



# ANIMAL TALK

FALL 2019 NEWSLETTER

**YOU  
CAN GIVE  
HOPE  
TO  
PETS IN NEED  
AND  
SAVE  
ON YOUR  
TAXES!**

**Our youngest donors make their mark!**

**Tails of Your Success and More!**



# Our Board of Directors

## President

Stephanie Mitchell

## Vice President

Kris Fraley

## Secretary

Darby Roberts

## Treasurer

Peggy Sherman

## Board Members

Molly Georgiades

Betsy Jeter

Chuck Fleeger

Alicia Dorsey

Donnis Baggett

Cheryl Pederson

Foster Ullman

## OUR MISSION

The Aggieland Humane Society **provides** humane care and placement for homeless and abandoned animals, **promotes** the human-animal bond and **promotes** responsible pet ownership to enhance the quality of life for the people and animals in our community.



# You made it happen!

## Dear Friends,

On July 27, when all the cats for adoption were gone, cages were empty, and the building was quiet, **we thought of you.** We are so proud and grateful to have your generous support. **The Free Feline Fridays have never been so successful!**

Each cat found his or her special family, even the declawed cat Carissa. She found a woman who totally understood the advice from Joy, AgHS foster volunteer, about going slow to become Carissa's BFF. They left together to begin their special relationship.

When the volunteers came in Monday morning to clean the cat building and the cages were all empty, there were a bunch of smiles! Success!

**Now, because you helped, there's room for cats on the waiting list, for owner surrender appointments and cats in foster care.** When foster kittens are old enough, they too will be welcomed.

**Your friendship and support mean so much to the dogs and cats and staff at AgHS.** Because you care for these great want-to-be pets, more found their forever families at our Subaru Adoption Day and the National Clear the Shelter Event in early and mid-August. Hundreds of you follow and share AgHS on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. Please keep it up; it spreads the word about all the great things happening at Aggieland Humane!

**Thank you for being part of the Aggieland Humane Team.**



# Tails of Success - Thanks to You

## AgHS Pets Find Happy Endings

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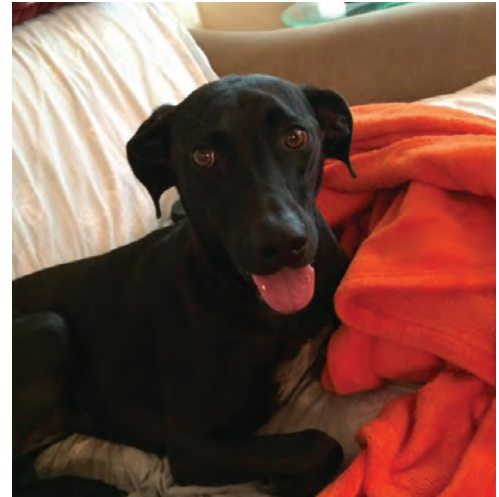


Sadie (formerly Ms. Blackbeard) will be turning 7 this October! I adopted her way back when she was 6 months old, and she's got quite the personality. Margery (formerly Callie) will be 4 in December and I also adopted her when she was about 6 months old. The two girls have actually become the best of friends! I want to thank everyone at Aggieland Humane for caring for my girls before I adopted them! Y'all are great!

- Ruth Berger

I adopted my dog, Annie, from Aggieland nearly two years ago after volunteering at the shelter for about a year and a half. The staff were great and even took the time to walk me around to each run and help me find the perfect match for me. Adopting Annie has been life-changing and I'm eternally grateful to Aggieland for the opportunity to have adopted such a great pup.

- Jen Glenn



## Check out the Purrfect Pageant Royalty!

These cats contributed to the more than \$5,000 raised for pets in need!



