

JANUARY 2020

Serving Brewster County Texas for 37 years



Kaylic

ALPINE HUMANE SOCIETY 2019 ANNUAL REPORT

MESSAGES FROM OUR PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

2018 was an extraordinary year for Alpine Humane Society. For 37 years, our working Board of Directors has handled the day-to-day operations of AHS, but as our programs expanded exponentially in 2018 and in the first quarter of 2019, it became apparent this model was unsustainable so in May of 2019 we took the big leap of hiring our very first Executive Director. It quickly became apparent this was the right decision.

Jeanine Bishop's retail experience and years in nonprofit management proved to be the perfect combination of skills. As a result, donations are up and our AHS Thrift Store had a record-breaking year which meant we were able to further expand our outreach to the community by hiring additional staff members to handle most of our expanding programs.

In November, our members voted to make changes to our bylaws, including a move from being a member-governed organization to a board-governed organization. This change centralizes and streamlines decision making within the organization and allows the board, as the single governing body, to act quickly in response to the needs of the organization and the animals we protect.

Additionally, members voted to remove the restriction of serving Brewster County exclusively. This change will allow AHS to expand our service area and build partnerships with animal welfare organizations in neighboring counties in the future. As always, distributions from the Helen Cole Trust Fund will continue to be used exclusively in Brewster County.

As I look back on the challenges and changes of 2019, one word comes to mind: gratitude. I am thankful for the founders and former board members who laid down a solid foundation for us to build on. We would not be here without their hard work and dedication to animal welfare in Brewster County. Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers and generous donors. Without your time, commitment, and dedication and support over the years, the wonderful success stories you will read about in this Annual Report would not be possible.

- Vicki Gibson, Board President

Coming in during 2019 as the first Alpine Humane Society Executive Director has been a rewarding and challenging position for me. The needs of cats and dogs in our communities continue to be great and I am proud that AHS continues to keep up in terms of staff and capabilities, along with fundraising, to meet those needs.

We continue to see generous financial support from donors for our programs, including our very successful orphan kitten program. We are leading the way with pet and feral cat spay/neuter services by paying 100% of the cost, leaving no valid financial excuses for having unwanted litters.

We are using technology to be as efficient as possible with animal records, donor information management, and communications. In 2019 I will spearhead efforts in community education about spay/neuter and also will be building and formalizing our crucial foster home program.

This year, I hope to see intakes of 1/3 fewer pets than during 2019 into the shelter as we help owners keep their pets by providing food and veterinary assistance, as well as help with shelter and fencing. I hope to have AHS spay and neuter 1/3 more pets and also trap/neuter/return 1/3 more feral cats, compared to last year.

I welcome 2020 and I am confident that AHS is ready to successfully meet its challenges.

- Jeanine Bishop, Executive Director

OUR MISSION



Ali

Alpine Humane Society builds community commitment to the humane treatment of animals. To achieve this vision we provide adoptive support services, spay/neuter funding, medical assistance, and community education.



Mango

VISION

Ensuring every animal has a full and rewarding life.

VALUES

Six core values guide our work and decision making:

- We do our work with passion, compassion, respect, and kindness.
- We are dedicated to reducing suffering and improving the lives of animals.
- We believe community engagement and education are the best ways to eliminate pet overpopulation.
- We are committed to the pursuit of successful pet adoptions.
- We believe euthanizing adoptable animals is unacceptable.
- We believe every dog and cat should be spayed/neutered until there are no homeless pets.



Sprite



Caliche

ABOUT ALPINE HUMANE SOCIETY

Alpine Humane Society serves all 6,192 square miles of Brewster County, the largest county in Texas. This large geographic area, small population of 9,200 residents, long international border with Mexico, and only one incorporated city presents an enormous challenge. Alpine Animal Services and their shelter serve only the City of Alpine (population 6,000), leaving significant gaps in animal services for the remainder of the county.

Alpine Humane Society works closely with Alpine Animal Services, but AHS and AAS are two separate entities with distinctly different purposes. AAS is responsible for enforcement of animal control laws within Alpine city limits and operation of Alpine Animal Shelter, including the adoption of their homeless shelter pets.

Alpine Humane Society supplements the work of AAS by providing pet food and cat litter for Alpine shelter animals, paying for spaying and neutering of all Alpine shelter animals, employing two AHS shelter-dedicated staffers to provide enrichment to shelter animals and provides daily volunteers to clean kennels, walk dogs, and socialize cats. Additionally, AHS does all the adoption PR/marketing of AAS shelter animals including flyers, social media, radio, and newspaper ads.

