

TACA WINTER NEWSLETTER

2018



BRRRRRR It's Cold Outside

It's that time of year again. Cold weather can be harsh on our furry little friends. Please take the time to bring your pets in during cold temperatures and make sure your outside animals are warm, fed and have water that is not frozen. If you are cold they are too.



PROTECT YOUR PETS DURING WINTER & COLD WEATHER

- Keep pets indoors
- Take precautions if your pet spends a lot of time outside
- Give your pets plenty of food and water
- Help outdoor cats
- Be careful with cats, wildlife and cars
- Protect paws from salt
- Speak out if you see a pet left in the cold
- Avoid antifreeze poisoning
- Give your horses shelter and dry warmth
- Supply food and water to your horses around the clock



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CLICK LINK FOR MORE DETAILS. PLEASE SHARE TO KEEP ANIMALS WARM AND SAFE IN COLD WEATHER!

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Message from the President

If there's one fact we all know to be true, it's that change is inevitable.

Life is like that. Everything changes, everything evolves. We all grow and we all become what we weren't before. This is true for people and organizations alike. Those who resist change are doomed to be passed over and forgotten as the rest of the world continues on. When I first started in this field, there were no computers in shelters, all animals were processed by individual pieces of paper, no one had a phone in their pocket, and networking via social media didn't exist. All of these improvements have helped us do more for the animals than we ever could before but it couldn't have happened if we were all set on doing things the same way we always have.

Until now, TACA has always had one person who was involved from the very beginning. Charlotte was there when the organization was founded in 1974 and has actively worked to support us ever since. From being a member to sitting on the Board of Directors to becoming an employee, she has spent 44 years of her life helping TACA become the best animal control association in the country.

Very few people can say they've truly made this world a better place. Those of us who work in animal welfare can make this claim because of the lives we save day in and day out. Charlotte can go a step above and be proud of the work she's done to assist new and more seasoned Officers alike as they progressed in this field.

Unless you've never been to a TACA conference or had to communicate with us at some point, you've probably dealt with Charlotte. One thing you could always count on was a big, welcoming smile and a genuine desire to make you feel welcomed and appreciated as a member. She had a knack for getting to know you and remembering who you were and where you worked. She didn't just see members, she saw family.

But those of us who spent time with her in board meetings can tell you about a different side as a staunch defender of what she thought was right for TACA. She would express her frustrations with credit card processors, might get a little loud on occasion, and could even use some "flowery" language at times (especially if it was Jay that got her riled up!), but we all knew the differences would pass while her love and friendship always remained.

Over time, TACA has grown from a small group who met at Texas A&M University to today's organization that represents Officers from all over the state. Those early volunteers, including Charlotte, laid the foundation for TACA's success and your current Board is working hard to ensure we continue to grow and succeed so that we can provide the best service and value to our members.

The future is always uncertain. Nothing is guaranteed, but we've learned a lot from Charlotte over the years and those lessons will not be forgotten as we continue to move forward as an organization. We are excited about what is to come but we will always look back with great fondness to what all she has done for us.

Had she chosen a different path in life, we're sure Charlotte would have accomplished great things but we're thankful she dedicated her life to helping the animals and Animal Control Officers of this great state. Charlotte, we're going to miss you but we'll never forget you and what you've done for us. TACA will go on, but it wouldn't be where it is today without you.



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FAREWELL TO CHARLOTTE ROY
Executive Secretary of the
Texas Animal Control Association

During the 43rd Annual Conference of the Texas Animal Control Association (TACA) we said good -bye to Charlotte Roy, Executive Treasurer of TACA and wished her well with her upcoming retirement after 44 years with the association.

Charlotte has been a member of TACA since its inception at Texas A & M University in 1974 where the original board of directors were all veterinarians. She was elected to the Board of Directors in 1975 upon recommendation from her supervisor with the City of Abilene Animal Services. Little did she know she would become a treasured asset to the association for years to come. In 1994 she became the association's first paid staff member as the Executive Treasurer where she did such an outstanding job that she held that position for 24 years.

Charlotte retired with the City of Abilene Animal Services after 30 years, where she held a supervisory position for most of those years. While we will all miss Charlotte as someone who closely watched over the association's finances and members as if they were her own, we wish her the best and she will be deeply missed.

