

Newfie News



September 2023

VOLUME 5

ISSUE 1

Don't Miss the 10th Annual TNP Reunion and Fundraiser

Bring your Newfs and your friends for a day of food, fun, and fabulous raffle prizes. Meet some of the amazing dogs that have been adopted through TNP who are now flourishing in their new families.

Sunday, October 1st 11:30 am to 4:30 pm
554 Pucker Street, Coventry, CT

- Enjoy a delicious Italian lunch catered by Illiano's and cupcakes provided by Sweet Meg's
- Socialize with old friends and meet new friends
- Enjoy our FAMOUS one-of-a-kind raffle featuring Newfoundland themed baskets and other prizes such as wine, quilts, and a bath stand
- Veterinarian available for questions - Dr. Wendy Ernst, Kirby Vet Hospital
- Photographer on site for great pics
- TNP rescue staff available to answer questions

The raffle fundraiser raises critical funds for TNP to pay for veterinary care, surgeries, food, and transportation costs for the dozens of Newfoundlands and other dogs they find homes for each year.

QUESTIONS & RSVP

Cathy@thatnewfoundlandplace.org or
CathyD7384@aol.com or call 860 465 6839

Join us rain or shine

Need Directions?

*Check out the flyer on the **TNP Facebook page** or **TNP website***

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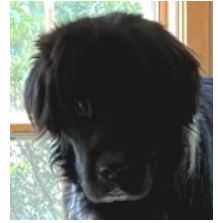
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Who's at TNP?

Kai is currently in foster care with Faith Ferguson in Connecticut. This 4-year-old boy has been vetted and neutered and is ready for his new family and a home with traditional fencing. He is good with older children. Watch for updates in future newsletters and the TNP Facebook page.



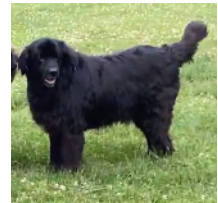
Interested in adopting from TNP?

All dogs are placed only in APPROVED homes. Email Nancy for an application: nancy@thatnewfoundlandplace.org. Home checks are also required (virtual or in person). Keep in mind that TNP places dogs in homes that are in the best interest of the dog, but welcomes applicants to express interest in dogs through TNP Facebook posts.

Recently Adopted

Ruthie has found a permanent home with foster mom Brenda Clair of Lancaster, Pennsylvania and four large breed dog siblings.

Ruthie is a rescue from Pennsylvania and has been in TNP care since May 17 due to family hardship. Her owner had medical issues and moved into assisted living. While in foster care Ruthie was diagnosed with congenital Subaortic Stenosis, or SAS. She will live out her days with Brenda.



SAS has no cure, but Ruthie takes medication twice daily and is doing well. "Sometimes she has heavy breathing when she comes in," Brenda said. "It's abdominal breathing, despite having the AC on." There have been no other issues.

"She's such a good girl," Brenda said. "She lived in a pasture with another Newf." Ruthie has had no training but Brenda says it is not a problem. "She's super easy. She follows me everywhere. She's like Velcro. She lays next to bed, and has pushed the other dogs out of their spot." Being with Brenda has been good for Ruthie too, who was obese when she arrived. With exercise and she has slimmed down to a more manageable weight.



l to r: Bella Saroo, Charlie, Ruthie, Rosie & Bowie

Despite having SAS, Ruthie is the rowdiest one in the group. She loves to play but doesn't find many other takers in the other dogs. Brenda describes her as peppy and "an active, happy, puppyish 8-year-old." Ruthie wades in the stream every day with the other dogs and enjoys four acres of fenced in yard. "She's living the life," Brenda said. "I let her do what she wants."

Brenda has been rescuing for decades. She began when she worked at UPenn in the small animal hospital. "I took it on myself," she said, to foster animals that needed homes. A couple of the dogs she rescued were Newfoundlands. Brenda said she "fell in love with the breed" and has fostered many extra-large breed dogs. A few of the Newfs – the older ones – she adopted. "Seniors deserve dignity and they don't get it," Brenda said. Although she is now alone at

Expert Excerpts

Seizures

By Dr. Lauren Flanagan of Pepperell (MA) Veterinary Hospital

Last month we learned that symptoms from seizures can include loss of consciousness, thrashing, urinating/defecating, and tremors. Seizures can be caused by internal or external forces to the central nervous system from brain injury or disease to trauma, tumors, and congenital malformations of the nervous system. External causes of seizures include exposure to toxins and certain medications, internal causes include disease in other organ systems.

