

# AMARILLO READS

By Stacy Yates, APL Public Relations Coordinator

**Rescue Road: One Man, Thirty Thousand Dogs, and a Million Miles on the Last Hope Highway** by Peter Zheutlin is the AMARILLO READS selection for this autumn. **Rescue Road** is the story of Greg Mahle, operator of a dog rescue transport service who travels through Florida, Louisiana and Texas every other week – transporting unwanted dogs from the South to forever homes in the North. Author Peter Zheutlin became interested in Mahle’s story when his own family adopted a rescue dog that was brought to them by Mahle’s company, Rescue Road Trips. Zheutlin traveled with Mahle across the country, observing rescue operations and volunteers who work tirelessly to save the lives of southern dogs by finding them homes in the North.

Director of Library Services Amanda Barrera says the book was chosen because of its compelling story and focus on a major issue.

“Another exciting aspect of this selection is that it allows us to partner with other City of Amarillo departments. We’re working with Amarillo Animal Management & Welfare (AAM&W) and the Amarillo-Panhandle Humane Society (APHS) to offer programs about rescue dogs and the important work done to protect animals and the public. We also hope to have a dog-themed movie night in the park adjacent to the Southwest Branch Library – that’s a partnership with the Parks & Recreation Department – and of course, we couldn’t do AMARILLO READS at all without the support of the Amarillo Civic Center Complex which hosts our author events.”

Peter Zheutlin and Greg Mahle will both be in Amarillo on Oct. 4 for a free-to-the-public event at the Globe-News Center for the Performing Arts. While details are still being finalized, other programs planned for the fall include:

### It’s All Going to the Dogs

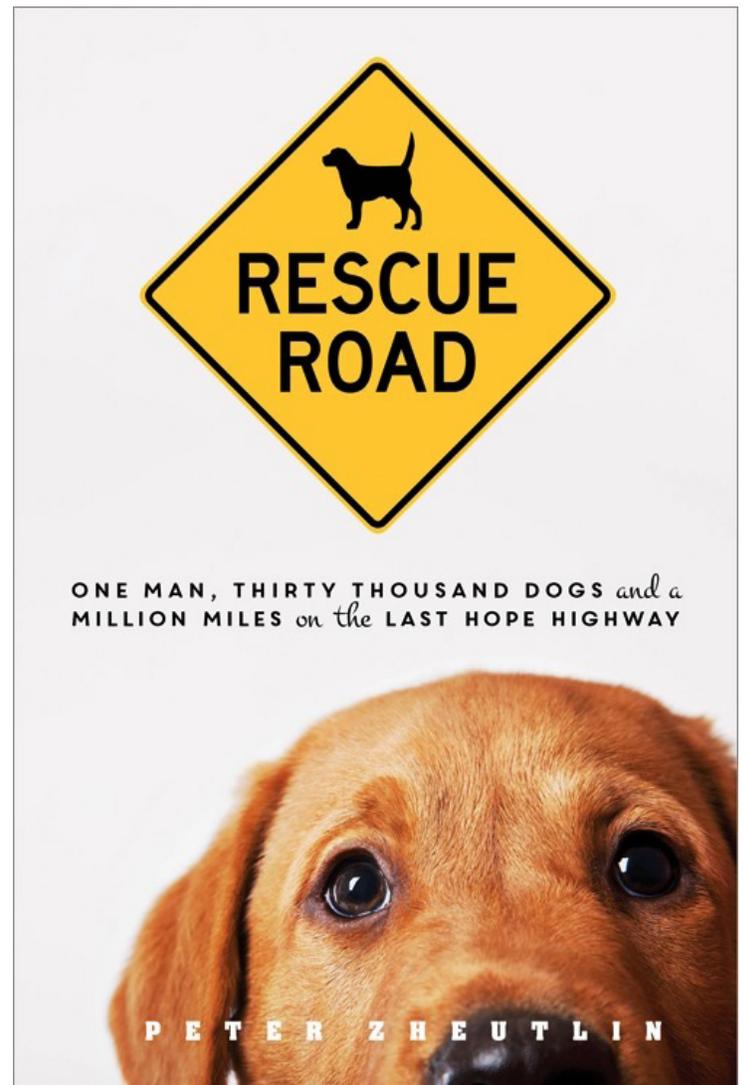
Throughout September, Amarillo Public Library locations will serve as drop off points for donations to help AAM&W and APHS care for the animals in their custody. You can drop off Clorox Bleach (yes, it has to be Clorox), laundry soap and dryer sheets, paper towels, and soft dog treats at any Amarillo