On October 14, 1982, the Alpine Avalanche published a front page story on the horrible conditions at Alpine's city animal "shelter," complete with a photo of a forlorn dog poking his nose through the kennel bars. The shameful condition of the "shelter" united Alpine citizens who immediately organized the Alpine Humane Society. Dr. Helen Cole, business professor at Sul Ross State University and supporter of AHS, died in 1996 and left her entire estate of more than \$1 million to AHS for the direct care of animals and operational expenses, with AHS having access to only the interest from the Trust.

Alpine Humane Society has been hard at work improving the lives of animals in Brewster County, Texas since its inception. The all-volunteer organization worked with the City of Alpine to incrementally improve the sheltering of animals in the municipal shelter. The most recent shelter was completed in 2011 with AHS donating more than \$80,000 to the construction of the crematorium.

In July 2013, AHS opened its own Thrift Store to help fund the work of AHS. In 2014, AHS funded the construction of Kokernot Dog Park. In 2015, AHS purchased 28 Kuranda dog beds so every dog will have a soft, warm bed on which to sleep. No more sleeping on the cold concrete kennel floor! July 2016, AHS started transporting shelter dogs to a Colorado rescue. August, 2016,

AHS donated & built a 100x100 ft play yard at the Alpine shelter and staff & volunteers were trained by Dogs Playing For Life to do dog play groups. April 2017, hired an Enrichment Coordinator to run play groups, coordinate volunteers, and assist with the promotion of adoptable pets. In 2019, Alpine Humane Society continued to make huge strides in our effort to serve all of Brewster County. We significantly increased our outreach to south Brewster County -- including Big Bend National Park, Terlingua, and Lajitas -- and the unincorporated town of Marathon by increasing our volunteer base in those areas.

Working with other area foster-based rescue groups, we are doing more and more for cats and dogs in the TransPecos Region. 2019 saw the addition of an executive director, a second enrichment coordinator and an executive assistant to handle the increasing administrative functions of the growing organization.

As we look at 2020, we are continuing to provide more services to more pet owners and their cats and dogs, as well as care for feral cats. AHS has a continued need for more volunteers, particularly fosters to improve the lives of orphan kittens and cats and dogs. There are many ways to support the work of AHS from volunteering to donating financially. All efforts support pets in need.

2019

AHS STATS

Alpine Humane Society is tax exempt under

Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)3.

Tax ID #75-2070318

201

Alpine shelter animals adopted

167

Brewster County cats and dogs transported/transferred to AHS rescue partners

69

Average days of stay for pets at Alpine shelter

3

New staff members added

565

Spay/neuter surgeries authorized, including 169 feral cats

\$89,562

Spay/neuter/medical vet bills for shelter & community

0

Adoptable Alpine Shelter Animals Euthanized for Space

Alpine Humane Society serves all 6,192 square miles of Brewster County, the largest county in Texas.

We assist Alpine Animal Services, the lone municipal shelter in Brewster County (which only serves the City of Alpine), by providing volunteers, animal enrichment, animal promotion, transport services, and more.

We do provide foster homes for animals not eligible to be housed at the shelter and facilitate adoptions for those pets.

AHS promotes shelter-housed animals and their adoptions are managed through Alpine Animals Services.

SOME OF WHAT WE DO

AHS now pays 100% of pet spay/neuter and feral cat TNR

In the last quarter of 2019, AHS began paying the full cost for pet owners to spay, neuter and vaccinate their pets. AHS also pays in full for feral cat spay/neuter and return.

Enrichment program and play groups for dogs

Dana Black and Kirbi Marcum serve as AHS Enrichment Coordinators, improving the lives of cats and dogs at the Alpine shelter by coordinating shelter volunteers, leading dog playgroups, and socializing cats. Additional training funded by AHS allowed for expansion of the enrichment program to include assessment and adoption counseling.

Hill's Shelter Love Program

AHS continued participation in Hill's Shelter Love program to purchase Science Diet brand food providing high-quality pet food for all Alpine shelter animals.

AHS Pet Food Pantry

AHS provides pet food assistance to help humans feed their pets. We distributed hundreds of pounds of pet food in 2019. No paperwork required. Just ask at AHS Thrift Store, 706 N. 5th St. in Alpine.



