

FREEMAN FRITTS

AWS Freeman-Fritts Animal Shelter & Clinic
515 Spur 100, Kerrville TX 78028
830-257-4144

www.freemanfritts.com

Clinic Hours: Monday - Friday, 7:30 – 12:00 and 1 - 5:30

Shelter Hours: Monday - Friday, 10:00 - 11:30 & 1:00 - 4:30

Or by appointment



December 2019



The Animal Welfare Society of Kerr County, Texas is a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Organization and relies heavily on donations and support from the local community. Keep in mind that you can extend your support by remembering Animal Welfare Society in your estate plan. All donations are tax-deductible.

Holly Jolly Merry Christmas!

 From all of us at Freeman-Fritts! 



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FINAL NEWSLETTER REMINDER!!!

Effective January 2020, we will no longer print and mail hard-copy newsletters!

If you would like to receive the newsletter electronically, please send an email to contact@freemanfritts.com

You can also visit our website at <https://www.freemanfritts.com/newsletter> to see current and previous newsletters!

The Gift of Giving: Consider Freeman-Fritts in your estate planning!

Gift Planning is a powerful tool to help people donate significantly more than otherwise possible. The Animal Welfare Society of Kerr County, Texas (known as Freeman-Fritts) opened its doors in 1986 as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization to serve the needs of Kerr County's animals. Situated on 5 acres, it is a no-kill shelter and promotes adoptions of homeless animals.

Some gifts are created through wills and trusts, while others produce income from a current transfer of assets. No matter the particular structure, all contributions to Freeman-Fritts are investments in the future of our animals and facility. Gift planning typically provide donors and beneficiaries with tax benefits including the reduction of capital gains tax, minimizing or eliminating gift and estate tax, and producing tax efficient income streams.

And, speaking of planning: A Necessary Step in Planning for Your Pet's Future

<https://www.aarp.org/money/budgeting-savings/info-2017/pet-care-estate-planning-fd.html> (edited)

We all love our pets, but the unique legal status of our furry friends requires serious planning to make sure they remain happy and healthy if anything happens to us. Here are the must-do actions to consider:

- 1. File an advance veterinary directive.** Everyone should already have emergency legal and medical forms on file that make sure someone can speak for you if you get sick or simply aren't available. Your pets deserve their own form spelling out the terms for their care. Fill out two copies for each fur baby: one to keep in your records, one to give to the person you want to have step in. Boilerplate "fill in the blank" documents are available online or in a lot of veterinary offices, so you should be able to find one without much trouble or expense.
- 2. Find a facility that takes pets.** The old "no dogs allowed" signs have disappeared from about half the assisted living centers in one recent survey. If you need residential help taking care of yourself, make sure they'll care for your pets, too — or at least allow regular visits. Let's face it, having an animal around keeps us active, engaged and alert. The right facility recognizes that! Research local options as carefully as you'd interview a dog walker, which raises a critical side point. If you're struggling with your animals at home, don't let them go unless it's absolutely necessary. Find someone to help instead.
- 3. Don't leave any orphans behind.** If you die suddenly, your pets may have to rely on the kindness of neighbors, relatives and strangers. Avoid the worst outcomes by spelling out in your will exactly who inherits each animal. And don't surprise your caregivers: have a discussion first, and if they aren't 100 percent on board, find someone else. The person who truly wants to adopt your fur baby may not be one of the usual suspects. Meanwhile, family and neighbors may not want or be able to take in another animal. Make sure you know in advance where they stand, and then spell out the successor relationship in writing.
- 4. Consider a pet trust.** You can't actually leave animals money, but most states allow special trusts that will pay the way for the dogs and cats you leave behind. You'll need to assign a caregiver (often the person inheriting the pets) and a trustee as well as fund the trust with enough cash to cover food, veterinary bills and treats for the rest of the animal's life. This is often a way to compensate someone who already has a relationship with your dog or cat, so build in a little extra if you can as a memorial when the animal dies. And if you're always taking in strays, there's no need to worry about revising the documents. Simply define the class of beneficiaries as every pet you leave behind, and the trustee will make sure everyone gets a fair share.
- 5. Keep inflation in mind.** Whether you're looking at a pet trust or simply plotting your household budget, make sure to leave room for rising prices. Animals eat better, get more advanced veterinary attention and live longer than they did a decade ago — last year alone, food costs surged 22 percent as "ultra-premium" brands took hold, and overall pet spending surged 10 percent. You don't have to switch to feeding them nothing but filet mignon, but this is just another reason your savings need to keep working hard enough to stay ahead of the CPI. At a minimum, make sure your income is growing along with the cost of living: Right now that means CDs, savings accounts and even most bonds are off the table unless they're paying more than 2 to 3 percent a year.