Public Library location. Donation of clean, gently used towels, blankets, sheets, and pet crates will also be accepted. Please do not donate dog food, pillows or pet toys.

### Rescue Animal Photo Gallery

Learn the stories of stray or rescued animals who found forever homes.

*(continued on Page 4)*



# On the Job: National Zoo Keeper Week

*By Your Amarillo Zoo Keepers*

National Zoo Keeper Week is recognized the third week in July each year and the City of Amarillo is proud to have a dedicated staff of professionals caring for the animals at the Amarillo Zoo. This special week, supported by the American Association of Zoo Keepers, is a time to celebrate and thank the keepers for their tireless work and devotion to the animals they care for and their commitment to the conservation of wildlife all over the world.



**Sara Venable** is the carnivore keeper as well as the senior keeper at the Amarillo Zoo. She joined the team in 2012 after earning her Bachelor of Science in Wildlife & Fishery Science from Texas A&M University. Every day, Sara evaluates the animals in her area and keeps track of their body condition and general health, sometimes asking them to stand up or turn for easier inspection. As

zoo keepers go about their daily tasks, they rely on training and conditioning to help them care for their animals. Successfully training an animal requires mutual trust and lots of practice.

**Brittany Lake** graduated from Tarleton State University with a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science/Animal Production. She has been a keeper at the Amarillo Zoo since October 2015 and she is now the keeper for our primates and Plains Exhibit. One of Brittany's favorite activities is creating enrichment for the animals in her care. She loves the

Zoo's five Narragansett turkeys and has created several new ways to keep them active. Enrichment stimulates an animal's mind and body and helps to keep them mentally and physically fit. Everything from scents and toys to diet preparation and exhibit layout can qualify for enrichment, so the keepers get to use their imagination when coming up with new, fresh ideas.



**Caroline Ellison** is the newest member of the team and she has spent the last month taking over as keeper of the Zoo's education collection. Caroline has a Bachelor of Science degree in Wildlife Biology from West Texas A&M University and she's currently working towards her master's. She is defending her

thesis on pronghorn ecology this month. A big part of zoo keeper's work is the support and promotion of conservation projects across the globe. At the Amarillo Zoo, the keepers actively promote several efforts, including black-footed ferret and big cat conservation.



**Theresa Domenico** has been a keeper at the Amarillo Zoo since May 2016. Theresa received her Bachelor of Science in Zoology from Oklahoma Panhandle State University. As the keeper for the domestic hoofstock, she gets more hands-on time with the animals she cares for than some of the other keepers. An important part of Theresa's job is maintaining healthy

hooves and coats on the domestic hoofstock. Brushing, washing and hoof cleaning are routine tasks that help keep these animals healthy and content.



**Angela Lorkowski** is from O'Fallon, Missouri, but she graduated from Owasso High School in Owasso, Oklahoma. She attended the University of Arkansas and graduated in 2016 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Anthropology and a Bachelor of Arts in French. She has been a zoo keeper at the Amarillo Zoo since July 2016 and she has been training in the domestic hoofstock and Plains exhibit areas.

Amarillo Zoo's curator, **Rhonda Votino**, has nearly 30 years experience in zoo management and animal husbandry. She has been with the Amarillo Zoo for the last 13 years and has worked at two other zoos before coming to Amarillo. Rhonda's education includes a Bachelor of Science in Biology from Iowa State University and several Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) courses including Principles of Zoo Management, Elephant Management and Record-Keeping. Through careful planning and management, Rhonda oversees the ordering of thousands of pounds of meat, produce and hay; record-keeping for the entire Zoo collection; Zoo projects and updates; and so much more, including acting as a swing keeper for all the animal areas as needed.



