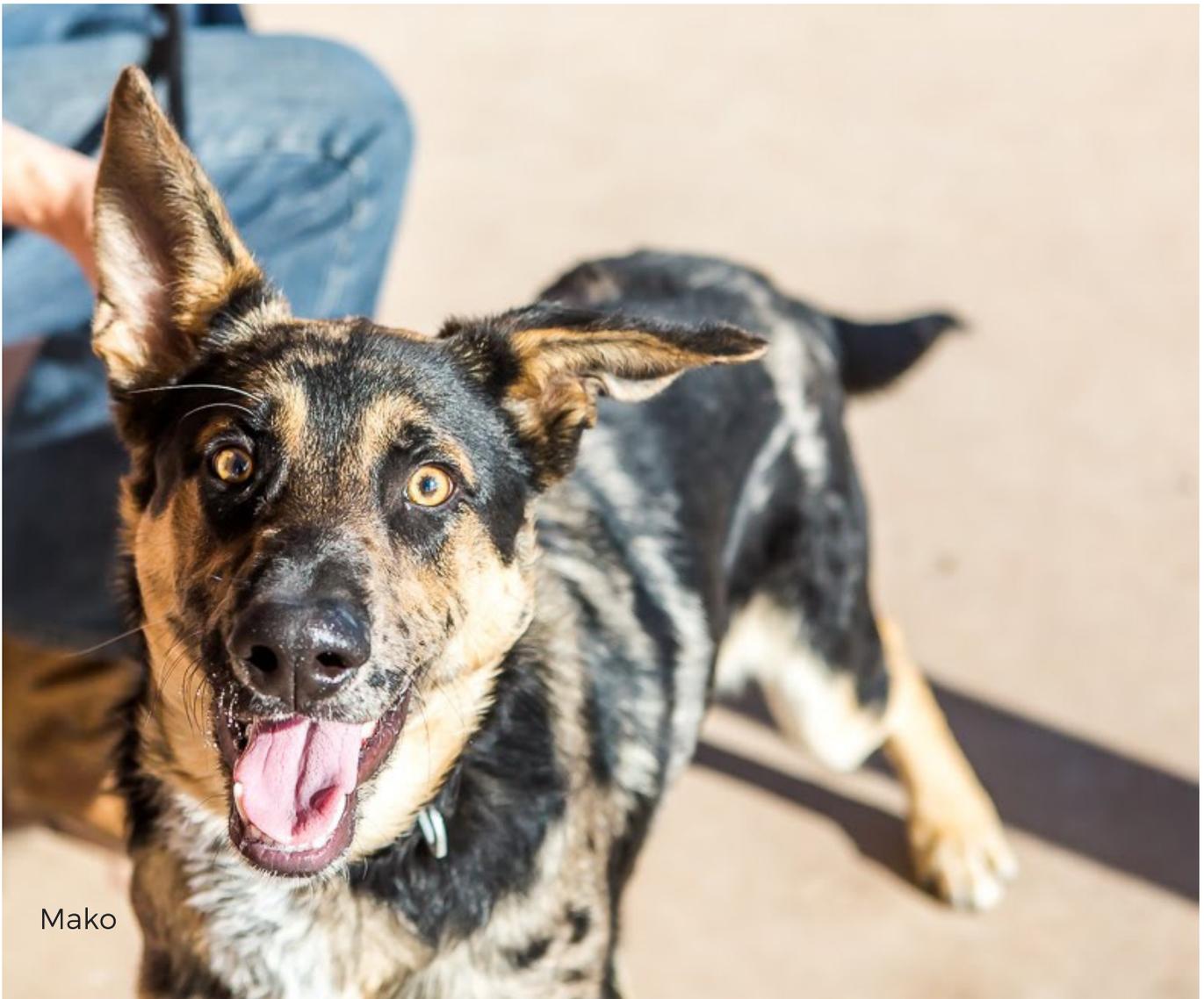


ALPINE HUMANE SOCIETY 2017 ANNUAL REPORT



Mako

Serving Brewster County
companion animals for 35 years

ABOUT ALPINE HUMANE SOCIETY



Rachel

Alpine Humane Society is dedicated to improving the lives of animals in Brewster County through humane care, adoption, and reducing pet overpopulation by promoting our spay/neuter program and by public education about pet ownership.

HIGHLIGHTS

Enrichment Coordinator

AHS hired Carrie Branum to enrich the lives of cats and dogs at the Alpine shelter by coordinating shelter volunteers, leading dog playgroups, socializing cats, and more.



