

PAW PRINTS

Pet Placement Center's
Annual Newsletter
Spring/Summer 2024

SHELTER MANAGER HOPES TO BE THE "VOICE" OF DISCARDED PETS



Heather Meadows Woods joined Pet Placement Center a year ago and recently stepped into a new role as our Shelter Manager. She longed for years to work in animal care again, but it took three back surgeries to make it physically possible.

The Atlanta native was raised in Chattanooga and graduated from Hixson High School. She is married and has two grown children and five grandchildren.

"I've always had a passion for animal care," she said. "My back just wouldn't let me do it...now I'm back where I've always wanted to be."

"We are the 'voice' for unwanted pets," Woods said. "They can only tell us so much through their postures, through their eyes, through their vocals—the barking, the meowing. If it isn't for somebody to care and listen to what they're trying to tell us and to be there for them, these guys are out in the world."

Woods has worked with horses in Knoxville and volunteered and worked at a pair of Alabama veterinarian clinics. She has four dogs, three of whom she adopted from Pet Placement Center. She has spent the last several months socializing one of our shelter dogs—an Australian shepherd mix named Almond Joy—after she spent nearly a year "on the lam," lost in the Red Bank area. Almond Joy has been very anxious and timid around people ever since coming into the shelter (after giving birth to a litter of puppies), but she recently seemed comfortable being bathed for the first time—a huge step forward for her.

Woods says it's heartbreaking to see man's inhumanity toward companion animals. "They are afraid and angry, and it's our job to give them love and compassion and kindness. I get teary eyed talking about it. You see them come in and their tails are tucked between their legs. They're shaking, or they're watching their owner walk out the door... and don't understand why their person is leaving them in a strange place. It's heartbreaking."

One of her missions is to make PPC more visible to the community and to help pet owners understand that most of the time, they can make pet ownership work. "You look at a dog's face, you look in a dog's eyes (cats are different when showing their emotions) and you can pick up on the animal's needs," she said.

Please join us in welcoming Heather to her new position as Pet Placement Center's Shelter Manager!

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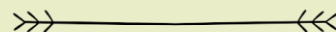
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IT'S RAFFLE TIME!

Help us celebrate 40 years of saving animals by participating in our Annual Raffle. You can now buy tickets through our website and tickets are still **only** \$1 each! The prize list already includes gift cards and certificates from Aubrey's, Sidetrack, Il Primo, Public House, Boathouse, Abuelo's, Miller's Ale House, Jack's, Champy's, Jason's Deli, Regal Cinemas, Target, Amazon, Walmart, Visa, Petsmart, Sophies, and Bark Box—with our grand prize being a 2-night stay at The Barn at Frog Hollow in Delano, TN valued at \$400!

The drawing will be held at the shelter on Sunday, September 22nd, 2024, at 3 PM. You are invited to visit the animals and attend the drawing in person, but you do not need to be present to win. All winners will be contacted by phone or email to claim their prize. We want to thank our community for always supporting us and helping us reach this amazing milestone!

RAFFLE FUNDRAISER



Tickets are \$1 each
50 fabulous prizes



Drawing to be held at 3 p.m.

Sunday, September 22, 2024 at the shelter.

You do not need to be present to win.

Pet Placement Center is a 501(c)3 non-profit



PLACEMENT CENTER
www.petplacementcenter.com



SHELTER UPDATES

IMPROVEMENTS TO OUR FACILITIES

Over the last year, we've made some amazing progress on updating and revitalizing our shelter, and we can't wait to share the outcome with you! Since last summer, we have:

- ✔ Built an outdoor pavilion to cover portions of two of our dog yards, giving our dogs shade in which to lounge; we also added tarps to provide additional shade in each dog yard.
- ✔ Painted our dog kennels in bright, cheery colors, with the help of our pawsome volunteers.
- ✔ Added a new shed on the property, which has given us increased storage capacity and allowed us to declutter.
- ✔ Weeded and replanted our front front gardens and added a seating area, rugs, and plants to our Meet and Greet yard.
- ✔ Added new fans in both cat rooms to improve air flow.

TRAINING AND SHELTER OPERATIONS

In addition to updating and revitalizing our facilities, our staff has also reorganized to create a better environment for exams and vaccines—and we can now do fecal exams in-house!

