

A Word From Our President Molly Peterson, Pres of CCHS and Director of CCHS and Rockwall

With Summer winding down CCHS has been exploding with amazing news! After a slow start to adoption in 2012, summer hit and we took off running with 85 adoptions in June! In this issue read all about CCHS moving to Rockwall, the legislative strides of the Texas Humane Legislation Network, how craigslist helped save two families, updates about our upcoming Gala and more! CCHS is moving away from the PetsMart adoption events and focusing on events at shopping centers, fairs and more! The events planned for our fall quarter include another Art Party to Paint your Pooch, Watters Creek Adoption Event, Neiman Marcus Fashion Benefit, Paws and Tots Fair and Adoption Event, and of course our Oct 13th Give a Dog a Home Gala! We hope to see some new faces this year and look forward to an amazing third quarter.

CCHS - CCAS what's the difference?

Ever since Collin County Humane Society (CCHS) was established in 2008, we have been confused with the Collin County Animal Shelter (CCAS). Below is the easy to follow chart to help everyone better understand the difference!

CCHS	CCAS
501 c 3 - Non Profit	City Municipality
No Kill due to space	Euthanasia due to space
Operates though foster homes	Operates though facility
No - Stray intake	Yes-Stray intake
Currently only takes dogs	Intake for all animals (equine, reptilian, rodent, domestic, etc)
Ability to courtesy list to help adopt	All animals posted on their website
pets in homes	are in their facility
Volunteer Based	Paid Staff
CCHS saves dogs from CCAS	CCAS does not save dogs from CCHS
Funded by donations and grants	Funded by the Cities the serve

A Special Thanks to our Members

Krystle Poppell James King Sue Lopez Katherine Deaver Bobby McPeak Jill Schiln Catherine Thorpe William Seitz Sandra Webb Celeta Bettison Kathryn Long Susan Stringer Margie Arion

BECOME A MEMBER: As a member you will receive a quarterly newsletter highlighting members donations and how they are being put to use in the CCHS adoption program. You will also receive info about upcoming events as well as being entered in an annual drawing for prizes.



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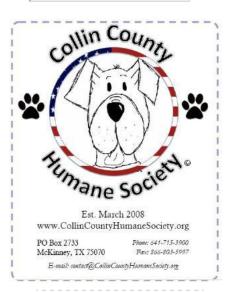


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If you are interested in advertising in our newsletter please contact pres@CollinCountyHumaneSociety.org!

Advertising Rates

1" × 1/2" \$25.00 3" x 2" \$50.00 3" x 4 1/2" \$75.00 2 1/2" x 8" \$100.00



Past Newsletters Spring 2012 Newsletter

Winter 2011 Newsletter

Do you want to help?



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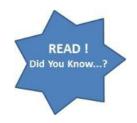
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Collin County is now part of Rockwall

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

A few months ago CCHS was contacted about the option to apply for a privatization contract with the city of Rockwall. After careful consideration we agreed to apply for this partnership. CCHS went through a three month application and interview process. The proposed plan was brought to Rockwall City Council for the final vote on June 18th and it passed unanimously with CCHS approved as the recipient of the privatization contract! By now you are probably asking, "Ok, so what does this all mean? What is privatization? Where are my donations going?" Below is a Q & A new venture, please contact Molly Peterson at Pres@CollinCountyHumaneSociety.org



For more pictures

What is Privatization? According to dictionary.com "Privatization" is defined as the following: to transfer from public or government control or ownership to private enterprise: a campaign promise to privatize some of the public lands.

Essentially this means that CCHS will be hired by the city to manage the Rockwall Animal Adoption Center (RAAC). The city of Rockwall will continue to own the building and property the building is located on. The city will also maintain the role of animal control (i.e. getting stray animals in the community). There is no exchange in ownership of the Adoption Center. Any major decision or improvements to RAAC will have to be approved by the city of Rockwall.

