

Community Focus

Killing is Not the Answer to Over-Population

By Jean Radeackar

The third step in the "no kill alternative" is rescue groups. Calvert County has five very effective rescue groups - Calvert Animal Welfare Society, Inc. (CAWL); the Chesapeake Society of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, (CSPCA); Friends of Felines, Inc. (FoF); the Humane Society of Calvert County, Inc. (HSCC); and the Patuxent Animal Welfare Society, Inc. (PAWS). Each of these has its niche and helps prevent the death of thousands of dogs and cats in Calvert County.

The Calvert Animal Welfare League was formed in 1992 to rescue homeless cats and dogs. At that time, all animals were housed in foster homes and adoptions were done in public venues. In 2004, CAWL was proud to open its Adoption and Education Center in Prince Frederick. Since opening, over 1,500 cats and dogs have found permanent homes. CAWL volunteers are very dedicated to the job they do. For more information, see www.cawl.us or call 410-535-9300.

The Chesapeake SPCA sponsors free rabies clinics and a Spay/Neuter program. They also assist in the rescue of animals as well as help to reunite lost pets with their families. The CSPCA works exclusive with foster homes. They have a free rabies clinic scheduled for Oct 28, from 6-7:30 at the Solomons Fire House. For more information, call 301-855-6950.

Friends of Felines, Inc. is an all-volunteer, non-profit 501(c)3 cat rescue organization serving Calvert County. They are committed to reducing the free roaming cat population through non-lethal means by instructing volunteers on how to trap, neuter/spay, return, and maintain (TNRM) free roaming cat colonies. Adoptable cats and kittens are placed in foster homes until the perfect home is found. Foster them at 410-414-2122 or through their website at www.friends-of-felines.com.

The Humane Society of Calvert County is a strong community resource and partner, which promotes compassion toward and the humane treatment of animals, by advocating the responsible ownership of companion animals. The Humane Society of Calvert County is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization and a No-Kill Animal Rescue Organization. Visit their website at www.humanesocietyofcalvertcounty.org or call 410-257-4908.

Patuxent Animal Welfare Society, Inc. (PAWS), a 501(c)3 charity, was founded in 1996 for the purpose of humane education, pet rescue and adoption of healthy, social pets to suitable families. They have fulfilled our goals by bringing educational programs to schools, community groups, and community events; rescued dogs and cats that were strays, owners give-ups, and from the shelters; and completely vetted the pets, including spay/neuter and microchipping, and found them forever homes. All work is done using foster homes and volunteers. Now the new Calvert Well pet clinic will be opening soon for the spay/neuter and wellness of pets at low prices. Contact PAWS at 410-326-1616.

All rescue groups are volunteer run and no-kill. They are a vital component of No Kill for Calvert County and would love your help. Please call to volunteer!

'Step By Step' 5K Run Honors Mike Blackwell

The Calvert Alliance Against Substance Abuse, Inc. (CAASA), with the assistance of the Chesapeake Bay Running Club (CBRC), is sponsoring the 9th Annual "Step By Step" 5K Fun Run/Walk on Saturday, Nov. 7.

The event honors Mike Blackwell - a marathon runner who was killed by a hit and run driver in January 2001 while jogging on Broomes Island Road.

Proceeds from this event will benefit CAASA programs such as Project Graduation, National Night Out, Youth Summit, and the Mini-Grant Program.

The race will start at 9 a.m. Nov. 7, with early registration and check-in at 8 a.m. The start and finish line is at the Calvert Marine Museum. The 3.1-mile course will cover scenic roadways along the river and Back Bay in Solomons. This is a flat and fast, certified course (course certification number MD06020JS).

Teams and groups are welcome. There will be prizes awarded for runners and walkers in numerous age groups and t-shirts are provided to the first 150 registrants.

The pre-registration donation is \$20 for adults and \$10 for students, CBRC and CAASA members. The day of the race donation is \$25. Strollers are welcomed with walkers. No Pets allowed.

Registration forms can be found on the CAASA website at www.co.cal.md.us/residents/health/caasa. On-line registration is powered by Active.com.

