



Join Us ...

"Change a World, Save a Friend, Adopt a Dog"

Paw Prints

The Collin County Humane Society Newsletter - Summer 2013

A WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Molly Peterson, Pres of CCHS and Director of CCHS and Rockwall

Fat Camp, Thunder Fear, GI Dog and Things that go Bump in the night are all hot topics in this issue of Paw Print Newsletter. Summer is upon us and even though it still feels like spring, that doesn't stop the CCHS team from working hard at finding fur kids in North Texas forever homes. In this issue of the Paw Print Newsletter read all about a dog's battle with chronic gastrointestinal issues and the kindness of the strangers who step up to save his life. Do you remember the tragic story of Sonny and Cher - No, not the singers, the other famous couple that joined CCHS two years ago after being abandoned at a local shelter. We have followed their story of triumph, tragedy, despair and now an update on Sonny who has a new leash on life after losing 60 lbs thanks to the love and care of his wonderful adoptive family!

One of our primary focuses this quarter is preparing for our biggest fundraiser of the year! CCHS is dedicated to the care we provide for the pets in our program until their last day. In order to help the many dogs in need across north Texas, we are currently seeking donations for our fourth Annual Give a Dog a Home Gala (see more information about the event in this issue of the Paw Print Newsletter). This year's event is casino, boots and bling theme featuring a live band, slot machines, craps tables, Texas Hold 'Em, live auction, Justice Award and more! Can you donate a weekend stay at your vacation home/condo for our live auction? Do you have airline miles that you would like to donate to your favorite charity to help raise money for the fur kids? Who has season tickets, box seats or VIP parking to a sporting

event and can spare a game or two for charity? Our focus this quarter is to collect amazing prizes to help raise funding for our Adoption Facility. Even if you don't have any fancy items to donate to our event we can still use your help in sending out letters to local businesses in request of items for our event. If you are interested in donating to the event or would like to learn more about how you can help make a difference by supporting our cause, email Pres@CollinCountyHumaneSociety.org for more information. No matter how small or large your part is in working with and supporting CCHS, we thank you all for your help and we look forward to a wonderful 2013.

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Did you know....?

- There have been 176 adoptions so far, this year.
- CCHS has 70 active foster homes
- Our foster homes are caring for 82 dogs/pups
- See our Happy Tails <http://mhenterpriseonline.com/>

Events:

- **Watters Creek – Adoption Event on the 2nd Saturday of the month from 1-6pm on the South West Corner of Bethany and 75 in Allen (across from Savour)**
- **Annual Gala on Oct 26th** <http://collincountyhumanesociety.org/bootscootin-benefit.html>
- **See our Happy Tails** <http://mhenterpriseonline.com/>

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Monthly membership

Krystle Poppell - Canine Crusader
James David King - Kennel Friend
Sue Lopez - Tail Wagger
Katherine Deaver - Kennel Friend
Bobby McPeak - Puppy Partner
Nancy Latner - Kennel Friend
Joy Iversen - Kennel Friend
Cathy & Gwen Neth - Puppy Partner
Kimberly Derossett - Kennel Friend
Marsha Bux - Kennel Friend
Rebecca Moyer - Tail Wagger

Annual Membership

Jill Schilp - Kennel Friend
Catherine Thorpe - Kennel Friend
William Seitz - Kennel Friend
Sandra Webb - Tail Wagger
Celeta Bettison - Kennel Friend
Kathryn Long - Kennel Friend
Susan Stringer - Tail Wagger
Margie Arion - Tail Wagger
Gary Carpenter - Kennel Friend
Lisa Hollen - Kennel Friend

***Collin County Humane Society Presents:
Fourth Annual
Boot Scootin' Dog Benefit***

October 26th from 6:00pm - 11:00pm

Where: Eddie Deen's Ranch

944 S Lamar St

Dallas, TX 75207

(214) 741-4211

<http://collincountyhumanesociety.org/bootscootin-benefit.html>

100% of the proceeds will go towards building a CCHS adoption facility in 2016

The event will be held at Eddie Deen's Ranch in Dallas, TX. A cocktail hour with Matthew Middleton and Texas Drive Band here is their website: <http://www.gigmasters.com/Country/MMTDB> playing in the background, served appetizers, drink and a silent auction will kick off the event prior to the casino tables opening at 7pm. All guests will have the opportunity to bid on the silent auction through use of cell phone applications or the many iPads that will be scattered throughout the venue (via services provided by AES Auctions)so you will always know if you are the highest bidder!