Queen Bills



Princess Rescue



Duke Juniper



Miss. Catgeniality  
Holly



# Every Gift Helps

## Meet some of our youngest donors!

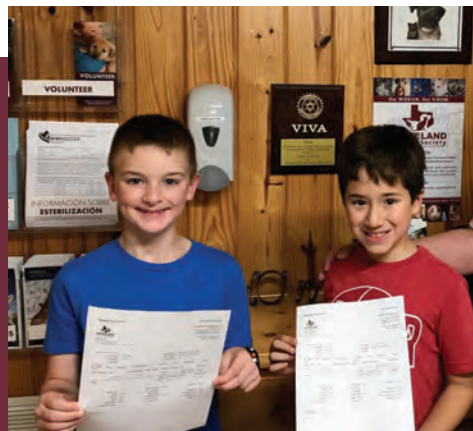


### Meet Jaelen Good!

Jaelen spent his entire first grade year sharing stories and facts with his classmates and teachers about why they should donate money to the pets of Aggieldand Humane Society. He talked about his own dog, Milo. Over his first grade year he was able to raise over \$82 to donate to Aggieldand Humane Society. He was tickled. He even got to present the money to a shelter representative. When asked why he raised money for the pets, his answer was simple:  
“because I love animals!”

### Meet Jack and Carlos!

These two best friends have donated over \$200 to pets in need over the last 4 years. They began raising funds for AgHS through their first Lemonade Stand in 2015. And ever since then they have been hooked on being life savers for pets in need!



“I donate from our Lemonade Day stand because I want them to have great futures and great families. For example, I have my own cat, and I bet that someone gave the money to the animal center to give her a good family. That’s my family. And I wanted to do the same for the other pets because I want them to have great futures, so I hope that what I gave to the shelter is enough to make some of them have good futures and good families.”

- Carlos

### HOW WILL YOU BE REMEMBERED?

Leaving a gift in your Will to Aggieldand Humane Society is a once in a lifetime chance to ensure homeless and abandoned pets have shelter, food, and care until they find their forever home. Aggieldand Humane’s Tax ID is 74-2150288.

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# DR. BETSY JETER

goes above  
and beyond

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**Aggieland Humane Society relies on many community members to support daily operations of the shelter.** One of those community members is Dr. Betsy Jeter. Dr. Jeter graduated from Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine and spent several decades working in local veterinary practices before transitioning into her more recent roles as a board member, volunteer, and foster for Aggieland Humane Society.

Dr. Jeter also serves as a Lecturer in Veterinary Pathobiology for the vet student teaching partnership between Aggieland Humane Society and the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine. This program allows fourth-year veterinary students to get hands-on experience in shelter medicine by spending two weeks tending to the medical needs of the pets at Aggieland Humane. She enjoys being on hand for these students and getting to watch them interact with the shelter pets.

When Jeter isn't educating vet students or helping oversee shelter medical care, she contributes to the shelter by issuing health certificates for all pets transferred to other shelters nationwide. A health certificate authenticates the traveling pet is healthy and has all the appropriate vaccinations required by the laws of other states.

Over the years Jeter has seen numerous changes to the sheltering model and is proud of

Aggieland Humane's drive to become a no-kill community and lower euthanasia rates. While she says there are still mountains to climb, Aggieland Humane Society has made impressive strides.

She is also proud of the success of the Spay/Neuter department over the last two years. From launching the Spay/Neuter Unit to performing over 5,000 surgeries in less than two years, Jeter is happy to see Aggieland Humane provide such a needed service to the community.



When asked what she enjoys the most, Dr. Jeter mentioned having the opportunity to know the thousands of pets that move through the shelter and being able to introduce countless veterinary students to the field of shelter medicine.

**Your generosity is being used wisely.**

*Only 17% of income is used for fundraising and administrative expense. You can help reduce that by asking for your gifts to be acknowledged annually and by email, cutting down on printing and postage expense.*



# Over age 70 ½?

YOU can give hope to pets in need and save on your taxes!

-Peggy Sherman is a Certified Financial Planner™ with Briaud Financial Advisors

If you're an IRA owner who's at least age 70 ½ and must take a required minimum distribution (RMD) during 2019, please consider donating a portion or all of your distribution to care for pets in need at Aggieland Humane Society.

