



New Albany Floyd County Animal Shelter News



www.nafcanimalshelter.org

August 2015

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Classifieds



Edgar
DSH
5 Years Old
N. Male

I am just your average good looking guy looking for a new home to call mine. I am pretty tolerable with most things, but I am not a big fan of dogs. Visit me at the Feeders Supply on Grantline Road!



Zorro
Lab X
3 Years Old
N. Male

They tell me 92lbs is big, but I don't know what they mean! I am so full of energy and just want to play. I do need some discipline and training, but I am ready to learn!

Heading Back to School

The end of summer means an empty house for many families. While parents may enjoy a break from the kids, it may be a different story for our dogs. Here are some tips on how you can make the transition from summer to school easier for your pets.

About a week before the kids return to school, begin getting your dog used to their absence. This is best accomplished by leaving your dog home for short trips. Ideally, leave them inside early in the morning to simulate school time. You only need to leave them for thirty minutes or so. The idea is to get them accustomed to the fact that the long, lazy summer mornings are coming to an end. Also, start getting out the lunchboxes and other items your dog associates with leaving for school in the morning. The idea is to desensitize them to any anxiety-producing cues prior to school starting. Do this several times a day and your dog's nervousness will begin to diminish.

For indoor dogs that will be spending several hours alone, a dog crate may be your best bet. A crate is not a punishment device; it is a play pen. Placing your dog in a crate should be thought of as putting a toddler in a play pen

or crib. The purpose is to prevent your dog from getting into accidents and injuring himself. In addition, the security of having one's own space is comforting to many dogs. Rotate the toys you leave and use those that you can stuff with vegetables or dog food to keep your dog engaged while you're away. In many areas doggie daycare is an excellent alternative to "home alone."

With school back in session, your dog may not get as much time playing with your family as during the care-free days of summer. If this is the case at your house, be sure to make the most of the time you have with your pet. Long walks at the park, lounging around on the couch, whatever it takes to re-connect at the end of a busy week. Remember that even though your dog wasn't at work or school all day, he still needs time to unwind. As the days grow shorter, be sure to find time to walk your dog daily and enjoy this unique relationship.

It is also a great time for your dog to go back to school, even if they have done a training class before! The shelter offers a 6 week training class for only \$65, or \$20 if adopted from the shelter! Watch the website for more information on the next session.



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Thunderstorm Phobias

Thunderstorm phobia or anxiety in dogs is a fairly common and very real problem for many dogs. Dogs with thunderstorm phobia become extremely frantic and overwhelmed with fear during storms. Astraphobia is the technical term for this: the fear of thunder and lightning. Owners who see their dogs experiencing this fear usually feel helpless and frustrated.

There is no way to know for certain what causes a dog to become afraid of thunderstorms. However, based on what we do know about dogs, we can speculate. There are probably multiple reasons for thunderstorm phobia, and the reasons vary from dog to dog. The most obvious reason is due to the loud noise of the thunder. Many dogs suffer from noise phobia, and the thunder is just one of several frightening noises (others include fireworks, gunshots, etc).

However, the cause of fear may not be limited to noise. Changes in barometric pressure and humidity can affect your dog's senses and possibly even cause discomfort in the ears. Arthritic dogs or those with orthopedic disorders may experience more pain than usual. Another possible reason for thunderstorm phobia is association with a traumatic experience.

If your dog seems anxious, hyperactive, destructive or reclusive during storms, you are probably dealing with thunderstorm phobia.

The signs are usually quite obvious, so you probably already know your dog is phobic of storms. Many dogs will pace, pant or quietly whine. Some are clingy and seek attention. Other dogs will hide, frozen with fear. All of these

signs can go unnoticed at first, and you may be unknowingly encouraging the behavior. Your dog's fearful behavior may be subtle at first but can become worse with time, eventually becoming full-blown panic attacks that are very dangerous for your dog.

Telltale signs of anxiety and fear can begin long before the storm arrives, so take note of signs that occur during normal weather. Your dog is probably the best weather forecaster you can find.

