



New Albany Floyd County Animal Shelter News



www.nafcanimalshelter.org

March 2015

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Classifieds



Henrietta
DSH
S. Female
2.5 years old

I am a sweet girl, but I don't like when other cats get in my space. I also like some outside time. I'll dart out to get it if needed! Visit me at the Shelter today - I have been here so long!



Gus
Hound X
N. Male
2 years

I am a very active boy that likes to play with bigger dogs. My momma didn't teach me any manners so I'll need a little training. I will pay for it with love!

Let's Learn About Dog Safety!

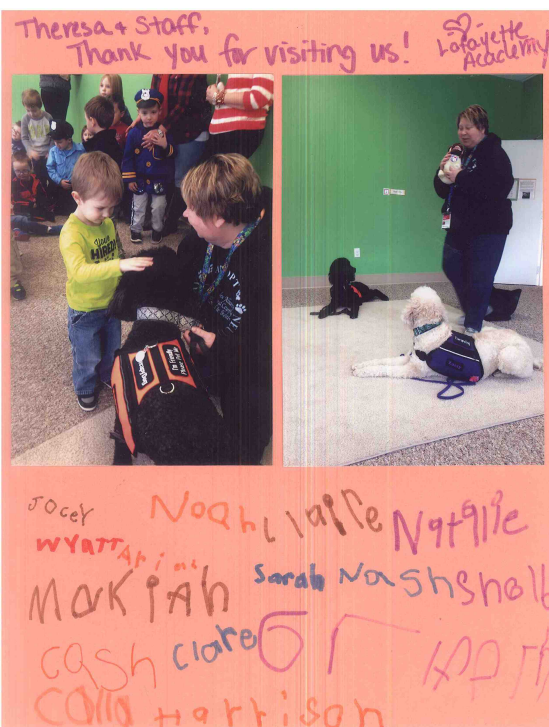
The Shelter does so much more than adopting and sheltering animals and providing animal control services. We also educate the public on pet safety and responsibility.

It is so crucial to start this education early. Children are fascinated by animals and have a natural curiosity about them. This can lead to trouble if the child does not know what to do in situations that may arise with stray animals, or even animals that are with their owners.

To help educate and demonstrate to children, we now have a Dog Safety Program. This program is taught by Zazzy and Zinga and their handler, Theresa. Both dogs are great registered therapy dogs and are perfect for teaching kids to meet dogs appropriately.

Children also need to know what to do if they are approached by an aggressive animal. The wrong actions can make this situation much worse!

The Dog Safety program is geared for preschool and elementary school aged children. It can be tailored more specifically based on age though. The



class is roughly 30 minutes long.

If you are interested in setting up a program for your organization, please call us at (812)948-5355. There is no fee for this program, as the childrens safety and knowledge are much more important. Donations of any kind to the shelter are always welcome though!

The future of humane animal treatment and safety depends on our children. Let's give them the knowledge they need to make better and safer choices when it comes to animals.

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Spring Clean Safety

For many people, the start of the spring season goes hand in hand with a new beginning. Not only is the world outside shedding its winter skin and slowly budding new flowers and plants, but the spring is also a great time in our personal lives to do out with the old and in with the new. In fact, it is with this idea in mind that many people across the country will soon be knee deep in spring cleaning.

The idea behind spring cleaning often begins with our wardrobes; people packing up their old, worn out winter clothing in exchange for new, bright spring clothes to welcome in the start of another season. However, this idea of starting fresh also translates well into our own homes, and many people now use the start of the spring season as a time to get rid of old junk, clean up their yards and get ready for many warm months spent outside.

However, while you are sprucing up your yard for the months of sunshine ahead or cleaning your house from top to bottom, make sure that you are also keeping your pets in mind. Many cleaning products can be dangerous for

pets, and even yard supplies and plant food can be harmful to your pet if ingested.

In order to ensure that you are keeping your home clean and healthy for everyone this spring, here are five cleaning and home safety tips for pet owners to keep in mind this spring:

Be sure to use healthy cleaners. If your bathrooms, kitchen or floor tiles need a proper scrub down this season, make sure you are not using any toxic cleaning supplies that include bleach or ammonia. Instead, use a non-toxic disinfectant that is pet friendly, or make your own solution with vinegar and rubbing alcohol.

Remember that risk varies by type of animal. Not all cleaning supplies are equal to different types of animals. For instance, birds may be more sensitive to cleaning products than dogs or cats. This is because they have a unique respiratory anatomy that is extra sensitive to fragrances and aerosolized chemicals. Double check with your vet if you are unsure about a certain product.

Keep pets away from rooms being cleaned. Always be sure that your pets (and young children too, for that matter) are well out of the area of cleaning until the room is well ventilated and any wet surfaces have dried.

