



New Albany Floyd County Animal Shelter News



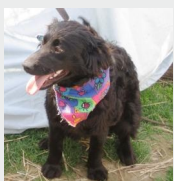
www.nafcanimalshelter.org

May 2013

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Classifieds



Curly Sue
Lab Mix
1 year old
S. Female

I am a very sweet little girl who is incredibly affectionate. I just need someone to show me love and bring me into their family.



Vinnie
DSH
2 years old
N. Male

I am a good looking guy looking for the ladies! Honestly, I love anyone who will give me some attention. Come by and let me give you some sugar!

LOOK AT ALL THOSE KITTENS!



Kitten season is the time of year when cats give birth, flooding animal shelters and rescue groups across the nation with homeless litters. Kitten season is really three seasons in one, starting in spring, peaking in late spring or early summer, and ending in fall.

Why does kitten season occur? Because too many kittens are born to cats who are not spayed and neutered.

Cats can get pregnant as early as 4 months of age! This is way too young for any cat to have babies. They can also get pregnant while they are still nursing a litter. A female cat will only come out of heat once she has been bred as well.

The easiest way to help reduce the overwhelming numbers of unwanted cats is to spay and neuter your own cat and encourage others to do the same. Unaltered cats are driven by their hormones and tend to sneak outdoors

primarily in search of a mate. Mating just once can start a domino effect that can result in dozens, even hundreds or thousands of unwanted animals.

There are several local programs that assist people in our community in having animals spayed or neutered. Dogs and cats can participate in the bimonthly SNIP Clinic Transport here at the shelter. Call the shelter for more information on this event.

In addition, the Floyd County Animal Rescue League hosts a monthly event called the Feline Fix, altering cats for \$40 (including vaccinations). They can be reached at (812)949-9099 or www.fcarl.com.

Further financial assistance may be available for Floyd County residence in both programs that show more financial need.

Vouchers to use at some area vets are also available through the Floyd County Humane Society's website at floydcountyhumanesociety.com

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The Dangers of Spring

Spring is finally here! As you enjoy the weather outside with your canine friends, there are a few things to keep in mind to keep your dog safe.

1. SAVE THE STICKS

Sticks — now readily available after the winter thaw — can cause choking and severe injuries in dog's mouths and throats. So if your dog likes to chew and chase, pack a Frisbee, tennis ball or other toy instead.

2. KEEP FIDO AWAY FROM NEW PLANTS

If your dog likes to eat grass and plants, now's the time to get out your plant guide. Some native plants can cause vomiting, diarrhea or even death, so before you let your pooch chomp down on those leafy greens, visit the ASPCA website www.asPCA.com for a list of the most common poisonous plants.

3. USE PET-FRIENDLY PRODUCTS FOR SPRING CLEANING & LAWCARE

Spring cleaning is the perfect occasion to review your cleaning product's pet-friendliness. Fertilizers, weed killers, and pesticides can also be very hazardous. If the bottles do not say their contents are pet-safe, it's best to keep these products where your pet can't get them. If your pet does ingest a household or yard chemical, contact your veterinarian and/or the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center Hotline (888-426-4435) for accurate information.

It is also a good idea to keep animals confined when weedeating and/or mowing the lawn to avoid any accidents caused by flying objects or the animal getting to close.

4. WATCH YOUR DOG FOR SIGNS OF SEASONAL ALLERGIES

Some pets develop allergies to common seasonal plants, like ragweed.



Unlike allergies in people, pets manifest symptoms in the form of skin or ear problems. Generally they are pretty itchy — which may include scratching, licking or chewing their paws and rubbing their face and ears on the couch or carpet.

Allergic inflammation can lead to secondary problems, such as superficial bacterial infections, hot spots, repeated ear infections, and sometimes anal-gland infections. While these secondary problems are often what gets noticed and can usually be cleared up with appropriate treatment, they tend to recur if the underlying allergic issue(s) are not addressed.

5. HIDE THE ANTIFREEZE

Cars always use antifreeze, so you need to stay vigilant to keep your animals safe. Many pets like the taste of antifreeze because it's sweet, but it's also deadly. Contact your vet immediately if you suspect your pet has ingested this toxin.

6. CONTINUE YEAR ROUND HEARTWORM PREVENTION

The American Heartworm Association now recommends keeping dogs on year-round preventatives to guard against heartworm disease. If your dog's not already on a preventative regimen, now's the time to start. As the number of mosquitoes rises, the risk of getting heartworms does also. This risk is still present for several months after a dog has been bitten by a mosquito. Preventative is available in several forms, so consult with

your veterinarian about the type best for your dog.

7. FLEA AND TICK PREVENTION

Fleas and ticks become more abundant in the spring and summer. It is important to keep preventatives on your pet, ideally all year around. Fleas and ticks can cause many skin irritations and illnesses in pets such as lyme disease and infections. There are products available now that will repel fleas, ticks, and heartworms all in a once monthly tablet or topical form. Ask your vet for more info.

8. PREVENT DOG-PARK BULLYING BY KNOWING THE SIGNS

As the weather gets warmer, you may be taking your dog to the dog park more often. Make sure it's a safe and fun time for all by knowing proper play etiquette.