There are some things you can do to prevent your dog from reacting adversely to the triggers of thunderstorms, or at least minimize the reaction. First of all, never leave your dog outside during storms. Next, examine your own behavior and that of other people in the home. Your dog will react to human anxiety, fear and stress, even if it is not related to the storm. Do your best to remain relaxed and upbeat. Do not pay special attention to your dog when he is exhibiting signs of fear or anxiety. Though it may seem like your dog needs comforting, coddling and praising your dog reinforces and rewards the unwanted behavior.

There are ways you can indirectly comfort your dog during thunderstorms (or other sources of fear and anxiety). One thing you can try is to provide a comfortable hiding place in the quietest part of your home. A crate with a soft bed inside and covered with a sheet might make your dog feel safer. Try playing music or white noise to drown out the noise. In addition, using Dog



Appeasing Pheromone (DAP) in the "safe place" might also help. Some dogs benefit from a type of wrap, like the Thundershirt, that is believed to provide some comfort during times of anxiety, stress and fear.

If your dog does calm down and stops reacting to the storm, respond with calm praise and rewards. Consider distracting your dog from the remainder of the storm by practicing basic commands or playing a game of tug-of-war.

Dogs with severe thunderstorm phobia will need the help of a professional. A veterinary behaviorist can help you establish a desensitization or conditioning program. Talk to your primary veterinarian about potential treatments, including herbal therapies such as Rescue Remedy (Compare Prices).

Because thunderstorm phobia is likely to become worse over time, it is important to take action when you first notice the signs. Do not wait to address the phobia until it is very severe - it will be that much harder to reverse. Just as stress is a health risk for humans, the same applies for dogs. Thunderstorm phobia can become a very serious problems that will adversely affect your dog's health and quality of life. Act now for the sake of your dog.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Our funds are being cut significantly by the County. Please watch our Facebook page and our website for things that you can do to help us continue to serve our community the best we can.

Another Success!

Dog Days at the Drive-In this year was a huge success- our best one yet! In total over \$1,200 as raised to help the animals in the community!

We had so many area businesses that stepped in to lend a hand in this event. Some donated items for raffle prizes, and some for silent auction items. There were also many organizations that set up booths with information, goodies, and animals!

There were nearly 200 dogs that came to see the movies with their families as well. This is the most we have ever had at Dog Days at the Drive-In.

Those who attended also got to see two police dogs in action during a demonstration. Afterwards, they were awarded with their K9 Kevlar Vests, donated by the Floyd County Humane Society, Floyd County Animal Rescue League, and the Shelter

We couldn't have done it without each and every person and animal involved! Thank you all, so much! We look forward to seeing everyone again at our next Dog Days at the Drive-In.

Meet the Staff:

Animal Care Supervisor, Duncan

Meet Duncan York, one of our Animal Care Supervisors! Duncan can usually be found in the back with the animals and working with volunteers. Occasionally he can be found doing other special tasks that help keep the shelter running smoothly. He is also the staff member that takes the P.A.W.S. Mobile Unit to different events to adopt animals and educate the public. He has been part of the Shelter family for over 6 years.

Prior to his time with us, Duncan was in the military for several years. He was discharged after he was hit by a car and broke his back while on duty.

During his free time, Duncan spends much of his time with his large family.

Being a single father of 5, he stays very busy. Most of his daughters are grown and on their own, but Anabell (5) and Jaylee (5) are still at home.

A home wouldn't be complete without any rescue pets. Duncan's home is no exception. He has 2 dogs that are from the shelter. Stormy and Gizmo are both chihuahua mixes. Stormy was originally rescued from the Alabama tornados several years ago.

Duncan does more than just help the animals of the

community, he also helps the people. He can be found hosting a weekly mens group at a local church, and he also assists in the jail ministries helping to counsel the inmates with his story of life change and rededication.

He does many side jobs, such as yard work, to help make ends meet and give his girls the life they deserve.

