

Pet Gazette



Summer 2011

Caring for Special Needs Animals

The Central Texas SPCA is committed to providing special care to animals that are ill or injured when they come to our adoption center or during their stay with us. We rely solely on donations to provide these deserving animals with extra medical care through our Special Needs Fund. And, it seems, since the recession started in 2008, animals in need are increasing in numbers. Here are just a few examples of animals that have needed us to go the extra mile for them in early 2011:

Shrek is a young male boxer mix that we rescued from a facility in Lampasas with high euthanasia rates. Very shortly after he arrived at our shelter, he wouldn't eat, so we took him to the vet. Sadly, we found out Shrek had parvo, a highly contagious and sometimes fatal virus. To protect the other shelter dogs, we isolated him and treated him with fluids, antibiotics, anti-nausea medicine, and an appetite stimulant. It took about two weeks of significant care and close monitoring for him to turn the corner. Shortly after his recovery from parvo, Shrek developed an abscess on his leg and required additional veterinary care, including a drain tube, more antibiotics, and hydrotherapy to reduce the swelling. Through all of these challenges, Shrek has been such a good boy and maintained his happy-go-lucky attitude. We look forward to him getting a clean bill of health soon and finding his forever family.

We rescued Hope, a tiny Chihuahua mix, and her mother from a facility where Hope would have likely been euthanized because she was suffering from demodectic mange. Tiny Hope was only a baby weighing about two pounds when she arrived. As a result, the vet had to start her off on a lower than average dosage for treatment back in March. As Hope gained weight, the vet increased the dosage, and she's been at a therapeutic level of treatment for the last month. After four months of special care, she received the "all clear" from the vet and is available for adoption. Despite her rough start at life, Hope is a happy, well-adjusted, and beautiful little dog.

In late July, we found a young dachshund mix puppy dumped at our gate. It was clear he'd been terribly neglected by the horrible condition of his fur. We rushed him to the vet to learn he had, among other medical problems, sarcoptic mange, the skin disease caused by infection with the microscopic *Sarcoptes scabiei* mite. Luckily, Shrek was out of isolation, and we were able to take this little guy in. Had we sent him to the regional animal control facility, he would have most likely been euthanized. We named him Dumpling and started treatment for the sarcoptic mange and some other infections. Despite the obvious neglect he faced in the first eight weeks of his life, this little guy is happy and loves humans. We

Inside Pet Gazette

About Us	2
Volunteers Make a Difference	2
Barktoberfest	3
Happy Endings Galore!	4-5
Longtimers Looking for Love	6
Easy Ways to Help	7

know Dumpling will make a devoted companion to some lucky human when he's well and ready for adoption.

These are just a few of the special needs animals we've offered compassionate and expensive care for recently. Others include Brodie, a kitten found running down a nearby residential street that had to be treated for a bacterial infection. No sweeter kitten has ever crossed our threshold. And Shiner, another dog we rescued from a kill shelter, needed treatment for an ear infection and a urinary tract infection.

Our ability to help these wonderful pets that just need some extra TLC and care would not be possible without the generous support of our donors and friends, like you. In order to help us continue to help special needs animals, we hope you'll make a donation today to our Special Needs Fund. We know there are more out there, needing our help and, together, we can save them!



Volunteers Make All The Difference

About Us at Central Texas SPCA

Our Mission

The Central Texas SPCA, a privately-funded **no-kill** animal shelter, finds forever families for homeless dogs and cats.

Staff

Desiree LaVigne, Shelter Manager
David LaVergne, Senior Cat Caretaker
Sarah Ewing, Dog Caretaker
Celt Chamberlain, Dog Caretaker
Amber Flynn, Dog Caretaker
Andrew Nierenberg, Dog Caretaker

2011 Board of Directors

Octavia Gibson, President
Michelle Zoeller, Secretary
Michael Cummings, Treasurer
Barbara Clemenhausen
Steve Elmore
Beth Mandell
Warren Orr

Adoption Dept. Office Hours

Monday & Friday, 3 – 7 pm
Saturday & Sunday, Noon – 5 pm

Contact Information

909 S. Bagdad Road
Leander, Texas 78641
512-260-SPCA (7722)
info@centraltexasSPCA.org
www.centraltexasSPCA.org

Mailing Address

P. O. Box 98
Cedar Park, Texas 78630

Pet Gazette made possible by the generous support of Rob Hoffman, design and layout, and Tracy Topalu, copy editing.

