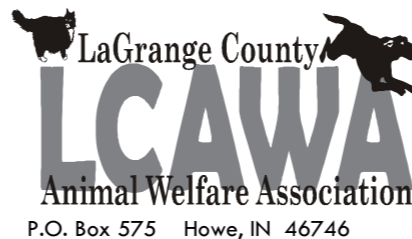


Email:
information @lcawa.org
spay@lcawa.org
rescue@lcawa.org

P.O. Box 575
Howe, IN 46746



Published by:
The LaGrange County
Animal Welfare Association

P.O. Box 575 Howe, IN 46746

Pet News

Volume 2, Issue 1

MARCH 2003

Spay/Neuter Promotion

Our annual Spay Day promotion kicked off on **February 25th, (National Spay Day)** and will run through March 31st. (Or until the coupons run out.) Watch for ads featuring the spay/neuter stamps for more information.

Be sure to ask these participating Vets for the Spay Day Coupon.
LaGrange Veterinary Clinic
Northside Veterinary Clinic
South Milford Veterinary Clinic
You can save \$20.00 off your pets spay/neuter.



Meeting Schedule

L.C.A.W.A. meets 1st Thursday of the month at the Lima Presbyterian Church in Howe at 5:30PM

March 6th

April 3rd

May 1st

June 5th

July 3rd

August 7th

Being A Responsible Pet Owner

Every day in the United States, thousands upon thousands of puppies and kittens are born because of the irresponsible breeding of pets. If you add to that the number of offspring of stray and abandoned animals, the total becomes even more staggering. Every year, between 8 and 12 million animals enter shelters in the United States. Some 4 to 6 million of these animals are destroyed because there are not enough

homes for them. How can you help to solve this problem? There is a very easy and affordable answer. Spay or neuter your pet. Being a responsible owner means choosing spay or neuter surgery - it means making a choice that saves lives. You can prevent an unwanted litter of puppies and kittens and be a part of the solution of pet overpopulation.

It's Good for Your Pet

- Spaying and neutering helps dogs and cats live longer, healthier lives
- The surgery can eliminate or reduce the incidence of a number of health problems that can be very difficult or expensive to treat
- Spaying eliminates the possibility of

Continued on Page 9

Contact Us

Amy Gunther
562-3122

Lindy Goetz
463-2602

Marge Malone
562-3655

Mary Alice Lynch
562-3299

Debbie Bontrager
463-3406

www.lcawa.org



Web Site

LaGrange County Animal Welfare Association, Inc. has our website up and running. Be sure to visit at www.lcawa.org

Site provided by :



5515W 750N
Shipshewana, IN
46565
260-336-0330

Shelter Stats

FEBRUARY 2003		2003 YEAR TO DATE	
Animals Brought in:	32	Animals Brought in:	72
Dogs/Puppies	24	Dogs/Puppies	60
Cats/Kittens	8	Cats/Kittens	12
Animals Adopted:	17	Animals Adopted:	22
Dogs/Puppies	13	Dogs/Puppies	17
Cats/Kittens	4	Cats/Kittens	5
Animals Euthanized:	1	Animals Euthanized:	33
Dogs/Puppies	1	Dogs/Puppies	30
Cats/Kittens	0	Cats/Kittens	3

He's already trained, with no personality surprises for you, and he needs your love. **Adopt a Mature Pet**

Coming Events

White Elephant / Bake Sale March 15, 2003 Bark & Meow 11AM - 3PM Valparaiso, IN	Adoption Event March 16, 2003 Tractor Supply Store 11AM - 3PM LaPorte, IN	Adoption Event April 6, 2003 Train Station 11AM - 3PM Valparaiso, IN
--	--	---

If you would like information on any of the Adoption Events shown above, contact Sarah @ mixedupmutts@yahoo.com or call 219-326-8887 Events sponsored by Mixed Up Mutts, Inc.

PLEASE VISIT OUR SPONSORS

Your ad could be here!

Please contact Debbie @ 260-463-3406 for information on how to place your Business Ad in the newsletters.

When in Howe, Stop at the little Red Building behind the Old TJ's.

We have an ongoing Fund Raiser called

“Old Books & New Puppies”

We have used books & great Stuff.

Sorry, no set hours, just when volunteers can come in.

We are going to try and be open from 10AM - 6PM on Fridays and Saturdays.

