

## The Lifeline Link

by: Deb Blakeney

We have an exciting relationship with Lifeline Puppy Rescue in Brighton, Colorado, and we want to tell you a little about it. We took a close look at this organization before we took the leap and joined forces with them, but it was a great decision.

You might wonder why we send puppies all the way to Colorado for adoption. There are many good reasons to do this, but I will mention just two of them. First is the fact that Colorado does not have the over-population problem that we have in Texas, and they can easily place puppies into loving homes quickly. A second equally good reason to partner with this "Puppy-Only" rescue is that it gives our adult dogs much greater chance to find their forever homes since they are not competing with puppies.

This program is not an inexpensive endeavor. Thus far in 2018, we have transported 81 puppies at a total cost of \$5,004.49. We generally meet a representative of Lifeline in Amarillo and they complete the transport from there to Brighton. Sometimes, however, we must make the drive all the way to Brighton to deliver the puppies. The extra benefit of making the drive to Brighton as we started our partnership was the ability to see the facility, staff and the care these puppies receive.

Our cost for gas to date is \$1,181; salary for our driver, meals, hotel in case of necessary overnight stay is \$959; health certificate/travel documents for puppies is \$1,822.50 and vaccination cost is \$1,042.50. The average cost per puppy is \$62, but it is worth every dollar we spend because we know these pups are getting homes. We don't want any of our dogs to spend their lives in a kennel and this helps to ensure quick

placement of the puppies we send. Adoption is always our goal, although we know that sometimes due to health issues or behavior problems, there are dogs that will live out their lives at ARFhouse. Cost of care for our aging population is ever-increasing and space is an issue. We always operate at capacity here at ARFhouse, and this program relieves some of the overcrowding pressure.

Our trips are scheduled to connect with the Lifeline transport team when we have a load of at least 15 puppies. Sometimes we have more. They take puppies from the age of 8 weeks to 6 months. While arrangements are made on this end, Lifeline schedules spay/neuter, final vaccines if needed, and microchip implant appointments. All puppies are altered within a week of arrival in Colorado and most are adopted quickly. It is a great thing for our puppies, and it is wonderful to make space for the next dogs that are sure to show up at our gate.

67,000 PUPPIES! That is the number of puppies that one (1) unaltered female dog and her offspring can produce in 6 years. The number is staggering. That is why it is so critical that we spay and neuter and why we must do a better job of educating the public. It is no wonder that there are so many unwanted dogs that end up on the street. Only the lucky ones come to us and to other organizations like ours.

Population control is vital. We are grateful that Lifeline shares our passion. We are making a difference.

There is so much work to do and so many lives to save. We are happy to have this partnership with Lifeline, and your generosity helps us sustain this vital link.

**"We don't want any of our dogs to spend their lives in a kennel . . ."**







# ful ADOPTIONS



"Bonnie" going home with Tara & John Watkins, and their son, Harvey.



"Harley" was lost when his beloved guardian passed away, but through the efforts of the staff at Brakebill Veterinary Clinic in Sherman, he was rescued and placed for adoption through ARFhouse. As you can see, he now has a new mom and dad, Leaca & Steve Caspari, who fell in love with him immediately. The feeling was mutual.



The Kastl family with our sweet "Clyde"



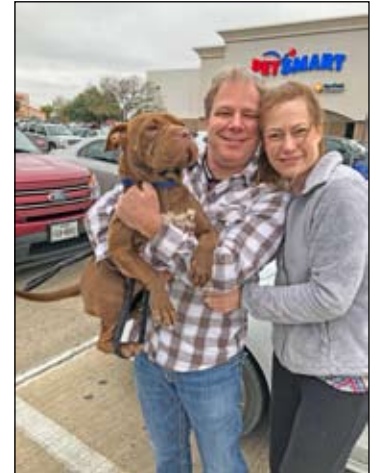
Jessica Spencer and son, Zack fell in love with our "Jim" and the feeling was mutual.



"Butch" going home with the Mandragon family.



"Rusty" found a home with Kevin & Marivic Coveney & daughter, Chloe.



The Wooten's loved "Raven" and "Raven" loved them.



Our "David Bowie" (the big boy), with Mary Beth and Jeff Brown, Rocky and Apollo - adopted 11/23/18



"Brownie" finds her perfect place with Donna Hudson.



