

# Sandy Paws

a halifax humane society publication



**Grand Opening  
Main Campus**

**Summer Camp  
is Back!**

**Success Stories**



Image from  
Summer Camp  
2019



# Message from

## THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

The pages of this magazine serve to celebrate humanity and the important role that an “Open-Admission” shelter plays in our community. After the success of our “Reimagining the Future of our Community’s Animals” campaign and the grand opening of our newly renovated campus, much has improved in the “bones of our facility”. But the heart of our mission has never wavered; *Halifax Humane Society never refuses care to an animal in need.*

In the months following our renovation, our programs have expanded in size and impact, serving more animals and people in our community than ever before. Independently we have crafted these specific programs to our region, to serve in good times and bad. Whether it’s the professionals behind our Culler Boarding and Grooming Travel Center or volunteer based Storm Troopers activated during a hurricane, Halifax Humane Society stands ready to respond when needed. Many examples of this commitment follow in the pages ahead.

Emergencies and real life issues do not discriminate by age, background or looks. We believe that an organization with “Humane” in its titles shouldn’t either. Accepting every animal that comes to our door without prejudice means we specialize in the tough cases, and we need your help! As Halifax Humane Society enters a new era with its recently renovated campus and added services, we invite you to celebrate one of the few remaining open-admission animal welfare organizations in Florida. You can help us in this mission by volunteering, taking advantage of our many services, becoming a donor or choosing us as your first stop for pet retail. Most importantly, help us spread our values we know you share by reminding others of the importance of Spaying & Neutering and to “Adopt, not Shop”. Our work is far from over, but with a new facility and our constantly growing array of programs we are better equipped to serve those that need us.

Come help us lend a hand to the paws in need,



Miguel Abi-hassan  
CEO  
Halifax Humane Society



## Halifax Humane Society Programs & Services

- Admissions
- Adoption Center
- All Animal Intake Center Including Domestic Animals, Wildlife, and Exotics
- Animal Behavior Counseling
- Animal Care/Protection Information and Call Center
- Community Dog Park
- Contract Services for Municipalities
- Cruelty Investigation Resources, Training & Transfers
- Disaster Response
- Dog Obedience Group Classes
- Education & School Visits
- Emergency Medical Fund
- GEM Membership
- Grief Counseling
- Mission-based Pet Retail Store
- Leadership & Career Development
- Lee C. & Patricia Culler Boarding, Grooming, & Travel Center
- Legislative Advocacy
- Lost Pet Database
- Meet Your Match
- Memorial and Honorariums
- Multi-Level Community Humane Education
- Off-Site Adoption Program
- Off-Site Thrift Store
- Pet Assisted Therapy
- Pet Cremation Services
- Pet Health Insurance
- Pet Microchipping
- Planned Giving Programs (Gift of Estates, Stocks, Insurance, Property)
- Prison Pups N Pals/Paws of Freedom
- Public Appearances
- Redinger Low Cost Spay/Neuter Program
- SAFER Assessment Program
- Shelter for Aggressive/Quarantined/Investigation Case Animals
- Shelter Tours
- Shelter Transfer Program
- Special Events, Yappy Hours, Community Outreach Events, & Third Party Events
- Special Needs Pet Foster Program
- Sponsor Opportunities (Events, Bricks, Kennels, Naming Opportunities)
- Volunteer Program 2.0
- Wildlife Triage & Rehabilitator Transfer



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### HALIFAX HUMANE SOCIETY

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[www.halifaxhumanesociety.org](http://www.halifaxhumanesociety.org)

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## Our new services now available



Meet Your Match Cabanas



Mission-based Retail Area



Boarding, Grooming, Travel Ctr.



Public Dog Park



Get Acquainted Courtyard



Critter Room



*Halifax Humane Society exists to protect animals from cruel, neglectful and exploitative treatment. It is the belief of the Society that all living creatures possess an intrinsic value, which is manifested in its creation. Further, the Society believes that mankind must become a responsible steward of animals which he has domesticated and brought under his control.*





*The front of the main campus building is open for business at the Lohman Pet Adoption Center.*



*Over 600 people joined the celebration and explored the newly updated main corridor including the Meet Your Match Cabanas.*

# GRAND OPENING!

The final phase of renovation is complete! Over 600 people attended the Celebration ceremony on June 29th.

The renovation is complete and our supporters came out in droves to celebrate a milestone that has been in process over the last three-years.

Lowell & Nancy Lohman, Capital Campaign Chair spearheaded the fundraising efforts of the campaign committee, while personally donating over \$1.0 million dollars.

The renovation has already produced very positive results including increased foot traffic, adoptions of all animal types including dogs, cats, and critters. The Meet Your Match Cabanas have allowed customers to interact with their pet prior to adoption.

We would like to thank all of our Capital Campaign donors who helped us raise the \$3.6 million required for this renovation. Without their support we would not be able to reimagine our facilities to better serve the animals and our customers.

If you haven't visited HHS since the grand opening, please make a plan to come by soon. We are so much more than a shelter. We are a public dog park, a boarding, grooming & travel center, a pet adoption center, a spay/neuter clinic, a thrift store, and much more!

To see a timeline of photos from start to finish, visit <http://bit.ly/HHSreno>



*Mission based retail items caught the eye of many visitors to the expanded retail area featuring Blackwood pet foods, flea and tick medications, collars, bowls, leashes, and much more.*



*Capital Campaign Chair Nancy Lohman, her husband Lowell, and their dog Snowball.*



# Happy Tails!



*Of the 7,000 plus animals that enter our doors each year, many need medical and special attention. Here are just a few success stories that demonstrate how our veterinary services save lives.*



Pancake was brought in by animal control having a deep cut around her neck due to a chain that was far too tight. The wound was treated and sutured. Pancake was adopted 10/3/2019. Best of luck in your new home!



Found wandering on the street, this cat had multiple cuts and wounds all over its' body. We are not sure what happened, but it appears he was in a fight with some other animals.



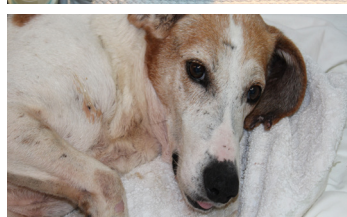
The veterinary staff cleaned and treated the wounds of the cat and placed him in a foster care home until he fully recovered. In this case, the foster ended up adopting the cat and all are very happy!



Tango had a part of his tongue either bitten off or injured by a sharp object. Dr. Green sutured the tongue and Tango made a full recovery.



Many animals are brought in with major injuries or ailments including growths, tumors, body wounds, eye and ear injuries, broken legs, burns, etc. Some animals hit by a vehicle require an amputation. Our veterinary staff performs all of these services to give the animals another chance of a forever home.



This cat came to the shelter with Entropion, a genetic condition in which a portion of the eyelid is inverted or folded inward against the eyeball. This ailment is very painful for the cat. Fortunately, it is a fairly uncomplicated procedure to fix. The cat looked very surprised for a few days after the surgery (eyes wide open), but fully recovered and was adopted.



# We love happy tails!



(Continued from page 5)

Remember that Golden Retriever who was abandoned and weighed under 50 lbs.? Here is an update. His name is Bentley and he is now our Community Outreach Director's pet. Here is his before picture when he was so



skinny and had hardly any hair. It took about 5-months to get Bentley back to a healthy weight and to regrow his hair. He was fed 3 cups

of food 3 times a day for about 2 months and now he weighs 77 lbs. Here is a picture of Bentley as he looks today.



After some training, he was offered the position of ambassador dog and he gladly accepted. Bentley attends many events for HHS including visiting schools and, he was a big hit at our Summer Camp.

