



# New Albany Floyd County Animal Shelter News



www.nafcanimalshelter.org

February 2015

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## Classifieds 12 Strays



**Bentlee**  
DSH  
S. Female  
1.5 years old

I just want someone to love me forever! I am sweet, but i get a little antsy when there is a lot going on. I like things calm. Please be mine for free!



**Elsa**  
DSH  
S. Female  
9 months

I so much want a new friend for Valentines day! I love to run around and play, and of course cuddle! I am free to a good home thanks to a great sponsor!

## Spay Now or Stay Stupid!



Spring is almost upon us and we can't wait! However, that also means we are only 6 weeks away from kitten season.

Kitten season is the time of year where thousands of cats and kittens begin flooding shelters nationwide. There are many cats and kittens already without homes, lets not add to the problem of overpopulation!

Other than assisting with pet over population, there are so many reasons to get your pet altered. Animals that are fixed are less likely to have health issues such as testicular, uterine, or breast cancer. It can also help with some behavior problems - marking, aggression, territorial issues, escaping, etc.

On February

17, our spay/neuter transport will resume with our annual "Spay Now or Stay Stupid" program, thanks to the generosity of the Elks Lodge #270. On the 17th, we will be altering 40 cats for free, as well as 10 dogs for qualifying families. Rabies vaccination and license fees not included.

If you miss this clinic, or are not eligible for it, we will be holding our low cost SNIP Clinic transport on the third Tuesday of every month starting in March.

Please contact or visit us with any questions or to sign up. Pre-registration is always required and it must be paid for ahead of time in cash to reserve your spot.

There is no reason to contribute to pet overpopulation and euthanasia in shelters, Have your pet fixed. There are programs to help, it is stupid not to!

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# Brush those Teeth!

Tell the truth: When was the last time you gave any thought to your pet's dental health? If it's been a while—or maybe never—you're not alone. Studies reveal that about two-thirds of pet owners do not provide the dental care recommended by their veterinarians.

That's a big mistake. Even though pets don't often get cavities, they are susceptible to periodontal or gum disease, which is the number one illness found in both dogs and cats. That's why it's so important that pet lovers include dental hygiene in their animals' health and wellness routine.

Just like with people, dental disease can lead to all sorts of major health issues for animals. Dental hygiene is as important to your pets' overall health as nutrition and exercise. Gum inflammation and tooth loss can be very painful to your animals and costly to treat, but they also can lead to more serious conditions, including damage to the heart, lungs and kidneys.

Estimates suggest that, by the time they are three years old, 80% of dogs and 70% of cats have oral disease. Some of the most common symptoms in both dogs and cats include yellow and brown build-up of tartar along the gum line; inflamed gums; and persistent bad breath. A change in eating habits or pawing at the mouth can also indicate dental disease.

But since dental problems often develop gradually, it's easy to miss the signs until there is a bad infection. That's



why it's critical to schedule a regular annual dental check-up with your pet's veterinarian.

Below is more information you need to know to help you prevent your beloved dog or cat from getting dental disease and add years to their life.

It's important to brush your pet's teeth as early as possible. The best time to start a tooth-brushing regimen is when their adult teeth are in, at about 6-9 months old. But getting puppies and kittens used to the process earlier is important.

Avoid dental products containing Xylitol, as it is highly toxic to dogs and questionable to cats. NEVER use human toothpaste to clean pets' teeth and gums.

Poor dental hygiene can lead to dental disease. Dental disease is caused by bacteria in the mouth and can result in oral

pain, halitosis, tooth loss and periodontal disease, and it can even affect the heart, kidneys, intestinal tract and joints. Also, a pet in dental pain is not a happy pet, and the pain can affect his/her ability to eat.

Retained baby teeth can cause problems in pets too! Did you know that full grown dogs have 42 teeth and full grown cats have 30 teeth? Before their adult teeth grow in, though, their baby teeth have to fall out. Sometimes, not all of the baby teeth want to come out. This can lead to problems like gum irritation and tartar buildup.

During a dental exam at your local Pet Health Center, veterinarians will determine the status of your pet's dental needs. If your pet needs more advanced dental care, your veterinarian will recommend the treatments needed and the approximate costs involved.

# Humane Lobby Day

Humane Lobby Day is a national trend revolving around humane legislation. Each state has a selected day where advocates for humane animal welfare come together to educate their officials about humane legislation. Senators and Representatives want to know how their constituents feel about changes that could affect their communities.

This year, Indiana's Humane Lobby Day was February 3rd. Two representatives from the Shelter attended to talk with their legislators.

While it isn't the



worst state, Indiana does have room for improvement when it comes to animal welfare legislation. There are very little regulations pertaining to puppy mills, dog fighting spectators, canned hunting, spay and neuters, etc.

