

A Proclamation
By
Governor Ronnie Musgrove

WHEREAS, “Benji”, the world’s most huggable hero, is back and is off on an exciting adventure in the new feature film “Benji Returns: Rags to Riches” and is now more determined to make a positive difference in the lives of kids and homeless animals right here in Mississippi and around the world; and

WHEREAS, her visit to Jackson, doing live media interviews, visiting the Blair E. Batson Children’s Hospital, The Mississippi Animal Rescue League and helping to raise funds and awareness for the Mississippi Animal Rescue League’s new shelter; and

WHEREAS, “Benji” herself was found abandoned on the back streets of Pass Christian and picked up by Animal Control where she was taken to the Humane Society of South Mississippi in Gulfport, Mississippi, and has now become an *ambassador* for our state through children’s therapy, education and fund raising events for our animal shelters; and

WHEREAS, this event will help educate our communities about animal cruelty, spay and neuter services and adoption services which provide loving homes for many wonderful animals like “Benji” who in turn provide special relationships in people’s lives; and

WHEREAS, this is all the more reason The Mississippi Animal Rescue League and shelters across the nation join us in welcoming to Mississippi and in recognizing the efforts of “Benji” and her owner Joe Camp; and

WHEREAS, the first annual Mississippi Animal Rescue League “Gala” will be held Friday, August 22 at Reunion, in Madison, Mississippi for an educational weekend:

NOW, THEREFORE, I Ronnie Musgrove, Governor of the State of Mississippi, do hereby proclaim that August 22, 2003 will be known as

BENJI DAY

in the State of Mississippi.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Mississippi to be affixed.

DONE in the City of Jackson, August 13, 2003, in the two hundred and twenty-seventh year of the United States of America.


RONNIE MUSGROVE
GOVERNOR