Casino bidding includes Texas Hold 'Em, Craps, Roulette, Black Jack, Four Card Poker, Slot Machines and more! You will be given \$1000 of funny money to use at the tables and slot machines. When you run low, you can always buy more! Throughout the night you can use your funny money to purchase raffle tickets which give you the chance to win amazing prizes like \$1,000 gift card, one week stay at a condo in Salt Lake Utah, the infamous Kong Basket and more.

We will take a brief pause from all the action to thank your sponsors, complete the Live Auction and present the Justice Award. Last years winner of the Justice Award, Texas Humane Legislation Network will present an award to this year's nominee the Humane Society of North Texas for going above and beyond in their work saving animals in Texas.

All guests must pre-register for the event. Seating is limited so act fast! Tickets are \$85 per person. Sponsorship Opportunities are detailed below. Tickets include alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, appetizers, Eddie Deen's famous BBQ, \$1000 in funny money, validated parking, a parting gift, and a chance to win one of many wonderful items in the silent and live auction.

BUY TICKETS OR TO SPONSOR THE EVENT

<http://collincountyhumanesociety.org/forms/gala-event-form.html>

Currently Seeking Sponsors for the Event

Donations are 100% tax deductible

Contact Heather Bass for more information heathy11@yahoo.com

Sponsor Levels Still Available:

Rhinestone Cowboy Sponsor *COVERED BY American Dog Rescue* - \$5500 Premier location of name recognition at event on all site signage • Logo printed on Invitations • Front cover and Full page color ad in Program Booklet • Recognition on CCHS website with direct link • Listing in all media venues and advertising • Recognition in CCHS quarterly Newsletter for a year • Recognition on Video presentation • Signage at a Dining table and Casino table of your choice (excluding Texas Hold 'Em) • VIP reserved seating for eight • Plaque of recognition • Commemorative Souvenir for each guest.

Gold Nugget Sponsor - \$4000 Name recognition at event on site signage • Full page color ad in Program Booklet • Recognition on Video presentation • Recognition on CCHS website with direct link • Listing in all media venues and advertising • VIP reserved seating for eight • Recognition in CCHS quarterly Newsletter for a year • Signage at a Casino table of your choice (excluding Texas Hold 'Em) • Plaque of recognition • Commemorative Souvenir for each guest.

Silver Spur Sponsor - \$3500 Name recognition at event on site signage • Logo printed on Casino Vouchers • Full page color ad in Program Booklet • Recognition on CCHS website with direct link • Listing in all media venues and advertising • VIP reserved seating for eight • Recognition in CCHS quarterly Newsletter for a year • Signage at a Casino table of your choice • Plaque of recognition • Commemorative Souvenir for each guest.

Bronze Buckle Sponsor - \$2500 Name recognition at event on site signage • Full page color ad in Program Booklet • Recognition on CCHS website with direct link • Listing in all media venues and advertising • VIP reserved seating for eight • Recognition in two issues of the CCHS quarterly Newsletter • Plaque of recognition • Commemorative Souvenir for each guest • Signage at dining table of your choice.

Texas Hold 'Em Sponsor - \$2500 includes reserved VIP seating for eight • Commemorative Souvenir for each guest • ½ page inside booklet advertisement • logo on all advertising information • website advertising • Plaque of recognition • Exclusive Sponsor signage at all of the Texas Hold 'Em tables • \$1000 additional funny money for each guest • Commemorative Souvenir for each guest.

Trail Boss Auction Sponsor - \$2000 includes VIP reserved seating for four • Commemorative Souvenir for each guest • ½ page inside booklet advertisement • website advertising • Plaque of recognition • Introduction/Acknowledgment prior to and during Live Auction • Logo on android/iphone mobile auction bidding screen • Commemorative Souvenir for each guest • Signage at Dining table of your choice.

Chuck Wagon Sponsor - \$1500 includes VIP reserved seating dinner for four • Name recognition at event on site signage • Quarter page color ad in Program Booklet • Recognition on CCHS website • Recognition in one issue of the CCHS quarterly Newsletter • Plaque of recognition • Commemorative Souvenir for each guest.

