## Save a Life, Adopt a Homeless Pet



Volume I, Issue 2 Fall 2010

**CAMPBELL TELLS HIS STORY** 

www.bulverdeareahumanesociety.com

# Special points of interest:

- Campbell's Story
- Community Projects
- Being a Foster Mom
- Microchipping Works

## Inside this issue:

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When the woman arrived for work at the soup kitchen, she saw him: a tiny dog tied up near the door. He was scrawny, could barely stand, and the string around his neck had grown into his skin. Someone had left him there, hoping he would be saved. And he was.

The kind woman got him to BAHS, and we named him Campbell, for the soup.

He was a very sick and frightened little dog. At first it was doubtful he could be saved. The vet said he would need hip surgery. The front leg had been broken for some time and had already healed. It was crooked, but he could hobble on it without pain, so it was decided to leave it alone. Donations came in for the hip surgery.

His next angel was his foster mom, Jeri, who took him in during his convalescence. He came to trust Jeri but would not let anyone else near. Jeri brought him to the shelter every day for socializing, and slowly he started to allow both two- and four-legged friends into his life.

Next chapter: Campbell's story and photo was entered in Petfinder and appeared on our webpage. A woman in Houston saw it and called. After being advised of all the problems that may be facing an adopter of this little fellow, she was not going to be deterred. She drove down from Houston to meet Campbell. She knew he was her dog, and he seemed to trust her from the start.

Soon she sent an email reporting that Campbell was doing well. He could even romp and run in his new roomy yard, but his favorite place was in her lap.

Here is the letter Campbell himself "wrote" to Jeri, his fos-



Campbell, a sick and scared little guy

was

That rainy day a month ago, when I knew I

leaving your loving care, it seemed that running and hiding was the only way to avoid losing you. That weekend, I hid under tables and in corners and was afraid when strangers tried to hold me or give me treats. Nibbling on the good food you gave my new mom didn't even seem to help me through those first rough hours.

My new Houston home is big and roomy and I have MY OWN space. I proved it when a big poodle from next door came to visit. Guess I scared him! But after checking each other out for a few minutes, we played in the grass and chased my new ball. I'll be meeting other new playmates soon. My new mom walks me around in the big front yard and in the streets nearby. The back yard is big and has a covered deck. It didn't take me long to find the refrigerator either. When that door opens, I'm right there, because there is always a supply of treats for me to munch on.

came to trust Jeri but would not let anyone else near. Jeri Being carried around is fun, but with my hip and paw getting back to normal, you should see me go up and down the stairs. I can outrace anyone!

I can sleep on my big cushion, my little bed, the soft couch in the garden room, or on my new mom's lap. The A/C is especially nice when I roll onto my back and let the gentle breeze waft over my tummy.

Tell the good folks who sent donations to pay the doctors that I'm doing great. I know I wouldn't be here if it hadn't been for all of them and the ladies at the soup kitchen who cared enough to rescue me. And, of course, all of you at the Bulverde shelter.





#### **Bulverde Area Humane Society**

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# **Upcoming Events:**

### September 25-26 (Sat. and Sun.)

What: Adoption event with AAPAW at the Home and Garden Show Where: Alamodome (Watch our website for more details!)

### October 30, Sat., 10 – 3 pm

What: BAHS Fur Fest. Food, fun for all ages, and bring your pet for a Halloween costume contest! Where: BAHS on Kingsnake Road (Watch our website for more details!)

#### November 14, from 1 – 5 pm

What: Regular Monthly Petsmart Adoption Where: Evans Road Petsmart

Please let us know if you would like to help out at one of these events. Even a couple of hours really helps!

# Letter from the Editor

When people find out I volunteer at BAHS, they often ask, "Isn't it sad to work at an animal shelter? I know I couldn't do it."

My answer is always the same: "No, just the opposite. It's one of the happiest things I do."

#### Why?

Because every dog and cat that arrives at BAHS will find a home, with loving owners and the security they never had before.

Because while they are waiting for that home, they are in a beautiful country setting, with plenty of room to romp and play.

Because they get lots of attention and exercise from our great volunteers.

Because, maybe for the first time in their lives, they get the food, shelter, and medical attention they need.

Is it sad? Only when we have to say goodbye to one of our pet buddies. Even that is a happy kind of sad, because they are going to a real home with their new owner. And that's what it's all about.