Never judge a book by its cover. Many dogs like Bentley are overlooked at the shelter because they have flea bitten bodies or act very withdrawn in their kennels and are thus considered unsociable. Always take an animal out of their kennel to get a peek into their real personality. They usually act totally different and can be the best dog ever; like Bentley.



One of our newer programs is the Dolly's Dream Dog project. Dolly's Dream is a project to encourage the adoption of our "bully breeds" and to help counter the unfortunate stereotypes and myths that some people still believe about these dogs. Halifax Humane Society finds homes and new families for thousands of these dogs



Piglet and her new dad.

each year. They are adopted by a wide variety of people – single people, couples, grandparents and families with children of all ages.



Sterling and his new dad.

Dolly's Dream offers a grant that pays for the dogs adoption fee, spay/neuter, microchip, vaccinations, and over \$400.00 of supplies, food, and other services. Since being awarded the first grant over a year ago, HHS has adopted over 36 Dolly's Dream dogs.

As one of the few open admission shelters in Florida, we accept more bully breeds than other rescues and shelters. Every dog is evaluated and deserving of a good home, Dolly's Dream helps further support eligible adopters.



Marley with her new family.

This partnership is a real "dream" come true for homeless dogs around our community. Come meet your dream dog today!



# Hurricane Dorian Bahama Dogs Come to HHS

When Hurricane Dorian hit the Bahama islands, it displaced people and animals alike. 20 dogs were evacuated to Florida and HHS acted as transport coordinator to fly the dogs to New York.

HHS deployed a team of volunteers and staff members to provide intake exams, a good nights' rest, and transport to Daytona Beach International Airport.

Thanks to everyone who helped save these dogs from devastation and starvation.



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# Letter from the Chief Financial & Development Officer Planning Ahead

Dear Cherished Friends and Supporters,

The recent hurricane humbled me a little as I realized how unprepared I was. Living in Florida for the majority of my adult life, owning the same home for 20 years, you would think I would be ready except for stocking up on food. I doubt I am alone. Why do we wait to the last minute to address the safety of family, pets, and property? Thankfully Dorian moved at a snail's pace and I was able to gather necessary supplies. This time gratefully we were spared from any catastrophic loss. What now? Will I get organized in advance of the next event? Or is this yet another opportunity to procrastinate longer?

The good thing about hurricanes, if that can even be said, is we have time to prepare with some urgency making it our priority. Preparing for the unexpected is very different and obviously even more critical for the protection of your family. As I impatiently waited for whatever Dorian would bring, I began to ponder bigger issues - my estate plans. Would my children voluntarily care for my beloved rescue animals? Do I have provisions in my will to financially provide for their care? Which charity would perpetuate the essence of my life and what I valued with a final gift through my estate? Clearly, I have some work to do to ensure that I am ready for whatever comes next in my life. What about you? Do you have a will? Is it up to date? Will you make Halifax Humane Society part of your legacy?

Join me along with Mel Stack, an expert in estate planning and elder law, for a **Lunch and Learn, Friday, November 8<sup>th</sup>** where you will learn about the latest legislation impacting estate plans and have the opportunity to ask questions.

Reservations are required as space is limited.

Email [PamC@HalifaxHumaneSociety.org](mailto:PamC@HalifaxHumaneSociety.org)

*Pam*



Pam Clayton  
Chief Financial & Development Officer

P.S. Be strategic for tax planning - consider a charitable gift, an IRA charitable rollover gift, a gift of appreciated stock, or make a future planned gift through your estate plans to help save more lives through Halifax Humane Society.



*(Shown above, is my hound dog Blossom. I rescued her and she has been a blessing to our home.)*



# SAVE THE DATE!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Halloween Spooktacular Yappy Hour!

**October 23, 2019**

Come join us for the Yappy Hour of the Year! Always a great way to celebrate Halloween with your pets. Costume contest, and more! Hosted by 424 Bistro in Venetian Bay. 5:30 to 7:30 pm. \$15.00 for two drinks and light appetizers. All proceeds go to the animals!

### RiverGrille on the Tomoka Yappy Hour

**November 13, 2019**

Join us for Yappy Hour at the RiverGrille. A great location on the river to bring your best friend for a fun night out. 5:30 to 7:30 pm. \$15.00 for two drinks and light appetizers. All proceeds go to the animals!

### 10th Annual Fur Ball December 12, 2019

The gala of the year! Fur Ball is our premier fundraising event, and this year's theme is a Masquerade Ball. Guests will enjoy dinner and drinks, live entertainment, fabulous live and silent auction items, and the famous Chocolate Lounge. This event sold out the last two years, so don't wait! Get your tickets today and help us raise over \$100,000 for the HHS animals.

### Dog Park on Ice January 8, 2020

Join the fun on January 8th from 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm for our Luau themed Dog Park on Ice! Costume contests, raffles, and dogs playing on the ice make this fundraising event one of the most favored for owners and their dogs.

### Community Events:

Turkey Rod Run- Thanksgiving 11/28 - 12/1  
PetSmart National Adoption Event 11/8 - 11/12  
Holly Hill Parade 12/7



*Visit our website and Facebook page for up-to-date information about our fundraising and adoption events as well as our third party events with our local business partners.*



# Storm Troopers to the Rescue!



**Performance for Your Post**

71,767 People Reached

3,279 Reactions, Comments & Shares

1,087 Like	267 On Post	820 On Shares
420 Love	115 On Post	305 On Shares
15 Haha	0 On Post	15 On Shares
9 Wow	3 On Post	6 On Shares
5 Sad	1 On Post	4 On Shares
379 Comments	184 On Post	195 On Shares
1,367 Shares	1,230 On Post	137 On Shares

