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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Friends of the Shelter Launches New Web Site, Seeks Happy “Tails”

COLUMBUS, OH – You know the story of the dog that chases its tail? Well, Friends of the Shelter (FOTS) is chasing tales of a different kind– happy ones.

FOTS, the all-volunteer, 501c3 non-profit group that raises funds to benefit the dogs of the Franklin County Dog Shelter (FCDS), launched this week an upgrade of its web site, www.friendsoftheshelter.info. Beyond giving it a good grooming, the 10-person FOTS Board of Directors is on a mission with the new site.

“The Franklin County Dog Shelter serves over 14,000 dogs each year, and we want the community to know about all the happy endings we hear about from pet parents who send us photos, cards and letters,” said FOTS Director Ellen Mrochek. “Our new web site seemed to offer a great vehicle to provide that kind of uplifting testimonial for everyone to see.”

FOTS volunteers hold special interest in the forever homes these dogs receive. It is their role to raise funds that cover the costs associated with caring for those Shelter pets that arrive sick and injured, and would otherwise be unadoptable. The group has helped dogs like Fitzgerald, a 9-week-old puppy that was dropped off with a broken leg, to more life-threatening cases like 4-year-old Brash, the Shih Tzu whose former owner sliced open the neglected seven-pound dog from hip to hip while trying to undo the severe matting of his tangled, unkempt hair.

“We’re blessed to serve a compassionate Shelter staff that truly cares about each and every dog’s well-being,” said Mrochek. “And our Board is no different. All of the work we do is funded by donations, and fueled by passion for helping these animals. We’re hopeful that by sharing these powerful stories online, the community will continue to support us in furthering our mission.”

If you have adopted a FCDS dog, please visit www.friendsoftheshelter.info/thedogs.html for more information about submitting your happy tale.

About the Franklin County Dog Shelter & Friends of the Shelter

The mission of the Franklin County Dog Shelter is to provide compassionate care for impounded animals and responsible enforcement of canine laws, thereby creating a safer and more desirable community for the citizens of Franklin County. The shelter is sustained strictly by adoption and redemption fees, and the generosity of animal-friendly individuals and businesses.

Friends of the Shelter is a 501c3 non-profit group established to coordinate the fundraising activities that directly benefit the dogs of the Franklin County Dog Shelter. Money raised by *Friends of the Shelter* is allocated to fund diagnostic services, medical/surgical care, behavioral services and training, dental, grooming, and enrichment activities that directly benefit the dogs of the Franklin County Dog Shelter. In addition, *Friends of the Shelter* funds an innovative, low-cost community outreach spay and neuter program, called *The Fix*. For more information on *The Fix*, call (614) 462-5581.

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