



1111 Dodgetown Rd.
Walnut Cove, NC 27052

www.friendsofstokesshelter.com



SEPTEMBER 2023

ISSUE #5



Welcome Back!!

WOW!! We had an amazing August!

We were able to have our gazebo assembled in the back play yard, thank you to Mike Barsness, Duane Elliott, Wendy Elliott, Tammy Hill, Ed Biosca, Daniel Clutts and Zack Grutsch!! They did an amazing job in some REALLY hot weather. We got to love on a LOT of new pups and kitties and even a rabbit, Cindy took some pups on some neat outings, a kind supporter donated a TV and fire stick so that was put up in the dog isolation room. This will help the pups get used to a tv. The sound and movement on a screen are usually new to our residents. Kong sent us some awesome toys, Chewy donated some great things for our gala AND we now have a Chewy wish-list! Go to https://www.chewy.com/g/friends-of-stokes-shelter_b114903946#wish-list. We received a wonderful grant from Athletes For Animals! Thank you so much for that!! Charlie Soap donated some MUCH need laundry detergent, our Animal Operations Manager celebrated a birthday and so did an AMAZING volunteer Karen Lindemuth! Artist Way donated some delicious cupcakes for our Back to School Bash, oh the BASH! What an amazingly awesome fabulous day! We had a huge crowd and got to meet a LOT of new friends and see some old friends. Mattie Joyce launched her “Reading Buddies with Friends of Stokes Shelter” program (check out the details in the newsletter). This adoption center keeps being amazed at the wonderful support that we have from all of you!!

Newsletter Highlights

Reading Buddy Program

A Year of Cuddles

Susie's Hope

FALL IN LOVE WITH A FOSS FRIEND

Floppy's Happy Ending'

Mugsy's New Family



RECURRING DONATIONS

Go to our website www.friendsofstokesshelter.com

Click the DONATE tab > Click setup recurring donation here button



LOOK FOR US UNDER THE WHITE TENT



FOSS Team

Board Members

Mike Barsness – Chair

Diane Coffill – Vice Chair

Wendi Spraker - Secretary/Treasurer

Fran Hollis – Facilities Chair

Kate Waterman - Marketing Chair

Wendy Welch - Animal Services Chair

Aaron Sisco

Tanya Gardner

Caleb Swaim

Part-Time Employees

Emily Burgess – Animal Operations Manager

Renea Brown – FOSS Services Manager

Tonya Palmer – Kennel Assistant

Bethany Woods – Kennel Assistant

Volunteer Coordinator's

Lorrie Bennett – Volunteer Coordinator

Katie Winfrey – Volunteer Coordinator

Cindy Taylor – Human-Animal Relations Coordinator

Along with 30+ active volunteers!!



Sept 9th - Stokes Stomp - Emily will be running the kids' area
 Sept 16th - Fall Fest - Walnut Cove - 2-7
 Sept 12th-16th - Check out our exhibit at the Stokes County Fairground
 Sept 30th - FALL IN LOVE WITH A FOSS FRIEND GALA - Visit our website and buy your ticket TODAY!



Reading Buddies with Friends of Stokes Shelter

When Mattie Joyce approached Emily Burgess about a reading program for the adoption center, she immediately said "YES"! Mattie was searching for a project to complete her Girl Scouts Gold Award and we are so thankful that she thought of us. She has worked really hard with looking into this program and developing material to advertise it. She launched her project at our Back to School Bash on August 26, 2023. To say it was a hit is an understatement. Everyone that visited her table, walked away with a free book. Keep an eye on our website for more details and link to sign your child up.



Update from Stephanie Tharp, she has been Molly's mom for a year. Just an update me and the bestie still going strong! She is the sweetest ❤️ and clearly loves to cuddle!



SQUASH



Squash is a year old male lab mix. He is full of energy and even more full of love. Squash was found tied to the fence at the Stokes County Shelter. We have learned that he will be best as an only pet and no kids. He is the sweetest and silliest boy in town!



SUSIE'S HOPE

Many of you, especially those involved in the initial fundraising efforts to build FOSS, have heard of the pit bull mix named Susie and her owner, Donna Lawrence. Donna and Susie attended the first FOSS Gala in 2015.

In August 2009, Susie was found in a Greensboro park fighting for her life after being burned, beaten and left for dead, sparking the movement for Susie's Law.

Susie was found in the park ten days after the attack – surviving by eating garbage and drinking water from mud puddles. After two months of intensive, daily medical treatments, Susie was able to regain her strength and return to life as a normal, playful puppy. Donna Lawrence adopted Susie from the Guilford County Animal Shelter before she and a group of people in the community started pushing towards preventing abusive animal behavior.

