

# Animal Friends of North Central West Virginia NEWSLETTER

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## Take Your Pooch to the Pool!

Make memories with your fur babies and friends at this summer's ultimate canine pool party:

Animal Friends Dog Day in the Pool, sponsored this year by David and Patti Biafora, in memory of Patti's parents, Bob and Peggy Sheets.

Date: Sunday, August 20, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Location: Marilla Pool

Come join us for a tail-wagging good time! Contests include dog-owner and dog-celebrity lookalikes, limbo, best pet tricks, longest dive, swim relay, and more.

We're all set for a day full of fun in the sun:

- Door prizes for oldest, youngest, smallest, and largest swimmers
- Duck pond with prizes
- Raffles
- T-shirt and dog biscuit sales
- Concessions will be available

## Keep on Truckin'

Animal Friends recently acquired a box truck, which will be a huge help with transporting donations for our thrift shop, the foundation of our operations. With this truck, we can help our valuable supporters get large donations to our location at the Mountaineer Mall on Greenbag Road. Our hope is to increase the variety of what we offer at the shop.

## Pack it Up

When you donate to our thrift shop, you're positively impacting the lives of animals in need. Do you have any household items you no longer use? We'll take them off your hands! We accept: furniture, small appliances, tools, dishes, glassware, decorative pieces, books, and more!

We do not accept mattresses, exercise equipment, computers, clothing, baby items or toys.

For Shoppe information or to arrange transportation for a donation, call 304-290-0161.

## "Our Pets Are Our Kids"

Self-described "foster failures," Mary Ellen and Patrick Conn share their home with 6 dogs and 2 cats. "We have good intentions of fostering," Mary Ellen said, "but then we can't give them up."

The latest additions to the Conn family are Angel and Mug (pictured below), adopted just a few months ago. "They are a bonded pair that could not be separated for adoption, so we adopted them both. We're Animal Friends alums," Conn continued. "We adopted the first dog available from the then-new no-kill shelter." That was 10 years ago, and since then, the Conns have continued to provide a wonderful forever home for their four-footed family.



## Join In!

To say we appreciate our members is an understatement. You're part of the AFNCWV family, and we hope you'll continue to be. For this year's membership drive, there's still time to send in your dues. Cost is still \$20 for an individual and \$30 for a family. If you've misplaced the membership form, or if you didn't receive one, simply write "membership" on the memo line of your check, made payable to AFNCWV, and mail to: P.O. Box 1090, Dellslow, WV 26531.

*Thank You!*

**Volunteers:** If you have a little extra time but want to make a BIG difference for the homeless animals in the area, please consider volunteering with Animal Friends. Please call 304-290-4738 or 304-290-0161.



## Animal Friends of North Central West Virginia

252 Brewer Road  
Morgantown, WV 26508  
Mail: P.O. Box 1090  
Dellslow, WV 26531  
304-290-4PET (4738)  
[www.animalfriendswv.org](http://www.animalfriendswv.org)

*The mission of Animal Friends of North Central West Virginia (AFNCWV) is to operate a high quality, non-profit sanctuary and foster program, providing refuge, aid, and care for unwanted, abandoned, and abused animals, free from the threat of unwarranted euthanasia.*

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## Keep Summer Safe for Your Fur Babies!

**Visit the vet for a spring or early-summer checkup.** Make sure your pets get tested for heartworm if they aren't on year-round preventative medication.

**Give plenty of fresh, clean water.** Make sure your pets have a shady place to get out of the sun, be careful not to over-exercise them, and keep them indoors when it's extremely hot.

**Know the symptoms of overheating:** Excessive panting or difficulty breathing, increased heart and respiratory rate, drooling, mild weakness, stupor or even collapse. Symptoms can also include seizures, bloody diarrhea and vomit along with an elevated body temperature of over 104 degrees. (Animals with flat faces, like Pugs and Persian cats, are more susceptible to heat stroke. These pets, along with the elderly, the overweight, and those with heart or lung diseases, should be kept cool in air-conditioned rooms as much as possible.)

**Never leave your animals alone in a parked vehicle.** Not only can it lead to fatal heat stroke, it is illegal in several states!

**Do not leave pets unsupervised around a pool**—not all dogs are good swimmers.

**Keep all unscreened windows or doors in your home closed.** Open unscreened windows pose a real danger to pets, who often fall out of them.

**Never shave your dog.** The layers of dogs' coats protect them from overheating and sunburn.

**Don't let your dog linger on hot asphalt.** Being so close to the ground, your pooch's body can heat up quickly, and sensitive paw pads can burn. Keep walks during these times to a minimum.

**Keep rodenticides and lawn and garden insecticides out of reach.** Some can be harmful to cats and dogs if ingested. Keep citronella candles, tiki torch products and insect coils out of pets' reach as well.

**Food and drink commonly found at BBQs can be poisonous to pets.** Keep alcoholic beverages away from pets, as they can cause intoxication, depression and comas. Avoid raisins, grapes, onions, chocolate and products with the sweetener Xylitol®.

ASPCA