



New Albany Floyd County Animal Shelter News



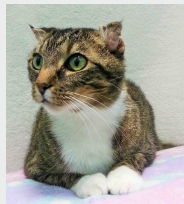
www.nafcanimalshelter.org

June 2015

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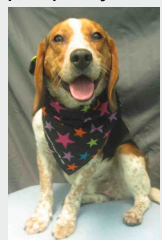
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Classifieds



Fat Boy
DSH
5 Years Old
N. Male

I'm not sure why my name is Fat Boy, because I'm not that fat. I'm still here because I suffer from only child syndrome. I don't like to share and I just want a quiet home to call my own. I am affectionate to people, just not other cats.



Burt
Beagle
2 Years Old
N. Male

I am a high energy boy looking for a little structure in my life. I love everyone! With a little patience and work, I will be the boy of your dreams!

Dog Days at the Drive-In



It's that time of year again! On July 11th, the Georgetown Twin Drive-In Theater is opening its gates to four legged family members, allowing dogs on leash to attend for a \$2.00 admission fee. All dog admission fees collected will be donated to the NAFC Animal Shelter.

The Drive-In's main feature will be Minions! The other additional movies playing have not been announced yet. Besides great movies, several exciting child and dog friendly events are planned. There are plans to have a coloring contest for the children's pleasure, while dogs can participate in nail trims and most unique trick (or best trained dog) contest, watch demonstrations, or kick back and relax with a pet massage! Booths will be set up by area dog related businesses and adoptable animals from area rescues will be in attendance. The NAFC Animal Shelter's P.A.W.S. Mobile Unit will be

available. Special concessions like gravy snow cones and dog treats will even be sold just for the dogs to enjoy on their day out!

Don't forget your cash! The Shelter will be hosting a silent auction at this event! So far we have several hundreds of dollars in items that will be available, and the donations are still coming in! Some items are restaurant gift certificates, amusement parks, etc. Watch the website as the event gets closer to see what items will be available!

You won't want to miss our Doggie Boutique either! We will have a variety of doggie shirts, collars, harnesses, and much more available for purchase with a donation! Mark your calendar now for this fun filled family event! Gates open at 6:00pm.

Further details and rules for bringing your pet will be available at the Drive-In website:

www.georgetowndrivein.com

Phone (812)948-5355

nafcanimalshelter@yahoo.com - www.nafcanimalshelter.org

215 W. Market St., New Albany, IN 47150

A Letter to our Supporters

Dear Floyd County Residents,

As many of you are probably aware, the County Council has decided to cut the Shelter's funds by \$150,000. This is 49% of their portion of the total budget for the year. We are all aware that budget cuts happen every year to different departments. Well here is my opinion on why this department is different, and why this cut is not okay, and how it could affect you.

Here is a scenario I want you to consider. You live in Floyd County (outside of the city limits). You notice a shy cat standing off in the distance, not wanting to interact. Your thoughts are- I could call Animal Control to come remove it since it doesn't seem very friendly. This would be a fine idea and an easy solution if you had animal control services available to you. Since this isn't an option, you think about trapping it yourself. Then where will you take it? Dump it in another county, inside the city, where it may never be able to be trapped again because it has now learned to avoid them? So you decide just to leave it alone since it isn't doing any harm to you. Over the next week or two, you see it periodically but it keeps its distance, not being an issue. You and your child go out to play in the yard and the ball rolls under a bush. Your excited little one decides to go retrieve the ball. The next thing you know, the child comes running and screaming because that stray cat was in the bush and bit your child. Who will you call to get the cat now? It can't just be shot, because it needs to be observed for symptoms of rabies for 10 days. Otherwise, your child may have to endure the very painful series of rabies vaccinations that cost several thousands of dollars for every round. If the police come and somehow capture the cat, where will they take it during its quarantine and how will they care for it? What will they do after the 10 days?

The shelter is so much more than adoptions. We have educational programs to educate children on what to do when a strange animal approaches. This has worked! A school that we did a workshop with called to thank us because while the kids were at recess a strange dog came up, and EVERY ONE of the children froze and pretended to be a tree, just as they were taught in order to not agitate or excite the dog, possibly causing issues.

We also help with hoarding situations. Depending on the severity, these situations can become an issue for the entire neighborhood. Fleas, rats, roaches, will begin spreading to other houses, possibly spreading disease and endangering your pets and family.

The staff at the Shelter are also TRAINED in handling different animal situations. Do police officers know how to use a catch pole or cat tongs without making the situation worse? Do they even have that equipment? Do they know how to get that scared dog without getting bit? The staff at the shelter, especially animal control, has had hundreds of hours of training from professionals. They continue to improve their training as well to be better able to serve their community. Many officers of the community call us when there is an animal issue because they do NOT know how to handle the situation.

With the Shelter's budget being cut as significantly as it is, all of these services, plus so much more, may no longer be offered to those who live outside of the city limits. Other departments may have had budget cuts, but it isn't nearly half of their annual budget. We will not be able to serve the county if funds are not restored. Even if you live within the city limits, this will affect you too. How many more stray animals will be running around and causing an issue because someone took it from the county where there is no animal control, and released it here?

You, as a member of the community, can help. Your thoughts need to be heard. Please contact the County Commissioners and the Council Members (Page 4, Information Corner). Explain to them why Floyd County needs their Animal Shelter and Animal Control Services. It's not just about pet owners allowing their animals to run loose or barking dogs; it's about safety and quality of life in our community.

Please contact us, with any questions that you may have. We want to be here for the entire community. It's our job to protect you, your family, and your pets from the danger that other animals may cause. Please help us do so. We are counting on you, as you count on us.

