

2559

RECEIVED

Kathy Cooper

From: Hssmdpets@aol.com

Sent: Saturday, March 10, 2007 12:07 PM

To: IRRRC; mabender@state.pa.us; bmackere@pahousegop.com; ssaylor@pahousegop.com; rmiller@pahousegop.com; kgillespie@pahousegop.com; snickol@pahousegop.com; garmstrong@pasen.gov; mwaugh@pasen.gov; pvance@pasen.gov; skohr@pasen.gov; jpiccola@pasen.gov

Cc: edepasquale@pahouse.net; BEarp@pahouse.net; SShain@hsus.org; Hssmdpets@aol.com

Subject: the Doogie case should never happen again- time for new laws!!- and soon.

to York County Legislators: i am not sure how much of the website information attached below will come thru on this email- for the complete site info you can go to <http://www.dogsdeservebetter.org/doogie.html>

this is exactly why this state needs a well crafted, humane law -updated title 18- as well as the updated Dog law, because protecting puppy mill dogs solves only part of the problem- and it is up to elected and appointed officials to act in the best interests of not only humans but the domesticated animals they keep. "the measure of a society can be based on how it treats it's animals"-

judging by what we all see in Pennsylvania, we have a defective society. let us move quickly- no foot dragging- no game playing- and get a good set of bills into the house for passage. our legislators should be held to account for their indifference to the suffering of animals, if they work to obstruct, or do not work to promote a standard of required care that prevents a "Doogie" situation from ever happening again. all of us live in counties where countless pathetic, starved, un-cared for, and unprotected dogs are tied to trees, left to die alone in cages, lacking warmth, food and human companionship. our cruelties investigators claim their hands are tied by the current rules- so, step up, get the rules changed. show that in Pennsylvania we care- set an example for the country to follow. and for those of you who are preparing to make the effort we say "Bravo" !!!

jane heller
humane society of southern maryland inc and york,pa
www.dogrescue.org.

Grimes Arrested for Helping Dying Chained Dog



Alert Updates

(Please read the background, below...
Bottom Line: keep calling, it's working!)

3/12/2007

Inside Edition ran: Tuesday, September 19, 7:00 p.m. EST
Wednesday, September 20, 7:00 p.m. EST
Update Monday September, September 25, 7:00 p.m. EST
(Time varies according to community)

Press Release 9/11/06
Press Release 11/27/06
Press Release 3/3/07

3/6/07. Word was that the DA instructed the vet who'd done the autopsy to release Doogie to the Arnold's. They were supposed to pick him up at 10:00 a.m. today, and as of 4:00 p.m. had not shown up for him. We'd like to suggest they spend \$100 to get him cremated (we'd be more than happy to pay for his cremation)...at least he could be in the house after death....

In today's Altoona Mirror the DA kindly suggested we work to educate the Arnolds. So here goes: **Dear Arnolds, you STILL have a white dog living chained in your yard. Do you really think that's the proper way to care for your family PET?** Did the fact that a citizen is willing to go to jail to help the dog you left to die teach you nothing? Please don't make the same mistakes you made with Doogie. **Dogs need love, proper care, and VET TREATMENT when they are sick. In fact, the vet treatment part is required by LAW...even Pennsylvania law. We hear on occasion it may be enforced.**

3/3/07. Doogie died Thursday morning, March 1st, at the home of his foster mother. He died peacefully, waiting for her to leave the room before passing, as many dogs (and humans) do.

He had been struggling with up and down health through December, until his foster mom found a medication that seemed to give him relief from pain; he then flourished, turning into a loving family member. She wrote: **"It's with great sadness in my heart that I tell you Doogie passed away yesterday morning (March 1st) around 9:10 am.**

Doogie had surpassed all goals I had set for us both. He learned how to smile, love, kiss, hug, wag his tail, trot (yes! literally trot!) up to me and check me with his hip in an attempt to play. He gently took food from me and never complained about anything we had to do to help him.

