



Monica Burns, an animal shelter technician, reassures a new arrival at the shelter. Photo credit: Rudy Ximenez.

Animal Shelter Sets Record for Live Outcomes

The Georgetown Animal Shelter has reached a major milestone by attaining a 96 percent live outcome rate—the highest ever achieved by the shelter—in the most recent fiscal year. From October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2015, the shelter achieved no-kill status in every month with an overall

euthanasia rate for cats and dogs of 4 percent. A rate of 10 percent or lower is considered no-kill among animal shelters.

Jackie Carey, animal services manager, says that dogs and cats are euthanized only when they are not adoptable due to serious health problems or behavioral issues that could pose a safety risk. “We don’t euthanize to make an empty cage,” says Carey. The euthanasia rate is down 58 percent this year compared to last year.

Reasons for the higher live outcome rate include enhanced sanitation

and disease control measures, a new adoption room for cats, and a higher number of cat adoptions through a placements at the PetSmart in Georgetown.



Tech Tonia Hermann, cares for an orphaned pup at feeding time.

Another factor is a connection with Austin Pets Alive to place feral cats into adoption as barn cats. In addition, a training program for dogs called Dogs Playing for Life helps to socialize aggressive dogs so they can become adoptable.

The Georgetown Animal Shelter is located at 110 W.L. Walden Drive. Contact the shelter at (512) 930-3592 or online at pets.georgetown.org.

Burglaries from Vehicles

The Georgetown Police Department has some surprising data on where burglaries from vehicles are occurring and why. Most incidents are not happening at shopping malls and at businesses in Georgetown.

In the first nine months of 2015, two thirds of the burglaries from vehicles in Georgetown happened when the vehicle was parked at a house or apartment. Only 24 percent of the incidents happened at a mall or other commercial location. For the 92 residential burglaries of vehicles that happened in January through October of this year, 74 percent were from an unlocked vehicle. Overall, 63 percent of the burglaries from vehicles in 2015 were from unlocked vehicles.

The surprising fact that emerges is that many people don’t lock their vehicles while at home. However, this is where thieves are most likely to steal items from cars.

“We’ve reached out to businesses in Georgetown to make them aware of the issue,” says Lt. Jim Seals. “Hotels, restaurants, and apartment complexes close to I-35 seem to be a target for thieves since there is an easy escape route. Now we need to get the word to residents.”

The simple habit of locking your car door, no matter where you are, can greatly reduce the chances that you’ll be the next victim.

Holiday Closings

Jan. 1: New Year’s Day
Jan. 18: MLK Day

No solid waste or recycling pickup on Jan. 1.

For New Year’s week:
Thursday pickup slides to Friday
Friday slides to Saturday

Regular solid waste and recycling collection on MLK Day.



City Offices Move

The Planning Department, Economic Development Department, and a few small City departments are moving to the historic Light and Water Works building at the corner of Eighth and MLK Jr. streets. The red brick building with the smoke stack was home to the police department for 30 years.

The Planning Department entrance is on the east side of the building addressed as 406 W. Eighth Street. The Planning Department will be closed December 30 – 31 and will open in the new location on January 4. The Permitting and Inspections Department is not moving, but will remain at 300-1 Industrial Avenue at the Georgetown Municipal Complex.

The Economic Development Department moved to the Light and Water Works building in November. The department uses the west entrance to the building addressed as 809 MLK, Jr. Street. The Main Street Program, Housing Department, and Public Communications Department also moved to the new building in November.

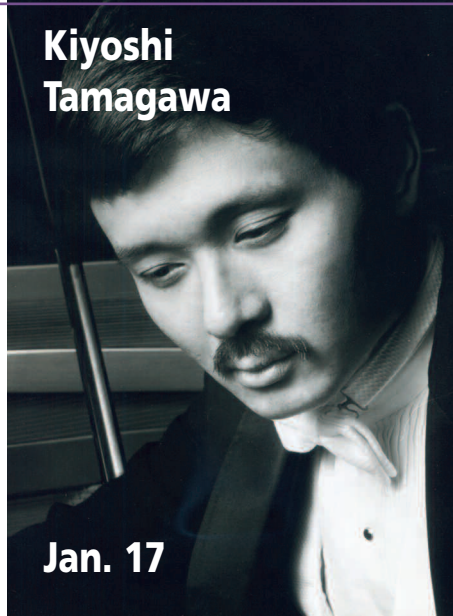
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Georgetown Public Library

Kiyoshi Tamagawa will perform in the library on Sunday, Jan. 17, at 2 p.m. in the Hewlett Room. He will perform Book I of *The Well-Tempered Clavier* by J.S. Bach. Dr. Tamagawa has performed as a soloist and collaborative pianist throughout North America, and in Europe and Asia. Free and open to the public, this performance is a gift of the Friends of the Georgetown Public Library.

Kiyoshi Tamagawa



Jan. 17

Of Mice and Men Events Jan. 8 & 10

The Georgetown Public Library partners with Austin Opera for three engaging events centered around John Steinbeck's classic novella *Of Mice & Men*. All events are free and open to the public. Details at library.georgetown.org.

Film Screening: Friday, January 8, 7 p.m., Friends Room: *Of Mice and Men* comes to life in this film adaptation starring Gary Sinise and John Malkovich. Austin Opera will be on hand to talk about the connection between the novella, film, and opera.

Book Discussion: Sunday, January 10, 2 p.m., Hewlett Room: Join Georgetown Public Library for a book discussion about the novella. A member of the *Of Mice and Men* opera cast will talk about the opera and its connection to the original novella.

Opera Preview: Sunday, January 10, 3 p.m., Hewlett Room: Austin Opera will present a preview of Carlisle Floyd's opera *Of Mice and Men*. This informative discussion will include vocal selections from the opera.

Best of Georgetown, Texas Winners

The votes are in! Below are some of the gold (first-place) winners in the 2015 Best of Georgetown, Texas contest:

- Best Overall Restaurant:** Dos Salsas
- Best Date Spot:** El Monumento
- Best Comfort Food:** Monument Cafe
- Best Kid Friendly Restaurant:** Hat Creek Burger Co.
- Best Men's Haircut:** Sport Clips
- Best Computer Repair:** Click Computers
- Best Place to Take Kids:** San Gabriel Park



For a complete list of the gold, silver, and bronze winners, go to Bestof.Georgetown.org.

January Events

The Palace Theater

Xanadu,
January 15 – February 14
Details at GeorgetownPalace.com, or call (512) 869-7469.

Georgetown Symphony Society, January 21

The GSS presents a special fundraising concert featuring the British trio, Tenors Un Limited, known as “the rat pack of opera,” which has become one of the world’s premier classical crossover groups, 7:30 p.m., at the Georgetown Palace Theatre. \$50 per person.

Artist reception to follow. Proceeds to benefit the Georgetown Symphony Society. Details and tickets at gsstx.org or call (512) 864-9591.

City Boards and Commissions

The City of Georgetown is accepting applications to fill vacant or expiring terms on the City’s boards or commissions. The deadline to apply for one of these volunteer positions is January 8. Terms begin in March. Information and applications are available at www.georgetown.org.

Cupid's Chase 5K Registration

Register by January 12 for the Cupid's Chase 5K and Fun Run at a reduced rate. The race and fun run is on Saturday, February 6. Register at cupid.georgetown.org.