

newsletter

MARCH 2025



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Reminders:

We are still scheduling appointments several weeks out for Dr. Olsen. Please call and schedule those appointments as soon as possible!



Celebrate with us!

- Poison Prevention Awareness Month
- Adopt A Rescued Guinea Pig Month
- 3/1 National Welsh Corgi Day
- 3/2 International Rescue Cat Day
- 3/3 Tripawd Awareness Day
- 3/8 International Akita Day
- 3/13 K9 Veterans Day
- 3/15 National Catio Day
- 3/16-22 National Animal Poison Prevention Week
- 3/20 National Westie Day
- 3/23 National Puppy Day
- 3/23 Cuddly Kitten Day
- 3/25 National Newfoundland Dog Day
- 3/27 National Terrier Day
- 3/28 Respect Your Cat Day

Did You Know?

Newfoundlands have a thick double coat to warm them in cold environments. They were originally bred as working dogs, primarily serving as rescue and service dogs on fisherman ships.

Newfoundlands also have a knack for water rescue! They have a natural inclination towards rescuing struggling or drowning people from water—and have been known to brave treacherous water and dangerous conditions to pull people to safety.

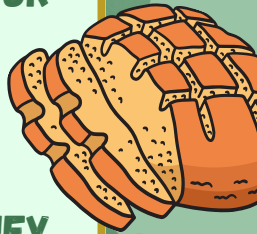


ST. PATRICK'S DAY PET SAFETY



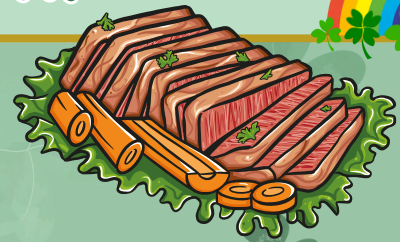
SAFETY TIPS

- AVOID BRINGING YOUR PET TO ANY CROWDED EVENTS, SUCH AS PARADES
- IF YOU ARE BRINGING YOUR PET, ENSURE YOU HAVE A SECURE LEASH, HARNESS, AND ID TAGS ON YOUR PET
- IF YOU ARE HAVING A PARTY, CONSIDER OFFERING YOUR PET A QUIET SPACE OR ROOM AWAY FROM ANY COMMOTION
- BE SURE GUESTS ARE MINDFUL OF YOUR PET, ENSURING YOUR GUESTS UNDERSTANDING IS KEY!
- PREPARE FOR LOUD NOISES/FIREWORKS
- SUPERVISE YOUR PET IF THEY ARE WEARING ANY ATTIRE OR ACCESSORIES FOR THE HOLIDAY



DECORATIONS

- KEEP DECORATIONS HIGH UP, SECURED WELL, AND OUT OF YOUR PETS REACH
- AVOID USING DECORATIONS THAT COULD POSE A CHOKING HAZARD OR EASILY CHEWED
- KEEP ANY SHAMROCKS OUT OF PETS REACH, THEY ARE TOXIC TO INGEST
- USE CAUTION WITH STRINGY DECORATIONS, CAN BE ENTICING TO CATS
- AVOID LEAVING YOUR PET IN AN UNATTENDED AREA WITH DECORATIONS



FOOD AND DRINKS

YOUR PET SHOULD NOT HAVE:

- BEER OR OTHER ALCOHOLIC DRINKS
- CORNED BEEF AND CABBAGE
- IRISH STEW
- IRISH SODA BREAD
- CHOCOLATE COINS OR OTHER CANDY

OTHER FOOD SAFETY TIPS:

- BE SURE TO KEEP ANY FOOD OR DRINKS OUT OF REACH FROM PETS
- DO NOT GIVE YOUR PET ANY SCRAPS/LEFTOVERS
- BE SURE TO DISPOSE OF SCRAPS IN A SECURE TRASH CAN, OR IN THE BIN OUTSIDE!
- LET YOUR GUESTS KNOW NOT TO GIVE YOUR PETS ANY SCRAPS

IF YOU ARE QUESTIONING WHETHER SOMETHING IS SAFE FOR YOUR PET TO CONSUME, ASPCA HAS A COMPREHENSIVE LIST OF POTENTIALLY TOXIC FOODS!



K9 VETERANS: MILITARY WORKING DOGS (MWD)

MWD ROLES:

- Explosives detection
- Search and rescue operations
- Patrol work
- Specialized tasks
 - detecting narcotics
 - tracking down adversaries
- And many more!



TRAINING:

- basic obedience
- bite work
- specialized commands
 - attack/release
 - a command for aggression control
 - explosive detection
 - narcotics detection
 - search and rescue
 - hand signals



The military utilizes small breeds to detect narcotics and explosives in small spaces, like narrow compartments on compact submarines, ships and aircraft carriers. The small breeds are bred in Europe and sent to the 341st Training Squadron at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas, for the MWD handlers to qualify the dogs for narcotics detection before they are deployed to military bases all over the world.



QUALIFICATIONS:

- Must be able to respond to commands in any environment
- Must be able to handle loud noises
- Must be able to handle their aggression and fear
- Must be eager and enthusiastic, but highly disciplined
- Canine troops have to graduate from the Military Working Dog Training Program to enter regular military service
- Must be healthy in mind and body

MWD FACTS:

- All MWDs and their handlers are trained at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, TX.
- Holmdel, New Jersey, is home to the United States War Dogs Memorial
- The earliest recorded use of canines in combat was around 600 B.C.
- The MWD Teams National Monument is at Lackland Air Force Base. It was founded by John Burnam, published author, Vietnam veteran infantryman and German Shepherd Scout Dog handler (1966-68).
- A research and development program has been established at Lackland Air Force Base to study improved body armor and gas masks for military working dogs.
- The Department of Defense MWD Veterinary Service is a subordinate unit of the Army Public Health Center that is responsible for health care for the approximately 900 dogs/puppies at Lackland Air Force Base. That team includes 14 veterinarians, 23 technicians, and six non-medical support personnel. They also teach handlers emergency skills to care for their canine counterparts during missions!



