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April is Prevention of Animal Cruelty Month



Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Month, observed every April, serves as a rallying cry for advocates, organizations, and individuals worldwide to raise awareness and take action against the mistreatment and exploitation of animals. This month-long campaign aims to shine a spotlight on the various forms of cruelty animals endure, from neglect and abuse to exploitation in industries such as factory farming, entertainment, and research.

Animal cruelty should be stopped because it causes real suffering to creatures capable of feeling pain, it directly correlates with violence against people, and it creates public health risks that affect entire populations. These aren't just moral arguments. They're backed by measurable data linking animal abuse to human harm on multiple levels.

This month also provides an opportunity for individuals to reflect on their own interactions with animals and consider ways to make compassionate choices in their daily lives. Whether through adopting rescue animals, advocating for stronger animal welfare laws, or making ethical consumer decisions, we can all play a role in creating a more compassionate world for animals.

Know the signs of abuse

Animal abuse often flies under the radar. However, the following signs are considered indicators of an animal being mistreated and should be reported to local law enforcement so they can investigate:

- Pets being left outdoors in inclement weather
- Animals appearing malnourished or weak
- Pets infested with fleas, ticks, or other parasites
- Pets that are frequently tied up or left in cages/crates
- Pets in dirty, unkempt home environments or homes with a "hoarder" appearance
- Dogs and cats who appear scared and flinch at human contact, and/or seem afraid of their owners (note that some pets may be shy in general, but this, in combination with other signs, can be an indicator of abuse.
- Unexplained limping, fractures, or other injuries in pets



What Can I Do to Help Prevent Animal Cruelty and Neglect? Here's 4 Ideas

1. [Make a Donation to FOCCAS](#)
2. [Become a Volunteer at FOCCAS](#)
3. [Consider Adoption](#)
4. [Consider Fostering](#)

2026 Spring Work Day – April 24th



Wear old clothes. Lunch is provided. Call Debbie at 828-37-6229 with questions. [Click here to sign up today.](#) Meet at 9:30 am at Stonehaus Winery if you need to follow someone out to the rescue. Please bring shovels, rakes, and gloves.



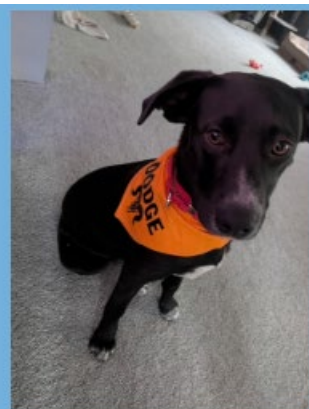
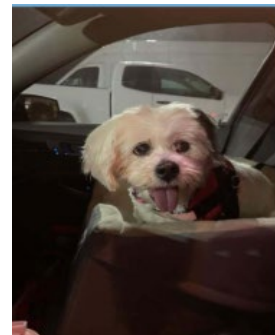
Happy Tales

Please send your happy tales, pics, and videos to FOCCASnewsletter@gmail.com or share on our Facebook page [FOCCAS HappyTales](https://www.facebook.com/groups/2103034497120715) (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2103034497120715>). We will share them in our newsletter and on our website.



Our beautiful, sweet, smart **Sandy** (now Sami, pictured left), since she and I had the same name!). She has adjusted so well. She's a Michigan girl now. Thank you so much for all you do for rescues! It was so worth the long trip to Tennessee to get her.

Emma (pictured right) is doing fantastic, and I've never been happier. Her head moves so fast, hard to get a good face shot. As expected, she does sleep quite a bit. But when awake, she is really spry. She's learning to map out the neighborhood. Has met lots of new friends ... other dogs, kids 4 & up, and adults. She gets offended if no one pets her. I've started to change her diet a tad to help her lose some weight. She is just a total love bug. Since we don't really know all of her background, I'm ordering an Embark breed & health test. Vet is pleased about this. So, I think that we are both doing just great. We are both still figuring out her morning schedule, but I'm truly grateful that she is a pup that likes to sleep in!! Thank you for all that your rescue does. Please share this w/Jamie. I do still have a few questions for her and will follow up in the near future. Diane & Emma



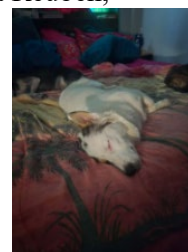
*We changed **Crump's name to **dodge**** but he is well and he's gained 5lb*



I thought you may want a Birthday picture of a puppy you fostered that has their forever home. This was Patsy, now Arwen.



