



# Newsletter of Hope

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701 Main Street, Lafayette, Indiana (765)742-8656

## Natalie's Notes

Hello Friends! I have so much that I am excited to talk about! First of all, Ollie, who was featured in last month's newsletter, got adopted! A wonderful family saw him in the newsletter on our website only hours after it came out. And within a few hours of seeing his profile, they welcomed Ollie into their loving family!

Next, I am thrilled to announce that we are EXPANDING this month! For a long time, I have sat still and waited for the right opportunity to find a bigger place. Patience has paid off, because we're now able to stay in our current location and expand next door—into the section of our building where Tricia's Dog House has been. We're making our big move during the 2nd week of June!

Our current section of the

building will be used for our food bank, storage, and a quiet area to give extra attention to some of our "kids" who need it. Our new section will give us A LOT more space, so we can now have a washer and dryer, and a tub to bathe the kids. We are very excited!

Please mark your calendars and spread the word about our 2nd annual Ruff Riders Motorcycle Ride and after-ride party on July 9th! It starts and ends at the Moose Lodge on Union St. Entry fee is \$10 per motorcycle and \$5 for an extra passenger. Sign up begins at 10am, and the ride starts at noon. We had



Stay for food, music and prizes after the ride!

over 60 riders last year, and I would love to see more this year!

As always, THANK YOU so much for supporting us and allowing us to continue to do what we love to do: speaking up for those who don't have a voice—homeless dogs who deserve a loving family! Peace and Love, Natalie.

Volume 1, Issue 3

June 2011

### Upcoming Events:

- July 9: Ruff Riders Motorcycle Ride
- August 19: "Pawsitively Zany" Evening of comedy, music & food

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## Bark Avenue Helps The Homeless (By Kerri Wagner)

We at Bark Avenue just love grooming the shelter dogs. So often we see neglected animals that haven't been properly groomed for some time. It's so nice to make a difference in a dog's life and make it look great again!

It's very important to have proper grooming on a regular basis, whether it is at home or at a grooming salon. The longer you've waited to get your

animal groomed, the more possibility of ear infections, matting under the feet pads, itchy skin and matting in the "private" areas. We don't have to take any length off of the body for this to be done. Plus, Fifi is clean, brushed out and feeling great!

Bark Avenue grooms shelter dogs from 3 different shelters in town, for free, to help them get adopted quicker. We are

all about helping all those homeless dogs and cats! We do full service grooming for dogs, cats, birds and rabbits.

We offer blueberry facials, mud mask treatments, shedless treatments, soft claws and more! We do not use any chemicals in the shop. We use Aromatherapy to calm the animals and to clean the air.

Most importantly we don't

cage any dogs! They are all loose and allowed to play in the grooming area as long as they all get along. We do have a few kennels with open tops if they prefer to be by themselves. Call for more info at 765-413-0968 or check us out on Facebook or our website at: [www.barkavenuedayspa.com](http://www.barkavenuedayspa.com).

## I Was Not A Dog Person (By Sheila Martin)

I was not a dog person. Having one cat was enough, if not one too many. My husband, Steve, kept talking about getting a dog. He wore me down over a period of a year, and just before Christmas 2008, he stopped at Natalie's. When he got home, he convinced me to go see one of the dogs, but "only to look."

There she was – a fluffy, little, black puppy with a few patches of white, here and there. It was her eyes that got to me. Merry Christmas, Sheila! Puppies are adorable, but as she grew to 55 pounds, I just grew to love Lucy more and more. She has loved me even on my worst days. And walking her twice a day has helped me physically and mentally. I realized she was

giving to me as much as I was giving to her.

A couple of years later, in March 2011, I just happened to stop at Natalie's to say hello and donate some dog food. You can probably guess what happened next. There he was—a beautiful, little, black puppy. His mother had been hit by a car and died that very day. He was rescued from a ditch, and he needed a home and Lucy needed a brother. For someone who didn't want a dog, I became the mother of two very loving and energetic dogs. Sam (the new pup) and Lucy make me laugh every day. So if you have room in your heart and room in your house, stop by Natalie's and "just look".