Did you know that our shelter is able to keep staff costs low, thanks to the dozens of volunteers who give hundreds of hours to us each month? They walk dogs, brush and play with cats, clean habitats, and help with the laundry, and landscape care. They take pets to adoption days at local pet stores. They work in the office and

join committees that handle all of our fundraising, marketing, and more. We wish we could thank each one of them individually here but, since our space is limited, we'll just call out a few special people who have given a great deal of time over the last few months. From April through the end of June, over 920 hours were logged by our volunteers, and those giving the most days and hours included **Sandra Abrams, Traci Cox, Jessica Fleming, David Kline, Jane Saathoff, Keeley Wagner, Angie Wilson, Dolores Witte, and Caitlyn Yates. Thanks to each of you and every one of our terrific volunteers!**

We are also lucky enough to have groups come out periodically for community service and team-building activities. One company has been an ongoing and generous supporter through its volunteer projects. JI Companies was out again on Friday, May 13. Employees worked primarily on cleaning and organization projects. Our shelter is definitely a better place when these hard workers have been for a visit.



Our 9th Annual Barktoberfest!

It's a little early this year, so mark your calendars now to join us on Saturday, September 10, at Lakeview Pavilion in Old Settlers Park, Round Rock. We'll start the day with our dog walk (2K) at 10 a.m. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m., or you may pull registrations forms off our website at www.centraltexasspca.org/9th-annual-barktoberfest-is-here.html and register in advance. Registration is only \$20, and walkers collecting or donating \$25 or more will receive a free 2011 event T-shirt. There will be great prizes for the person who raises the most pledges/donations for the walk. We have some terrific new vendors and sponsors this year, so you can shop for yourself and your four-legged friends. Short Bus Subs will be back with its gourmet subs, and our favorite band, Nairobi Trio, will be helping us get our groove on all day! And there are some great new games for the kids in our Kids' Fun Zone! Of course, Greyhound Pets of America-Central Texas will return with Speed Alley so your canine companion can show off his or her speed and get a radar-gun certified speeding "ticket"!



Because September is **Responsible Dog Ownership Days (RDOD)**, sponsored by the American Kennel Club, we've invited Certified Professional Dog Trainer Kimberly Borgan to demonstrate a Canine Good Citizenship Test at 10:45 a.m. Following the demonstration, Kimberly will offer a limited number of tests or practice tests for those interested. Named Outstanding Dog Trainer of the Year by the Association of Pet Dog Trainers in 2007, the nation's most prestigious pet dog training organization, Kimberly remains dedicated to a teaching philosophy based on two-sided communication, kindness, and understanding. She coaches dogs and their owners through positive and rewards-based techniques to reach individual training goals. Also in support of RDOD, we will

offer low-cost microchip services on-site. Microchipping is a simple procedure. One of our employees simply injects a microchip, about the size of a grain of rice, beneath the surface of your pet's skin between the shoulder blades. The process is similar to a routine shot, it takes only a few seconds, and your pet will not react any more than he or she would to a vaccination. No anesthetic is required. For only \$15, microchipping is one of the best ways you can ensure your pet is quickly returned to you if he or she is ever lost.

Barktoberfest is sponsored by *Austin Pets Directory*, *Austin American-Statesman*, Lone Star Dermatology, Broadstone Travesia and Broadstone Grand Avenue Parkway, Capital Area Veterinary Specialists, DogBoy's Dog Ranch, *Haute Dog: West Nose Culture Austin*, Pet Sitting by Lynda, Spanish Oak Kennel, and Tomlinson's (as of 8.8.11).



Happy Endings Galore!



Rigby

Rigby

Rigby had been at the CTSPCA since March of 2009. Despite his great disposition and handsome Chihuahua face, he was passed over time and time again. But Rigby had all the time he needed at our shelter. And we were thrilled to hear from the wonderful family who adopted him early this summer: “He is doing great! In no time he learned to go outside and back inside using the doggie door. He loves having a choice of being a yard dog or a lap dog. And he loves going for walks. We really love him. He is very respectful (of our other dog), and the two dogs are getting along very well. They actually are sharing my space with me together in the recliner. Again, thanks to everyone, Penny & Tommy “

Gonzo

“Gonzo, now renamed Digsby, is doing wonderful. He and his big sister Izzy are best friends. They play great together and really have bonded. Digs is just a great dog – he loves our kids and cuddles with them on the couch whenever he gets a chance. He comes when he’s called and has learned a few commands like sit and down. Digs really follows big sis Izzy’s lead – and has picked up things quickly. We’re hoping to get him into an obedience class in July so we can work on leash training and teach him some other commands.

