

Spring 2022 Newsletter

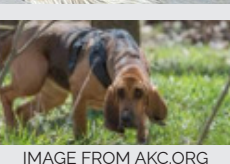
Keeping the friends of the
Shelter informed & engaged!



Gardena E Janssen
Animal Shelter

Serving Fayette County, Texas

240 Svoboda Lane
La Grange, Texas 78945



Did you know...?

A bloodhound's sense of smell is so accurate that it can be used as evidence in a court of law!

IMAGE FROM AKC.ORG

GJAS Year-to-Date Data

YTD 2022	
Intake	233
Adoptions	167
Return to Owner	21
Rescue	96
Euthanasia	6
97% LIVE release rate	

Total Intake as of 3/31/22	
233	
Cats	74
Dogs	159

Inventory as of 4/15/22		
	CAT	DOG
In Kennel	2	31
Foster	38	3
RQ	0	0
72 Hr.	0	0
Trial	1	7
Total	41	41

In May of 2019, we began researching and reaching out to rescue organizations all over the country to help save the cats and dogs of Fayette County. It's been a million hours of work with a million texts, phone calls, photos, and emails for each animal we've transported with these trusted partners. It has all been worth it though; as of March 31, 2022, we've transported 803 dogs and cats to their new happy forever homes in 31 states! We have 32 dog kennels and max capacity on cats is 44. In 2021, we saved 97%!

The second, but equally important, piece of saving these lives is FOSTERING! We could never have enough of these compassionate hearts, ever! When our pups and kits are "tagged" with a rescue partner they must be out of the shelter prior to the transport date. You provide a warm, safe place and we provide EVERYTHING ELSE!! Please visit our website to learn more about fostering – puppy and kitten season 2022 has begun!

As always, thank you for your continued support of our mission. We simply cannot continue this important work without YOU!

GOT MICE?

ADOPT A WORKING CAT.

your in-barn pest control.

Many outdoor cats cannot be tamed. By placing them in a setting where they are safe and cared for, but can still be free, you are giving them the best home possible for their circumstances. Here are a few benefits to working cats:

- LOW MAINTENANCE
- THEY EAT RODENTS & BUGS
- YOU ARE SAVING LIVES
- THEY MAKE BARN VISITS FUN

Have you heard about Cat Nip/Dog Snip...??



GJAS offers a discounted voucher program to help citizens of Fayette County get a spay or neuter procedure for their pet. The **Cat Nip/Dog Snip** program is primarily designed to help families that might not otherwise be able to afford the procedure.

The voucher can be purchased at the animal shelter and can be used at any veterinary clinic in Fayette County!

Cats: \$30 with a \$60 value at the vet
Dogs: \$45 with a \$90 value at the vet

Upcoming Events

- Homeward Bound Gala - May 21**
- KC drive-through - July 21**
- Twin Oaks Ranch - September 17**
- The Lyric Theatre - Flatonia - date TBD**

Barn Cat Program

Barn cats will help keep down the rodent population while you provide them a safe place to live. And, because these cats are already spayed or neutered, you won't have to worry about endless litters of kittens.

A barn cat is simply an outdoor cat that is not interested in living in a home, but more interested in life outside! Barn cats can range anywhere from feral to friendly. Barn placement is the last chance at life for these cats. Without barn adopters, they have nowhere else to go. If you have a working barn or safe, building for shelter from the elements, you have the perfect set up for a barn cat!

Cats placed into our Barn Cat Program fall into three main categories. Please consider these categories when submitting your application:

- Feral - not socialized, not friendly
- Semi-Feral - some socialization
- Semi-Friendly - some socialization, may allow some petting and become friendlier over time

What We Provide

Barn Cats have an adoption fee of \$35, which includes:

- Spay or neuter
- Rabies
- FVRCP Vaccination
- FeLV/FIV tested

All cats available for adoption to barns are spayed or neutered, vaccinated and FIV/FeLV tested negative. When you adopt a barn cat, we will provide support and information to acclimate your new cat to the barn. It's easy to help them feel like your barn is their home!

What You Provide

When you adopt a cat from our barn cat program, you agree to provide:

- Confinement in a barn, warehouse, outbuilding, or stable
- Daily food and water – cats cannot live on mousing alone.
- Long-term veterinary care, as needed
- A secure place to keep them for the first 2-3 weeks while they acclimate to their new home. This can be a tack room or any secure enclosure from which they cannot escape.