Cassie Wedding, Editor

## ADOPTION REPORT FOR JANUARY-JUNE 2010:

DOGS TAKEN IN: 135 DOGS ADOPTED: 119 CATS TAKEN IN: 83 CATS ADOPTED: 58

# Letter from "Communities in Schools"

Following is a letter received from Kyle Jankowski, a counselor with the organization Communities in Schools. He and some students came out to the Bulverde Area Humane Society on June 9 and 10. He wrote the letter for posting in our newsletter:

Every summer students who are enrolled in Communities in Schools, an at-risk program to support students, have a unique opportunity to participate in a short summer program. I take a total of fourteen 10, 11, and 12-year-old students from Rahe/ Bulverde Elementary, Johnson Ranch Elementary, Specht Elementary, and Bill Brown Elementary on day trips in the local area.

These are students that I have been working with due to a number of different issues, ranging from difficulty with academics and a need for encouragement, to any number of difficult family issues.

One of the highlights for the students this year was to volunteer at the Humane Society in Bulverde. My goal with this part of the camp was to provide kids with the opportunity to experience the joys of volunteering at a young age. Coming out to the shelter encouraged the kids to get involved in their community, and also helped them learn a little about taking care of animals.

This year it was amazing to see some of my "tough" kids loving on the animals. It's neat to see the impact the animals make on the students. We really enjoyed our time there, and hope to continue to do this in the future.

Kyle Jankowski CIS Counselor, RBES, SES, TPES, JRES Communities in Schools

## Board of Directors:

President: Richard Lindell Vice President: Lynda Binkley Acting Treasurer: Lynda Binkley Secretary: Christine Touw Director: Lori Osuna Director: Tom Blacklock Director: Barbara Barban

# THE BULVERDE COMMUNITY HELPS OUT

# Local Scout Chooses BAHS for Eagle Scout Project

On June 5, Boy Scout Cameron Reynolds showed up at the Bulverde Area Humane Society, along with a big crew. We had been needing a landing and steps to be built onto the side of the mobile office. He chose to construct these additions as his Eagle Scout project.

As you can see, Cameron and crew did a great job. They

worked long and hard to complete the work on time.

Cameron wrote BAHS, "I just wanted to thank you for letting me do the project."

We thank Cameron for his help and hard work.



Cameron Reynolds and step project

# Did you know that . . . ?

• For every 100 boys who join the Boy Scouts, only two will become Eagle Scouts.

# **Bulverde Girl Donates Birthday Gifts**

It was a bright June morning at the shelter when 9-year-old Gretchen Kissling showed up with her mother. She didn't come to adopt a dog or cat or to volunteer. She came to make a donation. And what a donation!

You see, Gretchen decided to have a "dog party" instead of the usual party to celebrate her ninth birthday. Her guests were asked to bring pet toys, bowls, collars, treats, even cash to donate to the animals at BAHS.



Gretchen chose BAHS because it was local. Plus one of her friends had recently adopted her dog "Sugar" from BAHS.

Gretchen has a black lab named Pearl. She also likes to play with her grandmother's three border collies. She attends Rahe/Bulverde Elementary School.

This little girl has a big heart.

"I just wanted to help the homeless dogs and cats." Gretchen, age 9

# Pennies Really Added Up Thanks to Local School Kids

It doesn't matter how old or young you are—you can always find a way to help out.

The students at Bulverde Creek Elementary School collected "Pennies for Puppies" for the shelter during the month of May. Seven classrooms, grades K through 5, were involved as part of a study of the virtue of compassion. First grade teacher Beth Morris organized the fundraiser.

She said, "Many of the students brought in their own allowances or money they had saved in order to make a contribution."

The students collected a whopping total of \$525 to donate to the shelter.

"We hope that our contribution will help our animal friends in need," Beth added.

What a wonderful way to teach compassion.

Thanks to all of you!



Lynda, BAHS Board Member and teacher Beth Morris with friend

#### **Bulverde Area Humane Society**

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# PLEASE ADOPT ME!



Jacob

When I first met Jacob, he came over to greet me, flopped down by my side, and laid his head in my lap. His brown eyes radiated warmth and trust. I was hooked.

Jacob is a 9 month old curly coated retriever mix who always seems to be smiling. He loves people, other dogs, and is eager to please. He's a laid back guy and good on leash. His beautiful coat doesn't shed much. Come meet him! You will understand why he is a favorite at BAHS.

