

Together Again – Barnes & Noble Join Labs4Rescue To Wrap Up Your Holiday

Posted On December 7, 2007 @ 3:06 pm

OSWEGO, NY - Barnes & Noble Booksellers located on Route 31 in Clay has invited Labs4Rescue volunteers back for the second year in a row to offer free gift wrapping of your holiday purchases.

Mark your calendars for Dec. 9, 16, and 23.

From 11 a.m. until 7 p.m. on those days, Labs4Rescue representatives will have a table located in the front of the store where they will cheerfully, and at no charge, wrap your items.

Labs4Rescue is a national, all-volunteer, non-profit organization dedicated to rescuing and finding permanent homes for Labrador Retrievers and Lab mixes that are found in high numbers in rural Southern and Midwestern animal shelters, as well as those in local shelters.

The breed is one of the most popular in the United States, and many “backyard breeders” in the South have tried to cash in on this fact by creating small-scale puppy mills, thereby creating a surplus in the region and making the dogs easy to come by – and easy to dispose of - when they’re no longer wanted.

Combined with the facts that spaying and neutering are not encouraged, and Labrador females can give birth to large litters of 10-12 puppies, it’s not hard to see why Southern shelters routinely put down up to 60 purebred Labs and Lab mixes each week.

Given only 3-5 days to be adopted, and routinely disposed of by the inhumane method of being placed in crudely constructed “gas chambers,” the need to rescue is obvious.

The shocking statistics say it all – Of the approximately 10,000 dogs which were gassed from these regions last year, at least 7,000 were purebred Labs or Lab mixes.

The organization has grown to employ a professional transporter who delivers an average of 30 Labs a week to foster or adoptive homes throughout the Northeast that have been pre-screened by local representatives.

To date, the group has rescued over 5,900 Labs since its inception in 2002.

Badger is a local success story found at the Central New York SPCA.

Labs4Rescue took responsibility for this young, undernourished chocolate Lab mix who had been chained in one place indefinitely and forced to continuously wear a Halti that was too tight.

As a result, the Halti permanently removed the fur from the bridge of Badger’s nose. A local Labs4Rescue representative found a foster home with a doggie daycare owner until a qualified adopter could be identified.

Appropriately, the adopter has turned into one of the daycare’s best clients.

Badger now enjoys a loving home with a fenced yard in which he can run free, and he returns to daycare weekly to visit his foster mother.

Local Baldwinsville residents, Dave and Tara McKenney, adopted “Gracie,” a 4-month old chocolate Lab who had been rescued from a Louisiana shelter shortly after Hurricane Katrina.

Labs4Rescue arrived just in time – Gracie was to be gassed the very next morning.

The couple shudder to think of the dogs that weren't so lucky and are now committed volunteers for, and proponents of, Labs4Rescue.

“Gracie is truly the love of our lives. To think that she could have been one of the thousands who were not lucky enough to be rescued just breaks our hearts. She has added nothing but joy to our home, and we are determined to help Labs4Rescue save as many other dogs as possible,” the McKenneys said.

Those interested in finding out more about Labs4Rescue adoptions, sponsorships or fostering can visit their website at www.Labs4Rescue.com or speak with the volunteers wrapping their purchases at the Clay location of Barnes & Noble.

This holiday season, help yourself to free gift wrapping and help Labs4Rescue save lives!

Article printed from Oswego County Today: <http://oswegocountytoday.com>