When Shannon Hodges bought a border collie in 2004, she considered breeding him to ensure she’d always have a part of her beloved dog in her life. But it just didn’t feel right. “I realized there are plenty of dogs we could bring home, and it doesn’t have to be his offspring,” she says. Eddie was neutered, and Hodges later adopted a happy-go-lucky Lab mix from the local shelter.

Earlier this year, Eddie helped spread the spay/neuter message in the World Spay Day 2013 Pet Pageant. Celebrity judges fell in love with the picture of the bright-eyed border collie while a rescued pit bull mix named Titus earned the people’s popular vote. Other pageant winners claimed titles for best hair, smile, and personality; most photogenic; and “ugly-cute.”

Coordinated by The HSUS and Humane Society International, World Spay Day promotes the vital role of sterilization in reducing pet overpopulation. Around the globe, more than 58,000 dogs, cats, and rabbits were spayed or neutered in World Spay Day events this year, and proceeds were distributed to participating organizations for spay/neuter programs.

Do you have an inspiring photo of a favorite pet or wild animal? Send it to us for possible publication in All Animals or humanesociety.org/allanimals, along with an explanation of 150 words or fewer about why it’s meaningful to you. Photos should be at least 300 dpi at a size of 5-by-7” and at least 2 MB.

To upload your photo and information, visit humanesociety.org/yourbestshot. Send hard copy submissions to All Animals—Your Best Shot, The HSUS, 2100 L St., N.W., Washington, DC 20037. (Hard copies cannot be returned.)