



News from the Animal Center

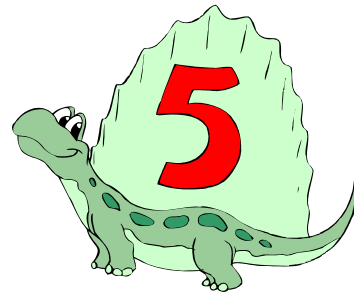
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The Animal Center's Online Newsletter, September 15, 2006

You are Invited!

Animal Center's Fifth Year Anniversary

Saturday, September 30th
11am-3pm at the Animal Center



Come and Enjoy:

- Discount Microchipping
- Cat and Dog Toenail Trims
- Prizes and Giveaways
- Food and Games for People
- Rescue Groups and their Adoptable Animals
- Professional Photographs by Karen Anderson
of Interesting Developments (www.interestingdevelopments.com)

...and much more!!!

Vet Recommended. Animal Approved.

The Animal Center is happy to announce that they are now feeding Hill's Science Diet to the dogs, puppies, cats, and kittens. During their shelter stay, the animals will benefit from the superior nutrition in Science Diet. When it's time for the animals to go home with their new families, the transition will be smoother by eliminating upset stomachs from a food switch. Consistency and quality is what it's all about!



Spring Cleaning in September?

Calling all gardeners and people who love animals! **This Saturday from 8am until 11:30am**, the Animal Center will be weeding and mulching our front gardens. Please bring your rakes, hoes, a friend, and other helpful items for this speedy cleaning session. When you arrive to pluck and prune, be sure to look up and see the eye-catching banners along the Animal Center's driveway. They're great!

After you sweat for the animals, be sure to step inside to enjoy some of the Animal Center's new features like soft music and colorful paint in the animal rooms. There are also new large comfortable benches in the outdoor exercise areas. If you have the time, pull up a chair (and a cat) and listen to the music or have a seat (with a dog) on an outdoor bench and admire the newly-weeded gardens. Whatever you decide to do, the animals and staff thank you for your time and support!

Calling All Scouts, Students, and Crafters!

The Animal Center's cats need you! Our kittens and cats are never happier than when they have toys, and their favorite toy is the Catnip Sock.

This is one of the most-needed donations always. Toys are an important tool for keeping shelter cats healthy and happy. They are easy and fun to make, and they bring hours of enjoyment (and then some super snoozing) for the feline residents and for the people who watch them. Making them is a snap:

Supplies:

- Clean children's sock
- Loose catnip (available at pet supply stores and discount super stores)
- Jingle bell, cotton balls, & permanent markers (optional)

Directions:

- Put a pinch (just a pinch!) of loose catnip in the toe of the sock
- Place a jingle bell and a few balls of cotton in the toe of the sock (optional step)
- Tie a knot in the sock so that the sock's contents won't spill out
- Decorate with permanent markers (optional)
- Bring to the Animal Center and give them to the cats
- Hilarity ensues

Can you help? Perhaps scout groups in your neighborhood want to have a Cat Toy Challenge—who can make the most toys in an evening? Maybe you are a retired crafter who prefers crafts that are quick, easy, and animal-friendly? Whoever you are, the Center's cats need you! For more information about tackling this craft challenge, contact Taylor Slemmer at tslemmer@knoxpets.org.

Turtles are People, Too.

Last week, a man was arrested by a Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency officer for selling red-eared slider turtles at the Green Acres Flea Market on Alcoa Highway in Blount County. The man was charged with ten counts of illegal possession of wildlife.

Selling and possessing live turtles is illegal in Tennessee. The law was written because turtles can carry salmonella, and there was a fear that turtles would transmit salmonella to people.

The turtles are receiving care at the Rainforest Adventures Discovery Zoo in Sevierville.

Selling exotic and domestic animals at flea markets is commonplace. Many of the Animal Center's small mammals (rabbits, guinea pigs) and even dogs and cats originally came from flea markets, yard sales, and even as free give-aways at grocery stores.

What's the lesson? Keep your eye out for our wildlife and don't get your pets from anyplace but the Center.

Hitching a Ride. Saving a Life.

With more than 16,000 animals receiving care at the Animal Center each year, we have had to get pretty creative in finding new ways to save lives. One of the Animal Center's strongest programs is the rescue program. Designed and implemented by Karen Lively, more than 150 shelters and rescue groups partner with the Animal Center to save hundreds of animals each year. Although most rescues are located in Tennessee and the surrounding states, Animal Center animals have been sent across the country, too!

When an Animal Center pet has a guaranteed home elsewhere, we jump at the chance to help. However, we are hoping that this time you can jump (or drive) at the chance to help one of our own.

Help is needed to transport a female Keeshond from Knoxville to a meeting place in Greenville, South Carolina or to her final destination in Asheville, North Carolina.

(Rescue transports are typically divided into several legs [predetermined starting and stopping places], and a transport coordinator works with individual volunteers to plan the most convenient legs.)

Transport Date Options: **Sunday, September 17**
 Monday, September 18
 Tuesday, September 19

Origination/Agency: **Knoxville, TN/Young-Williams Animal Center**
 (www.knoxpets.org)

Destination Options: **Greenville, SC**
 Asheville, NC

If you can help with this transport or would like to be put on a list of transport volunteers, please contact Karen Lively, karenr2482@aol.com.

Strut Your Stuff for the Animals

The Farragut Fall 5K Run, Fun Walk, and Pet Parade is **Saturday, September 23**. It begins at 8am at Mayor Bob Leonard Park on Watt Road in Farragut. Part of the proceeds will go to the Animal Center!

Mailed on online pre-registration is \$15, but you can register on race day for \$20. The 5K is for runners and joggers, and walkers with and without dogs are asked to participate in the fun walk.

If you bring your dog along be sure that it displays a current rabies tag, is leashed, and is friendly toward people and other animals. For more information about the event, visit <http://farragutchamber.com/>.

Be fit and help the animals at the same time. Fun!

We are Invited, and You are Invited

Join the Animal Center on **Sunday, October 8** from 3pm until 5pm at the United Methodist Church at 7234 Middlebrook Pike for the Blessing of the Animals. After the blessing, the Animal Center will be giving Pet-icure Toenail Trims for donations. There will be rescue friends there, activities for pets and people, food, and lots of fun. Come enjoy the afternoon!

Foster Parents Needed!

The Animal Center has several kitten foster parent positions open. Although this volunteer job does not require that you attend a volunteer orientation and training, foster families will work closely with the volunteer coordinator to prepare for this important job. Volunteers may foster single kittens, several kittens, a litter of kittens, or even a mother cat and her kittens. Time in foster care varies from two to eight weeks. When an animal's time in foster care has finished, they return to the Center for placement. We can't ever guarantee that a particular animal will be adopted, but the healthy and well-socialized fostered animals are very adoptable. For more information about fostering, contact Deonna Light, the Animal Center's volunteer coordinator, at dlight@knoxpets.org.

PayPal Makes Donating Easy!

Visit the Animal Center's website at www.knoxpets.org and notice the PayPal link. You can make a donation whether or not you have a PayPal membership. It's never been easier to give. Give it a try!

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