



# VOLUNTEER NEWS

May/June 2011

City of Plano Animal Services In Shelter, Foster, and Event Volunteers



## PARDON OUR DUST-DOG RUN RENOVATION

**By Kathi Cavanagh**  
*Volunteer Coordinator*

Over the next few months each of the dog runs will be renovated one at a time. While under construction the kennel will be off limits to volunteers.

The design is very similar to the new stray run and will include the guillotine door system that will allow a door to be opened between neighboring kennels when more room is needed.

It is important that the animals are showcased in an appealing manner and that visitors enjoy the surroundings as they view the potential pets.



*View from the aisle.*



*Rosie Road the first under construction.*

Along with being eye catching the tiles also provide the basic characteristic needed in a shelter environment. The first is to limit the spread of disease. The tiles are easily cleanable and non-absorbent to liquids.

They also provide more personal space for the dog since the width between kennels is increased. The tiles also help control odors between kennels better than the metal and chain link.

The chain link doors will be replaced with glass doors which are also much easier to clean. It should also make unlocking and locking the doors much easier than the current option.

The glass doors will be partially frosted at the bottom so the dogs across from each other do not have to stare at each other all day long. This will alleviate some of their stress and should make walking them down the aisle a bit easier.

With glass doors it will be very important to keep them clean for both visual and health reasons. Therefore all volunteers working in the kennels will be required to monitor and clean the doors when needed.

**Note:** Once the dog runs are completed the cat runs will be renovated as well.

### CONGRATULATIONS! VOLUNTEERS ANNIVERSARIES

Sheri Saunders	1 yr	Foster
Nicky Pilkington	1 yr	In Shelter
Jennifer Malinak	2 yrs	In Shelter

### WELCOME NEW VOLUNTEERS!

Stephen Groves	Dog Exerciser and Pups in the Park
Kristine Littlejohn	Dog Exerciser
Jannette Purtel	Cat Room Attendant/Counselor
Shelley Shbeeb	Dog Exerciser
Ron Speaks	Shelter Customer Greeter
Gail Hefner	Dog Counselor & Shelter Asst
Jimmy Hoover	Dog Exerciser and Pups in the Park
Ashley Jackson	Dog Exerciser
Jennifer McFall	Dog Exerciser and Pups in the Park

## What's New

### Volunteer Benefit!

All volunteers (In shelter, Foster, and Event) can get heartworm and flea prevention for dogs through the shelter for excellent prices.

Tri-Heart is the equivalent of Heartgard and comes in a six month supply and is priced by weight.

To purchase heartworm prevention you must show proof of a negative heartworm test or have a prescription from your veterinarian. If necessary a heartworm tests can be done at the shelter for only \$15.00.

If you need a heartworm test you can bring your dog in. Please try to avoid the very busy times and you may even want to call ahead to see if it is a good time.

Flea prevention can be obtained during regular hours. Comfortis is flea prevention and also comes in a six month supply. Prices are posted in the volunteer room.

HEARTWORM & FLEA PREVENTION VOLUNTEER PRICES	
<b>Tri-Heart (equivalent to Heartgard)</b> 6 month supply	
• Blue 0-25 lbs. -	\$9.41
• Green 26-50 lbs. -	\$12.83
• Brown 51-100 lbs. -	\$17.21
<b>Comfortis - Fleas ONLY!!</b> <b>DOGS ONLY!!</b> 6 month supply	
• Pink 5-10 lbs. -	\$46.55
• Orange 10.1-20 lbs. -	\$47.43
• Green 20.1-40 lbs -	\$49.17
• Blue 40.1-60 lbs. -	\$50.05
• Brown 60.1-120 lbs -	\$51.82
<b>Heartworm Test - \$15.00</b>	

Process to purchase preventatives:

1. Find a senior officer: **Therese, Daric, Tonya, or Amber.** They will confirm they have some in stock.
2. Go to the front desk to pay for your purchase and get a receipt.
3. Take your receipt back to the senior officer and they will get your preventative.

### Successful Training Class

Professional photographer Teresa Berg donates her time each month to run a photo clinic for animal volunteers. She provides tips and information about how to get the best photographs of adoptable animals.

She graciously offered to hold her April clinic solely for Plano Animal Services and held it on site just for us. Teresa was very impressed with the photos she saw on Petfinder but still was able to give us ideas to get even better.

The class was a great success and those who attended got great tips and ideas.



