

# W ISKERS



CONNECTING FRIENDS FOR LIFE

SUMMER 2012

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BELLA, ADOPTED 6/7/2012

MEET OUR COVER CAT, BELLA! IN HONOR OF JUNE BEING ADOPT A SHELTER CAT MONTH, BELLA IS NOT ONLY GRACING OUR NEWSLETTER COVER, BUT IS ALSO FEATURED ON OUR ADOPT A SHELTER CAT/LITTLE CAT POSTER TO ENCOURAGE ADOPTERS TO JOIN US ON JUNE 30TH FOR CAT AND KITTEN ADOPTION SPECIALS. THROUGHOUT THE MONTH OF JUNE, WE HOPE BELLA WILL HELP MANY OF HER FELLOW FELINES FIND WONDERFUL HOMES TO CALL THEIR OWN.



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Dr. Courtney Bridgeman



# LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR NANCY F. MAY

Dear Friends,

In the last newsletter, I was writing to you as the Interim Executive Director; this time, I am happily writing to you as the permanent Executive Director of the San Antonio Humane Society. Several months ago, retirement seemed like a logical step for me, but today I must admit there is no place I'd rather be than here with the wonderful animals, staff, volunteers, and friends of the San Antonio Humane Society.

In addition to being our Summer 2012 Newsletter, you'll also find our 2011 Annual Report within these pages. In 2011, we received a great audit and I am pleased to announce that our yearly adoption numbers increased to more than 5,500 in 2011, compared to 4,900 in 2010. In 2011, we continued to grow as a successful organization and a positive influence in our community. We have continued our partnership with the City and every month we watch the live release rate climb for our city's once homeless pets. I truly feel a sense of pride as I see the results of our donors' generosity, our staff's dedication, and our volunteers' compassion change our city. What once seemed like a dream, seeing San Antonio become a no-kill city, has now become a real possibility.

If you haven't visited our shelter recently, I encourage you to stop by to meet our great dogs and cats! I realize most people don't picture an animal shelter as being a welcoming place, but we have a beautiful facility with well-cared-for, adoptable animals. We love sharing our home away from home and our soon-to-be pets with our community!

As a final thought, I would like to remind you that we are always looking for volunteers and foster families who share our passion for animal welfare. When more people open their hearts, we can save more lives. Volunteers and fosters make the difference between having to turn away an animal when our facility is full to taking in every animal that needs our help.

As always, thank you for your continued support and dedication to the well-being of our animals. By contributing locally to the San Antonio Humane Society, you are helping us to connect friends for life.

Yours sincerely,  
Nancy F. May

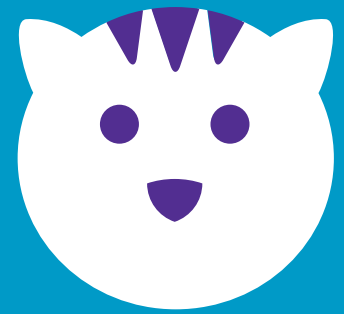
# TIME WARNER CABLE PAWS ON DEMAND



Want to meet some of the San Antonio Humane Society animals from the comfort of your couch? Check out Paws on Demand, found on the San Antonio On Demand Channel 988. Tune in today and you may just find your new friend for life!

# JUNE 30, 2012 is adopt a SHELTER CAT/LITTLE CAT DAY!

In honor of June being adopt a shelter cat month, the San Antonio Humane Society is having a one day only adoption special for our cats and little cats. On June 30, cats (4 months+) will have their adoption fee waived and little cats (under 4 months) will have an adoption fee of \$15. Don't miss your chance to take home a cat or little cat companion and welcome a new friend into your family!



## CATCHING UP WITH DR. BRIDGEMAN



As adopt a shelter cat month usually brings more cats into loving homes, so does it bring more questions about socializing cats and how to make sure they are happy and healthy in their new environments. To answer a few questions about cat behavior and how to help you and your new cat cope with change, we have our SAHS Shelter Medicine Veterinarian and in-house animal expert, Dr. Courtney Bridgeman.

