

# NAFC Animal Shelter News

www.nafcanimalshelter.org

April 2012

## Inside

- Tornado Relief
- It's Sooo Hot!
- Easter and Your Pets - Do They Mix
- Microchip Myths
- Spay Now or Stay Stupid Results
- Happy Tails:
- Information Corner: Crate Training Benefits

## Classifieds



**Max**  
 Shiba Inu/Shar-Pei  
 2 years old  
 Male

I have a sad story and would love the luxurious life of a family pet. Given the chance, I'll show you what love is.



**Miss Dusty**  
 DSH  
 7 years old  
 Female

I'm just a southern belle looking to relocate. Contrary to what many think, older ladies make a fine companion. I reckon you will just have to give me a try so I can show ya.



Some of the donations collected during the donation drive to help tornado victims in Washington County.

## Tornado Relief

We all are well aware of the horrific aftermath that tornadoes have left throughout the area. Family and homes were ripped apart. The NAFC Animal Shelter has partnered with Floyd County Animal Rescue League to offer a helping hand to the communities to assist in getting families re-established and set up to keep their animals while they rebuild their lives.

Donations of supplies and pet housing have been accepted and given to those in Washington County who need it. Some of the donations also went to foster homes to allow the fosters to care for the

animals a little easier.

We have also been accepting monetary donations to purchase the supplies that are still needed in the area. So far, we have raised over \$6,000 towards this cause. Any money that remains will go towards spay/neuter assistance in that community.

Our hearts and hands go out to those who have been effected. We appreciate how much the community has stepped forward in helping out our neighboring areas in their time of need. A big thank you goes out to Feeders Supply and the Floyd County Humane Society and all of our supporters for their generous contributions.

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## It's Sooo Hot!



Even warm days promote a threat to dogs, especially when left in cars. When it is 85 degrees outside, the inside of a car can easily

get to 120 degrees in a half an hour even with the windows cracked. With panting being the only way for dogs to cool themselves, over heating can happen very quickly.

Taking your animals with you on even quick outings can be dangerous. Sometimes quick outings may become longer than expected.

Special precautions should be taken when an animal is outside also. Outside animals should always

have access to shade, cool water, and shelter.

Animals with black or thick coats, or short noses can over heat much faster than others so owners of such animals should take extra precautions to keep their animals safe.

For more information on keeping your animals cool and safe during the summer you can go to our website or visit [mydogiscool.com](http://mydogiscool.com).

## Easter and Your Pets - Do They Mix

With Easter just around the corner, many of us are putting the final touches on baskets filled with festive synthetic grass, jelly beans and chocolate bunnies. We're masterminding upcoming Easter egg hunts. We're decorating the house with lilies. By taking a few simple steps, we can make sure the joy of Easter doesn't turn tragic for pets.

There are so many smelly, delicious things for people that can be deadly for animals around the Easter holiday. Candy can spell disaster for your pet. Chocolate is poisonous to dogs and cats. Also, your pet can choke to death on candy wrappers. Keep all candy out of your pet's reach, and contact your veterinarian immediately if you suspect your pet has ingested chocolate.

Many Easter plants can be harmful to your pets. Your cat may die if they consume even a small

part of an Easter Lily, Tiger Lily, Rubrum Lily, Japanese Show Lily, or Day Lily. According to the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center, these plants are highly toxic to cats and can cause severe kidney damage that is fatal. If you suspect your cat has eaten any part of a Lily, take them to a veterinarian immediately, as kidney failure can occur in a matter of hours. You may also call (888) 426-4435 with concerns.

Easter decorations are pretty, but can be really dangerous for pets. Dogs and cats often try to nibble on Easter decor, including plastic grass, bows and ribbons. These items can cause your pet to choke to death, or block or perforate your pet's intestines or stomach. Contact your veterinarian immediately if you suspect your pet has ingested Easter decor, or if your pet experiences appetite loss,

vomiting or abnormal bowel movements.

Your pets should not participate in the Easter Egg Hunt. Animals have a keen sense of smell, and will try to eat the dyed, hard-boiled eggs you've hidden around the yard.

This can wreak havoc on your pet's digestive system, particularly if your pet finds the eggs weeks later, once they've spoiled. Make sure you finish any Easter egg hunts before you let your pet join you, and that you pick up any missed eggs.

Families should avoid impulsively buying chicks and bunnies for easter. Every year, animal shelters are flooded with these animals impulsively purchased at Easter. Before adding any animal to your life, we recommend you do plenty of research on the care needed to properly care for the new animal.

Have a safe and Happy Easter!

# Microchip Myths

## **-Microchips are GPS and can track an animal if it gets away.**

Microchips are a means of identification, NOT a means of locating. If an animal gets away, and loses its collar, it can still be identified if taken to a vet or shelter and scanned.