# **BE A VOLUNTEER AT BAHS!**

Parents and Teachers! We offer a safe place for kids to take part in group projects, earn community service hours, or just spend a few hours learning empathy and kindness. Come with your kids and make it a family event!

It's a rewarding and character-building experience.

Please look on our website for volunteer information and application. Show up with application in hand any Tuesday, Thursday, or Saturday at 10 a.m. for a brief orientation. Then we'll put you right to work! EVEN A FEW HOURS A MONTH HELPS!

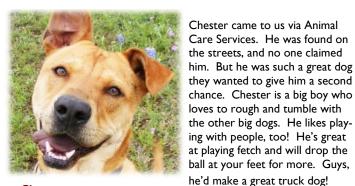
Loni is a sweet, easygoing girl who loves people and other dogs. She's a lab/chow mix but has the temperament of a lab. She is small for that breed mix, but she's still a medium sized dog who doesn't understand that she's not a lap dog. She might try to climb into your lap anyway.

She's a smart girl and already knows basic commands. She loves to play fetch and splash around in the kiddie pools with her play group.

Loni deserves a forever home, because she's just so darn lovable!



Loni, 2



Chester

Chester would also make a great house dog. He is housebroken already! When he's not playing, he likes to cuddle and give dog kisses.

Please stop by to see this handsome, happy-go-lucky fellow!

## Sunshine is the perfect name for this girl. She radiates so much joy that you can't help but feel happy around

her. She's a brin-

dle boxer/hound

Sunshine

mix (maybe greyhound), but best of all, she has a GREAT temperament. She walks well on leash and likes to shake hands. She gets along great with kids. She is quite playful with other dogs but would rather sit at your feet. She is quiet in the house and rarely barks. What can we say? She's a gem and will make someone a loyal and loving pet!

CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR ALL THE OTHER GREAT DOGS WAITING TO BE ADOPTED!

## Please help us with medical costs

We have two dogs that are heartwormpositive. We appreciate any donation you can make toward their treatment. Thank you.

# First-Time Foster Mom Tells It Like It Is

Volunteer Sally de Sousa recently fostered four kittens. This is her story:

It was kitten season at area shelters and BAHS was no exception. The shelter was inundated with calls about, requests to take, and drop-offs of, kittens, with an occasional mother cat to boot.

During the first week of May, we received a call from Elaine. She had found a litter of four kittens on Casey Road in Bulverde. Being the Good Samaritan that she is, she rescued the little ones. But she had to leave town for a week and needed a temporary foster mom for her five-week old "babies." I saw her email request and thought, "I can do that." I took them home, thinking, "These poor little creatures are stuck with me, a first-time foster mom."

As often happens, the temporary situation turned into a permanent one when Elaine's business trip was extended. Once home, she found another litter of kittens to foster.

My kittens, meanwhile, had other ideas, too. They had

diarrhea and were not litter trained. One of the three males, Danny, the runt of the litter, developed an abscess on a front paw. I just thought he was crying for attention. I didn't know he had been sick the whole time. My husband and I took Danny to the vet. He was too small and fragile for surgery, but Dr. Kelly McCarty was able to puncture and drain the abscess without so much as a peep from Danny. At home we began a regimen of oral antibiotics and a flushing solution that we faithfully administered twice daily. Soon Danny was transformed from a sweet, gentle boy to a terror! He started chasing all his siblings, rolling and playing, and in general making up for lost time. He doubled in weight in one week.

I took them to BAHS to be weighed and wormed. Two of the kittens, Manny and Moose, would soon weigh enough to be neutered (2 lbs. for kittens). Reluctantly, I agreed to leave all four kittens at the shelter to receive their shots in a few days. After a few weeks, they were not doing well. All had lost weight, and caretaker Jeri and I were worried about them. We decided I should

take them home with me again.

The next day I took them all to the vet. Numerous tests were performed, but there was no definitive diagnosis. I wish I could say they all rebounded, but that is not the case. Manny died a couple of days later, and soon after, Danny was euthanized.

Moose and Sweetheart improved and made a complete recovery. They returned to the shelter, where they are waiting for adoption. I miss them, but look forward to their being adopted into loving homes.

My foster experience was bittersweet. Even though it was sad at times, it was also rewarding. I don't regret it and will do it again.

- Sally deSousa

Sweetheart



Moose

"My foster experience was bittersweet. I wish I could have saved them all."