Everyone is invited to participate in this community event. Come by yourself or with friends. Remember Mike Blackwell by doing something that he loved... Run with CAASA and heighten community awareness to the problem of alcohol and other drug abuse! For more information about the race contact the CAASA Office at 410-535-3733.

Boating Skills Course Offered

The US Coast Guard Auxiliary, Solomons Flotilla will be presenting the Boating Skills and Seamanship course at the Southern MD Sailing Association building on Solomons Island.

This comprehensive course is designed for both the experienced and novice boater. The course will be presented on Monday and Wednesday evenings from 7 to 9 p.m. Course sessions begin on Nov. 2 and will continue through Nov. 30. The course fee is \$35.

Each student will receive the 381-page Boating Skills and Seamanship textbook to retain for future reference.

All persons born after July 1972 are required to have a Boater Safety Education card in order to operate a registered vessel in MD. This comprehensive course satisfies the MD Boater Safety Education requirements.

Comcast Launches 38 New HD Channels

Comcast is expanding programming for its digital cable customers in Calvert County with the recent addition of 38 new high-definition networks, bringing the total to more than 80 HD channels and more than 1,000 HD choices available to county customers.

Bravo HD, CMT HD, Hallmark Movie Channel HD, MGM HD, Nick HD and The Weather Channel HD are just a few of the popular networks joining Comcast's growing

HD lineup.

"Comcast is committed to delivering more quality content to its customers, including more high-definition," Fred Graffam, regional senior vice president for Comcast, said in a press release. "We continuously hear from our customers that they want more programming choices and, in particular, more HD, and we are pleased to be able to deliver dozens of the most popular HD channels available today."

The HD network additions are made possible by Comcast's "World of More" digital upgrade initiative, which is rolling out neighborhood by neighborhood across the country and recently arrived in Calvert County. As part of the initiative, Comcast is moving some of its analog channels to digital format to free up bandwidth on its network to deliver more HD, faster Internet service, the ultimate in digital video and sound and much more for its customers.

"World of More" will also enable Comcast to further expand its signature On Demand service, which already offers more than 10,000 entertainment programs each month, including 1,000 HD choices, available for Digital Cable customers to watch any time, with the ability to pause, fast-forward and rewind.

As Comcast rolls out its "World of More" upgrade, the company is providing up to three pieces of digital equipment for impacted customers at no additional cost, enabling them to continue receiving existing channels along with new networks. Customers can call 1-877-634-4434 or visit www.comcast.com/digitalnow to get their free digital equipment or learn more.

'That Doggone Tiki Bar'

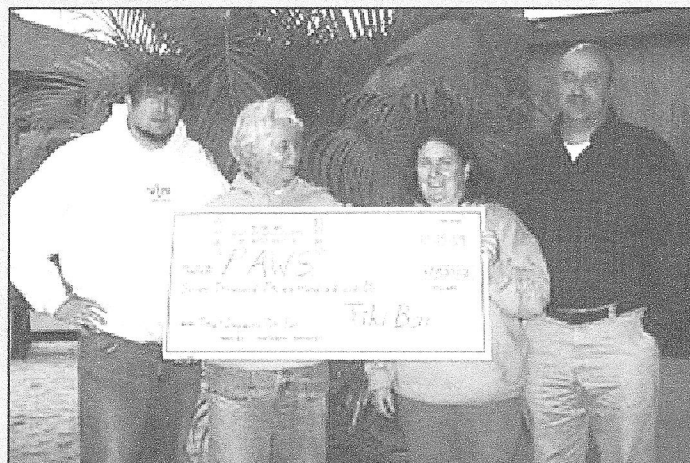


Photo by Preston Pratt

Tiki Bar co-owner Terry Clarke, right, and bar manager Joe Curley, left, present a ceremonial check to the Patuxent Animal Welfare Society (PAWS) in the amount of \$7,300, marking the amount of money brought in during the first-ever That Dog Gone Tiki Bar Pet Day held on Oct. 11. The event was a fundraiser for the new low cost spay/neuter Calvert Well Pet Clinic in Huntingtown, run by PAWS. Holding the check is Jean Radeackar, treasurer of PAWS, left, and Mary Beth Gates, owner of Pepper's Pet Pantry, who helped organize the event.