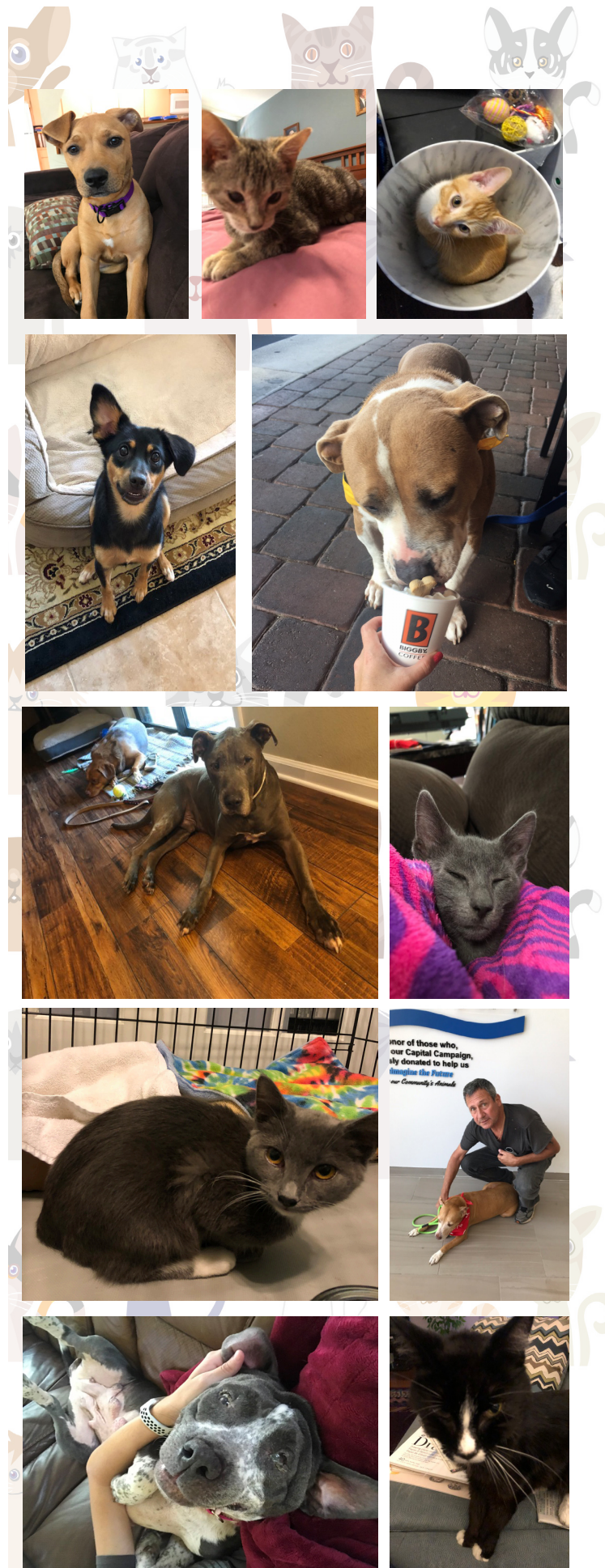
6,828 Post Clicks

392 Photo Views	0 Link Clicks	6,436 Other Clicks
--------------------	------------------	-----------------------

*Storm Troopers* are people who evacuate during a hurricane and take homeless animals to safety.

Hurricane Dorian had it's sights set on Daytona Beach so we activated our Storm Troopers Program. Storm Troopers are animal lovers who volunteer to take a homeless animal with them when they evacuate. 127 animals were picked up by Storm Troops who volunteered to care for the animals throughout the storm and then would return the animal once HHS reopened.

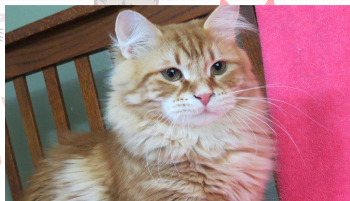
To our surprise and delight, 34 animals ended up getting adopted and staying with their rescuers. Here are some images of the lucky animals that now have loving forever homes thanks to the Storm Trooper program.





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# Avoid a **TOXIC** HOLIDAY

With the holidays right around the corner, keeping your pets safe from toxins that are not usually available the rest of the year, is very important. Below is a list of foods, plants, and other dangers found in abundance during the holiday season.

## **HOLIDAY DECOR- SNOW GLOBES**

Imported snow globes have been found to contain antifreeze. A small amount of antifreeze (as little as a teaspoon) can have disastrous results if ingested by your pet. Should a snow globe leak or fall and break, clean up and dispose of all the parts and the materials used to soak up the antifreeze in a place that pets cannot access. Antifreeze is also used to keep water from freezing in cabins, so never let your pet drink from the toilet in a cabin.



## **SALT DOUGH ORNAMENTS**

Homemade playdough and salt dough ornaments made from flour, salt, and water, can cause a condition known as *hypernatremia* (an excessive amount of sodium in the blood) if digested. Signs of salt toxicosis develop within a couple of hours and include vomiting, diarrhea, excessive thirst, trembling, weakness, and seizures. Keep homemade ornaments placed high up on your tree, where your dog won't mistake decor for a tasty treat.



## **FOODS- CHOCOLATE**

Chocolate contains two methylxanthines (theobromide and caffeine) that cause toxicosis in pets. Different types of chocolates contain varying concentrations of methylxanthines; white chocolate



having the lowest concentration, followed by milk chocolate, dark chocolate, baking, and unsweetened cocoa powder having the highest concentration. Symptoms can range from an upset stomach to more serious symptoms of seizures, tremors, and cardiac problems. Do not wrap chocolate under the tree or in reach of your pet. If your pet eats chocolate contact your vet for instructions. The type and amount of chocolate will determine the seriousness of the situation.

## **GRAPES AND RAISINS**

Grapes and raisins are used in many holiday recipes and can be very harmful to your pet. Watch for signs of vomiting, seizures, diarrhea, loss of appetite and even a coma.



## **MACADAMIA NUTS**

Dogs will experience vomiting, loss of muscle coordination, weakness, and increased body temperature after eating macadamia nuts. Contact your vet if your dog should eat these nuts.



## **ALCOHOL**

Alcohol is rapidly absorbed into the bloodstream, affecting pets and quickly causing dangerous drops in blood sugar, blood pressure, and body temperature. Unattended alcoholic drinks and desserts made with alcohol need to be kept out of reach of your pets.



## **PLANTS- FLOWERS**

Holly berries and mistletoe are known to cause toxicity in pets. Symptoms include vomiting, diarrhea, hypersalivation, and lethargy. Poinsettias are only mildly toxic to pets. Lily's should be kept away from cats.



If you suspect that your pet has been poisoned, contact your veterinarian immediately or contact Animal Poison Control at 888-426-4435



[www.halifaxhumanesociety.org](http://www.halifaxhumanesociety.org)  
(386) 274-4703





## Redinger Spay/Neuter Clinic



**Operating Hours:**  
Monday-Friday  
By appointment only.

**To make an appointment  
call or go online.**

Phone: (386) 310-4935  
Fax: (386) 310-4999  
[www.redingerclinic.org](http://www.redingerclinic.org)  
Online appointments now available.

## Redinger Spay/Neuter Clinic Impact by the Numbers

- 3** age (in months) a dog (2) or cat (3) can safely be spayed or neutered
- 4-6** age (in months) a dog or cat can become pregnant
- 2-3** litters a dog (2), a cat (3) can have each year
- 4** average number of puppies or kittens in each litter
- 90%** animals received by shelters that are not spayed or neutered
- 11,000** annual sterilization capacity
- 25,000+** animals serviced by HHS each year



## Redinger Spay/Neuter Clinic Services & Price List

The first-rate standard of care at the Redinger Spay/Neuter Clinic is achieved by using cutting-edge medical practices and surgical techniques. Pricing is subsidized by donations in order to maximize Halifax Humane Society's mission of reducing the overpopulation of pets.

### Surgical Fees

Call for most current pricing.  
(386) 310-4935

### Vaccinations

1/\$10, 2/\$15, 3/\$25

Other surgical fees may apply.

\*Vaccinations are only available to surgical patients. The Redinger Spay/Neuter Clinic specializes in high quality surgeries and therefore does not offer a la carte services. Prices subject to change.

Consult our website for the most current pricing.


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# “Over-loving Disease”: America’s Pets Are Facing Obesity Concerns

By: Dr. Jennifer N. Green, DVM

According to the Association for Pet Obesity Prevention, in 2018, 60% of cats and 56% of dogs in the United States were estimated to be overweight or obese. An animal that is overweight or obese can lead to serious medical concerns including diabetes, osteoarthritis, heart issues, cancer, and heat intolerance. A healthy weight can lead to longer life expectation, so what can a pet owner do to help their pet out? Let’s answer a few questions about weight and pets first.

*How does a veterinarian determine my pet is overweight or obese?*



Since our pets come in a variety of species and sizes, weighing our pets alone cannot tell us if they are healthy. During visits, veterinarians perform a comprehensive examination of your pet. Not only is weight measured, but your veterinarian will assess body condition score or “BCS” and muscle condition score or “MCS”. BCS and MCS give a more comprehensive overview of your pet. Body condition scoring is based upon studies of animal confirmation. Diagrams of each point show proportions of tissue coverage to bones. BCS is done on a scale of 1 to 9, with 4 to 5 being ideal, 1 being emaciated, and 9 being obese. Honestly, some pets can be off the charts too. Disease risk begins when an animal’s BCS is 6, so the higher the BCS, the more likely a complication of the weight will manifest. MCS focuses on muscle mass and more so on the quality of muscles that can be appreciated by the veterinarian. This assessment can indicate to the veterinarian specific disease processes that may be occurring. BCS will indicate overweight status of animal; whereas, MCS will indicate quality of muscle mass.

