

# Shelter

*continued from front page*

Randolph County Animal Shelter's 5000th adoption. The friendly pretty black and white dog following Heather Laney and her daughter, Cailin, around is Chance, the lucky dog. Heather is a bookkeeper at the shelter and she started fostering Chance May 31. There was a stray hold on him for a week, then they adopted him. Her best friend, Rhonda Blackstone, works there and lets her know when the right one comes in, she said.

Much of the board of directors, some politicians who are animal lovers, employees, and people wanting to visit the shelter enjoyed the cake featuring a dog decoration donated by WM Grocery.

Chuck Smith, president of the board, said 30 to 35 people came out and they got monetary donations of about \$263. Bags of pet food were on a nearby table. People did not come empty handed.

Tractor Supply, "who is always doing good things for us," donated a pet bed to the 5000th adoption," he said.

Robyn Miller Smith, the transport director, sat under the tent eager to explain the low-cost spay/neuter program that falls under her purview.

She said the program is very popular. Lots of times they have a waiting list because the transport is full. The bus picks up the animals and takes them to Alabama Spay & Neuter once a month in Birmingham.

It is strictly up to the shel-

ter and if they have room, but sometimes someone can bring a pet in at 3 p.m. the day before. Normally they go on the fourth Thursday. They also go from the sheriff's department in Clay County.

The owner pays \$65 for a female; \$50 for a male; \$45 for a female cat and \$30 for a male cat. They do have money from donations to help out sometimes when there is a need, she said.

"My pet program--trap, neuter, release--is to help get feral or free-roaming cats spayed for \$10," she said. This includes the spay or neuter, a rabies vaccination and a respiratory treatment.

As transport director she handles what animals go on the bus. She can be contacted at 334-863-0101.

April Richardson is RCAS's director of operations and was greeting and welcoming all the visitors and answering questions.

Enjoying the day and conversation were animal lovers Roanoke Mayor Mike Fisher and Randolph County Commissioners Terry Lovvorn and Larry Roberts.

Fisher feeds two cats out at the old Randolph Medical Center that are kind of wild, he said. One of the cats is solid black and one is gray. He feeds them before he goes to work and once after work.

"This is something I feel someone needs to do. I don't want them to starve to death," he said.

He has two Chihuahua dogs at home.

Inside one kennel was Buckshot, a bulldog that

*See Shelter on page 7A*