Saddle Sponsor *COVERED BY 2nd FAMILY DOGS* - \$1000 includes VIP reserved seating dinner for four • Name recognition at event on site signage • Quarter page color ad in Program Booklet • Recognition on CCHS website • Recognition in Newsletter • Plaque of recognition • Commemorative Souvenir for each guest • Signage at Dining table of your choice.

Casino Royal Sponsor (20 Available) - \$700 includes dinner for Eight people • Commemorative Souvenir for each guest • Name Mentioned in the Program Booklet • Signage at Casino table or slot machine(s) of your choice (not including Texas Hold 'Em) • \$1000 additional funny money for each guest.

Table Top Saloon Sponsor (23 Available) - \$600 includes dinner for Eight people • gift bags • Name Mentioned in the Events Booklet • Signage at the Dining table of your choice.

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## FOURTH OF JULY SAFETY TIPS By Heather L. Bass

For many people, nothing beats lounging in the backyard on the Fourth of July with good friends and family—including the four-legged members of the household. While it may seem like a great idea bringing them along to watch fireworks, Remember, dogs experience the world through their senses – nose, eyes, ears – and the typical 4th of July celebration can be overwhelming.

Here are some tips to help keep your dog calm, making for an easier holiday for both of you.

### 1. Preparation.

Arrange to have your dog in a place where there won't be loud fireworks displays — a friend's or relative's home or a doggie day care with which your dog is familiar. If it's an unfamiliar place for your dog, take him over there a few times in the days before the holiday so that it won't be a surprise when you take him there on the Fourth.

### 2. Accommodation.

If you cannot take your dog to a place away from fireworks, then have a travel kennel at home for them to feel safe in. If you're not going to be home, have a friend or sitter there to keep your dog company and take her out to relieve herself every four hours.

### 3. Acclimation.

The best way to prepare your dog for fireworks is to make sure he's comfortable with the sound in advance. While this is a simple process, it can take time — possibly three or four months of playing the recorded sound of fireworks for your dog at an increasingly louder volume before he eats, before a walk, before affection and play, and condition him by association to hear the sound and interpret it as something good. While you can try this <CON'T>

method over only a week or two, in such a short time span it should only be used in conjunction with one or more of the other tips. In any case, play the firework sounds.

### 4. Sedation.

If you do find it necessary to use medication or a thundershirt to calm your dog during the fireworks, remember that you must introduce any such tool at the right time, conditioning your dog to understand that the medication or thundershirt is there to bring them to a calm state. This means that you must bring your dog to that calm state first, then introduce the tool — before the fireworks and the anxiety begin. If she is already at an anxiety level of 8 or 9, then her mental state will overrule the medication. If she is already breathing heavily, then the thundershirt.

### 5. Communication.

If you are going to be with your dog during the fireworks, sending the calming message that they have nothing to worry about will also help him to relax. Remember, though, while humans communicate with words, dogs communicate with energy, and will look to their pack leader for clues on how they should behave. If you're not making a big deal or showing excitement about the fireworks, then he will learn to be less concerned as well.

In all cases above, expend your dog's excess energy first, before the fireworks start, by taking her on a very long walk to tire her out and put her in a calm state. Most importantly, don't think of this in terms of your dog as your child who is missing out on a great, fun time. That's human guilt. Your dog won't know what she's missing. You're being a good pack leader by not exposing her to a situation that will trigger her flight instinct in a negative way. When the booms and bangs of Independence Day are over, your dog will be grateful for you having made it a less stressful experience.

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MARLEY By Kim Senn

In March of last year, I adopted an adorable puppy for my 17 year old son. Marley is the picture from the web site we fell in love with. In December we lost a beloved dog of 13 years and I was still really sad. Marley became our third dog. We have a black lab Buddy, a Carrin Terrier Tater Tot, and a cat Rookie. They all love each other so much.

I thought I would let you see how much Marley has grown. It is my understanding that we were his 3rd home. The first two didn't work out. I thought I would send you some photos so you can see how much he is loved by us. He is so funny. He pounces and plays like a cat. He has to carry something for you at all times. He is my son's fishing companion. My daughters walking companion.

I work at home, so Marley will sit in the chair in my office or lay beside me. One morning, when I was taking the kids to school, he went back to bed. Guess he didn't want to deal with Monday's.