From Dr. Leslie Terzakis, DVM, on Finding Kittens & Ringworm

When people find a litter of kittens, I recommend that they watch them for about an hour per week of age. **Newborns** are hamster size; leave them in place and watch for mom for an hour or two. If **eyes are open**, but they're not yet steady on their feet, watch for mom for 3-4 hours. If they're **up and playing**, give mom 6-8 hours to show up.

Grab the kittens immediately if they are **in danger** from weather, dogs, fire ants, neighborhood kids, etc.! Kittens in trouble will cry, crawl around, gasp – they won't settle and sleep. Finders can put small kittens in a shallow box with clean towels while waiting for mom.

Ringworm never killed anyone! It is a fungus, not a worm. **Recognize:** I suspect ringworm with any patchy haircoat, scabby ear or nose margins, any scabby toes, or any broken whiskers. It takes a while to clear up, with topical and/or oral meds, but it always does when the kitten's immune system matures. **Directions:** Wash hands well when done handling the kittens; pharmacist can guide you to an antifungal hand soap. Hold kittens on towels on your lap, not on bare skin. Human ringworm clears up well with antifungal ointments (still consult your MD).

How do you know if your cat has ringworm?

Watch out for these symptoms on your cat's skin.



Crusting

Redness

Dandruff

Hair loss

Itchiness

How to Feed a Kitten



"NEVER Give up on the 'Hard' Ones!"

"Yeti" came to us as a stray WILD man in July of 2021. He was super friendly with people, a bit submissive with other dogs, but an absolute silly and loveable hot mess! He loved being outside, but inside the kennel he would jump, climb the walls, twirl, and bark – and jump, climb the walls, twirl, and bark some more.

GJAS engaged the help of a trainer and we all learned how to help Yeti. Shonda, our lead Animal Care Tech, and Greg, a volunteer, took Yeti on as a project. Determined to help him, they worked with Yeti and got our staff and volunteers also involved with hands-on training daily. While carrying the load of caring for 30 dogs in the kennel every day, everyone also worked daily to help this boy become his best self!

Yeti was losing his mind in the kennel, and you could see it in his eyes every day. But then, we started to see a gradual response to the expectations and boundaries we set, and we saw the light come on! Yeti was "getting it"! He trusted us and knew he was safe. He understood that his good behavior was rewarded. He was becoming far more manageable in and out of kennel. He made new human friends and new dog friends in the yard. He began to walk on leash as expected and would sit on command.

Fast forward to our Adoption Event in March 2022. No one asked to meet Yeti. He was out and about with all the other dogs and volunteers; he was a perfect gentleman all day. The event was winding down and then it happened. A car pulled up and the lady got out and said, "I'm here to meet Yeti!" In shock, Shonda and Greg gathered Yeti for a meet and greet. We went into a play yard and her daughter had their trainer on FaceTime so he could see Yeti's behavior and interaction with people and other dogs. The family visited with him and us for about an hour; we shared everything we know about him. They were in love within the first 5 minutes, but we insist on a "trial" period, a chance to see how he would integrate with her family, the environment, and her other dogs.

Happy Ending: Yeti is now "Brodie" and absolutely living his best life with his new forever family in New Braunfels, Texas! He is mom's jogging partner, and he has two fur-siblings. He has a yard with plenty of room to run and play. He's learning proper house manners, becoming a part of the family inside and outside. They're keeping up with the necessary training and continue to help him be all that he is meant to be – a family member and a magnificent dog!

Yeti reminds of why we do this work and what an honor it is to care for those that cannot help themselves, to give to something more important and make a difference. We are grateful to have had but a minute in Yeti's journey and will always remember what he taught us.

