## ut Animals = = 5 %



## The Dogs of War

Out in front of America's troops, combat canines and their handlers lead the way onto the most dangerous battlefields in the world. The United States War Dogs Association, Inc. (USWDA) is a nonprofit organization of former and current U.S. military dog handlers and supporting members committed to promoting the long history of the military service dogs, establishing permanent war dog memorials, and educating the public about the invaluable service of these canines to our country. In January, the New Jersey based Purr'n Pooch Foundation for Animals, in association with USWDA and the general public, collected donations for U.S. military working dog teams in the Middle East.

The Foundation hosted a volunteer day at the Purr'n Pooch's Training Hall (86 Gilbert Street West, Tinton Falls) for businesses, schools, organizations and individuals to write letters and pack the donations for shipment. More

> than 100 people participated and 1,324 pounds and 90 boxes of supplies were shipped overseas. Items accepted for the working dogs include K-9 products such as warming mats, boots, "doggles" (dog protective goggles), shampoo and conditioner, grooming tools, nail clippers, beds or sleeping mats, blankets, toothpaste and toothbrush, eye drops, ear wash, collapsible nylon dog bowls, Kong rubber balls and rope chews. Items accepted for the handlers include nonperishable food and drink items such as coffee and tea, lemonade and iced tea mixes, powdered Gatorade, instant foods, oatmeal, grits, Kraft Easy Mac, power bars, dried fruit and

> small canned foods. The Purr'n Pooch Foundation for Animals is a volunteer-run, grant-making organization dedicated

> to providing financial support and educational resources to animal rescue groups and organizations across the United States. The foundation supports all species of animals and is a registered 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization.









Den 4 of the Tinton Falls Cub Scouts and representatives from the Purr'n Pooch Foundation for Animals and the U.S. War Dogs Association with Petty Officer Second Class US Navy Ryan Lee of Colts Neck who was presented with a flag that was flown by Bravo Company 2nd Battalion 82nd Aviation Regiment and Task Force Talon over Afghanistan to honor his fallen dog, US Navy MWD Valdo K298.