I thank you, Tammy, for letting me have time with him. He was an amazing little old man and sadly, the way he lived, no one enjoyed his comedy; a life spent chained had done a number on his mind. I have had much training; I studied animal behavior, first aid, and thank God **I live in a place where cruelty charges would have been given and upheld on the owners of Doogie for the condition I saw him in—and that was after a month of care.**

I want to thank everyone for the presents Doogie received and all the well wishes. **Please know he went very peacefully and on his own, he chose his time and was not in any noticeable pain.** I hugged him and told him all the amazing stories about the bridge, about how people who have hurt him will suffer in the end, and about Tammy's amazing love in refusing to give him back to an immediate death. He had almost 5 months with me, during which time we both learned so much about love."

Doogie's body was returned to Altoona, Pennsylvania, where an autopsy is being performed, and where it has been confirmed by the vet to be the same dog examined September 11, 2006.

2/28/07. We did not do jury selection on Monday, the caseload is so backed up we would not have gotten to pick a jury. Tammy's lawyer has been petitioning the court to have the case dismissed for various reasons, but so far we have not succeeded. No news yet as to when everything will take place, as soon as we know we will post it. Doogie is doing ok right now...

2/3/07. Doogie is still hanging in there, having good days and bad days. Please keep him in your thoughts. While we're amazed he has lived this long, this proves what a little caring, medication, proper diet, and loving kindness can do for an animal who has lost hope and the will to live.

Monday, Feb. 5, is a Trail List Review at 8:30 a.m. Jury selection is scheduled for February 26, 2007 at 8:00 a.m. We still do not have actual hearing date scheduled, but will let everyone know asap, as **we are planning a HUGE rally for the night before or the day of the trial.** We really need everyone to come out to support us! Remember you are not only supporting Tammy for saving Doogie, but supporting every dog who is left to die on the end of a chain. **Doogie MATTERS! They all MATTER.** We have to show them that simply saying he is property for them to do with as they want doesn't cut it in 21st Century America. A life is a life, and those who cruelly torture a life by leaving it to die on the end of a chain for 3 days **MUST** be held accountable for those actions.

We also must stand against the lack of enforcement for basic cruelty laws, not only in Pennsylvania but nationwide. Please stand with us.

12/4/06. We sent out the e-news at noon Sunday, and asked for your prayers and thoughts for Doogie, as we were informed he had taken quite a turn for the worse. Well, it is working! By 7:00 p.m. he was up and moving again. We believe that everyone sent up whatever works for them...thoughts, prayers, energy...but it is working, so keep it up! Here is the message we received: "He is the come back kid. He is walking with big confident steps. I told him this am that I loved him and I thought his time was up. I didn't want him to have this pain and that we would always love him. I came home and checked on him and he **BARRELED** through the door and demanded out immediately." Please, keep it up for him.

11/27/06. Today was the pretrial conference in the jury room of the Blair County Courthouse. There were no further deals offered or made, and so we informed the judges that **we would be continuing on to a jury trial. Mr. Dickey's office will file a motion to dismiss all charges this week.**

Tammy will be meeting with Mr. Dickey within the next week to figure out future moves.

We are currently set up for a further **pretrial conference on February 5th at 8:30 a.m.** This is the final pretrial activity before we move onto jury selection and go to trial.

There have been an unheard of number of letters to the editor published in the Altoona Mirror. 12 at last count, only three of which were negative. We have a TON of support here!

We would like everyone to continue to write letters to the editor of the Altoona Mirror at opinion@altoonamirror.com. Keep them short and snappy if possible. Also, copy and paste your letter to the editor to these following national media outlets, making sure to put the DDB website and phone number in there too:

[USA Today](#)

[The New York Times](#)

[LA Times](#)

[ABC News](#)

[NBC News](#)

[CBS News](#)

[Fox News](#)

[Oprah](#)

[Dr. Phil](#)

[Montel](#)

[Geraldo](#)

[Washington Post](#)

[Washington Times](#)

Any others you can find, including other talk shows, radio shows, and magazines that you know of would be great, and keep sending...we CAN raise national awareness of the lack of enforcement and dog chaining problems in our country!

We also NEED to have a TON of people attend the hearing! We would like to hold a rally at the next pretrial conference, however it is very early in the morning...if you have a great idea how to really raise local support, please e-mail us at Tammy@dogsdeseverbetter.org and let us know.