Who will be paying for the cost to run the Animal Adoption Center? The city will pay CCHS for the services provided; in turn, CCHS will run the facility, fundraise, and work on campaigns to help off set the cost of the facility. There is a cap on the funding provided to CCHS to manage the facility and money will be returned to the City of Rockwall if CCHS comes under budget. All adoption fees will remain with CCHS at Rockwall.

Will the name of the facility change from RAAC to CCHS? The sign on the exterior of the building will remain unchanged. Any signage that is not already existing will read "CCHS at Rockwall" (this includes but is not limited to the letter head, uniforms, cage cards, etc).

CCHS is currently "no-kill" so in taking over a city shelter, what does this mean for the shelter and CCHS? To answer this question, the term "no kill" needs to be more clearly defined. The word "kill" when referring to rescue/shelters refers to killing dogs because of space/time (meaning the facility is out of space or the animals are there too long); Therefore, "no kill" means that no dogs are put to sleep due to space constraints or length of time in a program. In the "no kill" movement, "kill" does not refer to having a mentally or physically ill animals put to sleep (PTS) for humane reasons.

Currently, CCHS operates through foster homes which means we would never "kill" a dog for space or length of time in our program. If a dog is mentally or physically unstable and it is therefore not humane to keep the pet alive, then we, CCHS, would humanely euthanize that animal; Animal shelters are another situation. Due to the fact that shelters have to take in all strays and owner surrenders there is a space issue as there are limited places to house the animals before the conditions are inhumane and not in the best interest of the animal. If overcrowding occurs, this is the point when animal fighting increases, disease control is compromised and the overall mental stability of the animals is at stake. CCHS at Rockwall will work tirelessly to move the animals into





www.pet-paradise.net/

forever homes and other rescue groups, but should the facility surpass a humane level of capacity, then euthanasia (EU) due to lack of space will become necessary.

Every public animal shelter has to EU at times when the animal's quality of life is suffering. We have ZERO desire to put any animal to sleep. We are deeply affected when even the animals who are suffering mentally or physically have to put to sleep in order to end their suffering. At the end of the day, RAAC is a facility with an open intake policy and because of this, there is a point where the capacity of the building cannot sustain the population, ultimately leading to euthanasia due to space. RAAC currently upholds a 90% live outcome; which means that 90% of the animals who enter the facility will leave the facility alive. CCHS has a large database of rescue groups and adopters, so we know that things will only continue to improve at RAAC due to our ability to improve visibility/networking for the animals in need at RAAC. CCHS will maintain (and hopefully exceed) the 90% live outcome.

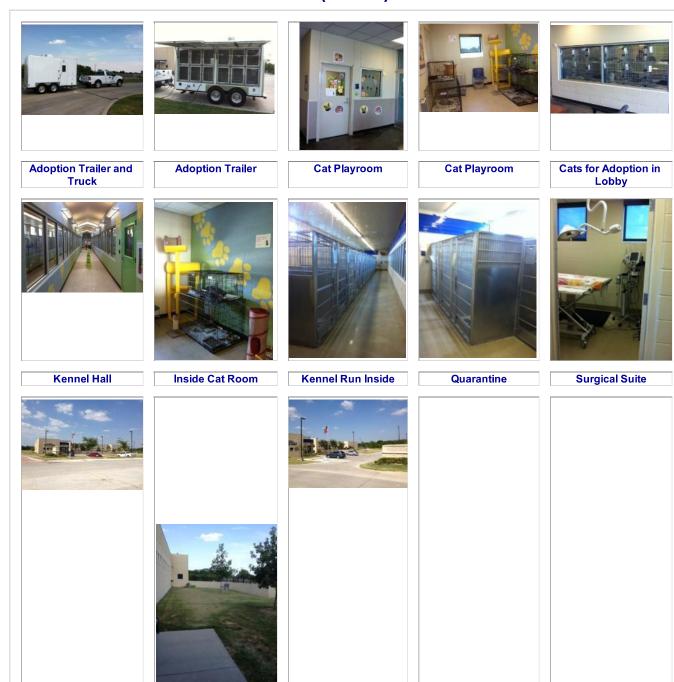
Are CCHS and RAAC going to be one entity? CCHS will continue to operate 100% through foster homes as we have since 2008. Both CCHS and CCHS at Rockwall will operate under the CCHS 501c3. CCHS at Rockwall will continue to run as a city shelter with the improved assistance of a foster network and management run by CCHS. All accounting and donations will be accounted for separately; therefore if you make a donation to CCHS, the money/goods will be used for the animals in the CCHS adoption program. If you make a donation to CCHS at Rockwall, the money/goods will be used for the animals at RAAC.