We went through the chewing stage. He took out three recliners, 3 comforters, a couple of pillows and numerous rolls of toilet paper. He is like a child, if he gets quiet, you better check on him. But I think we are finally past the destruction phase. I haven't lost anything in a few months. But I love him so much. My heart is happier because he is around.

Thanks so much for what you do to provide homes for precious animals.

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<http://mhenterpriseonline.com/Marley>

## INSIDE A SHELTER

By Tammy Mills

I walked into a local shelter today and immediately felt the tears come to my eyes. As a dog trainer, there are some things that I did in the past that I just don't enjoy anymore. Walking into a shelter is one of those things. Before I studied dog behavior, I volunteered at a local shelter and yes...it was sad but it was also rewarding. I felt good about myself that I was able to help a few dogs have a better day. I'm not writing this article to put down shelters and shelter staff. I admire them for what they do. What would we do without them? They work through many tears and stress, witness horrific scenes and spend many hours working through the mess that other humans have caused. The general public does not see or understand what these wonderful human beings put into trying to help these animals find homes where they will be loved.

The general public only hear numbers.... "Oh my goodness! Can you believe they are euthanizing that many dogs every day/month/year???? What a shame!" So...in comes the "no-kill shelter" concept. However, instead of the shelters being able to accept more dogs, get them adopted sooner, and save more wonderful animals, people are not stepping up to help. They feel more comfortable about giving the dog up because it's a NO KILL shelter, so more and more dogs are spending more and more time, some even YEARS in shelters. The public doesn't see the stress this causes the dog. They only think that "well at least they are in a safe place, and will get adopted soon." Let's think about how a dog feels.

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Owner decides that the new puppy has grown into a holy terror. Can't seem to house train him and he is jumping all over everyone. Owner drops "Rover" off at the shelter thinking the shelter will soon find a home for them. Now Rover feels overwhelmed. Has no idea what is going on. He is taken from his only home, put in the car and now walking into this strange place with lots of smells and other dogs barking, with strangers all around. Rover is placed in a kennel watching strange people walking by and coming in and out of his cage. Maybe he's placed in a cage with another dog who completely overwhelms him. He's licking, yawning, barking, whining etc. and is pretty much ignored. He's too scared/stressed to eat. There are so many dogs and so few staff or volunteers. Even in the best shelters, dogs are sometimes not allowed to even go outside for days on end. Rover was house trained. He needs to go and nobody listens so finally pee's and poops in his kennel. Or, he holds it so long he gets a Urinary Tract Infection and/or diarrhea. His food is different and it's not changed slowly so once again his stomach is upset. He's scared and tired and pacing and watching the door for the owners that he's been with all these weeks/months/years and nobody comes. Days turn into weeks. People pass him all the time but nobody takes him home. Rover starts licking his paws, chasing his tail, chewing the walls....I could go on and on here. Staff is busy...not enough volunteers. Days turn into months. Months turn into years. What kind of life does Rover really have? Not the Shelter

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or Rover's fault – it's the owner's fault. Why couldn't they invest in a little time training and help Rover overcome his problems/fears which are normal behaviors for dogs. At what point is it much more humane to euthanize than to just keep the dog in the shelter? But no....the public insists on "no kill" shelters. So Rover dies a slow mental death as he sits there waiting for help. Who's responsibility is this? Not the shelter's ....they are doing all they can just to house and feed the multitude of animals that are surrendered. Many dogs are so scared that they literally hurt themselves trying to escape. Please...hear my message. If you are able to open your home and heart please go to a shelter and adopt. If you aren't able to commit to long term there are many, many dogs who just need a foster parent. Someone who will take them into a home atmosphere and give them the love, attention, and training that they need to be able to find that forever home. Don't lay all the work on the shelter. Do what you can to help. If nothing else, commit to volunteering and taking the dogs outside for a few minutes – one day a week. I personally think that every person who likes animals even a little bit should have to spend one day volunteering for a shelter and see at least one dog get euthanized...while you hold him. A real wake-up call.

We can work through these things together.....please open up your heart and see the need. Help these shelters be able to do their jobs.