### How do you add a new feline companion into a home with other cats?

1. Keep your new kitty behind closed doors; this allows them to sniff each other's scents without being aggressive to each other.
2. After a week, open the door, but add a barrier such as a baby gate or screen. Feed them progressively closer to the barrier so they become accustomed to being in each other's presence.
3. After a few weeks with no issues, remove the barrier and monitor interaction. This could take up to six months, be patient!

### How do you add a new feline companion into a home with a dog?

1. Place the kitty in a room alone behind closed doors and provide comfortable living accommodations in this space.
2. Give the kitty and dog(s) several days to get accustomed to each other's smell and the dog ignores the door.
3. Use a barrier, like a baby gate, where the animals can see and smell each other until the dog is ignoring the cat. During this time, do not leave your pets unattended and be sure to safely separate them when you are not home.
4. Once your cat is comfortable, leash your dog and allow the kitty to approach and look around.
5. When both animals are comfortable, remove the leash and monitor interaction.

### How do you add a new feline companion into a home with children?

1. Teach children "soft touch" and not to pick up their new kitty.
2. Let the child feed the kitty by giving them the proper amount of food to place in the bowl.
3. Give the child a toy with which to play with the kitty, like a feather dangle, bell ball, or light laser pen and monitor interaction.

In short, cats are amazing, complex creatures, well worth the trouble of taking introductions slowly. A rushed introduction could lead to a family that will never settle; be patient to make a lasting friendship.

For more detailed advice and steps for adding a new cat companion to your home, visit our website at [sahumane.org](http://sahumane.org).



# CONGRATULATIONS SIR DEXTER EL REY FIDO X!

In our annual El Rey Fido fundraiser, an owner and their dog or cat companion team up to raise money for the care and shelter of our San Antonio Humane Society dogs and cats. This year our El Rey Fido fundraiser contestants raised more than \$53,000! Congratulations to El Rey Fido X, Sir Dexter; Princess of the Perpetual Food Bowl, Summer; Duchess of the Indestructible Chew Toy, Molly; Duke of the Ever-Present Fire Hydrant, Rhys; Keeper of the Catnip, Texas Ranger; and Maiden of the Royal Court, Maggie.

A special thank you to our 2012 El Rey Fido sponsors: Grand Hyatt San Antonio, Rio San Antonio Cruises, North Star Mall, Renee Spade Photography, Science Diet, VCA Animal Hospitals, & Swank Audio Visuals. Also, thank you to Cheryl Trevor, our official Mistress of the Grr-Robes.



## SPRING FUNDRAISER LUNCHEON

This year's annual fundraising luncheon was held at the Pearl Brewery Stables on March 6, 2012. Approximately 300 animal lovers attended and raised \$250,000 for the treatment and care of the San Antonio Humane Society shelter animals. Shown above from right to left: Cheryl Trevor, Carol Pfrommer, Trudy Moore, Nancy May, Dr. Lydia Andrade, Cathy McCoy and her adopted dog "Riley", Pat Good, Elizabeth Netting, Lynnell Burkett, Laura Thomas and Shannel George. Thanks to all of our volunteers and donors for their great support!



# SUCCESS STORIES



Today has been SO wonderful with little Rhyder! Alex and I could not be happier with him and our other kitty, Pixie who talks and chitters at him all the time- so sweet! We feel they are going to be fast friends! We are so excited to see how he grows with us, but so far it has been Purrfect! Thank You to all the Humane Society staff for helping me find my new "son"!

*XOXOXO Jennifer!*

We adopted Suds in March 2011. He was the 'older' dog with the droopy eye and grey beard. Yesterday we celebrated one year with him. There is never a day of regret although if we didn't adopt him we would certainly regret. He is the most loyal and precious animal you will ever find. We recently moved into a house with a bigger yard, and he absolutely loves it. He does border patrol and then settles down to rest in the grass with lots of fresh air and space, no leash, no time limit, no barking neighbors in the 'pens' next door. He is referred to as a 'big stuffed animal'. We hope to spend many more years with our fantastic Suds!

*Sally & Tiffany*



Liz Claiborne & Ralph Lauren, two of our "In Style" cats, went home May 10, 2012 with their new family! Their dad put each cat in their own room to give them time to adjust to their new home. It wasn't long before he turned around to find that the two cats had mysteriously found their way onto the couch, cuddled up close together. Looks like they found comfort in their new home by finding comfort in each other. How lucky to find a new family and a new feline best friend, all in one day! Thanks Jesus & Robin for sharing with us!