Duncan is an incredible member of our Shelter family, always willing to help at a moments notice. His passion for his faith and family serves him well and can be witnessed in how he lives his life.



DOG DAYS at the DRIVE-IN

We had another successful year!

It wouldn't have been possible without the help from our community!

New Albany Floyd County Animal Staff	-	Volunteers
Floyd County Animal Rescue League	-	Squire Boone Caverns
Marengo Caves	-	Highlander Pet Grooming
French Lick West Baden Indoor Karting and Black Buggy	-	
Big Splash Adventure Indoor Water Park	-	Nefarious New Albany
All FUR Fun Doggie Daycare	-	Gatti's Pizza
Rocky's Sub Pub	-	Buckheads Mountain Grill
Four Burgers and Beer	-	Earth and Fire
Rubbin' Butts BBQ	-	Daisy's Country Cooking
Louisville Bats	-	J. Nicolle Salon and Spa
Melissa's Pretty Paws	-	New Albany Animal Shelter
Derby City Dog Rescue	-	Invisible Fence of Southern Indiana
Buffalo Wild Wings	-	Hello Gorgeous Salon and Spa
Access Veterinary Services	-	Mark's Feed Store
Southern Indiana Animal Rescue	-	Kid's Dentistree
Diva Nails & Spa	-	Massage Envy Salon and Spa
New Albany & Georgetown Police Departments	-	
Comfy Cow	-	No Coast Images
Lions Club	-	Sweet Stuff Bakery
City Taste Tours	-	Bottles Unlimited

And very importantly, the Powell Family at the Georgetown Drive-In for allowing us to continue the tradition of Dog Days at the Drive-In!



Need your Pet Spayed or Neutered? We can help!

Every 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: Daisy and Pepper

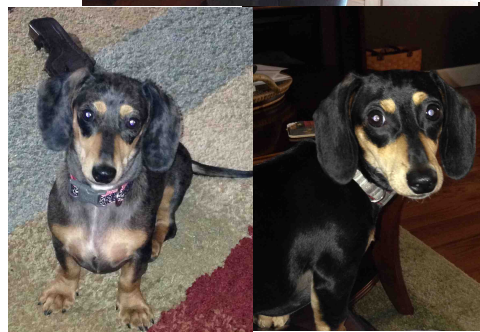
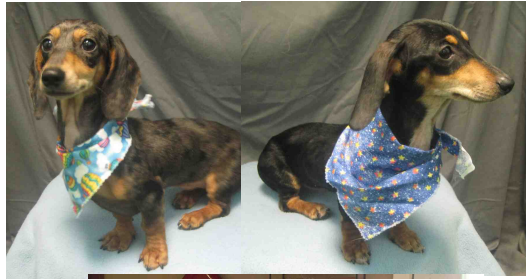
Daisy and Pepper, formerly known as Violet and Kiwi, had a rough start to life. Rescued out of a bad situation, the sisters were surrendered to the shelter with demodectic mange.

After beginning their treatment here, a wonderful lady saw our foster request and decided that she wanted to adopt and finish all of their treatment herself. Since they have left, they have finished all of their treatments and have made a full recovery.

Everyone is thrilled. Daisy and Pepper are so grateful for their fresh and loving outlook on life. And the adopter is just as happy with her new girls.

We are always so grateful for families that are willing to take on animals with health problems and give them an incredible home.

Please email us your adoption story!



SHELTER INFORMATION

Hours:
Monday - Friday
9:00-4:30PM
Saturday
11:00-2:30

Information Corner

IN THE WORKS

Does anyone remember Drool in the Pool? We are currently working on being able to do this event again this fall!

For those of you who don't know, Drool in the Pool is an event where for one day only, pet owners can take their dogs swimming at a local pool. Many years ago, we were able to do it at the old Camille Wright Pool after it was closed for the season.

This event was so much fun. We had many contest and races. Dogs really enjoy themselves and some get a lot of comfort out of it too!

We are hopeful and looking forward to being able to do this once again. If we get the OK, we will be letting you know! Keep an eye on our website and Facebook page for more information.

