

# For the animals:

## Shelter sees many improvements; still needs volunteers and supplies

**Penny L. Pool**  
Staff Writer

**WEDOWEE** - - April Richardson and Elisabeth Stanford were so pleased last Wednesday when one of the longest staying dogs at the Randolph County Animal Shelter was adopted.

April is the shelter manager and Elisabeth is director of operations. They love incoming pets but are so glad when the animals find a forever home like Stella did.

An adopter came in last week and looked at Stella, a Rottweiler mix about five years old. She had seen her on Facebook. Claire Gibbs called a couple of days later and said she wanted Stella.

Elisabeth said someone sponsored her on the Angel Tree, which means the person paid some or all of her adoption fee. The \$99 adoption fee includes a spay or neuter.

The shelter also has a low-

cost spay and neuter clinic. A van comes to the shelter to pick up the animal on an appointed day. This program is done through Robyn Smith, the transportation director. Call her at 334-863-0101 to set up a spay or neuter.

Elisabeth said the bus picks up the animals to take them to Alabama Spay and Neuter once a month in Birmingham.

The shelter also works closely with Twin Creeks Veterinarian in Ashland and they really help out a lot. If an animal needs vet care they try to get a donation to pay for the care. One man will do anything for cats. Someone who likes big dogs said if they need anything to call him, Elisabeth said.

Remembering a dedicated volunteer, Sheila Fincher, Stanford said they were going to build a kitty playroom in her memory when they raise the money. Sheila and Ann Boozer volunteered to clean the cat room every Wednesday, and

Miss Priss became one of Sheila's favorites. Sheila came to the shelter to visit her days before she died.

Last week Miss Priss was lounging on laundry items in the closet built by Bill Boozer. Stanford said they decided to keep the friendly cat, who stays on the loose in the cat room.

They are taking donations in Sheila's memory. Stanford said they offer a tax write-off. They are a 501c3 organization. The end of the year is days away and if animal lovers want to donate now they can mail it in or come by. Letters are sent to those who donate \$50 or more. If someone makes a donation in Sheila's memory they send a thank-you letter to the person who donated and another letter notifying Bob Fincher and his family.

April devised the angel trees for the animals. This year the trees are up at Small Town Bank

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Claire Gibbs adopted Stella, a Rottweiler mix, from the Randolph County animal shelter last week.