

Brazos Animal Shelter helps animals, owners

Editor's note: The following story is provided as a public service by the Brazos Animal Shelter.

Pets are becoming more and more popular, especially with college students.

The dramatic increase in the pet population also has meant that many more pets are suffering or become animal control nuisances.

Pet owners and others who do not own pets will find that the Brazos Animal Shelter provides many useful services.

Q. How many animals does the shelter receive?

A. Since opening in 1983, the shelter has received more than 40,000 stray and homeless animals. That's about 8,000 animals a year.

Q. How do you get all these animals?

A. Bryan and College Station Animal Control Officers find straying pets and bring them to the shelter.

Concerned citizens also bring in strays.

Many pets are brought in by their owners, especially litters of puppies and kittens that they could not find homes for.

No animal is ever turned away from the shelter.

Q. What should people do if their pets are missing?

A. Check the shelter at least once every three days.

The shelter is the safest place for a lost pet.

"Jail bird" fees begin at \$25 and go up from there.

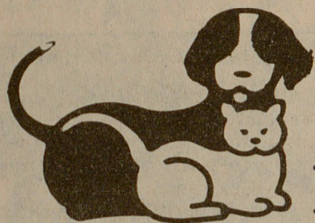
Although the shelter staff enthusiastically gives pet owners suggestions on how to keep the "escape artist" at home, a handful of dogs are repeat offenders, and their owners belong to the "\$100 Club."

Q. Does our community require the licensing of pets?

A. Yes. Local laws require that all dogs and cats wear Brazos County license tags on their collars.

Thanks to the cooperation of the local veterinarians, these tags now are available at their offices for \$5. These tags provide a 24-hour lost and found phone number, extended impoundment on tagged pets and emergency veterinary care to rescued, tagged animals.

Also, a County Tag on the collar entitles a pet owner claiming his pet to a reduced impoundment fee of \$10. It is the shelter staff's way of saying thanks for helping us help your pet.



Brazos Animal Shelter inc.

Q. How can I adopt a pet?

A. Finding responsible, loving homes for the unclaimed and unwanted animals is the goal of the adoption program.

Prospective pet owners are interviewed to ensure that the lifestyles and needs of the people and animal will be compatible.

Once approved, the adopters sign a "love, honor and neuter" contract.

To combat the pet overpopulation problem (too many animals and not enough homes), coupons for free or discounted neuter ring and spaying are given with every adoption.

The adopters also receive coupons for a free physical, rabies vaccination and County Tag for their pet. The adopter receives a dog and coupons for \$45 and a cat and coupons for \$40—a sweet deal!

Q. I've heard that the Brazos Animal Shelter even has purebreds for adoption. Is that true?

A. The shelter often receives purebred puppies, kittens, dogs and cats.

The pet population explosion means that even purebreds are ending up at shelters.

Q. What is the most exotic animal you've received?

A. An African lion is probably the most exotic, but other kinds of animals are exotic as well: alligators, swans, pigs, sheep, turkeys, horses, hamsters, all sorts of birds, rabbits, and ducks.

For the most part, however, these animals are rare visitors to the shelter.

Q. What happens to unclaimed and unadopted animals?

A. There are just too many animals and not enough homes for them. The only alternative is to euthanize the unwanted animal—to give it an injection which ends his life quietly and peacefully. The animal will never

having to suffer from hunger, disease or loneliness again.

Euthanasia is sad and the only available alternative right now, but it is not the answer. YOU are part of the answer:

- Spay and neuter your dogs and cats to prevent them from having puppies and kittens. Finding homes for your pet's babies means one less potential home for another animal.

- Tag your pets.

- Keep your dogs and cats at home. When they are out with you, keep them on leashes—remember, it's the law.

- Start looking for missing pets right away.

Q. How do you spread the important messages of spaying/neutering and responsible pet ownership?

A. The shelter has a humane education program which reaches our community through guest speakers for clubs, school programs, media contacts, fundraising events, and information booths at shopping malls and special events. Education is one of the most important goals—wouldn't it be wonderful if fewer pets needed sheltering and all of them had caring owners.

Q. What can I do to help the animals?

A. Make a loving, life-long commitment to your pet. You can volunteer at the shelter for several kinds of jobs—clerical work, animal care, etc. Join the "Friends of the Brazos Animal Shelter" club and support our various activities and fundraisers. The Brazos Animal Shelter is a non-profit organization which needs your support.

Q. Where is the shelter located?

A. Brazos Animal Shelter, 2207 Finfeather Road, Bryan, 775-5755. Hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-noon Saturday.



GET SHOT

Alabama rained on our parade. Freshmen and sophomores did not get the message to GET SHOT that was scheduled to be announced at the rainy game. *Sooooooooooooo...* freshmen and sophomores get **ONE MORE WEEK** (and that's it) to get their yearbook pictures taken for the **1989 AGGIELAND**

Yearbook Associates
401 C University
Above Campus Photo
on Northgate
846-8856
8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Freshmen and sophomores
Last week!
Oct. 3 - Oct. 7

Juniors, seniors, vet, med and grad students
Oct. 3 - Oct. 28

Your Vote

Is Your Voice

REGISTER TO VOTE:

- if you are 18 years old, or will be by November 8, and a U.S. citizen, then you are **eligible to vote Nov. 8;**
- if you do not have a **WHITE** registration certificate with your current address, you are **not registered to vote;**
- when filling out your voter registration application, put your **LOCAL RESIDENCE ADDRESS** (your dorm room or street address) in order to vote **locally** on Nov. 8;
- the voter registration application must be postmarked **no later than October 9.**

THEN VOTE REPUBLICAN:

- **under the Republicans more people are working today** than ever before; 16.8 million new jobs have been created since November 1982;
- **under the Republicans interest rates are down** from 21.5 percent to 8.22 percent (in 1987), and inflation is down from 13.5 percent to 3.7 percent (in 1987);
- **under the Republicans strong defense policies have kept America at peace** and brought the Soviets back to the bargaining table.

For More Information On Registering To Vote & Voting Republican Contact:

Texas A&M Victory '88 Committee

Greg Gorman
846-4005

Connie Coleman
696-6441

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Luby's Cafeterias, Inc., operating in Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Arkansas and Arizona, is looking for twenty-eight people to enter its management training program in December and March.

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- Be willing to relocate
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You will receive:

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