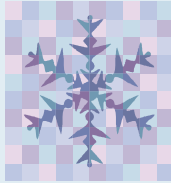
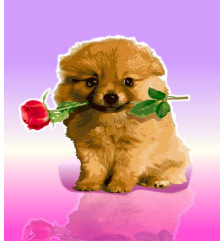


WINTER
2010



WILKES COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER

408 CALL STREET, WILKESBORO, NC 28697
336-903-7688



Yappy Mew Year!

Look ahead to 2010 ...

If the past has a habit of repeating itself, then the word for the future will be change. More changes have been made in the past five years than any other time in history

Laws relating to animal welfare and ownership are extensive and will continue to be fine tuned and clarified in the coming years.

Issues such as kennels, tethering, and spay/neuter will remain top concerns.

Looking back to 2009...

The shelter began using Lethal Injection as an additional form of euthanasia. Extensive records are kept for drug use and impounds at the shelter.

Early figures for impounds over 2008 seem to be running very close to the same.

Rabies totals for this year are slightly down to 19 from 32 in 2008.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Facts about the usage of Carbon Monoxide and Sodium Pentobarbital for euthanasia
- Dog and cat over population
- American Curl Cats
- SNIP

INDEX

The Great Debate: CO vs Lethal Injection	2
Animal Hoarding—Part I	2
It's raining cats & dogs	3
Purr-fect Kitty	3
Humane Society	4
SNIP	4

CANINE INFLUENZA VIRUS

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture the Canine Influenza Virus was first identified in 2004 in Florida after an outbreak of respiratory disease in racing greyhounds. Since then, it has continued to spread and has been detected in dogs in 30 states and the District of Columbia.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service announced in June that it had issued a conditional license to Intervet/Schering-Plough for a canine influenza virus vaccine. The vaccine is intended to aid in the control of disease associated with the virus infection, type A, subtype H3N8.

Studies indicate that the vaccine can reduce the incidence and severity of lung lesions, as well as the duration of coughing and viral shedding. During the one-year conditional license period, the CVB will monitor the products performance.

After speaking with the Animal Hospital and the Wilkes Veterinary Hospital, there are no reports of the virus and no vaccines given at this time, but vets are staying posted as to it's spread.

U.S. Dept of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Legislative and Public Affairs, 4700 River Road, Riverdale, MD 20737 (301)734-7799 Web: <http://www.aphis.usda.gov>

The Great Debate: Carbon Monoxide vs Lethal Injection



Although cost for lethal injection would seem cheaper, two certified techs are required for both methods with little overall difference in price.

At the Wilkes County Animal Shelter both Carbon Monoxide and Lethal Injection are used in the euthanasia of animals. It is our belief that both are safe and effective for this purpose. There are situations where one form would be more appropriate than another. Following are a few facts associated with this topic that may help you better understand the pros and cons. Information taken from various studies and the American Veterinary Medical Association.

Carbon monoxide induces loss of consciousness without pain and with minimal discernible discomfort.

With CO death occurs rapidly with concentrations of 6 percent used.

With Carbon monoxide the animals do not suffocate and cry in pain. They quickly lapse into unconsciousness as they do with sodium pentobarbital. Vocalization is not necessarily synonymous with pain. Once an animal is unconscious, it feels no pain.

Lethal injection is not without pain and stress. Many people associate shelter animals with their own pets. A large majority of shelter animals are not socialized animals. Some are ag-

gressive by nature. Some are feral with no desire to be held close. The level of anxiety and emotional stress for an animal fearful of being handled is actually much greater during the injection process.

Standards have been set and requirements passed by the state for the use of both carbon monoxide and lethal injections.

Our goal is proper training coupled with compassion. Proven facts not emotion should determine how the lives of these animals should end.

“My little dog . . . A heartbeat at my feet”

- Edith Wharton

Animal Hoarding Part I—The Animal Aspect

“Spot” limps to the side of the house where water has puddle from the recent rains. It’s not a water bowl but its better then nothing. His weeks old injury has left him dragging his hind leg. His rescuer cleaned and banded it when he first arrived but he has never regained use of it. He adjusted to his new name quite quickly. It seemed to fit him now as patches of his black hair are gone leaving spots of pink fleshy skin. His buddy “Lucky” a Beagle mix understands his plight. The two of them have been inseparable. Lucky couldn’t make it to the water hole today. The normally 30 pound dog now weighs at best 10 pounds. He just didn’t have the strength to get up today. And as bad as it is to lay in the mud, at least you weren’t thirsty. The hot weather is a real killer.

No vaccinations, no vet care, malnutrition, parasites, diseases and strained food supplies are common. To make matters worse, because most aren’t spayed or neutered, litter after litter fill the already cramped surroundings.

