

## The DogChannel Newswire (11-10-08)

**Exhibit shows off pit bulls' softer side; blogosphere erupts for first dog; and other news.**

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### Readers' Responses: Four Paws, So Many Choices

The blogosphere has gone dog crazy since President-elect Barack Obama announced Tuesday night that he intended to fulfill a campaign promise to his daughters, who, he said, had "earned" a puppy. But purebred or mutt? From a shelter or a breeder? Puppy or adult? The big decision has galvanized dog lovers around the country, who have inundated websites with their recommendations, the New York Times reports.

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### Izzy the Police Dog Gets His Surgery

In the spring of 2007, Longmont Police Det. Bruce Vaughan found himself in pursuit of an armed kidnapping suspect. When the suspect took off on foot after crashing his car near Highway 66 and Weld County Road 3, Vaughan turned to his partner, Izzy the police dog. Vaughan deployed Izzy after the suspect and in the middle of the highway, Izzy bit his right ankle at full stride. Izzy suffered a spinal injury from his tussle with the suspect, 9News.com (Colo.) reports.

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### Exhibit Shows Off Pit Bulls' Softer Side

When Vyvyan Hathaway's husband, Drew, brought home a pit bull puppy three years ago, she had a typical reaction. "I thought she would kill us, kill the kids, kill our other pets," she said. "I was afraid of pit bulls. I was very uneducated about them." Now Hathaway is such a defender of the breed she has an exhibit of about 50 pit bull photos at Park Pet Supply in East Atlanta and is hoping to turn the project, which also collects the stories of each dog, into a book, the Atlanta Journal-Constitution reports.

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### In This Class, 'Teacher's Pet' Gains New Meaning

Fairfax, an assistance dog trained by Canine Companions for Independence, is owned by teacher Robin Hooper and spends his days in her classroom playing mascot, teacher's aide, and friend to seven students, the San Diego Union-Tribune reports.

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### Peanut-Size Pup Makes Big Impression in NYC

Talk about a "rags to riches" story — Peanut, a rescue Chihuahua from North Brunswick, took first prize at the Times Square Dog Day Masquerade in New York City on Oct 19. Dressed up as Elle Wood from "Legally Blonde," Peanut won "Best in Show," and bested more than 85 canines, 20 of whom were Chihuahuas, the North Brunswick Sentinel reports.

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