How does this affect CCHS's plans to build an adoption facility? At this time there is no change in our building plans with the proposed date to break ground in Aug 2015.

If CCHS is operating "CCHS at Rockwall" then why would CCHS want to keep working on building another facility? With Dallas growing at an exponential rate, there is a growing need for facilities in the greater DFW area to house stray or unwanted pets. CCHS at Rockwall (as described above) is a public intake facility with major decisions and financing coming from the city of Rockwall. The CCHS adoption facility plans are not associated with any city run entity and will not serve as animal control or a public intake facility. The CCHS adoption facility plans for 2015 will be run by CCHS (not the city) and will operate as a revolving door for dogs who have passed through foster homes (not dogs who have come directly off the streets). The dogs and cats will stay at the facility for a max of 45 days. If not adopted during that time, they will return to foster care which will then open a space for another dog/cat in need. The proposed facility will also house grooming, boarding, vet and dog park to benefit the community. In turn, the CCHS Adoption Facility would supply another place for animals in the greater DFW area to transition to once they have been fully vetted and passed through a foster home vs CCHS at Rockwall which serves as a place for stray or owner surrendered animals.

CCHS does not currently have a cat program, RAAC intakes cats so how will CCHS handle the cats? The CCHS at Rockwall management team has personal cats as pets and experience with cat rescue. The CCHS at Rockwall Supervisor worked directly with cat rescue in Dallas for 2 years helping with feral cats spay/neuter and release. Our team will be trained during the transition period on the best way to handle the cat intake and adoption program at RAAC. We will work on improving the networking to get the kittens and pregnant cats moved into rescues asap. CCHS at Rockwall will continue to maintain the feral cat barn currently in operation at RAAC as well as maintaining the funding and transportation for the spay/neuter release program.

The Rockwall Animal Adoption Center (RAAC)



RAAC Building

RAAC Building

RAAC Building





The Story of Duchess and Chanel By Tressa Broadhead, VP Marketing

April 22, 2012: We have had Duchess for 11 years now and we love our dogs but never seem to have enough money to spay or neuter them. Now Duchess has had another litter of two...However, there was excessive bleeding and something hanging out of her that looks like it may be an undeveloped puppy or something else that we can't figure out. We have absolutely no money right now (I have less than \$2) and am terribly worried that this is going to kill her if we don't do something. It is starting to smell and I am worried she has a breech puppy or more behind this obstruction that can't get out and I know she will die if something isn't done soon. We cannot afford surgery for her even on a payment plan. We need some help but not for us, for her. Please we just don't want her to die suffering. If you can help, please text to 469-***_***....Thank you for your time and consideration in advance.