Hill's Shelter Love Program

AHS became part of Hill's Shelter Love program to purchase Science Diet brand food for all Alpine shelter animals. High-quality food has significantly reduced dietary medical issues at the shelter.



Thrift Store Improvements

AHS made many improvements to the exterior and interior of the thrift store, including the cattery, making it more appealing to customers, our resident cats, and increasing cat capacity.



TRANSPORT

Alpine Humane Society obtained licensure to transport animals to Colorado

In the summer of 2017, Alpine Humane Society complied with Colorado regulations and obtained a license to transport animals to our rescue partners into the state of Colorado.

Our Colorado rescue partners have proven to be invaluable. Transport opportunities have helped dramatically reduce the average length of stay for Alpine shelter dogs.

The ability to transport to Colorado rescues also means Alpine Humane Society can help reduce overpopulation outside Alpine city limits by transporting homeless dogs from Brewster County that do not qualify for Alpine shelter intake.



ALL ABOARD!!

These shelter pets have been delivered to our rescue-partner in Fort Collins and are now in foster homes awaiting the adoption event on Saturday. Here's hoping for swift, wonderful adoptions!!



ON THE ROAD AGAIN !!

Thank you volunteers, donors, fosters, transporters, cheerleaders, Colorado hosts, vets, shelter staff and our partner-rescue All Aboard Animal Rescue! We couldn't do it without you all!

- so many great dogs - not enough great adopters - spay & neuter -





LYLE

Lyle, a 4-year-old, bob-tailed, black and white, unfathomably skinny mystery breed spent the first month he was in the shelter obsessed with finding a way out. Once that passed, he became our #1 shelter dog. With any attention, he would adhere himself to you like glue. Lyle had so much love to give and we were desperate to find a great person ready to soak it all up. We got so excited that he went on trial... and then were crushed when he came back. However, that false start was all it took to get an adopter who had been looking at him online to decide to make her move. One of the pictures of him rubbing noses with our Enrichment Coordinator had captured her heart! Just a couple more nights in the shelter and Lyle was outta there! In his new home, he joins an Alpine Shelter dog alum who is happy to have a new friend, an almost always present keeper, plenty of good food, and the assurance that he will be loved forever. Happy tail!



A GLIMPSE OF LYLE'S NEW & WONDERFUL LIFE!!



**So many cheers for Lyle...
so comfy & much-loved!**



A puppy pile on transport to CO



CHAI at the hand-off in CO



GOOSE along the way....



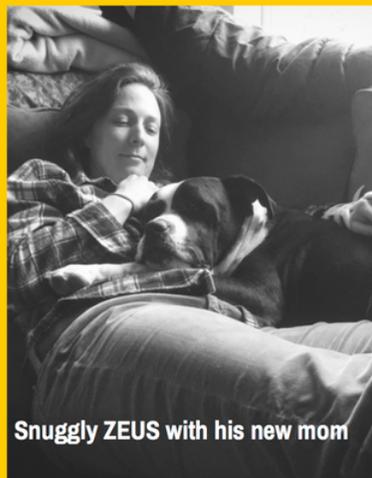
SYLVIE en route to Dallas/TCDR

TRANSPORTS SAVE LIVES...

In addition to our Colorado transports, Alpine Humane Society volunteers have transported individual dogs, cats, kittens, and puppies throughout Texas and beyond. Our wonderful volunteers have transported animals to Oregon, Washington, New York, New Mexico, and Maryland,



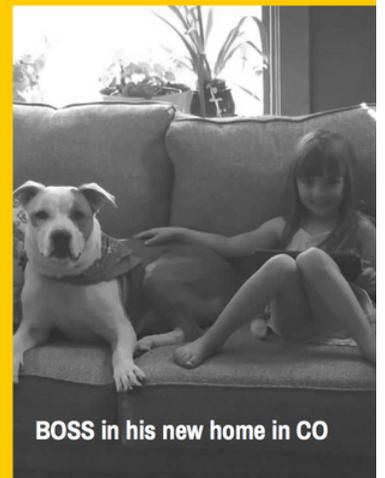
BISCUIT is these boys' first dog



Snuggly ZEUS with his new mom



LASSEN adopted!!



BOSS in his new home in CO

BUSINESS

Direct animal care is the fun part of our job, but business operations and strategic planning mean AHS will be a viable organization for decades to come.



