



WCSPCA Mission

The Washington County SPCA provides shelter, protection and care for animals. We handle strays, provide for animal adoption....and we are recognized as the first contact for animal care and pet recovery. We serve the animals, citizens and communities of Green Country from our location on Highway 123 North of Bartlesville. We speak for those who cannot speak for themselves.

Special Thanks

Chevron Phillips Chemical Company for donating heavy-duty trash bags

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SPCA Breaks Yearly Adoption Record

Washington County SPCA has surpassed it's all time adoption record. The total adoptions for 2006 were 1,514 breaking our previous record of 1,261 adoptions in 2004.

WCSPCA would like to thank the community for supporting our mission to help the homeless pets by adopting from the shelter and donating for the care of the animals. WCSPCA is an open-admission shelter that takes in all pets that need a place to stay and tries to find homes for as many as possible.

You can now find information on our adoptable animals at the following sites:

- petfinder.com
- wcspca.org
- 1-800-save-a-pet.com
- pets911.com



Boulder Trips

In 2006 180 pets were given a second chance at being adopted by traveling to the Humane Society of Boulder Valley in Colorado. WCSPCA is in need of donations and drivers to save more pets by transporting them to Colorado. They are adopted there within a week or two instead of staying at our shelter for months.

Barn Cat Program

The SPCA has started a new program to save more cats. These cats would normally be euthanized because they do not make good house pets due to the fact they are not used to living indoors or being around people. They do make good barn cats and can live a happy life on a farm, ranch or as a shop cat. Potential adopters are screened to make sure the cats will have shelter and food. Donations are needed to spay or neuter the cats and give them a rabies vaccination. To donate for this program please mark your donations for the "Barn Cat Program".

Oklahoma Humane Federation

WCSPCA Executive Director Anita Stepp was elected to the Board of Directors of the Oklahoma Humane Federation at the 2006 Annual Membership Meeting, which was held in McAlester. Oklahoma Humane Federation, incorporated in 1998, is a growing network with humane organization members statewide. OHF serves its members through information resource sharing, encouraging prosecution of animal cruelty cases and promoting spaying and neutering of pets as the primary means of reducing the number of animals euthanized in pounds and shelters in Oklahoma.

Furnaces

We have had to replace two of our furnaces so far this year. We know we also have a central heat & air unit that will have to be replaced later this year. If anyone has a good used unit available and would like to donate it please contact us.

Computers

We are desperately in need of new computers. The three we have were purchased in 1999 and they are seriously outdated. If anyone has a good computer to donate or would like to donate funds to purchase one please contact WCSPCA at 336-1577.

WISH LIST—We always need the following items:

Canned Dog Food—we use 2-3 cases per week

Cat Litter—we use approximately 50 lbs. per day We usually get the red bag Special Kitty brand. It is inexpensive and seems to work the best.

Doggy Biscuits/Treats

Cat Toys

Dog Toys—Tennis balls, basketballs or footballs

Statistics

	Nov. 2006	Dec. 2006	Jan. 2007
Surrenders	179	178	174
Adoptions	149	116	142
Reclaims	26	17	8
Euthanasia	39	25	39

Volunteer Article

Do you have spare time with nothing to do? Are you tired of playing video games or sitting around watching TV? Do you like doing fun and exciting things? Do you like working and playing with animals? Have you ever thought about volunteering? Well then, we have the perfect opportunity for you. Try volunteering at your local animal shelter, the Washington County SPCA.

If you like working with animals, the main function of a volunteer is to socialize the animals. This process makes animals friendlier, which in turn contributes in its process of adoption. Perspective adopters often overlook a shy timid animal. If volunteers socialize this particular animal, it learns that people are not that bad and becomes friendlier towards them. Another way of socializing the animals is by bathing the dogs. You start out by brushing the dog to remove any loose hair or mats. Then place it in the tub for a warm sudsy bath followed by drying it off with a towel with many doggie kisses during the whole process.