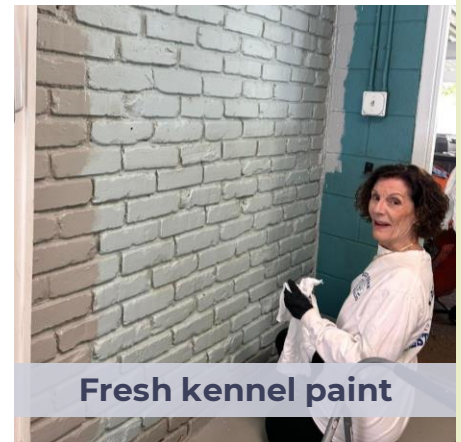
Shelter manager Heather Woods recently attended the Ultimate Cat Conference at True Rescue, where she saw presentations led by experts in the field of feline behavior—including Kitten Lady, Nathan the Cat Lady, Sterling “TrapKing” Davis and many more. She was able to bring a wealth of information about cats back to our shelter!

PPC IN THE COMMUNITY

This spring, our shelter manager and board members met with officials of both McKamey Animal Shelter and Humane Educational Society to discuss animal rescue and learn about their shelter protocols. We have also participated in several community events, including the Red Bank Jubilee, an adoption event with Go Dog Chattanooga, and McKamey's Paw Palooza.

Going forward, Pet Placement Center is scheduled to appear regularly Local 3's 3 Plus You and News Channel 9's This 'N That. Tune in to see our shelter manager talk about upcoming events at the shelter and introduce the community to our adoptable animals!

Finally, we have started a new Facebook page where PPC adopters can share adoption updates for their “PPC alumni”—you can join at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/401704625974912>



Fresh kennel paint



New paint + fans



New carport



Covered play areas

ADOPTABLE PETS



meow



Gilbert: Gilbert is a true survivor! He and his brother were rescued from a local cat colony; they were extremely malnourished. With time and the help of their foster parents, they grew...but Gilbert's brother seemed to grow twice as fast and had a lot more energy than Gilbert. We eventually found out that Gilbert was positive for FIP (Feline Infectious Peritonitis) which until recently has always been fatal. We're happy to report that Gilbert is the second cat we've successfully treated for FIP!

The treatment, though very effective and worthwhile, is long, requiring 84 days of injections. Gilbert is still in "observation status" so will get neutered once he is through that period at the beginning of August. Until then, we would love to get Gilbert into his home to settle with his family and he can officially be adopted once he is fixed.

Gilbert's foster parents say he loves long pets on his back and scratches on his ears, head, and chin. He also loves being held over your shoulder and tucked under your chin. He isn't a fan of pate but likes gravy, chunky beef, and Churus. He likes running water from a sink or a fountain; he will drink water from a bowl but also likes to "play" in it. He loves to play with round fuzzy balls, springs and strings, twisted pipe cleaners, wands, and a flutter fishing pole. He also loves tall cat trees.



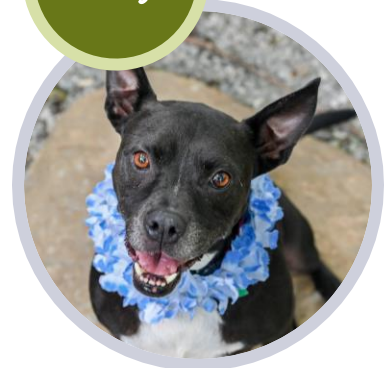
Vader: Believe it or not (we don't) Vader has been awaiting his furever home for more than 200 days! He's a squatty, kissy-face, 50-lb, 6-year-old Bull Terrier mix who loves everyone and everything, from walks to car rides to watching TV (with an emphasis on the latter—he'd make an excellent couch potato). And his underbite is the stuff of legends!

Our volunteer dog walkers can't say enough wonderful things about how sweet Vader is, and, in their words, "ridiculously easy to walk on a leash." Although he's initially a little uncertain about other dogs, he can be convinced to pal around with another friendly canine. Humans, on the other hand, are totally his jam, especially when they're lavishing him with pets, snuggles, and/or treats.

He recently spent a few days in a foster home while our dog kennels were being repainted, and his foster mama confirms that he is "nothing short of perfect" on walks and in a home. In May, Vader was featured on Chattanooga News Channel 9's This n' That, and even the news anchor was mystified that he hasn't been adopted yet. They even dubbed him the "Kiss Lord" (instead of the Sith Lord—play on Darth Vader). Will you help us solve the riddle by giving Vader a loving forever home?



woof



HAPPY TAILS



Matthew

Matthew (f.k.a. Daniel Striped Tiger at PPC) was only two weeks old when he, his mother, and his littermates were tossed into a ditch in a cat carrier. Despite this tragic beginning, he's gone on to live quite a wonderful life since traveling from Tennessee to his new home in Indiana in October 2021!

