

# THE WOOFINGTON POST VOL. 1

Issue 7

WEATHERFORD PARKER COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER NEWSLETTER

JULY 15,  
2020



## WELCOME

by Ashley Woolnough

The Weatherford Parker County Animal Shelter would like to welcome you to read our monthly newsletter, the Woofington Post.

We hope you find this newsletter fun, informative and enjoyable. In this newsletter you will find: Happy Tails, Upcoming Events, Staff and Volunteer Spotlights, Norman's Nook, How YOU Can Help, Statistics for the Shelter, Opportunities to Volunteer, Operational Update, Pets of the Month, Recognition for Supporting the Shelter and more!

We hope you enjoy reading this as much as we have enjoyed putting it together!

*Remember: Give a Second Chance and Adopt,  
Don't Shop!*

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### Upcoming Events

**Clear the Shelters - Aug. 25th - 29th**

### Special Days

- July 31st - National Mutt Day
- August 8th - International Cat Day
- August 15th - Check the Chip Day
- August 17th - National Black Cat Day
- August 22nd - Take Your Cat to the Vet Day
- August 26th - International Dog Day

If you would like WPCAS to attend your event, please email [animals@weatherfordtx.gov](mailto:animals@weatherfordtx.gov) to discuss opportunities and availability.



## NORMAN'S NOOK

by Emily Laszczak

Dear Norman,

My dog has been chewing EVERYTHING in sight and nothing we are doing is helping! What's going on? What else can we try?

Sincerely,

I Really Don't Want to Buy a New Couch

Dear I Really Don't Want to Buy a New Couch,

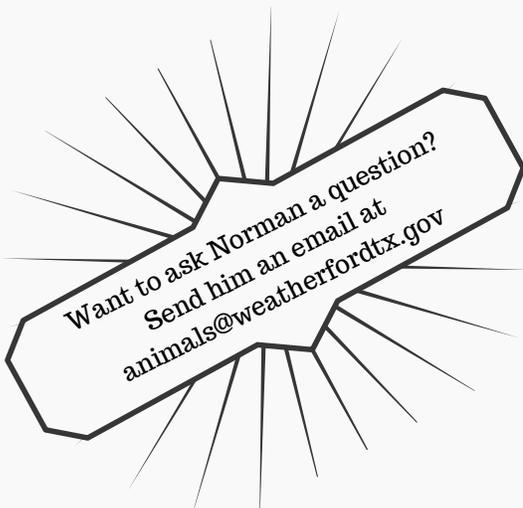
Uh oh! Chewing is natural for a dog! It keeps their teeth clean and their jaws strong.

Constant chewing can be the result of many things. It is normal for a puppy to chew on things. This could be because their teeth hurt from teething. Providing chew appropriate toys can help, and some have even recommended ice cubes!

With an older dog, if the dog is primarily chewing on things when the owner is gone, it could possibly be because of separation anxiety, and they are trying to relieve a little bit of that stress by chewing. Another reason could be because the dog is bored, they're lacking mental or physical stimulation, or because they're stressed. I would talk to your vet to see which one is more likely for your dog.

Until then, you can try chewing deterrent spray, providing mental and physical stimulation, as well as chew appropriate toys, and inedible chew bones.

Love, Norman





## GIVING SECOND CHANCES CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

by Ashley Woolnough

We are so excited to see our new Medical Surgical Building taking shape! I hope you all are as excited as we are. We are antsy with excitement! The updated expected completion date is August 2020!

Currently the drywall is being sanded and is nearly complete. All heating and air conditioning duct work is being routed for vents throughout the building. The electrical transformer was set earlier this week, power will be ran to the building soon. The concrete ramp and stairs have been poured, just need to add railings and they will be complete. Dirt work around the building for rain water drainage is ongoing. Three AC units have been placed on the slab and connected to building. Also a large air cleaning unit is in place and ready to sanitize the air as the building begins operations. Coming soon will be cabinetry and work spaces. Following this will be an epoxy floor covering which will seal up the base of cabinets and all fixtures on the floor/wall connection. We are also pricing and purchasing equipment for the building including stainless steel cages, surgery tables, wet prep sinks, refrigerators, computers and surgery lights.



Floor Plan and Digital sketch of what the building will look like.

