



# New Albany Floyd County Animal Shelter News



[www.nafcanimalshelter.org](http://www.nafcanimalshelter.org)

February 2013

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## Valentines' Classifieds

### FREE CATS!

MAKE THEIR VALENTINES' DAY SPECIAL! GIVE THEM A FOREVER HOME!



ALL ADOPTION FEES ARE SPONSORED!

### Regular Adoption Fees:

- Dogs: \$80
- Cats over 4lbs: \$20
- Cats under 4lbs: \$60



Valentine's Day is a day of romance and love, renewing old relationships and starting new ones. If you are seeking that perfect companion that will give you unconditional and everlasting love, consider adopting a pet from your local animal shelter. The animal shelter is filled with beautiful furry valentines just waiting for the opportunity to fill your life with love and devotion.

As with any new relationship, before your new valentine moves in with you carefully consider the commitment that you are making. Many of these pets have already experienced a bad relationship, and have previously experienced the heartache of a breakup. Every shelter pet deserves a loving home, but they require a commitment of both time and money. Careful selection of the right pet for you, your family, and your lifestyle is critical in the Valentine's Day matchmaking process. The New

Albany Floyd County Animal Shelter has staff available that will happily assist you in meeting your new companion. The right match can provide you with a relationship that provides limitless rewards.

Your new fuzzy valentine can provide benefits that you haven't even considered. Animals not only warm the heart; research has shown that they are also good for the heart. The unconditional affection offered by a pet can lower blood pressure, heart rate, and anxiety levels. Many dog owners see an increase in their own exercise programs as they meet their dogs exercise needs.

On a lighter note, dogs can be a dating service on a leash. They have been referred to as "chick magnets and hunk hooks". Dogs break down social barriers, making it much easier for people to initiate conversations and meet new people.

# Spay Now or Stay Stupid!

With cats coming into heat at 4 months of age, and having 2 to 3 litters a year, it would be stupid to not have your cats spayed or neutered. In honor of Spay Day USA, 2013, the shelter is holding another Spay Now or Stay Stupid Clinic!

February 28, 2013  
Floyd County residents that meet an income requirement can get their cats rabies shot and spayed for free! (\$5 license fees are not included.) There are limited spots available so visit the shelter to reserve your spot!

Having your cat spayed or neutered can help the

animals health and the community in many ways.

Almost every city or town you can go to, has an issue with pet overpopulation, especially in cats. The Humane Society of the United States estimates that over 7 years, one pair of breeding cats can be responsible for 400,000 cats.

Every heat cycle that a female goes through will also increase their chances of uterine cancer. Females stay in heat until they are bred. Males chances of testicular cancer increases the longer they have their testicles.

Please think about

*Too young to be a mom...*



**SPAY NOW OR STAY STUPID!**

your pets health and happiness and get them spayed or neutered. If Spay Now or Stay stupid is full, please ask about our other low cost programs!

Spaying and neutering can save lives so be able to call your pet a hero.

## Emergency Preparedness

Emergencies come in many forms, and they may require anything from a brief absence from your home to permanent evacuation. Each type of disaster requires different measures to keep your pets safe. The best thing you can do for yourself and your pets is to be prepared.

-Step 1 Get a Rescue Alert Sticker and Identification

This easy-to-use sticker will let people know that pets are inside your home. Make sure it is visible and current for rescue workers, and that it includes 1) the types and number of pets in your household; 2) the name of your veterinarian; and 3) your veterinarian's phone number. If you must evacuate with your pets, and if time allows, write "EVACUATED" across the stickers.

Pets should ALWAYS have identification on and/or be microchipped in case a separation does occur. Owners will have a better chance at being reunited with their pets if current contact information and emergency contacts are attached to the pet or its microchip.

-Step 2 Arrange a Safe Haven

Arrange a safe haven for your pets in the event of evacuation. Remember, if it isn't safe for you, it isn't safe for your pets. They may become trapped or escape and be exposed to numerous life-threatening hazards. Note that not all Red Cross disaster shelters accept pets, so it is imperative that you have determined where you will bring your pets ahead of time.



-Step 3 Emergency Supplies and Traveling Kits

Keep an Evac-Pack and supplies handy for your pets. Make sure that everyone in the family knows where it is. This kit should be clearly labeled and easy to carry. Items to consider keeping in or near your pack include: food, litter, blanket, bowls, carrier/leash, vet records and medications,

trashbags, a list of pet friendly hotels, and a pet first aid kit.

-Step 4 Choose "Designated Caregivers"

This step will take considerable time and thought. He or she should be someone who is easy to get in touch with, trustworthy, and has easy access to your home. This may work well with neighbors who have pets of their own—you may even swap responsibilities, depending upon who has accessibility.

When selecting a permanent caregiver, you'll need to consider other criteria. This is a person to whom you are entrusting the care of your pet in the event that something should happen to you. Consider people who have met your pet and have successfully cared for animals in the past. Be sure to discuss your expectations at length with a permanent caregiver, so he or she understands the responsibility of caring for your pet.

Pets are part of the family. They should be included in any emergency planning and evacuations. Just a few minutes of preparation can save his or her life in an emergency.