Inside the house the story is even worse. Not fit for human habitation the air is rancid with the odor of urine & feces coming from carpet, floors, and furniture. Conditions inside hoarder homes can be mildly unsuitable to extremely horrid. To read it’s hard to imagine. To witness it is astounding to think that a person much less an animal could willingly live in such deplorable filth. This is not taking place in a third world country. There are people and animals living like this.

What you can do

Be alert to signs of neglect & abuse

Notice the presence of a large number of animals at one residence with obvious signs of neglect.

Report to Animal Control situations you have witnessed that are a cause for concern.

With the economy as it is choices can be difficult. Offer to assist or help to find homes for those who seen over whelmed.



It's raining cats and dogs. Facts about Dog and Cat Overpopulation

No home for litter mates is one of the top 10 reasons people relinquish their pet.

Top reason for failing to alter a pet is that they simply have not taken time to.

21% of dog owners want to breed their dog.

An estimated 3 to 4 million cats and dogs are euthanized in shelters each year. That's one every eight seconds.

An estimated 55% of surrendered dogs and 47% of surrendered cats were unaltered

18% of cat owners say they are not able to afford the spay/neuter surgery.

Tens of millions of stray and feral cats struggle to survive on their own outdoors.

Over half of dog and cat owners rank overpopulation as the most important pet issue.

In a study of relinquishment of cats and dogs in 12 U.S. animal shelters, 30% of the dogs turned over were purebreds.

It costs U.S. taxpayers an estimated \$2 billion each year to round up, house, euthanize, and dispose of homeless animals.

Over 56% of dogs and puppies entering shelters are euthanized, based on reports from over 1,055 facilities across America.

Approximately 71% of cats and kittens entering shelters are euthanized, based on 1,055 facilities in America.

Information obtained from the Humane Society of the U.S.



It's raining, it's pouring, the old pooch is snoring.

Purr-fect Kitty

AMERICAN CURL

Originating in Lakewood, CA in 1981, the breed developed as a result of spontaneous mutation.

In 1983 the American Curl was exhibited at a cat show for the first time and in 1987 the long haired Curl was given championship status by the International Cat Association. In 1993 it became the first breed with both long and short haired divisions.

The Curls can be "dog" like in their attentiveness to their owners. Where many cat breeds are aloof in nature, the Curl is often people oriented and quickly adjusts to other pets, children, and new situations.

It is often referred to as the "Peter Pan" of felines because they retain their kitten like personalities well into adulthood.

Curls are available in both long and short hair color and pattern varieties.

A great plus to owning an American Curl is the fact that because of minimal undercoat the Curl sheds little and requires hardly any grooming.

According to the CFA (Cat Fanciers Association) you might say they are "designer cats" perhaps even a signed masterpiece of a humor loving creator.

In consideration to their unique rounded ears, this trait often emerges in cats of Curl mix and has been displayed in cats and kittens that have found their way to the animal shelter. They are adorable in their character and merit consideration for a spot in your home.

"Thousands of years ago cats were worshipped as gods. Cats have never forgotten this."

- Anonymous



American Curls come in long and short hair color and pattern varieties.

HUMANE SOCIETY OF WILKES

P.O. BOX 306
 NORTH WILKESBORO, NC 28659
 336-838-9588

The Humane Society works closely with the Animal Shelter to provide assistance with the care and adoption of the animals. Adoption Fairs are held periodically at different location in town.

You may contact the Humane Society at the number above or view photos of the animals at the shelter or in foster care at their web site.

HUMANESOCIETYOF WILKES.ORG

SNIP

The Humane Society's "SNIP" spay and neuter program has been such a great success. Registrations are held each Tuesday evening at the Wilkes County Library between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Animals are transported once a month. For more information call 838-9588 or 984-0227.

SNIP Fees

<u>Dogs</u>		<u>Cats</u>	
Neuter Male <80 lbs	55.00	Neuter Male	40.00
Neuter Male >80 lbs	70.00	Spay Female	55.00
Spay Female<80 lbs	55.00	Pregnant Female	60.00
Spay Female>80 lbs	80.00	Rabies vaccine	7.00
Rabies vaccine	7.00	Distemper	7.00
Distemper/parvo	7.00	Feline Leukemia	7.00
Bordetella	7.00	Leukemia test	16.00
Heartworm test	16.00	Flea treatment	10.00
Flea treatment	10.00	Ear mite treatment	5.00
Rabbit neuter	65.00	Deworming med.	3.00
Rabbit spay	80.00	Tapeworm meds	30.00



Once in a while do something that makes tails wag.