Bullying can be outright aggression (growling, snapping, etc.) or it can be just playing too rough. Dogs repeatedly pinning another down, jumping on, or chasing with no reciprocation are classic signs for playing too rough.

Watch for signs that either dog is uncomfortable (yawning, backing away, tucking its' tail, avoiding eye contact, etc.). If the dog exhibits these signs, its best to take a break and calm down.

Remember, your dog may be the bully in some cases, so don't forget to watch your dogs actions as well.

9. KEEP ARTIFICIAL SWEETENERS AWAY FROM YOUR DOG

Keep your pup safe as you celebrate spring by keeping all sweets, candies and gum away from your dog. While many people know about the dangers of chocolate, only a small amount of the common artificial sweetener xylitol can be deadly.

Pet Grief Series: Dealing with Pet Loss: Preparations

We all love our pets madly. They are a constant source of unconditional love, friendship, affection and often of great entertainment. But unfortunately, their life spans are usually much shorter than our own.

We prepare for the loss of our human loved ones, so why not prepare for the loss of our animal companions? If it's too hard to think about now, at least ask a close family member or friend in advance to help you to make these difficult decisions when the time comes.

The one thing all pet owners have in common when they lose their pet is the need to honor their friend's memory with dignity. There are many options available, so choose the one that feels best for you and that you feel is most appropriate for a memorial of your animal companion.

There are some things you can think about in advance to make it easier when the inevitable occurs.

Will you have your pet euthanized if his or health gets to a certain point? If so, do



you have a vet that you trust and are comfortable with to perform the procedure? You will also want to decide if euthanasia is performed, will you be in the room, or wait outside? Next month's article will focus on how to decide when it is the right time to have your pet euthanized.

Another common consideration is do you want to have your pet cremated or buried? The answer determines how you will handle your pet's remains, but it's a very heavy question to deal with when your grief is fresh, so consider it ahead of time. A local pet cremation provider is Faithful Companions. More information is available on their website at faithful-companions.com. You

will also want to plan for what you will do with the remains if you choose to keep them. There is no right or wrong answer, and everyone must decide what is best for them.

Some areas do have regulations as to if and how you can bury an animal in your yard, so be sure to talk to your local health department and Animal Control Agency.

Whether you keep your pet's remains or not, you can create a beautiful and peaceful spot in your yard where your pet often napped or hung out and where you can go to reflect and remember. You can mark this spot with a pet grave marker as a simple tribute to your pet.

Busy, Busy, Busy!

This month is a busy month at the Shelter! With several offsites planned, there are also several days we will be closed.

The first offsite event will be the Petsmart Adopt-a-thon on May 3-5th at the Petsmart in Clarksville. We will be there with adoptable animals from 2-6 on Friday, 12-5 on Saturday, and 12-4 on Sunday.

We will also be attending the Pet Fair at the New Albany-Floyd County Public Library on Saturday May 11th between 12:30 and 4.

Both of these

offsites will have multiple area organizations with adoptable animals, information, and much more!

The Shelter will also be closed several days this month as well. The main Shelter will be closed on Saturday, May 4th for Derby and Monday, May 27th in celebration of Memorial Day.

Many of the shelter staff will be attending the Humane Society of the United States Animal Sheltering Conference in Nashville, TN on Friday, May 10th. We will be closed so more staff can attend

this important training. Don't worry, some will still be here to ensure proper care for our animals!

More information on these events can be found on our website closer to the event.



Need your Pet Spayed or Neutered? We can help!

Bimonthly, 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!

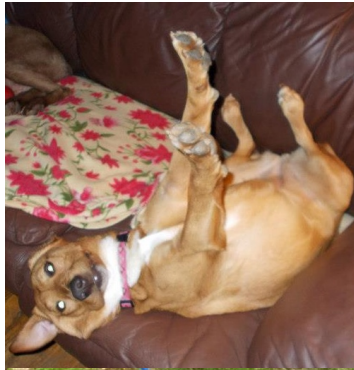
Happy Tails: Harper Lee

Harper Lee, formerly known as Eva, is a beautiful lab mix that was adopted from the shelter. She was in several homes that just weren't the right fit before she found the right match. With a big new family, made of dogs and people, Harper is finally happy. Her new family can't picture their life without her now. She has made such an amazing addition to their family!

She has so much personality! She loves to show them how much she cares by giving lots of kisses and lots of laughs. When she is not lounging on the couch, Harper enjoys romping in the yard with Atticus and Scout.

Harper Lee's story goes to show that not every animal is the right fit for every family, but in the right place, they can be the perfect pet! Let us help find the perfect pet for you!

To be featured in our Monthly Newsletter, send us your adoption stories and pictures to nafcanimalshelter@yahoo.com!



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



Mark your calendars, Dog Days at the Drive-In is just around the corner on June 22nd! This fun event allows families to come to the movies with their leashed dogs!

The Shelter is currently seeking donations from area businesses to use as door prizes for this event. Donations can be any size, type, or value. Not only will you be helping the shelter with it's causes, you will also promote your business in a positive light!

If your company or organization is interested in helping, please mail items to the Shelter at:

215 West Market Street

New Albany, IN 47150

or call: (812)948-5355 to organize a pick up! Thanks so much!

Watch the website for more info and plan on attending!

