



# Washington County SPCA



## Holiday Newsletter 2022

### OUR MISSION

We serve the citizens and animals of our local communities by providing shelter, medical care, and adoption and transport opportunities for stray, abandoned or surrendered animals.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### November 29th

Giving Tuesday  
*Online, in-person, or via mail*

Celebrate Giving  
*Community Center, 4 to 7*

#### December 1st to 11th

Bissell's Empty the Shelter  
*WCSPCA, Petco, PetSmart*

#### December 3rd

WCSPCA Open House  
*16620 State Hwy. 123*

#### March 31st, 2023

Spay-ghetti Dinner  
*Hilton Garden Inn*

### CONNECT WITH US!



918.336.1577



16620 State Hwy 123  
Bartlesville, OK 74006



[wcspca.org](http://wcspca.org)



@Washington  
CountySPCA



@wcspca

### PHANTOM OF THE SPCA



Phantom was brought in as a stray in June of 2013 by ACO, Rita Lowry, who is now retired. Shortly after his intake and neuter surgery, he escaped his cage. He made his way into the attic space in the pound facility and lurked in the shadows using the top of the dog kennels as his own personal cat walk, taunting the dogs residing below.

The shelter employees were extremely worried that he would fall into the wrong cage and wanted to move him to the cat adoption building so that he could find a job working as a barn cat but he was too smart for them and the catch cage. For years he managed to hide with only an occasional Phantom sighting until he eventually started to trust the employees and would allow the random head scratch while eating but the minute someone tried to catch him, he would be gone in a flash.

In 2019, Washington County SPCA had to evacuate all of the kennels due to rising flood waters and was unsuccessful in catching him. We left food and clean water and hoped for the best. We returned to find him unscathed and healthy as ever.

After years of living in attic of our pound building, we were starting to see damage to ceiling and knew we needed to catch him and move him to a new location. He was caught twice and somehow managed to Houdini his was out before we could update his vaccines. After the third attempt, we were able to catch, vaccinate and move him over to our adoption building, where he has been happily living ever since. He still likes to hide from humans but loves the affection from other cats. If you are ever in the area, stop by and take a stroll through the cat adoption room, if you're lucky, you just might see him.

**Adopt a Shelter Pet from  
the WCSPCA Angel Tree**



**located at CROSSING 2nd**

Dear Friends of Washington County SPCA,

This holiday season we have so much to be grateful for: Our volunteers and fosters who donate thousands of hours to care for the homeless animals in our community; our adopters and rescue partners who help us find homes for our shelter animals; and our donors and supporters who step up time and time again to support our mission.

**We are truly humbled and grateful for you and all you do!**

So far this year, Washington County SPCA has served over 2,800 animals and the people who love them. We were able to find homes for 1,065 animals through adoptions at our facility and our partners, Petco and PetSmart. We transferred another 210 to out-of-state rescue partners. The grants we received provided us the opportunity to vaccinate 600 and microchip 400 community animals. Our ongoing veterinarian partnerships helped to spay/neuter 312 community animals through low-cost vouchers for limited-income individuals.

**Even with great successes, we still face financial struggles to provide vaccines, medical care, and food for the animals that come to the shelter every year. We spend an average of \$1,500 a day to care for the animals in our care, that's \$45,000 a month!**

**Like most shelters this year, the rising cost of medicine, food, and cleaning supplies has drastically affected our budget.**

As you spend time with your family and friends this holiday season, please think of the homeless pets that spend their holiday here at Washington County SPCA and the great care they will receive while waiting to find a home.

We hope that you will consider making a donation to help the homeless animals in Washington County.

May this holiday season bring you and your family peace, comfort, and joy that will follow you through the whole year.

With deepest gratitude,



Tonya Pete  
CEO



## CULVERT OPERATION

Do you remember Culver? He was aptly named after being rescued from a culvert on Highway 123 and Minnesota in August. Unfortunately, it's not uncommon that animals are dumped and found down the street from the shelter.

Culver, like many animals being thrust into an unfamiliar environment, was scared and hiding. After attempts from several animal loving individuals to get him to come out of the culvert, one person was able to fit in the area and pull him to safety. He was then taken to the vet for x-rays and a check-up.

Thanks to our generous supporters and social media followers who rallied around him, we were able to raise money to cover his surgery and get him ready for adoption.

Culver is now completely healed and living a great life with his new family. He loves to play with other dogs and has full range of motion of the leg that was surgically repaired.