If your dog has a seizure, notify your veterinarian, who will most likely recommend an exam and baseline bloodwork. You'll want to track the seizure incidents over time to determine frequency and duration. Seizures happening every month or in clusters - one right after another - may require treatment.

If your pet has a seizure at home, the most important thing is to keep him or her away from stairs or locations where they may fall or hurt themselves. Do not put your hands in their mouth. They will not swallow their tongue, the only thing that will happen in this situation is you will end up in the ER with bite wounds to your hand. If your dog is having cluster seizures or a seizure lasting more than two minutes, you should seek emergency care immediately. Keep the dog cool while transporting. Multiple seizures can rapidly raise body temperature and cause serious consequences. Wet towels on the dog's body are an effective way to cool them for transport.

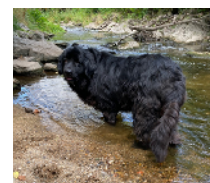
If it is established that your dog is going to continue to have seizures, veterinarians will start him or her on an anticonvulsant medication. There are many effective medications out there. Some animals do require more than one drug to control their

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Recently Adopted

Recently Adopted - Ruthie continued from page 2

home, she has three adult children. One son is local and visits daily, the others spend long weekends at home with Brenda and the dogs.

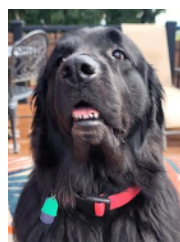


Ruthie in the river

Brenda's current Newf, 8-year-old Bowie, is the only puppy that Brenda has had. All others have been rescues. She currently also has a 4-year-old foster Newf, Rosie, who has a bite history and can't be rehomed so she will stay with Brenda. Brenda has been working with a trainer in Philadelphia with Rosie and has seen some improvement. Ruthie and Rosie are best friends. Bella Saroo is a "very chill" 7-year-old Leonberger with a run history, and a Doodle named Charlie who is 5 or 6 years old, whom Brenda adopted after an extensive rehab from swallowing a bottle of ibuprofen, rounds out the pack.

Brenda met Cathy in October 2022 when she was fostering Rosie. After she took Rosie in, Brenda called several Newf rescues and Cathy responded right away. Brenda called Cathy again when Ruthie needed a new home.

Although she loves fostering, Brenda said her house is full and Ruthie fits in perfectly. "The crew is good. They all love each other."



Yoggi has been in his new home with Doug and Sheri Guerra of West Mifflin, Pennsylvania since July 8.

"He's flourishing. We couldn't ask for anything more," Doug said of Yoggi. "He's fantastic.

He's about three inches from me at all times." Yoggi has a 9-month-old Newf sister, Angel, who has been positively impacted by Yoggi. "She has been transformed," Doug

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Recently Adopted

Recently Adopted - Yoggi continued from page 3

noted. "It's like she feels the need to excel." Yoggi and Angel are getting along very well.

So far, Doug and Sheri have discovered that Yoggi loves belly rubs, is very enthusiastic and likes to play. Yoggi took a little time to get used to the pool, starting with just putting his feet on the steps. Doug relayed that Angel acclimated herself to the pool in the same way, but is now very fond of it.

Yoggi began a formal 8-week training class on July 31. Doug noticed that Yoggi has already had some training and knows basic commands such as sit, and stay (which he responds to sometimes). Yoggi goes on walks around the neighborhood to socialize with other leashed dogs.

Doug and Sheri have had Newfs since 1999. Yoggi is their 5th, and second rescue. They have always had two dogs at the same time, mostly Newfs, but they did have one Bernese Mountain Dog, Mosely. Storm was their first Newf, then Mosely. Luna joined the family in 2014 and passed away in March 2022. They added rescue Thor in 2016 and lost him in November 2022. Angel came home in December 2022. Doug said Yoggi is "perhaps the biggest lap dog" of all their Newfs. "He likes to get up on the couch and lay on you."



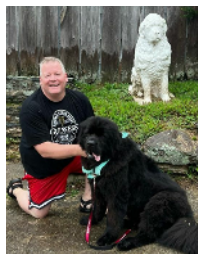
Yoggi & Angel

The Guerras became interested in Newfoundlands because of their personality and size. Sheri had always been fascinated with Newfs after reading about one and they got Storm when they married. "Newfs fit our lives perfectly," Doug said.

Doug and Sheri heard about TNP through the Newfoundland Club of America. They were researching breeders and found Newf rescues. The thought of Newfs without a family struck a chord with them. "It's heartbreaking that they are so loyal and dedicated to owners," Doug said. "We thought rescue would be a really good thing to do."

