



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE –

November 1, 2011

Animal Control

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Scooter the Paralyzed Dog Finds New Home

FAYETTEVILLE, NC – Scooter, the paralyzed dog who was rescued and fitted with a donated wheelchair by the Cumberland County Animal Shelter, has found a new home. Theresa Rejent of Harnett County adopted Scooter on Saturday, Oct. 30, after paying a \$79 adoption fee and agreeing to have the dog neutered. The Animal Shelter released Scooter to Rejent after her veterinarian provided a positive reference for her ability to care for the special needs dog.

Scooter, a Border collie mix estimated to be about 2 years old, was reported to Animal Control in September after a resident saw the dog trying to drag himself by his front legs. Scooter is paralyzed from the waist down. Officials at Animal Control do not know how Scooter became handicapped. The dog became mobile again with the help of a special wheelchair, donated free of charge from Florida-based www.handicappedpets.com

Angela Chalker, volunteer coordinator for the Cumberland County Animal Shelter, said Rejent called to check on Scooter, and then asked to become an adoption candidate for the dog. Chalker said after checking with Rejent's veterinarian, the decision was made for her to take Scooter home. Rejent has experience caring for handicapped dogs.

"She took excellent care of her dogs and had one who lived to be 20 years old," Chalker said. "She was an absolutely great candidate."

Even though Scooter found a permanent home, Chalker said there were tears in the room when the dog left the shelter for the last time with his new owner.

"We're happy he has a new home, but we cried when he left, even some of the guys," Chalker said.

Scooter is not the only animal in need of a loving home or even temporary foster car. There are dozens of adoptable dogs and cats at the Cumberland County Animal Shelter.

"Scooter was a great dog, but we have many more beautiful animals that need homes," Chalker said.

You can see these animals online at http://www.co.cumberland.nc.us/animal_control/adoptable_animals.aspx. Or you can call (910) 321-6852 for more information.



Kris Thompson, a shelter attendant with the Cumberland County Animal Shelter, gives Scooter a hug before the dog goes home with his new adopted owner, Theresa Rejent of Harnett County. Scooter is paralyzed from the waist down and gets around with the aid of a donated wheelchair. Scooter had been at the Animal Shelter since September, after a citizen reported him dragging himself by his front legs.



Scooter prepares to go home with Theresa Rejent of Harnett County after Cumberland County Animal Shelter workers bid the paralyzed dog goodbye.