Many of these issues have been addressed before. Some have made it further in the law making process than others. Some bills we stand behind, while others we will discourage.

This year, House Bill 1175, the Companion Animal Sterilization Program, has finally received a hearing! This is a huge step. For the past 5 years, the language of this bill has been under development. ASPCA is supporting this bill

This bill, if made into law, would make it mandatory for any adoption agency, whether private or municipal, to have all pets spayed or neutered prior to going up for adoption.

A bill being

introduced again this year would make it a felony offense to be a spectator at a dog fight. The bill has been introduced to state officials for the last several years, but every year is defeated. Currently, in Indiana it is only a misdemeanor to be a spectator at a dog fight.

Another bill being proposed would ban canned hunting facilities. These facilities are used for hunting animals that are in a caged area and are there solely for the purpose of hunting. It would also ban drone and internet hunting.

We hope this bill makes it further and will become law. You can help by contacting your local government officials and letting them know how you feel. Remember to keep it pleasant, short, and to the point.

Please go to our website for more info on the bills and how to help. We will continue to work together to help strengthen the animal welfare laws in Indiana!

## Meet the Staff:

### David Hall, Director

David Hall, Director of the New Albany Animal Shelter is a generous and dedicated man with many years of experience in the animal sheltering field.

He has been the director of the shelter for the past 13 years. Prior to working here, he worked at other shelters for over 25 years! He has helped develop programs to make our shelter what it is today.

Mr. Hall has a degree in Psychology from the University of Louisville. Prior to

obtaining his degree, he was enlisted in the United States Army.

Outside of work at the Shelter, Mr. Hall enjoys going to flea markets and shopping for antiques. He spends much of his time working at his farm with his wife and pets. He is also trying to get his large train collection set up again in the little free time he has.

Over the years, Mr. Hall has been honored and praised for many things. He has been honored by the Humane Society of the United States,

Congressmen, and many more for his efforts involving Hurricane Katrina and other emergency response situations.

It is a great privilege to have him as our Shelter Director and leading us as we strive to be the best that we can.



## February Dates to Remember

February 12th, 4:30PM - Animal Control Authority Board Meeting

February 17th - Spay Now or Stay Stupid!

February 26th - 28th - Closed for Remodel

March 5th, 6:00PM - February Volunteer Orientation



# 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!

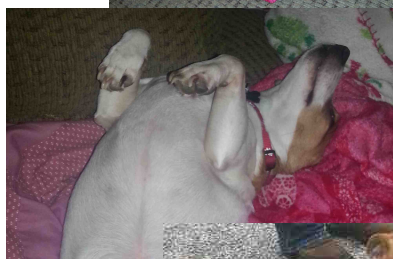
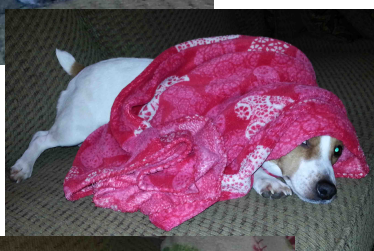
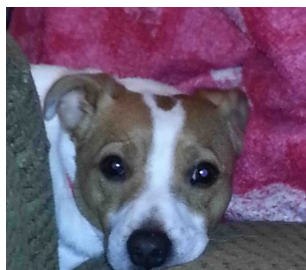
## Happy Tails: Spanky

Spanky is a adorable Jack Russell Terrier that has had a rough life. He has been at the shelter several times over the years because the owners decided they no longer wanted to care for him. At our Dog Days at the Drive in last year, he finally found his perfect match.

The last time he came to the shelter, he was pretty skinny. His owner now says he is "fat, sassy, and rotten to the core". As you can see by the pictures, he obviously loves his blanket.

It took him a little bit of time to fully trust his new family, but he now knows he has it good. The owner says he never will have to worry about not having a home.

Please send your happy tails story to us along with pictures to help spread the word of adoption!



### 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

Shelter Fix Up

Beginning the last week of February, the shelter will be preparing for some updates.

The shelter will be getting new floors and some paint! To prepare, there will be a lot of moving furniture and animals, as well as taking up tiles.

We will be closed February 26th - the 28th as the floors are being laid and are drying.

Don't worry! Animals will still be taken care of offsite. We may need a few fosters, too!

If you are interested in fostering or volunteering to help move furniture and lift floors, please contact us. (812)948-5355.



"I DON'T CARE IF THE NEW MAILMAN IS TOO FAST FOR YOU. JUST PUT THE MAILBOX BACK WHERE IT BELONGS."

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GOOD DENTAL HYGIENE IS IMPORTANT FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY ... BUT FLOSSING YOUR CAT WAS PROBABLY A BAD IDEA.