Our "Annie" (on the right) with the Spiva's. She looks so happy!



The Crow family with happy little "Sundance."

## Our Adoption Sites



**We are grateful to the following stores that allow us to present our animals for adoption:**  
**PetSmart in McKinney on the second Sunday of the month**  
**PetSmart in Prosper on the last Sunday of the month**





# CHILI COOKOFF BENEFIT FOR THE DOGS

Sterlyn Tapp is the Supervisor of Order Management with Fujitsu Network Communications. She heard about ARFhouse from her friend, William McCain (the son of our friends, John & Margie McCain). William adopted our "Amos".... now known as "Gus"...earlier this year, turning him into the luckiest dog in the state of Florida, where he now resides with William. After hearing about us from William, Sterlyn, as organizer of Fujitsu's annual chili cookoff event, made the decision that this year's event should benefit our dogs. As a result, their highly anticipated event of the year, the 12th Annual Howl-O-Ween Chili Bash benefited ARFhouse. All employees were invited to enter a chili or participate as a judge on the day of the event. This year's event had 13 chili entries, over 75 attended, and \$741 was raised for ARFhouse. Fujitsu will match half of the funds raised, so an additional \$370.50 will be donated to ARFhouse. THANK YOU, Sterlyn, Fujitsu, and all who cooked and tasted chili at this fun event!



## A BITTERSWEET MESSAGE



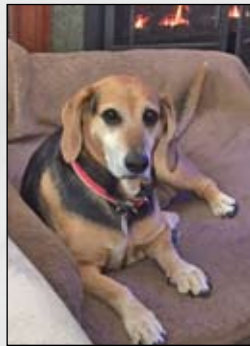
I recently received the following message about "Lottie", a shy young dog that no one had ever paid attention to and probably had few prospects for adoption.

Hi Martha,

*We would like to make a donation in memory of Lottie. My husband Adrian flew out there back in early March of 2009 to adopt her- I am sure you remember. He had quite an adventure there. In October of 2017, Lottie was diagnosed with lymphoma. We did everything we could for her. She began chemo and also had surgery for the lymphoma, but just last month in August, the lymphoma stopped responding to the chemo, and the lymphoma got worse. We had to make the hardest decision - to put her to sleep. We said goodbye to Lottie on 8/18/18, but we think of her everyday. I have to tell you Martha, we loved that dog so much- she was our little girl and such a special little girl. She learned so much and was the most alert and attentive dog I have ever had. Lottie and I - we had a very special bond. She was my shadow. She was always anticipating what my next move would be, so she could be there right next to me. Adrian used to say it, and until she was gone I did not really realize how special our bond was with each other.*

*We want to thank you for working with us to adopt Lottie from so far away. She brought so much happiness, joy, and love to our lives. She was the best sister Newman could have. We have great memories, hundreds of pictures and videos of her enjoying her life. We miss her terribly and are heartbroken but we are forever grateful to you for making her long distance adoption possible for us.*

*Adrian & Beth Zamora*



Beth and Adrian live in the San Francisco area and had been searching on-line for a Bassett mix. Unable to find one in their area, they began searching the petfinder site and came upon our three girls, "Lottie", "Lila" and "Lola". They were drawn to "Lottie", and as you can see....it was a wonderful match. We wish all of our dogs could have a charmed life as "Lottie" did.

## DO YOU SHOP AT AMAZON?

If so, please go to:

**smile.amazon.com** so that the  
dogs of ARFhouse will receive a  
donation from your order!

## Thanks To the people who help our dogs

Stacey & Dr. Clay Morris  
Dr. Jennifer Schwind  
Danny Brakebill  
Brakebill Veterinary Clinic Staff  
Canyon Creek Pet Hospital  
Niemann Publications  
Deb Blakeney  
Hampton Inn, Sherman  
Dave Hill of Hill Canopy  
Wren Chiropractic  
Carla McBride  
Nelda Johnson - Away Cottage  
Janet Smith - FUSE Products



# NEWCOMERS



## Christmas list



"Denny" was found running down hwy 1417. Pictured are before and after 30 days at ARFhouse. Amazing what the product Nexgard can do for mange! He's a sweet playful puppy who's almost ready for an adoption event.