He’s super easy to train since he wants to please and is food

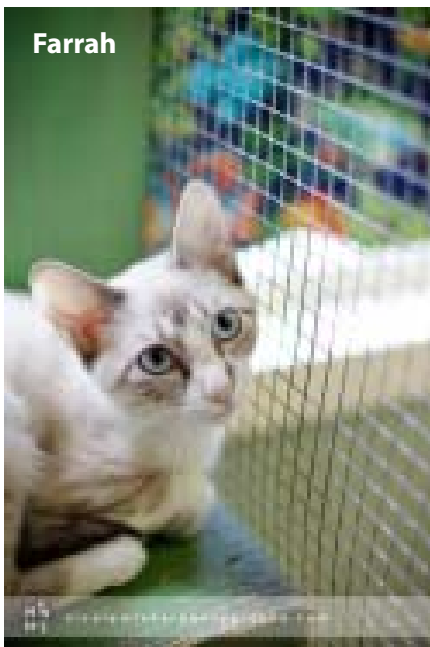
motivated. He really settled in quickly and feels like he’s always been part of the family. He’s just a wonderful little dog and we all love him. From Angela”

Linus the Cat

“He is AMAZING! I love this little guy. He is so happy. I’ve never had a cat this full of joy. Every time I pick him up, he purrs. We’ve actually given him a few nicknames around it (my favorite is Purrball). We’ve renamed him Maxwell, and he has already adjusted himself to be a dominant force in the household. My other cat, Jude, is so much happier to have a friend as well. They’re always running around and causing mischief. I can’t believe it’s already been six months. Thank you for allowing me to bring such a happy little kitten into my home. Linus’ mom”

Annie!

“I am thrilled to let you know that Annie is a wonderful addition to our family. We are very happy with her. She is very interested in the jack rabbits that live on our property. She wants to chase them down. The deer are also very interesting to Annie. We are still working on leash training, but Annie learns fast. She wants to greet any creature she can and loves to walk. She is very nice to the cats, but they won't let her sniff them. She loves to play ball when she is in the mood. She does have a bit of attention deficit disorder when it comes to paying attention to a game for too long. But she is hilarious to watch. She will catch the ball and throw it up onto the air and then catch it-over and over again- all the way back to our feet. Even though she only does it once or twice, it's worth the effort to watch her play. You were right about her trying to be boss. She is very friendly to other dogs, but also very assertive. She likes to kick dirt in the air with her feet when she is around other dogs. We love to watch her play with other dogs. She is very playful with them. I hope to catch her in the act one day so I can make a video. As it turns out, she is pretty playful after all-it just takes a little bit of work. Sometimes, she'll put her bum right in the face of a new dog in order to get the meet and greet out of the way. She is funny, smart, and alert. We love her more and more every day. It is amazing how great of a match she is for our family. I cannot thank you enough for helping us find our Annie. The Duncan Family”



Farrah the Cat

“Thanks for saving Farrah for me; she is a delight. She has grown, is still a little shy, but adapting well to her new home. Her antics have kept me entertained for hours. You provided me in 2001 with another, Pepper, who passed away in 2010. I think both of these wonderful cats were meant just for me. Thanks again! Betty W.”

Weezer the Dog

Weezer, a husky mix, had been with us for over a year. He was originally adopted as a puppy and returned several months later. Unfortunately, the family who first adopted Weezer didn't spend any time teaching him manners, so he was a handful. Larger dogs with rambunctious personalities scare a lot of people away, but Weezer finally got lucky. One of our long-term volunteers, who has a dog training business of her own, was home from college and decided to have Weezer join her family. He's Loker now, and we're regularly enjoying Ines's Facebook posts of him in the pool, asleep on his dog bed, loving his new dog bone, chewing on a Frisbee, out for a run, and more. Check him out on YouTube at www.youtube.com/watch?v=HSrffSyDYp0&sns=fb.

