

The DogChannel Newswire (10-06-08)

A look at cinema's classic canines; Arkansas tries to toughen animal law; and other news.

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Hopes for Making Houston a No-Kill Zone for Animals Seem No Closer

Sean Hawkins founded Saving Animals and later Fix Houston, a group with a goal of making Houston a no-kill city for animals. Financial questions arise with only one of five promised clinics in operation, the Houston Chronicle reports.

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A Look Back at Cinema's Classic Canines

I can't imagine those chattering Chihuahuas from Beverly Hills saving Timmy after he falls into a well. But they are the latest in a long line of movie pooches, from the hilarious to the heroic, who have slobbered their way into our hearts. Here's a look back at a few, the Grand Rapids (Mich.) Press reports.

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Training Class Prepares Dogs, Owners for Show

The trainers and owners parading around the outfield come from all walks of life and all parts of the Las Vegas Valley, but the true diversity to be found here is at the other end of the leash. From a massive Great Dane who outweighs his owner to a tiny Chihuahua that has an affinity for hopping around on his hind legs, 26 dogs are strutting their stuff in preparation for the Black Mountain Kennel Club's annual show, the Las Vegas Sun reports.

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Arkansas Attorney General Gives Plan to Toughen Animal Law

Animal welfare groups have been trying for years to create a felony offense for animal cruelty in Arkansas. In the 2007 legislative session, a bill sponsored by state Sen. Sue Madison, D-Fayetteville, failed, as did a competing bill, backed by the Arkansas Farm Bureau, that would have made animal cruelty a felony on the second offense, the Arkansas Democrat Gazette reports.

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Mother, Son Arraigned on Dog Abuse Charge

Ginger L. Cummings' Dachshund, Gilbert, barked outside Dudley District Court. "She's mad," Ms. Cummings said. "You speak for him. You speak for Nikkia." Ms. Cummings was one of three protesters expressing outrage at the allegedly painful and cruel final days of Nikkia, a 12-year-old Husky, the Worcester (Mass.) Telegram & Gazette reports.

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