POOCH of DECEMBER 2019 – Meet Winnie the Pooch! 🐾



Winnie hasn't met a face she won't kiss! 🍷 She loves to play with toys and would love to learn to fetch! Winnie is just a puppy who is eager to learn new tricks. She currently she weighs about 22 lbs at 5 months old. She is a terrier mix who will most likely be medium in size.



Winnie is spayed, fully vaccinated, heartworm negative, and microchipped. Winnie will, however, require a special diet. If you're ready to give the present of love to Winnie the Pooch, Winnie is ready for Christmas and ready for her forever home! ❤️❤️❤️

PURR of DECEMBER 2019 – Meet Mal! 🐾🐾



Meet oh-so-pretty princess kitty, Mal! Mal is sweet, spunky, and full of life! She is a gorgeous girl with stunning unique colors to match her one-of-a-kind personality. Mal is a purr bucket that loves everyone she meets! You will never be lonely again with this girl by your side.

Mal is 4 months old, and she has been spayed, vaccinated, felv/fiv tested negative and microchipped. The COMPLETE package! Come on by and give Mal the best present she could get: her furever home!



Photos by S J Derby

Ho Ho Ho!
Merry Christmas to
the pups & kits at
Freeman-Fritts!

**Christmas
Wish List**

- Area Rugs (all sizes)
- Throw size blankets
- Dog/cat toys
- Towels
- Collars (sm/med)
- Cat/Dog beds
- Fabulouso
- Bleach
- Cat Trees (new or gently used)
- Bath mats (rubber no slip backing)
- Cat & kitten Breakaway Collars
- Fancy Feast Dry (red bag)
- Baby Food 2nd Food Stages - Chicken



While a
Christmas tree
would be nice,
we need cat

Meanwhile...



Merry Christmas to us!

Bow-Wows!

- Ophelia
- Sandwich
- Dilley

Meows!

- Lady
- Krystal
- Nibblet
- Venus
- Ollie

And The Usual Reminders... And Thank You!

Support Our Shelter While Shopping

Don't forget that you can support our shelter when shopping at Amazon. Go to <https://smile.amazon.com>, which offers the same selections and prices, and designate **Animal Welfare Society of Kerr County Texas** as your charity of choice. Amazon will donate a portion of the proceeds to our shelter.

Ways You Can Help!

- ♥ Remember or honor your friends and pets with a donation to the shelter itself or by buying a brick for our memory walk.*
- ♥ Make a contribution for a specific shelter need such as the spay/neuter fund, which helps defray the cost of surgery.
- ♥ **Remember us in your estate planning!**

The Animal Welfare Society of Kerr County's mission is to reduce the number of homeless, unwanted animals; to shelter and promote adoption of homeless animals; and to provide education in the responsibilities of pet care and ownership. All donations are tax deductible and are used to provide care and services to our shelter animals while awaiting a forever home.

* **"In Memory of" or "In Honor of" bricks** can be purchased for \$50. Each brick is laser engraved with whatever you would like to have inscribed on it. All proceeds benefit the shelter animals. Call us for more information.

Freeman-Fritts Spay & Neuter Program!

The Freeman-Fritts Vet Clinic has a limited dog and cat spay/neuter fund available. This fund allows us to offer FREE spay/neuter surgeries (including Rabies Vaccination) for your cat or dog. Call for an appointment 830-257-4144. Some restrictions may apply.

Surgery Reminders!

- If you are unable to keep your surgery appointment, please call to cancel as soon as possible. This will give us an opportunity to schedule another client.
- NO FOOD after your pet's evening meal, preferably no later than 6 p.m. Water is acceptable.
- Please have your pet on a leash or in a carrier.



Pet Safety

THROUGH THE HOLIDAYS

AVOID THESE FOODS

- POULTRY SKIN • BONES
- ONIONS • GARLIC
- BEER • ALCOHOL
- YEAST DOUGH • SWEETS
- GRAPES • RAISINS
- MACADAMIA • WALNUTS

DECORATE WITH CARE

- ANCHOR TREE • COVER WATER
- AVOID TOXIC PLANTS
- ORNAMENTS OUT OF REACH
- NEVER LEAVE LIT CANDLES
- NO TINSEL • RIBBONS
- WATCH LIGHTS • EXPOSED WIRES

PLAN YOUR TRAVEL

- CHECK WITH YOUR VET
- PACK A PET BAG
- RIDE SAFELY IN VEHICLES
- UNPLUG WHEN GONE
- WATCH THE EXITS
- GIVE PETS SPACE

LEARN MORE AT WWW.CAUSEYOU CARECO.COM

Want to Volunteer?

Want to help the animals? Have a few hours to spare and share? If you think you can offer a few hours once a week, once a month, or even once a year, please come in and fill out a volunteer application (the application is also available on our website). We'll take all the help we can get!

- ♥ Socialize the dogs and cats
- ♥ Help at off-site adoption or fund-raising events
- ♥ Maintain building and grounds
- ♥ Do you have any special skills or talents that might help us in other ways? Let us know!