Longtimers Looking for Love

We used to call this section Don't Forget About Me. But maybe you never knew about these great, longtime pets. So let us help you get to know some wonderful animals that have been at the CTSPCA for more than a year and are eager to find a family of their own.



Dora and Diego arrived at our shelter on August 30, 2009. They were part of a large colony of outdoor cats an elderly woman had been feeding for some time. Unfortunately, when she passed away, neighbors and animal control had over 100 cats to deal with. We were more than happy to give these two wonderful cats a chance at a

good life. When they first arrived, they were a bit unsure of being inside (it may have been a first) and human contact. We assumed with over 100 cats, their caretaker wasn't able to regularly pet them all. Dora, a striking calico, soon learned that being brushed was grand! She can't get enough. Diego, who has a very unusual and gorgeous version of a tabby coat, was slower to feel at home, but we soon learned he loves other cats—any other cats. No matter whom we've put in the habitat with Dora and Diego, he makes friends with them. And Diego makes friends with his favorite humans too. Al-



though he will rarely jump in a lap on his own, he will greet his favorite humans at the door and happily sit in a lap if he's placed there. We'd love these two to go home together, but they do so well with other cats, we're confident they'd adapt quickly if adopted separately. If you want to have an overwhelming positive feeling in your heart and mind, please consider opening your heart and home to either of these gentle, loving kitties. They had a bit of a rough start in life, and they show their gratitude for all they get every day.

2012 Calendars Filled with Cuties

Thanks to the continued generosity of Ed Kelley Photography and Shweiki Media, we'll have another calendar filled with cute Central Texas canines and cats for 2012. The calendars will go on sale at Barktoberfest on September 10 and include a few repeat winners from prior years as well as some adorable new dogs and cats. The cost is \$15 per calendar (plus s/h if purchased online), and 100% of the purchase price supports our adoption center. These calendars make great gifts for all the animal lovers on your holiday shopping list. And be sure to get two for yourself—to display at home and at work!

Southwest Airlines Comes Through Again!

We're so grateful for the generosity of Southwest Airlines. Once again this year, the company has donated two round-trip tickets (to anywhere it flies), which we'll raffle off in our annual holiday raffle. This year's drawing will be December 18. Tickets are \$7 each, 3 for \$15, and 5 for \$20. Tickets will be on sale beginning September 10 through December 18. Watch your mailbox (if you live in Texas) or check out our website in mid-September for more information.



Central Texas SPCA

Easy Ways to Help the CTSPCA

There are so many ways you can help the shelter help more homeless pets:

- ♥ Shop at **Randalls** and connect your Remarkable Card to our number (876) in its Good Neighbor Program.
- ♥ Donate a car, a motorcycle, a boat, an RV, or other vehicle. Go to **DonateACar.com**, click on Charities, and then search for us (SPCA Central Texas). Fill out a short, simple form, and you'll be contacted by our partners at the Car Program LLC. Donating is easy, it's free, and your donation is tax deductible.
- ♥ Shop for **CTSPCA merchandise** at www.cafepress.com/CentralTXspca.
- ♥ Shop and/or search online at **www.GoodSearch.com** and **www.GoodShop.com**. Just enter SPCA Central Texas, and every time you do an Internet search or make a purchase online, a small donation is made to the shelter. **www.iGive.com** is another Internet retail shopping mall that will donate a portion of your online purchases (from over 900 stores) to the shelter. Find us under Central Texas SPCA on iGive.com.
- ♥ Organize a **supply drive** at your school, place of employment, or place of worship. Our top needs always include clay, unscented cat litter, Milk-Bone-type dog biscuits, powdered laundry detergent, paper towels, and tall kitchen trash bags (plain top/no drawstring). We're also grateful for donations of office supplies such as 8.5 x 11" copy paper, 2-pocket folders, postage stamps, and dry-erase markers. Gift cards to office supply stores, pet stores, and HEB are great!
- ♥ Plan a **bake sale** and/or **garage sale** and donate the proceeds to our shelter. If you let your customers know their purchases help homeless pets, you're likely to increase your revenue!
- ♥ Become a **Best Friend** by making a recurring monthly donation in the amount of your choice. Best Friends support the operation of our Adoption Center.
- ♥ Become a **Cat Sponsor**. For only \$20 per month, you can sponsor the cat or kitten of your choice (or we'll choose a deserving feline for you). You'll receive a laminated certificate of sponsorship with your sponsored cat's photo and bio. You'll also get periodic updates from the shelter with news from the cat side. And your support helps us provide quality food and care plus a comfortable, clean homelike environment for the cats awaiting adoption.
- ♥ **Help Us Pave the Way!** Make a contribution to sponsor a personalized brick or granite paver! Brick pavers can be sponsored for \$100 for a 4x8" and \$250 for an 8x8". A limited number of beautiful granite 12x12" pavers are available with a \$1,000 donation. All donations will be used toward capital improvements at the shelter. More information is on our website at www.centraltexasspca.org/help-us-pave-the-way.html.