WPCAS DONATION BRICK  
Giving Second Chances  
Give a Second Chance and Purchase an Engraved Brick or Paver starting at only \$100!



## HOW YOU CAN HELP

by Ashley Woolnough

Volunteers Are What Makes Us Great! The mission of the Weatherford Parker Animal Shelter (WPCAS) is to improve the bonds between humans and their animals through effective outreach and exceptional customer service to our community. We encourage the active involvement of volunteers at all levels of our agency.

Volunteers work in partnership with staff to improve the bonds between humans and animals, increase the number of animals with loving homes, keep the community safe, and offer a municipal service of excellence to our community.

The WPCAS Volunteer Program Volunteers are involved to help promote animal awareness within the community and to educate the public about responsible pet care, ownership and safety for and around animals. Volunteers also make it possible to provide opportunities for residents to interact with animals at WPCAS and help guide families through the adoption process. Because volunteers interact with animals in our care on a regular basis, they can offer meaningful insight into the personality and behavior of the animal, which helps the public make informed choices. Ultimately, volunteers help us find compatible homes for as many animals as possible. Volunteer Positions are now open! We are currently recruiting for the following two positions:

1. Animal Care Team and
2. Customer Care Team

Anyone age 16 and older is welcome to apply! For as little as four hours a month, you can make a BIG difference in the life of an animal in need. Take this opportunity to invest in a cause you believe in!

**Upcoming orientation Saturday, July 18th! Due to precautions, space is limited.**

### GET STARTED IN FOUR EASY STEPS!

- Step 1: Complete your online application.*
- Step 2: Watch the 4 online training modules.*
- Step 3: Sign up and attend an In-Person Orientation*
- Step 4: Submit your background check  
After that, we will help you get plugged in right away!*



## HAPPY TAILS

by Emily Laszczak

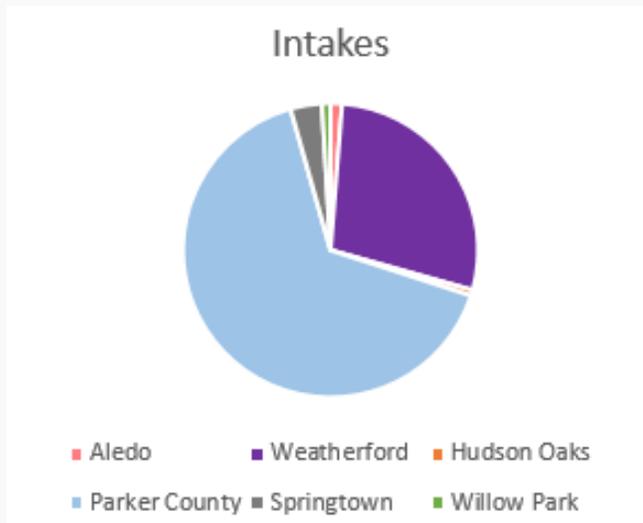
This sweet kitty came into the shelter, and in a rare turn of events for cats, was microchipped! Once we called her mom, we found out that she has been missing for 8 months! WHAT! Microchips are so worth it!! So glad you finally got to go home, Bri!



## OPERATIONS UPDATE

by Ashley Woolnough

During the month of June, we accomplished a Live Release Rate of 98% and were able to help a total of 530 animals (4,067 animals total for the year) and averaged a length of stay of 7.2 average days an animal is in the shelter. Our medical team provided a total of 345 spays and neuters for animals in our care, aiding in reducing the numbers of unwanted litters in our community.



The shelter is still practicing precautionary measures to keep our staff, volunteers and our communities safe from COVID-19. The shelter is taking the following measures for the foreseeable future:

- The shelter has re-opened to the public, however, due to low staffing at this time, we have changed our hours to:
  - Tuesday through Saturday 11:00 am to 4:00 pm, we are currently no longer open until 6:00 pm on Wednesdays and Fridays
  - TNR surgeries on Wednesdays and Fridays only, drop off between 8:30 and 9:00 am
- We are still limiting the number of visitors in our kennels and building at one time and are currently providing most services via curbside
- We have resumed normal Animal Control and Shelter Services
- We have opened our volunteer program back up and volunteers are welcome to help during scheduled time frames
- In following national recommendations in regards to precautions related to COVID-19, all feral cats brought in by the public in city limits will be sterilized and returned as a TNR cat. We will not accept feral cats unless the citizen agrees to TNR the cat. Our Barn Cat program will continue, we expect feral cats to enter this part of the shelter due to special situations.

