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MCAR Celebrates 35 Years of Service with a Free Community Event “Paws in the Park”



Spruce Pine, NC (August 11, 2019) – Mitchell County Animal Rescue is proud to announce that this year we are celebrating our 35th Anniversary. To celebrate we are throwing a free thank you party for our entire community called “Paws in the Park” - **presented by the Switzerland Inn and other generous sponsors.** We hope everyone will come down and join us in the fun!

“Paws in the Park” will take place on August 24th, from 10am-2pm, at the Bakersville Creek Walk Park in downtown Bakersville. This family-friendly and dog-friendly event is MCAR’s way of saying “thank you” to the community that has supported us through thick and thin over the past 35 years of serving animals in need and the people who love them. The event will feature free food (hot dogs and veggie dogs, “pupcorn”), as well as free activities (face painting, a MCAR selfie booth, dog contests, an inflatable bouncy house, and a kids craft booth sponsored by Penland School of Craft) and great gift basket raffles. Special guests include emcee Bruce Ikard from WTOE, storyteller Sherry Lovett, and the band Hot Duck Soup. We will also host a “Strut Your Mutt” pledge walk for you and your pooch. Register to walk on our website and then get your friends and family to sponsor you while you and your dog walk a half-mile loop in the park on the day of the event. All proceeds go to help the MCAR shelter animals. Call us today at 828-765-6952 or visit our website at www.mitchellcountyanimalrescue.org/paws-in-the-park to find out more.

MCAR has packed a lot into our 35 years of service. We were founded in 1984 as a grassroots, all volunteer organization. Our original group of founders worked very hard to change the landscape of animal welfare in our county and were 100% dedicated to finding a way to work with our county commissioners to make sure there was a place where unwanted animals in Mitchell County could receive care. Their success in community service led to a partnership with Mitchell County in 1994, ensuring that no

animal in need would be left behind. Although we are a small shelter with limited resources, for the past 35 years we have been highly dedicated to our community and we strive to offer as many programs as our budget will allow including: adoptions, intake of stray and surrendered pets, lost and found, cruelty investigations and prosecution assistance, low-cost spay/neuter programs, free spay/neuter programs for low income families, low-cost rabies clinics, pet food banks and community education. We are extremely proud that our shelter has won the Non-Profit of the Year Award from the Mitchell Chamber of Commerce for the last five consecutive years, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018!

“We are so fortunate to receive some financial support for our operations from Mitchell County. However, their annual funds only cover about 31% of our operating budget. The remaining 69% we must raise from individuals, businesses and foundations who understand the value of investing in our work. Without the financial support of the entire community, we couldn’t do what we do, day in and day out, caring for abused, abandoned and unwanted animals”, says MCAR Director Pam Cote. “Every supporter at every level is a part of our 35 years of success!”

MCAR staff and board, both past and present, are excited to invite the community at large to come and share in our joy at this important milestone. **Our presenting sponsor Switzerland Inn and** other fine local businesses have come together to help sponsor this event and they can be found listed on our event page on our website. Join us in thanking them for helping make this event possible. It will be a day of fun, excitement and celebration that you won’t want to miss. You are a part of our success and we hope you will join us!

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