How about a large group marching in a holiday parade in Altoona or Hollidaysburg? Worked for the suffragists!

10/25/06. The D.A. offered this deal to Mr. Dickey, Tammy's attorney: Give the dog back and we'll let her go with just ARD. (Accelerated Rehabilitative Disposition). We said, "No Way!" **Please write the D.A. and ask him what Tammy needs to be rehabilitated from? Caring? Standing up when no one else will? Putting the value of a life, any life, before fear and 'property'?**

Meanwhile, in nearby Cambria County, Pennsylvania, 8 boys stole and cruelly slaughtered 2 lambs from a local farmer. According to the Altoona Mirror, one local said. "This was boys being boys, and they made a mistake."

State police said the farmer initially reported the livestock stolen, then settled the matter with the boys and their parents, accepting \$500 in restitution.

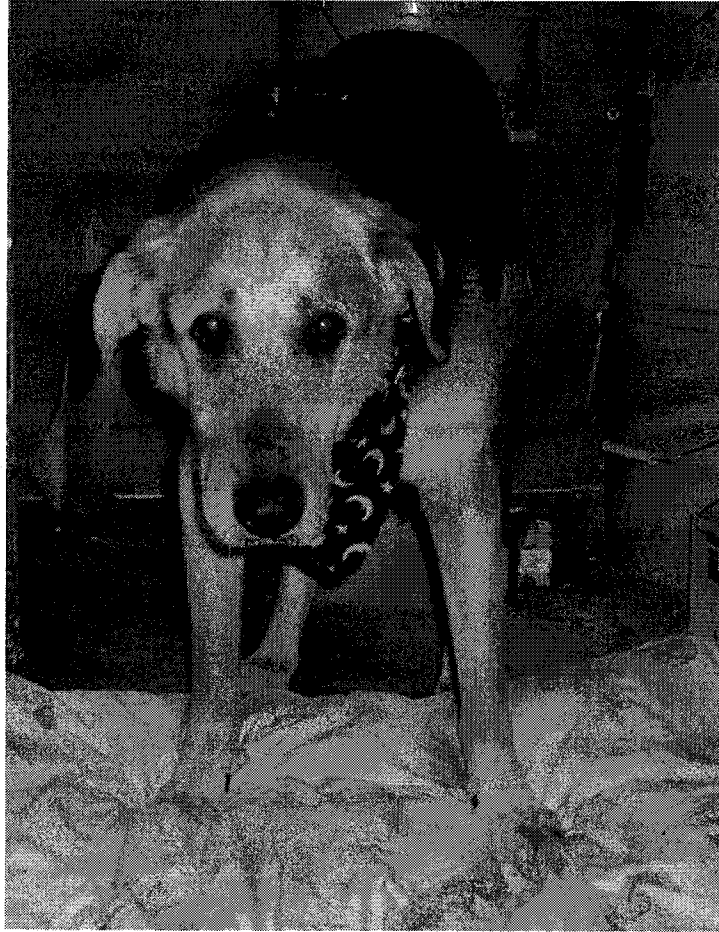
The Cambria County District Attorney's office turned the matter over to the state Attorney General's Office to decide if criminal charges are warranted."

IF criminal charges are warranted? So, apparently in Pennsylvania, it's ok to steal lambs to torture and slay them, but not OK to get a dog the emergency medical help it needed when it's supposed caretakers left it to die on the ground for three days?

Latest news, we do NOT have a definitive court date set yet for when supporters need to come out. We will post far and wide as soon as we do. The next activity is set for November 27th, however that is something either the lawyer or the lawyers and Tammy need only be present for.

We are sending a letter to the D.A. once again, in writing, requesting him to pursue charges against the Arnolds.

Kathleen Slagle, the area rep accused of harrassment to a Houtzdale couple for sending them two letters, had her charges all but dismissed outright on Monday, October 23. The magistrate is continuing the case for 60 days, at which time the charges will be dismissed.



10/18/06. October 18th Tammy went to see Doogie to see how his health was. He was doing excellently for his age and physical challenges! He is receiving great care, love, home cooked food, and kindness. These are the two latest pictures of him, please click below to see the videos.

