

Humane Society of Elmore County News - 10 Apr '17

Rea Cord

Executive Director

Please give a huge shout out to [Wind Creek Hospitality](#) as we were one of 25 non-profits from throughout Alabama, Georgia & Florida to each be awarded \$5000 Friday evening! [Wind Creek Hospitality](#) had held a Facebook contest whereby non-profits could enter a video and get their supporters to vote – and because of our wonderful supporters we were in that top 25! We will be using our \$5000 to help us build a new food storage building, something that is direly needed! Thank You [Wind Creek Hospitality](#)!

This week (9-15 Apr '17) is National Animal Control Officer (ACO) Appreciation Week and ask that you please appreciate and thank your local ACO for his/her hard work helping both animals and people. These men and women go far beyond the old days of the 'dog catcher' as they work to enforce state and local laws, help animals in need, protect the health and safety of people, and resolve issues involving animals.

Animal Control Officers often go far beyond just capturing wayward animals as they deal with dog and cat bite/attack cases, mediate disputes between neighbors over animal issues, round up loose livestock that have gotten out of pastures, investigate animal cruelty and neglect cases, work with their fellow law enforcement on other cases where animals are often innocent victims, investigate and often seize abandoned pets, etc. All areas of Elmore County have a containment or "leash law" for dogs and Wetumpka & Tallassee add to that with a "leash law" for cats. City noise ordinances and barking dogs are often at crossed paths and some towns have limits on the number of pets in city zoning ordinances. And some, but not all of our cities restrict livestock within city limits.

Our Animal Control Officers are dedicated professionals who deserve respect from the public they serve – many are Alabama Peace Officer Standards and Training (APOST) certified officers and some have attended specialized animal control training at the state and national level to learn about things like safe capture techniques, animal identification, disease issues, legal issues, investigative techniques, court proceedings, rabies control, public education, wildlife and exotics, and so much more. Animal issues often put them in harm's way from both animals and people and their call volume often means they have to triage cases to deal with the most serious, or potentially serious, the quickest.

So we just want to say thank you to each and every Animal Control Officer for all they do to help animals and people throughout Elmore County – your hard work is greatly appreciated.

If you can't make it to our shelter this coming weekend, perhaps stop by to see us at [Cooter's Pond](#) in Prattville as we join in other shelters and rescues at the [4th Annual Hotel Pit Bull Pit-Nic & Easter Egg Hunt](#) from 10 am – 2 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!

The 15th annual [Cruisin 'fer Critters](#) is coming up on Saturday, 29 April, at [DeJa Vu](#), 121 N. Burbank Drive, Montgomery, AL! Registration starts at 11 am with last bike out by 1pm. Each 'hand' is \$15 for which you get an event patch, goodie bag, food, door prize ticket and more such as live music, bike/car wash, fun live auction and just a great day of fun. Best hand wins \$250, 2nd best wins \$100 and worst hand wins \$50 (must be present to win). There is a \$5 minimum if you don't want to play a 'hand.' Sponsorships are available so please contact Joey "Shaggy" Keithahn at 334-558-1423 or Sherri Clower-Kirkley at 334-207-3773.