We have currently pulled an animal control officer to assist with customers in the front office due to an open position we have not been able to fill.

## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

*Meet Deborah Haller!!*

"Shelter life is staff and volunteers working very hard together for the common goal of helping animals in need."

Deb is our Rescue Coordinator here at the shelter. She works tirelessly evaluating the dogs for networking on Facebook and to rescues. She also networks trying to find foster homes for dogs, transports dogs, helps rescues with vet visits, and obtaining health certificates for the dogs when they travel. Deb also helps potential adopters find the perfect dog for their home, and will also sit with the fearful and unfriendly dogs to help them gain trust. She says that she couldn't manage without her team.

In her free time, she says that she loves painting, cooking, and spending time with her grandkids. Her favorite thing about the shelter is, "Seeing the dogs facial expressions and body language when it realizes that someone wants them, and that they get to leave the shelter to start a new life. Also, the passionate spirit among the staff and volunteers working together to help all of the animals." Deb... you are so, so important to us, and we are so thankful for you, and all of the time you spend helping find these babies the best home possible.

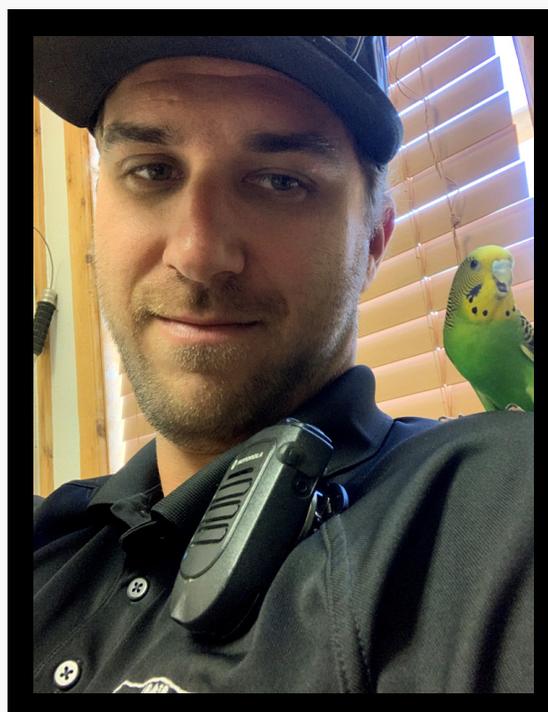


## EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

*Meet Jeff!*

"Each day is a new adventure, and every day I look forward to serving the citizens and animals of the community.

This month we are going to meet Jeff Sayles, one of our Animal Control Officers. Jeff has worked here at the shelter for over 7 years now! He is enthusiastic and has a true passion for his job. This empathetic guy never turns down a challenge! Next time you see Jeff at the shelter, let him know how appreciated he is! He is a core part of our shelter, and our community. Thank you for all you do, Jeff!



## CAT OF THE MONTH



Meet Girtie!

*This pretty girl has been at the shelter since June 24th. She loves long naps on your lap, and scratches behind her ears. This 4 year old princess would love to go home with you!*

## DOG OF THE MONTH

Meet Brodey!

*He is a very handsome pit bull mix that has been here at the shelter since June 18th. He's a little shy at first, but loves people and other dogs! Come meet him this week!*



Weatherford Parker County Animal Shelter's adoption fees are \$100 for female dogs, \$90 for male dogs, and \$50 for cats. Animals 5 years and older, or labeled as special needs/urgent animals are only \$25 to adopt! Each adoption includes spay/neuter, core vaccinations, rabies, and a microchip. Please don't be sad if you find they have been adopted, there are many more animals here looking for their furever home and would love to be a part of your family!

## RECOGNITION FOR SUPPORT

We want to give a BIG THANK YOU to **Parker County Pets Alive** for their support over the years! We are so fortunate that, with them, we are able to get heartworm positive dogs adopted with heartworm treatment! Thank you for all the hard work and fundraising you do to help the animals at the Weatherford Parker County Animal Shelter!