Stella

GOVERNANCE

In September 2017, AHS bylaws were amended and approved by the membership. Two new board members were recruited. Board member orientation and mentoring were established. Conflict of interest, confidentiality, and several other policies were implemented and updated.

DEVELOPMENT

AHS has a brand new and robust Development Committee whose members have a wide variety of fundraising experience. We are already seeing the results of their hard work with grants awarded to AHS from Potts and Sibley Foundation and Petfinder Foundation.

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

Medical & Spay/Neuter Financial Assistance

Financial Assistance for Shelter & Community Pets

- 322 phone calls to AHS for assistance regarding 483 pets
- 384 spay/neuter surgeries authorized, including 158 feral cats
- 58 medical authorizations

AHS spent approximately \$60,000 on vet bills for shelter & community pets:

\$37,000 spent on community pets for spay/neuter surgeries & medical assistance

\$23,000 spent on shelter spay/neuter surgeries & medical assistance

In addition to paying for all spay/neuter surgeries and rabies vaccines for Alpine shelter animals, AHS also paid for approximately 24 spay/neuter surgeries each month for community pets.

Data collection and analysis of requests for medical and spay/neuter financial assistance began January 1, 2017, for the first time in AHS history, in order to better serve the community.



PUMA



Puma was found alone at six weeks of age on the railroad tracks in Alpine. Sound like a dramatic save? It was! "Railroad Kitty" tested positive for FIV at her intake on June 1, 2017, and was placed in isolation. Unfortunately, FIV+ kittens are forced to live in isolation for six months until they can be retested. This is a real bummer since the most critical window for their development is when they are small. This kitty started behaving badly and earned her name Puma because of her hissing, growling, biting, and use of claws. Fortunately, AHS and AAS partnered to get her into a foster home where she could be handled, snuggled, and have a normal life while waiting for her retest. On August 13, 2017, her rehab began! Unfortunately, Puma also has some skeletal issues which give her some physical limitations (balance issues, limited ability to jump or land) and having a foster home that can accommodate her has been a huge kindness to her. Puma is now a happy, gorgeous, 9-month-old cat who loves dogs and is a sucker for all heat sources. She is nice to the healthy resident cat so she has been well-socialized all around. This little kitty is an AHS success story!



ZEUS

Zeus came in as a three-year-old intact male pit bull with obvious skin issues, swollen feet and an ear infection, but still full of hope and goofiness! At 70 pounds, he was quite underweight, had limited training, and was in obvious discomfort. He developed an infection after his neuter surgery, which took weeks to resolve. Months went by. Zeus benefited from our new play yard, but he was still struggling physically, and was underweight and not getting the training he needed. After six months at the shelter, a foster stepped in to bring him home. Between the medication, food, and creature comforts of living in an active foster home, Zeus quickly mastered basic training, including getting along with a variety of cats and dogs. His bald patches cleared up, his ribs disappeared, and all the redness and exposed skin on his chest turned into snowy white fur, his sagging skin filled out, and this happy boy finally started living. In April, he was adopted by a wonderful rescuer in Olympia, Wash., who kept feeling him tug at her heart through social media. Zeus now enjoys life from a lovely estate with a lake to swim in, trails to hike, two rescue dog sisters, and his devoted dog-keepers. He is spoiled rotten and sleeps under the covers, loves car rides, and regularly keeps in touch with his foster and shelter staff/volunteers in far West Texas. Zeus is the perfect example of our commitment to finding every shelter animal a great home.

**What does it take to transform a dog from
here.... to here?**



it takes the Alpine Humane Society

PLAYGROUPS IN THE NEW PLAY YARD!



2017 COMPLETION OF THE SHELTER PLAY YARD

AHS made some tweaks to the shelter play yards built in 2016. We added much needed permanent shade structures and more fencing to divide the area into two separate yards to make sure all dogs get play time.

Playgroups are immensely beneficial for the lonely, bored, and hopeful shelter dogs still waiting to be discovered and adopted. During playgroup, the dogs get their ya-ya's out and maintain their social skills. Our Enrichment Coordinator gets a much better picture of the dogs' true personalities, which makes for better adoption matches.

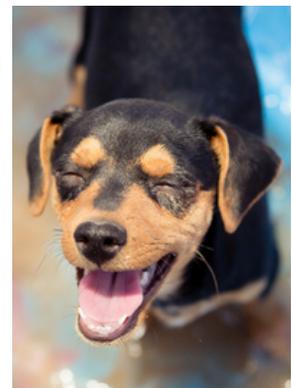
With a generous \$1,000 grant from Petfinder Foundation, AHS was able to send our Enrichment Coordinator to Dogs Playing For Life training in Longmont, Colo.

