



Americans spend about \$5 billion on holiday presents for their furry friends.

(Statistics: American Humane)

64% of surveyed pet owners said they include news about their pet, and 36% include a photograph in their holiday cards.

(Statistics: American Humane)



Picture taken by: Crooked Cactus Photography, Heather Pitts

Make a difference this season

Make a donation to the Brazos Animal Shelter

By giving up a Starbucks drink once a week for a month, you could donate over \$30 a month to the animals.

You can donate in honor/memory of someone or just because.

What do you give that person that has everything? Donate in honor of their birthday/holiday present.

Find out more about donating on our website:

www.brazosanimalshelter.org/donate.html

Autumn—a time for change: the weather gets cooler, the leaves change color, and football games consume our weekends. The Brazos Animal Shelter is undergoing changes as well: we have moved to peaceful 17.5 acres, the dogs and cats have their own buildings, and we have new programs and services. Of course that move came with its own set of challenges: moving after being in the same location for nearly 30 years, parting ways with the City of Bryan, and building new facilities in a relatively short period of time with the seed money for our dream shelter. Through all of the recent challenges, though, we remain committed to our mission of helping the homeless pets in our community find their forever homes. Our dedicated staff have adapted to our new home, and we have been able to reduce the euthanasia rate.

During this new beginning for us, we need your continued support to meet our mission. We can always use monetary and material donations, but we also appreciate people who can foster animals in their homes, volunteer at the Shelter, and attend Shelter events. Your donations help us take care of sick and injured animals, offset the cost of spay/neuter surgery, and keep the adoption prices low. Please check our website frequently for our current needs, adoptable animals, and special events. We encourage you to come visit us at our new property, so we can show you around. Again, thank you for supporting the Brazos Animal Shelter!

The 2011 Board of Directors

5359 Leonard Rd



The Brazos Animal Shelter provides humane shelter and care for stray and unwanted animals. Our varied services are designed to promote responsible pet ownership and to enhance the quality of life for the people and animals in our community.

Getting In Touch

Physical Address:

5359 Leonard Road
Bryan, Texas 77807

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 392
Bryan, Texas 77806

Phone (979) 775-5755

Fax (979) 822-0411

Hours of Operation

Monday – Friday

11am – 6pm

Saturday

11am – 3pm

Sunday

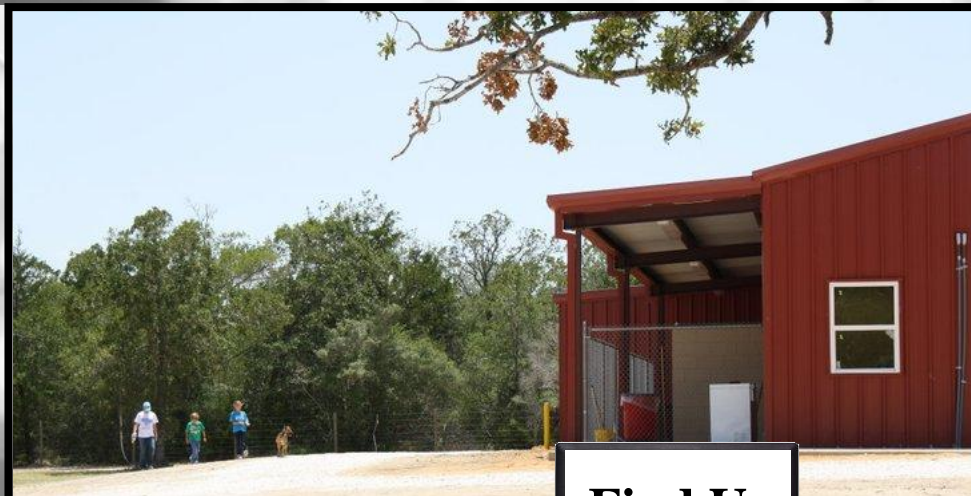
Closed

Holidays & Closed Days

Thanksgiving
(November 24-25)

Christmas
(December 24-25)

New Years
(December 31 – January 1)



**Find Us
Online**

 www.brazosanimalshelter.org

 twitter.com/brazosanimals

 facebook.com/brazosanimalshelter

 flickr.com/photos/brazosanimalshelter



Happy Tails

Send us your "Happy Tail" to bascontact@brazosanimalshelter.org



Fusion, adopted August 2001



Bear, adopted '11



Charlie, adopted '09



Shipley, adopted '11

Truth is...I may have rescued her, but she saved me ♥
Ashley about Flower (adopted 2010)

I first met Journey back in August of this year while attending a local agility class with one of my other dogs. After spending several weeks at the Brazos Animal Shelter, Journey was being sponsored by the shelter to attend the basic agility class with the hopes of making him a dog more suitable for adoption. The first time I saw him I knew he was unique. Physically he can easily be mistaken for a wild coyote with his bristly brindle hair, big ears, and lanky stride. He is extremely athletic; every move he makes is distinctively animated and fast. It is obvious that he is a mix of several different working breeds. The most obvious, to me at least, is Australian Shepherd and Border Collie; both of which are well known for their athletic abilities, diverse herding skills, and high drive to work and please.

