Humane Society of Elmore County News – 15 Jun '15
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Executive Director

Here we are in the middle of June, Adopt-a-Cat month, and we have many, many wonderful cats and kittens in need of loving homes. From the 1st of the year until this weekend we have taken in a total of 776 cats and kittens. But more notable is that 52% of this year's total cat intake so far has come to us just since the 1st of May (406 in just the preceding six weeks and 320 of those are kittens)! This is heartbreaking as it means an average of eleven kittens & cats are coming to us each and every day and we haven't even mentioned the dogs (which sadly isn't much better at 364 also in the past six weeks). Put all of that together and we have had an average of 21 pets coming to us every day we are open the past six weeks – yes, we are exhausted with this much intake!

We had 22 wonderful adoptions the past few days but as you can see that doesn't come close to helping as many pets as we want. So what does it take to adopt our pets? We want to help potential adopters find that good match and love working to find the right pet for the adopter. We will help you based on your living situation, expectations of the pet, capabilities and limitations, and so much more as we think adding a pet to your family is a very special decision since we hope that pet will be a family member for the next 10-15 years!

Once you have found that right pet our adoption fees are $100 for dogs and $50 for cats under one-year old, while cats over one year old can be adopted for a fee of your choosing. This adoption fee completely covers the mandatory spay or neuter, basic immunizations & de-wormings, microchip, heartworm check for dogs, one-year rabies vaccination if old enough, 45 days of pet health insurance and a free health exam with your participating veterinarian. This is such a small price to pay for a lifetime of love and since we are at the height of our intake we really hope you can open your home and heart to a new pet soon.

We very often also have pets that are sponsored meaning all or part of their adoption fee is paid. Once an adopter has found that great match, and if that pet is sponsored or otherwise has a reduced fee adoption (older pets, special needs pets, etc) we love giving the adopter a nice surprise at the point of adoption.

If coming to the shelter is a challenge, then perhaps check out our dogs & puppies at the Montgomery PetSmart from 12-4 the next two Saturdays. We also have cats looking for homes at the Prattville PetSmart Cat Adoption Center and their staff can help you seven days/week. If adoption isn't in your near future, perhaps you can volunteer to help us at the Montgomery PetSmart for at least an hour or two. With more volunteers we can bring more puppies and also adult dogs that can be walked on a leash so everyone can see them. If you have some time on any of these days please contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Charline, at popecharlie58@yahoo.com , call her at 334-202-1381 or contact us at the shelter at hselco@bellsouth.net or call us at 334-567-3377.

We know that people get their pets from a variety of sources but want to caution the public about getting puppies or kittens too young, with no vaccinations of any kind, and from sources that may not be supplying healthy pets. We sadly see, first-hand, and hear of far too many cases of sick puppies & kittens obtained from parking lot, road-side, flea market & Facebook or Craigslist give-aways or sales. Please be aware that 'free' just might come with a very hefty price in terms of money and broken hearts. If you are looking for a particular breed, please ask your veterinarian about reputable breeders in the area who know about their breed and stand behind the puppies/kittens they sell. And no reputable breeder sells puppies/kittens at four weeks old as they need to be with their mother and litter at that age for health and development reasons. We just ask that you be careful and not support people who market pets too young and without support to you as their new owner.