*How can I help my pet lose weight healthfully?*

If your pet needs to lose weight, then it should be done gradually and under the supervision of a veterinarian. Dogs should lose weight at a rate of 1 to 2 percent (body weight) per week, and cats 0.5 to 2 percent (body weight) per week. Sometimes a veterinarian will recommend a prescription weight loss food to ensure that your pet receives all the nutrients it needs while calories are restricted. Sometimes a veterinarian will recommend use of a non-prescription weight loss food with a reduction in amount fed. To help your pet lose weight or maintain weight here are a few key things to do:

1. **Feed your pet on a schedule with a measured amount.** Do not free feed your pet. Use of a measuring cup is essential to know how much your pet is actually being fed. You can also monitor should your pet stop eating. Ask your veterinarian how much you should be feeding and how often.
2. **Limit treats, especially high calorie treats.** Some dog and cat treats can have as many calories in them as a serving of food, so if your dog is getting multiple “cookies” a day, that could equate to multiple meals a day. Use of alternative treats for dogs like carrots or unsalted green beans, can help keep calories low. For cats and dogs, treats that offer a very low calorie amount (less than 5 calories per treat) are ideal.
3. **Provide exercise for your pet.** Make sure your pet can exercise in addition to having a proper diet making time for walks or play can really help keep your pet healthy. Lure toys are a great way for cats to have fun and exercise.
4. **Use enrichment to make dieting fun!** Feeder toys and bowls are a great way to slow a pet down while eating, and provide mental stimulation. You can also turn meal time into exercise time by tossing your pet’s kibble one piece at a time in opposite directions to encourage them to exercise while eating.

Remember weight loss takes time, be vigilant and stick to a good diet and exercise plan to help give your pet the longest and healthiest life it can have!

***We offer a large selection of weight loss and nutrition specific foods!***



Merrill Lynch is proud to support the Halifax Humane Society.



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Halifax Humane Society

# DOG TRAINING

## Training Class Schedule

**Beginner Group Classes - Dog Fundamentals**

Open to all dogs 4 months of age and older. All Sizes.

Costs: \$50 (\$40 if dog was adopted from HHS)

**Private in-home consultations** for dogs and cats are available. Call for additional information.

**Behavior enrichment group classes for dogs** also available. Call for additional information.

This class will set you on the path to a great working relationship with your dog. We will teach you the mechanics that make you a great trainer and will cover a variety of basic cues and life skills that will make life with your dog more enjoyable. We will show you how to effectively use positive reinforcement to improve your dog's behavior in all situations. The foundational training you and your dog will receive will continue to help you throughout your dog's life.

Classes are held on Saturday mornings at the Halifax Humane Society animal shelter. The entire course, which consists of four classes, costs just \$50; dogs adopted from Halifax Humane Society are also eligible for a \$10 discount.



Marcia Helm, Behavioral Manager

Marcia Helm is the Behavioral Manager for HHS and has over 25 years of experience with behavior concerns of cat and dog owners. Marcia is a certified dog trainer.

**Sign Up Today: 386-274-4703 Dial "1"**



## Stifel is proud to support the Halifax Humane Society

Thank you for all that you do for the community!

**(386) 947-6000 | (800) 758-8755**

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# STIFEL



An Interview with...

## Prison Pups N Pals Gail Irwin of Tomoka Correctional Center and Jennifer Muni-Sathoff of the Veteran's Association (VA)

**HHS:**

In your own words, what is Prison Pups N Pals?

**Gail (TC):**

Prison Pups N Pals is a second chance. Over the course of 8 weeks, the re-entry program allows inmates and shelter dogs to develop a bond for the ultimate purpose of a forever home. Not only do the inmates earn Department of Education credit hours, they bond with the dogs, inmates learn patience, tolerance and unconditional love.

**HHS:**

Can you share more about the Department of Education credit?

**Gail (TC):**

The dog training hours accrue to a Department of Education Certificate. This achievement helps to get a job. A former inmate proves this as he received an increase in his starting salary at his new job because of his four Department of Education Certificates.

**HHS:**

How long have you been overseeing Prison Pups N Pals?

**Gail (TC):**

I first joined the program nine years ago with only five dogs. Now, we have more than doubled the number thanks to the partnership with the VA. As we increase the numbers, the mission remains the same - To make this program the best in the state of Florida.

**HHS:**

How and when did the VA get involved?

**Jennifer (VA):**

The VA got involved in 2011 through the VHA Innovations Initiative to help with suicide prevention. As someone who works in the field and has many experiences with Veterans, I learned over the years Veterans did not harm themselves because of their dog- their best friend.

**Gail (TC):**

We also reached out to the VA from our side to get the Veterans involved. Then HHS took it further by waiving the adoption fees for the Veterans.

**HHS:**

How are Veterans selected for the program?

**Jennifer (VA):**

Veterans are referred by VA psychiatrists, social workers, and psychiatric nurses. Beyond the VA employees, Veterans can self-refer. The process begins with a screening request to review the medical records and living situations to best make for a successful adoption. Eligibility includes - mental health diagnosis such as PTSD, depression or anxiety. No background of violence or harm to animals is acceptable. Once the review is completed, the next step is to evaluate the soon-to-be owner details. We pair each Veteran with a certain pup based on the criteria on the home, what size dog and energy level they are looking for, any physical limitations - almost like match-making.

**HHS:**

How do you choose the dogs for the Veterans?

**Jennifer (VA):**

We choose three to five dogs out of twelve. The selection is based on the recommendations of the HHS animal behavior specialist, Marcia, as well as the experienced trainee inmates. From there, the pups and Veterans are matched.

**HHS:**

A lot of the Veterans that contact us are looking for therapy or service dogs but that isn't what this program does.

**Jennifer (VA):**

Correct. These dogs are trained to be house pets, not service dogs. However, a number of Veterans have pursued additional training on their own for their dog to be a certified service dog.

**HHS:**

Does the Veteran's Association partner with an agency to help get a Veteran's dog certified?

**Jennifer (VA):**

We refer them to Assistance Dogs International ([assistedogsinternational.org](http://assistedogsinternational.org)), which accredits service dog organizations, and recommend they pursue one of the many agencies that don't charge Veterans.

**HHS:**

Is there a particular inmate/dog experience that comes to mind?





As of this writing, Prison Pups N Pals (PPNP) recently celebrated their 53rd class of shelter dogs being trained by the inmates at Tomoka Correctional Center. The dogs live with the inmates 24/7 and become very bonded. The program has been responsible for over 600 shelter dogs finding their forever homes. Several of the inmates have gone on to secure careers in animal care and welfare due to the experience they learned while in the PPNP program.

*Prison Pups N Pals is a life saving and life changing program.  
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## “Tails” From the Retail Front

By Meg Evans, Merchandise Manager



Hopefully by now many of you have had the opportunity to visit our reimagined facility. Many years of planning went into this project, and the brand new 780 square foot retail space was no exception. Each product that was selected was no accident. Each item was curated and backed by scientific fact so that you, the community, could count on us to not only provide the best products on the market—but the safest!

