



News from the Animal Center

Welcome to News from the Animal Center, an online newsletter from the Knoxville-Knox County Animal Center.

NEW WEBSITE IS LAUNCHED

Welcome to our new website and our first edition of News from the Animal Center! A big thanks to Brad Connatser for volunteering his time and expertise to design our new look. I am pleased to report that our new site will be as easy-to-use and informative as our previous site, but the new format will permit us to make even more information available to you about animal sheltering, adoption, and care. We will continue to update our website three times each week with photos of our adoptable animals. This feature has proven itself to be an invaluable tool for finding permanent homes for our animals.

Please take a moment to subscribe to this online newsletter for Animal Center news, updates, and more. Again, welcome!

JANUARY IS "ADOPT-A-RESCUED-BIRD" MONTH

Please join the Animal Center, ASPCA and Petfinder.com in ringing in the new year with Adopt-a-Rescued Bird Month -- "Need a Tweetheart? Adopt a Rescued Bird."

While they may be short on hug-ability, the bonds between humans and birds can run deep. Some nuzzle your ear, while others call out "Gimme a kiss." A few of the larger parrots have even chosen their humans as their soul mates and directed their amorous attention across species lines!

Companionship is critical to birds. Especially if not kept in pairs or small flocks, human caregivers must step up and fill the bird's companionship needs. Meeting a bird's needs can range from relatively simple to complex depending on the bird type selected.





Be sure to check www.knoxpets.org and www.petfinder.com to adopt your next bird. Also check out one of our Pet Placement Partners, Tennessee Valley Exotic Bird Club/Rescue & Adoption at <http://www.kornet.org/tvebc/> to learn more about bird rescue and adoption.

Many birds are brought to animal shelters each year. This January, let a rescued bird fly into your heart.

COLD WEATHER TIPS

Although winter in East Tennessee has been quite warm, we have had a few cold days and nights. Now is the time to be sure you and your pets are ready for winter's onset.

Here are some tips:

-  The best way to protect your pet from the cold is to keep them indoors with the rest of the family.
-  Be sure to wipe your pet's feet when you come in from a walk to remove salt, antifreeze, and ice.
-  If your pet spends a lot of time outdoors, be sure to increase his food supply so he can maintain his body weight and a thick healthy coat.
-  Provide your pet with a sleeping area that is free from drafts.

See these websites for more information:

<http://www.asPCA.org/site/PageServer?pagename=coldweather>

<http://www.dogandkennel.com/news/pfizer01.shtml>

<http://horses.about.com/cs/wintercare/>

MICROCHIPPING COMES TO THE ANIMAL CENTER

















Microchips have proven to be a ticket home for stray animals that come into animal shelters and have saved many pets' lives. Last fall, the Animal Center was proud to add microchipping to the services we provide for adopted pets.

Many local veterinarians offer this service and may not require your pet to be a patient at their clinic. For more about this type of pet identification, see www.avidid.com.

PAWS FOR THE CAUSE

Although the Animal Center receives some governmental financial support, we rely on monetary and other donations to help us care for the thousands of animals we care for each year.

The Animal Center has an ongoing giving campaign called "Paws for the Cause". This wish list includes items we need to keep our animals comfortable as they wait to find permanent homes.

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|  bleach |  rubber gloves |
|  newspapers |  pet toys |
|  towels & blankets |  exotic bird & rabbit food |
|  wet & dry pet food |  medicine |
|  metal food bowls |  heating pads |
|  cat & dog treats |  special diet pet food |
|  dish detergent |  office supplies |
|  laundry detergent |  monetary donations |

...and more! The complete wish list is posted on our website.

JOIN THE PAC!

The next orientation for Animal Center volunteers (Pals of the Animal Center) will be Saturday, February 15, 2003, from 10am to noon at the John Tarleton Home (just up the hill from the Animal Center). Orientation dates are posted on our website as soon as they are scheduled. We do require that volunteers be at least 18 to volunteer, however, 16 and 17 year olds may volunteer with a parent or guardian.

STORY IDEAS?

If you have an idea for our online newsletter or our printed quarterly newsletter, "The Howl", please email the editor at jointhepac@yahoo.com.