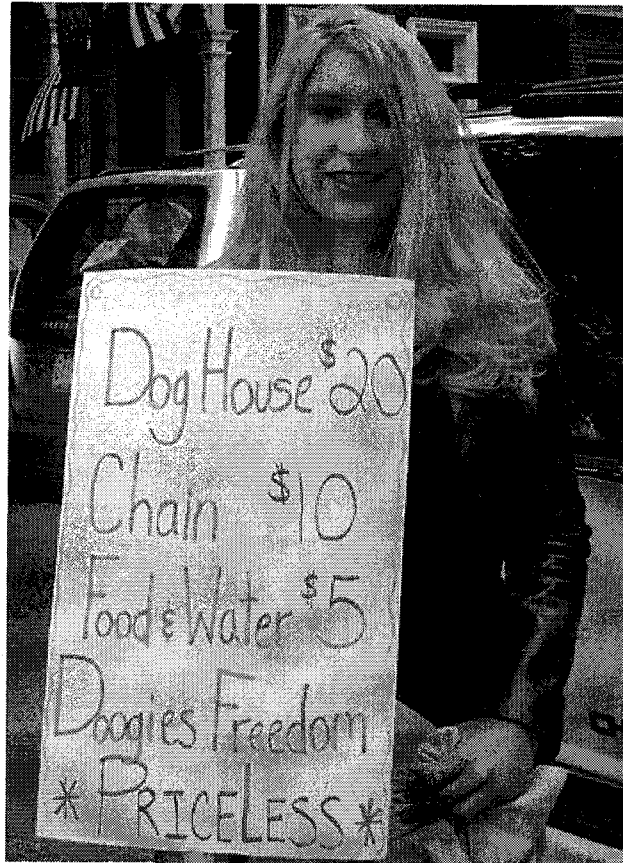
[Doogie eating, forgetting for a moment that he is camera-shy.](#)
[Doogie walking in the yard.](#)



10/16/06. Get your National Enquirer this weekend, the Doogie/Tammy story is in this edition, the 10/30 edition.

10/8/06. The Altoona Mirror has run at least 6 positive **letters to the editor** in the past week! Thanks to everyone who chipped in to make this happen, and thanks to them for running some of your many, many letters, finally.

We got new, **very brief video footage of Doogie walking, quite spry**, today. Word is he is doing better and responding to his new medication.



9/28/06. Continue to write the D.A. and ask why he refuses to even look at charges against the Arnolds? Isn't this America, shouldn't all potential charges be examined? We have video, photos, at least 2 eyewitnesses to the abuse, and a veterinarian statement. How much more does he need?

Calling/writing the D.A.s office at:
Blair County District Attorney Richard Consiglio, Esq.: 814.693.3010
423 Allegheny St. Suite 421, Hollidaysburg, PA 16648

To e-mail: blairda@keyconn.net

9/25/06. Tammy Grimes is a Finalist in the Animal Planet Hero of the Year Contest! If you believe her actions and the work she has put into Dogs Deserve Better to improve lives for chained/penned dogs is worth your vote, please choose her at http://animal.discovery.com/convergence/hero_of_the_year/poll/poll.html

9/24/06. Make sure to watch Inside Edition for an update Monday, September 25, check the times near you. They are telling me they are getting a ton of e-mail response to our stories, and have promised to actually MENTION Dogs Deserve Better this time (which they haven't done in the past)! Write them at icemail@kingworld.com with positive or negative comments on this story.

The Altoona Mirror ran a photo of Doogie provided by the Arnolds (on his chain, of course) on Sunday, September 24. This is after they have told everyone who asks them that they do not run any photos that they do not take themselves, because someone could be doctoring it. **Apparently this is NOT true, they just won't run the photos we've provided of him suffering! They also have not run ONE positive letter to the editor, despite receiving thousands of them.** Please continue to write them and insist on fair editorial practices at opinion@altoonamirror.com.

PA state reps Geist and Stern say they have not heard from their constituents on this issue. If you are in the Blair County PA area and are in their district, please start calling, writing, e-mailing them asap. We need

them to understand HOW MUCH we need things to change here, and that we expect them to support HB1911 and stand up for dogs who are left to die on the end of a chain.