## **-Implanting a microchip is an invasive surgery.**

Implanting a microchip is actually a very simple process that takes only a few minutes. Using a special syringe the microchip, which is only about the size of a grain of rice, is placed just under the skin between the shoulder blades. Most animals do not react any more to a microchip than they do a regular vaccination.

## **-You will always be contacted if your animal is found.**



You can only be contacted if your pet is found and you keep your contact information updated and the person who finds the animal takes the animal to get scanned.

## **-Your pet does not need to wear a collar with tags if it is microchipped.**

A microchip will help identify a lost pet if he or she is taken somewhere to be scanned. If someone finds the animal, and does not take it somewhere, then there is no

way to connect the animal to you, therefore tags should still be worn.

## **-When a microchipped animal is scanned, the scanner will always pick up a chip.**

Microchip Scanners are not fool-proof. Not all scanners pick up all microchip frequencies. Also, metal from harnesses and collars can interfere with the scanners' accuracy. Microchips can also migrate or be pushed out of the skin, making it hard or impossible to find

As with any technology, microchips are still improving and progressing as time goes on. Microchips have helped thousands of pets return home over the years. Tags can become illegible and can be collars removed. Microchipping is the only permanent way to ID your animal.

# Spay Now or Stay Stupid

Our Spay Now or Stay Stupid event was a huge success! On February 28th, in participation with World Spay Day, we helped 38 cats in the community get spayed or neutered!

It was a grueling 13 hour event. Staff and volunteers monitored and helped move the cats throughout the day. Vets and vet techs worked tirelessly around the clock to get all of the cats altered, vaccinated, and chipped as requested.

If you missed out on this event, but still need your animal fixed, don't worry! We have a few programs that can still help you.

The Feline Fix is

a program operated by the Floyd County Animal Rescue League, that can help cats get altered and vaccinated. Forty dollars is the standard fee for these procedures. Special discounts may be given to Floyd County residents who meet certain criteria. The cats are dropped off the morning of the scheduled procedure and picked up later in the evening.

The New Albany Floyd County Animal Shelter and the SNIP clinic also assist in altering pets. The fees for this program vary based on whether it is a dog or cat, male or female, and certain qualifications of the family. The price is still really affordable. You can call the shelter to get a price quote. Animals stay over



night with this program. Fees must be paid ahead of time to reserve your spot for the next transport.

A huge thank you goes out to Texas Roadhouse for the delicious lunch and to FCARL and our volunteers for their support in this event. A special thanks to our volunteer vets for making this possible.



# Need your Pet Spayed or Neutered? We can help!

Once a month, The S.N.I.P. Clinic and the NAFC Animal Shelter assist in getting your pets altered for a discounted price. Call or visit the Shelter for more information or to sign your animals up!

We are still enrolling dogs for our Training Class!  
Drop by the Shelter to sign up!

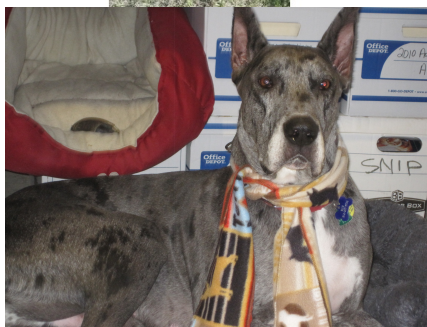
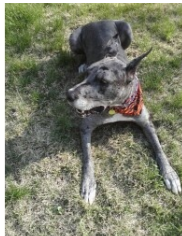
## Happy Tails: Blue

Blue is a very lucky man. After spending 6 days in rubble after the Alabama Tornadoes last year, Blue came to our shelter and began his long recovery. With a tail amputation and some TLC, Blue is now happy as can be with his new family.

One of the staff members of the shelter who helped foster him decided he was a good fit for their family. Fearful of almost everything, including his new feline housemates, Blue has become more comfortable and happy in his secure home.

He still has his moments, but has really turned into an amazing new family member.

We need your happy tail stories! Please email us pictures and stories of your animals that are adopted from us.



### NAFC ANIMAL SHELTER INFORMATION

Hours:

Monday - Friday

9:00-5:00PM

Saturday

11:00-2:30

Adoption Prices:

Cats over 4lbs - \$20

Cats under 4lbs - \$60

Dogs - \$80

## Information Corner

### Crate Training

Crate Training is one of the most effective ways to train a dog. If done correctly, it can be used for many things.

#### Housebreaking -

Dogs do not like to go to the bathroom if they cannot get out of it. Appropriately sized crates are essential for Housebreaking.

**Protection-** If a dog is confined, he or she cannot get into things that may be harmful to them. It is also protection for your things to not get damaged.

**Security -** If done properly, a crate becomes a safe haven for your dog. If he or she gets frightened or just needs a break from activity, a crate will provide that.

Look for more crate training information in future issues.