[www.allabout-dogs.com](http://www.allabout-dogs.com)

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<http://doggieswonderland.com/>

JANEY

By Stacy Hague

It was March 25, 2013 when I was alerted to a female basset hound at the Carrollton animal shelter. I was asked if I could go evaluate her for a potential adopter in South Texas. I said, "Sure! That's not too far from me and you know I love the basset hounds!" I was sent this picture of her:



Oh my! What big brown beautiful eyes she has! The next morning I drove to the shelter and asked to see "Mildred" (that's what the shelter had been calling her). We were lead to a meet and greet room and within no time "Mildred" was in my lap! The shelter worker told me she was found as a stray at the soccer fields next to the shelter. His guess is that she was dumped there. ☹️ How could someone be so cruel? This is something I will never understand!

I quickly discovered that she was full of milk and had probably just weaned a litter of puppies. I called CCHS president Molly and told her of this sweet girl and asked if I could foster her myself (you all saw that coming right?). Of course she said yes! "Mildred" was so sweet and so loving that there was no way I was leaving her in the shelter one minute longer! Documents were signed and I walked out the door with "Mildred" ready to show her the love and care she deserves! I named her Janey.

On March 27th I took her to the vet for a checkup. She weighed 41lbs, lactating, and high heartworm positive! But wait...that's not all! She had multiple mammary tumors that would have to be biopsied and removed. ☹️ Before she could be cleared for surgery she needed to have blood work and x-rays done. The x-rays showed there was fluid in her lungs so she was not ready for surgery. We were sent home to give her Lasix for a week to see if that would help with the fluid. The vet wasn't sure if it was from heartworms or if cancer could have already spread to her lungs. It was a nerve wracking week of worry and hope!

Thankfully the next set of x-rays showed remarkable improvement in her lungs and she was cleared for surgery! Surgery was scheduled for April 25th. I don't think I slept at all the night before. She was having a pretty big surgery! After what seemed like waiting for an eternity the vet called and said the surgery went well and now we wait for biopsy results. Janey had to stay in the hospital for a couple of nights to be monitored. (See gallery picture of Janey at hospital)

The call finally came in with the pathologists report! The news was good and bad. The bad news, multiple low grade mammary adenocarcinoma. The good news, the vet got clear margins which means he got it all! He said that she should live a good long life! Whew! Our girl was going to be okay! ☺️ <CON'T>

Janey did great through all of this! Never stopped wagging her tail or rolling over for those all-important belly rubs! Then the unthinkable happened on May 25th. Glaucoma had struck her left eye and she lost her vision. She was rushed to the eye specialist and given a list of medications to try. Chances of her regaining vision in her left eye are slim. ☹️ We are still in the early stages of treatment but if she doesn't regain vision and is in pain then she will lose that eye. Currently she is getting drops in her right eye to try and prevent glaucoma setting in.

We are heartbroken that this has happened to our Janey! She has been through so much already! ☹️ We will continue to update her progress on our facebook page. If you would like to help with her medical bills please visit <http://pledgie.com/campaigns/19683> or you may do so via our website.

Please send good thoughts her way! She deserves a break!

<http://mhenterpriseonline.com/Janey>



<http://facebook.com/walquis>

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RUFUS

By Scot Segesman

Rufus is a 2 year old Shepherd mix who came into the CCHS @ Rockwall Animal Adoption Center <http://rockwalladoptions.com/> August 17, 2012. His owners were contacted but they never came for him so he was put up for adoption. He had gastrointestinal (GI) issues soon after arriving and we spent the next 5 months trying to work through the issues doing everything from fecals, to homemade chicken and rice, to special food, to medication, to bloodwork, to pancreatic testing and more. We were at a cross road in his treatment when a wonderful family came along to adopt him in Jan 2013.

We were thrilled that Rufus was finally able to get out of the stress of the shelter and we had high hopes that the GI issues were stress related. We worked with the adopters to take care of his medical expenses until his issue was resolved – totaling \$1,200 from August 2012 to April 2013. For Rufus it's not just diarrhea, it's explosive diarrhea that effects his immune system and also stops his ability to absorb the nutrients he needs to survive resulting in rapid weight loss, dehydration and even hospitalization.

After several trips to our vet in Plano, cooking special meals such as Turkey, steamed broccoli & rice, and up and down progress the last option for Rufus was to biopsy his intestines. The results came back non-cancerous so the prognosis is good and we finally had a diagnosis – Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS). The bad news is that in order to get over the GI hump related to IBS he needs to be on Royal Canin Hypoallergenic Select PV Dry Food (this is after trying EVERY other food option offered for sensitive stomachs under the sun) for the next 5 months. This food costs \$88 for a 25lbs bag and since Rufus is a large breed dog he goes through 50lbs a month. After 5 months the vet was hopeful that he will be able to adjust to a more reasonably priced special needs food (\$40 a bag) and maintain on that food for the remainder of his life.