Matthew's pawrents adopted him for their oldest daughter, with whom he feels in love (and vice versa) on the car ride home. Since then, Matthew has won the County and State Fair Championship for a longhair two years in a row! More importantly, he's become a beloved part of his family and best friend to his human sister, as well as another feline sibling. He is well-loved and oh-so-happy!



Frannie (f.k.a. Portia at PPC) was rescued from a hoarding situation with more than a dozen other dogs, ranging in age from small puppies to adults, living in absolutely deplorable circumstances. She proved difficult to place in a forever home due to behavioral issues stemming from her past trauma and lack of socialization—including severe separation anxiety and a tendency to flee from human touch.

Frannie hit the jackpot when her new mama, who rehabilitates dogs from hoarding situations and puppy mills, saw a post about her on our Facebook page. More than two years after she came to PPC, Frannie is now a happy, well-adjusted doggo who loves her five canine siblings as well as her human sister!



Frannie



Godot

Godot's new paw mama volunteers as a dog walker at PPC, but she also loves cats and had recently lost her own senior cat. After walking dogs for us, she loved to end her day hanging out with the cats and was drawn to Godot in particular. He was a tad aloof, but still appreciated being sought out for pets. He was not a lap cat, which actually worked in his favor, as his mom already had a lap dog who wasn't keen on competition.

Godot transitioned into his new home almost seamlessly, quickly befriending his 10-year-old canine sibling but still respecting his "space." He loves to play with his human and curl up with her at night; he'll sometimes sneak attack his canine brother, but never uses his claws. He's been a purrfect fit for his new home!

IN MEMORY

IN MEMORY OF PEOPLE

Jane Aytes

Linda Boyd
Nancy Watkins

Joe Barack

William Leiber

Bob Barker

David Smotherman

Jean Biddle

Meredith Brook

Kelli Bland

Richard Bland

Kenneth Bundshu

Liz Fish

James Cagnassola

Karen Loughry

Rex Card

Mitchell Shelton
Construction Inc.
Sarah Edgemon
Suzy McKenna
Michael Middleton
Ronald Patch
Kim Reynolds

Ruth Caruthers

Katheryn Adams
Jennifer Allen
Rosalene Coleman
Nancy Dobbs
Susie Henley and the
Plugge Family
Sharon Klemm
Anita Kupcho
Kathy Slaten
David Timms
Melissa Tupps

Ron Crawford

Scott & Melissa Hale
Darren Hodges
Anna Shoemaker
Jacob Hutchings
Angela Smith

Katherine Dowdy

Judith Ekiss

Delores Jett Farr

John & Sharon Adams
Robin Godsey
Rich Greene
Tommy Layne

Lu Farmer

Martha Attaway
Bob & Darlene Doak
William & Deborah Haisten
Dawn King & Jazzercise Family
Bill & Donna Killian
Vicki & Bear McGinnis
Cindy Messerly
Helen Pregulman
Mary Smith
Pat Sylvester
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Commissioners

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Marie Levine

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Ali Dudek
Pat Hartje
Genee Howell
Vickie Hurley
Mitzi Huskins
Robert & Karen Kupcho
Rebecca McBride
Ruth & Ernie Rinder
Kathy Slaten

Leslie Jones

The Raines Group, Inc.

Tommy Layne

Hillary and Stewart Hornor

Judi Lewis

Molly Cooper
Laura Glassell
Kimberly Greuter
Robin Rudd
Kathy Slaten
Chuck Wasserstrom

Jack M. Love

Toony Lincoln

Lucy Campbell McBryar

Carolyn A Mulford

Carolyn McCrary

Patricia Jones
Judith Riggan
June Thompson

David McKenna

Suzy McKenna

Buford H Meadows

Karen Stinson

Carolyn Oliver

Rebecca Williams Connelly

Sara Pickett

Red Bank Baptist Church
Suzanne Foster
Jack & Jimmie Holloway

Prasert Paenghom

Toony Lincoln

Mae Ryon

Karen Nasco

Emily Schreiber

Ed Hill

Joni Sharp

Sandra Barnick
Jennie Bartoletti
Katheryn Beasley
Timothy Chris Burnette
Amy Conrad
Connie Dieringer
Sarah Dunsmore
Alex Eichner
Nichon Grupka
Ron & Mary Anne Lovell
Suzanne Pesnell
Janelle Reilly
Leigh Sanders
Gregg & Lisa Shander
Lynn Talbott
Jayme Upton
Genie Whitesell
Susan Williams
Sophie Workman Johnson

