

TAPS shelter offering reduced adoption fees

By Tara Mattimoe

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PEKIN - Been thinking of adding another dog or cat to your family? Now's the time.

In an effort to minimize the number of animals that must be moved to the new no-kill animal shelter and adoption center, Tazewell Animal Protective Society has temporarily reduced its adoption fees.

Temporary fees

The reduced fees will only be in effect until TAPS has settled into its new locale next Tuesday.

The temporary, reduced fees are as follows:

€ Cats under 7 years old (not including kittens): \$75. Any additional cats adopted at that time will cost \$50.

€ Kittens: \$100

€ Senior cats over 7 years old: \$60. Any additional cats adopted at that time will be \$50.

€ Dogs and puppies over 40 pounds: \$100

€ Dogs and puppies under 40 pounds: \$125

€ Senior dogs: \$75

Expenses

Adoption charges help pay for such necessities as spaying and neutering, shots, testing, deworming and medications that the shelter provides for the animals before they adopt them out, said shelter Manager Sue Taffer.

Relocation

The TAPS team will be doing the majority of moving this weekend, said Taffer.

Because most of the staff and volunteers are needed for the move, the old shelter on Allentown Road will be technically closed over the weekend.

There will be volunteers inside available for adoptions, however.

"We won't let an animal miss being adopted if we can help it," Taffer said.

Up for adoption

There are 80-90 cats and 30-35 dogs for the crew to move before Tuesday, Taffer said. Almost all of them are up for adoption.

They are hoping to find homes for as many dogs and cats as possible before the transfer, Taffer said, as moving is stressful for animals.

Taffer said that they are excited for the move to their new shelter, located at 100 TAPS Lane.

New shelter

They are still putting the finishing touches on some of the rooms, said Taffer, but the staff hopes to have it all done by the Nov. 21, when they are scheduled to be all settled in the new locale.

She said they are still doing some work on the dog runs, so they are taking the cats over first.

Taffer said that she is thinking about having a holiday open house once they are all moved in, and she hopes that “everybody will come to see us.”