and in severe cases, abnormal heart rhythm, tremors and seizures.

Plants - Common houseplants were the subject of 7,858 calls to APCC in 2009. Varieties such as azalea, rhododendron, sago palm, lilies, kalanchoe and schefflera are often found in homes and can be harmful to pets. Lilies are especially toxic to cats, and can cause life-threatening kidney failure even in small amounts.

Continued on last page

RDR Supporters

Sticky Rice

Green Leafe Café

Farmer's Veterinary Hospital

Prevent-A-Litter

Heroes and Ghosts

Carytown Cleaners

Petco (Jefferson Davis Highway)

Canine Adventure

River City Rollergrills

Ellwood Thompson's

Beggar's Bones

Richmond Animal League

Huguenot Grooming

Pure Dog Treats Bandito's

Richmond Harley Davidson

Sands-Anderson Law Firm

Farmer's Insurance

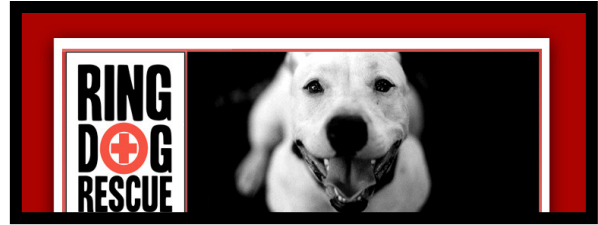
Grubbs Construction

Holiday Barn

January 2010

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Bully of the Month—Shane

Shane is a 1 year old, pit and who-knows-what mix, maybe a Cattle Dog, maybe a Lab, who knows! He spend the first part of his life isolated and ignored in the backyard of a residence with no attention or care. Eventually, the family dumped him at the shelter after they decided they had didn't want to deal with his lone...ly barks. RDR pulled Shane and he is now in foster care. He is a totally loveable dog, great with other dogs and quick to warm up to people. He even seems to tolerate some cats. Shane loves to be active and forges a special bond with his "person". He would be a great partner for a runner, hiker or someone else who needs a buddy who will always be happily at their side. You can learn more about Shane by emailing ringdog@ringdogrescue.org.



Top 10 Pet Poisons of 2009 *continued*

Veterinary Medications -Even though veterinary medications are intended for pets, they're often misapplied or improperly dispensed by well-meaning pet parents. In 2009, the ASPCA managed 7,680 cases involving animal-related preparations such as non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, heartworm preventatives, de-wormers, antibiotics, vaccines and nutritional supplements.

Rodenticides - Last year, the ASPCA received 6,639 calls about pets who had accidentally ingested rat and mouse poisons. Many baits used to attract rodents contain inactive ingredients that are attractive to pets as well. Depending on the type of rodenticide, ingestions can lead to potentially life-threatening problems for pets including bleeding, seizures or kidney damage.

Household Cleaners - Everybody knows that household cleaning supplies can be toxic to adults and children, but few take precautions

to protect their pets from common agents such as bleaches, detergents and disinfectants. Last year, the ASPCA received 4,143 calls related to household cleaners. These products, when inhaled by our furry friends, can cause serious gastrointestinal distress and irritation to the respiratory tract.

Heavy Metals - It's not too much loud music that constitutes our next pet poison offender. Instead, it's heavy metals such as lead, zinc and mercury, which accounted for 3,304 cases of pet poisonings in 2009. Lead is especially pernicious, and pets are exposed to it through many sources, including consumer products, paint chips, linoleum, and lead dust produced when surfaces in older homes are scraped or sanded.

Garden Products - It may keep your grass green, but certain types of fertilizer and garden products can cause problems for outdoor cats and dogs. Last year, the ASPCA fielded

2,329 calls related to fertilizer exposure, which can cause severe gastric upset and possibly gastrointestinal obstruction.

Chemical Hazards - In 2009, the ASPCA handled approximately 2,175 cases of pet exposure to chemical hazards. A category on the rise, chemical hazards—found in ethylene glycol antifreeze, paint thinner, drain cleaners and pool/spa chemicals—form a substantial danger to pets. Substances in this group can cause gastrointestinal upset, depression, respiratory difficulties and chemical burns.

Prevention is really key to avoiding accidental exposure, but if you suspect your pet has ingested something toxic, please contact your veterinarian or the Animal Poison Control Center's 24-hour hotline at (888) 426-4435.

For more information visit ASPCA website:
<http://www.aspc.org/news/national/01-15-10.html>