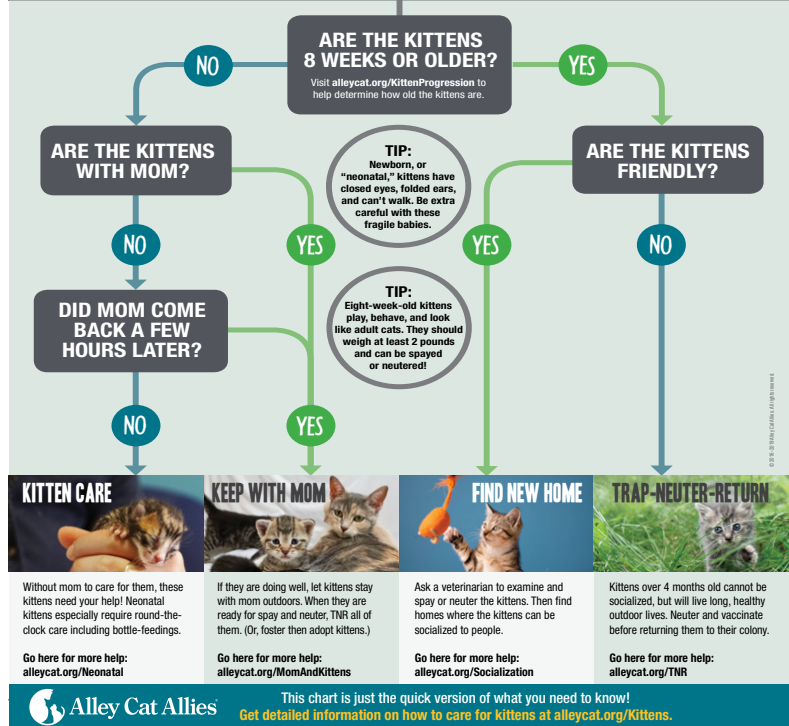
"Don't give up on the hard dogs. They will teach you something you never knew you needed." - Kathy Kawalec, Dancing Hearts Dog Academy



HELP, I FOUND A KITTEN!



Found kittens outside and don't know what to do?
This flowchart will help you take steps to make the best decisions for their care!



Consider Establishing a Permanent Endowment of Love

Donors,

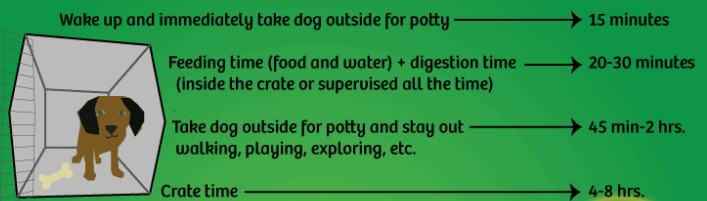
Have you ever considered making a single, larger donation now to benefit the animal shelter annually for years and years beyond your lifetime?

Fayette Community Foundation, a partner 501(c)3 in La Grange, specializes in accepting and managing permanent endowments (i.e., investments that generate income) to support their donors' favorite charitable organizations. A gift from you to the Foundation could create a new fund at the Foundation earmarked to help GJAS every year from now until kingdom come!

Please contact the Foundation at (512) 791-7096 or check out the Foundation's website at www.faycofoundation.com for more information.

Crate Training can be Successful at All Ages and Stages of a Dog's Life

CRATE TRAINING AN ADULT DOG SCHEDULE



End the day with with feeding, walks, play and cuddle time.

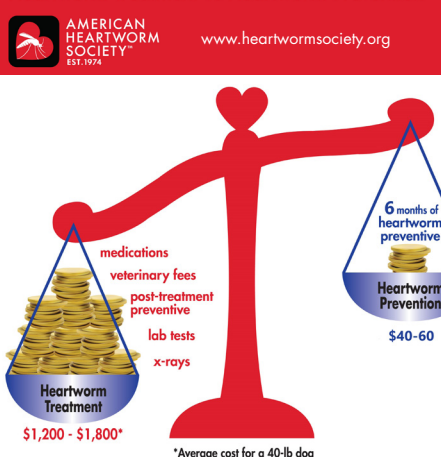
TIPS FOR CRATE TRAINING AN ADULT DOG

- 🐾 Increase the time your dog stays alone inside the crate from 1-2 hours slowly up to 8 hours.
- 🐾 Always leave enough chew toys and stuffed kongs for your dog to pass the time enjoyably.
- 🐾 Do not use the crate as a punishment. Your dog must love to be settled in his crate before you can use it for time outs.
- 🐾 Once your dog has learned to potty outside on schedule and to only chew on his own toys, leave the crate door open.
- 🐾 If your dog whines or barks, IGNORE him. Only let him out or give him a treat/toy if he is quiet and relaxed inside the crate. Otherwise you will be rewarding whining behavior!

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Weigh the Costs

Heartworm Treatment vs Heartworm Prevention



PROTECT YOUR PET FROM HEARTWORM 12 MONTHS A YEAR. TEST FOR HEARTWORM EVERY 12 MONTHS.

HEARTWORM LIFE CYCLE