IN HONOR

IN MEMORY OF PEOPLE

Bobby Slaten

Rebecca Mayo

Susanna

John & Ethel Schorn

Teresa Sylvester

Lori Dautrich
Margaret McCutcheon

Cliff Yeager

Barbara Northcut

Mom & Sister

Willie Jean Folkner

IN MEMORY OF PETS

Anders and Mr. Bingley,

Sharon Haas

Apollo von Klar,

Barbara Dupree

Birdie,

Roman Lehnhoff

Bugsy,

Preston Cox

Data, Apollo and Sasha,

Paula Morgan

Effie,

Joe Davis Jr.

Fawkes,

Stephanie Culberson

NOLA & Swezey,

Brian Klapman

Fritzzy,

Sally Narey

Harley, a very special dog,

Raymond Murray

Honey,

Jane Geoffrion

Kirby,

Kim Ogle

Kylie,

Peggy Pisanick

Moose,

Michael Bell

The Old Man in the Woods,

Linda Boyd

Onyx,

Susan Jennings

Poppy,

Natalie Blackwell

Princess Daisy,

Katie Dyer

Skipper Cox,

Susan Anderson

Smoochie & Pippa (Venus),

Vickie Jordan

Star Harmon,

Erin Rountree

Torch,

Donna Butler

Turk,

Ann Foltz

Twitch,

Margie Patterson

William,

Jenny Hafley

Pets lost to Hawaii Wildfires,

Alena Miller

IN HONOR OF PEOPLE

Jenny Bieter

Marty Roberts

Becky Cameron

Thomas Edwards

Dena Coblentz

Victoria Carver

Maryann Davis

Andrew Davis

Judy L Dautrich

Lori Dautrich

Alexis Devine

Mary Robinette Kowal

Doug & Beth Gray

Daniel Leland

Karen Horton

Jenna Wiley

Hamilton Family Dentistry

Charity Phipps

Erin Jordan

Melinda Marwede

Kelly Klimecki

Suellen Gibson

Haley Johnson

Meg

Thomas Morley

Mike & MaryBeth Lester

Judith Lester

Debby Swanger & David Lloyd

Jen, Molly, Lisa & Kayla

John & Carolyn McCrea

Irene Ozbek Ph.D.

Zofia Phillips

Alicia Manning

Pippi

Annie Ling

Chrissy Radcliffe

Gregory Howard

Barbara Stewart

Hope Walker

Kate Skonberg

Julie Goss

Taylor Swift

Alexis Chilcott

Laura Higbee

Ashley Lain

Lisa Smith

Tina Thurman

Anne Fricker

Cindy Wachendorfer

Vickie Jordan

Della Roberts & Robert Weaver

Larimore Roberts

Dr. Michael Wilkie

Nancy Evans

IN HONOR OF PETS

Chance the Cat,

Kimberly Greuter

Eleanor,

Ginger Gibson

Matilda,

Jennifer Berkowitz

Penny,

Geoffrey Climer

Picasso,

Barbara C. Dupree

Pumpkin Flowers,

Taylor Vossooghi

Rico,

Suril Patel

Rikki & Conan,

Clinton & Stephanie Smullen



Tennessee Humane Animal League
5975 Dayton Blvd.
Chattanooga, TN 37415

ABOUT US

ABOUT PET PLACEMENT CENTER

Tennessee Humane Animal League is a 501(c)3 organization devoted to the placement of recently surrendered animals through Pet Placement Center (PPC). We are a privately operated facility and the oldest no-kill adoption center in Hamilton County. We survive entirely on donation and fundraising activities. Once an animal is left in our care, it will remain safe with us until they are adopted into a responsible, permanent home.

OUR MISSION

We strive to reduce animal suffering by promoting diligent animal care through education and example; to find responsible homes for animals in need; to promote spaying or neutering to reduce overpopulation; and to emphasize responsible guardianship.

 **IT'S ALL ABOUT THE ANIMALS** 

Follow us on Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter!