We have used books & great Stuff. Stop to see if we're open.

If you see something you like, buy it.

You will be helping to support the LaGrange County Animal Welfare Association.

★★★★★★★★★★
 ★ A membership to L.C.A.W.A. helps benefits the animals and you get a subscription to the newsletter sent to you each month.
 ★ **Membership:**
 ★ **Individual \$20**
 ★ **Family \$35**
 ★ **Friend \$50**
 ★ **Sponsor \$100**
 ★ **Benefactor \$250**
 ★ **Patron \$500**
 ★ **Call now - Become a Member!**
 ★★★★★★★★★★



Consider These Facts

- In six years, one female dog and her offspring can be the source of 67,000 puppies
- In just seven years, one female cat and her young can produce 420,000 kittens
- There is no limit to the number of offspring male dogs and cats can produce
- Every day 70 thousand puppies and kittens are born. Compare this to the 11,000 human births each day, there will never be enough homes for all these



Our Angels

BENEFACTORS

Marianna Riddick

Being A Responsible Pet Owner

Continued on Page 10
Continued From Page 9
pets get fat and lazy because their owners feed them too much and don't provide them with enough exercise.

"It's better to have just one litter first"
Medical evidence indicates just the opposite. Evidence shows that females who are spayed before their first heat are typically healthier. Many veterinarians now sterilize dogs and cats as young as 8 weeks of age.

"My pet is a purebred"
So is at least one out of every four animals brought to shelters around the country. There are too many animals, period - purebred and mixed breeds.

"I want my dog to be protective"
Having your pet spayed or neutered

does not affect a dog's natural instinct to protect home and family. The personality of your pet is formed more by genetics and environment.

"I don't want my male pet to feel any less of a male"
Pets don't have egos! Neutering your pet will not change his basic personality. He won't suffer any kind of identity crisis when you have him neutered.

"Spaying and Neutering is too expensive"
The cost of having your pet spayed or neutered depends on its size, age, sex, your veterinarian's fee, and several other variables. But the cost is a one-time cost, and it's relatively small when you consider all the benefits of having your pet spayed or neutered. Having just one litter of puppies or kittens can create an

extensive veterinary bill, not to mention food bill. The cost of having your pet spayed or neutered is a very small price to pay for the health of your pet and the prevention of unwanted births.

"I'll find good homes for all the puppies and kittens"
Sure, you may find homes for all the puppies and kittens from your pet's litter, but each home you find will mean one less home for unwanted animals in shelters across the United States that desperately need good, loving homes. In addition, the puppies and kittens from your one litter will be able to have their own litter, adding even more animals to the population.

Adoption Options



Who says
Grey hair
makes you
look old!

Mitzy's Grey striped fur sparkles with beauty and vitality.

Mitzy is about 6 Mo. Old and litterbox trained.

She is extremely affectionate and would love to curl up on your lap and have

her ears rubbed.

If you would like more information on Mitzy, please call LaGrange County Animal Control 260 -463-4142

Pets listed at the LaGrange County Animal Control are in **urgent need** of permanent loving homes or foster parents until they can be adopted.

Their time is LIMITED!

Visit or Call TODAY if you are interested!

He ought to
be in
pictures!

Wally is about 2-3

years old. He is a male and appears to be an Airedale Mix. He reminds us of the dog on My Three Sons TV Show. He is just an adorable dog.

If you would like more information on Wally, please call LaGrange County Animal Control 260 -463-4142

Lagrange County Animal Control

C.R. 300 South, 3/4 mile West of S.R. 9

PH: 260-463-4142

Open: Tuesdays—Saturday 8A.M. to 4 P.M.

Closed Sunday & Monday

MITZY



American Shorthair
Size: Small
Age: Young
Sex: Female

Wally



Airedale Mix
Size: Medium
Age: Young Adult
Sex: Male

MUTT & JEFF



St. Bernard Mix
Size: Large
Age: Babies
Sex: Male

Adoption Options

Just as cute as the cartoon characters, but snuggly & huggable!

Mutt (left) and Jeff (right) are brothers. We were picked up in

the middle of a road in LaGrange County. We are about 4 months old and they have had their 1st shots.

We look like St. Bernard Mix, but who knows, we'll never tell!