A plea was sent out to help the family with the \$176 a month food bill for the next 5 months. We were amazed by the support from the community as the donations began to roll in immediately. The campaign started on April 9th and as of 5:00pm on April 12, 2013 the donations came to an astounding \$1,380! North Texas Food Bank and Tammy Mills with We're All About Dogs training donated additional cans and bags of Royal Canin PV. As if all the above is not enough, Arthur Benjamin, founder of American Dog Rescue, offered to sponsor two additional months of food for Rufus. Well!

How is Rufus doing now you might ask? Here is a note from his family "Rufus is doing GREAT! He is so much more energetic. His favorite things are playing fetch until you drop, lots of walks, careful bike ride/walks, all of his toys, and now counter surfing - ugh! (We're working on that one.) He's even learned to speak on command and "Roll-Over"! His appetite through the roof since he's feeling better. Rufus really likes the Stella & Chewies! I've been giving it to Rufus as a portion of his diet. He is doing very well with it. It seems that if we feed him twice a day he gets hungry, therefore we've been feeding him 3 meals a day and it works!"

There is always the chance that Rufus will have special dietary needs for the remainder of his life. If you have suggestions for his adoptive family on products that have worked for your pets or if you would like to make a donation for Rufus and his family, you can do so by visiting

www.CollinCountyHumaneSociety.org or complete the donation form to ensure that any donations meant for Rufus, go to Rufus. Every penny helps so please spread the word so we can work to get Rufus through the home stretch in the care he needs and deserves while keeping him in his forever home.



RUFUS



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HOW I CAME TO CCHS

By Vickie Driver

In April 2013, CCHS welcomed its first General Counsel to the Board of Directors, Vickie Driver. Her road to CCHS started with her desire to be a foster parent for dogs. She knew her good friend and CCHS foster mom, Julie Menconi, had been fostering and Vickie sought her advice. Julie's glowing recommendation for CCHS led Vickie to apply and express her special love for Brussels Griffon. Shortly thereafter, President Molly Peterson emailed Vickie about Popeye, a stray Brussels Griffon with severe eye trauma turned in that day. Vickie immediately accepted, and picked up her first CCHS foster from Rockwall and met Molly. Upon learning of Vickie's career as an attorney, Molly and Vickie discussed certain legal issues facing CCHS. Little did Molly know, Vickie had been looking to join the board of a non-profit, and she realized that CCHS was just the place. Fortunately, the CCHS Board of Directors felt the same. With the various legal issues facing rescue groups, and especially those running an animal shelter, Vickie really believes she can do some good for all the animals CCHS helps every single day.



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[www.panamavacationquarters.com](http://www.panamavacationquarters.com)

## HANK (was Sonny) By Georgia Lyon

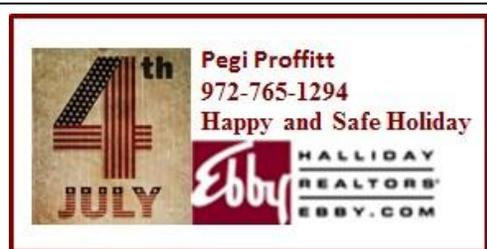
My brother adopted a puppy from CCHS and I wanted to see a picture, so I went to the CCHS website so I could see pictures of his littermates (I knew better). While on the site I saw a picture of a yellow lab, his story really ticked me off. The people that had owned him were going to have him put down because he was too fat, he was up to 147 pounds. They apparently fed him instead of giving him attention. We called and arranged to go see him at his foster mom Molly's house. When we got there he was on the sofa, I remember thinking "how did he get up there?" He was so overweight he couldn't move well, went a few feet then plopped down, and wouldn't chase a ball just laid around. We fell in love with him and took him home with us. Getting him out the door and into the minivan was not an easy task but we made it. As hard a time that he had moving around he has never had an accident in the house and has bonded with the other dogs. He fit right in from the very start. <CON'T>