Hon. Richard Allen Geist

The Gables Building Suite 104
1331 Twelfth Ave.
Altoona, PA 16601
(814) 946-7218
Fax: (814) 949-7915

and/or

Main Capitol Building, Room 144
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2020
(717) 787-6419
Fax: (717) 772-5142

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Hon. Jerry A. Stern

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Robert C. Jubelirer

Senate District 30
Senate Box 203030
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ROOM: 292 Capitol Building
(717) 787-5490
D.O. ADDRESS: 12 Sheraton Drive
P.O. Box 2023
Altoona, PA 16603
rjubelirer@pasen.gov

9/23/06. We know many of you are waiting for an update on the court case! Best Friends is actually doing a better job of keeping this up to date than we are, please visit their network for updates as well at <http://www.network.bestfriends.org>



The rally was amazing on Thursday. Tammy's attorney advised her not to speak, so many others spoke on her behalf. **Approximately 75 people attended from all areas of PA, Utah, Canada, Maryland, Ohio, New York and Delaware, most bringing great signage and t-shirts.** We handed out pins for everyone to wear. The rally was organized by Best Friends, and we cannot say enough good about the way they have stepped up to help. Our gratitude goes out to all of you and most especially Best Friends.



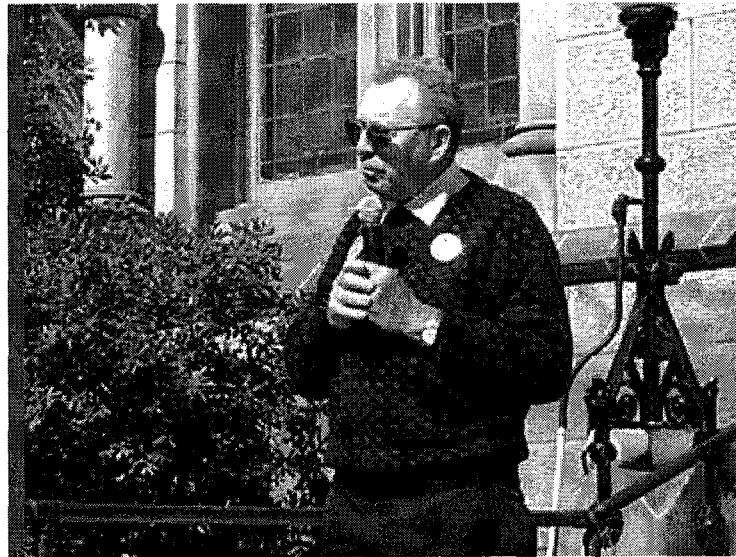
40 or so people went on to the district court, filled the courtroom, with 30 or so people overflowing to the parking lot, where they waited for 4 hours to see the results and be there when we came out. Talk about dedication! They were amazing.



Attorney's Dickey and Childers were incredible, and fought the good fight to get all four charges dismissed outright. We were able to get rid of the criminal trespass and criminal mischief, and still must go to court on **November 27** for theft and receiving stolen property. **Your support will be CRUCIAL for these dates, so save the date and please SHOW UP! It's so important.**

Video footage showing Patricia Haddock, volunteer with Best Friends, as she opens the rally.

And then **Kim Eicher, the neighbor who called us for help for Doogie, speaks, and is cheered by the crowd.**



Tammy's father, **Jerry Sneath**, gave the invocation for the rally, and voiced his support of Tammy, saying he knows abuse when he sees it, and this was clearly abuse. (This was the only time all day Tammy cried, thank you for standing with me, Dad, it means a lot!)

The art is also linked here in jpeg format. You can use it to make signs or iron on transfers for t-shirts (probably need the flipped version for this.)

I'm Standing Up for Doogie.
He Couldn't Stand Up for Himself Art - for Signs
I'm Standing Up for Doogie.
He Couldn't Stand Up for Himself Flipped - for t-Shirt Transfers
Free Grimes, Arrest the Arnolds for Abuse Art - for Signs
Free Grimes, Arrest the Arnolds for Abuse Flipped -
for t-Shirt Transfers

9/19/06. We brought on Attorneys Thomas Dickey and Leslie Childers of Altoona to work with Courtney Bartholemew at the Preliminary Hearing on Thursday. **We received the below footage of Doogie, eight days later. Shows what a little vet care, love, food, water, and a good bath will do for a dog!** Pick the person who was rudest to you and call them again...would be a hard choice, but we've heard TV10 is leading the votes!