Jeff's feet are pretty big. HMM, mine aren't

so small either. We are just waiting for someone to come in and adopt us, we would really like families of our own to play with. If you would like more information on Mutt or Jeff, please call Lagrange County Animal Control at 260-463-4142



SNOOP



Shepherd Mix
Size: Medium
Age: Young
Sex: Male

Snoop Doggy Needs A Home!

Snoop is a baby, he is just about 8 month old. From the looks of it, he

is a Shepherd mix.

He loves to play and is an affectionate puppy. And you're in luck! He does not sing Rap Music...

If you have room in your hearts and home for Snoop, please call

now, Snoop is on borrowed time right now !

If you would like more information on Snoop, please call Lagrange County Animal Control at 260-463-4142

Tips to Help Cure Those Litterbox Blues II

clear that the children in the *Continued Page 9* household never left the kittens alone and was over handling them. The kittens could never use the litter box in peace! This happens more often than one would think.

Similarly, another pet that is constantly pestering the cat is going to be causing problems. Dogs have a grotesque fascination with litter boxes and need to be kept clear of them. An aggressive

cat in the household could be ambushing another one and making it unable to use the litter box (see my previous article on Pariah Cats).

Tip#7: Accessibility
If a cat can't get to a litter box, it isn't going to use it. Simple as that. I have seen the most amazing things, such as a family that squeezed their kitten's box through a hole in some drywall and as the kitten grew it was physically unable to get to the box any more, and as a result

started eliminating throughout the house. It seems like a simple concept, but it is ignored quite frequently. I also recommend putting litter boxes in different parts of the house so there is easy accessibility. A small kitten may forget where a box is when it is in the middle of a play session. Having a box nearby will keep a bad habit from starting. Similarly, a multi-cat household can help eliminate inter-cat stress by having multiple boxes in various, accessible places



The following items are always welcome for our rescue program:

- Crates
- Large Cat Cage
- Cat & Dog Food
- Cat Litter
- Paper Towels
- Nature's Miracle
- Cash Contributions

THANK YOU!

Being A Responsible Pet Owner

Continued From Cover
uterine or ovarian cancer and greatly reduces the incidence of breast cancer in females

- Neutering eliminates testicular cancer and decreases the incidence of prostate cancer in males

It's Good for You

- Spaying and neutering makes your pet a better, more affectionate companion
- Cats that are neutered are less likely to spray and mark territory
- Spaying a dog or cat eliminates her heat cycle. Females in heat can cry incessantly, show nervous behavior, and at-

tract unwanted male animals

- Spaying and neutering makes pets less likely to bite
- Neutering your pet will make him less likely to roam the neighborhood, run away, or get into fights

Excuses and Myths

"My pet will get fat and lazy"

The truth is that most



Tips to Help Cure Those Litterbox Blues II

Consider These Facts

- Each day 10,000 humans are born in the U.S.—and each day 70,000 puppies and kittens are born.
- An unsprayed female dog, her mate and all their puppies and their puppies' puppies, if none are ever neutered or spayed, add up to:

1 year: 16
 2 years: 128
 3 years: 512
 4 years: 2,048
 5 years: 12,288
 6 years: 67,000



- An unsprayed female cat, her mate and all their offspring, producing 2 litters per year, with 2.8 surviving kittens per litter total:

1 year: 12
 2 years: 67
 3 years: 376
 4 years: 2,107
 5 years: 11,801
 6 years: 66,088
 7 years: 370,092
 8 years: 2,072,514
 9 years: 11,606,077



by Kirsten Kranz
 From
www.pettstville.com
 archives

In my first article, I discussed some basic reasons cats will stop using their boxes. Physical problems should be ruled out first by taking your pet to the veterinarian. It is important that litter boxes be kept very clean because cats are fastidious creatures. There should be a box for each cat (two boxes for a single cat is even better) and the boxes should be as simple as possible. Strongly perfumed litters, plastic liners and hoods in some cases can scare a cat and make it more likely to eliminate in an improper place.

But there are other things that may distress a cat enough to make it start having problems, and with a little detective work these can often be resolved.

Tip#4: Fix your cat! Unsterilized, sexually mature cats, be they males OR FEMALES, are very likely going

to urinate in improper places. This is what they do to advertise their fertility and territory. If a cat is not spayed or neutered your chances of being awash in cat urine is very high, no matter what kind of litter or litter box you have. Tack on unwanted pregnancies, cat fights, disease, etc. and there is no good reason not to spay or neuter!