# Foster Mom Helps Special Needs Animals

Mary Mount is a foster mom who calls her home "Camp Mary." Here she tells the story of Christi:

Christi was about 2 months old when she was found under a car. The family who found her brought this tiny Chihuahua/ min-pin mix to BAHS. Christi was undernourished, made worse by the fact she had been fed cow's milk. She was too sick to keep at the shelter, so I took her home. That first night I spent carrying her over my shoulder all night. Over the next days and weeks she began to improve and quickly won over the hearts of our family. We weren't sure we could give her up. In the end, we decided she deserved a chance to have her own family.

Her first public appearance was at a BAHS adoption event at a local store. A young lady was going inside to do her grocery shopping when her eyes fell on Christi. It was love at first sight. They were a perfect match. As you can see from the photo, Christi is living the dream in her designer bed.

Being a foster mom can be difficult. You put your heart and soul into helping these babies and can't help but fall in love. But sometimes, as in Christi's case, love means giving them a chance to find their own forever family.

— Mary Mount



Christi in her new home

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# Did you know that having a cat...

- Lowers blood pressure and eases feelings of loneliness and isolation
- Is especially beneficial to the elderly and shutins

# SUMMER SPECIAL ON KITTENS EXTENDED THROUGH SEPTEMBER!

# Adopt a kitten and we'll throw in a kitty collar, litter, food bowl, and cat toys!!

This spring and summer we've had a bumper crop of kittens. Just about every day someone brings in a box of kittens they have found abandoned somewhere. We need to find these babies homes! Come in and take home a kitten. Better yet, take two and double the fun! There's nothing like watching the playful antics of kittens.

Of course, kittens grow up to be cats, but cats are great pets, too. As everybody knows who has ever had a cat, they are clean, quiet, and independent. They don't need as much attention as a dog and cost a lot less to keep. That makes them perfect for sedentary people and the elderly. Kids love them, too! Just look at the photo below!

## SO WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR? COME PICK OUT YOUR KITTEN(S)!



Lanny with Cobb family tot

# Family Adds Two Kittens to Busy Household

After adopting two kittens for her family, Jessica Cobb wrote the following email:

I just wanted to let you know that Lanny and Janie are doing awesome in their new home. They were welcomed in by Pumba, our I year old shorthair, and three kids. They love to play and wrestle constantly. Thank you for the opportunity to accept them in our home as family.



Pearl, Siamese mix

# Can You Give Me a Home?

Pearl is a young cat who may be full grown. She's just a very petite girl. She's a Siamese/ short-hair mix who loves to play. She is deaf, but this does not seem to be a problem for her. She must be an indoor cat (as all cats should be).

This spring we've taken in so many kittens that we have run out of names for them. Mama cat Chancie had a litter of such nameless kittens. In the photos you see "C-3" and "C-5." They have two other siblings that need homes, too.

We also have some smaller 6-8 week old kittens (including two adorable calicos) who *love* to be held and played with. They are

definitely people pleasers. So come on by to see and play with our cats and kittens!





Two of Chancie's kittens, 3 month old

## Volume I, Issue I Fall 2010

# **Microchipping Works!**

If you've ever lost a dog, you are familiar with that feeling of panic. Where is Fifi? Is she hurt? Will I find her?

There are a number of things you can do to find your lost dog or cat. (Please look on our website for details about finding a lost pet.) Better yet, there are things you can do to prevent that panicky feeling.

Microchipping is one of them. Many lost pets are reunited with their owners because of microchips. Just the other day, a kind person found the little fellow in the photo wandering on the highway. He was striking because of his blue Mohawk and "Bad to the Bone" collar. He was such a cute, friendly guy, we knew there had to be a heartbroken owner looking for him. But there were no tags on his collar.

We scanned him for a microchip, and, *Eureka!* We called his owner, and in no time he roared up on his motorcycle to reclaim Teddy, his happy pup. Teddy's owner was grateful to get his motorcycling buddy back. It was quite a sight to see them drive away on the motorcycle with Teddy sporting his dog goggles.

This is just one story of many we could tell about lost pets reunited with owners because of microchips.

So what are you waiting for? Microchip your pet! <u>New</u>! On Saturdays you can microchip any pet (dog or cat) at BAHS for only \$25.



Teddy, sporting a blue Mohawk, was reunited with his owner because he was microchipped.

# Frost Bank Chooses BAHS

Frost Bank chose the Bulverde Area Humane Society as the recipient of donations from its employees as part of the grand opening of its new branch at 281 and Evans Road.

