

TIM YATES
MONROE COUNTY MAYOR

WORLD SPAY DAY PROCLAMATION

Monroe County, Tennessee

WHEREAS: February 28 is the 23rd Annual World Spay Day sponsored by the Humane Society of the United States that shines a spotlight on spay/neuter – a proven way to save the lives of companion animals, street dogs, neglected dogs & cats, and free roaming cats who might otherwise be put down in a shelter or killed on the street, and

WHEREAS: The Monroe County Animal Shelter saved a record 73% of animals in 2016, bringing the total animals saved to more than 22,000 since the shelter began operation 12 years ago, and

WHEREAS: Monroe County Friends of Animals (MCFA) provided over \$84,000 in food, medical care, rescue transportation, and supplies in 2016 along with more than 44,000 volunteer hours to support the successful 2016 rate of animals saved, and

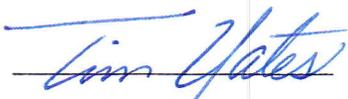
WHEREAS: Spay/Neuter Assistance for Pets (SNAP) completed 1,424 S/N surgeries in 2016, bringing the total to over 15,000 in 14 years. This has resulted in a 52% decrease in animals admitted to the shelter since the 2009 peak year (from 6000 to 2840), and

WHEREAS: The combined SNAP, MCFA and Shelter programs have resulted in major reductions in the animal euthanasia at the Shelter. Since the peak year of 2009, Shelter euthanasia was reduced 84% in 2016 (from 4000 to 643), and

WHEREAS: Three vets have participated in the SNAP program since 2003: Monroe County Animal Hospital, Sweetwater Veterinary Hospital, and People Promoting Animal Welfare. Without these vets, there would be no SNAP spay/neuter program for Monroe County.

THEREFORE: I, Tim Yates, Monroe County Mayor in recognition of World Spay Neuter Day and the contributions of MCFA, SNAP, the Monroe County Animal Shelter, and the participating Veterinary Hospitals do hereby proclaim February 28, as Spay/Neuter Awareness Day throughout this County, and I urge all pet owners to spay or neuter their pet dogs and cats to eliminate unwanted litters and reduce the animal overpopulation problem in our community.

In witness wherefore, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of Monroe County to be affixed.



Tim Yates, Mayor

Monroe County Government

Date: 2-2-17