

IRHS and 4 Paws News

Serving King William, King &
Queen and Essex Counties

September 2017



A NOTE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

DOES YOUR DOG NEED A FLU SHOT?

I CALLED THE VETERINARY HOSPITAL TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT FOR JACKSON TO BE GROOMED. WE THOUGHT WE WERE CAUGHT UP ON ALL HIS SHOTS. WHEN THE LADY MAKING THE APPOINTMENT SAID HE NEEDED AN INFLUENZA SHOT. SHE THREW ME FOR A LOOP. THIS WAS THE FIRST I HAD HEARD THAT A DOG NEEDED A FLU SHOT. SHE SAID THAT IT IS REQUIRED AND IT COSTS ABOUT \$40.00.

AND HERE IS WHY:

THE VACCINE IS RECOMMENDED FOR DOGS MOST LIKELY TO BE EXPOSED TO THE HIGHLY CONTAGIOUS VIRUS—DOGS THAT FREQUENT DOG PARKS, DOG DAYCARE CENTERS, BOARDING KENNELS, TRAINING FACILITIES, VETERINARY CLINICS, DOG SHOWS AND GROOMERS.

THE VACCINE IS NOT 100 PERCENT EFFECTIVE, BUT VACCINATED DOGS THAT BECOME INFECTED ARE LESS LIKELY TO GET SEVERE SYMPTOMS AND ARE NOT AS CONTAGIOUS TO OTHER DOGS.

SYMPTOMS OF CANINE INFLUENZA INCLUDE COUGHING, SNEEZING, FEVER AND RUNNY NOSE. IT SPREADS YEAR-ROUND THROUGH DOG-TO-DOG CONTACT, SNEEZING ON FOOD, BOWLS, TOYS, CLOTHING OR ANYTHING CONTAMINATED BY AN INFECTED DOG'S MUCUS.

THE H3N8 (FLU) DOES NOT AFFECT PEOPLE, AND MOST DOGS FULLY RECOVER ON THEIR OWN WITHIN TWO DAYS, THOUGH SOME DEVELOPE PNEUMONIA THAT REQUIRES TREATMENT, ESPECIALLY OLDER DOGS AND PUPPIES.

SOME OF YOU MAY KNOW ABOUT THIS AND SOME LIKE MYSELF HAD NO IDEA.

SO PLEASE KEEP MAN'S BEST FRIEND SAFE. JACKSON NOW HAS HIS.

CONNIE

Visit Us At Our Upcoming Events

Transfer to Spay/Neuter –
Wednesday, September 13th,
RAS to Barron's

Tappahannock Farmers
Market – Saturday,
September 16th

IRHS Monthly Meeting –
Tuesday, September 19th,
6:30pm-8:00pm, King William
Ruritan Bldg., King William

West Point Crab Carnival –
Saturday, October 7th, Main
Street, West Point

Indian Rivers Humane Society
PO Box 264
Aylett, VA 23009
(804) 885-3109
www.indianrivershumane.org



4 Paws Thrift
801 Main Street
West Point, VA 23181
(804) 843-2902

Weds, Thurs & Fridays
10:00am - 5:00pm
Saturdays
10:00am – 3:00pm

ALL THINGS DOG

SEPARATION ANXIETY

As summer comes to an end and the kids go back to school, your dog may be affected. Changes in routine can cause separation anxiety.

Signs of Anxiety

Improper urination or defecation in the house.

Excessive barking or howling.

Excessive chewing or destructive behavior.

Ways to Reduce Anxiety

Set up a (new) routine. If you leave and return at the same time every day, your pet will adjust to the new rhythm of the household.

Set up designated play time they can look forward to.

Leave music on when you leave home.

Use puzzle feeders (half of their normal amount of food) or other toys to keep your dog mentally stimulated and engaged.

Leave them with a long-lasting treat to keep them occupied.



Exercise helps to reduce anxiety, so take your dog for a walk or a little play time in the morning before you leave. A tired dog is a good dog.



In severe cases, additional training or medications might be required. Talk to your vet about their behavior, and also make sure there is nothing physically impacting their behavior.

Anne



ALL THINGS CATS

Happy Cat Month

The arrival of September marks not only the end of the Dog Days of Summer, but also the beginning of a month devoted to the contentment of our cat companions. The month of September has been designated "Happy Cat Month." Of course, as cat lovers, we want to keep our cats happy all the time. Here are some ways you can keep your cat content:



Keep Your Cat Healthy

Take him/her for regular checkups to the veterinarian. A healthy cat is a happy one.

Ask your vet what supplements your cat should have to keep in top shape. Choose the best diet for your cat keeping in mind that cats are meat-eaters.

Keep your cat up-to-date with any necessary vaccinations.

ID Your Cat

Make sure your cat has identification tags with all pertinent information.