Reuben aka Pepe (pictured above) Hi. I just came across this email while cleaning out my mailbox. Happy to report Reuben, aka Pepe, is thriving. Very grateful for your safekeeping until we found him. We could not love and adore him more. Thank you so very much.



Fern now Sweetie Pie (pictured right), Mom reports things are going amazingly. She's SO smart and is learning very quickly. I was able to register her microchip successfully as well."



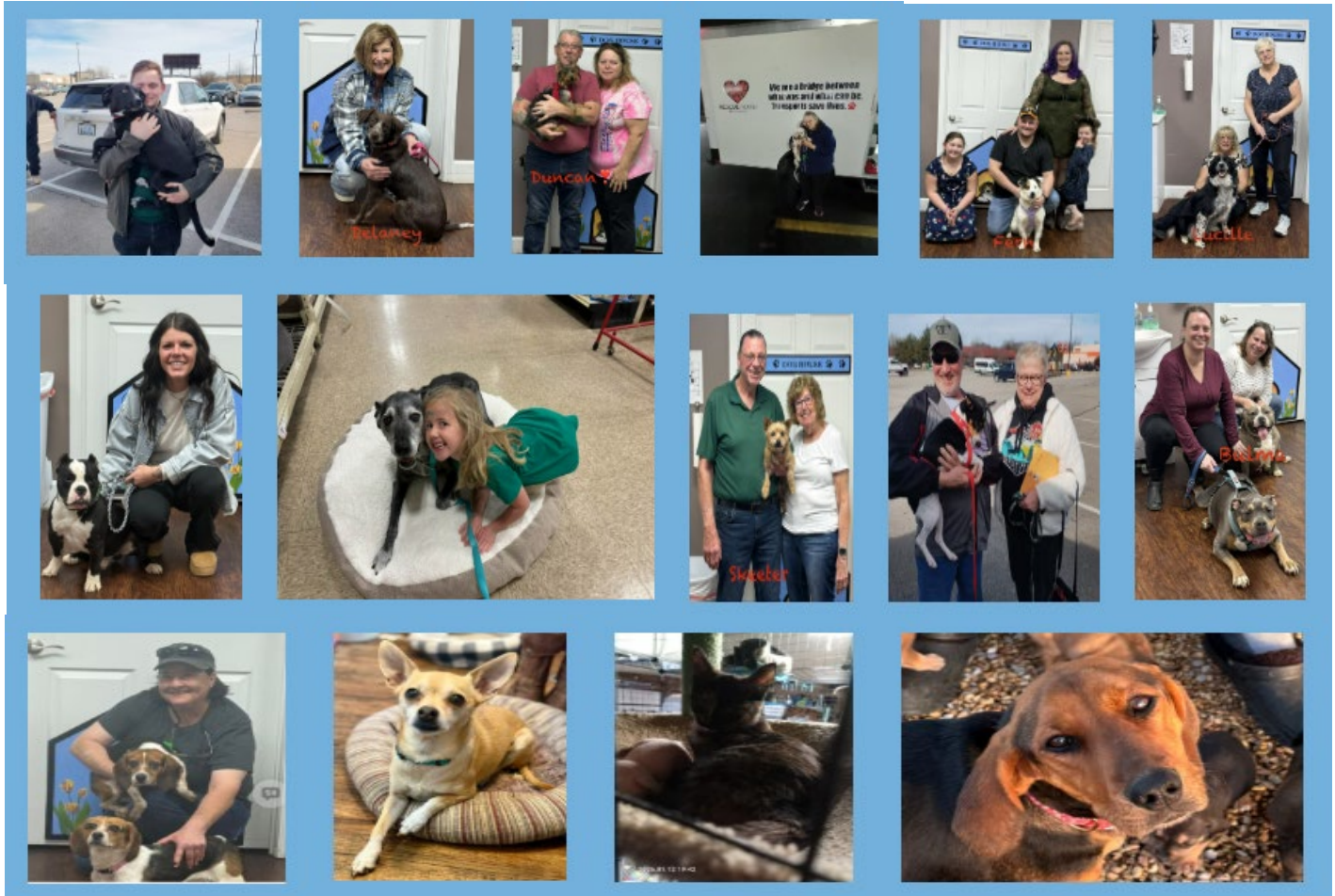
Update on Paw Pals

The first letters were written and sent to all 26 sponsors. Two of the dogs sponsored have now found their forever homes. We could not be more excited. Here are some of the comments from our sponsors.

- "Just loved this and Rocky. If I were young and healthy, he would be mine, but I will pray for that home for this sweet boy. I owe for April and May check will be in the mail soon. Thank you, Pat."
- "What a sweet email to get. Thank you.Cyd"
- "This is so sweet! Thank you! Randi"

There are still more pets to sponsor. [Just click here to become a paw pal.](#)

Our Recent Adoptions



On the 18th, 30 of our beloved cats and kittens took to the skies, heading to a rescue partner in Denver, Colorado! This transport is a massive win for our community and, most importantly, for these 30 lives.

This wouldn't have been possible without our incredible partners. A huge, heartfelt THANK YOU to the BISSELL Pet Foundation and the team at Dog is My Co-Pilot! You helped us get these kitties to their destination safely, quickly, and with love.

Every flight like this changes the game for high-volume rescues. It saves space, reduces stress on the animals, and connects them to a community eager to adopt.