Canines Throughout History



SMOKY

Meet Smoky, she is the first documented therapy dog. She served in WWII.

Her service in this area began in July 1944 at the 233rd Station Hospital in New Guinea, where she accompanied nurses to see the incoming battlefield casualties. She also helped the soldiers, by fitting into spaces as small as 4 inches, this helped by saving soldiers time and efforts for certain tasks.

Smoky's work as a therapy dog continued for 12 years, during and after World War II.



SERGEANT STUBBY

Meet Sergeant Stubby, the stray dog who became a war hero in World War I. Stubby, named for his short tail, accomplished many feats during his service. He alerted soldiers to gas attacks on the front lines in France, helped capture a German spy, provided comfort and boosted morale for troops and wounded soldiers, and even helped locate injured men in the trenches. By the end of World War I, Stubby served in 17 battles. His bravery earned him several medals. Stubby even led troops in numerous parades and visited the White House twice to meet with presidents. Today, Stubby is remembered as the most decorated military animal in American history.



CHIPS

Meet Chips, a German Shepherd-collie-husky mix, who served in WWII as part of the K-9 Corps, bravely attacking an enemy machine gun team during the 1943 invasion of Sicily, and was awarded a Silver Star and Purple Heart.

The Army later revoked these awards, considering it demeaning to service members to give medals to animals. He was posthumously awarded the People's Dispensary for Sick Animals Dickin Medal in January 2018.



NEMO

Meet Nemo, GSD that served in the U.S. air force in the Vietnam war. He was on guard duty with his handler Robert Throneberg when he sensed enemies approaching and warned him. They were able to prepare for the fight, but unfortunately, both were shot. Nemo protected his handler until medics arrived and still needed persuasion to stand down so that his handler could get help. Nemo required skin grafts and a tracheotomy, and his right eye was removed due to the gunshot wound. On June 23, 1967, Air Force Headquarters directed that Nemo be returned to the United States with honors, as the first sentry dog to be officially retired from active service.



Frito Chip

9 yo, Mixed, M/N

Frito Chip is a 9-year-old, 80-pound dog with a calm, affectionate nature. Now thriving in a foster home, he's a loving companion who enjoys being close to his people. House-trained and crate-free, he likes lounging on a dog bed or couch and loves cuddling, often resting his head on your shoulder or placing a paw for reassurance. He gets along well with both big and small dogs and is friendly with strangers. While he hasn't met children, he shows excitement around their voices, suggesting past familiarity. He enjoys short walks, playing fetch, or relaxing indoors. He knows basic commands and thrives in a peaceful, loving home. His gentle demeanor sometimes carries a hint of sadness, seeking comfort in affection. He'd do best in a quiet home with plenty of snuggle time.

Wish Bone Canine Rescue



Feeling
LUCKY

Clay

3yo, Pit Mix, M/N

Hi there, I'm Clay! I'm a 3-year-old male pittie mix. I'm an active, sweet guy who loves making friends wherever I go. I love taking walks with a stuffie in my mouth, and I really enjoy running in the pens next to my friends.

My adoption fee is \$350.

Humane Society of Central Illinois

SHELTER DOGS *Of the month*



Koa

Adult, Pit Mix, M/N

Koa is a beautiful adult male pit bull that weighs around 62 lbs. He came to us after someone took a knife and cut up his shoulders. He had big gashed around his neck and the wounds were infested with maggots. All of that healed up well and then he needed FHO surgery. He is now recovering well from that! He is a sweet and quiet boy that would love to be back in a home, lounging on a couch. While he does get along with most other dogs, he is possessive of his food, so might do best as an only dog.

Ruby's Rescue and Retreat



IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN ADOPTING ANY PET FROM ANY RESCUE, ENSURE THAT ALL OF YOUR PETS ARE UP-TO-DATE ON VACCINES AND PREVENTATIVES. RESCUES CALL US TO CONFIRM THESE THINGS & WILL DENY YOU IF YOUR PETS ARE NOT CURRENT.

SHELTER CATS

Of the month

Feeling
LUCKY



Harriet

Adult, DSH, F/S

Have you been looking for a proper lady to add to your cat collection? If so, Harriet is the girl for you! Harriet can be a tiny bit sassy (I mean she is a calico afterall...), but that is because she knows what she wants and deserves. Harriet is a great cuddler, and she is so, so loving. Harriet came into our care with her friend Lillian. They are not bonded, but they both get along great with each other and with other cats.

Clover's Cat Club



Spatula

Adult, DSH, F/S

Meet Spatula, the one-year-old cat with a name as unique as her personality! She might be a bit shy at first, but once she warms up, she turns into a playful whirlwind. Spatula can keep herself entertained for hours, batting at imaginary foes and chasing her tail like a pro. If you're looking for a quirky, fun-loving companion who will surprise you with her antics, Spatula is your girl. Come meet her today and get ready for some laughs and lots of love!

Livingston County Humane Society



Sonny

Adult, DSH, M/N

Hi! My name is Sonny and I'm a 1-year-old male orange tabby shorthair. I'm a quiet guy who loves finding a sunny spot for a nap. My adoption fee is \$100.

Humane Society of Central Illinois

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