VOLUNTEERS

AHS volunteers spend thousands of hours walking shelter dogs, socializing shelter and thrift store cats, assisting with adoptions, providing foster care for orphaned kittens and other special needs pets, working at our thrift store, transporting pets to our rescue partners, and much, much more!



TRANSPORT

We continue to save lives by transporting dogs and cats to other rescue organizations in states including Colorado, Oregon, and Idaho.

Our transport program is committed to safe, humane travel. We transport healthy dogs and cats to our in-state and out-of-state rescue partners.

Rescue partners are carefully screened by our Transport Coordinator. Most are foster-based. All include lots of enrichment, rigorous adoption counseling, and behavioral support. Some are specialty rescues for bully breeds, seniors, or pets with medical and/or behavioral issues.



Photos by Mountain Humane



We concentrate on transporting area animals to communities without pet overpopulation problems, advocating for long-stay, high-risk Alpine shelter pets and other dogs and cats in our foster-based programs.

In 2019, we transported 167 pets - 96 dogs and 71 cats - helping Alpine Animal Services (the only municipal shelter in Brewster County) shorten length of stay in the shelter and make sure no adoptable shelter pets are euthanized.

Our homeless pets have been transported out of state and throughout Texas.

We've loved receiving the dogs from Alpine Humane. Giving dogs a second chance at finding a home is easy when they are as adoptable as the ones we've received. The dogs arrive to us in great health, and have obviously been well cared for. We appreciate this partnership!- Nadia Novik, Outreach Director, Mountain Humane

Celebrating

5

YEARS

No euthanasia of adoptable pets for space at Alpine Animal Shelter



Alpine Humane Society is a nonprofit organization serving Brewster County, Texas. We work closely with Alpine Animal Services, the only municipal shelter in Brewster County, but AHS and AAS are separate organizations with different, distinct purposes.

AHS provides food for all shelter animals, spays/neuters every shelter animal, walks dogs, socializes cats, promotes shelter animals for adoption, and more.

One of our goals is to make sure no adoptable animal at Alpine Animal Shelter is euthanized due to lack of space at the shelter.

BUSINESS

*Pets are the fun part of our work,
but business operations and strategic planning
mean AHS will be a viable organization
for decades to come.*



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

For the first time in its history, the Alpine Humane Society is led by an executive director. Jeanine Bishop was hired in May, 2019 to manage the operations of the organization. She has 25 years of non-profit experience and is a resident of Fort Davis. She has 5 rescue dogs, including two from Alpine Animal Services - Wyatt and Buddy. In partnership with the board of directors, Jeanine oversees all operational aspects of AHS, including the thrift store, personnel, programs, fundraising, community outreach, and marketing.

STRATEGIC PLAN

AHS is in year two of a three-year strategic plan to guide us in implementing our goals, ideas, and plans. This was the culmination of more than two years of deliberation and dialogue between members, volunteers, staff, directors, and community members,

<http://www.alpinehumanesociety.org/strategic-plan-2019-2021.html>

OUTREACH/EDUCATION

Through education and outreach, AHS is growing its spay/neuter program for pets, as well as the Trap/Neuter/Return program for feral cats. Efforts are also underway to raise funds to duplicate these programs in Jeff Davis and Presidio Counties, where the need is great.

**ALPINE HUMANE SOCIETY
FINANCIAL REPORTS ARE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST
EMAIL: ADMIN@ALPINEHUMANESOCIETY.ORG**

Medical & Spay/Neuter Financial Assistance

Financial Assistance for Shelter & Community Pets

AHS made great strides in responsiveness with its community medical assistance phone line, as we began live- answering calls 7 days a week in November.

AHS authorized nearly \$71,350 for veterinary procedures for community pets and and feral cats.

Including spay/neuter and medical care for shelter animals, AHS paid more than \$90,000 in 2019 for veterinary care.

The services provided to the shelter animals ensure all adopted animals are sterilized and healthy.

Feral cat TNR services helped 169 cats to be spayed or neutered and then returned to their neighborhoods, helping prevent new ferals from moving into the territory.

The veterinary assistance number is 432-837-2532.



