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Critter Café Rescue
 5818 Airline Rd.
 (across from Fruitport #1 Fire Station)
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*Rescuing cats & kittens,
 all breeds of bunnies, guinea pigs, ratties,
 hamsters, birds, and all pocket pets.*

Have needs for:
 Cat Litter
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 Food, Greens, Alfalfa
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West Michigan Spay and Neuter
 6130 Airline Road
 Fruitport

CURRENT PRICES ARE:
 Male Cat...\$45
 Female Cat...\$55
 Male or Female Dog...\$75
 Available with spay or neuter, add:
 Rabies Shot...\$10
 Microchip...\$15

Each year in West Michigan 1000's of pets are killed because there are not enough people who want them.

We are responding to this problem by providing high quality, low cost spay and neutering in Fruitport using C-Snip Veterinary Staff.

Please help us achieve our mission:
 1) Have your pets spayed and neutered
 2) Tell your friends about our non-profit services
 3) Sponsor a spay or neuter for a disadvantaged owner

For information or an appointment call 231 366-7067

Select the right candidate this November
Letter to the Editor:

It's your animal loving friend, Christine Lea, here. I am the "bunny loving lady," founder and operator of Critter Café Rescue on Airline and Mt. Garfield's corner.

I am writing in celebration of our privilege of CHOICE. This November, we have the honor of electing our next township supervisor for Fruitport Charter Township. My wonderful friend, Ron Cooper, is on the township supervisor ballot as a nonpartisan candidate.

He and most of his family are lifelong residents of Fruitport Township. Ron is also one of our elders at Fruitport Congregational Church. He is a respectable, fair and trustworthy guy who has all of our best interests at heart, including that of our beloved pets.

For such a small community as Fruitport, we are fortunate to have such a great wealth of different amenities. In Fruitport Township, indeed, there is something for everyone to enjoy. It's no secret that I am a huge animal lover and advocate. Let me describe some of the ways in which Fruitport Township, with the support of Ron Cooper, benefits me in my mission to help needy animals that find their way to Critter Café.

I feel so blessed to have a strong relationship with my beloved go-to veterinarian, Dr. Corbett (honors also to her husband, Dr. Kromp). Dr. Corbett hangs her shingle just a short hop, skip and jump away, at the end of Pontaluna. It's reassuring that during emergencies I can trust one of the foremost rabbit and small animal vets in the area to be so close.

The West Michigan Spay and Neuter Clinic on Airline offers high quality, low cost spay/neuter/micro-chipping/rabies vaccinations and post-surgical care. To me, this is another priceless asset here in Fruitport, giving critical support to pets and their owners. Did you know Ron Cooper was one of two people instrumental in getting the clinic up and running to stop pet over-population in west Michigan? More than 4,000 (and counting) cat and dog spay/neuters have been safely accomplished.

My many years of being an animal lover have connected me with myriad personalities and minds. I have listened to and been fascinated by historical figures whose quotes, amazingly, speak to the human (and animal!) condition as it stands today. The words of the wise seem to endure our changing times to stay relevant. One, my favorite, comes to my mind thinking over all that Ron Cooper has to offer our community now and in the future — "The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated." — Mahatma Gandhi

Ron has put forth monumental effort in improving West Michigan. The Spay and Neuter Clinic has bettered

the lives of thousands of West Michigan companion animals. He continues to embrace animal rescues like Critter Café, and helps in any way he can to enable me and other volunteers to do some of the heartbreaking and physically tedious work that goes into animal rescue.

To me, that really says a lot about Ron Cooper. Ron Cooper's work has given Critter Café and other animal rescues the safe space to, among other popular truisms, "live and let live," and "don't sweat the small stuff." His faithful support has even allowed animal rescuers to live this wisdom: "There is nothing that wastes the body like worry, and one who has any faith in God should be ashamed to worry about anything whatsoever." — Mahatma Gandhi

When one cares so deeply about the hardworking people in his community as Ron Cooper does, (and he is genuine in that care) a community as a whole is greater. Ron Cooper is truly a great leader.