I was curiously attracted to Journey after watching him work through the agility class, and after getting to know his loving, overly self-confident personality. My wife Ashley and I decided we would foster him with the hopes of finding him a good home and to get him out of the shelter. It took less than one week for us to fall in love with him. Upon hearing that someone was interested in him, we quickly decided that he belonged with our family and we adopted him. He became my new running partner, running 4 to 5 miles with me on a daily bases, keeping in stride throughout the entire run. He continued to excel in his agility class, so much so that I began to believe that he might have had previous agility training in his past life before ending up at the shelter. I quickly realized that I had to find a way to continuously challenge this dog by keeping him occupied and working, or he would figure out away to occupy himself by most likely destroying everything I owned.

I have always been captivated by the working abilities of Search and Rescue (SAR) dogs. Shortly after September 11, 2001, more and more news reports were coming out about how dogs were aiding in the search and recovery of missing people in the rubble at ground zero.

Dogs and their handlers worked countless hours searching for survivors while others searched for the remains of those lost. Thinking back to that time, I began doing research on how to start training a SAR dog and what all it would entail. I started doing basic drills with Journey and quickly saw that he had the drive and motivation to search, so I started contacting local organizations for advice and mentorship to insure I was setting Journey up for success.

HIS JOURNEY

As of today, Journey has been participating in SAR training for over a month. I chose to concentrate his training on specializing in the recovery of human remains due to his high scent drive, and to the higher probability that he will be able to work once he is certified. Searching for human remains is not an easy task, nor is the training. In order for the dog to be properly imprinted with the scent of human remains, you have to train with actual bio-hazardous material. Journey has quickly caught on to identifying the distinct odor of human decomposition. We have trained with everything from samples of fresh human blood, dried blood that is several years old, human teeth and bones, and body fluids that are distinctly associated with human decomposition. Journey can now identify a scent that is hidden more than a quarter mile away, follow it to its source, and pinpoint its exact origin using a passive alert by lying down next to the source. This is with less than one month of scent training.

Journey has completely changed my life in the very short time period that he has been part of our family. I no longer need an alarm clock because he will lick and chew on my arm starting at exactly 5:30 every morning until I get up to take him for a walk, and he won't go to bed unless we go for an evening walk or run. I can't imagine him being anywhere else but here. My hope is that one-day Journey will be able to use his abilities to touch the lives of others by providing some sort of closure to the families of deceased victims. Journey is truly remarkable and is the perfect example of how a "second-chance" dog can become a lifelong companion, and lovable addition to a family. I hope Journey's story will help future pet owners chose to adopt from their local shelters.

Adopt love. Don't buy it.

- Blanton Smith





Kroger Share Card
 Neighbor-to-Neighbor
 Program

We received over \$500 last year!

For more info: www.brazosanimalshelter.org

Time to
 re-register
 at Kroger!

**Your donations
 save lives.**

For more information on how
 to make a difference in a life,
 contact the Shelter or go to
 our website (click on Donations).



Brazos Animal Shelter
 5359 Leonard Road
 PO Box 392
 Bryan, Texas 77806

NON PROFIT ORG
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 BRYAN, TX
 Permit #240

Join us around the Brazos Valley for our Fall/Winter Events

Santa's Wonderland – Every Saturday from Thanksgiving through Christmas. The shelter will be in Santa's Town from Open – 9pm.

12 Days of Christmas – Give-a-Ways, adoption specials and so much more.

Profit-Shares – Shop and give to the animals!

Charming Charlie – Every first Friday of the month, shop and 10% of your total will be donated to BAS

Make sure to check out our website for more information



VOLUNTEER

Are you interested in getting involved in your community? One of the most rewarding places to volunteer is the animal shelter. The Brazos Animal Shelter is always in need of volunteers whether you are able to spend a few hours a week, come in once a month or stop by daily. Orientations are held on Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 5:30pm.



We have the greatest supporters!



The Brazos Animal Shelter recently had two boys come to the Shelter with all of their pennies to donate to the homeless pets. All their pennies added up to \$8!

Every penny makes a difference.