

Otto is shelter mascot

The Randolph County Animal Shelter is happy to announce the appointment of a new mascot! Those of you who are our Facebook friends may have already heard about him. He has been with us for several weeks and enjoyed a trip to the Cardboard Boat Races on May 11. We are very excited to have this excellent addition to our family. We have decided to let him tell more about himself. Enjoy!

My full name is Otto Von Bismarck, since as half Rottweiler I'm of German heritage, but you can just call me Otto. My other half is Alaskan Malamute. I was only four pounds when my parents adopted me in July 2005. I got up to 145 pounds but my Mom said that was too chubby, so now I'm a healthy 125.

My favorite treats are apples, cantaloupes and dill pickles.

I like the water okay as long as it doesn't get past my neck. I like to play with beetles, but when they get stuck between the porch planks I get sad and whine. I can catch a ball pretty well but I'm not really interested in playing fetch.

Some people see how big I am and think I must be a mean guy but the joke is on them. I'm all



about love—whether you're a cat, a puppy, a dog, or even a baby human.

I've had a pretty good life but, like most everyone else, I've had a few rough patches. I lost my dad a couple of years ago. He spent a lot of time with me and we had a special bond so that has been pretty tough. Then, I got cancer and had to have surgery. That was scary but I was courageous about it. Now, I have one less toe on my right front foot; but I think it's good to be different.

My life has changed a lot lately, but I'm up for the challenge. I've met so many nice new people since I moved to the shel-

ter. There are always a lot of people around to give me attention and that works out very nicely for me. I try to help out with guarding the puppies and looking out for the cats. It's also my job to greet all the humans coming into the shelter. They say I'm doing a great job. The only time I get in trouble is when they have to clean my drool off the door for the fifth or sixth time that day.

I love to meet new folks, so if you have the time come and see me and my friends at the Randolph County Animal Shelter... and bring some apple slices if you don't mind.