

**Pearl River County SPCA  
ANIMAL SHELTER  
Post Office Box 191  
Picayune, MS 39466  
(601) 798-8000**

Return Service Requested

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Picayune, MS  
Permit No. 7



**“His Name is Trooper”**

People living on a little road outside Picayune told us there was a dog tied up to a vacant house; no food or water, and no shelter. I found the house, but no dog. It



was raining, and I had started to leave, when I heard a noise in the bushes. There was a bedraggled, wet, German Shepherd, hopelessly enmeshed in the bushes, a chain that was around his neck, and a barbed wire fence. I carry wire cutters in my truck, so I set to work, pulling and yanking at the bushes and chain, cutting closer and closer to the dog, who merely whimpered a little. When he was released, he jumped into my truck, mud and all.

I located the family that had lived in the house, and took the dog to them. A woman and a little boy came out to the truck. “Yeah,” she said, “it lived around there somewhere, but it ain’t ours.” I asked if I could take it to the shelter. “Go ahead, we don’t want him.” I then asked if the dog had a name, but she shook her head. The little boy tugged at her skirt, “But, Mama,” he said, “his name is Trooper.”

Trooper turned out to be a beautiful, loving pet. He was adopted by a family in Ocean Springs and

after about a month, I had to see if Trooper was happy. I found his new family and was invited in for tea while I learned how well he was being cared for.

And they all knew his name.

**1-866-989-SPAY**

This could be the most important number you know: it could save more lives than 9-1-1; it could help your friends and relatives; it could make you popular with your neighbors! Why? Calling this number, 1-866-989-SPAY (7729) will give you access to the SPCA’s Low-Cost, High-Quality Spay/Neuter Programs.

Coupons for cats are \$30; dogs, \$45. This price include a rabies vaccination, if needed.

Coupons are available at the Picayune Animal Shelter, and at the Slidell Animal Control Facility, 2700 Terrace Ave., 985-646-6178. Cash only, please.

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT  
[WWW.PRCSPCA.ORG](http://WWW.PRCSPCA.ORG) TO VIEW  
OUR ANIMALS FOR ADOPTION**

\*\*\*\*\*  
VISIT THE SHELTER  
1700 PALESTINE ROAD  
PICAYUNE, MS 39466  
HOURS 10 AM - 5 PM  
MONDAY - FRIDAY  
601-798-8000  
\*\*\*\*\*

**1<sup>st</sup> SATURDAY OPENING**

The shelter is also open for adoptions on the first Saturday of each month, 10am - 4pm. This gives more people an opportunity to see what great dogs and cats are waiting for “forever” homes.

All of our dogs and cats are spayed or neutered before leaving the shelter, and the dogs are micro-chipped. The adoption fee is \$90 for dogs and \$75 for cats. There is a 30-day return policy in case the adoption does not work out for your family, and we offer a 30-day free pet insurance policy that pays up to \$750, with just a \$75 deductible.

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

The SPCA need more than just cat cuddlers and dog walkers - a variety of jobs can be done by enthusiastic people - **like you!**

- You can help with:
- \*PetSmart cat & dog adoptions
  - \*Pet Partners at nursing homes
  - \*Humane education projects
  - \*Foster Parents - dogs and cats
  - \*Grant writing; newsletters
  - \*PetSmart Santa photos
  - \*Pet Food Pantry program
  - \*Spay/Neuter programs
  - \*Rescue Group transports
  - \*Public Relations activities
  - \*Web Work: MySpace, YouTube, FaceBook, Flickr, etc.

**Interested? Call 601-798-8000; leave your name and number.**

## NEW SHELTER UPDATE

The SPCA was unable to purchase a facility north of Picayune for a new shelter, so we are looking at other options. A business plan is being developed and visits to other shelters, of the type that is now being considered, are scheduled.

The new shelter is not intended to house more animals, but to put them in a healthier, better environment. In order to increase adoptions, potential "parents" must see the shelter as an inviting place to visit, with dogs and cats in pleasant surroundings.

