Dear Editor:

Tuesday, Feb. 23, was the annual Spay Day USA event. Veterinarians, veterinary hospitals and animal rescue programs across the nation participated.

The event was started to bring attention to the need for pets to be altered in order to reduce the pet overpopulation situation the country is in.

Hundreds of animals woke up that morning not knowing it was to be their last day of life. A lot of this is due to owners waiting to spay or neuter their new pet, and that hesitancy leads to an accidental breeding.

The other common trend is for owners to buy a “papered” pet and be under the impression that it should automatically be bred. Not all purebred dogs are good examples of their breed and should definitely not be bred unless they are of a quality that improves that breed and follows breed standards in doing it.

Locally the event held at Perkins County Veterinary Hospital helped several families manage their pets’ health. Fifteen pets were altered for low income families who may not otherwise have been able to afford such care.

The reduced cost procedures were possible through the generous allocation of Keno funds from the City of Grant and private donations.

The PCVH staff appreciated the donation of pizza and drinks from a locally owned business.

During Spay Day as many animals as possible are altered, so the staff works 12 hours with no break in the action.

Shannon Jensen, DVM

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