## 2022 WCSPCA Board of Directors

**Chad Cox**  
*President*

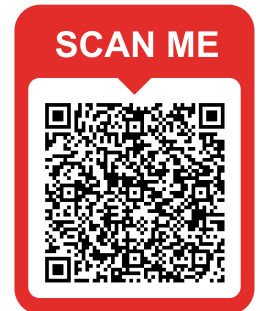
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*2nd Vice President*

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*Treasurer*

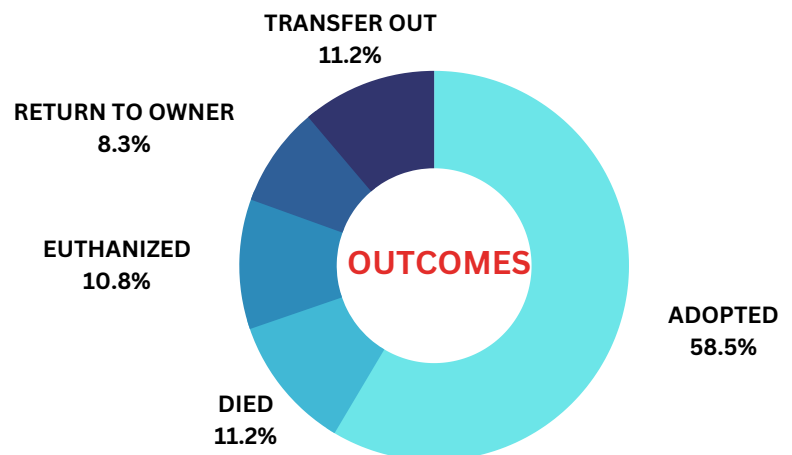
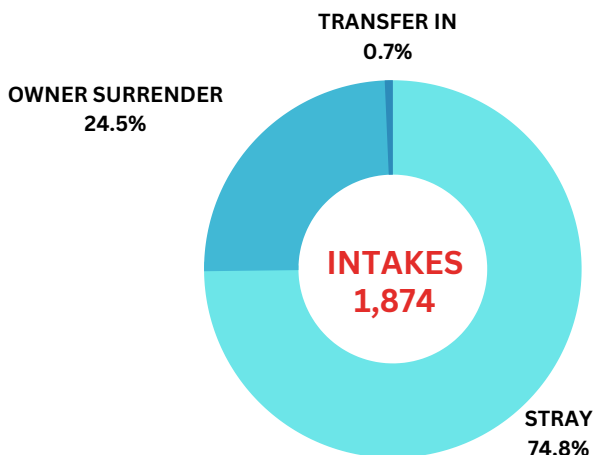
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*Secretary*

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**Becky Cowen**  
**Derek Ergenbright**  
**Tommy Leathers**  
**Connie Mattix**  
**Lucretia Newton**  
**Ashley Nicholson**  
**Steve Rohleder**  
**Abigail Singrey**  
**Jennifer Tate**



## 2022 STATISTICS

January 1st to October 31st



WCSPCA only euthanizes for severe illness and aggression and has not euthanized for space in over 11 years.

## NEW SHELTER UPDATE

Check out the progress that is being made at the future home of Washington County SPCA. Unfortunately, the COVID pandemic and rising inflation slowed down our plans but we are back on track and working hard to build a sustainable shelter to serve the community for many years to come. Several acres of overgrowth and brush were cleared from the property and the land is being prepared for construction.

The new design will provide up-to-date quarantine and intake rooms that help curb the spread of disease, sturdier kennels that provide a calmer environment that also keeps the animals, staff, and volunteers safe, and an energy efficient building that will save on utility expenses.

Stay tuned for more updates in the near future. If you would like to learn more or are interested in being involved in this exciting project, please contact Tonya Pete at 918-205-4260 or [tonya.pete@wcspca.org](mailto:tonya.pete@wcspca.org).



## UNLEASH GENEROSITY ON GIVING TUESDAY

Join us for the largest giving day of the year and double your impact thanks to a challenge match from our Giving Tuesday sponsor, Sutterfield Financial Group.

There are several ways to participate:

- **Donate online at [wcspca.org](http://wcspca.org) on November 29th**
- **Create your own peer to peer fundraising page for WCSPCA and encourage your friends to donate.**
- **Stop by the shelter and drop off a donation**



SCAN TO DONATE

SCAN TO CREATE YOUR OWN FUNDRAISER



## BINGO BASH 2022

Over 250 people came to our Bingo Bash in October. Thanks to Courtney McClure Design for being our event sponsor! We couldn't do what we do without our supporters, sponsors, and volunteers, thank you all!



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Scott Sullivan 918.213.2450 | [ssullivan@rkblack.com](mailto:ssullivan@rkblack.com)

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