Best of all, the shelter will be of modular construction so the facility can be enlarged later in a very cost-effective manner, if warranted by circumstances.

The SPCA presently has approximately \$19,000 in an interest-bearing escrow account with which to start the planning process.

### WHAT DOES IT COST TO RUN A SHELTER?

In 2003, a Letter to the Editor of the "Picayune Item" listed major budget items. Times have changed!

Salaries increased from \$68,775 to \$111,530 in 2007; utilities from \$4,313 to \$6,408; and maintenance/supplies from \$15,987 to \$21,577. It is easy to see why our operating expenses have increased from \$157,669 to \$246,840 (56.5%).

Our support from the city and county has risen from \$58,941 to \$91,296 (54.9%) per year. This income is supplemented by adoption fees, recycling aluminum cans, donations from private individuals, and various fundraisers (like this newsletter).

The last sentence in the letter remains basically the same: "And, by the way, the little red truck with "Pearl River County SPCA on the side - my husband bought it for me, and I put the gas in it." The sign is gone, and the red truck is newer, and have you noticed that gas has gone up? Treasurer, SPCA



### TIGGER HAS FOUND A "FOREVER" HOME

The saying goes, "The Third Time is a Charm," but for Tigger, a Scottish Deerhound, it took seven adoptions, some from PETSMART and some from the shelter, before she found a home with a family who owns Greyhounds. To all who were concerned about her - you can relax now!

\*\*\*\*\*

### RESCUE WAGGIN'

The Rescue Waggin' program, funded by PetSmart Charities, transports dogs and puppies from areas of high pet overpopulation (like Pearl River County) to shelters in areas where adoptable dogs are in demand.

Our shelter has been selected to participate in this great opportunity. On a regular basis, as many as 40 to 50 dogs and puppies will be taken to areas primarily in the Northeast U.S. where they will be spayed or neutered, given any necessary medical treatment, and adopted out to waiting families.

Shelter workers will attend a training class in September, after which the first transports can take place.

\*\*\*\*\*

### **\$10,000 CAR TAG GRANT**

Did you ever wonder what happens to the \$30 fee collected for "I Care for Animals" car tags?

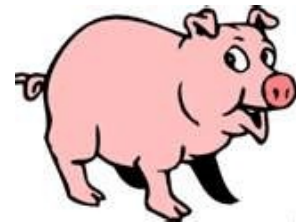
We have the answer: The MS Board of Animal Health recently notified us that we have been given a \$10,000 grant to fund Spay/Neuter programs. Remember this when you buy your next car tags!

## THANK YOU!

A big "Thank You" to the City for a brand new air conditioner that was just installed at the shelter. The old one was approximately 860 years old (it seemed!) and even the platform it sat on was caving in. New platform, new A/C - Wonderful - Summer is here!

### **LIONS AND TIGERS AND BEARS, OH, MY!**

Well, would you believe a turtle hit by a truck, baby raccoons brought in by Animal Control, guinea pigs their little owners have grown tired of, or a pot-bellied pig that slept in a cat carrier and was cared for by our own "Pig Lady."



The shelter has also cared for snakes, owls, hawks, gerbils, baby squirrels, and a BIG pig that wandered around in the dog yard.

So "Animal Shelter," means more than just cats and dogs!

---

### PEARL RIVER COUNTY SPCA

The SPCA is a non-profit organization, chartered in 1986, dedicated to promoting the welfare and humane treatment of animals. The SPCA has operated the animal shelter under contract to the city and county since February 1998.

We meet every third Thursday, 7:30 p.m., at 157 Tennyson Cove, Picayune.

Dues are \$10 a year, \$7 for seniors, \$5 for students, or \$20 for a family. You can be a Patron for \$100 or more. Checks may be mailed to PRC SPCA, P. O. Box 191, Picayune, MS 39466. Please include phone number and e-mail address.

