

Humane Society of Elmore County News – 29 Jul '13

Rea Cord

Director

We had a truly incredible fund-raising weekend last weekend that was capped off when Elmore County Commissioner David Bowen brought us a \$1250 check to help us during our most challenging time of the year. We certainly appreciate this help as we have taken in over 2750 animals thus far this year and July looks to be our peak intake month with over 530 pets coming in July alone and the month is not quite over. Every donation helps ensure we can continue to be here to support the citizens of our county where stray or unwanted pets are concerned and do our best to find homes for as many of them as possible. Thank you Commissioner Bowen!

Keeping the shelter open to the public six days each week and caring for 300+ animals each and every day is not an easy feat as there is far more to it than some people may realize. Each and every day all dog kennels and cat cages/rooms in both buildings of our shelter are rigorously cleaned & disinfected, all pet food and water dishes are washed, pets are fed (pups and kittens 2-3 times/day), litter boxes are cleaned, dirty towels and bedding are washed, animals are bathed & given flea/tick products, vaccinations and de-worming treatments are given, temperament evaluations are done, sick or injured animals are tended to often with trips to area vets and these are just a few of the day to day tasks. One day each week the Tuskegee Veterinarian and senior students arrive to help us with health evaluations, and on another day we are sending 15-30 pets to be spayed and neutered in preparation for adoption. On other days our Volunteer Photographers are coming to help take as many photos as possible so we can post them on-line to get them as much exposure as possible. And in and around all of this we are taking in 20-40 NEW pets each day and hopefully adopting out as many as we can to new and loving homes or moving some to great private rescue groups. There are good days and bad days, and days of great frustration when the public simply exceeds our capacity to keep any more pets forcing sad and difficult choices. We do this because we love animals and while there certainly is heartache, there is great joy in being there to help those that truly need us and in helping all we can get their second chances at new lives full of love and care.

We share this so you can see what your donations help fund. While we are a non-profit we still have every bill any private business has such as staff wages, utility bills, phone bills, insurance, facility upkeep & repairs, vehicle expenses, veterinary bills and more, and could not keep our doors open if not for the generosity of so many wonderful supporters. As our support has grown we have worked hard to maintain and improve our aging facility so that we can provide a safe and healthy environment for our pets, our staff and the public who visit us. And while we have to be sensible, acutely injured or sick animals are very often taken to area vets for treatment because our donors step up to help us see to the medical needs of these very special pets. Your donations help us purchase all the supplies necessary to maintain our facility for our pets and every donation that comes through our front door truly does help save a life!

So please believe us when we say how very appreciative we are for every dollar, every supply item, every Thrift Store item, every towel & blanket, any pet food, treats and toys donated to us. We also truly appreciate all who donate their time to help us at our events, in our Thrift Store and in our shelter as donated time is virtually priceless to us and our pets. And even if you aren't able to donate or don't have the time to do hands-on volunteering with us, you can always help by simply telling everyone you know about us and just giving us moral support on the tough days for our staff. On behalf of our board, staff and especially our pets, we want to thank everyone who supports us in so many ways. If you want to learn more about our shelter please just check us out our website at www.elmorehumane.org, join our Facebook family or come to the shelter located at 255 Central Plank Road, Wetumpka, AL 36092.