



Friends' Connection

Come on out to Hindsville Saturday evening, November 3!

It's the third annual Paws & Claws Wages to Riches Fundraiser

Paws and Claws Pet Shelter, Huntsville AR

October 2018 to April 2019



A country western theme with an emerging Nashville country western singer in a truly country setting. Don't miss it!

Taylor Edwards

Willow Brooke Farm

Taylor Edwards—singer, songwriter, and animal lover—is an upcoming country artist flying in from Nashville to perform at **Wags to Riches** to benefit our dogs and cats. Taylor recently performed with Dan & Shay, and she'll make this a fun and memorable evening.

The setting is perfect. Willow Brooks Farm's beautiful event barn south of Hindsville is surrounded by pastures, hay bales, cows, and peace. The price of the ticket - \$65 - includes a mouth-watering barbeque supper with a variety of craft beers available from local breweries as well as sangrias.

Don't forget to check out the unique Silent Auction items like this pet sofa (dogs not included), pillows, wall art, a beautiful Christmas tree, a saddle, and more.

Professional photographer Deborah Billingsby will be there taking photos. Deborah's work is top-notch and will capture this great evening for you.



Friends' Connection is published two times a year.
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OR at Friends of the Shelter, Paws and Claws Pet Shelter, 2075 Madison 6555, PO Box 364, Huntsville 72740

What's Been Goin' on at Paws & Claws?

Well, mainly, our kind, hard working staff have somehow been juggling hundreds of dogs and cats who need temporary shelter and care. Then they find each one of those pets a home. That is no mean feat, which means the job takes *extraordinary* effort, persistence, and commitment. Way above the average level. The way I see it, the work at Paws & Claws puts the principle of respect for life into action. It's not lip service. It's action. Thank them next time you're there!

AG

April – This past April, the shelter made a spay-neuter clinic available to low-income residents of our county. Forty-eight pets were cared for and will live longer healthier lives for it. Give that gift to your pets, too, and encourage your friends and family to spay or neuter their pets.

If you know someone who feels he or she can't afford the surgery, have that person call Spay Arkansas, our region's premier spay-neuter clinic for lower-income folks. Learn more:

<https://spayarkansas.org/>



May – For the second year, Paws & Claws sold pies at the Arkansas Canoe Club's annual meeting and campout at the Mulberry. Canoe club members fixed dinner, and a Paws & Claws board member, who is also a very talented baker, made and sold pie slices and whole pies. The event raised \$1,000 for the dogs and cats!

On May 19, the third Paws & Claws Fun Run and Dog Walk brought a good crowd to Mitchusson Park where kids old and young had a blast. The doggies had fun, too! Cornerstone Bank donated food and fixings. Cornerstone's Meredith Miller was our chef. The kids could ride down a Slip 'n Slide this year, too, and lots of them did.



Mulberry



Fun Run

Our wonderful participants and donors helped the shelter raise \$17,000 that day. Sounds like a lot, but Paws & Claws receives no government grants. The shelter receives no money (\$0) from Madison County, source of most of our homeless dogs. Private donations keep our shelter open. The annual budget of the shelter is more than \$150,000, so this year's Fun Run helped keep homeless dogs and cats safe, healthy, and fed for about five and a half weeks. You can see that aside from being a family fun day, it's an important event for the dogs and cats who have been abandoned by others.

Summer – For some reason, the incoming number of dogs increased dramatically from the city and county. With only eight dog kennels, every resource at the shelter was hard pressed.

And, of course, Wages to Riches is right around the corner—Nov. 3

Wages to Riches is the shelter's other major fundraiser. Join us at Willow Brooke Farm, 122 Madison 7320, Huntsville, 6 p.m. Nov. 3. Tickets are available now at www.thepetshelter.org



Our Pet Companions Can Improve Our Health

According to the American Heart Association (AHA), owning a pet could help protect you from heart disease. A scientific statement issued in 2013 by the leading cardiac health organization notes, “numerous studies have explored the relationship between pet (primarily dog or cat) ownership and cardiovascular disease, with many reporting beneficial effects.” Just a few of the heart-health benefits seen in pet parents are increased physical activity, lower cholesterol levels, lower blood pressure, and even improved survival rates following a cardiac event.