**Lucy and her new little brother, Sam**

## Grateful To Be Part Of The Team (By Dr. Dave Murakowski)

Hello, and thanks for being a friend of Natalie's Second Chance! My name is Dave Murakowski and I have been hanging around Natalie's shelter on and off since she opened. I used to walk the dogs, but for the past couple of months I've been lucky enough to help Dr. Heather Baker provide veterinary care for them.

I'm a 1984 (not a typo) graduate of Yale University, where I played football and threw the discus and the shot. For many years, I traded futures and options on the floor of the Chicago Mercantile Exchange. Computerization stole the thunder from the rowdy pits, and in 2002 I decided it was time to move on. A random visit to an animal shelter inspired me to pursue a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine. I was deeply moved by the way lost and displaced animals, many of whom were confined to kennels for weeks and even months, could exude so much joy and simple goodness.

I decided I had to find a way to keep them healthy as well as to help them ward off depression and despair. I also felt that knowing that a veterinarian was closely involved with shelter animals might relieve much of the anxiety some potential adopters experience when considering adding a shelter animal to their families.

It took me four years of part-time work and



**Dr. Dave Murakowski helps Dr. Heather Baker and WVAC increase community access to veterinary services.**

part-time schooling to obtain the remaining credits I needed to apply to veterinary school in 2006. In May, 2010, I graduated from the Purdue University School of Veterinary Medicine. I visited Dr. Baker's clinic and loved the friendly atmosphere. Wildcat Valley Animal Clinic was (and still is) heavily oriented toward providing care for animal shelters and rescue groups. There is a big emphasis on affordable spays and neuters to help control pet overpopulation. Further, in-town wellness clinics and the treatment van allow the staff to bring veterinary care to underserved areas of Tippecanoe and the surrounding

counties. Dr. Baker even does house calls!

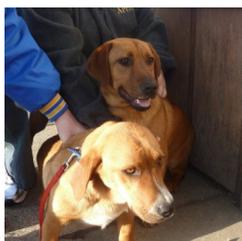
Thinking back, the idea that I could be part of this sort of operation helped me get through some of the roughest days of veterinary school. I came in on a part-time basis and asked to work full-time in April. So, here I am.

There's a lot of shelter work and our wellness clinics are always busy. That sort of commitment kept Dr. Baker and her staff on their toes every hour of every day of every week. With me on board, we'd like to continue all of the services mentioned above, but now we can make ourselves more available for other pet problems, such as those that require dental care, blood-work, X-rays, ultrasound, and increased follow-up and monitoring. We've almost completed an isolation ward where the sickest of animals can be managed. We're thinking of adding a regular evening wellness clinic, weekend hours, and an increased presence in Carroll County.

We'd like your input as well. If you can think of any ways we can better serve you and your pets, please e-mail me at [drdave@wildcatvet.com](mailto:drdave@wildcatvet.com). I'm grateful to be a part of the Wildcat Valley Animal Clinic team. Thank you all for being a friend of Natalie's as well as all the other local shelters and rescue groups!

**Sunshine**

"Sunshine" is an older dog, around 10 years old, who deserves a loving, forever home. Her owners could no longer take care of her because they fell on hard economic times. Sunshine lost one of her legs 2 years ago when she was hit by a car, but it doesn't slow her down! She is very sweet and loves everybody! She is a spayed female, mixed breed.

**Dozer**

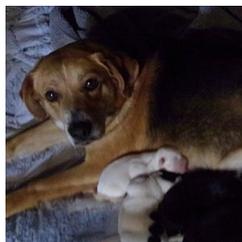
"Dozer" is a basset/boxer mix. He is one and a half years old, and neutered. He came with his brother (in the front of the picture) who has already been adopted. His original family had too many dogs, so they had to give these guys up. When we first got him, he had never worn a collar or walked on a leash! After about a week, he was walking like a champ! He's short and stocky with a lot of energy, so he needs a family that is active!!