Always read the labels. While a cleaning product may appear to be

pet-friendly or may use encouraging words like "green" or "all-natural," always double check the label for any risks to you or your pets. Key words to look for include "danger" and "warning," as these words typically indicate products with higher toxicity levels or potent ingredients.

Clean your pets environment too. You are not the only one who likes to live in a clean space. Your pet also wants a clean, squeaky home! Therefore, clean your pet's cage and bed just as often as you would clean your own room. However, always be sure to use non-scented detergent or cleaners when washing your pet's things. This will help to prevent irritating your pet's skin.

Use caution when cleaning up your yard. Many fertilizers and bug sprays can be hazardous to pets, especially when wet. Be sure to read labels about pet safety and how long to have the animals should avoid the area.

After all the snow has melted, please be sure to clean up your dogs bathroom area. There may be more there then you realize.

While you are cutting, pruning, and trimming your plants, make sure the animals are not in the area if using cutting equipment that might throw twigs and branches. Also, pick up any that you cut off to avoid any issues if your animal decides to eat it.

The weather is getting warmer so get out and enjoy it, just make sure you do it safely with animal friends!



Not Just for Easter

Everyone loves the cute little chicks and the fluffy little bunnies found at pet stores and farm stores. What little kid wouldn't want one for Easter?

It is so important that parents understand that the purchase of any of these "Easter Babies" is a purchase of a pet.

Many believe that these animals are easy and cheap to care for. They also don't think about the lifespan of



said animal.

A rabbit can live 10 years pretty easily. The expense to care for them properly can also be several hundred yearly when you factor in bedding, food, toys, treats, and a proper size cage.

Rabbits are surrendered to shelters commonly because the children have lost interest, allergies, or because the family does not have time or money for it.

Many also believe that rabbits can be released into the wild if they are no longer wanted. This is not true. A domesticated rabbit will not have the skills it needs to survive.

Chicks and ducklings are very adorable. They need so much more than

just some grassy area and a baby pool.

When ducks and chickens grow up, they can become very messy. They will also learn to fly. This makes containment much harder.

Certain areas also have ordinances that prohibit certain types of animals, such as roosters. This becomes a problem because when chicks are purchased from a farm store, typically the gender is unknown. Roosters can be very hard to rehome. If you do get a chick that grows into a rooster, you will need a plan for rehoming.

Please do your research before buying a pet for Easter. There is more to it than providing food, water, and shelter.

Meet the Staff:

Animal Care Coordinator , Theresa

Theresa is our Animal Care Coordinator and a Registered Veterinarian Technician. She has been with the Shelter for over 12 years.

Theresa has an associates in Veterinarian Technology from Perdue. Prior to working at the Shelter, she has worked at veterinarian clinics, grooming facilities, was a stay at home mom and a substitute teacher.

Theresa has attended dozens of conferences over the years and brought back ideas and information that helps us stay on the leading edge of Animal Sheltering.

She has been very instrumental in the changes the shelter has made in regards to spay/neuter programs, cleaning protocols, and animal health and

behavior modifications that the Shelter has instituted over the years.

Theresa also teaches the dog training class that is offered for adopters and the public. She has been training dogs for over 25 years.

When Theresa isn't at work, you can easily find her with her dogs at a dog show, dog park, or training class. She also attends many of the games her son participates in.

When she isn't working with the dogs she enjoys a good book, movie, or tv series. Some of her favorites include the authors James Patterson and David Eddings.

Many of her dogs, you may have already read about in the "Resident Shelter Pet" articles. She has 7 dogs, 3 cats,

and several chickens as well.

She also has children that are not furry! She has a son in medical school, a daughter in veterinary school, and son that is a senior in highschool!

We are very lucky to have Theresa on staff to make the shelter a better place and more enjoyable for the animals in our care.



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:Luna

Luna, once known as Berkley, was adopted in 2011 when he was only about 7 months old.

After the death of his other cat, Luna's adopter came to find a new friend. After seeing Luna, she knew that she was the one and had no need to look at others.

Over the years, Luna has been given the nickname "Lunatic" for her crazy antics. She also has a new kitty friend that she treats like a little brother.

Luna has done so much for her new family. She has help through so many moments of greif. She comforted her owner and never left her side during many hard times.

Her owner says she is the lucky one to have Luna, but Luna probably thinks it goes the other way around.

Send us your happy tails stories and pictures!



NAFC ANIMAL SHELTER INFORMATION

Hours:

Monday - Friday

9:00-4:30PM

Saturday

11:00-2:30

Adoption Prices:

Cats over 4lbs - \$20

Cats under 4lbs - \$60

Dogs - \$80

Information Corner

Remodel Update

Our remodel is well on its way to completion! Hopefully, not much longer until it is completed!

The floors are down and look fantastic. It really enhances the look of the shelter!

The painting is in the process of being completed. There were a few delays that we ran into, but we hope that it will be completed without any other unexpected occurrences.

More pictures to come in the next issue of the newsletter!