Throughout the year there are opportunities for the shelter to take animals to special events for the public to see. Some of these are Sunfest in June, boat and travel shows, Kidsfest at Woolaroc, and many other activities. The volunteer's main function is to exercise the animals and show them to the public.

You want to volunteer but are not sure if you want to work directly with the animals. How does office work sound? We need help in answering phones, greeting the public, doing paperwork, and other jobs around the office. We have recently started sending animals to OSU in Stillwater for spaying and neutering. We need drivers to take animals to and from OSU. We are also currently sending animals to Boulder, Colorado. We can use drivers to take these animals to their new home.

Now you ask how to get started. To become a volunteer you need to attend a two-hour training class. During this session you will learn how to get animals in and out of the kennels, how to bathe a dog, and other necessary information to volunteer at the shelter. The schedule for the classes is March 10, April 14, May 12, June 9, July 14, and August 11. Contact the office to sign up for one of these classes.

Volunteering can be both rewarding and beneficial. For teens it gives the opportunity to work and learn a job outside the home without the direction of parents. For preteens and parents it is a great opportunity for something to do with your child that you both can enjoy. It can be such a rewarding experience. When the time comes to apply for a paying job they are a step ahead and can even use the SPCA as a reference.

Dogs love the one on one attention they receive in preparation for their new home, while learning to socialize with all the volunteers that will come in and spend time with them. What about the great feeling it provides the first time one responds to sit or stay on command. For a child to teach an animal to follow commands can work to help the child's understanding to follow rules at home as well. Why not teach a younger child in such a positive way while helping out homeless animals at the same time?

Cats like the attention too. They can be more particular about who they want to be with and when they want attention. Cats are usually more docile than dogs and are happy to have a toy to play with and a lap to sit on. It helps them maintain a friendliness toward people and not be so lonely.

Come out and join our group. It is such a pleasure to see the animals respond.

Denver Trips

We just learned that we have now been approved to start a transfer program to send animals to the Dumb Friends League shelter in Denver, Colorado. We will be allowed to transfer animals once a month. This will allow us to save an even larger number of animals in the future. Of course the shelter will be in need of donations and drivers to send more pets by transporting them to Denver, Colorado. Volunteers are also needed to help bath and walk these animals during their stay here at our shelter.

Large Trailer Needed

We need donations to purchase a large trailer for transporting animals so we can take animals to both Boulder and Denver at the same time.

Special Thanks To:

Dawnette Brady Design & Construction LLC for enclosing the furnace in our Dog Adoption Building

Special Thanks To:

Anna Oliphant and Wal-Mart Foundation for the \$250 grant to WCSPCA for Anna's volunteer hours helping the pets at the shelter.

ConocoPhillips Continues Support of WCSPCA

Each year ConocoPhillips awards a grant to WCSPCA to help care for the homeless pets in our community. This grant provides funds for maintenance and repairs to the facility as well as vaccines and other necessary items. The SPCA is very grateful for the continuing support of ConocoPhillips.

Special Thanks To:

Edwina Bridgman and JCPenney Company Fund for the \$500 grant to WCSPCA. Ed was the recipient of the James Cash Penney Award for Community Service for her many volunteer hours helping the pets at the shelter. Each year the James Cash Penney Award recognizes active and retired JCPenney associates for their volunteer work in the community. WCSPCA welcomes any employee of JCPenney who would also like to volunteer to help the homeless pets at our shelter.

Special Thanks

D & Q Pest Control Service for treating our facilities

Spay/Neuter Programs

Several programs to assist pet owners with having their pets spayed or neutered are available at WCSPCA. GCSNAP is a program for low-income pet owners. There is also a \$59 coupon available to all pet owners which can be used at the Dewey Veterinary Clinic (Dr. Stites). WCSPCA will be starting a new program as part of the Oklahoma Alliance for Animals "It's Hip to Snip" spay/neuter campaign. For more details call the shelter at 336-1577 or email manager@wcspca.org. Donations are needed for these programs to prevent more unwanted pets from being born. This is the most humane solution to the overpopulation program and will prevent more pets from being euthanized.