We took him to see Dr. Wallis and discussed the best way to get the weight off. We decided to go with the green bean diet, reducing his dog food to 1 ½ cups twice a day with a can of drained no salt green beans, that was a big drop for him. We brought him home in December and he was at 147 pounds, he is now at 124 pounds. He will always have food issues but he is looking better, his color is brighter and fuller, he is running a little and brings you the ball(won't chase it yet). We are in the middle of a move so the dogs are taking turns spending time at my friends kennel in Rockwall, her children are in 4H so there are goats, sheep, pigs, chickens, geese and a peacock on the property. Hank really enjoys the goats, we think they stimulate him and get him moving, he gets a little special treatment out there. He is a really sweet dog who did not deserve what happened to him. We are so glad that he is part of our family, our second CCHS dog!

<http://mhenterpriseonline.com/Hank>



<http://www.americandogrescue.org/>



## ELLA, GRACIE, and PETUNIA MAKES THREE!

By Meredith Morgan

Five years ago, I thought my children, then ages 8 and 10, were finally old enough to adopt a “puppy” into our family. My husband was not too keen on having one, but the kids had been asking for years. I’d had only one dog as a child, and I wanted to open up my home to what had always given me great joy.

I looked online for weeks until I saw her -- Ella. Immediately I couldn’t take my eyes off her picture. She looked as if she had been through a lot, which touched my heart. But as I read her story, I fell in love with her even more. I recall reading “owner surrendered at a kill shelter”. The owner’s reason for surrender? “Did not want anymore.”

Ella was surrendered with her three puppies, and is said to have come from the Mesquite area. Her puppies were adopted out, but Ella was set to be euthanized and was on the actual table, until Tressa stepped in to save her.

I continued to look at Ella’s CCHS picture online several times a day, telling my husband how much I wanted to rescue her. I wasn’t getting much reaction from my husband, so I photocopied pictures of Ella and hung them all over the house (refrigerator, doors etc.)

We live in Spring, TX in the Houston area, but my Dad and his wife, Susan, live in Allen. So I called CCHS, and made plans to meet with Ella that week. She was going to be in their next adoption event, but Tressa was nice enough to work with my schedule so I could go to her home to meet Ella.

When I walked through Tressa’s front door and saw Ella for the first time, I knew. She was timid at first, but I knew that I loved her already. Tressa told me <CON’T>

how she had removed a huge number of ticks from Ella, and they believed she had been a neglected outside dog. Ella was very thin, her hair darker and just malnourished in general. I felt only sympathy and love for her.

After leaving Tressa and Ella, I didn’t want to risk losing her to someone else at the adoption event. I took her home that weekend. That is how my beautiful, rewarding relationship with Collin County Humane Society began.

Over the next few years, my daughter Emily and I started to fundraise for CCHS from Houston. She is an animal lover, and she designed and decorated a box to use in raising money to help CCHS rescue more dogs. Emily worked with her school and raised almost \$90. I was then her Girl Scout co-leader and together the troop raised money and supplies to donate to CCHS. As we did these fundraisers, we also tried to spread as much awareness as possible. As time went on, we donated and volunteered when we could, and continue to do so.

The same summer, Emily set up a lemonade stand outside our house to raise money for CCHS. She made a huge CCHS poster with dogs drawn all over it. She was disappointed because she raised only \$9.00. But Tressa made her feel so much better by explaining to her that \$9.00 had just given a dog immunizations.

Again, I made arrangements to drive up to Dallas and meet with Barbara and Gracie. Gracie was very timid but so protective of her puppies. My step- <CON’T>

mother Susan and daughter Emily, along with Ella, enjoyed our time getting to know Gracie and her puppies. Before I even left Barbara’s house, I had already decided I wanted to rescue her too. Now we welcomed CCHS rescue number two in our home!

Fast forward to April 2013. My daughter texted me a photo of “Petunia,” a new foster in the CCHS program, with a message attached, “Can we please get her”? I didn’t think my husband would go for rescue number three. However, I also knew Ella and Gracie had brought him much happiness and laughter over the last few years. I decided to make my move again.

We planned a weekend up in Dallas and made arrangements to meet Petunia a few weeks ago. As soon as she got out of the car in her dress and jumping all over the place, I knew we needed a little ball of energy in our house like that for Ella and Gracie. I was hesitant, only because Petunia was so small, but was quickly surprised by how confident and fearless she was.

