

## **SPAY DAY**

**WHEREAS,** pets provide companionship to 65% of households in the United States; and

**WHEREAS,** 515 adoptable dogs and cats were put down in our Cumberland County/City of Crossville Animal Shelter last year due to a lack of space, behavior, health and public awareness; and

**WHEREAS,** nearly 90% of pets living in poverty, and 98% of free roaming cats are unaltered; and

**WHEREAS,** spaying and neutering has been shown to dramatically reduce the number of animals who are put down in animal shelters, helping to reduce that number by 81% locally since 2003; and

**WHEREAS,** there are local Crossville programs to assist with spaying or neutering pets living in poverty and free roaming cats; and

**WHEREAS,** local veterinarians, local animal protection organizations, and private citizens worked together to spay/neuter in excess of 10,000 pets and free roaming cats locally over the last 10 years and have joined together again to advocate the spaying and neutering of pets and feral cats on “World Spay Day 2016”;

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, James S. Mayberry, Mayor of the City of Crossville, Tennessee, do hereby proclaim February 23, 2016 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.