

One Million PIBBLE March on Washington DC

Rebecca Corry and her pibble, Angel will make history on May 3, 2014.

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For 22 years I believed entertaining people was what I was meant to do, until Angel came into my life and showed me that standing up for pits through entertainment is my true calling.

REBECCA CORRY IS A WRITER/ACTRESS/COMEDIAN, founder of the Stand Up For Pits Foundation, Inc. and organizer of the One Million PIBBLE March on Washington D.C. May 3, 2014. Rebecca has been traveling around the country for four years with her own precious Pibble rescue, Angel, raising money and awareness for selected non-profits who are dedicated to saving and rescuing Pit Bull Terriers. *Stand Up For Pits* has sold out in every city since the first Los An-

geles show and continues to grow every year. Publisher Susan Sims sits down with Corry to talk about *Stand Up For Pits* and her upcoming historic endeavor, the first ever PIBBLE March on D.C.

FIDO FRIENDLY » *Why are you taking on this huge task of organizing a march on Washington?*

REBECCA CORRY » I do everything I do to help save this beautiful breed, because of my precious Angel. Angel came into my life 5 1/2 years ago and changed everything. She had battery acid burns all over her back, had been bred abused with horribly home cropped ears and sat in the LA South Central Shelter as a “leave alone” for over two months. Thank goodness, another angel, named Tomika Johnson saw the kindness Angel had and gave her a second chance. Angel lived her life at the hands of monsters yet had nothing but love to give. Having Angel has taught me so much. She has been and continues to be a gift in my life every moment of every day. So knowing what I know and seeing what I’ve seen, who would I be if I did nothing? It became clear to me early on that doing nothing was not an option. Pit Bull Terriers are innocent voiceless victims that need a voice and not just mine, they need all of us to be their voice. What is happening to this breed is a direct reflection of a broken society and that banning and throwing away the victim (Pit Bull Terriers or any “Pit Bull type dog”) is not the answer. Fear based ignorance and discrimination enshrined in law goes against the very fiber of what our country was built on and will no longer be tolerated.

FF » *When did the idea of the march come to you and how long has it taken for you to get the entire infrastructure in place?*

RC » It was a very organic thing. I was in Washington D.C. doing *Stand up for Pits* in Arlington, Virginia. A friend of mine picked Angel and I up from the hotel and took us to see the White House, which I had never seen before.

I had this idea at the hotel before he even picked us up to put a sign on Angel. I wasn’t sure what it would say but knew setting her perfectness in front of the leader of the free world’s house would be pretty great. Before we walked over to the White House, I drew up a sign that read ‘Mr. President Be Our Voice.’ Luckily my friend had some tape in his car too. So, I sat Angel down in front of the White House and taped the sign to her chin.

I started taking pictures with my iPhone while my friend video taped. Soon, a group of people from around the world had gathered and were taking pictures of me taking pictures and taking pictures of Angel. It was crazy. The image of a Pit Bull Terrier with a sign taped to her chin asking the President to be her voice was very powerful. I posted the photo on Facebook and the response was insane. People loved it and I couldn’t stop thinking...why has no one ever marched to end abuse and discrimination of the most abused discriminated breed in the world? Then I kept thinking about the millions of people who love them and hate what is being done to them. And why hasn’t something been done on a Federal level? Does our society and government not see the direct correlation of animal abuse and all other crimes? I didn’t stop obsessing on that. I just could not believe it had never been done before.

That night I performed *Stand Up For Pits*. We sold out and it was on Mothers Day, May 12, 2013, and at the end of the show I said on stage, out loud, “this time next year we will march on Washington.” And the audience, literally, 270 people, stood up out of their seats and went insane. Everyone was screaming. It was madness, and I was like, yup, this is what’s happening and this is what the people want to happen too.

Arin Greenberg of the *Huffington Post* was in the audience that night and on May 16, 2013, the *Huffington Post* announced my intention to march on Washington. The response to the announcement was tremendous.

I have dedicated an entire year to this event. I designed and created shirts to sell in order to raise money and that was just

the beginning. I have worked a minimum of ten hours every day for over 11 months on this march and producing seven *Stand Up For Pits* around the country. On September 29th began the non-profit process and we are in the final stages of being a registered Foundation. The march is the biggest thing I have ever done in my life. It is beyond time consuming, very complicated. So much work goes in to it that people don’t understand. You don’t just announce you’ll march on Washington then roam the streets for free marching. That is not at all how it goes. It is an enormous un-

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dertaking and to do it alone has been extremely difficult. Most marches on Washington are organized by organizations of lots of people who handle all different elements of the event, not one person in a one bedroom apartment figuring it out alone. I hope this inspires people to empower themselves and understand that you can figure it out and you can accomplish things if you stay determined and dedicated. There have been many many days where it all seemed unbearable. Then I would look in Angel's eyes and the scar on her back. I would remember what she went through and it would then be time to end the pity party and get back to work.