Kiwi



Panda

ORPHANED KITTENS



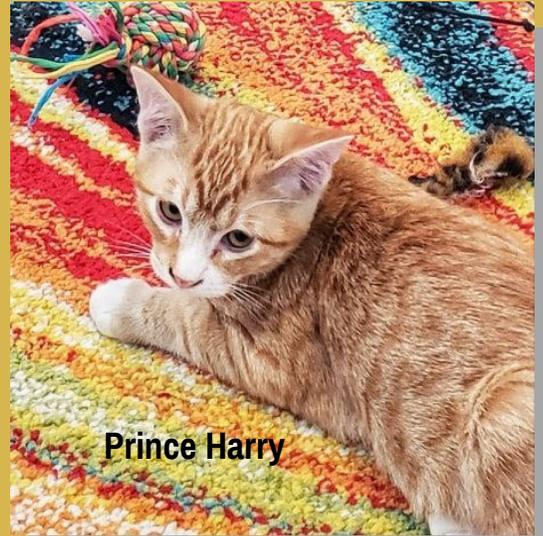
Einstein

In 2019, Alpine Humane Society really grew its specialized program for orphaned kittens.

This life-saving, foster-based program relies on experienced volunteers who bottle feed and closely monitor the health of kittens younger than six weeks.

Program capacity will grow as more volunteers are identified and trained.

Two neo-natal incubators were purchased to increase survival chances for the tiniest and most vulnerable kittens in the coming year.



Prince Harry



Toupee



Aster

HAPPY TAILS

In 2019, AHS created a new Facebook page for adopters to share their Happy Tails with us.



Ups was known as somewhat of an escape artist around town and before he was brought to the shelter would roam the streets with a few buds and sometimes stay at caring people's houses. His mom describes him as a full time dork who thoroughly enjoys walks, his ducks, and treats! He just celebrated his 5th birthday in July!

Buddy is a coonhound and quite a character. He is 100 pounds of personality and wants nothing more than to be the center of attention. He serves as the Ambassadors for AHS and goes to work with his mom every day.



Emilio was adopted from the AHS Thrift Store Cattery and is now living the life of his dreams!



AHS THRIFT STORE & CATTERY



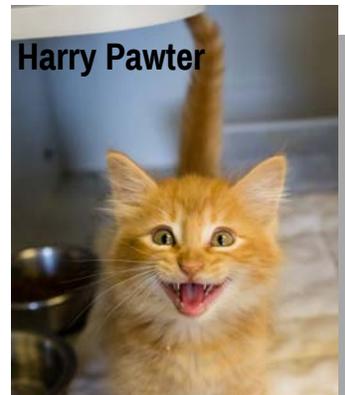
Celebrating
our 7th
anniversary!

Alpine Humane Society Thrift Store & Cattery also became the home of the organization's formal offices. The executive director and executive assistant are on-site there.

The store gained a new manager and is now more profitable and efficient than ever.

Thrifty Thursdays have been implemented with 25% off all purchases every Thursday. A rewards program gains customers additional savings, with discounts growing each time they shop.

The cattery is a favorite community spot, with up to 10 cats in residence. It's a great stress-reliever for folks to come in and snuggle or play with the cats!





Pepito

Friends of AHS

Alpine Humane Society began as a member-driven organization but in 2019 changed its bylaws to become a board-governed entity. To continue to include those interested in volunteering and assisting cats and dogs in our communities, we began a Friends of AHS group in December.

With a Facebook page already up, organizers are planning activities and events for the Friends. This group is encouraged to provide input and to serve as volunteers for AHS, to help further the mission. Special perks and rewards will be offered to Friends in appreciation of their passion for helping area companion animals.

AHS Staff

Administration:

Jeanine Bishop, Executive Director

Anna Walloch, Executive Assistant

Shelter:

Dana Black and Kirbi Marcum

AHS Enrichment Coordinators

Thrift Store:

Lari Quigg, AHS Thrift Store Manager

Erin Bittner, AHS Thrift Store Staff

Karen Collins, AHS Thrift Store Staff



Fifi Floofy

AHS 2019 Board of Directors

Vicki Gibson, President

Gwin Grimes, Treasurer

Marilyn McGhee, Secretary

Jesse Kelsch

Rebecca Davis

Tifaney Brooks

Rachel Carvajal



Lovey

Contact AHS

Website:

alpinehumanesociety.org

Email:

admin@alpinehumanesociety.org

Phone:

(432) 837-3400

(432) 837-2532 spay/neuter, medical assistance



Cora