Yoggi seems to be the right Newf for their family. "He's your typical Newf," Doug remarked. "You can't get close enough to him. He can't get enough affection and he has a cheerful personality. He's melted both our hearts."

Landseer **Fiona** was adopted by Amy and Ken Barber on July 28. She is a licensed therapy dog and now has a Newf sibling named Yogi. Fiona absolutely adores the water and is loving her new home in Cape Elizabeth, Maine. Stay tuned for updates in future newsletters and the TNP Facebook page.



Seventeen-month-old **Delilah** was adopted by Peter Schuhknecht of Brewster, Massachusetts on August 25 and now has a Newf brother, Bowie, and a smaller dog brother named Archie. Delilah was surrendered due to family hardship and was in foster care with Nancy Weaver in New Jersey. Watch for updates in future newsletters and the TNP Facebook page.

more adoptions continued on page 5

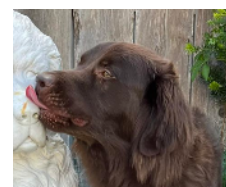
Recently Adopted

Spencer was adopted by John in April, however, John felt that Spencer needs a larger family to give him the full training and love he deserves. Spencer found that home with Joe Mahoney and Jen Wagner of Walpole, Massachusetts on August 29. Spencer has a canine sister and plenty to keep him busy. Stay tuned for future updates in newsletters and the TNP Facebook page.



This sweet brown girl came in without a name and was fostered by Nancy Weaver in New Jersey, after being in a puppy mill. The 5 to 6-year-old is exceptionally loving and will be called **Kona** by her new family. Kona was spayed on August 30 and will be officially adopted once she is healed. Watch for updates in future newsletters and the TNP Facebook page.

Thirteen-month-old **Winston** (formerly **Hershey**) is now in his new home with Frank Micelli in Oakdale, Connecticut after being surrendered in May due to his owners not having enough time for him. Stay tuned for updates in future newsletters and the TNP Facebook page.



Reducing Boarding Kennel Stress

Dogs are part of our family and we love spending time with them. Yet, sometimes it is in our Newf's best interest to leave them at home rather than bring them on trips where they will spend large amounts of time in a hotel room, or times when it's not feasible to bring them along such as work trips or hospital stays.

Boarding your Newf at a kennel can provide piece of mind that they will be safe and socialized, but there are issues that can arise, such as kennel stress. As in humans, stress can occur when a dog is challenged to change or adapt to new circumstances. Dogs may feel stress from interaction with unfamiliar animals and humans, changes to their routine, and lack of usual exercise.

Choosing a facility

Choosing the best boarding facility for your dog can take some time but putting in the extra effort up front can make for an easier transition when it is time for you to leave your Newf. Plan to visit the facility and ask questions. Factors to consider are size of facility, staff to dog ratio, size of kennels, staff familiarity with breed, and if you can provide your own food to prevent any stomach upset. Your Newf's bed and blanket (if they have one), preferred toy, and something with your scent can also ease their stress and make their stay more "homey," so ask if it's possible to bring them.

Enrichment can ease the stress your Newf is feeling in a boarding facility. This can include many things from sensory stimulation such as music playing in the background and various scented room sprays to a favorite toy. When researching a boarding facility, ask about what activities are done to reduce stress for your dog, and observe the environment and the actual design of the facility. Take notice of how many dogs are in a room at one time, traffic flow – if people and other dogs parade by enclosures all day long – access to outside space for potty breaks, lighting, and ventilation. For more information on kennel design, visit:

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https://www.petboardinganddaycare.com/archive/back_issues/volume3edition2/article8.html).

The overall appearance of other dogs at the facility is also telling. If they all look happy and are interacting with enthusiasm, the facility may be a place your Newf will be comfortable in. Ask if you can bring your dog for a visit to check out new sights and smells. You may also want to schedule a half day or overnight stay as a trial run.

To help reduce stress before the kennel visit, you can condition your dog to a cage or confined area at home. This may cause some initial stress, but will give them time to get used to the environment of the boarding facility, where there are multiple other stressors present.

Once you decide on a boarding facility and it's time to say goodbye, don't get too emotional at drop off or make a big fuss. Your Newf will likely pick up on your emotions and anxiety and sense that they should be concerned as well. Treat it like you would any other time that you leave your dog for a short amount of time and will return soon and talk in a calm voice.



©istock

If it's more than stress

Some dogs experience separation anxiety, which can be triggered by being left at a kennel. Sometimes the company of other dogs can be a distraction from your departure and ease your dog's anxiety. It's best to work with a dog behaviorist or your veterinarian ahead of time to work on helping your Newf become calm during times of separation and coming up with a plan to ensure their stay at the boarding facility is successful.

