



The Scratching Post

Newsletter of the Floyd County Humane Society
Summer 2008



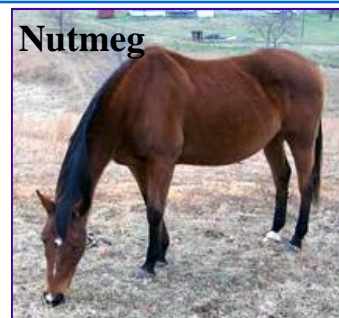
Missy



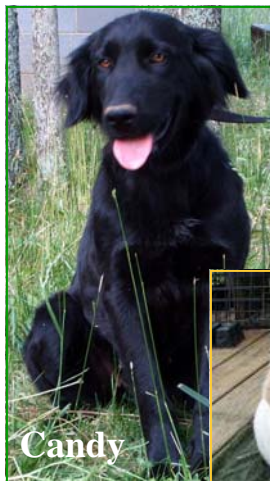
Baby



Hank



Nutmeg



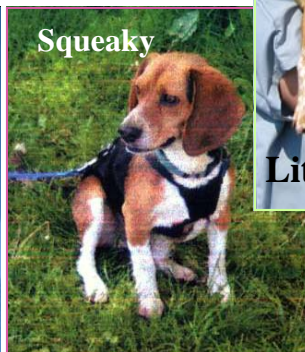
Candy



Sunshine



Karma



Squeaky



Little Bit

Need Someone To Love?

All our foster pets are spayed/neutered and current on vaccinations.

A complete list of foster care pets is at our website www.nrvanimalshelters.com

To inquire call 745-7207 or email floydhumane@gmail.com and a volunteer will assist you.

New Feature—MEMBER PROFILE

Crystal Founds is an exceptional young woman. She is soft spoken, intelligent, grounded, generous and kind to all. Later this year, she will attend Hollins College, her sights set on opening her own healing spa. Her career, in its broadest application, will "benefit people". Crystal was raised with a shifting menagerie of animals at her house, so her love of critters developed young. She easily shares stories about the animals she currently cares for; 4 horses, a rescued mixed breed dog, a rescued lovebird and a guinea pig. We welcomed her offer to photograph the dogs at the Floyd County Animal Shelter so they could be posted on the web for adoption. Her talent for capturing the spirit of these tossed-aside, eager-eyed creatures definitely contributed to many of them finding happily ever after homes. Crystal was especially pleased when informed that a female Border Collie she remembers as a beautiful and smart dog, found a home thanks to her efforts. "Streaming sunlight allowed nice shots even though she was in a cage". Crystal experienced a "moment" through the lens that morning. In a single click of the shutter, a bond was forged, art and compassion blended. "Taking pictures", she says, "is in my blood. There were always cameras around the house because my dad went to school for it. I was exposed early." Crystal will continue to enjoy photography as a hobby. We will miss her positive energy while wishing her continued happiness and success in all endeavors. Oh, and that healing spa? It will incorporate animal therapy.



Crystal & Murphy

Dear Tabby: Summer is here! I will spend more time with my human family thanks to things called "school break" and "vacation". I hear we are going on some fun trips. I enjoy any ride that doesn't end at the vet's office! Any idea what's in the works?
With my head out the car window in Willis, "Traveler"



Dear Traveler: By current trend, the world is indeed opening up to four-footed family members! There are an increasing number of pet friendly accommodations available from mainstream hotel chains (Marriott) to quaint, privately owned bed and breakfasts. Virginia has five. One, Meadowood B + B, is just off the mountain in Meadows of Dan! Lots of websites for the tail waggin' wanderer exist. In addition to room listings, PetFriendly.com offers site specific weather and directions. Petswelcome.com is a really cute site! It can help you find plush poochie digs at hotels, B & B's, campgrounds and beaches and comfortable lodgings for cats organized by state. Even emergency vet services are included! Broader in scope, pettravel.com promotes 35,081 listings while also offering help with flying, transport, foreign travel and relocation services. Mobil Travel Guide, On the Road with Your Pet, for \$18.95, looks like a great accessory for anyone. AAA publishes Traveling with Your Pet, Complete On-The-Road Guide for \$17.95, covering the US and Canada.