PLAYGROUP FUN!



AHS uses the Dogs Playing For Life playgroup model in our play yards. Playgroups have been a game-changing enrichment tool for the Alpine shelter. The average length of stay for shelter dogs went down from 80 days in 2015 to just 36 days in 2017!

To learn more, visit:
www.dogsplayingforlife.com



2017 AHS STATS



278

Animals
Adopted or
Transported



36

Days
(average length
of stay for dogs)



126

Days
(average length
of stay for cats)



186

Shelter
Animals
Adopted



92

Animals
Transported
to Rescues



14,000+

Volunteer
Hours



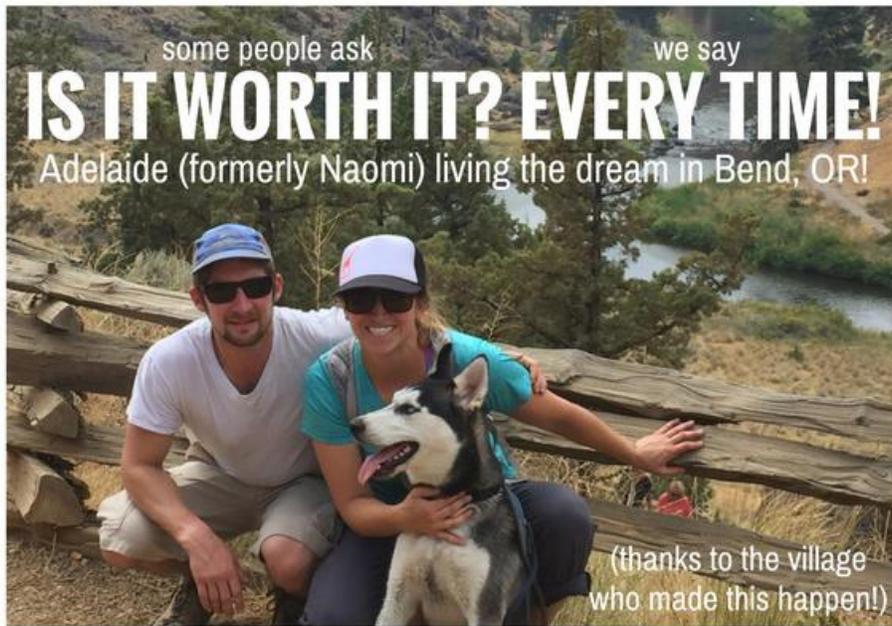
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Shelter Animals
Euthanized
for Space

Alpine shelter animal adoptions are handled by Alpine Animal Services, which is part of the city government of Alpine.

Alpine Humane Society assists Alpine Animal Services with adoptions by providing photos of each shelter animal, promotional efforts (fliers, social media posting, newspaper and radio ads, website), assisting with adoption events, and more.

NAOMI



Naomi came into the shelter on June 24, 2017 - one of those dogs who you can't believe was just wandering the streets of Alpine. But there she was. A friend of a friend of an AHS friend saw her giving one of her trademark ear kisses in a picture on social media and sent an inquiry through the web. After videos, questions and some frantic - though amazingly convenient - logistics were worked out, the application was in and Naomi (immediately renamed Adelaide) was adopted. Adelaide went into a foster home for about two weeks before an AHS volunteer delivered her all the way from Alpine to her keeper's front door in Bend, OR. Adelaide is now a regular on the Deschutes River, at the base of the climbing scene at Smith Rock, a darling of the brewery scene and a beloved running, hiking, and supping partner. It's a very happy tail!

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

I'm thrilled to report that 2017 was another forward-moving year for the Alpine Humane Society. Great stuff happened in direct animal care and in development of the organization! Our board and membership understand that BOTH are important to fulfill the mission, and I invite you to take part.

One of the biggest accomplishments was the hiring in early 2017 of an Enrichment Coordinator, a position based with the dogs and cats at the City of Alpine Animal Shelter. "Enrichment" is anything an animal needs to not go crazy from stress: exercise, play time, snuggle time, learning tricks, grooming, leash training, and puzzles, among other activities. We welcome and thank Carrie for her innovative and hard work, and we thank our donors to allow that work to happen!



