



WINCHESTER POLICE DEPARTMENT

A Virginia Accredited Law Enforcement Agency

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MEDIA RELEASE

March 10, 2010

On Tuesday, March 9, 2010 at approximately 4 p.m. Winchester Police Department was dispatched to the parking lot of Walmart located at 2350 S Pleasant Valley Road to check the welfare of a family who was possibly living out of their vehicle with numerous animals. Upon arriving at the scene Animal Control Officers spoke with a family who had been evicted from their home and were moving to an undisclosed location in Tennessee. Officers located thirty (30) cats and four (4) dogs inside the vehicle. Many of the animals were in need of Veterinary services and officers worked with the owners to find a resolution to their problem.

The owners decided to surrender twenty-six (26) of the cats into the custody of Animal Control officers and these animals were transported to the SPCA. These cats will be examined by a Veterinarian and may be available for adoption in the future. No charges were filed regarding this incident. Anyone wishing to adopt one of these animals is asked to contact the SPCA or Animal Control Officers N.K. Mellott or A.D. Enke at 540-545-4730. This media release was prepared by Sergeant Mark Lahman at 540-545-7548 (office), or 540-974-7415 (cell), or mlahman@ci.winchester.va.us (email).

The Winchester Police Department is committed to improving the quality of life for all people by preventing crime in the city. We will accomplish this by enforcing the law with impartiality, creating partnerships through communication and education, and problem solving using innovative policing strategies.