Volunteers needed for the following

Stillwater Drivers

Every Thursday—Take animals to OSU
Every Monday—Pick animals up at OSU

Boulder Drivers

Office Work

We are in need of all sizes of animal crates &/or parts for crates

We need large heavy duty trash cans to store pet food

We need a small travel trailer or storage building.

If anyone has one they no longer use and would like to donate it to us for storage it would be appreciated.

TV Spotlight: Sponsor a pet in the TV Spotlight ad for \$50.00

Animal Friendly License Plates:

Applications are available in our office or at your local tag office. A portion of the proceeds help fund spay/neuter programs.

Very Best Pet Network:

Photos of WCSPCA adoptable pets are posted on a bulletin board in the Pet Section at Wal-Mart

Recycling: We are collecting the following to raise money:

Inkjet & Toner Cartridges ((Lexmark & HP Only)
Aluminum Cans
20 oz. Plastic Soda Bottles (Coke, Pepsi etc.)

New Trend at Local SPCA Good News for Animals

Things have changed at the Washington County SPCA. For the first time, more animals were adopted from the shelter than were euthanized, Executive Director Anita Stepp told the Examiner-Enterprise recently.

"We're very thrilled to announce that for the first time ever, we adopted more animals than we euthanized in 2006," Stepp said.

Stepp said that in 1997, 590 animals were adopted from the shelter. In 2006, the adoption rate was 1,514. In contrast 2,571 animals were euthanized in 1997, but in 2006 only 907 were euthanized, Stepp said.

Stepp attributes the changes to several factors, including use of the Internet to provide more information about the animals to the public, the shelter's efforts to spay and neuter more animals and an SPCA program that includes transferring animals to a shelter in Boulder, Colo.

The Boulder shelter, according to Stepp, "can take in pets from other areas because they have a successful spay and neuter program and high adoptions."

"Part of it is because fewer animals are coming in, and I think we can attribute that to the spay and neuter programs here, which have had an impact on the number of unwanted pets," Stepp said.

"Another thing that has helped decrease the number of pets euthanized is the use of more foster homes for under age puppies and kittens. In past years, those babies had to be euthanized because they could not thrive in the shelter. Now we have foster homes that will provide the intensive care that is needed for them to survive, and we are able to adopt them out when they are old enough."

The SPCA is an "open admission" shelter, as opposed to "no kill" shelter, which is important because it means the shelter does not turn any animal away, Stepp said.

Last year, 2,758 animals were surrendered to the SPCA, records show. The majority, or 1,897, were dogs, while 848 were cats and 13 were "other."

Stepp said a major change at the facility is that healthy, adoptable animals are no longer euthanized.

"Until recently, we euthanized healthy, adoptable animals because we didn't have space," she said. "Now that our adoption rate has increased so much, we are only euthanizing sick or unadoptable animals."

"That's a big change," she said.

According to Stepp unadoptable animals are those that pose a risk to other animals or people or which cannot be medically rehabilitated.

"The question sometimes comes up about why we euthanize animals," she said. "Our staff must assess which animals are adoptable and which are not. We are an "open-door" shelter, and we accept all animals who come in our doors. Since we do accept all animals, we are faced with the difficult task of evaluating them for medical and behavior problems."

"Animals who we cannot medically rehabilitate are euthanized to prevent suffering. Animals who pose a great risk to other animals or people are euthanized to prevent harm to the community."

The SPCA cares for unwanted animals, a large number—about 50 percent—of which are brought in by the City of Bartlesville, Stepp said. Others are brought in by the cities of Copan and Ochelata, or are surrendered by their owners or surrendered as strays.

The City of Bartlesville contracts with the SPCA to care for animals that are seized by animal control officers, although city officials announced last year that it would consider building and operating a separate "pound-type" facility in order to save money.

Stepp said negotiations with the city regarding the matter are still under way.

"We're still negotiating with the city, and we're hoping for an agreement to continue our contract with the city," she said.

Stepp said switching the ratio of euthanized and adopted animals at the SPCA is great news for the shelter, but even better news for animals that are being saved.

