

Humane Society of Elmore County News – 8 Jan '18

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Executive Director

February 17th is only six weeks away for your chance to win \$10,000 at our 8th annual 'Getting Down with the Dawgs' DRAWDOWN! Tickets are on sale at the shelter and we have sold out prior to the event night the past three years, so make sure to stop by the shelter at 255 Central Plank Road (Hwy 9), Wetumpka, sooner than later Mon-Fri 8-5 & Sat 8-3 (if you also want to visit our pets for adoption, please wait until 10 am).

With the purchase of a \$100 ticket you will have a 1 in 312* opportunity to win \$10,000 (you do NOT have to be present to win the grand prize)! Besides a chance to win big, each ticket holder and guest will also get a delicious buffet dinner, chance for door prizes, cash bar and so much more.

*312 you ask? Well, we have always done an even 300 but since the board we use (thanks to the Wetumpka Chamber of Commerce) has 312 spots, we just decided to use the entire board so twelve more opportunities to WIN BIG!

'Getting Down with the Dawgs' Drawdown will be at the Entertainment Center, Wind Creek Wetumpka, 100 River Oaks Dr, Wetumpka, AL, Saturday, 17 February 2018! Doors will open at 5:00 pm, dinner catered by Wind Creek begins at 6 pm and the Drawdown starts at 7 pm. If not for yourself, buy a ticket as a gift, or purchase one in the name of a special organization you support! For any questions contact us at 334-567-3377 or email hselco@bellsouth.net.

Here is our 2017 wrap-up: we took in 4222 pets which is 98 MORE than 2017 - bumper! Of these, 1406 (33%) were surrendered by their owners and 2781 (67%) were brought in as 'strays' by citizens and Animal Control Officers. Of these 2192 (52%) were dogs [720 Owner Surrenders (33%) & 1472 (67%) strays] & 1960 (46%) were cats [695 Owner Surrenders (35%) & 1265 (65%) strays]. We also took in 70 'Others' ranging from rabbits and pot-bellied pigs to injured wildlife that were then transferred to licensed wildlife rehabilitators.

Demonstrating the importance of spaying and neutering pets BEFORE they can have that first accidental litter is that 41% of the dogs and 67% of the cats we took in were UNDER six months of age. Just think that if those unwanted litters and 'giveaways' had been prevented in the first place we would have taken in over 2000 less animals needing new homes! So, PLEASE get your dog or cat to your vet by the time they are six months old to be spayed or neutered. There is simply no reason for most of our pets to have litters as every litter adds to unnecessary pet overpopulation.

We ended 2017 caring for 133 Dogs, 115 Cats and 5 Guinea Pigs in our shelter and have taken in 75 pets since 26 December (only one so far as an unwanted Christmas 'gift.'). Over 2069 of our pets [1263 dogs (58%) & 739 Cats (32%)] left for new and better lives with new families in 2017 and we will continue to do all we can to place our pets into caring and responsible homes.

We ask that the pet owners of Elmore County work with us to reduce our intake by getting your pet(s) spayed/neutered BEFORE they produce yet another unwanted litter, by keeping your pets safely at home so they are safe and others don't have to 'rescue' them, and by having identification on them at all times so they can be reunited if they do get away from home. Reducing the number of animals coming into our shelter is how we can ALL save more lives in 2018 and beyond.