That is the ad on craigslist that lead Duchess, Will, Kate, Chanel, Latte, Grace, Ziggy and Petunia to the CCHS adoption program. Upon contacting the family to help aid the senior mom in need, we were informed that not only was she still in need, but they had a call into animal control to pick up Duchess because they did not have the means to care for her prolapsed uterus. We talked them into calling off Animal Control and this was when we found out they had another pregnant dog (Duchess's daughter Chanel), two more intact dogs and everyone was being kept outside. After much debate the family agreed to surrender Chanel, Duchess, her babies and bring their other two dogs to our vet for their spay/neuters as well. When Duchess arrived at the vet she was scared, shaking and couldn't get closer to the ground. Neither her or Chanel had ever left the backyard they were born and raised in, so this whole experience was truly terrifying beyond belief. In order to truly capture all that they endured, we've asked Duchess to put some of her thoughts on paper. Below is the Diary of Duchess and her journey to CCHS.

Do you want to help?







To see more pictures of Duchess, Chanel and their babies

The Duchess Diaries

April 23: I think they did their best, my mom and dad, but they didn't pay too much attention to me. How did they not know that I had puppies growing in my belly again? I wished they would have paid more attention to me, especially when I had so many problems with my most recent puppies. I just remember my insides coming out of me when that last puppy came out. That really hurt, but my humans wouldn't come close enough to me to see what was really wrong. I worked really hard to take care of my babies through the pain, and I thought I was doing a good job but after a week, my humans picked me up and put me in this box...and off to the hospital I went. I was so scared. I have never seen people like this before, and the nice lady they kept calling "the doctor" kept looking at my insides that were on my outside. I guess I was really tired because next thing I know I am waking up in this box, my babies are next to me and my inside parts are no longer outside of me! WOW! How did these people do that? Maybe they aren't so bad after all.

April 25: I was carried inside this house of strangers in a crate...Oh, I hope they don't try to touch me, or my babies! How will they treat my babies? The human female of the house stopped by to smile at me, and put some food and water in my large box that I was brought here in. She tried to touch me, and I pressed myself against the box as much as I could hoping she wouldn't see me, she did. She smiles at me a lot, and stops by to ask me how I'm doing. But I just can't seem to get past that night at what people kept calling 'the hospital'.



April 26: The woman came by again. She slowly inched towards me, and I couldn't help it, I ran out past her, I had to go to the bathroom so bad. I quickly ran out the door that she opened for me, and found my way to the grass. When I came back in she was looking at my babies, and had moved them to a larger box, at least I have more room. The door to the box is kept open, and there are a lot of other dogs in this house. They look happy. They stop by to see me, but go away when I tell them I don't want them around by babies. I see they play with things, and it seems that they get all the food they could ever want. Maybe this place isn't so

bad. Het the lady look at my babies again that night. She scratched my ears, and gave me something called a treat. I went outside to go potty again with her, and she reached for me again, I fell to the floor hoping I would disappear. She scratched my ears again. She keeps calling me beautiful. I think she knows my name is Duchess?

April 27: I decided I would go check out that woman. All the other dogs sit in the room with her, and a couple follow her around all the time. She can't be too bad, huh? She has been in the other room in front of the small screen moving her fingers for a while, so I sneaked up beside her to see what she's doing. She glances down at me, and I think I startled her as much as she startled me. She smiled and said 'hello Duchess, happy you could join us!' The other dogs popped their heads up for a second and glanced at me then went back to sleep. The lady tried to pat my head, but I dropped to the ground in hopes she couldn't reach me. She did... but she scratched my ears, and asked me if I needed to go outside, and we went to the door again to the big yard I can potty in. She let me out again with all the other dogs. The biggest dog, Cali, told me in the back of the yard that I should just relax, and asked me to play before she ran off. I think she wanted me to chase her. The woman said I am her foster mom, and that I am safe. I think I will finally sleep well tonight.

