

Paw Prints

Spring 2019

"To speak for those who cannot speak for themselves"



Henry County Humane Society Annual Meeting

Tuesday – April 23, 2019 – 7:00 p.m.

**At the New Castle-Henry County
Animal Shelter**



Please clip this ballot and mail to,



**Henry County Humane Society
11 Midway Drive
New Castle, IN 47362**



THREE SEATS ARE UP FOR ELECTION
Please Select Three

☐ *Brandy Patton*

☐ *Ric McCorkle*

☐ *Lisa O'Brien*

**You must be a member in good
standing in order to vote.**

Write in



Happy Tails



Jean Woodward spends some quality time with a couple of little guys during her weekly visit to exercise every dog at the shelter.

Bluto and Keno are having fun in Petey's Playhouse



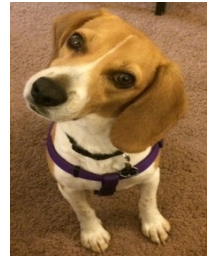
Miss Beth and her kindergarten class came for their annual visit. They learned about bite prevention and how Vets take care of pets.

Christmas brought many blessing to our animals. Pictured below are just a few of the many people that brought in loads of food, treats and toys during this blessed season. THANK YOU! ❤️





Words of Wisdom from Dr. Williams



Feline Leukemia Virus (FeLV): Persistence is Key

Feline Leukemia Virus (FeLV) is a relatively uncommon, but important cause of persistent illness in cats. Prevalence is 1 to 3% in the healthy cat population. Infection is caused by a single-stranded, enveloped RNA retrovirus. The viral genetic material integrates into the host's DNA, making the virus difficult to eliminate. Close contact is required to pass FeLV from cat to cat. The virus is spread transplacentally (passed from infected mom to kittens during pregnancy) and through the exchange of bodily secretions such as urine, feces, saliva, tears, and milk. Kittens less than 16 weeks of age and immunocompromised (ill or aged) cats are highly susceptible to infection by FeLV.

Infection manifests in two different forms: transient and persistent. In transient infections the virus circulates in the host's blood for up to 3 months and is eventually eliminated by the host's immune system. Persistently infected cats shed the virus in bodily secretions while the virus replicates in the host's immune cells. These cats can live normal, healthy lives for several years following diagnosis; however their lifespan may be shortened by the virus. Most organ systems can be affected by FeLV infection. Clinical syndromes (illnesses that may occur in persistently infected cats) include chronic/severe infectious diseases (bacterial, fungal, protozoal), immunosuppression, anemia, lethargy, weakness, and lymphoma.

FeLV testing is performed on a blood sample collected from a cat; often these tests are run in a veterinary office and return results in 10 minutes. Every cat should be tested for FeLV at some point in its life, especially a cat who is persistently ill or a cat who has recently been exposed to strange cats. A diagnosis of FeLV is not a terminal diagnosis. Keeping an FeLV-positive cat healthy requires routine veterinary care; this means annual or semi-annual wellness exams, maintaining vaccines (Rabies and FVRCP), prophylactic dental care, and monthly preventative administration to protect against external and intestinal parasites. Non-routine veterinary care is equally as important; prompt medical attention when an infected cat exhibits signs of illness is key to identifying the illness and starting treatment. Annual FeLV testing for other, non-infected cats in the household is recommended. Currently there is Feline leukemia vaccine available for non-infected cats, which requires annual boosters. An FeLV-infected cat is not impossible to manage, but does require vigilance, patience, and love to keep him or her as healthy as possible for as long as possible.



Training Tips from Tina



The difference between Service Dogs, Therapy Dogs, and Emotional Support Dogs

There have been lots of stories in the news lately about service animals. There is also a lot of misinformation out there. And sadly, there are also a lot of people who try to take advantage of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) for their own gain. The worst part is that people who legitimately need service animals are suffering because of those dishonest people.

Service Dogs

Think of a Service Dog as a piece of medical equipment. Just a cute and fuzzy piece of medical equipment. Service Dogs assist their handlers and perform tasks for them that they cannot perform on their own. This can be acting as the person's eyes, ears, hands, and more. Service Dogs require extensive training that takes years and there are no shortcuts. And just a friendly reminder; never pet or distract a Service Dog at work!

Therapy Dogs

While Service Dogs are trained to work only for their handler, Therapy Dogs are encouraged to interact with everyone. Although they are often seen in hospitals and other public places, Therapy Dogs are not granted the same ADA rights as Service Dogs. But just because everyone likes your dog, and your dog likes everyone, doesn't necessarily mean they will make a good Therapy Dog. The Therapy Dog test has 13 components that include being reliable around medical equipment, not picking up food off of the floor, and accepting handling by strangers.

Emotional Support Dogs

An Emotional Support Animal's primary role is to provide emotional comfort to their handlers. Emotional Support Animals do not require any special training, but a letter from a Licensed mental Health Professional or Physician diagnosing a mental condition is required. Although many of us will say we feel happier and calmer when our dogs are present, that does not make them a Service Dog entitled to enter public buildings. Emotional Support Dogs are not allowed the same ADA rights as Service Dogs. Although, the HUD Fair Housing Act does allow for people to have Emotional Support Animals in housing that may have a no pets policy.

Regardless of what status any of these dogs have, all Service Dogs, Therapy Dogs and Emotional Support dogs are still subject to state and local animal control regulations. They also get to spend plenty of time just being regular, non-working dogs!



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