Sincerely,

Marilee Snider
Adoption Specialist
Floyd County Resident

Urban Chickens

Over the last several years, across the country, chickens have become very popular to own, even in urban or city areas. Chickens can be an absolute joy to have, and can manage well in urban environments as long as they have adequate housing.

Raising chickens, whether for the purpose of producing eggs, or just for companionship, may not be what one would expect. Here are a few things to know and consider before getting chickens.

Many believe that you must have a rooster to produce eggs. This isn't true. A hen will lay eggs without a male, they just will not be fertilized.

There are typically rules and ordinances in place for chickens within city limits. For instance, in the city limits of New Albany, hens are allowed,

with certain enclosure requirements. However, roosters are not allowed at all.

This can become a problem because when baby chickens are bought it is usually very hard to identify gender, even for experts. If you were to mistakenly get a rooster, what would your plan be to rehome it?

Another aspect that will need to be considered is that many animals will prey on chickens. Chickens will draw in raccoons, coyotes, hawks, and many more. While you may think your cage is sufficient for protection for your chickens, you may quickly realize that predatory animals are rather crafty in finding ways to get food.

Even if the animals can not access your chickens, it may draw them to the area more, thus leading to



tipped over trash cans and taking up residence on your property. Many also think that having their own egg producing chickens will save on money. If you factor in the cost of bedding, enclosure, food, and vet care you will be paying well over \$2 for a dozen eggs.

Chickens can be a lot of fun and do have some benefits such as eggs, meat, and eating mosquitoes. Please do plenty of research on what it really means to care for a chicken before you buy.

Meet the Staff:

Animal Care Supervisor, Amber

Meet Amber Ford, one of our Animal Care Supervisors! Amber can be found all around the shelter throughout the day. She is cross-trained to work the front desk and clean and care for the animals, as well as lead the staff and volunteers. She has been part of the Shelter family for nearly 9 years.

When Amber isn't at work, she spends her time with her husband of 13 years, Keith, and their fur babies. They have 2 dogs, 1 cat, and several other small animals. Peanut the border collie, Lollipop the Shih Tzu, and Domino the cat are all rescue pets. This is low compared to normal!

The two of them can frequently be found hunting

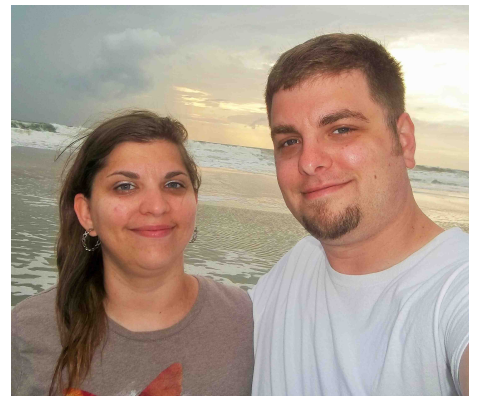
for bargains at yard sales, flea markets, and discount stores. Amber is always looking to grow her Stitch (from Lilo & Stitch) collection! She has everything from stuffed animals to earrings to a Stitch doorbell - nearly 100 items! She also really enjoys the show, The Walking Dead, and all things zombie.

They also enjoy hiking and nature. There are many festivals and community events that she and Keith attend as well.

Amber has a strong connection to saving puppy mill dogs and giving them a new lease on life. Lollipop is actually from one of the rescues the shelter has done. Her love of Stitch also

reflects this characteristic about her. Stitch was only a number, until he was adopted and found his home, just like puppymill dogs!

The Shelter is very lucky to have someone as dedicated and passionate as Amber as part of our family. We look forward to many more years with Amber and her love for animals!



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!

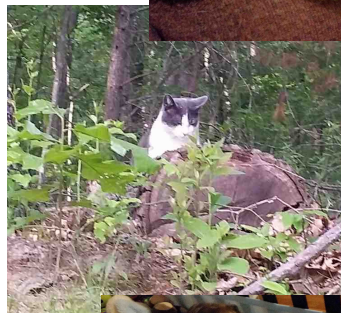
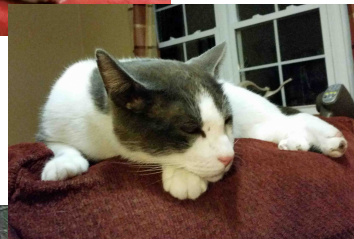
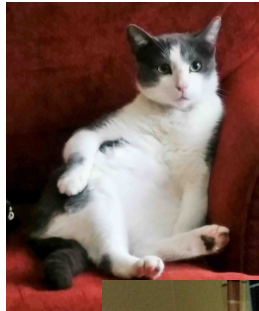
Happy Tails: Jasper

Jasper is a handsome young boy that was adopted this winter after his family decided to no longer allow him inside.

He now lives a very comfortable life as an indoor/outdoor cat. He enjoys laying around next to you. He doesn't even mind knocking things off the nightstand to make sure he is close! He loves the children in the home as well as tolerates the active dogs!

When he is outside during the day, he can be found on his "throne" (the fallen tree at the top of the hill) over looking the small critters below in the brush. He likes to present these critters to his new owners very often.

He is a cat that is so full of personality that you can't help but love him! His family is so lucky to have found a cat that fits so perfectly into their home.



SHELTER INFORMATION

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

Information Corner

County Council Members

Tom Picket
1st District County Council
(812)207-6529
tompicket1952@gmail.com

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"He doesn't pay the mortgage, but he owns the place."



"I'M STRICTLY A DOG PERSON. I LIKE PETS THAT SHOW AFFECTION."