Some products that we often get asked about are dental care and joint supplements. With the assistance of the Animal Care Director and our Staff Veterinarian we found great products for each category. The one thing that is most important when giving your pet anything with a medical claim, make sure that it can be backed up by science. Our **Virbac C.E.T Veggiedent Dental Chews** are accepted by the **Veterinary Oral Health Council (VOHC)** that the product does what it claims on the package, controlling tartar. These z-shaped chews not only freshen breath and reduce tartar, they are easy for your pet to grab and chew!

For joint supplements, it is important to make sure that the product that you are using on your pet is certified by the **National Animal Supplement Council (NASC)**. They test for purity and to ensure claims made by the seller are accurate and safe for your pet. We selected **Movoflex** for this reason. This product supports the joint health on all breeds, ages and size of dogs.

Some other exciting items that we have added to our merchandise mix is the expansion of our dog and cat enrichment toy program. Strengthening the human-animal bond is very important, and our enrichment toy selection will help you and your pet do just that! Some of my favorite products come from the Hagen Corporation. They have one of the best selections of enrichment toys that speak directly to your pets' natural instincts. For cats, their natural desire to use their paws and forage is encouraged by several of the food mazes and treat puzzles that they offer. Our favorite is the **CatIt Senses Treat Maze**—whether you put their actual kibble or treat inside, it incorporates touch, taste and smell sensory stimulation for your pet. At \$9.99, it is also very affordable!

For dogs, one of our favorite enrichment toys is the **Fetch N Treat**. This product is interactive with your dog and positively reinforces a learned behavior. The product comes with a tennis ball and has a compartment for treats or kibble. Once your dog drops the ball in the hole on the

top, the battery and cord-free dispenser distributes a treat! This provides hours of play with you and your pet—and especially good for dogs that are left home during the day while their owner works. While most fetch toys “fetch” a \$100 or more price point, our offering at \$21.99 is a steal!

Stop by today and let us show you the full product line! Your pet will thank you! Be sure to check out our thrift store at 333 West Granada Blvd., #250 in Ormond Beach in the Gold's Gym/ACE Hardware Plaza (behind ACE) to see a sampling of the new products that we have in store!



*Catit Senses Treat Maze*



*Movoflex*

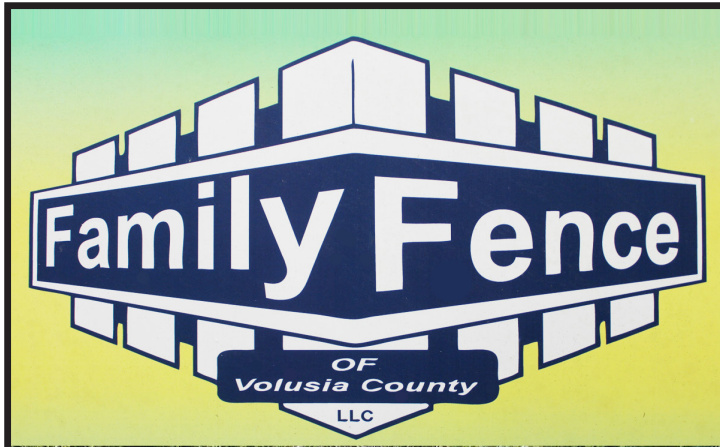


*Veggiedent Dental Chews*



*Fetch N Treat*





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Archie and his crew did an amazing job at a fair price. Would not hesitate to have them back again!

- Michelle D

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Above: A very nice donation of peanut butter and dog treats from Barbara! Thank you for your kindness! WE ALWAYS NEED TREATS AND PEANUT BUTTER!



Above: This older couple visited us at the Orlando Auto Show where we were invited by our partner Subaru to bring out some dogs available for adoption. They had mentioned that shelters in their area would not adopt a young dog (under 1 year) to them, only dogs 8 years or older. They were so happy to be able to adopt Rosebud, a 3-month old Chiweenie.



Boy Scout troops are always very generous to HHS and we love to give them tours and support them as well.




Launch Federal Credit Union is a great community partner and donates to HHS on a regular basis. Thanks David Jimenez for your kindness!







































































Thanks to Petco Foundation for awarding HHS a \$50,000 grant for transport and spay/neuter.



# MEMORIALS

We Gratefully Acknowledge  the Following Gifts  
Received from March 1, 2019 - August 31, 2019  
**In Memory Of – By**

 **Anna** by George Dumitresku  **James Adams** by Marsha Shankleton  **Dr. Ellsworth Barber** by Joe & Nancy Mole  **Kim Barr** by Lisa & Christopher Keating, Sandy Koket & Orrie-M Club of Eriez Magnetics  **Robert Beering** by Eileen Beering  **George Bethke** by Cherie Tibbs  **Max Boales** by Melvin Stack  **Sharon Bourgeois** by Susan & James Paquette  **Dorothy G. Bowden** by Mark Sacks, Mclayn Dorfler, Phyllis Mowery & Frances Olson  **Kathryn Bray** by Barbara Conrad  **Louis W. "Bill" Bray** by Wanda Jarrett & Kelly Bray Bodiford  **Ross Brinkley** by Brian Henderson, Mary Naramore, Catherine Hackman, Deborah Isabella, Cindy Kollner, Barbara Phillips, Office of Personnel Services & Benefits & JT & Nita Crowder  **Susan Brown** by Ryan & Kelly Van Rij  **Richard Busek** by Mary Busek  **Ed Buro** by Mildred Buro  **Jennifer Campbell** by Jo & Robert Campbell  **Lee Carkhuff** by Jackie Carkhuff  **Patricia "Patty" Charles** by Colette Hamilton & Lisa Kline  **Dr Raymond Cichy** by Kathleen Gonzalez  **Kyle Davis** by Amie Davis  **Thelma Davis** by Joanie Woodward  **Anita Parrish Emery** by Gloria Kilfoyle & Jeannie Hansen  **Joan Estrada** by Dorothy Welcher & Theresa Purcell  **Mark Etner** by Maria Etner  **Ruth Ann Evans** by Mari Coyle  **Jeffrey Farance** by Thomas & Mary Lou Mattis and Molly & Brandon Smith, Steven Mattis & Dr. Ann Apperson  **Ray Ferguson** by Carol & Will Akers, Robert & Barbara Young, Donna Schoder, Kip & Linda Freidus, John & Karen Reeves, Hyatt & Cici Brown, Marcia Kehl, W A Clark & Assoc., Jim & Beebe White, Gary & Michele Connors, RC & Anne Brown, Miriam Collier, Carol & Karl Santone, P.T."Bud" Fleuchaus, Bill & Muffi Chanfrau, Pat Culler, Wendy & Paul Scott & Jim & Sharon France  **Vito Genovese** by Patricia Page  **Walt Girvin** by Susan Jackson & Kathleen & Jay Bond  **David Gitchell** by Cherie Tibbs  **Dr. Stephen Grand** by Anne Schumacher, Bill & Sandy Behrens, Mark & Marla Veenstra & Louise Nussman & Family  **Chickie Green** by Marcella Thompson  **Mary Suzanne Halcomb** by Vicki Hall & Andrew & Linda Giannini  **Jack Hare** by Kitty Consalvo, Ron & Donna Reynolds & Richard & Melanie Stasch  **Joan Marie Gallagher Holzschuh** by Beth Dadson  **JoEllen Hopkins** by Tony & Cindy Pinizzotto & Kendra Cochenour  **June Russell Hopkins** by Cherie Tibbs  **Mrs. Hudson** by Robert Armitage  **Sandy Jorczak** by Larry & Mary Ann Stout  **Judith A. Johnson** by Joanne Kestenis  **Sherill S. Jones** by Judy Standfast, Dusty Going, Diane Wiles, Belle Schuman, Pope Hamrick & Shirley Olsen  **Brian Kaye** by Adria Kelley  **John Kelley** by Patrick Kelley  **Cheryl Langrell** by Linda Coffin  **Eva & Wendell Lapham** by Dr. Diane Lapham  **Clayton LaRonge** by

