

Humane Society of Elmore County News – 14 Mar '16
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Executive Director

We hope for a huge crowd this Tuesday, 15 March at 9 pm at [Rick & Mo's](#), 3150 Watchman Drive, Montgomery to help celebrate [Rachael Wilson's](#) 27th birthday and join in on her fund-raising music event to benefit OUR shelter, the Humane Society of Elmore County! Please thank Rachael for doing this for our pets and hope to see a HUGE crowd there Tuesday!

Our first Supply Drive of the year is this Sat, 19 March at the [Wetumpka Walmart](#), 9 am - 1 pm. We are still looking for a few volunteers to help out so please contact Charline Pope at 334-202-1381 or popecharlie58@yahoo.com if you can assist. Donated pet food, cleaning supplies and other items are truly put to good use and help us use donated dollars for direct animal care costs, so thank you ahead of time for all donations we receive on Saturday.

Also this Saturday, 19 March, we will be joining other shelters and rescues at the 3rd Annual [Hotel Pit Bull Adoption Event](#) at [Cooter's Pond Park](#) in Prattville, 10 am – 3 pm. There will be many great dogs looking for their forever homes as well as vendors, demos, food & more so hope to see a park full of pet lovers on Saturday and please thank Hotel Pit Bull members for inviting us all to join in on the fun!

From the [Alabama Veterinary Medical Association](#) (ALVMA) - National Poison Prevention Awareness Week is March 20-26, 2016 and the ALVMA wants to remind pet owners that pets are also in danger. This is a great time for pet owners to do a little spring cleaning and check their homes for any toxins which their pets may have access to. Some of the top poisons pets are most susceptible to are: Foods (chocolate, xylitol and grapes/raisins); Insecticides (sprays, bait, and spot-on flea/tick treatments); Mouse and rat poison (rodenticides); Human and pet medications; Household cleaners (sprays, detergents, polishes); Fertilizers (bone meal, blood meal and iron based products).

Other poisons that are extremely dangerous include antifreeze & acetaminophen. Veterinarians have also seen numerous cases of xylitol poisoning (xylitol is found in many sugarless gums, candies and mints), human medications such as non-steroidal anti-inflammatory medications, antidepressants and flowers. Symptoms can range from digestive upset and neurological signs, to liver and/or kidney failure.

Poisons are fast-acting and can be fatal so do not hesitate to contact your veterinarian if you see any indications of poisoning such as vomiting, diarrhea, drooling/hypersalivating, inappetance, nausea, coughing or vomiting blood, weakness, lethargy or collapse.

- Be familiar with poisonous items by checking the list at www.petpoisonhelpline.com
- Do not leave medicine bottles within reach of pets (dogs can quickly chew through a pill bottle)
- Create a pet poison first aid kit
- Know the signs of poisoning in your pet
- Be especially careful during holidays with candy
- As spring approaches, be aware of all of the harmful plants and gardening items that could cause your pet harm
- Last, but not least - always keep the number for your veterinarian in a handy location (like in your cell phone contact list)

For more information, visit the ALVMA website at www.alvma.com to learn more on how to protect your pets from toxins.