

Humane Society of Elmore County News – 14 Jan '19

Rea Cord

Executive Director

We finally have confirmation that the Humane Society of Elmore County's 9th annual 'Getting Down with the Dawgs' \$10,000 Drawdown will be on FRIDAY, 15 March 2019! There were some scheduling conflicts so why it is a bit later this year, but we certainly hope for another packed house at the Entertainment Center, Wind Creek Wetumpka, 100 River Oaks Dr, Wetumpka, AL!

Tickets will be on sale at our shelter (255 Central Plank Road, Wetumpka) starting this Wednesday, 16 January. Now we have sold out of tickets before the event for the past few years so don't delay – stop by the shelter Mon-Fri 8-5 & Sat 8-4 (if you also want to visit our pets for adoption, please wait until 10 am).

With the purchase of a \$100 ticket you will have a 1 in 312 (the board has 312 slots) opportunity to win \$10,000 (you do NOT have to be present to win the grand prize)! Besides a chance to win big, each ticket holder and guest will also get a delicious buffet dinner, chance for door prizes, cash bar and so much more.

On 15 March the Wind Creek Entertainment Center doors will open at 5:00 pm, dinner catered by Wind Creek will begin at 6 pm and the Drawdown will start at 7 pm. If not for yourself, buy a ticket as a gift, or purchase one in the name of a special organization you support! For any questions contact us at 334-567-3377 or email hselco@bellsouth.net.

Here is our 2018 wrap-up: we took in 4143 pets which is 79 less than 2018. Of these were: 2044 dogs/puppies; 2007 cats/kittens & 92 Others (Rabbit x 29; Guinea Pig x 21; Possum x 6; Pot-Bellied Pig x 5; Parakeet x 5; Chameleon x 5; Rat x 4; Squirrel x 4; Deer x 4; Chicken x 3; Ferret x 2; Goat x 1; Mockingbird x 1; Goose x 1; Turtle x 1).

1502 pets (36%) were surrendered by their owners & 2634 (64%) were brought as Strays by Citizens & Animal Control Officers. We averaged taking in 13.8 animals every day we were open in 2018 (six days/week).

Demonstrating the importance of spaying and neutering pets BEFORE they can have that first accidental litter is that 39% of the dogs and **66% of the cats** we took in were **UNDER six months of age**. Just think that if those unwanted litters and 'giveaways' had been prevented in the first place we would have potentially taken in 2130 less animals needing new homes! So, PLEASE get your dog or cat to your vet by the time they are six months old to be spayed or neutered. There is simply no reason for most of our pets to have litters as every litter adds to unnecessary pet overpopulation.

1970 pets were saved in 2018 and we ended the year with 255 pets in our care at the shelter or in foster homes.

We ask that the pet owners of Elmore County work with us to reduce our intake by getting your pet(s) spayed/neutered BEFORE they produce yet another unwanted litter, by keeping your pets safely at home so they are safe and others don't have to 'rescue' them, and by having identification on them at all times so they can be reunited if they do get away from home. Reducing the number of animals coming into our shelter is how we can ALL save more lives in 2019 and beyond.