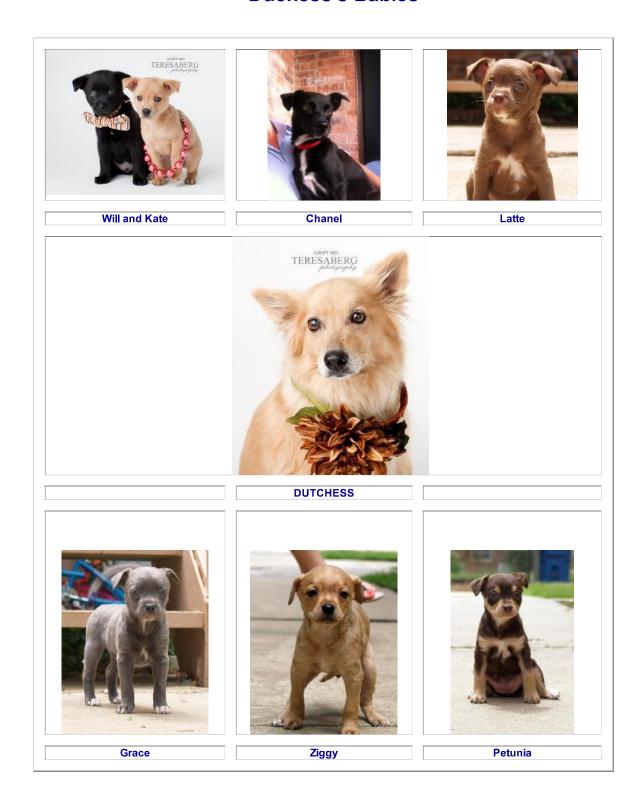


May 1: There are other humans that live here too. A Man showed up today, and there is another woman that looks much younger...I think it's that one woman's puppy. I was out on a potty break (we go on these whenever I want to!), and I met the man there. He smiled at me, and the woman told me it was OK to go say hello. He scratched my ears, and we all went back inside. They went to watch the moving picture Box...I went back to my box with my babies. I decided to go investigate again. Those other dogs sit on the couch with them! They lay in their laps, and the humans scratch their ears forever! I sneak up besides the man, and he didn't notice I was there at first. I slowly put my head on his leg. He scratched my ear, and looked over the lady and smiled. She was smiling at me. Yeah...I think they are nice.



Click Here for Photo Gallery

Duchess's Babies







The Collin County Humane Society Gala Ashley Pickering, VP CCHS

It's that time of year once again, the days are long and the heat is scorching our skin as we walk outside. Not only is it hot right now, but it's busy. People think of summer as a time to slow down, not so here at CCHS! We speed up as we start preparing for our annual Gala!! The Gala is only four months away and we are putting the pedal to the metal and are shifting into high gear! If you haven't had the chance to attend our Gala in years past, you definitely will want to attend this one! Our venue is absolutely spectacular - The Dallas World Aquarium.

The Dallas World Aquarium is located near the historic West End district in downtown Dallas. There are multiple mind blowing exhibits featured there, such as the Mundo Maya – where the life and culture of the Maya come to life in the eight-story Mundo Maya exhibit. The highlight of this exhibit is a 400,000 gallon walk through Cenote exhibit filled with sharks, rays, and sea turtles!



We chose this venue because it celebrates the diversity of all living creatures and allows people to watch them in a natural environment. 80% of the cost to put on this event goes towards animal preservation efforts all over the world! So, essentially by attending this event, not only are you helping CCHS directly but you are getting a double donation by supporting the Aquariums animal preservation efforts! This is definitely not an experience you will want to miss.

As you travel through the aquarium, passed drinks and appetizer stations will be around every corner. While checking out the exhibits and enjoying the tasty food and drinks, you can bid on our silent auction items with our brand new bidding system provided by Auction Event Solutions. Be sure to bring your smart phone or iPad because mobile bidding will be available throughout the venue! This year's mobile bidding system is incredibly easy to pre-pay, login and bid which also makes check out a breeze!



After the cocktail hour ends, guests will be lead to the dining area to enjoy a three course dinner with wine service at every table. Not only will the Gala be a feast for your eyes and ears, it will also be a feast for your tasting pleasure as we are including dinner and drinks for everyone!