Data from the Human Animal Bond Research Institute (HABRI), a non-profit organization, further supports the healing power of pets. “It’s reasonably well understood that adopting a pet quite literally saves a companion animal’s life, but it’s a lesser known fact that pets can have a tremendous impact on the health and well-being of pet parents,” said David Haworth, DVM, Ph.D., the chair of HABRI’s research working group and president of PetSmart Charities. “Through a growing body of scientific research, we know that pet ownership can not only warm our heart, but its cardiovascular benefits can also help to protect it.”

PetSmart Charities



Remember these important dates, too.

November 27: The first Tuesday after Thanksgiving is **Giving Tuesday**, a nationwide online fundraising event to counter the expectation of “getting” with the action of “giving.” It’s a great opportunity to encourage everybody you know to give – a little bit or a lot – to a non-profit they care about and create a different kind of holiday joy.

December: All through December, you’ll find the Paws & Claws **Angel Tree** at the shelter. It’s a great opportunity to give needed items to the kittens, puppies, cats, and dogs waiting patiently to be someone’s loyal companion.

December 1: Don’t miss the chance to get your **Picture Taken with Santa** and your favorite pet at the shelter on the first Saturday of December. What a great way to start the month, and these pictures can make the best Christmas Cards!

February: We’ll offer our **Valentine’s Day Bouquet** again for delivery in Huntsville by someone from the shelter accompanied by a great shelter doggie. Watch the shelter’s Facebook page and website for specifics this coming February.

March: The shelter plans to offer another **Spay-Neuter Clinic** for lower-income Madison County pet owners in spring 2019. Watch the shelter’s Facebook page and website for specifics.

May: And once again, the **Fun Run, Dog Walk**, etc. will be the best way to welcome the coming summer and to blow off some steam near the end of the school year. There might even be a surprise or two. Again, watch the shelter’s Facebook page and website for specifics.

Lots of ways to help the homeless pets



Sign in at <https://smile.amazon.com> choose Madison County Pet Shelter as your preferred charity, shop as usual, and a small percentage of your purchase will be donated to Paws & Claws.

AMAZON's **WISH LIST Registry** helps us, too. Sign in to Amazon, click Gift Cards & Registry at the top, click Friends and Family Giving. In the Find Someone's List bar, enter mcpshelter1@gmail.com. Shop for the dogs and cats!



Donations are always welcome through the Paws & Claws Pet Shelter's website:
<https://www.thepetshelter.org/donate.html>



✓ PayPal covers all fees

Go to www.paypal.com/fundraiser/CHARITY/218291
PayPal Giving Fund covers all fees.



At www.charity.ebay.com/charity/Madison-County-Pet-Shelter,-Paws-&-Claws/218291 you can make a donation, buy P&C eBay items (though items are not always available), or donate a portion of *your sales* to our shelter (which reduces your eBay fees, by the way).

Our shelter's wish list always includes...

- bleach
- paper towels
- kitty litter
- leashes & collars
- pee pads
- heavy-duty trash bags (30- & 13-gal.)
- Ziploc bags (sandwich & gal.)
- laundry detergent & dryer sheets

We really appreciate cat and kitten food, too, especially canned!

And we can put your old **bath towels, blankets, and sheets** to good use!

Share when you shop

Your spare change will change their lives! Look for the jars.

- ▶ Beaver Lake Liquor, Hindsville
- ▶ Granny's Restaurant, Huntsville
- ▶ Huntsville Vet Clinic



- ▶ Paws & Claws Pet Shelter
- ▶ Paws & Claws Thrift Cottage
- ▶ Cogger Surplus, Huntsville
- ▶ Kingston Station, Kingston



Please help us help them! Thanks!

Pssst. Spread the word. Spay Arkansas complements the work of Paw & Claws. It is the region's premier low-cost, spay-neuter clinic. Learn more: <https://spayarkansas.org/> or call 479 756-1100

Be kind to the critters!

Paws and Claws Pet Shelter, P.O. Box 364, 2075 Madison 6555, Huntsville AR 72740, 479-738-1505