### Things to Remember

 Recycling is required! All volunteers should be following the proper recycling procedures when cleaning any areas. Empty food cans should be rinsed before being thrown out. If you are unsure of which bag to use when cleaning ask for assistance first.

 Normally the second Wednesday of every month is when the shelter closes to the public and volunteers from about 11:30 to 1 (day may vary on rare occasion). This month it will be the first Wednesday, July 6<sup>th</sup>.

## CONTINUING EDUCATION SERIES

### Know Your Ordinances

#### *In the City of Plano*

**By Kathi Cavanagh**  
*Volunteer Coordinator*

All volunteers that own pets should be in compliance with all animal ordinances of the cities in which they reside.

The city of Plano [lists state and local ordinances](#) on their website but we will also be highlighting them here in future issues. Non-resident volunteers should refer to their city's website.

This month we will feature Article XI Miscellaneous Offenses Sec 4-201-2

**Retention of animals at large:** *A person commits an offense if the person confines an at-large animal, other than one already owned by the person, on his property without notifying the Division of the confinement within twenty-four (24) hours.*

This means if a person finds an animal they are required to report it to the appropriate city department. If an animal is found in Plano that department is Animal Services.

## FOSTER TAILS

### Finding Love

**By Beth Bodden**  
*Foster Volunteer*

Our recently adopted kitten from the Plano Animal Shelter is more than just a kitten with a new home she also played a very important role in a new beginning in my life too.

One afternoon after a long day at work I arrived home to see my boyfriend sitting on the couch playing with our five foster kittens. This is a very typical scene in our house so I thought nothing of it. I soon joined him in the living room for kitten time.

All of the kittens came running to greet me except Khalessi, my favorite. Khalessi, a black domestic short hair is a very gregarious little kitten and stole my heart shortly after I began fostering her.

After sitting down for kitten time I asked my boyfriend where

They may keep the animal in their possession if they choose but they must file a found report. After 5 days the animal is considered "owned" by that person.

**Interference; filing of false claims or reports.** *A person commits an offense if he prevents, interferes with, obstructs, or gives false information to any City Enforcement Agent who is in the lawful discharge of his duties under this chapter, state, local or federal laws.*

*A person commits an offense if he fails to comply with any lawful order of a City Enforcement Agent issued by the Agent during the enforcement of this chapter, state, local or federal laws.*

*A person commits an offense if he makes a claim of ownership for an animal that he knows is false.*

*A person commits an offense if he makes a report of a violation of City ordinance or state, local or federal law that he knows is false.*

False information does include claiming to find an animal at a certain location to manipulate where that animal can be turned in. For example finding an animal in Dallas but claiming it was found in Plano. The animal should be reported in the city in which it is most likely to be found by the owner. Providing false information is a serious violation regardless of the good intentions.

Khaleesi was, he handed her to me with a tiny polka dot collar around her neck. As he put her in my arms I saw the ring which was on her collar and it was then when my boyfriend asked me to marry him.

After nearly five years together he has never caught me off guard but, this did it! I of course accepted and then asked him "does this mean we get to keep Khalessi?".



*Khaleesi during the proposal*

# 'SPOT' LIGHT



**Denise Thurner**

## In Shelter Volunteer

Denise Thurner has been a volunteer with Plano Animal Services since 2009.

In May 2006 she had a job opportunity in her company and was transferred to Texas from her home state of Wisconsin.

When she settled in and her job allowed for more personal time on the weekends she decided to continue the volunteer work she started in Wisconsin.

Denise has advanced in her volunteer work. She started as a dog exerciser and dog adoption counselor and now she helps run the Dog Play Groups and works as a lead for Pups in the Park.

She also became an adopter. Despite working nearly every weekend for an entire year, interacting with every kind of dog, it took a whole year for Peanut to find her and they are very happy together.



**Ashley Hodges**

## Animal Control Officer

Ashley has been with the City of Plano for three years and was the youngest officer for most of that time.

She worked as an adoption counselor for the SPCA before becoming an animal control officer with the city of Plano. She loves her job in animal control and has participated in a few large seizures of animals.

Even though she has two dogs and two cats of her own she enjoys fostering animals. She has worked with many special needs dogs, including her Minnie (shown in picture above).

**Ashley's message to you:** "I want to thank all the volunteers for the work that you do. It keeps the officers grounded. I am very appreciative of every job the volunteers do and every job is important but I am particularly grateful for the counselors and assistants that bring the animals out for visits with the public because our time is so limited. "