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Maumelle Animal Services Announces Two Events to Bring Joy, Relief to Senior Citizens

Maumelle, Arkansas – The City of Maumelle’s Animal Services division has announced two events aimed at bringing happiness and connection to its elderly residents. As part of its ongoing commitment to community engagement, they are providing opportunities for residents to interact with furry friends available for adoption.

The first event will take place at Maumelle Center on the Lake, the city’s senior center. Slated as an indoor adoption opportunity, the event will allow members to engage with cats and dogs seeking homes.

Nicole Vogler, Center on the Lake director, said the event promises seniors the opportunity to visit “up close and personal with the animals, giving them a chance to perhaps find a perfect companion,” she said.

Vogler said research shows that owning a pet has multiple advantages, particularly for seniors. “They boost physical health. People with pets have lower cortisol, a stress hormone, a lower heart rate and blood pressure, and they decrease the risk of depression. They also encourage exercise – especially for those who own dogs,” Vogler added.

The Indoor Adoption Event will be Tuesday, February 20, from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m.

The following week, Maumelle Animal Services will host a special meet-and greet with residents of Audubon Pointe Apartments, one of Maumelle’s public senior living communities. The event is aimed at supporting the residents who experienced an apartment fire in late January.

Chris Davis, animal services director, said, “During that incident the detection dog with the Maumelle Fire Department garnered so much positive attention from the evacuees we felt like taking some of our pets over to visit with them would be valuable for both the shelter animals and the people who live there. It’s a win-win,” he added.

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The meet-and-greet at Audubon Pointe Apartments will be February 28, from 1 p.m. until 3 p.m.

Davis said members of the Maumelle community are welcome to join the Animal Services Department staff and pets at both events as “pets offer companionship for an age group that is particularly vulnerable to isolation and loneliness. “Pets give us purpose. Meeting the needs of a living thing gives us a reason to get up and on with the day,” he said.

For more information about either event, contact Davis, cdavis@maumelle.org or call 501-851-6219.

About Maumelle Animal Services: *Maumelle Animal Services (MAS) is dedicated to enforcing the animal control ordinance, resolving animal complaints and fostering a professional relationship with local authorities and members of the Maumelle community. As a proud partner of Pets for Patriots, MAS is committed to supporting both animals and veterans. Recognized by the Best Friends Animal Society for achieving a commendable 90% save rate in 2022, MAS is dedicated to animal welfare and community involvement.*

About the City of Maumelle: *Maumelle, nestled in Pulaski County, Arkansas, is a dynamic community with about 20,000 residents situated in the central part of the state. Recognized for its scenic parks, serene lakes and extensive recreational opportunities including hiking, biking, and kayaking, Maumelle attracts those who value active suburban living with convenient access to shopping and dining. The city takes pride in its exceptional schools, vibrant community center and the Center on the Lake, which offers tailored programs, activities and transportation services to help seniors age in place. Recognized as a Volunteer Community of the Year for 16 consecutive years, Maumelle proudly upholds its tagline: “The Perfect Fit.”*

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