Choosing the right boarding facility and preparing your Newf prior to their stay will reduce stress for both of you. Your dog may even consider their time away as their own vacation.

Resources/more information:

<https://www.bpanimalhospital.com/post/steps-to-take-in-reducing-pet-stress-before-boarding-your-pet/>

<https://missemlsbedandbiscuit.com/is-dog-boarding-stressful-for-dogs/#:~:text=Tips%20for%20Reducing%20Stress%20While%20Boarding&text=Bring%20Something%20Familiar%20%E2%80%93%20Give%20your,they%20don't%20stress%20out>

<https://doggyaurus.com/boarding-kennel-stress-dogs/>

<https://www.humanesociety.org/resources/how-help-dog-anxiety>

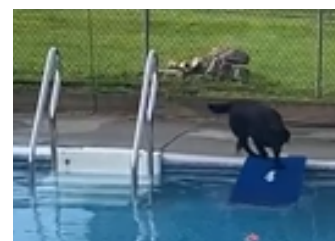
Good dog then
Bear a hand then pull tight.
A boat hook, a boat hook
He's in and all's right.
Come Carlo
Quick follow,
fine fellow
hard strife.
Wave Stemmer!
Deep Diver!
We owe you a life!

*The Newfoundland Song
final verse 1843*

DoggyDock Can Help With Water Access

TNP recently purchased a DoggyDock to help an overweight Newf easily get in and out of the swimming pool to get exercise. DoggyDock is a floating ramp for dogs that allows dogs to get out of the water onto a boat platform, dock, or swimming pool deck without assistance. The product provides excellent traction and because it simulates a shoreline, it works with a dog's natural instinct so they learn to use it immediately. Find out more at:

<https://www.doggydocks.com/ramps>



Echo the Lab
demonstrates the DoggyDock

seizures. Most veterinarians will also send home an emergency dose of Valium gel for rectal use in the case of cluster seizures to help get the seizures under control while you transport to the nearest ER. When your dog is started on anticonvulsant medication be prepared to visit the veterinarian at least twice a year for monitoring bloodwork as anticonvulsants do have effects on the liver. We also monitor serum levels of the drug to make sure we are not giving too much or too little of the anticonvulsant.

A quick note on "epilepsy." Epilepsy is a general term for seizures that we have not been able to identify an underlying cause. It is probably the most common diagnosis for seizure disorders in veterinary medicine. Idiopathic epilepsy patients usually have seizures first occurring between the ages of three and five. Certain breeds are predisposed to epilepsy. To confirm a diagnosis of true epilepsy an entire neurological workup would need to be performed, including MRI and CSF tap. In veterinary medicine the majority of our patients do not go through these procedures at the onset of seizures. Most of our patients are just started on anticonvulsants. Most dogs with idiopathic epilepsy respond quite favorably to medication and there is no need to perform further diagnostics. If we struggle to control the seizures with routine medication, it's time to refer you to a neurologist to see if there is a more specific underlying cause of the seizures. If your pet does not fit the classic diagnosis of epilepsy your veterinarian may suggest a neurologic referral before starting medication.

While seizures are scary, many dogs with seizure disorders can go on to live normal, happy lives if properly managed. Always be attentive to your pet around stairs, ponds and other bodies of water, and anywhere else that a sudden seizure could be dangerous to your pet.

October is Adopt-A-Dog Month®

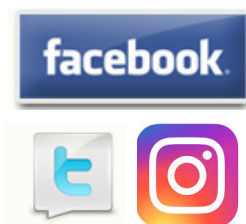
Sponsored by the American Humane Association, October is adopt a dog month to bring attention to the approximately 3.1 million dogs that are in shelters in the US each year. Approximately 2 million dogs are adopted each year through shelters. Consider adoption next time you are looking to add a canine companion to your family.

Support TNP through Amex Round-up

<https://www.americanexpress.com/en-us/banking/round-up/frequently-asked-questions/>



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That Newfoundland Place Inc. is a nonprofit corporation organized and operated exclusively for charitable purposes. Specifically, this organization has been formed to prevent cruelty to animals. Our mission is to offer quality of life to senior dogs of various breeds, to assist in rescue, rehabilitation, and re-homing of dogs in need, with a focus on Newfoundland dogs, and to provide humane education as related to care and life quality. of animals. Cathy Derench, President Newsletter editor and publisher Joanna Dumas: joanna.l.dumas@gmail.com