.....

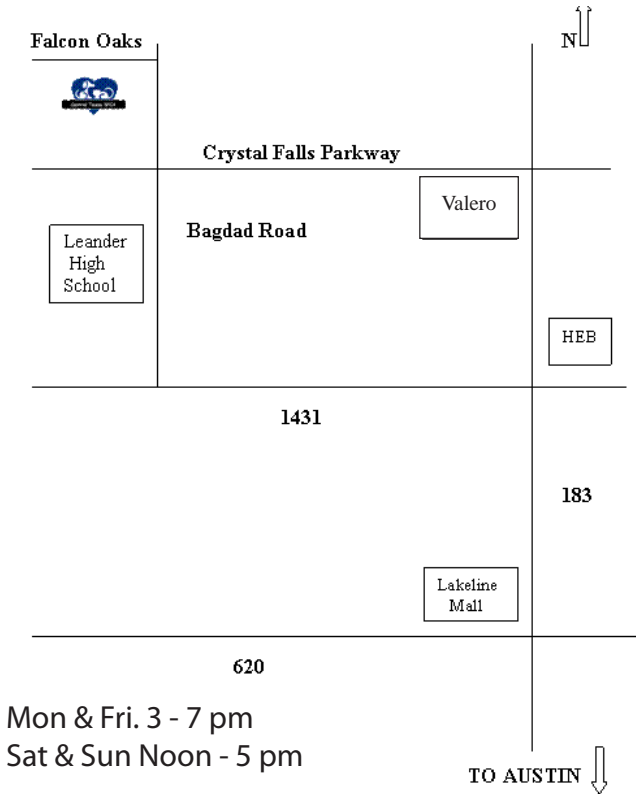
Thanks to our partners and supporters for their ongoing support: Science Diet, Nicole Mlakar Photography, Lakeline Animal Care in Austin, and Hill Country Veterinary Hospital in Cedar Park.



Central Texas SPCA

P. O. Box 98
Cedar Park, Texas 78630

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
CEDAR PARK, TEXAS
PERMIT NO. 61



Current Resident or

Mon & Fri. 3 - 7 pm
Sat & Sun Noon - 5 pm

Summer Sizzle Raffle a Success!



Special thanks go to all the businesses that generously donated items to our Summer Sizzle Raffle. This year's grand prize was worth over \$1,200 and included a stay at Vintage

Villas overlooking Lake Travis; dining certificates from Hudson's on the Bend, Carlos'n Charlie's, and Hill Country Pasta House; a sunset cruise on Lake Travis by Texas Sailing; admission tickets to Shore Club Volente Beach (previously known as Volente Beach Water Park) and the Blanton Museum of Art; and Starbucks coffee. Our bonus prize was an on-site photo session and 8x10 portrait, valued at \$190, donated by Michelle Hartle of Studio 13 Imagery.

Congratulations to our winners, K. Olson of Georgetown and S. Moore-Bogle of Hutto, and thanks to everyone who purchased tickets to help us save more homeless pets. Our sincere gratitude goes out to Donna Monroe who, as a longtime member of our fundraising committee, put in countless hours reaching out to local businesses for the donated items that made our raffle a success. We love you, Donna!

Barktoberfest Is Right Around the Corner!

Turn to page 3 for all the details about our 9th Annual Barktoberfest on Saturday, September 10, at Lakeview Pavilion at Old Settlers Park. We hope you'll join us for the fun!

www.CentralTexasSPCA.org