Have your cat microchipped too as many times tags can come off and be lost. All shelters and vets have the capability to scan for microchips in the event your cat is lost.



If you take your cat outdoors, make sure s/he is leashed. This can avoid any accidents and other dangers.



Playtime with your cat

Give your cat toys to play with. Include a scratching post - it will save your furniture and carpets. Join in the playtime with your cat to strengthen the bond you have.



Adopt a Shelter Cat

Lastly, think about having more than one cat. They can keep each other company when you are out. In fact, you can make a shelter cat HAPPY by adopting one (or more)!

Happy Cat Month!

Kathy H

Here's the 2017 edition that we will be raffling off at the West Point Crab Carnival on Saturday, October 7th at the end of the day. Tickets are available now for \$2 each or 3 for \$5.

Tickets Available at **Tony & George's Restaurant**, 2880 King William Ave, West Point; **4 Paws Thrift Store**, 801 Main Street, West Point or contact **Connie @ 804-824-8640**

You do not have to be present to win, but you do have to be local enough for pick up or delivery (or meet in the middle).



Remember Gypsy who was pictured last month attending the Tappahannock Farmers Market looking for a “forever” home?



Here she is pictured with her new family!!
Congratulations Gypsy!!



Tappahannock Farmers Market

IRHS was at the August Tappahannock Farmers Market with 3 dogs and two cats from the Tappahannock-Essex County Shelter. Looks like they were having a good time while looking for their “forever” homes!



Marty (grey) and Andy (orange)



Bullet



Bub-Bubs



Achilles

Happy News!

TACO was adopted in July. Here he is having a grand time with his new siblings, Sammy and Roscoe. Another happy ending!



Left: Taco and Sammy

Below: Taco, Sammy and Roscoe



We have a new on-line fund-raiser going on to help support our Community Cat Services. Lynch Creek Farm has some wonderful Christmas wreaths and greenery available, and we earn 20% for all purchases through this link. Check them out! And thanks for your support!



LYNCH CREEK FARM

https://www.lynchcreekfundraising.com/teams/100470-community-cat-services?fundraiser_id=404223



LOOKING FOR NEW HOMES

The following is from an IRHS member and 4 Paws volunteer: My husband and I are moving back to my home at Lake Gaston in the next month or so and I must find new homes for two of my outside dogs: Lexi and Buddy. I really need your help to do this. Would you please pass this post along to everyone you know so Lexi and Buddy can find new homes and not go to a shelter where they may not be adopted and face the threat of being euthanized?



Lexi is 2-3 years old, she is a Lab/Pit mix who is friendly with all dogs, big and small, and all people. She is full of energy and loves to play catch. She has been spayed, is up to date on all shots, and is in excellent health.



Buddy is a 7-8-year-old American Staffordshire Terrier, who is up to date on shots and in excellent health. He gets along well with people and female dogs. He is a pretty dog who will make someone a great companion.

I will make a \$300 donation to IRHS if someone is able to get these two sweet babies relocated.

Call or text 804-310-5612 or email jenallman53@gmail.com

KITTENS, KITTENS and more KITTENS!

We have kittens! And Momma Kitties too! Two families are looking for homes.

Goober, Sully, Junior, Mouse and Sheldon! About 8 weeks old, cute, playful, and healthy. They are gaining weight like crazy and hoping to start showing them soon when they hit 2lbs and get their distemper shots. Momma cat's name is Lilly and is with them. She is as friendly and sweet as can be and needs a loving home too. She is a very good momma and that is why the kittens are all friendly. She is about 1 ½ years old and will soon be spayed. She is too busy getting cuddles to get her picture taken. The kittens are running amok all day and we happened to get a picture of them all down for a nap, together in an open cage. Contact Carole at 804 843-2530 for more information.



Momma cat Lilly is one of the sweetest cats ever. Great Mom and a real lover. She is not pictured but is solid silver gray with blue/green eyes. Her eyes look like aqua in the dim light.

Also available is Momma Mia, a beautiful young adult calico female. She is in the process of weaning her kittens, Rebel, Zorro and Booboo. She loves attention; likes to play with the feather on a stick, litter box trained and will be spayed after the kittens are weaned. For more information, contact Donna at 804-994-7651.



Momma Mia



Zorro



Rebel



Booboo

Update on the Cat Hotline

In the last issue of the Newsletter, we reported the story of the woman who had to quickly give up her two elderly cats due to a domestic violence situation. The cats were taken in by an IRHS volunteer and given a temporary home.

This story has a sad AND a happy ending. Sadly, one of the cats has "crossed over the rainbow bridge"; however, the other has happily been reunited with his owner! We are thankful that both, kitty and owner, are now safe.

Donna Cox

SEPTEMBER HOLIDAYS



Sept 10th

September 16th



September 10th



Sept. 19: Responsible Dog Ownership Day



September 24th – 30th



Sept 24 - 30