Jesse and Jasper

The City of Alpine Animal Services owns and operates the Alpine shelter, but AHS plays a big part in supporting its operations;

- In 2017 we partnered with Hills (of Science Diet fame) and we now supply their high-quality food to dogs and cats in the shelter.
- With permission from shelter management, we redrafted the shelter's adoption application and enacted an adoption contract.
- AHS volunteers regularly help with daily cleaning at the shelter.
- AHS continues to fund spay/neuter and vaccinations for all shelter animals.
- Shelter animals rely on AHS as their public-relations firm to matchmake and find their forever homes! You have seen our photos and graphics of adoptable shelter animals in shops around Alpine and Brewster County and on social media and Petfinder. These listings are also seen across the country.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT (continued)

AHS also made big changes to our Thrift Store on North 5th Street in 2017. In the summer we bid a fond farewell and thank you to Ann Moore, who successfully directed its operations since its opening, and in the fall we gave a great big welcome to new co-directors April and Tobin Becker.

The cattery at the thrift store was made over to comfortably house more cats (and their visiting human friends and potential adopters) and the store itself has gotten some renovations, too.

As always, the thrift store needs lots of help sorting donations and getting them out on the sales floor. Supportive community, we're again looking at you!



In the community:

- In 2017 we transported 84 animals to distant rescues that have high adoption rates (because of a local high rate of spay and neuter).
- We are thrilled to have received enough funding from the Potts and Sibley Foundation and a matching fundraising drive to purchase a panel van that we will use for continued rescue transports. More animals will fit on each of these rescuee transports, and we hope for more volunteer drivers to run more trips, too.
- AHS increased the number of spay/neuter procedures paid for dogs and cats owned by Brewster County residents. Overpopulation needs to be “turned off at the tap.” It can’t be solved with adoptions!
- In 2018 one of our goals is increasing membership and awareness of the importance of spay/neuter. We also need lots more money for spay/neuter, both to fund these procedures as we’re asked (because with our current budget we can’t fund all requests) and to implement educational programs. We are considering bilingual door-handle cards and volunteers to distribute them, and also a “spay day.”
- We also need more voices on this issue, so I ask that you communicate this critical message to your friends and neighbors. If, for example, you see a litter of puppies that were probably accidental, maybe offer to pay the shelter surrender fee for the puppies (so they get a good start, good adoptions, and good lives). Tell your neighbor that AHS will pay to have the momma spayed and offer to drive that momma to the vet for them.
- The more we act together to incorporate spay/neuter as a mission, the better off the dogs and cats of the whole community will be.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT (continued)