Show us with some much-needed supplies



[Click here to view our Chewy Wish list](#)

[Click here to see our Amazon Wish List](#)





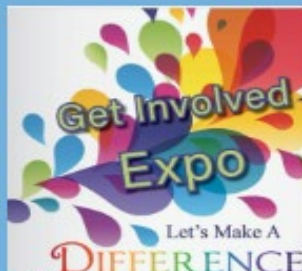
Dog training – It’s not luck, it’s training

Call Mary Dohaney of Pawsable Results. She helps us get our dogs ready for adoption, and she is prepared to help you. Training sessions can be at your home or a public location, in a group, or via virtual methods, such as FaceTime, WhatsApp, or Skype. If you have a dog with behaviors that you cannot correct, then please give her a call. Pawsable Results (904) 334 - 0029.. She is one of the heroes who make FOCCAS work. Mary Dohaney of Pawsable Results has been working with us for years, and the results are amazing. Mary is a certified Dog Trainer and an active member of the Association of Professional Dog Trainers (APDT). She has a passion for animals of all kinds and is dedicated to helping others bring out the best in their canine companions.

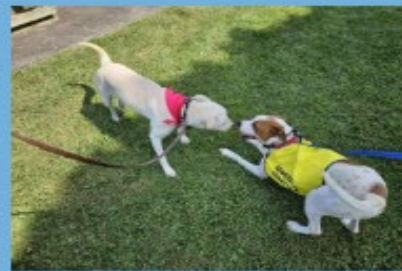
Get Involved - Check Out These upcoming Happenings



FOCCAS Spring Workday - April 23 10-3



Fairfield Glade Get Involved Expo Wednesday, April 15, 2026 , 10:00am-1:00pm



Homesteads Artisan Festival - Spring 2026 May 1 and May 2 Meet the FOCCAS Dogs 10-2 each day

Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Month



JOIN THE CAUSE. SAY NO TO ANIMAL CRUELTY!

Submit articles to FOCCASnewsletter@gmail.com

Focus On Cumberland County Animal Safety

PO Box 3245 Crossville, TN 38557

<https://foccas-tn.org>

foccas.rescue@gmail.com 931-246-9008 Please text or leave us a voicemail