The Justice Award is given to the organization who has gone above and beyond the call of duty for their dedication and hard work helping animals in Texas. The 2011 Justice Award was presented to Animal Rescue Corp, lead by Scotlund Haisley. Haisley's team will present the Justice Award to this year's recipient, Texas Humane Legislation Network! Arthur Benjamin, of American Dog Rescue, will be on hand to discuss the state of the nation in relation to animal rescue and Gus Hinojosa will be presenting a slide show on the progress on the plans for the adoption facility.





www.campbowwow.com/us/tx/coppell/

By now you may be asking – what is the purpose of the Gala? Funds raised at the Gala is used specifically for funding to build our Adoption Facility scheduled to break ground in Aug 2015. In years past, we have raised over \$80,000 in one evening! So, how can you help? We still need both sponsors and donors for our Gala. Sponsors receive special recognition for their generosity both on our website and in the Gala's pamphlet. In addition to the recognition, sponsors also receive a table and up to 8 tickets to the event. Prices range from \$950-\$7500 so there truly is something for everyone! This year we also have a special VIP section with incentives and VIP treatment well worth the cost!

In order to make our event a success, we need YOUR help! Our auction is where we make the most for our cause, so please consider if you can help make a donation to our cause! Do you know of anyone with a vacation home who might be able to donate a weekend? How about airlines miles that might go to waste? Do you have season tickets for sporting event... can you spare just one game for a great cause? Do you frequent at any restaurants, shops, boarding facilities or hotels who might give a gift card or put a gift basket together for the event? We need your help to make the Adoption Center a possibility for our fur kids in need across the DFW area. Help us break ground by supporting our cause... brick by brick!

Scan the bar code below or <u>click HERE</u> for more info about the event or to purchase tickets or sponsor the event. We hope to see some new faces this year!





Happy Tails



The Boisture Family



Goldie with her new mom



The Massey Family



Cinder and Sam



Ethan found a furever home with Keith and Christine Rumohr



Einstein was adopted by the DeLuna family



Phoebe



Harvey



Mocha



Cooper With new sibling Snow



Piper celebrates her new home



Phoebe



Mindy
has gone from abandoned
shelter dog to Buddys little
sister



Oscar was adopted by the McCormick family



Rosenbaum Family



Luke with his new sister, Emma in the Glaser Family



Cher
in the Oviatt home with fellow
Choc Chip Willy and Della.
Cher's on the right; the one
who looks "marvelous."



Dahlia and her new family



Cherie She now has a poodle sister, a Lhasa sister and a Shih Tzu sister, as well as a human brother



Anna and family



Maggie Mae



Emma



Elvis a bit spoiled by his new mom Anne Lapkin



Lady



Bonnie with Linda



Summer Tips to Keep Your Dog Safe Tammy Mills, "All About Dogs, Certified Dog Trainer"

