



Holistic Behavior Solutions, LLC

Natural News

IN THE NEWS...

DOGS GET A FLIGHT TO SAFETY...

Thousands of dogs have gotten their safe passage to new homes by way of air travel. For many dogs in over-crowded shelters, the only chance they have of getting out is by other shelters or rescue organizations opening their doors. It is quite difficult to find an adorable puppy in an animal shelter in many parts of the country thanks to strong spay & neuter campaigns, however in the south and mid-west animal shelters & municipal pounds are over run with puppies. So many that they are euthanized on a weekly basis. For people in the northeast for instance who want to do the right thing and adopt it is a toss up between adopting an adult dog or purchasing a puppy from a breeder or pet store. Many different networks of people have come together and do weekly transports of puppies and adult dogs from as far south as Georgia to as far north as Maine among many other locations nationwide. Vehicle transports have saved tens of thousands of dogs, though it could mean multiple days cramped in a small crate with as many as 50 other dogs in a cargo van with poor ventilation. The poor ventilation and cramped quarters make the perfect environment for life threatening diseases like parvovirus and distemper to spread quickly. It is no surprise that many puppies arrive at their new destination carrying these illnesses.

Pilots and Paws is a volunteer organization of more than 680 pilots who donate their time, fuel and aircraft to fly shelter animals to their new homes in a matter of hours. That means way less stress on the animals, less time for disease to develop and spread to others and more time dedicated to the animal's rehabilitation.

Since February 2008, Pilots and Paws estimates saving over 2,000 animals.

Many people make a good argument that there are enough dogs in shelters across the U.S. that dogs don't need to be brought in from other states. It is true that most shelters especially in these difficult financial times are full to capacity throughout the country, however many of the dogs have various behavior issues. Most of these behavior issues can be rehabilitated and the dogs go on to make great pets, however there are those with aggressive behaviors that are simply not safe to adopt out into the community. Due to the rise in "no-kill" shelters, these dogs spend their lifetime in the shelter with little to no hope of finding the "right" home. While this is very sad for that particular dog it is also sad for all the dogs that will not be offered refuge because that kennel is continually occupied. As more and more dogs enter these "no-kill" shelters with aggressive behavior issues, less and less adoptable dogs are available to the public. Do you see where I'm going with this? Meanwhile, the dogs in the southern part of the United States seemingly have less aggression and behavioral issues. Whether it is due to the laid back attitude of their human counterparts or the fact that they are allowed to run free in many rural areas leading to less pent-up frustration...it is a trend that is noticed by many shelter personnel. So to me it seems to be a win-win for all. Dogs with

GREAT personalities that would otherwise be euthanized are matched up with people who are looking for a family pet they can trust around their children.

For more information on Pilots and Paws...visit their website at www.pilotsnpaws.org. They are also on Facebook!



YOUNG LIVING ESSENTIAL OIL OF THE MONTH

Thieves is a proprietary blend of Clove, Cinnamon bark, Rosemary, Lemon & Eucalyptus Radiata essential oils. Thieves oil is based on the historical oils used by thieves in France to protect themselves from the plague. Thieves essential oil is proven 99.96% effective against airborne bacteria in university studies. Young Living Essential Oils has a line of Thieves products including mouth wash, toothpaste, hand soaps, etc. Thieves can help protect us during this and future flu seasons. Thieves can be diffused in the air, applied topically or ingested orally.

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TRICK OR TREAT

I've never really like Halloween, even as a child. All the people dressed up in weird and sometimes scary costumes hiding their true identity. It just rubs me the wrong way. So how do you think our canine friends perceive all the ghosts and ghouls? Many costumes can be down right scary to a dog, even the most social hound can be put off by a mummy. Just the idea of the door bell ringing over and over or the constant knocks at the door brings images of dogs that are so totally stressed.

The best thing to do this Halloween is give your dog a tasty bone or Kong stuffed with something really yummy and close them in a bedroom, study, crate or other safe place away from the busy front door. Put a T.V. or some music on for them to drown out the noise of screaming children and ringing doorbells. Even dogs with the best temperament around children should be carefully supervised when costumes and candy are present. A stressed dog reacts in ways he otherwise would not and we all know that candy and dogs don't mix.

I know there are a lot of doggie Halloween costume contests and many are for charity. I'm not saying you shouldn't dress your dog up in some silly outfit, but be sure your dog is not miserable. Dogs do not like to be confined and most do not like wearing hats or "things" around their heads/faces. If your dog is the exception to the rule then have at it, but be sure it is what your dog wants, not what you want.

Take a Hike!

Last month I talked about loose-leash walking. I'd like to expand on that to include hiking with your dog. Even those of you in the city can hike with your dog. Take a drive to your local "wooded" park or out to the country on the weekend. For much of the Northeast, the leaves are already changing colors. What better than to go for a scenic drive, take in the autumn glow and explore nature with your dog(s). If it were up to me every dog would have the opportunity to go for a hike at least once a week deep into the forest to take in all the good smells. A splash in a river or lake is an added bonus that many pooches thoroughly enjoy. The air is getting crisp so your pups probably have more energy than during the heat of the summer. This is a great way to tire them out and enjoy the serenity yourself. Many of us get caught up in the everyday rat race of our busy lives. I can totally feel myself relax and remember the important things in life when I hit the trails and emerge myself in a simpler environment. It is so good for the mind and soul to escape into the woods. Remember your Purification though. You don't want to pick up any ticks while you're out there. Ticks season is in full swing during the cooler days of spring and fall. Also, bring water from home for both of you.

Don't let your dog drink from stagnate bodies of water. There are too many bacteria and parasites like Giardia that is very difficult to get rid of once it enters your dogs intestinal tract and can be transmitted to other dogs and humans.

FEATURED DOG AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION

Chester is an 8 year old English Bulldog. He is blind due to his beginnings at a puppy mill where he was poked by the chicken wire of his small cage. He was rescued from the mill only to be split from his rescuer in a divorce years later. Then his guardian fell on financial hardships which is why he is now in foster care. All this has not changed his love for human companionship. He gets along with other dogs, is totally housebroken and maneuvers around just fine. To read more of his story and how to fill out an adoption application...visit www.heavensentbulldogrescue.com.



Recommended Book Of the Month

The Art of Racing in the Rain by Garth Stein

I LOVED this book. I am not one to read a fictional story, but this one kept my attention the whole way through. I couldn't put the book down. This story is amazingly written from the dog's point of view, but have the Kleenex ready! I sobbed for 15 minutes and then had to re-read the last two pages. I have never read a book that evoked so much emotion. A must read!!!

Upcoming Events

Noah's Ark Animal Welfare Association is hosting their annual Howl & Hike on Sunday, October 11th from noon to 3:00 pm at Horseshoe Lake in Succasunna. Visit www.noahsarknj.org for more details and be sure to stop by my table and say hi!

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