"Sweet Pea" was found in a rural area of Bonham, TX. She was very anemic (probably from starvation).... but is recovering well after the banquet she receives daily at ARFhouse.



"Charlie" was found running on their rural property by a young couple in Bells. They wanted to keep him, but Charlie "liked" their chickens too much.



"Drake" was abandoned in a rural area of Grayson County.



"Misha" was abandoned at Cedar Mills Marina at Lake Texoma.



Piccolo was a stray that came up to a residence in Durant. Very sweet and looks like she's had a few pups in her short lifetime.



It isn't obvious from this picture, but "HARRISON" is quite small. He was found as a stray in a neighborhood; scavenging from any trash he could find. Such a sweet boy. He'll make a nice pet for some lucky family.



"Moose" was found as a stray in the Pottsville area. He had a microchip that belonged to a woman in Tennessee. When contacted she couldn't remember the name of who "adopted" him from her; but no one has claimed him, so we have to assume he was abandoned. He's a really nice shepherd who will find a home easily.



"Lolly" was a stray found near ARFhouse



# "What I've Been Up To"

by: Jenna Glover



This quarter has been about making contacts and establishing relationships. We have had a slow quarter, adoption-wise, so we have been trying to make the best of our events by getting our name out there in hopes of gaining new supporters, volunteers and make new contacts!



One relationship I am particularly pleased about is a new partnership with 1-800-PETMEDS. They have a new program wherein they donate \$20 to ARFhouse every time one of our supporters signs up and makes their first purchase. You can find more information about this new program on our website!

I hope to continue to establish lasting relationships so that we may grow our network and build a large community of support. Every little bit helps!



## THANKING OUR FRIENDS

We have many people and organizations that help us, and we want to acknowledge and thank them. I wish we could thank all of you, but space prohibits this. It is our hope that you know your gifts (large or small) make this important work possible. In our spring newsletter, you will see the names of the people who are donating their time and labor to build the senior center as well as the businesses that are giving materials and/or labor to build it.

The outdoor commercial grade kennels at the new senior building will cost \$16,850.

**CARL & DONNETTE DIEHL** made a gift of \$10,000 toward this project. They have been friends and supporters of the animals for many years. Carl is the owner of European Cycle Sports in Plano, and he and Donnette are long-time supporters of our animals.

**THE OLIVER DEWEY MAYOR FOUNDATION** gave us a grant for \$6,850 to fund the remaining costs of this project.

**JAY O'DANIEL** gave \$5,000 to cover miscellaneous costs at the senior center

**THE VIRGINIA HOBBS CHARITABLE TRUST** gave a \$5,000 grant to assist with a restoration project (new fencing, fence repairs and gates and additional shade canopies).



## Appeal

from Martha Hovers

Once again, I come to you with an appeal for your continued support. It is a never-ending plea because we have a never-ending supply of dogs in need. We do our best to be excellent stewards of the gifts we receive from you. We are not frivolous, and we are not wasteful. I can promise you that.

I can also tell you that we have had some remarkable gifts this year. Some of those donations are going to have a huge and long-term impact on the dogs of ARFhouse. You will be reading about those in our next Newsletter. It is my wish that we could publish more than 3 times per year to keep you informed of our progress. The cost is prohibitive, so we will continue to send you updates every 4 months and hope that you follow us on Facebook, or better yet, that you stay directly connected to us by e-mail or by communicating with volunteers or employees that you know personally.

The reason we need your financial support has not changed. We have maintenance of equipment and the grounds including kennels, fences, buildings, vehicles and all the support structure around them. We have payroll to meet and as we grow, so does the need for more workers to manage and care for the dogs. The veterinary costs are growing monthly and recently the costs have been unusually high. As we have told you before, we have an aging population, and the elderly dogs always require more care. We've had some serious illness in the past 4 months as well. Add to that the preventive care for our dogs, and it is easy to see how our operational costs have increased. The rain in September and October has been a tremendous burden. We have needed extra help to keep kennels pumped free of standing water, to make repairs brought on by flooding, and, most importantly, to lessen the misery of the dogs.

To put the need in perspective, a single example will paint the picture. In a recent month, our donations totaled just under \$5,500 while our expenses for that same month were over \$25,000. Each time that happens our nest egg shrinks.

