

Humane Society of Elmore County News – 22 May ‘17

Rea Cord

Executive Director

“Kitten season” is in definitely here as we are receiving increasing numbers of momma cats with kittens, orphaned kittens, single kittens, multiple litters of kittens, just kittens and more kittens. And for possibly every kitten surrendered to our shelter there are another three or four more kittens out in the community looking for homes. With literally hundreds of kittens looking for homes each week, the supply of kittens far exceeds the demand. All of these free kittens unfortunately sustains this vicious cycle as not enough of these will ever be spayed or neutered before they start producing litters of their own. Many of these kittens will get pregnant as early as four months old and the dilemma of too many kittens and not enough homes will continue.

If you are looking to add a cat or kitten to your family, please look to your local shelter. For our \$50 adoption fee, our kittens will have had basic immunizations and de-wormings, will be spayed or neutered, microchipped and so much more. With the support of all of the area veterinarians, we can pretty well say that adopting a kitten from a shelter will be the most economical way to give one a good home and make sure your new cat does not contribute to a very real problem of pet overpopulation. And if you do get one of the hundreds of free kittens, please see to it that it is vaccinated and dewormed by your vet soon after you get it and then spayed or neutered (remember – it takes two to tango, so boys need to be neutered as well) by the time it is six months old. No matter where you get your kitten (or cat or puppy or dog), please take it to a veterinarian soonest so that it can get off to a healthy start. Far too many ‘free’ pets succumb to diseases because they never went to a veterinarian to help them get the protection they need and your veterinarian will be happy to answer your questions and help make sure your pet is a happy and healthy member of your family.

There are also many, many dogs, puppies and adult cats at our shelter looking for their forever homes which leads to a big shout out to our Pet Care Staff for their hard work decorating our shelter last week and all the fun of our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual “Adoptions Under the Stars” this past Saturday. We will leave our interior decorations up for a while as you really need to see the creativity of our staff. Mama nature put a bit of a damper on our fun, but eleven of our pets did find new homes. Sadly 34 more pets came in before noon on Saturday but we kept the proverbial stiff upper lips and smiled with each of our wonderful adoptions. Those 34 are just a fraction of our intake this time of year and the cause for the kitten season article above.

Many know how important our Tail’s End Thrift Store is to our shelter so we hope you can join us on Friday, 2 June 2017 at 1:30 pm for our official dedication ceremony as there are some very important people who deserve our thanks and whose help and faith in our work we want to publicly celebrate.

For more information on our shelter check out our website at [www.elmorehumane.org](http://www.elmorehumane.org), email us at [hselco@bellsouth.net](mailto:hselco@bellsouth.net) or give us a call at 334-567-3377.