Under the qualified charitable distribution (QCD) rule, you can have part or all of your distribution made directly from your IRA to Aggieland Humane at any time through Dec. 31. Employer sponsored retirement plan distributions are not eligible for QCDs.

**Here are four reasons to consider a QCD for your charitable contributions:**

1. You never pay taxes on the amount contributed, and you don't have to itemize the deduction on your tax return. Include the QCD amount in the total IRA distributions on your Form 1040 to reflect the distribution reported to the IRS by your IRA trustee. However, the QCD amount is not included in the taxable amount reported. If you use a tax preparer, be sure to let them know you have made a QCD during the year.
2. The distribution isn't included in your adjusted gross income (AGI), which may lower the taxable amount of your Social Security benefits and/or the amount you pay for Medicare premiums.
3. It can help minimize your taxable estate while fulfilling your philanthropic wishes.
4. While your required minimum distribution may be smaller, you can contribute up to \$100,000 to charity through a QCD, total of \$200,000 for married couples.



The QCD contributions must be made to a 501(c)(3) charity, such as Aggieland Humane, or to a 170(b)(1)(a) organization (public 50%) foundation. Donor-advised funds and most private foundations are excluded. If you have a passion for animals and have RMD funds you'd like to donate, the QCD is a

great way to help pets who can't help themselves and reduce your tax bill at the same time. Please consult your tax advisor for guidance on your personal situation.



**"For over 30 years, my wife and I have had dogs and cats as pets. Pets are part of our life – loving them, enjoying them, and caring for them. Giving to help pets who can't help themselves feels good. Giving through our IRA just makes sense. Our gifts make a difference for pets in need and we get a tax benefit. A win-win all around."**

**Bob Gibbons – Aggieland Humane donor & volunteer**

# Upcoming Events

## You're Invited!

### October 5

#### 13th Annual Wiener Fest

Join us at Wolf Pen Creek for Wiener Races, Wanna Be Races, & Costume Contest!

### November 23

#### Sterling Subaru FEE-WAIVED Adoption Event

Fee-waived adoptions for dogs, cats, puppies and kittens. Join us 10am-2pm at Sterling Subaru in Bryan

### December 6

#### Discount Microchip Day

Prepare for holiday festivities by making sure your pet can always get back to you. \$15 microchips all day.

### December 10 - 23

#### 12 Strays of Christmas

12 select pets available everyday to adopt for \$12 - Give the gift of a forever home to a pet in need!

### December 14

#### Santa's Wonderland Adoption Event

Visit with adoptable pets at the magical Santa's Wonderland! We also encourage you to buy a cup of hot cocoa - proceeds support pets in need at Aggieldand Humane.



## You can make a difference now and in the future!

**\$10 a month provides**  
a single round of vaccinations

**\$17 a month gives**  
a dog & a cat a month's worth of food

**\$12 a month provides**  
enrichment activities for a dog & a cat

**\$65 a month provides**  
spay/neuter for one cat or dog each month

Become a Pet Pal monthly donor. Simply check the box on the enclosed slip or go to [aggieldandhumane.org/donate/make-a-donation/](http://aggieldandhumane.org/donate/make-a-donation/) and highlight Monthly under Donation Schedule.

## IS YOUR DOG READY TO LEAD THE PACK?

# BARK LEADERS 2019

A PET-TO-PET FUNDRAISING COMPETITION • ENDS NOV 1ST



[Aggieldandhumane.org/events/barkleaders](http://aggieldandhumane.org/events/barkleaders)





## Best in Show



The Eagle



## Best in Breed

Darby Roberts

## Blue Ribbon

Bissell Pet Foundation

Kelly Burt Dozer

FLEX

Aggie Orientation Leaders Program

## Pets need YOU today!

Because over 3,000 pets a year find their way to Aggieland Humane, they need you to make a gift today so they have shelter, food, and care for tomorrow.

