



AGGIELAND
Humane Society
Don't buy love, ADOPT it

Animal Talk

Fall 2016 Newsletter

Better Vets, Healthier Animals
Shelter Medicine Partnership is a Win-Win

National Clear the Shelters Day

Best Ways to Give Back- Through Shopping!

Volunteer goes the distance for AgHS Pets

And Much More!



Dear Pet Lovers,

We are grateful for your support and friendship. Your ongoing commitment to the mission of providing humane care and treatment of lost and homeless pets provides sustainable funding for these lucky pups and kitties. We are grateful for our Board of Directors who volunteer to set the course for our future! During our last strategic retreat some awesome goals were set.

As you know, running an animal shelter that fills up daily feels like rowing a boat with a leak in it. Every time we bail out some water more rushes in! We have identified several ways to keep the water from filling our boat. The “no kill” formulas include several programs that are needed or need strengthening in our community.

One program is a High Quality, High Volume, Spay Neuter Clinic, usually run by or as a nonprofit. It will help both shelters make sure every pet adopted is spayed or neutered prior to adoption. Currently there is a one to two week wait for appointments because our local vet practices are, very busy with our caring, growing community. In addition, it will help target audiences that are low income or in under-served populations. Community Cat programs will blossom once we have a high quality, high volume spay neuter option for them!

The second goal is strong shelter medicine programming that involves hiring a veterinarian who will specialize in shelter health, medical rescue triage, continuity of care, spay neuter and in our case, strengthening our teaching partnership with the TAMU College of Veterinary Medicine. Once we have a veterinarian we will qualify for Vet School externships, too.

The pets who find their way to us benefit from your Volunteering, Donating and Adopting!

Kathy Bice
Executive Director

Inspiring Rescues Giving Circle

Building enduring support

Aggieland Humane Society says thank-you to the 52 members of the Inspiring Rescues Giving Circle. These individuals have pledged a minimum of \$1,000 a year for five years. This funding allows staff to plan for the future while still meeting our pets' daily needs.

Everyone is invited to join the Inspiring Rescues Giving Circle. The goal is 100 members. A \$1,000 pledge is a stretch for many, but a monthly gift of \$83.34 equals the \$1,000 annual gift. If interested, please contact Carolyn Young at 979-775-5755 ext 110.

Did You Know?

You can leave the pets of Aggieland Humane Society in your will.

Our IRS tax ID number is 74-2150288. Leave a legacy that will live on.



Tails of Success

AgHS Alumni find their happy endings

Molly, a pregnant Australian Shepherd mix, came into the shelter before moving to a foster home where she delivered nine fluffy, wriggly pups. She was a great mama and her babies all found homes, but we then discovered Molly was heartworm positive. After several weeks of intensive treatment, she returned to the shelter to be adopted. Molly is one tough mama, and her story shows just how valuable foster parents can be.

Cricket was a goofy, affectionate cat and part of a local cat sanctuary managed by a dedicated woman. When she passed away, we reached out to help the lives left behind. We discovered that Cricket was positive for the FIV virus and cast a net for specialized rescue groups. Fortunately, one group stepped up and agreed to a transfer. We are happy to say that he was successfully treated and adopted to a loving home.

We don't know much about **Viola's** early life. She wandered the streets for weeks, relying on the kindness of a Good Samaritan who had begun to feed her. He gained her trust and delivered her to the shelter. Viola was a beautiful, older girl who spent a couple weeks in the shelter before finding her happily ever after. She went from a lost, scavenging stray to pampered house pet!

Bagel the Puggle arrived heartworm positive and so underweight that we couldn't determine her breed. After weeks of a foster family's TLC of good meals, a warm bed, and heartworm treatment, Bagel's breed features (plus a few extra pounds) and personality came out. This unique pup loved to cuddle but did not like thunderstorms. Bagel was adopted within a week of being returned to the shelter!



Clear the Shelters Weekend

One weekend, one mission; clearing kennels.

30 CATS

19 DOGS

3 CHICKENS

1 RABBIT

Clear the Shelters Day, along with Free Feline Friday, saw a total of 53 animals from AgHS find their forever homes. Several other applications were submitted. This record-breaking weekend is the best we've done all year! Clear the Shelters is a national event that helped over 45,000 pets find homes across America.

Better Vets, Healthier Animals Shelter Medicine Partnership is a Win-Win

A partnership between Aggieland Humane Society and the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine has provided care for adoptable animals and training for veterinary students for more than **20** years.

This partnership places veterinary students at the humane society at times during two of their four years of training and provides physical examinations and surgeries that saves the humane society thousands of dollars. The students spend time during their first year observing and learning the basics of handling animals and conducting routine examinations. They perform spay and neuter surgeries for humane society animals during their third year and fourth year at the veterinary school and spend additional time during their fourth year providing routine wellness exams. By the end of their four years, each class of veterinary students will have examined approximately **2500** shelter animals and performed close to **800** spay/neuter surgeries.

"During first year, it is mainly just getting our hands on animals and learning how to perform physical exams," said recent graduate Laura Szalbach. "As time progresses, we get more thorough in our physical exams and learn how to better restrain animals. Finally, by fourth year, we are able to correlate medical knowledge with our findings on physical exams and how the animal is doing clinically and make appropriate diagnoses/treatment options."



Vet Student Amy Shelden helps set a broken leg.

Dr. Karen Snowden, one of the veterinary professors who helped start the program, adds that the students' experience at Aggieland Humane Society as well as at other similar facilities in the region increases their awareness of the issue of animal welfare in a community.