Tip#5: Avoid Noisy Places Several years ago I was at the home of a person who was beside herself because her cat refused to use the litter box. I asked to see where the box had been placed and she showed me to her laundry room, where, low and behold, the poor cat's litter box was sandwiched between the washer and dryer. Every time the kitty tried to use the facility either the washer or dryer was on, making a tremendous racket and scaring her terribly. On top of it all the dryer had a loud buzzer that went off whenever the wash was done. No



wonder the cat was stressed out! Every cat appreciates a quiet place to do its business and if it is not provided then watch out!

Tip#6: Other Pets and Kids Last summer one of our shelter employees raised up an orphaned kitten that was soon put up for adoption when it was old enough. The kitten had been raised with lots of other animals and kids and was very friendly. He was adopted and soon brought back because "he just wouldn't use the litter box." The kitten stayed in the office and used the box perfectly. The family took home another kitten and soon brought it back for the same reason. Upon questioning it became

The Nature Of Dogs

by John P Fox
 Pet Care for Dogs

Dogs are, by nature, social animals needing a 'pack' for companionship or they become lonely and bored. In a one-dog family, you are their pack. If ignored, they may become highly stressed, resulting in improper attempts to attract your attention. A dog should be included as a part of the family unit and live in a healthful and interesting environment. A major requirement is adequate exercise.

Animals are very much like people, in that they most enjoy life if they have a purpose and obtain satisfaction in fulfilling that purpose. You would be wise to not own a dog unless you have adequate time to devote and care enough about the animal and its emotional needs to 'be there' and spend time with it. When you are not at home, a dog should either have a companion animal or toys for amusement to

assist in occupying its time until your return.

PROBLEMS

Chaining a dog outside denies it basic needs. Dogs kept on ropes, chains, or other types of anchoring devices suffer from increased stress as they know they are vulnerable and unable to protect their property outside of the area in which they are confined. It leaves the dog without stimulation.

These animals can develop unwanted behaviors, including excessive barking, destructiveness, digging, hyperactivity, timidity, increased protective or fear aggression, predatory aggression when other animals or children enter the area of confinement, separation anxiety, or an exaggerated greeting response upon your return. They also suffer from entanglement and frustration from an inability to move, reach feed, water, shade, or shelter; or the more

serious possibility of choking or hanging.

NOISE

A confined dog may bark at every noise, even if it is unable to observe its source. It may bark at people walking by or those entering the property, including friends, neighbors, delivery personnel, Postal Service carriers, or utility company employees. The dog may continue to bark even after the original cause is no longer present. Eventually, the dog may simply bark from habit.

SOLUTION

DO NOT keep your dog tied outside for any extended period. Instead, take the dog outside with you or other family members for training, play, exercise, or walks.

REMEMBER

Animal ownership = RESPONSIBILITY!



SHELTER UPDATE

The commissioners are trying to stop the project and get out of the contract. They want people to think it is going to cost more than it will to build it. They are adding things in that have been paid for already.

Taxpayers have already spent \$36,000 on this project plus (an estimated \$80,000+) the contractor gets for breaking the contract. Commissioners have tacked on \$3,000 for legal costs (which can only be for breaking the contract) so we are looking at around \$150,000 down the drain. The permits are only good for this project and will be expiring if we do not get on the ball and get started.

So, the money will be gone! Then maybe they will build the \$150,000 pole building they want. So in the end, the taxpayers will have spent the same \$300,000 that was originally appropriated for the shelter and

Continued Page 6



SHELTER UPDATE

Continued From Page 5 have a \$150,000 pole building we won't even be able to use because it won't meet requirements.

The plans were modified and items deleted to bring the cost down to the \$300,000. There are no frivolous rooms or items that can be deleted. This is an adequate, functional animal shelter.

The people of LaGrange County (and the animals) need the shelter now.

No other county employees have to carry their drinking water to work, the building is overrun with mice, the wiring catches fire (thank goodness someone was there to put it out). It is cold in the Winter and hot in the summer. It needs to be replaced!

Call and tell them to BUILD THE SHELTER NOW before it is too late!

The money is there. Don't waste THE TAXPAYERS money that has already been spent!

