## Animal Welfare Association

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"Homecoming Paw-tay" at the Animal Welfare Association to benefit homeless dogs and cats.

**VOORHEES,NJ-** The Animal Welfare Association's (AWA) 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Paws and Feet Run for the Animals at Cooper River Park on May 19<sup>th</sup> is just around the corner. To get everyone excited about this year's event, AWA will be hosting a "Homecoming Paw-tay" on Sunday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> from 11am-3pm at the shelter located at 509 Centennial Blvd. in Voorhees, NJ.

"We have lots of fun things planned," says Maria Clarke, Paws and Feet Event Coordinator, "Folks can stop by for grilled hot dogs, soda and help us create a video that will be shared on the official Paws and Feet web page. People are invited to bring their pets and relate their stories of what their pets mean to them. "

A few celebrity dogs will make appearances. Daniel, an extraordinary beagle mix who is better known as the "Miracle Dog" suffered a near-death experience in an animal control facility in Alabama. His life was supposed to end in a carbon monoxide chamber but he miraculously emerged unscathed. Through the intricate network of rescue organizations, he found a new life in a safe, loving home. Nominated for the 2012 American Humane Association Hero Dog Award, Daniel is an advocate for shelter adoptions and anti-gassing laws in various state legislatures. "Daniel's Law" will soon be passed in Pennsylvania to outlaw the use of the gas chamber. AWA will also have a guest appearance by the famous "Elwood" and Hailey, AWA's 2012 Paws and Feet Mascot.

The 15th Annual "Paws and Feet" 5K Race/1 Mile Fun Walk & Mutts Mingle is scheduled for Saturday, May 19, 2012, at Cooper River Park. Last year, over 600 participants and their dogs enjoyed a day of educational demonstrations, exercise and social fun with friends, family and most importantly, shelter and rescue animals.

Paws and Feet is AWA's biggest fundraising event. It plays an integral part in funding AWA's life-saving work and programs which benefit other shelters, rescue groups and pet owners regardless of residence or income. These programs include pet retention and re-homing, pet adoptions, veterinary services and shelter partnering.

Everyone who comes to the "Homecoming Paw-tay" and registers for the 5K Run/Walk will receive \$5.00 off the registration fee. In addition, the first 25 people will also receive an AWA water bottle. AWA

continues to be the leader in improving the care of its community's pets. For more information, please contact Maria Clarke at: 856-424-2288, ext. 113 or e-mail <a href="mailto:pawsandfeet@awanj.org">pawsandfeet@awanj.org</a> or visit the website at www.awanj.org.



DANIEL THE BEAGLE O'DWYER

IMAGE FROM LAST YEAR P&F

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## Paws and Feet Event Summary:

The Animal Welfare Association's (AWA) 15<sup>th</sup> Annual 5K Race and Walk is Saturday, May 19, 2012, at Cooper River Park. The AWA relies on the funds raised from the event to provide shelter and medical care to more than 2,000 homeless dogs and cats that the organization adopts to families and individuals every year.

## Animal Welfare Association (AWA)

Animal Welfare Association (AWA) is a private shelter in Voorhees, NJ that has provided animal care, sheltering, adoptions and affordable veterinary care to the southern New Jersey communities since 1949. Last year, nearly 2,000 dogs, cats and rabbits found their next home through the work of AWA. The spay neuter clinic sterilized over 9,000 dogs and cats for the general public and provided low-cost vaccines to over 4,000 pets. AWA is a charitable organization, and all funding comes from donations. No adoptable pet is euthanized at AWA; there are no time limits for how long a pet is available for adoption, and AWA provides extensive medical and behavioral care to our shelter pets.