# SAFETY CORNER: Top Ten Injuries

By Jesse Patton, Community Relations Assistant

Everyone is at risk of workplace injuries, from the snow plow driver to the administrative assistant. In fact, thousands of workers are injured on the job every year in all kinds of working environments all across the United States. Recent data from the 2016 Liberty Mutual Workplace Safety Index listed the ten leading cases for injuries accounting for 82.5 percent of total workplace claims.

Injuries from overexertion top the list and include those from excessive lifting, pushing, pulling, holding, carrying or throwing. The simplest way to prevent overexertion is to get help or assistance for the task at hand. When confronted with something to carry, ask a co-worker to help.

Falls were on the list twice accounting for both falls on the same level and falls to a lower level. Falls can be prevented by remembering to keep your work area clean and clutter-free and using anti-slip footwear. If using a ladder, ensure it is in proper working order. If applicable, wear proper fall protection.

For the Liberty Mutual Workplace Safety Index, being struck-by objects accounted for 8.6 percent of workplace injury related claims. Maintaining proper Personal Protective

Equipment (PPE) like hardhats, safety glasses, goggles and face shields lower the risk of injury when being hit with an object. Another way to mitigate these kinds of injuries is stacking materials properly to prevent sliding, falling or collapse. Make sure to never work under cranes, hoists or heavy machinery while it is being operated.

Finally, bodily reaction injuries include those from bending, climbing, reaching, standing, sitting, slipping or tripping without falling. Eliminate these safety hazards by keeping your workstation organized, maintain a healthy lifestyle with proper physical conditioning, and prevent situations that require prolonged awkward postures.

The other five on the list include roadway incidents, slip or trip without fall, caught in/compressed by equipment or objects, struck against object or equipment, and repetitive motions involving micro-tasks. With proper awareness and training, the amount of injuries related to these categories can be reduced.

Use these tips and remember to **“TAKE SAFETY HOME!”**



# Lisa Blake Joins Amarillo City Council

By Jesse Patton, Community Relations Assistant

Following the resignation of City Councilmember Brian Eades, Amarillo City Council had the responsibility of filling the Place 2 seat, as required by the City’s Charter. On July 12, after an extensive search, application and interview process, Council appointed Lisa Blake to the seat. She was sworn into office by Municipal Court Judge Sonya Letson at the Aug. 2 regular meeting of the Council.

Councilwoman Blake is the Executive Director of Leadership Amarillo & Canyon, is an experienced motivational speaker and has more than 20 years of banking industry experience. Blake has also served on the Board of Directors for organizations such as Children’s Learning Center, High Plains Food Bank, Women’s Ministries and more.

Blake will serve the remainder of the Place 2 term, which expires in May 2017.



Randy Burkett Paul Harpole Lisa Blake Mark Nair Elisha Demerson

# Amarillo READS

*(continued from Cover)*

## Ready for a Close Up

The right picture can make a huge difference in whether or not a cat or dog finds a home. Learn how to take great animal photos.

## Not Just Dogs and Cats

The City of Amarillo's AAM&W department deals with a wide array of non-domestic animals including snakes, foxes and other wild animals. Learn more about this aspect of the job.

## Bark After Dark

Join us for a family-friendly movie in the park and meet some pets who are looking for a new home.

## Downtown Lunchtime Book Club

Visit the Downtown Library to talk about **Rescue Road** with other book lovers.

## Adopt-a-Thon

Meet some pets who are ready to become part of your family.

For complete details on AMARILLO READS, follow the Amarillo Public Library on [Facebook](#).