We moved to San Antonio from Chicago in July, and were eager to adopt another kitten for our new home. We went into the SA Humane Society thinking of giving our 2 year old cat, Jane, a friend. Little did we know, that the moment we saw "Woody"(now Elwood), our hearts melted and we knew we were gaining not only a friend for Jane, but a family member... Elwood is such an awesome addition to our family, and we cannot thank the SA Humane Society enough for giving us an opportunity to bring home a new family member that brings such joy and love into our lives.

*Liz & Andrew*



# 2011

## AT A GLANCE

## SUCCESS NUMBERS



**5,575**

**ADOPTIONS**



**8,625**

**SPAY/NEUTER SURGERIES**



**850**

**ACTIVE VOLUNTEERS  
DONATED 16,938 HOURS**



**70**

**ACTIVE FOSTER FAMILIES  
DONATED 16,067 HOURS**



**700+**

**CHILDREN RECEIVED  
HUMANE EDUCATION**



**97%**



**PLACEMENTS, SOCIAL & HEALTHY**

UNADOPTABLE: 3%

### 2011 Intake





**TOTAL**

			<b>TOTAL</b>
Owner Surrender	1026	505	1531
Stray	1569	593	2162
Transferred In	1242	416	1658
Returned	389	85	474

### 2011 Outcome



**TOTAL**

			<b>TOTAL</b>
Adopted	4025	1550	5575
Returned to Owner	84	16	100
Transferred Out	10	12	22
Euthanized	114	58	172

# 2011 FINANCIAL REPORT

Donations are an integral part of our organization. Because of your support, along with the support of others in our community, we are able to ensure that our mission to save and shelter homeless pets is always proactive and never forgotten. Each donation also brings us closer to our ultimate goal of one day making San Antonio a city with no homeless pets.

## Public Support Revenue

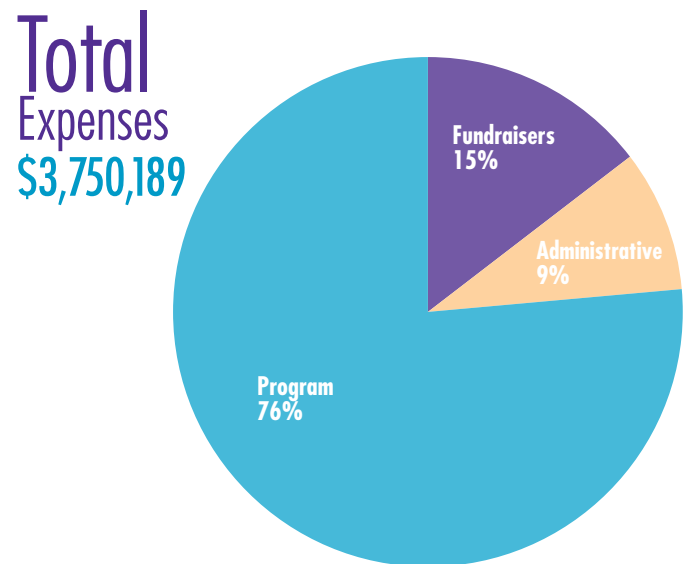
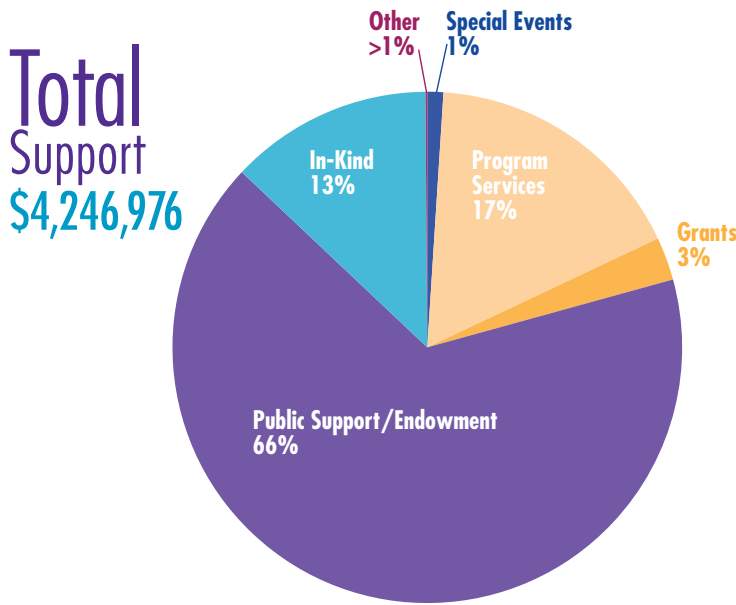
Mail campaigns, newsletter revenue, unsolicited public support revenue, pledges, memorial/tribute donations, donations made through our website, grants from local foundations, investment income, and endowment funds.