That is why we once again appeal to your generous hearts - not for us, but for the dogs of ARFhouse. They cannot survive without you. I am, as always, grateful for your support and I continue to be in your debt.







## Brakebill Veterinary Hospital Made The Following "In Memory" Donations

"Carla"  
The Dougan family

"A.J."  
The Morgan family

"Chloe"  
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth  
Krebbs

"Belle"  
The Rice family

"Tommy"  
Deborah Adams

"Bear"  
The Strauch family

"Sandy"  
Kelly Merchant

"Violet"  
Mr. & Mrs. Tom  
Noltensmeyer

"Hunter"  
Mr. & Mrs. Ed  
Richardson

"Yoshi"  
The McBrides

"Fifanini"  
Carol Butler

"Lexi"  
Ann Pruett

"Ramona"  
Jacqueline Klassen

"Tessie"  
Karen Tierney

"Max"  
Megan Caplinger

"Shuddies"  
Doug Teel

"Diego"  
Yancey family

"Roxie"  
Pam Young

"Delilah"  
Dustin Leahey &  
Brandy Green

"Gracie"  
Brad Stuart

"Sassy Marie"  
Donna Marie Russell

"Ghost"  
Mary Jacobs

"Phoebe"  
Mr. & Mrs. Rick  
Hawkins

"Max"  
Carolyn Hunter

"Sheila"  
Mr. & Mrs. Bob Graves

"Hunter"  
Mr. & Mrs. Mike Ditto

"Amox"  
Mr. & Mrs. Judd

"Lil Bittie"  
Kelcey O'Neill

"Edie"  
Mr. & Mrs. Joe Ivey

"Bacon"  
Morgan Jones & family

"Tux"  
The Stephens family

"King"  
Chance & Jenna Glover

"Darth Vader"  
Mr. & Mrs. Jessie  
Muniz

"Thomasch"  
The Klassen family

"Jasper"  
Natalie Meismer &  
Cody Braudrick

"Jinx"  
Tracy Lucas

"Mollie"  
Mr. & Mrs. Dan  
Beckett

"Mickey"  
Donna West & Linda  
Chambers

"Buster"  
The Hughes family

"Suki"  
Dee Reynolds

"Abbey"  
Joanna Barnes

"Molly"  
Gary Fixk

"Roxie"  
Justin & Lamesa  
Miles

"Apache"  
Jennita Wingate

"Buddy"  
David & Mary Jane  
Adam

"Noodles"  
Ron Roberts

"Buddy"  
The Whaley family

"Billy"  
Kelly Tierney

"Baxter"  
Mr. & Mrs. Charles  
Muil

"Elfina"  
Karen Bounds

"Percy"  
Johnny Engelke

"Eleanor"  
Janeen Mason

"Cherry"  
Teresa Mullins

"Gretta"  
Norma Ford

"Charlie"  
Carol & Greg Butler

"Stray"  
Kim Ring

"Barrett"  
Ted Barker

"Chiquita"  
Julie Ritter

"Ethel"  
Linda Songer

"Gigi"  
Mr. & Mrs. Bob Slagle

"Charita"  
Mr. & Mrs. Bob Slagle

"Rowdy"  
The Dodson family

"Smokey"  
Dorothy Brown

## Canyon Creek Animal Hospital Made The Following "In Memory" Donations

"Sophia"  
The Khammash family

"Sashah"  
The McNeal's

"Max"  
The Connell's

"Midnight"  
The Mehaffey family

"Buddy"  
The Whitmire family

"Fritz"  
The Snyder's

"Peeka"  
The Williams family

**WE NEED  
POSTAGE  
STAMPS**





## *In Memory of Beloved Pets*

"Millie" Blankenship  
"our sweet yellow lab"  
by: Mark & Joan  
Blankenship

"Dinky"  
beloved pet of Tommy &  
Casey Parker  
by: Ashley Wilkerson

"Sugar"  
beloved dog of Kristina  
& Roger Beeler  
by: Nancy & Randy  
Shirley

"Coco Marie"  
by: "The Daisies"