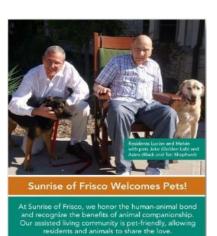


- 1. Never leave your dog in the car unattended. It only takes a few minutes for temperatures to get unbearable.
- If your dog is outside, make sure they have plenty of shade. A dog house is not adequate shade in the summer. A kids small swimming pool is also an excellent idea. Keep the pool in a shaded area to keep water cool.
- 3. Always make sure your dog has ample water. If they like to play with their bowl or turn it over, invest in a self watering kit or get bowls that are sturdy and cannot be overturned. Water bowls should always be in the shade to keep the water cool.
- 4. Dogs need plenty of exercise but not in the heat of the day. Avoid strenuous exercise on hot days. Plan your walks in the early morning or late evening. Be careful to not have your dog walking on the hot asphalt as this can burn the paws.
- Short-faced dogs have an especially hard time in the heat and should be kept in the A/C as much as possible. This is true for all dogs but the short faced breeds have a harder time panting than longer faced dogs.
- 6. Keep your dogs vaccinations up to date.
- Keep your flea and tick applications up to date. They seem to be worse in the summer months.
- 8. Never try to force a dog to swim by throwing them in the water. Contrary to popular belief, all dogs cannot swim. Introduce them to the water slowly and make sure your dog loves swimming before leaving them loose at the beach, lake or around the pool. Never leave them unattended.
- 9. During firework season keep your pet's safe inside. Most dogs do not enjoy joining you at outings where fireworks are going off. Dogs can also get very stressed out at home alone hearing these noises. Keep your dog inside with the TV or music playing. Dogs have been known to dig out or jump fences during firework noises or storms so be very cautious. There are calming aids that you can also try. Talk to your vet, trainer or behaviorist for suggestions.
- 10. Be aware of heatstroke signs and what to do about it. There are multiple sights online with this information or you can get it from your vet.
- 11. Take bottles of water for both you and your dog on walks etc.
- 12. Your dog may dig in the yard during the summer to try to get cool. Bring your dog inside especially during the heat of the day; invest in a kiddle pool, more shade etc.
- 13. Never tether a dog and leave unattended. Dogs should be inside the home, in a crate (no more than 6 hours at a time and with plenty of exercise before), in a secure fenced-in yard with lots of shade and water, or in a kennel. They should never be tethered or tied up when you are not with them. This is both dangerous and inhumane. Dogs get wrapped around trees, poles etc. and get too hot and die every year because of neglect. If you do not have ample facilities for an animals comfort then please do not get one.
- 14. Be careful with dogs who are obsessed with playing ball. Use your good judgment on when your dog is getting too hot. Keep play sessions short and with plenty of water.
- 15. Feed your dog inside. Many dogs tend to eat less in the summer and feeding outside can bring in lots of flies and insects.
- 16. Have fun with your dog but use common sense. If it's hot for youthen it's too hot for your dog. Enjoy your summer!

Visit Tammy's website for more information: http://allabout-dogs.com/?SiteID=1105&PageID=515:







communities/su





A Journey to Fostering Angela Reed

I had always thought my history of pet ownership was not that exciting. I really thought there wasn't much to tell. My family was a normal family from Baton Rouge, LA that had dogs and a cat and we took them to the vet on time like all good pet owners should.

Growing up I remember always having a pet. I had been begging to have a grey cat for Christmas at the age of 8, and one showed up in my front yard, stray, 3 weeks before the big day. He was the most fearless cat I have ever met. He definitely outlived his 9 lives. I had him for almost 15 years until his passing over the rainbow bridge in my early 20's. The History of the dogs is most interesting of them all. You name it, I had it.

We as a family had all kinds of dogs all breeds all sizes even all ages. We had dogs even before I was born. We got most of our dogs from the "pound" as my parents would say it. Some from the newspaper and some from breeders. Rescue groups was not something that anyone knew about where I grew up. One of the dogs we had was a dog from the newspaper that was given to us under false pretenses. It was assumed to be healthy, but it was deaf and blind, and my family was not equipped to have a dog with those kind of issues.

A few dogs later we got a little Dachshund puppy and she was the cutest thing I had ever seen. We loved on her and spoiled her rotten. Unfortunately, she had demodectic mange and after 10 years of treatment the vet said it was in her best interest to humanely euthanize her. This was 20 years ago. We as a family went through about 10 dogs who for one reason or another did not last long with us. There are too many stories to tell.

Let's just say we were definitely the family that most rescue groups would not adopt to given our history. I think having so many animals in my home and having all these experiences with animals is a big reason why I was wanting to get into rescue. I grew up and eventually moved to Texas. I had a very close relationship with my cat back home and my best friend knew I was missing him after he passed so she rescued a kitten and gave it to me on my birthday back in 2008. She seemed lonely, so I rescued 2 more cats from a local shelter that same year.