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(Continued from page 21)

**Casper, Kayla & Dawn** by David Hogan 🐾 **CC** by Terri Grayson 🐾 **Chai** by Carolyn West 🐾 **Charlie** by Mr. & Mrs. Heinrig Herda 🐾 **Charlie** by Derek & Cathy Toms 🐾 **Chloe & Begli** by Dorothy Hyland 🐾 **Cody** by Robert Traul 🐾 **Cookie** by Celeste Mastrobuono 🐾 **Cordell Katts** by From All his Facebook Friends 🐾 **Cowboy** by Jane Sherry 🐾 **Dewey** by Marjory Ackley 🐾 **Dixie** by Lillie Armstrong 🐾 **Dragon Fieldus** by Nancy & Joe Saufl 🐾 **Duchess** by William Dunlop 🐾 **Enzo** by Caroline Colombo 🐾 **Foxy Clark** by Nancy Spence & Lily 🐾 **Gator** by William Judd 🐾 **Georgia, Lucky & Jasmine** by Tina Turnbow 🐾 **Hamlet & Angus** by Jay Butterfield 🐾 **Hannah** by Julie Thompson 🐾 **Hansi King** by Laura King 🐾 **Ike** by Linda Reber 🐾 **Jack & Adobe** by Betty Lytle 🐾 **Jersey Williamson** by Donna Davis 🐾 **JoJo I, Jackie JoJo II, Dandy Flossie & Missy** by Marian Pipes 🐾 **Kelsey** by Paul Stark 🐾 **Lacey** by Barbara Asquith 🐾 **Lady** by Richard & Jane Seaman 🐾 **Leroy** by Rusty Dague 🐾 **Lexi & Mercedes** by Tammy Creveling 🐾 **Lilly & Lucy** by Terri Hopkins 🐾 **Liza** by Susan & David Moore 🐾 **Lucy** by John Faulkner 🐾 **Lulu** by Bill & Susan Voges 🐾 **Maddie** by Bill & Susan Voges 🐾 **Maggie** by Johna & Thomas Carroll 🐾 **Maggie** by Nancy Litton 🐾 **Mag-**

(Continued on page 26)

# PET MEMORIALS

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### Leave a Legacy to the Animals

When people think about leaving assets to a non-profit organization through one's will, many assume it is a tool only available to wealthy individuals. That is not the case, however. There are many ways to support Halifax Humane Society through our Planned Giving Program, and those gifts often cost nothing during your lifetime. Thanks to the generosity of HHS Board President Mel Stack, if you name HHS in your will, Mel will prepare it free of charge.

By remembering HHS in your will, you will guarantee that your love for animals will be expressed forever. Many of the programs in place at HHS today are funded from bequests left to us by generous donors. For instance, our low-cost spay/neuter program, our cat adoption cages, and our puppy/small dog room are all results of someone's gift to HHS and our animals.

For additional information about HHS programs and funding needs, please contact the HHS CFDO at (386) 274-4703 ext. 322

**444 Seabreeze Blvd., Suite 1003 ● Daytona Beach, FL 32118**



# PET MEMORIALS

gie **May Counts** by Brian Williams & Rosemary & David Counts 🐾 **Marbles** by Marsha & Robert Drake 🐾 **Maverick** by Jerome Naft & Anthony Roe & Jean Schammel 🐾 **Maverick Stumberger** by Linda, Larry & Luna Petrie 🐾 **Max** by Brenda Ackley 🐾 **Max** by John & Margaret Stumberger 🐾 **McGee** by Bill & Susan Voges 🐾 **Mia** by John & Margaret Stumberger 🐾 **Mia Petrie** by Georgann Meadows & Dennis White 🐾 **Milton** by Matias Cabeza 🐾 **Min & Lexi** by Lorraine Burchfield 🐾 **Miss Muffett & Ms. Two Tone** by Lenny & Pat Ohlsson 🐾 **Oreo** by Ralph Driscoll 🐾 **Patchy & Sunny** by Karen Zimmer 🐾 **Pepper & Ginger Bhothipiti** by Chreerasak & Diane Bhothipiti 🐾 **Petunia Smith** by Linda Saulnier & Joe & Nancy Saufl 🐾 **Rascal** by Robert Niro 🐾 **Raven** by Terry L. Moore 🐾 **Reilly** by Christine Cummings 🐾 **Riley** by Sandy Apthorp 🐾 **Rocco** by John & Margaret Stumberger 🐾 **Rocco Naft-Roe** by Georgann Meadows & Dennis White 🐾 **Roxanne Rainbow** by Donna Davis 🐾 **Roxy** by Roger Riccardi & Steve Pastula 🐾 **Samantha Doyle** by Nancy Doyle 🐾 **Samantha, Ace, Bear, Kirby & Guinness** by Lin Watts 🐾 **Sandy** by Clayton Hawman 🐾 **Schatzi & Fritz** by Albert & Barbara Glenn 🐾 **Shana & Rosie** by Tina Solomom Kronenfeld & Joan Solomon Field 🐾 **Shandy** by Barbara Tabasky 🐾 **Shy-Shy** by Lonnie Feaster 🐾 **Slick** by Adrienne English Scrimshaw 🐾 **Snickers** by Lin & Stephen Watts 🐾 **Sonny Thames** by Nancy & Joe Saufl 🐾 **Star** by Jennifer Blaszkas 🐾 **Su Li** by Larry & Mary Ann Stout 🐾 **Sunny, Dolli & all my Kittens** 🐾 **Suzy, Kachi & Sparky** by Joseph & Sophia Jimenez 🐾 **Thor** by Janet Grusauskas 🐾 **Thumper** by Elizabeth Jackson 🐾 **Tigger** by Nadja Decker 🐾 **Tippi & Lucy** by David, Gail & Bailey Jackson 🐾 **Tyson** by Dave Stanley 🐾 **Velvet** by Holly Schwadron 🐾 **Virgil** by Georgann Meadows & Dennis White 🐾 **Wendy, Patty, Whiskers, Daisy & Cleo** 🐾 **Willie** by Mary Lou & Norman Lehner 🐾 **Rupert Thomas Zahl** by Dorian Dodson 🐾 **Zorro** 🐾 **Zorro Campbell** by Laura King

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### DR. BURKE

We Gratefully Acknowledge Dr. Burke for the Following Gifts Received from March 1, 2019 - August 31, 2019 for the following pets.