Fruitport's current supervisor lacks the vision, empathy and greatness within himself to deserve a re-vote into our very abundant governmental heart. Where do we, as a community, want to go?

Sadly, too, our current supervisor lacks the stewardship, knowledge and reverence to respect many of the old-fashioned Good Samaritan folk like me. I am following my mission, which is to simply educate about and reach out to as many of the voiceless fur and feather babies in need as I can within my lifetime. Under the current supervisor, I have been persecuted for such works, which do harm to none.

I ask you to take a critical look at the promise – not kept, but made – of our current township supervisor upon his being sworn in: The promise of positive, experienced and proven leadership. Positivity, I certainly cannot prove, considering my encounters with him. I wonder also where he got his supervisory experience — certainly, he can't be citing his prior employment as a clerk?

He is not Fruitport's best bet for the future, as the past four years have truly proven. Please, let's go back to what worked and vote Ron Cooper back in! With Ron at our head, we can live our lives and take pleasure in addressing other important township issues, like enjoying and improving the venues!

I'll leave you with another quote, this time by philosopher Immanuel Kant: "We can judge the heart of a man by his treatment of animals." Ron Cooper's heart truly is so good.

Sincerely
 Christine Lea
 Critter Café Rescue
 5818 Airline Road

Revealing NBC poll

(Submitted from Afghanistan by SFC James Sutton)
 In an August poll by NBC, responders were asked the following question: "Do you believe that the word "God" should stay in American culture?"

The poll received the highest number of responses that they have ever had for one of their polls. The percentage vote: 86 percent want to keep the words "In God we trust" and "God" in the Pledge of Allegiance. Only 14 percent were in favor of removing the terms.

That is a pretty 'commanding' public response. I have a hard time understanding why there is such a mess about having "In God We Trust" on our money and having God in the Pledge of Allegiance. Why is the world catering to this 14 percent?•

Heading for government control?

Letter to the Editor:

Let's get back to the meaning of the second amendment by comparing two excerpts from the Constitution.

Article I, Section 10, Part 3: "No state shall, without the consent of Congress, lay any duty of tonnage, keep troops or ships of war in time of peace."

Amendment II: "A well regulation militia, being necessary to keep the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed."

In old military catalogs the word "regulation" is used when referring to military equipment, everything from uniform to weapons. Presently our military is physically incapable of ruling the country by force because the means of production and distribution is privately controlled and the right to bear arms is the balance of power. Any infringement on this right is an act of subversion.

While we are at it, we should take a good look at civil rights laws, labor laws, and environmental laws that are steps toward government control of our defense industries.

Jim Caldwell
 Doyle, California



Bowe is one scared puppy!

By Mary Modderman and Mary Weimer

This Boston Terrier/Pekingese mix is just a little guy who is very scared and homesick. The pound is nothing like he is used to! If you approach him slowly and easily, and let him come to you, he is very snuggly and happy. He is very tidy in his kennel, trying very hard to remember his manners despite the strange, scary place. His size, light coat and good looks make him a natural for just about any home. And he likes most dogs, too.

Please, please, please consider taking Bowe home. He really needs someone gentle and understanding to work with him and build his confidence. He needs someone who can give him a bright future and just a little bit of love in exchange for his faithful companionship.

There are also several older dogs currently available at the shelter, 1300 E. Keating Avenue. They wait, hoping for a warm, kind heart and loving family with which to spend their golden years. Advantages to adopting an older dog include avoiding having to housebreak and train a puppy and committing to caring for the dog for a shorter time. Well-seasoned in life experiences, older dogs really can learn new tricks!

Pound Buddies Animal Shelter and Adoption Center is open Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12 to 2 p.m.; Wednesdays, 5 to 7 p.m. and Saturdays, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

You can see all the available furry friends at www.poundbuddies.org. Call (231) 724-6500 or email info@poundbuddies.org for more information. •