



# NAFC Animal Shelter News

www.nafcanimalshelter.org

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## Classifieds



Noel  
Lab Mix  
5 years old  
Female

I am an energetic girl looking for an active and experienced pet owner who is looking for some fun. I may be a little older but I am young at heart. Give me a chance!



Bandit  
DSH  
8 Months Old  
Male

Been looking for so long. Wants to find someone who will stand beside me. Having grown up in the Shelter, I am more then ready for a forever home with a family.



## K9 Training Class

The Shelter will begin a new session of dog training classes on April 15, 2012.

Animal Care Coordinator, Theresa Stilger, has been teaching classes for the past 20 years. She also performs behavior assessments on dogs at the shelter.

Our obedience classes offer beginning obedience and manners. In each session, students also get an introduction to agility, K9 massage, and K9 first aid.

Sessions are held at Hillside Veternarian Clinic in Floyds Knobs at 6:00PM on Sunday nights. Each Session is eight weeks long. Dogs adopted from the

Shelter may attend for \$20. Those not adopted through our shelter may attend for \$65.

Older children are encouraged to come with their parents to learn how to work with their dogs also.

Limited spots are available and will fill up quickly. Paperwork for the classes may be printed off our website or picked up at the Shelter.

To reserve your dog's spot, bring completed paperwork and fees to the shelter.

Paws Up to Hillside Veterinary Clinic for allowing us to use their training room!

# Dogs from around the U.S.



The shelter has recently assisted in both a hoarding and a puppy mill situation. All of these dogs are making great progress in

their rehabilitation.

The adjustment to regular dog life can be rather difficult. However, for these dogs, it is going very well, though many from Mississippi are still being treated for medical issues. Some that have been placed up for adoption already are still patiently waiting for their new homes.

We had an incredible response to the small dogs retrieved from a puppy mill. We had calls and

emails from all over the United States. Luckily, all of these dogs have been adopted!

We have high expectations for these little dogs. In their time here with us, they have made such great progress towards becoming true family dogs. We would love to hear back from those adopters on their progress as they adjust to a normal dog's life. You can email us your happy tails to us at [nafcanimalshelter@yahoo.com](mailto:nafcanimalshelter@yahoo.com)

## Top 10 Reasons to Adopt an Older Dog

### 1. LOYALTY, LOYALTY, LOYALTY!

Chances are good that by adopting a senior mutt, you have rescued a wonderful, loving canine from an untimely, unfortunate and unwarranted death. A senior mutt can sense that he or she was saved and will be eternally loyal to his or her new "forever" family.

### 2. EASE OF GUARDIANSHIP

Senior mutts are mellow, relaxed and ready for a new home. They are past the puppy chewing and destruction stage and usually come with basic training. Most senior mutts are happiest sitting at your feet or curled up in their bed next to yours.

### 3. NO HUGE LIFESTYLE CHANGE

You don't need to worry about puppy proofing your house and constant training. ("No! Drop it! Not yours!") And older dogs let you get a good night's sleep!

### 4. STRESS RELIEVER

Life today can be very hectic. Studies have shown that animal companionship can decrease blood

pressure levels and reduce stress. Senior mutts enjoy leisurely walks, which will encourage you to exercise for even a few minutes on your busiest days.

### 5. WYSIWYG ("WHAT YOU SEE IS WHAT YOU GET.")

Senior mutts are full grown and their personalities are completely developed. When you meet with your senior dog, you will know what kind of wonderful, loving canine he or she is and will always be.

### 6. DOGGIE WISDOM

Senior canines have learned many of life's lessons. Most know, for example, that shoes are for walking and bones are for chewing.

### 7. CALM, COOL & COLLECTED

Most senior dogs do not demand the time and attention that a younger dog does and are satisfied with casual walks and cuddling. Many senior mutts snooze the day away inside while you are busy at work and are

waiting calmly at the door for you when you return home.

### 8. OLD DOG, NEW TRICKS

Senior dogs can learn new tricks and be valuable family and community members. They also make excellent therapy dogs.

### 9. COMPANIONSHIP FOR ALL

Senior dogs make wonderful companions for everyone, especially

"There are three senior people and busy professionals. An old wife, an old dog and ready money."

~ Benjamin Franklin

Senior dogs are often the first to be euthanized in area shelters. Passed over for cute and cuddly puppies, they often have little chance to be adopted.

We currently have many older dogs for adoption who would love to show you how great an older dog can be! Please come see them at the Shelter.