"Yasmine"  
beloved companion of Pat  
Feisthamel  
by: Karin Pearson

"Bailey"  
beloved pet of Ric Hart  
by: Jean Gallinger

"Oliver"  
beloved shih-tzu of Chris &  
Jennifer Owen  
by: Betty V. Cantrell

"Rizzo"  
Beloved dog of The Everet's  
by: Paula Fischer

"Tinker"  
beloved dog of Kathy Kelly  
by: Darrell & Donna  
Hardcastle

## *To Honor Animal Lovers & Beloved Pets*

Garrick & Carrie Beach  
Linn  
"A Merry Christmas from  
Dick & Debbie"  
by: Mr. & Mrs. Richard  
Worsham

Martha Chisum's  
"special December birthday"  
by: Roger Platizky

Chisum family  
for Christmas  
by: Roger Platizky

John & Margie McCain  
"Love you guys. Thanks so  
much!"  
by: Susan Stokes

Marsha Kahl  
"Thanks for the wonderful  
care of Danozo"  
by: Sherry Pate

"LACEY"  
"my border collie rescue"  
by: Pam Huffman



### **LINENS GALORE!**

Pictured here is Joe Goblensky with a van filled with towels, sheets, blankets and canned dog food. When Joe read about us in the TEXAS CO-OP MAGAZINE, he decided to enlist neighbors and friends to donate linens for our dogs. We're happy to report that the response was overwhelming. Thanks go out to Joe and his friends for this large donation of linens!



### **THE WOOFs GOTTA EAT!**

It's probably hard for a "layman" to imagine, but the ARFhouse residents consume 400 lbs of dry kibble daily, plus 150 cans of dog food. Paying for this food would bankrupt us. Fortunately, we have wonderful friends & companies who donate all of the food for our animals.

GARTH MERRICK of **MERRICK PETCARE** donates semi-loads of canned product and his wonderful dry dog food whenever we are in need. Their food is high quality and you can see the results in the condition and shape of our dogs.

We also receive large loads of all types of animal products from **CHEWY.COM**. We're able to help our kitty friends with the donated litter and cat food. Dog beds, treats and crates are always in the mix. And tons of their grain free dog food!

## *In Memory of Animal Lovers*

WAYMON MCMACKIN  
beloved husband  
by: Sharon McMackin

JUDY SCHUESSEL  
beloved wife  
by: Charles Schuessel

The following made  
donations in Memory of:  
JUDY KISSEL  
Charles Levi III

Gloria & Lance Brown  
Penny Platt & Wayne  
Benson  
Sharon McCutchin

HELEN WILSON  
SEDLMEIR  
grandmother of Julie  
Scibek Thompson  
by: Dr. & Mrs. Terry Beals

DAN WITT  
by: Sally & Mike Shelton

The following made a  
memorial donation in memory  
of SUZANNE CHAPMAN

Tom & Joanne Fowler  
Sara & Jerry Reid  
Tim & Margie Morris  
Beverly Nelson  
Kristy Douglas  
Robin Bethel  
Amy Whaley  
Amy Ball

The following made a  
memorial donation in memory  
of SHIRLEY MELTON

Bruce Melton & family  
Gary & Marilyn Wallis  
Garry & Peggy Preston  
Billy & Doris Douglas

Kenneth Clay Burt, Jr.  
by: Grayson County Child  
Protective Services



Animal Refuge Foundation  
3377 Spalding Rd.  
Sherman, TX 75092

NONPROFIT  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
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SADLER, TX 76264

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**We appreciate your continued  
support of ARFhouse.**

***Be an ARFhouse Supporter!***

ARFhouse needs and welcomes your donation in any denomination. Every dollar counts and is used for day-to-day operations, care of our animals, and assistance to animals in the community. Your donation is tax deductible. Please send your gift in the enclosed envelope to ARFhouse, 3377 Spalding Rd., Sherman, TX 75092.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**ARFhouse  
DIRECTORS**

Danny Brakebill  
Sally O'Brien  
Martha Hovers  
Stacie Stuart  
Jenna Glover  
*Secretary*  
Roxanne South



**ARFhouse  
Non-Profit  
Organization  
on Facebook**

ARFhouse's newsletter is published by the Animal Refuge Foundation, 3377 Spalding Rd., Sherman, TX 75092. Phone (903) 564-7056. Martha Hovers, Editor.



**Mission  
Statement**

ARFhouse is dedicated to improving the lives of animals through rescue and rehabilitation, spay/neuter and placing into homes with loving guardians.

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TX 75092

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