**Mary Jane Escobar**

9 years  
Library

**Marlene Ashley**

22 years  
Public Health

**Thank you for your  
commitment to the  
City of Amarillo!**

# FROM THE PANTRY: Crab-Fennel Salad

*Submitted by Margaret Payton, MBA, RD*



*Curried yogurt dressing drizzled across a freshly tossed combo of fresh melon, fruit, crabmeat, fennel, and greens makes a delicious, refreshing dinner for hot summer nights.*

- 2/3 cup plain low fat yogurt
- 1/4 cup mayonnaise or salad dressing
- 1/4 cup milk
- 1 tsp. curry powder (use 1 Tbsp. fresh dill for curry substitute)
- 4 cups coarsely chopped fresh fruit, such as cantaloupe, strawberries, blackberries, honeydew melon, pineapple and/or mango
- 2 – 6-8oz. pkgs. chunk-style imitation crabmeat or lobster
- 1 1/2 cups sliced fennel
- 8 cups torn mixed salad greens

1. For dressing, in a small bowl stir together yogurt, mayonnaise, milk, and curry powder. If desired, thin dressing with additional milk. Set aside.
2. In a large bowl combine fresh fruit, crabmeat, and fennel; set aside. Divide salad greens among salad plates. Top with crabmeat mixture; drizzle with dressing.

*Makes 6 servings*

*PER SERVING: 176 cal. 5 gram total fat (1 g. sat. fat), 16 mg chol., 601 mg sodium, 24 g carb, 3 g fiber, 10 g pro.*

**Follow COA:**



# NEW EMPLOYEES:

## Welcome to the COA Team

NAME	TITLE	DEPARTMENT
Melissa Mata	Supportive Housing Coordinator	Community Development
Garnett Schafer	Airport Operations Manager	Dept. of Aviation
Calvin Wilkinson	Security Operations Agent	Dept. of Aviation
Enrique Caldera	Concrete Finisher	Drainage Utility
Tamar Ethier	Admin. Assistant II	Drainage Utility
Belinda Tindell	Admin. Assistant III	Facilities
Margie Gonzalez	Admin. Assistant V	Human Resources
Christopher Heller	IT Analyst	IT
Darcy Dockery	Admin. Assistant - hrly	Library
Lauren Ebben	Admin. Assistant - hrly	Library
Nathaniel Juarez	Admin. Assistant - hrly	Library
Daniel Guerra	Utility Worker - hrly	Park Maintenance
Ira King	Utility Worker - hrly	Park Maintenance
Richard Marrell	Crew Leader - hrly	Park Maintenance
Shirley Hale	Admin. Assistant I	Police Civilian Personnel
Charles Davis	Admin. Assistant I	Public Health
Jacob Smith	Treatment Plant Operator	River Road WWT Plant
Derik Jefferson	Utility Worker - hrly	Solid Waste Disposal
Ruben Baker	Utility Worker	Street
Bernardo Hernandez	Utility Worker - hrly	Street
Everardo Lopez	Utility Worker	Street
Ysrael Salinas	Utility Worker - hrly	Street
Heather Wheeler	Utility Worker	Street
Ethan Marchman	Treatment Plant Op.	Surface Water Treatment
William Culala	Utility Worker	Wastewater Collection
Robert Gauna	Utility Worker	Wastewater Collection
Benjamin Smith	Utility Worker	Water Distribution
Casey Weaver	Utility Worker	Water Distribution
Clinton Rodgers	Electronics/Instrumentation Tech	Water Production
Stevan Gutierrez	Utility Worker - hrly	Water Transmission
Miriam Lara	WIC Tech - hrly	WIC
Madison Lucero	WIC Tech - hrly	WIC
Angela Lorkowski	Animal Attendant	Zoo



The only thing worse than ants invading your picnic this summer is getting bitten by a pesky mosquito. That’s why the City of Amarillo’s Public Health and Environmental Health departments have teamed up to launch a public education campaign called Mission Mosquito. The goal of Mission Mosquito is to prevent mosquito bites and reduce mosquito breeding areas.

“Mosquitoes carry a number of diseases including West Nile, Zika, Dengue and Chickungunya,” says Public Health Director Casie Stoughton. “Simple prevention steps can reduce your risk for all diseases related to mosquitoes.”