FF » *On that day, how do you see the day unfolding?*

RC » Logistics of the rally are still being determined. I will announce things as I know on my Foundation page. I do know, on Saturday May 3, 2014 peo-

and it won't be on May 3rd, either. Having dogs offers no solutions and does not serve a single purpose. Dogs don't deserve to be put in stressful situations and I won't risk a years worth of work for some human to bring their dog who can't handle the environment and have an incident. This is a private permitted event. This is a human only event and this will be strongly enforced. No exceptions.

FF » *How is the fundraising going?*

RC » It has been slow going online but thank the good Lord for t-shirt and hoodie sales. Production elements surrounding the event are a LOT. The more people that attend, the more funds we need. Right now we are in good shape but again, it's an ever-changing event and with that comes ever-changing cost. The goal is to keep the money coming in. If it doubles in size a month before, we need to be able to cover that.



ple will gather at five different points around the US Capital in DC and they will peacefully, calmly and with class, make their way to the west lawn of the United States Capital. There will be an entry point for all attendees and that will open at noon. The rally will then begin at 12:30 p.m. SHARP and go for exactly 90 minutes. There will be keynote speakers and music. This is not a protest. This is not an opportunity to act a fool. We are gathering to educate, raise awareness, offer solutions and celebrate the most beautiful breed on earth being wrongfully abused and discriminated against by our society.

FF » *This is a HUMAN ONLY event. Why did you decide that?*

RC » Simply put, if dogs could change laws, they would have done it a long time ago. This is a HUMAN event because HUMANS are who caused this mess and HUMANS are who need to fix it. The West lawn is not a dog park

If we end up with the fortunate problem of having more money than was needed for the event, the money will stay with the Stand Up For Pits Foundation and continue to save Pit Bulls and help non profits.

FF » *What is the hardest part, worst part, drives you most insane?*

RC » I have been asked many times what has been the most difficult part about this year. In addition to dealing with strange humans living in a state of fear-based ignorance who troll the Internet to attack me for standing up for Pits, some people in the animal community have been just as bad. Judgmental people sitting behind a computer screen critiquing and attacking how I'm organizing the march. I have made it clear that I don't do this to make friends, I do this to save dogs so I don't care what people think but it is disappointing to see and



frustrating to deal with. I believe if the animal community set aside agendas and ego and spent more time educating themselves and working together, more animals would be saved. The hardest part about saving Pibbles is humans.

FF » *Do you have sponsorship packages available?*

RC » We offer a sponsor pack: Gold, Silver and Platinum at one thousand, five thousand and ten thousand. We are plugging away, I'd sleep really well if we had 40 thousand. I haven't slept a full night since this started. It would be great to have those funds so the production company can do what they have to do and I don't have to panic every time they call me.

FF » *Have you heard from individuals who are attending the march?*

RC » I've heard people from England, Germany and Canada are coming. I've also heard from thousands from around the US who are super excited and supportive. I must say the majority of people I have dealt with in this process have been amazing human beings. Its been a pretty cool thing to see. The momentum has never slowed. I have managed to keep it going and it is only getting bigger and stronger. My supporters are the salt of the earth humans with huge hearts and who are passionate about the truth. This has been a grass roots effort from day one and will be till the end and it's with their support that this continues to grow. I haven't gotten a single endorsement from large animal foundations or people making millions off of Pit Bulls and their story. This has been real people who are sick and tired of Pit Bulls being abused and discriminated against, banning together to be one big loud voice. I'm honored to provide the opportunity for that voice to be heard on a national platform. There is power in numbers.

FF » *Will there be a cost for people to attend?*

RC » No entry fee. We are exercising our right to have a peaceful demonstration and be the voice on behalf of millions of voiceless victims who need us now more than ever before.

For 22 years I believed entertaining people was what I was meant to do, until Angel came into my life and showed me that standing up for pits through entertainment is my true calling. That truth has

given my life a greater sense of purpose. Angel is the inspiration for this march, *Stand Up For Pits* and living proof that Pit Bull Terriers are in fact, born inherently good. I will honor her and this breed, today and forever and I'm proud to be the voice of Pibbles as they are magic. I feel sorry for anyone who never gets the privilege of knowing the love of the precious Pibble. 🐾

HOW YOU CAN HELP

100% of the proceeds (minus cost) of this limited edition t-shirt *One Million PIBBLE March on Washington DC* will go directly towards the cost to rally at the US CAPITAL. Hoodies are available, too! standupforpits.us