# Operation P.E.A.C.E.

## Place Every Adoptable Creature Encountered

Once an animal has met the shelter's criteria for adoptability, all resources will be used to maintain the animal's health and behavior until it's placed in a forever home.

### **No adoptable animal will be euthanized solely due to space.**

Everyday, we are asked at the Shelter if we are "No-Kill". This term may be defined differently by many people. Many believe that "No-Kill" means that nothing is ever euthanized for any reason

Many shelters that claim to be "No-Kill" can claim this because they have the ability to turn down intakes of unhealthy and unfriendly animals. They also use this term when they are only euthanizing animals classified as unadoptable. The NAFC Animal Shelter, as a municipal Shelter, does not provide limited intakes for our community. We are obligated to take in any dog or cat from a county resident with proper ID. This includes the sick, injured, aggressive, and feral animals. For the public's safety, we cannot adopt out

these animals. We also offer owner requested euthanasia, making it impossible for us to be "No-Kill" according to some definitions of the word.

We have developed and accepted the Operation P.E.A.C.E. initiative here at the NAFC Shelter. Our policy is to evaluate every animal that comes into the Shelter by temperament and overall health. If the animal passes these assessments, we can place it up for adoption. Once on the adoptable floor, the animal will stay until he or she is adopted as long as their health and behavior maintain stable and treatable.

Our Shelter has a newly placed Adoption Guarantee Program for people who wish to have their pet evaluated for adoptability and

maintain the right to reclaim the animal. With this program, a fee can be paid by the pet's owner for an evaluation with the Animal Care Coordinator. The owner can then decide to do the program where we will hold the animal on the adoptable floor for 12 days. If the animal does not get adopted, the owner has the right to decide whether to continue, take the animal back, or sign the animal over. Fees vary based on the animal's vaccination and spay/neuter status.

We encourage other shelters to accept the Operation P.E.A.C.E. initiative and give adoptable animals a fighting chance at finding their forever homes, rather than putting a timeline on them.

## Stray or Feral – Cats Living on the Wild Side



Feral cats are the "untamed" or "wild" offspring of domestic cats and are primarily the result of a pet owner's abandonment or failure to spay and neuter their animals, allowing them to breed uncontrolled. Feral cat "colonies" can be found behind shopping areas or businesses,

in alleys, parks, apartment homes, abandoned buildings, and rural areas. Feral cats are elusive and do not trust humans.

Many people assume when they abandon these animals that the animals will survive with no problem. Contrary to this popular belief, domestic animals do not automatically return to their "natural" instincts and cannot fend for themselves! The alternative for almost every stray is a violent end or slow, painful death. Many abandoned animals or "throwaways" die everyday from starvation, disease, and abuse --- or as food to a predator.

One pair of unaltered cats, which can have

two or more litters every year, can produce 420,000 offspring over a seven-year period!

Feeding feral or stray cats may draw more cats and wildlife to feed as well. As the law sees it, anyone who feeds stray or feral cats for an extended period of time is considered the owner and can be held accountable for the animal's welfare, which includes vaccinations, feeding, and if any bites or complaints occur.

At the Shelter, we strive to help where we can. Call us if you need assistance in catching feral or stray cats. You may also contact the Floyd County Animal Rescue League for assistance in spaying and neutering. (812)949-9099

# Need your Pet Spayed or Neutered? We can help!

Once a 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: Molly

Those who visit the shelter, may recognize this little girl. While she was here, her name was "Little Dog". When she came to the shelter as a stray, we thought she was pregnant and about to pop! We sent her to foster care only to find out she was just extremely overweight. She visited the shelter very regularly during her time in foster care while we tried to get some weight off of her.

Even though Molly is a little older, her family took a chance on her and they couldn't be happier to have taken that chance! She is now in a very happy home getting all the love she ever wanted. Spoiled as can be with all her sweaters and toys, both Molly, and her new family, won in this adoption.

Email us your  
Happy Tails at  
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

Beat the Heat

The only surefire way to prevent a litter, is to have your cats and dogs spayed or neutered. Here are some facts about cats and breeding:

- Once a cat enters into heat, she will not come out of it until she has been bred.
- A nursing mother can get pregnant.
- Kittens as young as 4 months can get pregnant.
- A female cat can get pregnant by more than one male each litter.
- A pair of unaltered cats and their offspring can produce over 420,000 cats in seven years.

We already fixed 35 cats with our Spay Now or Stay Stupid Event and we can help you get your dogs and cats altered too! Just come sign up!

**off the mark** by Mark Parisi  
www.offthemark.com