In early 2009 I happened to stop off at a local pet store to grab a few things. This was not the one I usually go to, but it was on the way home that day. I think it must have been fate because as I walked in the door I saw a rescue group there. I had never heard of such a thing so I was very intrigued. I ask them so many questions and it took no time at all for me to become interested in fostering. I did not want to rush into the first group I had come across. I wanted to do my research to make sure that I could find one that I could really mesh with. After looking around I contacted different rescue groups that I thought I would enjoy being a part of. The only one that responded back to me, and quick, was Collin County Humane Society and the rest is history. I have done fostering and volunteering and even a little bit of transport with this wonderful group and I love every minute of it. We are growing so much and I am excited to be able to say that I am part of such an amazing group. I feel like I learned a lot growing up and it helped prepare me for a future with CCHS.



Ruby, Jade, and Pearl



Do you want to help?





http://www.thedoggieswonderland.com/



Paint Your Pooch Fund Raiser a Great Success By Lynn Hale



On June 30th, 2012, Let's Art Party held a fund raiser for CCHS, "Paint Your Pooch". This was a first time event for Let's Art Party to have each attendee send in a picture of their dog or cat and have everyone paint their own pet. It was a huge success! Seats were sold out quickly with 50 people booking. The event rose for CCHS \$68 in T-shirts sales, \$150 in paintings sold and \$1050 in ticket sales.

Everyone enjoyed the event and we know many others would like to be able to "Paint Your Pooch". We are in the process of looking at additional dates to have another fund raiser soon, so stay tuned.

Here's link to Let's Art Party: http://letsartparty.com/index.aspx







Buy a Brick / Tile

Name a Room

Sponsor a Dog Run





















Gear Up for the 2013 Legislative Session Stacy Smith, Texas Humane Legislation Network President, North Texas Chapter



The Texas Legislative Session begins in January 2013 and the <u>Texas Humane Legislation</u>. <u>Network (THLN)</u> has spent 2012 preparing for another challenging session. Since 1975, THLN has been the political voice for animals in Texas. We are a nonprofit organization whose mission is to promote the humane treatment of animals through legislation, education, and advocacy. We draft bills, lobby for pro-animal legislation, and fight bills that threaten to weaken or eliminate animal protection laws. We have a statewide network of individual supporters who take action during the session when needed, and nine local THLN chapters that work year-round at the grassroots level to further our legislative agenda. Our success was recently recognized at the national level. Philanthropedia, an organization that monitors charitable organizations, rated THLN the second most effective animal welfare organization at the state or local level.

THLN's major focus for 2013 is to push for the passage of legislation that will prohibit the use of carbon monoxide gas as a means of euthanasia, requiring injection only, throughout the state. Based on our research, more than 30 shelters are still using carbon monoxide and it is time for Texas to join the ranks of other states that have prohibited this inhumane form of shelter euthanasia.

THLN will also support legislation that requires, rather than simply allows, the Texas Department of State Health Services to enforce existing laws governing animal shelters in Texas. There are good laws regulating animal shelters and the people who manage them, but discretionary, rather than mandatory, enforcement results in little to no enforcement.

Perhaps THLN's most pressing work will be to lobby against attempts to weaken or eliminate existing animal protection laws. The Dangerous Wild Animal Act protects wild animals, and people, but there are efforts to greatly weaken it. Legalizing horse slaughter for human consumption will likely be back given Congress's budget approval for meat inspection. And those opposed to the regulation of puppy mills will push to weaken or repeal the law entirely.

The good news is that 2011 was one of THLN's most successful legislative sessions in history for animal protection. We plan to capitalize on that momentum in 2013. You can help in a variety of ways, including volunteering, signing up for our action alerts, and making a donation. Go to THLN. org to learn more about how you can make a difference for the animals of Texas.

Texas Humane Legislation Network (THLN)

Do you want to help?

Donation Form

Buy a Brick / Tile

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