# Avoiding Valentines' Day Drama

Valentine's Day can be as much fun for pets as it is for humans if dangerous foods, flora and other items are kept out of paws' reach. Each year poison control experts see a rise in cases around February 14, many involving chocolate and lilies, a flower that's potentially fatal to cats. So please heed experts' advice—don't leave these goodies lying around on Lover's Day.

Lillies Aren't Always Sweet. Many pet owners are still unaware that all species of lily are potentially fatal to cats. When sending a floral arrangement, specify that it contain no lilies if the recipient has a cat—and when receiving an arrangement, sift through and remove all dangerous flora. If your pet is suffering from symptoms such as stomach upset, vomiting or diarrhea, he may have ingested an offending flower or plant. Contact your veterinarian if you are concerned or suspect your pet has ingested something toxic.

Every Rose Has Its Thorn. Don't let pets near roses or other thorny stemmed flowers. Biting, stepping on or swallowing their sharp, woody

spines can cause serious infection if a puncture occurs. Be sure to de-thorn your roses far away from pets to help avoid any issues.

Chocolate Is Always Yummy, But Not Safe. Seasoned pet lovers know the potentially life-threatening dangers of chocolate, including baker's, semi sweet, milk and dark. Also, treats sweetened with xylitol can cause many digestive, respiratory, and neurological issues. Go ahead and indulge, but don't leave chocolate out for your chowhounds to find.

Celebrate, But Not With Your Pets. Spilled wine, half a glass of champagne, some leftover liquor are nothing to cry over until a curious pet laps them up. Because animals are smaller than humans, a little bit of alcohol can do a lot of harm, causing vomiting, diarrhea, lack of coordination, central nervous system depression, tremors, difficulty breathing, metabolic disturbances and even coma. Potentially fatal respiratory failure can also occur if a large enough amount is ingested.

Playing With Fire. It's nice to set your evening aglow with candlelight, but put out the fire when



you leave the room. Pawing kittens and nosy pooches can burn themselves or cause a fire by knocking over unattended candles.

Don't Let Pets Wrap Themselves. Gather up tape, ribbons, bows, rubber bands, wrapping paper, cellophane and balloons after presents have been opened—if swallowed, these long, stringy and “fun-to-chew” items can get lodged in your pet's throat or digestive tract, causing her to choke, vomit, or need lifesaving surgery.

Giving a cuddly puppy or kitten may seem a fitting Valentine's Day gift—however, returning a pet you hadn't planned on is anything but romantic. Companion animals bring with them a lifelong commitment, and choosing a pet for someone else doesn't always turn out right. Gift Certificates are available for those who really wish to give a pet as a gift.

## Nutty Bacon Dog Treats

How to make 6 dozen 1" diameter treats your pooch will love!

Ingredient:

3 slices of bacon, diced  
1 egg  
1/3 cup creamy natural peanut butter (or Sunbutter)  
1 tablespoon maple syrup (bacon + maple seemed like a good idea)  
3 tablespoons water  
1/2 cup soy flour  
1/2 whole wheat pastry flour  
1/2 cup wheat germ

-Preheat oven to 300 degrees and line two baking sheets with parchment paper.  
-Fry the diced bacon until crispy. With a slotted spoon, remove the crispy bacon but save the fat. Allow the fat to cool slightly (2-5 minutes)  
-Add the egg, peanut butter, maple syrup and water to the bacon fat and mix thoroughly.  
-Add in the flours and wheat germ and mix until combined. Stir in the crispy bacon pieces.  
-Roll out the dough on a lightly

floured surface to about 1/4" thick. Cut into desired shapes.  
-Bake in the oven for 12-15 minutes (for 1" diameter shapes) until lightly browned.  
-Cool and make them beg for it!



# 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!

## Happy Tails: Nina

After being passed from home to home, several times, her family had decided that they could not appropriately care for her and decided to let us try to find her a new home.

Nina was here for a bit, patiently waiting, for her new forever home to find her. In December, Nina's prayers were finally answered.

Nina's new family are so happy with the decision that they made to adopt her, saying "Nina is the BEST decision we have ever made for our family. We could not imagine our lives without her now. She is so sweet, very playful and extremely smart". She loves car rides, and cuddling in the chair. She is such a happy dog, she can brighten any day!

We want to hear more stories like this! Please send us yours to [nafcanimalshelter@yahoo.com](mailto:nafcanimalshelter@yahoo.com) and your pet may be the next Happy Tails!



### 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

Happy Responsible Pet  
Owners Month!

3 Cheers for all Responsible Pet Owners! This month celebrates all of us who are responsible pet owners by taking care of animals seriously. During the month of February we celebrate our pets with love and kindness, not just for this month but for our whole lives. They love us unconditionally.

During this month we are encouraged to pass on to others the importance of being a responsible pet owner and join in teaching the public how to be responsible for the sake of our pets well being. Keeping pets rabies vaccinations current and being spayed or neutered are part of how we show our pet we care.

Help support a happy life for all pets by spreading the word on how to be a responsible pet owner.

