

THE WOOFINGTON POST VOL. 1

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WEATHERFORD PARKER COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER NEWSLETTER

MARCH 15,
2020



WELCOME

by Ashley Woolnough

The Weatherford Parker County Animal Shelter would like to welcome you to read our monthly newsletter, the Woofington Post.

We hope you find this newsletter fun, informative and enjoyable, reading about everything going on at the shelter. In this newsletter you will find: Happy Tails, Upcoming Events, Staff and Volunteer Spotlights, Norman's Nook, How YOU Can Help, Statistics for the Shelter, Opportunities to Volunteer, Operations Updates, Pets of the Month, and Recognition for Supporting the Shelter.

We hope you enjoy reading this as much as we have enjoyed putting it together!

*Remember: Give a Second Chance and Adopt,
Don't Shop!*

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Upcoming Events

Mar. 20th - Volunteer Orientation

April 4th - First Monday

May 2nd - PCPA Pitchin' for Pets Softball
Tournament

If you would like WPCAS to attend your event, please email animals@weatherfordtx.gov to discuss opportunities and availability.



NORMAN'S NOOK

by Emily Laszczak

Dear Norman,

I heard that the shelter offers microchip's for \$20! I've heard a little about them, what exactly are the benefits of having your dogs microchipped? Is it an easy process?

Sincerely,
Lost & Found

Dear Lost and Found,

It is always a good idea to have your dog microchipped! According to Petfinder.com, "The American Humane Association estimates over 10 million dogs and cats are lost or stolen in the U.S. every year, and that one in three pets will become lost at some point in their life." Microchips are about the size of a grain of rice and are implanted in between the shoulder blades. It is very quick and easy! If your pet is lost, someone may find it and take it to any local vet or animal shelter to have it scanned for a chip. The microchip number will pop up on the scanner, then they will call the microchip company to get the owner's contact information. Easy peasy, and a great way to get lost dogs back to their owners! You are more than welcome to come up to the shelter to get your dog, or cat, microchipped for just \$20! We would love to help you out!

Love, Norman





Progress Picture taken 3/13/2020

GIVING SECOND CHANCES CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

by Ashley Woolnough

We are so excited to see our new Medical Surgical Building begin taking shape! I hope you are all as excited as we are, we are starting to get antsy with excitement!

So far the the framing of the building is underway and the contractors are making great strides in the progression of the construction. We are excited to see the building come together to where we can now see what it will look like and how it is structured in person. It is incredible to see the strides we are making to improve the lives of pets in our community and the help we will be able to provide through this building being erected.

With the support of our community and the partnership with the Weatherford College, we are anticipating many accomplishments and improvements in the shelter's future! With the substantial rain and poor weather conditions the building's completion date has been postponed slightly. We are now on track to have the building substantially completed by the end of May 2020!

Although the first phase of the campaign is under construction, there are still many opportunities to help! The shelter's next goal is to build an Outreach and Classroom Center that would be available for Weatherford College to use as a classroom while working at the shelter, as well as open up opportunities for the shelter to host industry leading continuing education courses and community classes to expand knowledge and practices at the shelter, as well as improve animal welfare and responsible pet ownership in Weatherford and Parker County. The goal to make this next step happen is to raise **\$250,000**. Once we have that goal reached, we will be able to begin construction on that project as well!



Floor Plan and Digital sketch of what the building will look like.





HOW YOU CAN HELP

by Ashley Woolnough

We get asked quite often, "how can I help", which is one of our favorite questions to answer! There are so many ways that YOU can make a difference in our shelter, our community and for our pets!

One way that you can help is by VOLUNTEERING for the shelter. We take our volunteer program very seriously as it is what allows us to do the extras we get to do such as: get each adoptable dog out of their kennel each day for a walk, provide enrichment to our animals, help adopters find their purrfect match, and so much more! We want the shelter to be a fun place (not a sad place) for families to come to and enjoy, as well as be a resource for our community when animal problems are encountered. By having a family of dedicated staff and volunteers, we are able to achieve so much more and help so many more. There are many opportunities to volunteer, we are sure we have the right place for you! Be sure to complete your online application and sign up today!

Help us to be able to do more for our dogs and cats here at the shelter! Volunteer Today!

The next orientation date is Friday, **March 20th at 2pm.**

Another way you can help is by donating. We accept monetary donations, as well as in-kind donations. All donations we receive help us to do more for our animals and our community. Our monetary donations go towards building new facilities to serve our animals and community better. Our Amazon Wish-List contains several items that help us to better serve our animals and provide fun things for them to do in their kennels to help pass the time until they find their furrever homes.

WONDERING HOW TO GET STARTED?

- Step 1: Complete your online application.*
 - Step 2: Watch the 4 online training modules.*
 - Step 3: Sign up and attend an In-Person Orientation*
 - Step 4: Submit your background check*
- After that, we will help you get plugged in right away!*



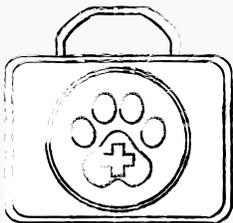


HAPPY TAILS

by Emily Laszczak

On Saturday, March 7th, 2020, City of Weatherford Animal Services responded to a call for assistance from the Parker County Sheriff's Department Animal Control Division. A family had an emergency and it was reported that roughly 10 chihuahua mixes were in dire need of care. This was a terrible situation that our officers handled with compassion and professionalism to provide the best handling, care and respect possible for both the people and the animals who were in this situation, as we do with all those we care for. Our final animal count for this case was 60 dogs.