Environmental Health Director Shaun May agrees.

“It is important to prevent mosquito bites by using the four Ds,” he says. “Make sure you are doing everything you can to protect yourself and your loved ones during mosquito season.

Those four “Ds” are:

- **D**rain all standing water
- **D**ress in long sleeves and pants
- **DEET**: wear insect repellent with DEET
- **D**aily: All day every day

As part of Mission Mosquito, kits containing information about Zika and West Nile, a checklist for individuals to reduce mosquito breeding areas around their home, mosquito repellent, and other helpful information is available at the Public Health department.

**ONE TEXT OR CALL COULD WRECK IT ALL**

# PROMOTIONS/TRANSFERS FOR JULY 2016

NAME	OLD TITLE	OLD DEPARTMENT	NEW TITLE	NEW DEPARTMENT
Angelica Barientez	Messenger	Central Stores	Admin. Assistant II	IT Print Services
Guy Capra	Officer	Police	Corporal	Police
Berry Carden	Sergeant	Police	Lieutenant	Police
Shane Chadwick	Corporal	Police	Sergeant	Police
Jeremy Clancy	Firefighter	Fire	Driver	Fire
Michael Clayton	Officer	Police	Fire Investigator/Inspector I	Fire Marshal
Jerry Cook	Utility Worker - hrly	Traffic Field Operations	Traffic Tech I	Traffic Field Operations
KC Cook	Project Representative	CP&D Engineering	Engineering Assistant IV	CP&D Engineering
Kelly Dougherty	Admin. Assistant V	Police Civilian Personnel	Office Administrator	AECC
Phillip Drerup	Sergeant	Fire	Lieutenant	Fire
Tracie Glenn	Admin. Assistant II	Police Civilian Personnel	Admin. Assistant III	Police Civilian Personnel
Jose Gonzalez	Utility Worker - hrly	Park Maintenance	Residential Equip. Op.	Solid Waste Collection
Israel Gutierrez	Utility Worker	Park Maintenance	Park Tech I	Park Maintenance
Jimmy Johnson	Lieutenant	Police	Captain	Police
Kyle Joy	Lieutenant	Fire	Captain	Fire
Bryan Klein	Utility Worker	Hollywood Road WWT	Meter Service Rep.	Water Distribution
Efren Lopez	Utility Worker	Drainage Utility	Utility Operator	Drainage Utility
Andrew Martinez	Instrument Operator	CP&D Engineering	Traffic Design Technician	Traffic Administration
Ashley Peacock	Events Supervisor	Civic Center	Events Manager	Civic Center
James Rabin	Equip. Op. II	Street	Equip. Op. III	Street
Zachry Stillwell	Residential Equip. Op.	Solid Waste Collection	Commercial Equip. Op.	Solid Waste Collection
Jennifer Torres	Admin. Assistant III	Police Civilian Personnel	Civilian Investigator	Police Civilian Personnel
Darlene Wagner	Admin. Assistant III	CP&D Engineering	Admin. Assistant V	Risk Management
Roger Wagner	Animal Care Worker	AAM&W	Shelter Supervisor	AAM&W



## Smile Of The Month



**Thomas Beck**  
Utility Worker  
Street Department

## AFD's New Wheels



The Amarillo Fire Department recently received a new Wildland Firefighting truck. This extended cab 2016 Ford F-550 will carry 400 gallons of water and is equipped with a fire pump that will discharge up to 200 gallons of water per minute (200gpm). It replaces an older grass fire truck.