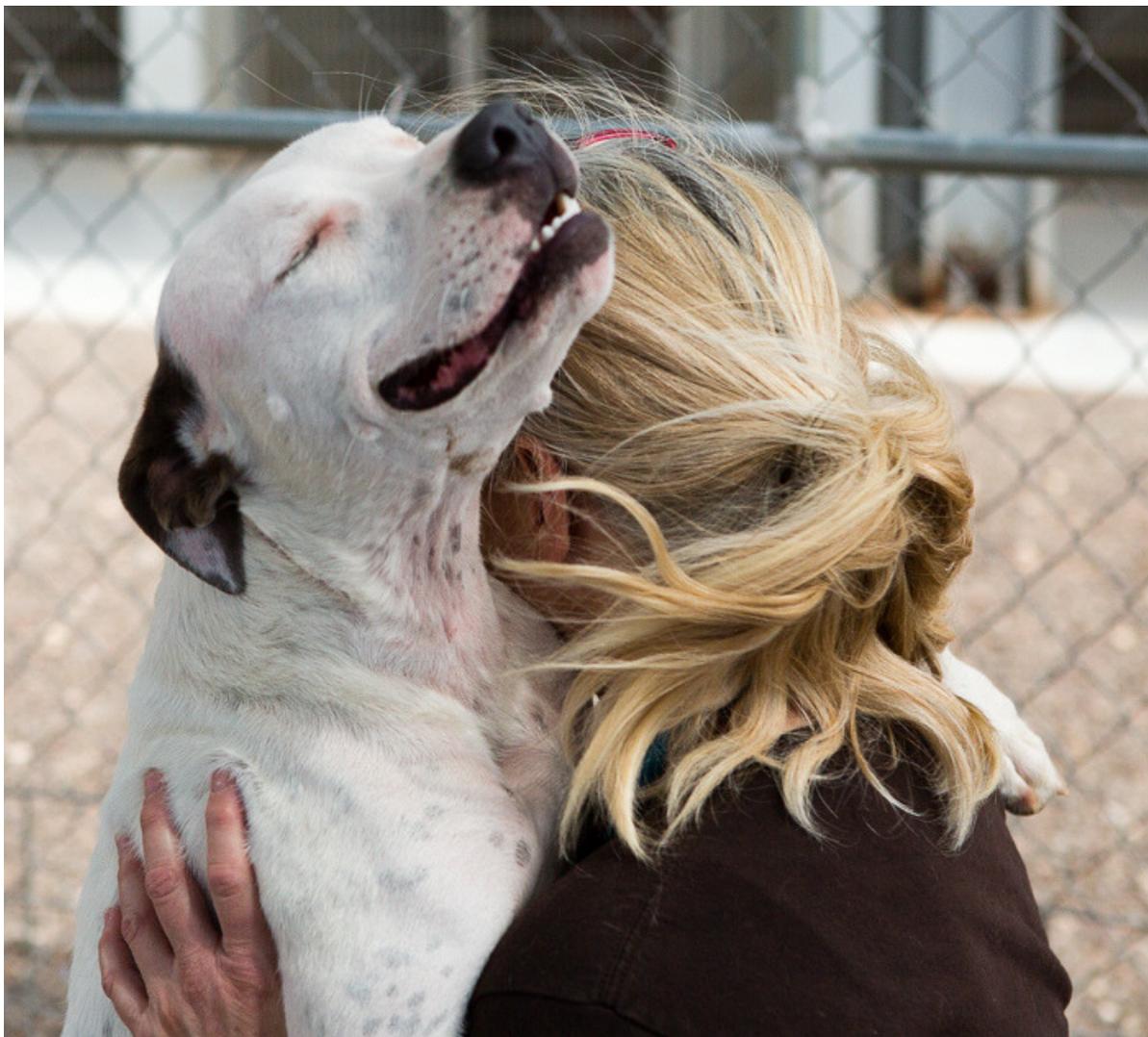
Did you know that AHS serves all of Brewster County? That's in our mission statement, and in 2018 we intend to explore needs and possibilities both in Marathon and Terlingua.

AHS is a member-driven organization. I not only invite you to volunteer in a way that suits you, but also welcome you to our monthly membership meetings so that you can see what we're up to now, and what we'll be up to next. They are at 5:30 p.m. the second Monday of every month in the community room at the Alpine Public Library. I look forward to seeing you there.

Jesse Kelsch, Alpine Humane Society President

*"We are responsible, forever, for what we have tamed."
Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, The Little Prince*





*February 8, 2017
marks our third anniversary of*

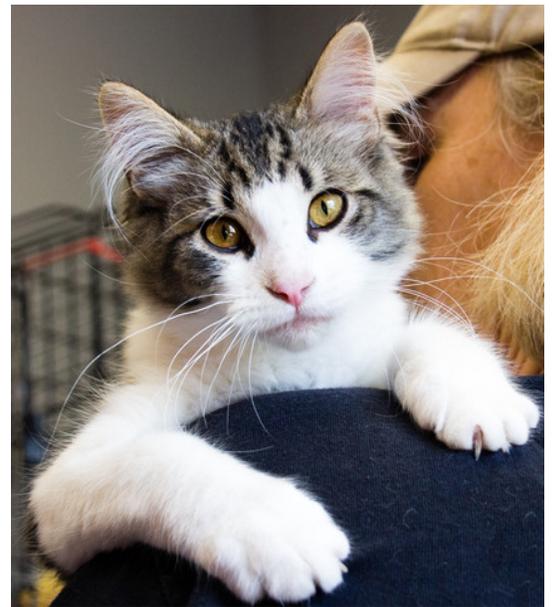
NO EUTHANASIA

for lack of space at the Alpine Animal Shelter

*Alpine Humane Society would like to thank our donors, volunteers,
AHS staff, AAS staff, funders, and volunteers for making this possible!*

AHS Staff

Carrie Branum, AHS Enrichment Coordinator
Leticia Miranda, AHS Thrift Store Manager
Ursula Johnston, AHS Thrift Store



AHS 2018 Board of Directors

Jesse Kelsch, President
Vicki Gibson, Vice President
Patsy Culver, Treasurer
Marilyn McGhee
Tobin Becker
Gwin Grimes

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