Unfortunately, these animals were uncared for, unsocialized and some were practically feral, receiving little to no human interaction and socialization. After medical evaluation, they slowly became available for adoption. Some of these cute faces are ones that have gone to wonderful homes. Thankfully these sweet babies are getting a new chance at life!

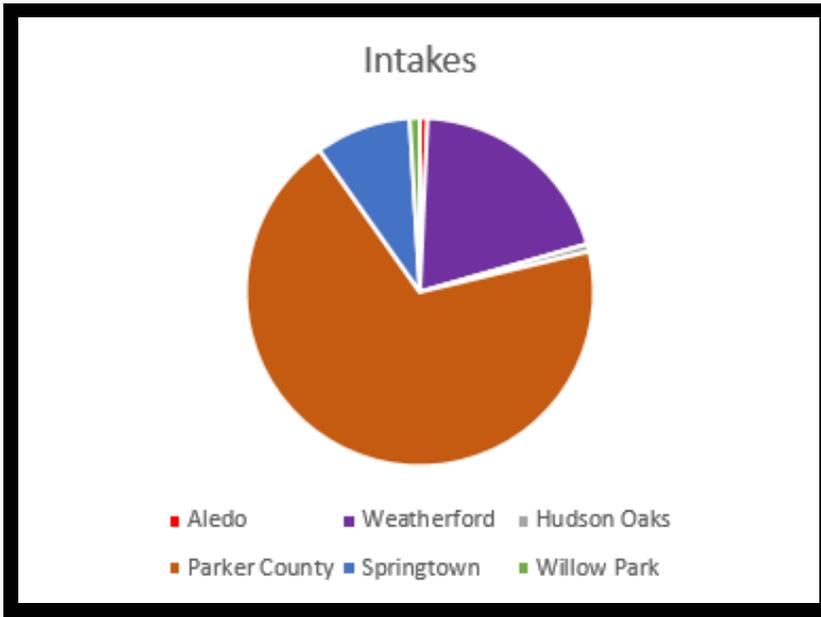


Vet Tip of the Month:

The most important thing to begin as soon as you get a new pet is an appropriate vaccination and parasite control program. The best place to get this care for your pet is with your family veterinarian.

- Dr. Glenn





OPERATIONS UPDATE

by Ashley Woolnough

The Weatherford Parker County Animal Shelter provided care for over 433 animals during the month of February, and over 2,377 animals so far this fiscal year (Oct. 1 through Feb. 29).

Currently we have seen 320 more dogs, cats and ferrets than we did in 2019.

Of the intakes we had during February, 227 were strays and 84 were owner surrenders. The shelter currently is maintaining a 98% Live Release Rate for the year thus far, however, the winter time tends to be our slower time of year. Along with providing care for the animals we have seen, we have participated in several community events!

Currently we are gearing up for the most stressful time of year for the shelter, the spring and summer months. With the already higher than average intake numbers so far this year, we are anticipating higher than normal numbers through the spring and summer, specifically with the puppy and kitten intakes.

We can surely use your help to keep our pets happy and assist our customers! Join our volunteer team today!

Volunteer Opportunities include:

Animal Care,
Customer Care,
Communications & Marketing,
Public Outreach, and
MORE!





VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Meet Renata Malavazzi!

"It is just happiness to be part of these dogs' lives!"

Renata has been a volunteer for just about a year now. She spends hours a day walking dogs, as well as taking pictures of them to post online. Renata has been caught walking the dogs in the freezing cold, insane heat, and the pouring rain! She says that outside of the shelter, she spends most of her time studying, but that her main hobby is volunteering. When asked what her favorite thing about the shelter is, she says, "The love that all the dogs give me, and the love that I can give them!!!" Renata's bright, smiling face always makes our day brighter and we are so thankful for her!

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Meet Eric Schumar!

Eric is one of the newest members of our shelter family! He started back in August of 2019, but quickly fit in with our antics. He says that his favorite thing about the shelter life is the variety of animals that we see come through! It's not only dogs and cats, but we get everything from normal livestock, to rams, emus, snakes, and more! In his spare time, Eric loves to fish, camp, and just generally be outside. He never hesitates to jump to help someone, and he will gladly give you the shirt off of his back if you needed it. He is an asset to our shelter, and we are so glad to have him here!



CAT OF THE MONTH

Meet Buster!!

This handsome boy has been at the shelter since March 6, 2020. He is around 4 years old, and is wanting to spend the rest of his 9 lives with you!



DOG OF THE MONTH

Meet Hank Williams!!

Hank Williams is a 7 year old Boxer mix that has been at the shelter since Feb 21, 2020. This sweet boy has seen many people walk by his kennel, and he just wants a home of his own! Come meet him!



Weatherford Parker County Animal Shelter's adoption fees are \$100 for female dogs, \$90 for male dogs, and \$50 for cats. Each adoption includes their spay/neuter, core vaccinations, rabies, as well as a microchip. Please don't be sad if you find they have been adopted, there are many more here looking for their furever home and would love to be a part of your family!

RECOGNITION FOR SUPPORT

THANK YOU SO MUCH to Poolville High School FCCLA Students and Poolville Elementary Students for coming out to read to our dogs and cats! That truly made an impact and make their day!



Photo Credit to Weatherford Democrat's Madelyn Edwards!
Thank you for coming out and doing a fantastic story on these wonderful students!