My husband wasn’t too sure about a third one, so I left the decision up to him. He ended up saying “Do what you want to do.” So, OF COURSE we know what I wanted to do! Petunia, our third CCHS rescue, has been with us ever since.

I consider myself very blessed to be able to open my home to these once homeless, sweet girls. I am also very grateful to have met and been able to share in some special events with the wonderful, compassionate staff at CCHS.

[http://mhenterpriseonline.com/Ella\\_Gracie\\_Petunia](http://mhenterpriseonline.com/Ella_Gracie_Petunia)



## WHY DO RESCUES CHARGE SO MUCH FOR THEIR ANIMALS

By Tressa Broadhead

Those of us in rescue hear this more often than you may think, as many can't understand why the 'mutt' they are adopting may cost them upwards of \$300. Currently, the adoption fee for dogs with CCHS is \$250 for puppies, \$200 for adults and \$150 for seniors. (make no mistake, those senior adoption fees are a DEAL!). Please let me take a few minutes to explain the cost difference between a government funded shelter, a private non-profit rescue organization, and a dog purchase from a breeder.

A few things to mention: Government run shelters ( i.e. your typical city shelter) is funded by our tax dollars. The housing, staff, food, and any vaccinations (if given ) are typically covered by the city taxpayers. Keep in mind....some work on shoestring budgets and may not be able to afford the vaccinations, deworming, and rarely can afford or have the isolation space for sick or injured dogs. Given this, it is critical that rescues have the resources to take in and treat the ill and injured animals from the city shelters.

Animal Rescue organizations are funded 100% by donations. Very few rescue organizations are national, and all must receive local donations in order to survive. A little confused fact is that the Humane Society of the United States is affiliated with all the Humane Societies across the country. This simply isn't true. All are independent organizations that rely on donations to stay afloat.

Breeders are reproducing puppies for profit. We suggest you always keep this in mind, and realize that many breeders cut corners in the animals care. Rarely is the mother of the animal a 'family member' and is often kept in a cage 24/7 without any human interaction. Most do not receive adequate medical attention, and most never see a vet. Most all dogs purchased off the internet or in stores are from puppy mills. <CON'T>

Please do not attempt to convince yourself otherwise. You are not 'saving' that puppy from the puppy store, but simply providing 'demand' for which someone is willing to provide 'supply' for at the cost of an animal for their personal profit. If you are not given the opportunity to meet Mom in the comfort of the breeders home and spend some time with Mom and her puppies, you are buying from a puppy mill. Period.

Let's run the numbers a bit, so we can see just where your dollars are being spent with each organization. I believe you will see that what you get for your dollars from a rescue is the best value for your dollar.

|                                                    | Gov. funded shelter | Rescue organization | Breeder                  |
|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Vaccinations                                       | \$0-\$40            | \$40-\$60*          | None provided            |
| Deworming                                          | \$0-10              | \$10                | Sometimes Provided       |
| Spay/Neuter                                        | \$0-\$250           | \$150 average       | None provided            |
| Treatment of Ailments                              | Unavailable         | \$50-\$4,000**      | None provided            |
| Amount organization has spent on individual animal | \$0-\$300           | \$200-\$4,200.      | \$0-10.                  |
| Adoption fee                                       | \$20-\$150          | \$150-\$250***      | Average \$600            |
| Your post adoption costs                           | \$0-\$300           | \$0                 | Minimum \$200 additional |
| TOTALS                                             | \$20-\$450          | \$150-\$250         | \$800                    |

\*Vaccinations are provided for each animal, however puppies must receive three rounds of vaccinations

\*\*Amounts can vary dependent upon severity of injury or illness. The most expensive animal ever for CCHS was approx \$7,000.

\*\*\* CCHS adoption rates. \$250 for puppies, \$200 for adults and \$150 for seniors. Disclaimer- Amounts listed are AVERAGES only and may not be actual.

The average cost for each CCHS animal in our care is \$300. While some may adopt an animal that was under the "adoption cost" for that said animal, your donation to the organizations will help us to fund the more difficult cases such as the broken bones, the heart-worm positive, the sick and diseased. Truly, we couldn't care for the sick and injured without the additional donations received above and beyond the animal adoptions.

With any MaryKay purchase, 25% will be donated to CCHS from volunteer Marcia Prechel

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