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Friends of the Shelter Unveils 12 Months of Hairy Models

COLUMBUS, OH – Friends of the Shelter (FOTS) board members can see into the future, and they like what they see. That's because they'll keep track of 2008 with a 12-month fund-raising calendar full of hairy models, designed to benefit the dogs of the Franklin County Dog Shelter (FCDS). The FOTS 2008 Calendar sale launches today.

"This 2008 calendar is a tangible representation of the mission of our group, which is to raise funds for the sick and injured dogs at the FCDS," said FOTS Director Ellen Mrochek. "As a small, all-volunteer group, we're thrilled with the support of our contributors and sponsors, and the quality of the finished product."

The line-up includes several graduates from the FCDS, including cover girl Sunday. A Chocolate Lab mix, Sunday was considered a special needs resident because of a deformed rear leg. She walks – and runs – using just three legs. Her stay at the FCDS spanned more than four months before meeting her best friends, Darris and Starshine Blackford. FOTS included a short feature about Sunday inside the calendar demonstrating the positive impact of the FCDS.

FOTS announced the calendar project earlier this year, accepting paid reservations from pet parents like Sunday's who selected large "Pet of the Month" or smaller "Feature Fido" packages. Grogan Studios (www.groganstudios.com) donated photography services for all "Pet of the Month" dogs.

FOTS also made available web sponsorships for donors who wished to place in the calendar an FCDS dog awaiting adoption, denoted by an asterisk. Keri, Turtle, Bean and Champ were featured in the calendar and remain available, awaiting permanent homes. Visit them online at www.franklincountydogs.com.

The FOTS 2008 calendars retail for \$15, and are available online at www.friendsoftheshelter.info (additional shipping charges apply) and at the Franklin County Dog Shelter (1731 Alum Creek Dr.), Village Vanity Fur (927 S. High St.); and Central Ohio Complete Petmart locations (1973 W. Henderson Rd., Upper Arlington; 2849 Taylor Rd. SW, Reynoldsburg; 1317 Cameron Ave., Lewis Center; 2705 Federated Blvd., Columbus; 565 S. State St., Westerville; 1775F Kingsdale Ctr., Upper Arlington; 3973 Trueman Blvd., Hilliard; and 2132 Stringtown Rd., Grove City).

All proceeds directly benefit the dogs of the Franklin County Dog Shelter.

About the Franklin County Dog Shelter and 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 fund-raising 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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