



# Puppy Tails

Mialie T. Szymanski

Warm, bright sunshine streamed into the office windows and woke Doodle Dog from his nap. It was sure to be another beautiful day since Spring was here and it looked like this time the sunny weather would stay. Doodle Dog tries to enjoy every day, whether he finds something fun to do indoors or gets to go outside to play, but he had been looking forward to this day especially, and it was finally here!

With no time to waste, the little floppy-eared puppy bounced across the room here and there, gathering bits of this and bits of that. He gently dragged a large piece of brilliant yellow paper, almost the exact color of the sun, into the middle of the floor. Working quickly, Doodle Dog used the paper to cover a very special surprise meant for a very special friend. He worked a long purple ribbon over the sides of the package and used his paw to hold down the knot while he pulled the bow tight with his teeth. Then he grabbed a plastic bag full of shredded paper pieces and turned it upside down over the wrapped box. Shaking his head quickly from side to side, Doodle Dog dumped the colorful specks and watched them land like glittery confetti all over this work of art. What a masterpiece! His friend was sure to smile when she saw it - Doodle Dog couldn't wait for her to open it!

Picking up the tied ribbon carefully in his mouth, Doodle Dog carried the present out the office door and down the steps, being careful not to drop his creation. He held his head up as he walked down the street so not to dip the special present into any dirt or mud, but it was all the little puppy could do to keep it off the ground! With extra intent focus he made his way past the familiar shops, around a ladder being used by a man washing windows, and carefully tiptoed through some broken glass a woman was sweeping up with a broom, its bristles reflected in the mirror-like pieces. Nothing could keep the determined Doodle Dog from his destination!

He looked both ways before crossing the street and as he approached the grand porch of a stately Victorian house, Doodle Dog waved his tail in greeting to the black cat crossing the path at that moment too, a petit parcel similar to Doodle Dog's dangling from

the feline's mouth. Several other animals were arriving as well: a bunny hopped up the porch steps, a horse with a shiny coat headed to the back patio, and Doodle Dog recognized the golden lab from the library coming down the sidewalk with his human. The horse looked quite a bit like the picture of the gallant steed in the storybook, Doodle Dog thought. As the steed disappeared around the house, one of his shoes was left behind on the lawn. The grass must have felt nice and cool on his hooves because the horse did not turn back for it. The golden lab's human picked up the shoe and hung it above the front archway as they passed through it, then knocked on the wooden door to politely announce their arrival. Doodle Dog picked up his pace as he trotted up the walkway lined with clover and violets, the green and purple blending into a solid carpet of tiny petals escorting the tiny dog up to the festivities celebrating a not-so-tiny day.

Inside, the magnificently decorated foyer welcomed party guests with colorful streamers leading the way. More streamers and balloons were strewn cheerily through every room of the entire first floor, and a towering table already covered in a rapidly growing pile of gifts took up the area between the front two rooms. Doodle Dog tossed his carefully carried present up onto the table and it settled perfectly at the tippy-

top of the small mountain. It wasn't hard to guess which beautiful package the floppy-eared puppy brought - it was the one with all the paw prints! Another table not far from this one took center stage, displaying a giant chocolate cake with lavender icing and two-and-a-half dozen candles. The yummy confection would have to be big to hold all those candles! The hostess had placed a smaller, pet-friendly cake on a lower table with just as many candles so the animals could be a part of the dessert festivities too.

And then he saw her - there, in a cute blue dress and greeting party-goers, was his very favorite human. The guest of honor smiled and bent down to hug each of her visitors one-by-one. There would be games and merriment later, but now, the best part. All the guests gathered 'round the table so Doodle Dog took a place next to a fluffy orange cat while one of the humans dimmed the lights and lit the candles on both cakes. How lucky she was! Two sets of candles meant two wishes! But Doodle Dog knew from the smile shining through the soft glow of the candles she had everything she wanted right there: her friends! Animals and humans alike took deep breaths to help out and counted down... one... Two... THREE ... Happy Birthday!

# Beware Of Money Scam

JOHN M. KUIVILA, NF CHIEF OF POLICE

The Newton Falls Police Department has received multiple complaints from residents regarding a potential Money Scam. The majority of the complaints have been the same regarding people receiving phone calls requesting money. If you receive a phone call from someone claiming to be a relative, claiming they are in trouble and need your help please do not respond.

The general profile of the people making these calls is:

1. The person will identify themselves as a relative of yours
2. They may even say something like: "Hi Aunt Ginny" or "Grandma"
3. They will then tell you they are in trouble and need help
4. They will then ask you multiple questions regarding your financial situation
5. They will then ask you if you are familiar with Western Union
6. Should you go along with their questioning, they will give you instructions on how to wire them

monies using Western Union.

In many cases victims are sending monies to these persons ranging from a few hundred dollars to thousands of dollars. Please make sure you DO NOT follow through with this unless you are 100% positive you know who you are dealing with. This is a scam in most cases and the unfortunate part is that the persons committing these crimes appear to be from outside of the continental United States and are unidentifiable. In most cases your caller ID will show a phone number along with either a name or area for the caller. This information is not valid either.

These people are using the internet to research and find victims and are mainly targeting the elderly.

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