# EMPLOYEE MILESTONES

NAME	DEPARTMENT	TITLE	YRS
Ashley Orr	Fire Civilian Personnel	Admin. Specialist I	5
Shaun McDonald	Library	Librarian II	5
Carletta Windsberg	Library	Admin. Assistant I	5
Delia Vazquez	Park Maintenance	Park Technician I	5
Rocky Terry	Solid Waste Collection	Route Supervisor	5
Susan Birdwell	Transit Demand Response	Van Operator	5
Namon Tinner	Water Distribution	Utility Operator	5
Jesus Flores	Civic Center Operations	Building Attendant I	10
Charles Poindexter	Comanche Trail	Greenskeeper II	10
Randal Johnson	Fire Operations	Fire Fighter	10
Travis Bates	Laboratory Administration	Environmental Technician	10
Adriana Rodriguez	Municipal Court	Admin. Assistant IV	10
Guillermo Reyes	Park Maintenance	Utility Worker	10
Ricardo Martinez	Solid Waste Collection	Utility Worker	10
Casey Fox	Street	Equipment Operator I	10
Kenneth Cook	CP&D Engineering	Engineering Assistant IV	15
Thaddeus Diaz	Drainage Utility	Drainage Utility Supervisor	15
Juan Martinez	Transit Demand Response	Van Operator	15
Russell Archer	Central Stores	Store Clerk	20
Dewayne Johnson	Facilities Maintenance	Facilities Coordinator I	20
Ruben Solis	Transit Maintenance	Mechanic I	20
Robert Hamrick	Waste Water Collection	Water & Sewer Supervisor II	20

## “Love Letters”



Every so often, City of Amarillo departments receive thank you notes from people expressing gratitude for a job well done. Here are a few recently received “love letters.”

### Building Safety:

*“Thank you again for helping us with this address change, you made this process easy and quick, we found you to be professional and courteous.”*

– Jenny Virden and Terri Harris, Virden Perma Bilt Co.

### Utilities and Street Departments:

*“We would first like to pay our compliments to the City of Amarillo on the repairs made to a broken water line ... the process began the next week with marking all the utility lines and keeping us informed from the beginning of digging and shutting off the water in order to make the repairs. This was diligently handled by both the water and street departments from start to finish ... Again, our compliments and appreciation for all the hard work and courtesy shown by both Water and Street personnel involved.”*

– Peter M. Boyce, Williams-Boyce Agency, LLP

### Environmental Health:

*“I want to compliment your team on the advice pre-party and their timely inspections at the Harley Party. Everything was so smooth. I appreciate getting all the questions answered in advance so that we could do our part correctly. We will always work diligently to follow the rules and keep the public safe. THANK YOU!*

– Joette Campbell, Family Support Services

IN REMEMBRANCE   IN HONOR   IN RECOGNITION   IN APPRECIATION

**September 11**

**15th Anniversary  
Remembrance Ceremony**

Sunday, Sept. 11, 2016  
8:30 a.m.

Amarillo City Hall  
509 SE 7th Ave.



**PUBLICATION POLICY:**

The ACE newsletter is distributed by the City Secretary’s office monthly through e-mail, print copies and the City’s Intranet site. It is designed to help keep you informed of events and accomplishments throughout the organization you serve. If you have ideas for future stories, features or photo opportunities, or to receive this newsletter electronically, contact:

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Items must be received no later than the first Friday of each month to make that month’s edition.

All items are subject to space availability and edited for appropriateness.

**CITY OF AMARILLO**

P.O. BOX 1971  
Amarillo, TX 79105-1971

**Taking a “Daybreak”**



ABC 7’s Daybreak Coffee Crew recently paid a visit to the Amarillo Police Department’s Service Division. While the name of the young man in this picture is unknown, the rest are, from left: Anthony Pittman and Nicole Hartford from ABC 7’s Daybreak; Derenda Rush, Administrative Assistant IV; Tammy Peavey, Police Data Administrator; Leeann Kossey from ABC 7’s Daybreak; Shelby Macleod, Administrative Assistant I; Martha Mobley, Administrative Assistant I; Wallecia Gibson, Administrative Assistant I; Kendra Hanson, Administrative Assistant I; Kathy Parsons, Administrative Assistant I; and Gini Flores, Administrative Assistant III.

**Thanks Summer Staff!**

Summer is coming to an end and Parks & Recreation wants to thank all our summer staff for their hard work and for such a great summer. Good luck this year at school!