9/18/06. Thanks to everyone at Awareness Day and Woofstock for their support! The Altoona Mirror Saturday ran a headline that states '**Vet Confirms Dog Was Abused!**' **Finally!** I spoke to a lot of legal experts plus two great humane officers who said they would absolutely prosecute the Arnolds for abuse given all the evidence. Our Action Call is therefore to keep up the pressure on the humane officer to get the cruelty investigation rolling.

Central Pennsylvania Humane Society: 814.942.5402; cphs@altoonarail.net

Humane Officer Paul Gotshall: 814.942.3780

Start Calling/writing the D.A.s office at:
 Blair County District Attorney Richard Consiglio, Esq.: 814.693.3010
 423 Allegheny St. Suite 421, Hollidaysburg, PA 16648

To e-mail: blairda@keyconn.net

I want to thank everyone for their e-mails and donations to our cause. I have over 1000 e-mails right

3/12/2007

now, I try to answer them all, but if you don't get a response, please know how grateful I am for your support!—Tammy

9/15/06. I will be out of town all weekend in Harrisburg, speaking at **Awareness Day** and then **Woofstock**. Our new action alert is to send letters to the editor of the Altoona Mirror at

E-mail: opinion@altoonamirror.com
 Mail: Altoona Mirror Letters
 P.O. Box 2008
 Altoona, PA 16603
 Fax: (814) 946-7540

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QIBTv7Kh6JY>

Start Calling/writing the D.A.s office at:
 Blair County District Attorney Richard Consiglio, Esq.: 814.693.3010
 423 Allegheny St. Suite 421, Hollidaysburg, PA 16648

Ask him to drop all charges against Grimes, and file charges for cruelty against the Arnolds based on video, photos, eye witness accounts, and veterinary witness.

9/14/06. Inside Edition is coming today to film. We will post asap when it is to air. We've put Doogie Attire and Pins on the [cafepress](#) store, see the side panel. **We've ordered 200 buttons for the demonstration planned with Best Friends Thursday, September 21 in Hollidaysburg, PA.** Please be there to support Doogie and Grimes! The art is also linked here in jpeg format. You can use it to make signs or iron on transfers for t-shirts (probably need the flipped version for this.)

I'm Standing Up for Doogie.
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Free Grimes, Arrest the Arnolds for Abuse Flipped -
for t-Shirt Transfers

I did a hostile interview with WRTA Talk Radio in Altoona today. The Inside Edition interview is done, he is also interviewing the other parties. No word on air date yet. Did an Animal Radio interview, thank you Hal and Judy! Mark from the Mirror did a longer interview today, they seem ready to show more of our side. **Your calls are working!** They still are not running a photo of Doogie, saying they have to take it themselves. I have a hard time believing that. Keep up the great work!

Please continue to get the video to national talk shows and media.

The rally with Best Friends is set for 11:00 a.m. Thursday, September 21, at the courthouses at 423 Allegheny St. in Hollidaysburg, PA. We need all your support! Please come and bring signs of support for Tammy and Doogie.

9/13/06. We made front page of the Mirror yesterday. Were interviewed by WTAJ and WJAC. WTAJ and the Mirror are still biased toward the abusers. Kim Eicher, the neighbor who witnessed the abuse, tried to tell WTAJ her story. They refused to take it! She immediately went to WJAC, and they filmed her on the spot.

Action Alert: Call the Mirror at 814.946.7535, tell them their story is biased, and they need to show Doogie's photo, as well as interview Kim Eicher.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oTXFTj3T8OM>

Call WTAJ and tell them it is unacceptable that they refused to interview Kim Eicher. They must give her story equal time. 814.944.1414

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HrxFeWWbUek>

Doogie is safe, warm, loved, being treated,
and doing as well as can be expected.

AOL now offers free email to everyone. Find out more about what's free from AOL at AOL.com.