Texas A&M veterinary students receive training more representative of a general veterinary practice case load, shelter animals receive medical care that would otherwise not be readily available, creating healthier animals seeking a forever home.

Win-win.

Two Easy (and free) Ways to Give Back

Show your support through shopping!



A free and easy way to help Aggieland Humane is through Amazon Smile. When you choose AggielandHumane as your charity, Amazon donates money to the humane society with purchases you make at no cost to you.

Go to smile.amazon.com/ch/74-2150288 to sign up, and remember to visit smile.amazon.com when doing your online shopping to show your support!



When you link your Kroger Plus Card with the Aggieland Humane Society, every time you shop at Kroger and use your card, a portion of the sale goes to the humane society. Please note: Remember to link your card every year, starting August 1st, to support the organization of your choice.

Link your card at krogercommunityrewards.com
Aggieland Humane Society's number is 91087

- If you have an existing account, sign in. If not, create account.
- If you use your phone number at the register, call 800-576-4377 and select option 4 to get your Card Number.
- If you do not have a Kroger Plus Card, you can obtain one digitally when creating an account online at www.kroger.com, or at any Kroger store.

Best in Show Sponsors



**BRYAN
BROADCASTING**

Brazos Valley
Veterinary Medical Assoc.



**Tahoka's
Medical Rescue**

The Eagle



Best in Breed Sponsors



Blue Ribbon Sponsors

Kelly Burt Dozer, Inc. | iHeartRadio

How Far Would You Go?

Volunteers go the distance for Aggieland Pets

If there was an award for farthest-traveled volunteer, Deana Philips would take the cake. She first became acquainted with Aggieland Humane when she was living in Chicago. She took a special trip down to Texas to help with Adopt-a-Thon in the 1990's and fell in love with the shelter. Since that first visit, Deana has made the trek out to us every year, for Adopt-a-Thon, Subaru Adoption Events, and holiday parties. Three years ago, she and her sister-in-law Karen were involved in an adoption transfer of eight puppies. Soon, Karen had caught the volunteer bug as well. "Since then Karen and I have brought appreciation gifts for staff and gifts for the pets. We enjoy helping save lives." We are beyond grateful for their dedication. "My husband Tom always says, 'Please don't bring back more than you left with'. When I give him a present he always asks first, 'Does it eat?'"



Deana assists with two puppies at Adopt-a-Thon.

"We get comfort in seeing the immediate impact of our service."



Members of C Battery help out around the facility

Volunteer JC Park has probably helped recruit the most man-power to AgHS. Park is a member of the TAMU Corps of Cadets, and part of C Battery. Soon after the first time coming out to help around the facilities, we were "adopted" by C Battery. As JC says, "Our primary reason for partnering with AgHS was because they had the capacity for particularly large groups." The cadets help with tough jobs, such as clearing brush, resurfacing our roads, and maintaining our mulch walking paths. "Though one of the best parts is being able to interact with the dogs and cats, we get comfort in seeing the immediate impact of our service," says Park. If we ever have a project where we need a hand (or twenty), we know who we can count on.

Get Social With Us!



@AggielandHumane



Project Fluff and Fold

We're up to our whiskers in laundry

So much in fact, that we can run up to **20 loads a day** in our dog and cat buildings. Each animal we house needs clean bedding each day, and we have to ensure that each piece is sterilized before use on the next pet. Our household washers and dryers break down frequently. We need something a little more heavy-duty. Project Fluff

and Fold is a campaign for a Speed Queen commercial washer/dryer set that totals to **\$10,500**. If you think you can lend us a hand, visit aggielandhumane.org/donate to contribute to our cause of clean laundry for all. And if you ever feel the need to do a couple loads of laundry, swing by and we'll get you sorted!



How Else Can You Make a Difference?

If you've got a skill, we can use it. **Volunteers do so much more than clean kennels.** From event planning to photography, handiwork to transport, you'll find your way of making a difference at Aggie Land Humane. For more information on volunteering, visit aggielandhumane.org/volunteer or give our volunteer coordinator Carly a call at 979-775-5755 ext 106.



WIENER FEST IS COMING: OCTOBER 14-16

Three days' worth of fun events planned at Wolf Pen Creek

Wiener Fest is Aggieland Humane Society's biggest fundraiser of the year. This **FREE** festival is open to all people and pups, and there will be activities for all.

Friday kicks off the festival with Boot Camp at 5pm. This is a chance for all participants to come and practice on the track! Vendors also begin to set up, and prepare for the weekend with live music.

Saturday is a day full of events. Our canine costume contest begins at 9:30am. Our first annual Wiener Cook Off begins at 10am with tastings at 11:30. Races begin at 11am and run through the afternoon!

Sunday is finals day! Top contenders from Wiener Races and Wanna-Be-Wiener Races face off starting at 2pm. Before that, our 5K Fun Run is at 10am, and Best Trick Contest starts at 11:15. Vendors and live music round out the day.

Interested in joining the fun?

Registration is open, visit us online to register and learn more at aggielandhumane.org/wienerfest.

Upcoming Events

Halloween with New Republic

October 29th from 12pm-6pm
Dog Costume Contest, Adoptions and Profit Share at New Republic Brewery, College Station

Sterling Subaru Adoption Event

November 19th from 10am-4pm
Discount adoptions at Sterling Subaru off the bypass.

Santa's Wonderland Adoptions

December 3rd from 3pm-12am
Select pets available for adoption
Santa's Wonderland, College Station

The 12 Strays of Christmas

December 12th- 23rd
\$12 adoptions on select AgHS pets.



5359 Leonard Road, Bryan Tx 77807 | 979-775-5755 | aggielandhumane.org