Continued on Page 7

Keep Your Pet Safe In The Winter

Make sure your pet sleeps away from drafts, preferably in a pet bed.

A dry, elevated dog house should be provided for dogs when they are outdoors. The house should be small enough to be warm from the dog's body heat, but large enough for the dog to stand up and turn around. Insulation, including a door flap, carpeting, towels, and facing the house away from the wind will protect against the cold.

When the temperature dips below 20 degrees Fahrenheit, it's best to keep all dogs indoors, even if a dog house is provided. Short haired dogs, cats and puppies should be kept indoors at 40 degrees or below.

In fact, to protect your pet from the dangers of inclement weather and to prevent your pet from straying far from home, the League recommends that you keep your pets, including cats, indoors on a regular basis. Unless your pet has adequate

shelter and your supervision, living outdoors can be hazardous to your pet.

Make sure your dog and your cat always wear an appropriately fitting collar and an I.D. tag with your current address and phone number.

Compare the amount of exercise your dog receives during the colder months to warmer months. If your dog is indoors more at this time of year, he's probably getting less exercise and may need less food. However, if your pet is outside often in the winter months, he may need more food to burn the calories necessary to produce more body heat.

Regularly check your pet's water to make sure it is not frozen. When your pet is outside, make sure there is plenty of fresh drinking water available. Ice and snow does not provide enough liquid for an animal. They can't burn calories without a fresh supply of water, and if

they can't burn calories, they will get cold. In their search to keep warm outdoors, cats take refuge next to a warm car engine or tire. To alert an animal that may be in your vehicle, slap the hood before starting your car.

Keep your pet's coat well-groomed during the winter. Fur that's matted won't properly protect your pet from the cold.

Antifreeze tastes sweet to pets but is poisonous if consumed. Should a pet ingest any amount of antifreeze, contact your veterinarian immediately. Check your car for seepage, too. When adding antifreeze, clean up any spills and be sure to keep this substance out of your pet's reach. Antifreeze and coolants that are essentially non-toxic are also available at many auto supply stores. Ice-melting chemicals can irritate and burn the pads of your pet's feet. Do not allow your pet to lick its feet after its walked outdoors.

Keep Your Pet Safe In The Winter



SHELTER UPDATE

Continued From Page 6 **Don't let them break the contract and blow the money for nothing.**

The county has agreed to clear the land and prepare it for the building. They will not touch anything unless the Commissioners tell them to start. If you want the shelter to be built but haven't voiced it, Please do it now!

These two commissioners in particular are trying to stop this project. If it were one of their pet projects, no cost would be too much. (The sewer study???)

Stop them from wasting our money! Build the Shelter! **PLEASE CALL NOW!!!** Before it is too late...

**RICHARD STRAYER
OFFICE @ ANNEX BLDG.
499-6314
HOME 463-2761**

**PHIL CURTIS
HOME 562-3761**

The chemicals may burn their mouth and cause serious problems if ingested. When your pet comes in from the cold, use a damp towel to wipe off its feet and underside.

Remove snow piled

high next to your fence. It can provide a boost for your dog to jump over and become lost.



Pet Food Drive

The Activities Committee at LaGrange Community Hospital sponsored a Pet Food Drive in January for the benefit of the La-Grange County Animal

Shelter. A total of 800 pounds of dog and cat food was collected. The dietary Department won first place with 296 pounds collected making it 26.9

pounds per person. The winners received a basket of candy to enjoy for their great efforts. A big thank you to all who participated.

Stuffed Toys Make The Best Easter Pets

From the No More Homeless Pets Web Site I saw this article:

To celebrate Easter, and to help rabbits and other popular pets, be adopted to permanent homes, the Dumb Friends League encourages you to buy a stuffed animal toy, instead of a live animal for your child's Easter basket. The life span of a rabbit can be as long as seven to ten years and like any pet, it can make a wonderful companion

for the appropriate person if they are willing to make a life-long commitment to it. If you they plan to keep your 'Easter bunny' for only a few weeks or months, until the novelty wears off, then the kindest thing you can do for both the rabbit and your children is to buy a stuffed bunny, chick or other animal at a toy store. A stuffed animal will only involve one initial monetary outlay, will never have to be fed or taken to the

veterinarian, won't grow too big and won't require a pet sitter when you go on vacation. Each year the League receives thousands of pets which were originally acquired as "gifts."