Locally, there are summer activities to satisfy animal lovers' enthusiasm. Star City Cat Fanciers Cat Show is July 5th & 6th, 10am – 4 pm. There will be approximately 230 cats in 7 rings. Persians continue to reign, but less common breeds such as the Sphynx and Somali, do make appearances. Pet pussycats welcomed to register for a chance at a blue ribbon as well. This event is very popular and always fun! Local shelters participate, bringing their best of show for adoption. Quality vendors tempt you to splurge and spoil someone you love. Hosted by Holiday Inn. (540)362-4500. Admission \$6.50. 5 days, 5 shows for the Mountain Valley Cluster Dog Show at the Salem Civic Center beginning July 30th. (540)375-3004.

For snuggly evenings at home, The Greatest Dog in America premieres on CBS, July 10th. Tasks that highlight canine intelligence and personality will glean a top dog from 10 finalists. So dip your biscuit in peanut butter and cast a vote! WDBJ 7, a local television station, has a wonderful section on their website called Your Pets. Enter the Pet of the Week Contest or simply vote. It educates with practical pet care info and current, worldwide animal stories (discretion advised).

I wish all of you a summer that creates great memories! May your paws trek safely wherever you journey. May you deepen the bond with your human guardian. And by all means, howl at the moon if it makes you happy! --- Tabby

New feature: Take Action to Protect Race Horses

Barbaro and Eight Belles were two race horses who recently captured the hearts of the American public; hearts that were promptly broken when the horses' legs literally snapped under the rigors of racing. Both horses suffered broken bones that could not be repaired, injuries that ultimately ended their lives. But for every Barbaro or Eight Belles, there are hundreds of other race horses that suffer a similar fate on race tracks in the U.S. every year. These horses may have less recognizable names, and the injuries occur at races that are less famous than the Kentucky Derby or the Preakness, but the rates are staggering.

Some changes to consider include the ending of two year old racing; raising the age of Triple Crown contenders to four years old; banning the use of performance-enhancing and pain-masking drugs on horses in race training, especially on race days; possible mandatory conversion to Synthetic race tracks, which are more forgiving; research into the correlation between genetics and the incidence of problems leading to fatal injuries; and the creation of a National Racing Commission so there is one over-arching governing body responsible for the welfare of the animals and for setting a level playing field for the competitors.

To address the overpopulation problems created by the industry, it should adopt voluntary limits on breeding. It should greatly increase funding to create more Thoroughbred retraining and rescue centers, to provide retirees with a career and a future after their racing days are over.

The question is whether the industry has the will to recognize that a horse breaking both front ankles at the end of a race is not an acceptable price of doing business, and that it can—and must—do better. Whether it chooses to recognize there's a problem and take adequate corrective action may well be the pivotal decision on which the industry's future hinges. *

*To find out more about this and other urgent issues, (along with sample emails) visit www.hsus.org

To find your representatives visit www.congress.org

Take Action features humane issues outside our locality & offers ways to get involved & make a difference to a wider group of animals in need.

The Floyd County Humane Society
P.O. Box 862
Floyd, VA 24091
Phone: 745-7207
Municipal Shelter 745-9365
Website: www.nrvanimalshelters.com
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Partners in Responsibility

The Scratching Post is published by the Floyd County Humane Society. We are a non-profit, 501(c)3, all volunteer organization dedicated to placing homeless companion animals in caring permanent homes, educating and assisting the community on issues of owner responsibility and providing financial assistance for spaying and neutering.

Address:

P.O. Box 862 Floyd, VA. 24091
Voicemail: 745-7207
Municipal Shelter : 745-9365

Officers:

President: Darcie Luster
Vice President: Rigel Morgan
Treasurer: Diane Giessler
Secretary: Lynn Chipkin



The Angels of Assisi shuttle comes to our area once a month to offer low cost spay neuter services. Please call us at 745-7207, and get your pet on board the shuttle.

Thank you for doing your part in reducing pet overpopulation.

The Floyd County Humane Society has several spay/neuter programs that offer financial assistance to those companion animal owners who are eligible.

Tell your friends and neighbors that help is here!

745-7207 or floydhumane@gmail.com

We appreciate your continued support!!

Membership Form: Name _____

Address _____ Phone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email Address _____

Enclosed is my annual membership dues _____\$5 Student/Senior _____\$15 Adult

_____ \$30 Family _____ \$50 Patron _____ \$100 Corporate

Make a memorial donation honoring a pet or friend _____ Other _____