🐾 Abby 🐾 Ace 🐾 Amber 🐾 Ambrose 🐾 Angel 🐾 Athena 🐾 Bear 🐾 Bella 🐾 Blue 🐾 Bonnie 🐾 Boris 🐾 Bruno 🐾 Buddy 🐾 Buster 🐾 BW 🐾 Caddy 🐾 Carly 🐾 Chance 🐾 Charlie Stewart 🐾 Charley 🐾 Chesney 🐾 Chloe 🐾 Cleo 🐾 Cole 🐾 Cooper 🐾 Cordell 🐾 Cruella 🐾 Daisy 🐾 Dixie 🐾 Dolly 🐾 Felix 🐾 Flynn 🐾 Gatsby 🐾 Gicci 🐾 Gigi 🐾 Gizmo 🐾 Gracie 🐾 Guinness 🐾 Gypsy Bobbie 🐾 Hadley 🐾 Hallee 🐾 Hattie 🐾 Iggi 🐾 Izzy 🐾 Jeff 🐾 Jinks 🐾 JoJo 🐾 Krystal 🐾 Lacy 🐾 Leroy 🐾 Lexi 🐾 Lil Bit 🐾 Lilly 🐾 Louie 🐾 LT 🐾 Lucky 🐾 Luna & Emily 🐾 Maggie 🐾 Mai Ling 🐾 Maverick 🐾 Max 🐾 Mick 🐾 Missy Mae 🐾 Misty 🐾 Molly 🐾 Momma Cat 🐾 Mooshi 🐾 Moses 🐾 Nalah 🐾 Panda 🐾 Peanut 🐾 Pluto 🐾 Poppy 🐾 Precious 🐾 Riley 🐾 Ringo 🐾 RJ 🐾 Rocky 🐾 Roxy 🐾 Sai 🐾 Samantha 🐾 Sasha 🐾 Schnooks 🐾 Scooter 🐾 Sebastian 🐾 Shadow 🐾 Skamp 🐾 Snowball 🐾 Spirit 🐾 Stasi 🐾 Stevie 🐾 Sugar Pie 🐾 Sunny 🐾 Tasha 🐾 Tex 🐾 Tini 🐾 Tommy 🐾 Tommy Girl 🐾 Tootsie 🐾 Tundra 🐾 Tunner 🐾 Twinkle Toes 🐾 Wally 🐾 Willow 🐾 Wylie 🐾 Zack 🐾 Zuzu



(Dr. Burke and staff at Ormond Beach Veterinary Clinic.)



# When It's Time to Say Goodbye

By: Barry KuKes

Saying goodbye to your beloved pet can be one of the most difficult times a pet lover will experience. People who do not own a pet do not understand the bond pet owners have with their best four-legged friends. Many people will grieve and mourn for many months, even years. As pet owners know, your animals are there for you no matter the circumstance. Unconditional love is often used to describe the way pets commit to their owners.

So, how does one deal with the loss of a pet or even worse, having to decide to have your pet put down to minimize their suffering? Some people may have a dog in their life for as long as 15 years or longer. Cats can last into their twenties, so saying a final goodbye is something owners tend to avoid. If you love your pet, you will do almost anything to prevent them from dying. Unfortunately, we all die one day, but pets have an option that is not available to humans in most states; euthanasia. The process of letting a dog or cat cross over the Rainbow Bridge in peace and with minimal pain or anxiety. Here are some tips that may help ease your pain when losing a pet.

1- Waiting too long can be painful to you and your pet. In our hearts, we know our pet is coming to the end of their time with us. They will have some really bad days and you must prepare yourself to take them in and have them put down. But then they will have a really good day and you think, okay, I'll wait. There is nothing wrong with waiting, but there will come a time when waiting is no lon-

ger an option. You will know when that time has come.

2- Don't drop and run. Many people cannot bear to watch their beloved pet crossover. They will bring their pet to their veterinarian or to Halifax Humane Society, and then leave after saying goodbye before the procedure. You should stay and comfort your pet. This is a very scary time for them



and leaving at their time of need because you can't handle it isn't fair to your pet. They need you to place your hands on them and comfort them as they begin their journey. You will be crying the entire time but leaving your pet alone is very scary for them. I imagine they might say, "Where's mom? Where's dad? I'm scared." Don't leave them when they need you most.

3- DO NOT DUMP YOUR PET IN A FOREST OR A FARM! Some people can't handle the passing of their pet so much so that they will avoid the veterinarian altogether and abandon the animal in a rural area. This is so wrong. For some reason these owners convince themselves that their pet is still alive and free in the forest having a great time, which is ridiculous.

Or, the owner cannot afford to have their pet put down by their veterinarian and they dump the pet to avoid the expense. HHS offers low cost euthanasia services for owners so there really is no excuse to not properly care for your pet with the last and most important stage of their life; their passing.

4- How to cope with the loss. There are different viewpoints on this process which vary from person to person. Some will grieve so much that they will never have pet again. Some will wait several years, while others will go out to the shelters and rescues and find another pet within just weeks or even days. Some people cannot commit to another pet right away but miss the company of being around a dog or a cat. These people can volunteer at HHS or a rescue to socialize with the dogs and cats. The animals love the attention and you will feel much better as well. Just be forewarned, you might just find your next best buddy in the process and ready or not, they will become part of your family and the cycle begins again.

Your pets are your family. Treat them as such. You can never replace the cat you had in your life for twenty years, but you can love them to the very end, giving them the dignity and respect they deserve. When it is time for a new family member, remember to adopt, don't shop.

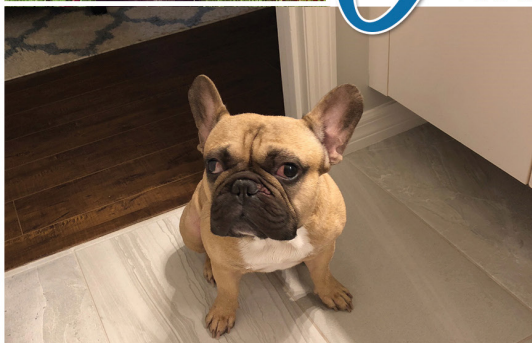




# Thank you!

## ATF Gunslinger

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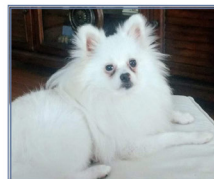
### Desiree

5-13-04 - 10-5-18



I'm pleased to sponsor Halifax Humane Society:  
In memory of our beloved Desiree, who will forever be in our family's heart.  
In honor of our newly adopted son, Mac, our foster failure.  
In hope that all our foster babies find a safe and forever home.  
In admiration of all HHS volunteers and donors who give so generously.

**Nanette McKeel Petrella**  
Volunteer, Foster Mom, Annual Sponsor



### Mac

**Nanette McNeel Petrella** is a foster parent an annual sponsor for HHS and has proven invaluable to the organization.

One of the first litters Nanette fostered was the Fur Ball Puppy litter in 2017.

Most recently, Nanette and her family cared for Nala, a German Sheperd/Rotweiler mix that was adopted at the Auto Show in Orlando.

An couple who live on 5-acres in DeBary adopted Nala. Although very happy that Nala found her forever home, letting a foster animal go can be bittersweet. Thanks for all you do Nanette!

### Foster Babies





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## DID YOU KNOW?

# Volunteer Opportunities Galore at HHS!

Walking through the doors of the new HHS Adoption Lobby, one can almost always guarantee one thing: the smiling greeting of one of our wonderful volunteers. These volunteers are able to help incoming guests with finding a new animal, showing them around our new facility, and answering whatever questions they may have. Walking through our Adoption Lobby past the desk, one might find even more volunteers socializing our cats in the Gale Lemerand cat



room and helping guests pick the *purrfect* cat to take home with them. Past the cat room, in our Glenn & Connie Ritchey Large Dog Adoption Room, volunteers are likely walking our dogs to give them their much-needed enrichment for the day, letting them run and play in our play yards. Some volunteers will be making enrichment toys for our dogs, treats and puzzles to keep them busy while in their kennels, while others help guests find the perfect dog to complete their family.