Their plan was to invite the public to an open house, which included a genuine cowboy chuck wagon breakfast.

Our plan was to march the BAHS dogs from our usual adoption site at Petsmart to the new Frost Bank branch across the parking lot. Barbara B. led the parade in her swanky convertible, with "Who Let the Dogs Out" blaring. She was followed by volunteer handlers and the dogs sporting bandanas, in keeping with the Western theme. Some of the handlers dressed for the occasion as well, with cowboy hats and boots. A volunteer-driven Jeep brought up the rear with speakers blasting "Who Let the Dogs Out."

The kind people at Frost Bank welcomed its two-and fourlegged visitors. They invited us to share the homemade biscuits and other goodies served at the chuck wagon. Then we gathered inside the lovely new lobby where they presented us with bags and bags of high quality dog food, plus other treats, AND a donation check!

We are indeed lucky and grateful to be the recipient of their generosity.

Thank you, Frost Bank!

"The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated." Mahatma Gandhi

## DO YOU NEED HELP WITH PROBLEM BEHAVIORS? DON'T GIVE UP! QUALIFIED ASSISTANCE IS OUT THERE!

Both K9 CC and Jan have helped us with dogs at BAHS and we can vouch for their skills.

## K9 Country Club & Training Academy

at 31305 Oak View in Bulverde 830-438-3666 or 830-980-8476 (metro) Website: www.k9countryclub.net

Bring proof that you have adopted a dog from BAHS and get a \$5 discount off your next obedience class.

Check their website for more information.

### A Better Dog Training

Jan Echavarry 210-788-6157 janthedogtrainer@hotmail.com) Website: www.abetterdogtrainingtexas.com

In-home obedience training using dog psychology. Specializing in: aggressive dogs, pack education, puppy training, and canine good citizen training.

## Save a Life, Adopt a **Homeless Pet**

Bulverde Area Humane Society 3563 Kingsnake P. O. Box 50 Bulverde, Texas 78163

Phone: 830-980-2247 Fax: 830-980-6901 email: bahs@yahoo.com bulverdeareahumanesociety.com

# Powered by Volunteers

## Bulverde Area Humane Society

## **OUR MISSION**

Bulverde Area Humane Society is a non-profit organization that provides a caring and secure environment for homeless and surrendered dogs and cats. Our purpose as a no-kill shelter is to assist in the pet life cycle through education, spay/neuter assistance, and promoting pet-forever families. BAHS is powered by volunteers and 501(c)(3)tax-deductible contributions.

# Thank You to Local Businesses

We would like to express our appreciation to the following businesses, most of them local, that have been so kind to us. Please support these great businesses!

- HEB
- Petsmart
- Tractor Supply
- Cragg's Do It Best
- Bulverde Community News
- The Hill Country Times (web paper)
- Smithson Valley Animal Hospital
- Bulverde Animal Hospital
- Texas Veterinary Hospital ٠
- Bulverde Bexar Veterinary Clinic ٠
- Country Hills Vet Clinic
- A&C Health Service
- Mumme's
- Picadillo Mexican Restaurant
- Advanced Door Control
- Petspaw
- Pedernales Electric Coop
- Bulverde Hills Dental
- Schering-Plough

- Frost Bank
- Canine Comforts
- Hamlett Photography & Design
- Bird Dog & Cat Fish
- Texas Wines & Spirits
- Century Regional Health Care at Bulverde
- My Place Bar & Grille
- Faithville Village
- Bulverde North Family Dental
- The Shops at the Village of Bulverde
- Security State Bank & Trust
- Rodolfo O. Garza, Consultant
- Sun Time Tanning Salon
- On the Wall
- Honey Creek Cafe
- Plus all the businesses that collect donations for us with the BAHS coin boxes

## A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL!

# Wish List

We are always in need of the following items:

- Toys (balls, hard rubber toys or chews)
- Dog and Cat Brushes
- Dog Collars (mostly medium and large )
- Rawhide Chews (medium and large)
- Large Dog Biscuits

HOURS OF OPERATION

- Blankets
- Liquid Dish Soap
- Bleach
- Towels

We also need:

- Contractor and materials for renovating rock house
- Decomposed granite for play pens
- Kuranda Beds (go to Kuranda Beds website for more information)

We are grateful for monetary donations, too! They go to help pay for food, shelter, facility maintenance, and veterinary care.



The Shelter is currently open: Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday from IOAM - IPM.

If you get voice mail, please leave a message and someone will return your call.

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