



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE –

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Animal Control

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County Shelter Saves Paralyzed Dog, Seeks Special Home

FAYETTEVILLE, NC – A paralyzed dog rescued by the Cumberland County Animal Control Shelter has received a wheelchair, thanks to a donation from a handicapped pet organization. Now, officials at the shelter are hoping this special needs animal can become a therapy dog for handicapped people.

Scooter, a Border collie mix estimated to be about two years old, was reported to Animal Control after a resident saw the dog trying to drag himself by his front legs. Scooter is paralyzed from the waist down. Lead Shelter Attendant Jennifer Tracey said it is not known how Scooter became disabled.

“He came in with terrible drag sores. He has obviously been paralyzed for a while,” said Tracey. “All we know is he can’t use his hind legs.”

Scooter’s wounds have almost healed and he has quickly learned how to get around in his new wheelchair, which holds up the lower part of his body. Tracey said she contacted the online organization, www.handicappedpets.com, and the animal shelter was offered a wheelchair free of charge.

Now that Scooter is mobile again, the goal of Animal Control is to find a way for Scooter to help people with disabilities.

“Our hope is for Scooter to be a therapy dog for children in wheelchairs, or handicapped people,” Tracey said. “He seems to have the right personality for it.”

If Scooter cannot be used as a therapy dog, an owner who is willing to commit to his special needs can adopt him.

“The wheelchair goes with him when he is adopted,” said Tracey. “We are emphasizing for potential adopters that Scooter needs a special kind of care.”

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



Scooter, a paralyzed dog who is now moving around with the help of a donated wheelchair, is looking for a home.

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