## Program Services Revenue

Adoption revenue, surrender revenue, spay/neuter services, volunteer orientation fees, and Camp Humane fees.

## Event Revenue

El Rey Fido & Paws on the Patio.



*In memorial of and with special thanks to Helen Sims; her generous gift allowed the San Antonio Humane Society to pay off its mortgage and operate at a surplus during 2011. Because of her charitable donation, we are one step closer to reaching our dream of building an onsite shelter hospital.*

*Complete financial statements are available upon request or can be found on our website at [sahumane.org](http://sahumane.org). The San Antonio Humane Society's audit of financial information is conducted by Akin, Doherty, Klein, & Feuge P.C.*

# ADOPTIONS

- Open from noon to 7pm every day except major holidays.
- Regular adoption fees range from \$30 to \$99.
- All animals adopted from the San Antonio Humane Society have been spayed or neutered and received their first set of vaccinations, de-wormer, and flea prevention. Cats are tested for FIV/FELV and dogs receive heartworm prevention. Both dogs and cats come with a microchip, 14 days free vet care from VCA hospitals, 30 days of free pet insurance\*, a starter bag of Hill's Science Diet food, and a collar with a personalized tag.

(\*some restrictions apply)

# VOLUNTEER

- Visit [sahumane.org](http://sahumane.org) for orientation dates.
- Email [volunteer@sahumane.org](mailto:volunteer@sahumane.org) to reserve your spot for orientation.
- A volunteer orientation, follow up meeting, and \$25 orientation fee is required in order to volunteer.
- Volunteer hours are 8am-7pm, every day except major holidays.

# FOSTER

- Think you're ready to be a foster parent? Contact our Foster Care Coordinator at 210.226.7461 ext 120 or [foster@sahumane.org](mailto:foster@sahumane.org)
- Visit [sahumane.org](http://sahumane.org) to download a foster application.
- We provide everything you will need to foster our dogs or cats, all you need to provide is a loving temporary home until they are ready to be adopted!

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## SUMMER CAMP HUMANE

Keep your animal-loving kids active this summer with the San Antonio Humane Society's Summer Camp Humane! In addition to the traditional Camp Humane for kids ages 8-11, we'll be hosting Itsy Bitsy Camp Humane for our younger animal enthusiasts, and Service Camp Humane for our older participants who will spend more hands-on time with the animals and will receive community service hours.

**June 25-29: Camp Humane, ages 10-11 - FULL**

**July 9-13: Camp Humane, ages 8-9**

**July 23-27: Itsy Bitsy Camp Humane, ages 5-7**

**August 6-10: Service Camp Humane, ages 12-14 - FULL**

## ADOPT A CAT/LITTLE CAT DAY!

**June 30, noon-7pm at the San Antonio Humane Society**

One day only, cats (4 months+) will have their adoption fee waived and little cats (under 4 months) will have an adoption fee of \$15!

## 10TH ANNUAL PAWS ON THE PATIO

It's time to start planning coordinating costumes for you and your pooch; our annual Paws on the Patio event is just around the corner! Stay tuned for a date & time to dine with your dog and be a part of the best canine costume party in town!



*The SAHS feeds our pets Science Diet pet foods.*

# Go Social With Us!



*Connecting Friends for Life through Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and MySpace*

## You Can Find Us On

