

# Animal shelter helps community

In the calendar year 2019, Randolph County Animal Shelter (RCAS) adopted out 638 dogs and cats. A great majority of those animals are strays, not owner surrenders, that find their way to the RCAS door. RCAS found homes for almost two pets every single day of the year! But RCAS stills need your help. Please spay and neuter your animals and encourage your family, friends and neighbors to do the same. Since 2007, RCAS has adopted out 8,011 animals, and those dogs and cats came from inside our community.

RCAS is a small privately run 501(c)3 shelter that is 54 percent funded by donations and fundraisers as the bi-annual book sales and raf-

fles held at the Old Cotton Warehouse on Main Street in Roanoke. All proceeds go to the care and running of the shelter. No RCAS board members or volunteers earn any income from RCAS, but they work for animal needs and donate.

RCAS has a staff of five employees who take care of the animals 365 days a year, including weekends and holidays. The job is not for everyone; a shelter worker by definition is a dedicated staff member who loves and enjoys helping animals. They have to, because they work outdoors in both the heat of summer and the cold of winter.

RCAS is fortunate to have several volunteers who come in, almost daily on their own

schedule, to help out with tasks. When they clean the cat room, tote books, mop floors or do little repairs, their chores leave the staff time to do more tasks.

The State of Alabama Board of Veterinary Examiners sends examiners to the shelter each year to be sure RCAS is meeting their criteria and we know how to treat the animals that come in. We have always passed every inspection.

We ask that you, too, take care of your pet needs with spaying or neutering your animals. To get in touch with the volunteer who runs the local low cost spay and neuter transport, please call 334-863-0101. You and your pet will have happier lives.