

Friends for Animals of Metro Detroit Updates Operating Hours, Dog Training Classes to Better Care for Animals

DEARBORN. March 10, 2017—The Friends for Animals of Metro Detroit (FAMD) places the wellbeing of its animals as a top priority. For this reason, it is shifting its operating hours and highlighting its positive-reinforcement pet training classes.

FAMD Executive Director Elaine Greene wanted to make sure that the animals at the shelter "were getting a break from the excitement of having people around all the time. It can be pretty hectic when families are coming through and our staff and volunteers are doing their regular cleaning." So she decided to institute a mid-day break for the animals at FAMD.

Said Greene, "We'll be opening the shelter to visitors at noon now, rather than 11, so the animals will have an hour of quiet time. It really calms them down and helps them greet their prospective families with a little more manners," she laughed. The new operating hours begin March 23.

The new hours of operation for adopters are:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday: Noon. – 5:00 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday: Noon – 7:00 p.m. Saturday: Noon. – 4:00 p.m. Sunday: Closed (except to registered volunteers)

For other services, including city services and programs, FAMD recommends calling the shelter at 313-943-2697.

Dog Training

Behavior Programs Manager Linda Thomas, too, keeps the dogs' welfare in mind in her classes. FAMD classes range from a single free session on Doggie 101 to the advanced American Kennel Club's Canine Good Citizen (CGC) test prep. Thomas teaches loving training, which results in a happier and safer pet, making the whole family happier. All sessions are held at You Dirty Dogs Pet Grooming, 24401 Ann Arbor Trail, Dearborn Heights.

FAMD starts a new class every three or four weeks, and limits the number of dogs to four per session in order to pay individual attention to each dog and human. The classes are open to puppies and dogs who are up-to-date on their vaccinations, and the classes vary by price and length. For a list of current classes, visit <u>https://www.metrodetroitanimals.org/what-we-do/pet-training-classes/</u>.

About FAMD

After 22 years of nurturing more than 47,300 animals, the Friends for Animals of Metro Detroit has embarked on the public phase of their "Building a Home with Heart" capital campaign to construct a new Animal Adoption & Education Center at the site of the former Dearborn Amtrak station on Michigan Avenue. Construction begins this summer. For more information about FAMD, visit <u>metrodetroitanimals.org.</u>

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