One example of that is Bert, a 1-year old Brussels Griffon Terrier adopted by Jill Spang last October

"We love him so much," Spang says of Bert. "He is the best dog. We go to visit my dad who is terminal, in his nursing home with the boys (Bert & Ernie, another Spang pet). Bert is like a gift from God—a true angel. He just sits there for hours and lets my dad pet him. I cannot thank (the SPCA) enough for him."

For Stepp, and the staff and volunteers at the SPCA, Bert's success is music to their ears.

"It's a tragedy that so many wonderful pets have to be euthanized when they could be a blessing to a family somewhere," Stepp said. "We are trying our best to make sure that all the adoptable pets have a chance to be adopted."

For more information about spay and neutering programs, animal adoptions or other issues, contact the SPCA at 336-1577 or visit their Web site at www.wcspca.org. The shelter is located between Bartlesville and Dewey on Highway 123.

(from the Examiner-Enterprise article by Kelli Williams)

Memorials & Pet Honorariums

Calvin L. Reed
Natalie R. Smith

Brett Howard
Jamee J. Suarez

Victoria E. Goff
E.L. May

Jim Stewart
Gordon L. Staples

Lyle E. Fenska, DDS
Martha Dover

J. B. Duke
Ruth Harris & Onyx

Charles Foster Doornbos
Pharis Jean Putnam, Bo & Jo Ann May, Jean Putnam

Moses Lee Thomas
Bob & Carla Korthase, Dale Tieszen & Ell Friedl,
William R. & Zola M. Pallett, Jo Ann Payne

Betty Williams
Clova & Lyle Abrahamson

Rosemarye Adams
Donation to Green Country Spay/Neuter Assistance
Program
From Carolyn Blum

In Honor of Jean Simmons
Mr. & Mrs. David L. Greene

In Honor of Karen Carney
Susan Deck

“Special thank you to Sam Schuette”
Who turned 4 — instead of presents for himself, he
decided to have his friends bring food for the pets of
WCSPCA.

Shadow
Dr. Matt M. & Judith L. Starcevich

Wren
Danielle Weaver

Stanley
Patricia J. Raglin

Maggie
William A. & Cheryl A. Buckles

Mallory & Jake
Ronnie G. & Debora L. Wolverton

In Honor of Bear
Jeff & Shari Anderson

In Honor of Harley
Esther J. Moore

Lady Dove
Helen Feldman

Jasa
Thomasann Adams' beloved 9 year old Min Pin
Donation to Green Country Spay/Neuter Assistance
Program
From Carolyn Blum

Executive Director:

Anita Stepp
918-336-1577

E-mail: akstepp@wcspca.org

Shelter Manager:

Paula Blower

E-mail: manager@wcspca.org

Staff:

Mark Tinsley
Cheri Harms
Tim Frey
Rosetta Chambers
Cheryl Jackson
Debra Blais
Sue Whiteturdkey
Josh Beeman
Baerbel Wood

Board Members

Bill Griffin-President
Lindy Kidd-Vice President
Susan Coker-Secretary/Treasurer
Diana Adams
Stephen Colaw
Bob Heil
Bruce Peabody
Kevin Potter
Jacqueline Judd
Jim Liehr
Melanie Arrunategui

Shelter Hours:

Tuesday through Friday
10:00 am to 6:00 pm
Saturday 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Surrenders:

Tuesday through Friday
between 10:00—4:00 p.m.

(Please make an appointment)

Phone : 918-336-1577

Fax: 918-336-1687

Web: www.wcspca.org

Location:

Highway 123 between Bartlesville and
Dewey



Calendar of Events

February 28

Spay Day USA

March 3

Showcase Bartlesville at Washington Park Mall

May 4, 5 & 6

Boat, Travel & Outdoor Show at K-Mart Parking Lot

June 1, 2 & 3

Sunfest at Sooner Park

Late June—Kidsfest at Woolaroc

Check the next newsletter for announcement of

A New Special Event!

Washington County SPCA

16620 State 123 Hwy
Bartlesville, OK 74003

Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage

PAID

Bartlesville, Oklahoma
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