**Biscuit**

"Biscuit" is a neutered male Chihuahua. He prefers women and is housebroken. As a typical Chihuahua, he can be a little fearful of new people. But, once he knows you, he will love you forever. He is 2 years old and would do best in a home with no little kids.

**Toby**

"Toby" is a 5 year old Chihuahua. He is neutered, and he really does not like small kids (most Chihuahua don't!!). He loves to be held, and he sleeps buried under the covers! He is sooo sweet, but he really needs a home that is low-key and where he can get most of the attention!

**Bailey**

"Bailey" (profiled last month as "Mama" in "Mama's Family") is 2 or 3 years old and now spayed. She is the mom who's former owner threatened to shoot, along with her puppies. She is still shy and seems a little fearful of people as if she were abused at some point. As usual, the puppies will probably find homes long before someone will give her a chance. But she is very sweet and eager to please.



## Natalie's Second Chance Dog Shelter

10 South 16th Street  
Lafayette, Indiana 47901  
Phone: 765-742-2200

Email:  
nataliessecondchance@gmail.com

Website:  
nataliessecondchance.org



## Our Mission:

We are a "501(c)3", non-profit, no-kill dog shelter that relies heavily on private individual donations and volunteer services to be able to continue helping homeless dogs. We are located in Lafayette, Indiana, and our mission is to find new homes for homeless dogs. We help strays, personal turn-ins, and other dogs find loving homes. We are a no-kill facility, and we keep and care for each dog until a perfect match is found! We also serve as a resource to our community and all pet owners by providing education and information on responsible pet ownership—including the importance of spaying/neutering, positive behavior training, and good nutrition.

\*We offer a food bank for pet owners in the community that need assistance feeding their pets. Cat food and dog food are available for pick up at no charge to individuals. There are no requirements for our pet food assistance and we encourage anyone needing assistance in feeding their pets to come pick up food! Food can be picked up during our open adoption hours each week. Donations of any type of pet food (wet or dry) for the food bank are accepted and can be dropped off during our open adoption hours. If you have a food donation to give, but are unable to bring it to us, please contact us to arrange pick up.



**We're open Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday: 10am—4pm. Friday & Saturday: 10am—5pm.**

## You CAN Make A Difference... In Many Different Ways



**Our "kids" need to go for walks—twice daily, every day.**

You can come in at 8am, any day of the week, to walk a dog. We also need volunteers to walk our dogs around 4pm every day. During open business hours, we encourage people to take our dogs to the park to play and socialize. This is a great activity for groups!

We always need "foster parents" to help our dogs socialize in a home setting. If you're not planning to adopt, but just want to help a dog socialize, then pick him up on

Saturday afternoon and return him on Tuesday morning. If you think you might adopt, you can pick up a dog any day and keep him up to 2 weeks to make sure he's a good fit for your home.

You can also volunteer to help us keep up with our laundry. And we always need new leashes and collars, as well as cleaning supplies and pet toys.

If you are unable to donate time, but would like to help our cause, you can donate pet food to our food bank. Either drop it off at the shop or call us to pick it up. Better yet, **YOU CAN GIVE A MONEY DONATION—TAX-DEDUCTIBLE.** It can be a check in the mail, or a "PayPal" donation on our website, or a cash donation at the shelter—we'll provide you with a receipt. We'll also put you on our newsletter mailing list, if

you do not have an internet connection.

Online, you can view our newsletters on our website: [nataliessecondchance.org](http://nataliessecondchance.org). We want to use most of our paper newsletters to circulate around the general public and increase our exposure as much as possible. We can also email you our newsletter.

We are always looking for successful adoption stories for the newsletter. Please include a picture of you and your dog with your adoption story. You can mail it to us, but email would be best. And if you have any other story ideas, comments, or would like to get on our newsletter email list, please email Mark at:

[nataliessecondchance-mark@live.com](mailto:nataliessecondchance-mark@live.com)

Thank you all for your support!