

PETS: Birthday for shelter pets



Zeus(already lucky enough to have been adopted!!!!!!)

By [RONNIE CASEY](#) |

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For many of the animals who wind up in shelters, their birthdates are unknown. While staff might be able to estimate their age, it is never known for sure. When they finally get their forever homes, the new family gives them a date, like the day they were adopted, as their birthday.

To help correct this situation, the North Shore Animal League in 2008 decided to declare August 1 the national birthday day for shelter and rescue dogs. It is known as DOGust. A made-up birthday celebration for dogs whose birthdays are unknown. So, even though Aug. 1 has passed, there is absolutely no reason why we cannot celebrate all month long and pick our favorite shelter or rescue and some of their animals (cats included) to post and share. Let's see how many we can get adopted.

And to help celebrate these fantastic animals, we are also doing a little giveaway here at PETS If you share your dog's (or cat's) adoption story and birthdate with us, you will have a chance to win a special gift basket.

As many of you are aware, and for those of you that are not, my favorite shelter is the Tehama County Animal Care Center at 1830 Walnut Street, Red Bluff, 527-3439. It is a small place that does big things. If you have never visited, I strongly suggest that you do. It is not a place of doom and gloom, and I think you will agree that it is, instead, quite the opposite. Even if you do not wish to adopt, foster, or volunteer, which all of us would love to see you do, at least visit and get to know the tiny building and the people within that manage to serve all of Tehama County. I believe you will be as impressed as I am.

Deserving Pets Rescue is among my favorite rescues. Located in Red Bluff (www.deservingpetsrescue.com), they are also dedicated to saving the lives of the abandoned, injured and sick pets of the County. This small group has accomplished some amazing miracles. For example, Moira came into the center in pretty rough shape. Not only was she practically blind from untreated dry eye and a foxtail, she also had ear infections, abscessed teeth, and at over 10 years old was pregnant. I did not hesitate in rescuing her and mere hours after being transferred to their care she had four beautiful babies. Deserving Pets has had many other wonderful outcomes

and have some special animals available now for adoption. If you cannot find what you are looking for at the center, then get in touch with Deserving Pets.

I have so many “favorite” animals at the center that it is difficult to pick just a few. But there are always those that grab your heart and won't let go. One is Hazel (05-16-19-0). I cannot fathom why this striking brindle Shepherd mix is still at the shelter. Simply put, she is a beautiful girl with a beautiful soul. She adores giving kisses, thrives on affection, likes to play and would be the perfect addition to a family.

Aladdin (06-05-19-7) lost the only home he had ever known. However, this handsome, gentle boy with the silkiest fur is the mellowest of cats and desires nothing more than for someone to pet and scratch him under his chin. He has been at the Center for 58 days, and the only reasons he has not been adopted yet, I believe, is that he is black and no longer looks like a kitten.

For such a playful young boy, Curtis (04-15-19-04) surprises you on how well he can focus his attention. Full of personality and very intelligent he knows a number of commands. Of course, it helps that he loves treats and easily catches them when tossed. Having been at that center for almost 4 months, he gets a bit restless in his kennel, but if you take him out to the play yard, I guarantee he will become your favorite, too.

It would be hard not to fall head over heels for Zeus (06-27-19-10), a handsome fella with crystal blue eyes. Okay, maybe those eyes are crossed, but they definitely add a certain sense of whimsy to his overall happy personality. He adores attention and is eager to please. All this dog wants, like so many of the others, is a family to call his own.

Last, but not least is “Good Boy Roy” (06-06-19-02). At present Roy is in foster care only because he needs to be able to run, play, and get all the exercise and companionship this energetic fellow needs. If you saw him now, out of the shelter, you would not believe it was the same dog. Having a foster network is unbelievably important. Pets who do not thrive in a shelter have a much better chance to become healthy and happy. Fosters are not only heroes to the animals, they are also heroes to everyone involved.

Don't forget to share your dog's (or cat's) adoption story (and hopefully a picture) with us, to win a special gift basket. All you need to do is either post the story to our Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/PETSTehama>) or email it to petstehama@gmail.com. Be sure to include contact information. The winner will be announced on Aug. 31. Happy DOGust everyone.