These are just some of the many opportunities we have at HHS for our volunteers. While dog-walking is one of our biggest needs, it is by and large not the only way you can help our animals. Unbeknownst to many, for instance, are our cat socialization programs. Not only can volunteers help enrich our kitties through play, cuddling, and simply speaking to them, but they can also learn tricks! By working with the Jackson Galaxy Cat Training Program, volunteers have begun to teach our cats tasks such as ‘sit’, ‘high five’, and

‘speak’! As for our dogs, they receive daily, varying types of enrichment. Between PVC-pipe puzzles filled with treats, to peanut butter-coated Frisbees to keep them busy, they have plenty to do while waiting their turn for the play yard. This enrichment even extends to our non-canine friends that sometimes have a stay in our Adoption Kennel, such as pigs! From plenty of fruits and veggies, to testing out their skills in a kiddie pool, these pigs never have a dull moment here. The other critters that come through our doors – from rats and hamsters, to parakeets and rabbits – also get socialization time and enrichment in the form of puzzles and treats! Without our volunteers, enrichment would not be possible.



Outside our doors, the volunteer opportunities continue. Between our regular adoption events at offsite locations, and our special events each month, volunteers can assist with promoting HHS to the public! Volunteers can spend time with animals at these events, either helping them find their forever home at an adoption event, or spending time with other pets at one of our monthly Yappy Hours or other annual events. These opportunities offer volunteers a great way to spread information about HHS, share their volunteer story with others, and engage in community outreach within Volusia County at tons of great locations. These are just some of the ways you can help out as a volunteer, but there are many more. Overall, volunteering at HHS is a hugely rewarding experience, whether you’re a dog person, a cat person, a people-person, or even a pig-person!

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact our Volunteer Manager, Zoe Beriss, at [volunteermanager@halifaxhumanesociety.org](mailto:volunteermanager@halifaxhumanesociety.org), or (386) 274-4703 ext. 319.



# SUMMER CAMP IS BACK!

Due to our renovation construction, there was no summer camp in 2018, and many kids and their parents were very disappointed.

This year, our brand new Education Room was available the week before the grand opening celebration. Thanks to the state-of-the-art design of the new PetSmart Charities education room with a high definition projector and Dolby surround sound all went extremely well. So much so that we are working on a Winter Camp Day for December 23, 2019, the first day of holiday break for most schools. Look for more information on our Facebook page and website if interested in having your child attend the Winter Camp Day.

Here are some images from summer camp.





*Thank you for supporting the Halifax Humane Society!*

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*(Continued from Page 16.)*

**Gail (TC):**

I recall one inmate who was going through the Prison Pups N Pals program when his father passed away. Not being able to go to the funeral or see his family had him suffering from dark thoughts. Taking care of the dog and experiencing its unconditional love helped ease the pain of his loss and bring him out of his depression.

**HHS:**

Is there a particular Veteran's experience that comes to mind?

**Jennifer (VA):**

I remember a Veteran who had trouble in forming close relationships – even with his immediate family. In the beginning, he told his assigned dog to leave him alone but of course, as a dog, he would come even closer. It was so profound for him. I would tell him, “that dog loves you” and he would respond, “dogs can't love.” Now, years later when I say, “that dog loves you,” he responds, “I know.” Although small, this makes a huge difference. So many Veterans have experienced decreased depression, anxiety, loneliness...even more exercise to improve health.

**HHS:**

How are the inmates selected for the program?

**Gail (TC):**

Those who want to join go through a mental health screening to make sure they are a good fit. They cannot have any domestic violence or assault in their past. If there is something in the very distant past, we do consider it but we look very closely at their compound behavior. They also have to have more than a year left on their sentence because the training takes time.

**HHS:**

How does someone adopt an animal from the Prison Pups N Pals program?

**Gail (TC):**

The first step is to contact Halifax Humane Society to see if there is a hold on the dog. Even if there is, you can place a second hold in case the first doesn't go through. Then contact me to meet the pup to make sure it's a match. I can be contacted at (386) 254-2676.

**HHS:**

Do the Veterans get the first holds?

**Jennifer (VA):**

All of the dogs that go to the prison have a hold placed on them for the VA. Then we narrow it down to up to five dogs and remove the holds on the others.

**HHS:**

How does a veteran get on the waiting list?

**Jennifer (VA):**

They can either contact their provider to do a referral or they can just call me at (386) 366-6730.

**HHS:**

Is there anything more you would like to share?

**Gail (TC):**

To sum up, Prison Pups N Pals is a life saving program – a life-changing program. It changes the lives of the dogs. It changes the lives of the inmates. And it changes the lives of the veterans.



*(Shown above; L-R, Warden C.E. Lane, Officer Gail Irwin, Jennifer Muni-Sathoff, VA and Volusia County Sheriff Mike Chitwood.)*



*Above:  
Adopter gets to  
play with her  
new dog.*

*To the far left:  
A graduate  
dog sits on his  
trainers' lap.*

*To the left:  
Graduate dog  
demonstrates  
his training  
commands.*



# Ask the Animal Behaviorist

By: Marcia Helm



*Dear Marcia,  
"My wife and I just got a new dog. The shelter said it would take a while for it to settle in. How long do they mean?"*

**Patient in Port Orange**

**Dear Patient,**

Imagine if you were dropped off in a foreign country where you didn't speak the language, didn't know the customs, and didn't know the people. That's how a new pet feels when it gets to your home. Even with the most loving family it can take days, to weeks, to months for an animal to feel at home in a new location. To help them understand their new home it's best to treat them as you would a new puppy. Take them outside often and praise or treat when they go potty outside. Give them access to part of the house till they show you they can be trusted with access to the whole house. A crate or baby gate can help this process. Make sure they have chew bones, toys, and interesting things to occupy their time as you never know if they could chew on things you think should be off limits in their previous home. Then take your time introducing them to friends and family. Groups of new people can be intimidating to some dogs so if your dog retreats from groups, allow them the space to do this. They will meet everyone in their own time. They may need to learn trust, love, and house rules. Patience goes a long way in teaching them that this is their forever home and that they are safe with their new family.

*Dear Ms. Marcia,  
"We got a cat! It's great fun, but it's a kitten so it scratches and nips at us. How do we get that to stop?"*

**Nippy Kitty in New Smyrna**

**Dear Nippy Kitty,**

Congratulations on your kitten. One thing about kittens is that they love to play. Much of their play is practice for behaviors they would need for survival if

they were out on their own. Sadly, this can be tough on furniture, blinds, and owners. To help kittens expend their energy in ways that save you and your furnishings the first thing you need to do is think like a cat. Cats like to chase. Wand toys are great for the kitten to run after, leap for, and pounce on. Playing with the cat at a distance can allow them to practice their natural behaviors while protecting yourself. Food toys, either purchased or made, can get them interested in foraging for snacks. Then as an added bonus, a cat tower allows them to scratch, climb, and look out a window to watch nature which will help keep them busy and entertained.

*Dear Marcia,*

*"Our dogs love to play together but sometimes one will yelp because the other dog bit a little too hard. Is there anyway to train them to play nice? Both are Golden Retrievers."*

**Hey That Hurts in Holly Hill**

**Dear Hey That Hurts,**

Golden Retrievers are known for playing hard. You don't mention the age of the dogs but even older Goldens will play hard. Usually, the incident of playing too hard is just an accident without any malice intended. Giving the dogs a tug toy that keeps both of their mouths occupied while playing might be a good solution. If the dogs don't respond to you when you tell them to settle down, then you might want to consider additional training. Classes are held at multiple times a week at HHS. The training classes are \$45 for a 4 week session; dogs adopted from HHS are eligible for a \$10 discount. To sign up for a group class, private training, or behavior consultation please call (386) 274-4703 and dial extension 326 for our behavior manager.

If you have a question for Marcia, you can email her at [behavior@halifaxhumanesociety.org](mailto:behavior@halifaxhumanesociety.org)





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