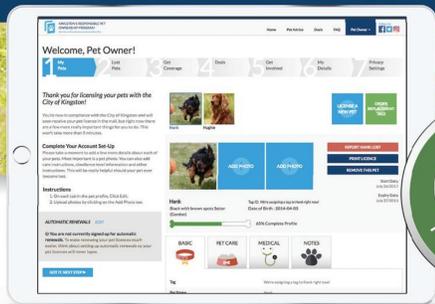


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Spotlight on

Amy Michelle Henderson

I began my career as an Animal Control Officer for the City of Texas City in August of 2005. Before that, I attended Texas A&M University studying Biomedical Science, working on my dream of becoming a veterinarian. As we all know, life doesn't always go as planned, and I did not complete my degree. Searching for careers where I could help animals and continue my dream to put my print on the animal kingdom, I worked as a vet tech for four years, served as an Animal Care Technician at the Galveston County Health District, worked at Dairy Farms, and Canine Training. I have spent my entire life surrounded with working with animals of all kinds and sizes, for this has always peaked my interest and is my true love. I have always had a natural talent when it comes to handling animals, and I enjoy the challenges that animals give me on a daily basis.



Currently, I am the field supervisor for the Texas City Police Department's Animal Control Division. I am also the Field Training Officer for all of the new hires. I am a Texas Certified Cruelty Investigator, member of Texas Animal Control Association, Euthanasia Technician, Certified Animal Control Officer, Emergency Management Operator, as well as a Certified Instructor. Field work has taught me how differently animals behave in high stress situations, and aggressive

animals quickly became my specialty. Fellow officers call me the "dog whisperer", though my honest "secret method" is purely understanding the animal, and self-confidence with my own behavior and actions. I gained my certification in 2015 as a TCOL Instructor, and currently instruct Canine Encounters for certified Police Officers. I have loved educating officers on animal behavior, and teaching them how to handle situations with aggressive animals without immediately resorting to lethal force.

My main objective in Texas City is education. I believe knowledge is power, and can change the future of Animal Control if we all spend a few extra moments teaching citizens, officers, and our coworkers all of the knowledge and skills we have learned. Cruelty can be avoided if owners knew how to care for their pets, and bite cases could be prevented if the victims reacted differently. Education is key, and is our biggest weapon to defeat animal neglect and abuse. I hope that in my everyday career as an Animal Control Officer I make a tiny difference. Somewhere there is a warm dog sitting with his family who was once cold chained to a tree, and there is a child playing with their dog whom was once afraid. Always know that a tiny change can make a huge difference. Saving the life of one animal won't change the world, but it will change world for that animal. And to me, that's what this career is all about.



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TACA's 43rd Annual Training Conference

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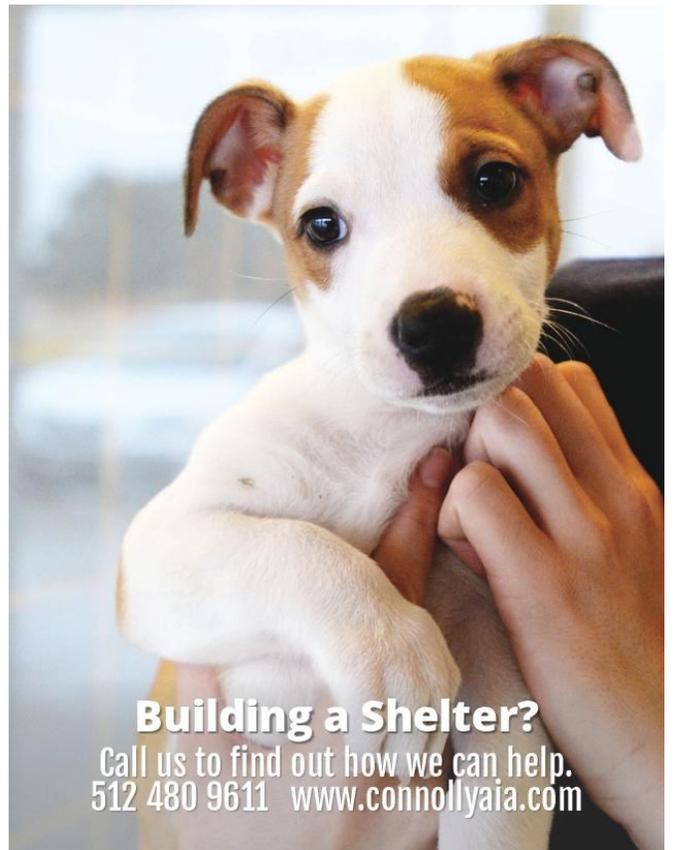
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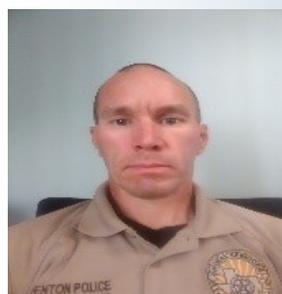
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