

## **SPAY DAY**

**WHEREAS**, pets provide companionship to more than 71,000,000 households in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, humane societies and animal shelters have to put down more than four million cats, dogs, rabbits and other animals each year, many of whom are healthy and adoptable, due to a lack of critical resources and public awareness; and

**WHEREAS**, this tragic overpopulation of pets costs citizens and taxpayers of this country millions of dollars annually through animal service programs, aimed at coping with the millions of homeless animals; and

**WHEREAS**, spaying and neutering has been shown to dramatically reduce the overpopulation of pets and feral cats, proving to be a wise investment in saving animal lives and taxpayer dollars; and

**WHEREAS**, veterinarians, national and local animal protection organizations, and private citizens worked together to ensure the spaying or neutering of more and 49,000 pets and feral cats through “Spay Day” in the United States in 2012 and have joined together again to advocate the spaying and neutering of pets and feral cats on “Spay Day 2013”;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, J. H. Graham III, Mayor of the City of Crossville, Tennessee, do hereby proclaim February 26, 2013 as **SPAY DAY** in Crossville, Tennessee and ask the citizens of Crossville to observe the day by having their own pets spayed or neutered or by sponsoring the spaying or neutering of another person’s pet or of an animal in a shelter awaiting adoption.