Susie's first owner that was responsible for her abuse was caught and arrested thanks to a tip through Crimestoppers. However, justice would not be served. North Carolina's structured-sentencing guidelines only allowed the guilty party to serve four to five months of a suspended sentence (probation) for a Class I felony of Cruelty to Animals.

Shocked by the outcome of the hearing, concerned citizens began asking what they could do to make the animal-cruelty law tougher. The largest grassroots effort in North Carolina began, starting with the five-member Susie's Team, which included Donna Lawrence and Susie. They went on a county-by-county crusade to get the support for North Carolina House Bill 1690 and Senate Bill 254. Countless letters and e-mails from concerned citizens began pouring into our state legislators' offices asking for a new, stricter animal-cruelty law, one that included jail time for those who abused or neglected animals in North Carolina.

Senator Don Vaughan wanted a new law, Susie's Law, that would allow for tougher sentencing for those convicted of animal abuse. Concerned North Carolina citizens wanted Cruelty to Animals to be reclassified as a Class H felony, instead of a Class I felony. Under that new classification, Susan's abuser could have received an active prison sentence for what he had done to her. Because Susie was his girlfriend's dog, he did get prison time due to the Burning of Personal Property, which is a Class H felony that carries an active prison sentence. Therefore, Susie's abuser could have burned someone's couch and received a tougher penalty than the one he received for burning and torturing Susie.

Susie's Law was passed in 2010. Susie's Law made animal cruelty a low-level felony and allows judges to sentence offenders to jail in certain cases.

Inspired by Susie's courage, Donna established the non-profit Susie's Hope to educate people about animal cruelty. A movie about Susie, Susie's Hope, premiered at the RiverRun Film Festival in 2013. Donna has also written three books about Susie, all of which can be purchased on Amazon.

Susie passed away in September of 2022 at the age of 13.



The FRIENDS of the STOKES SHELTER

2023 Annual Gala

Fall in Love with a FOSS Friend

SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

Cocktails/Dinner/Auction

Begins 5pm

\$125/one ticket. \$200/2 tickets

Go to www.friendsofstokesshelter.com

order your ticket today

We touched base with Jose, Frank's new dad and this is what he had to say. "Frank is doing great, we have actually changed his name to Broly and he's responded well to it. He and his sister have a lot of friends at the park and he's started really coming out of his shell play-wise over the last few weeks. "



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FOSS Donation Wall

We sincerely apologize for any errors or omissions. Please contact (336) 914-9270 or fosservicesmanager@gmail.com with any corrections or questions. Gifts are listed from A-Z

In Memory of People

Kristin Edwards
Bonnie Newman Almond
Ashlie Gemmer
Kelly Kennedy

In Honor of People

Kathy O'Connell
Norman & Susan
Smith

In Memory of

Pet

Sherry Garnier
Buttons

Special Thank You

JT Outfitters
Tim & Sandy Thompson
Pet Sitters' International
Wanda Dyer
Shannock's
Millicent Bullins
Main Street Diner
At the Table Bread Co.
Mitchells' Butchery
Land Dog Landscaping
Daily Basket

El Cabo
Showtime Video
Sam's Pizza
Fratelli's Italian
Steakhouse
Hemlock Golf Course
Artist's Way Bakery
Chic-Fil-A-King
Bermuda Run
Walnut Cove
Furniture
W-S Dash

Grants & monthly donor

Athletes for Animals
Karen Fulscher
Vicki Lathery

Recurring Donors

Elizabeth Trumpie
Lisa Tutterow

If you would like to send a donation in for a loved one to honor them or in memory of them, please send it to:

Friends of Stokes Shelter
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Floppy's Happy Ending

Floppy came to FOSS after his 72 hour stray hold was up at animal control. A sweet, mellow senior, he only wanted to give someone his paw and have the assurance of a physical touch that we were there for him.

Everyone at FOSS loved Floppy. We just didn't love his name. We all tried out different names for him; Mowgli, Fred, Fletcher, Sugar Bear... the list went on. Nothing seemed quite right.

Our director in charge of animal adoptions, Emily, reached out to a lab rescue in Richmond, Virginia. They agreed that if they could find a foster-to-adopt for him, Floppy would be welcome in their rescue. So he stayed with FOSS and we all loved him and tried to help him through his thunderstorm phobia. He went on an outing to PetSmart and wanted to personally greet every human and animal in the store. He played fetch and seemed to be happy and always reached out with his paw for a greeting.

A few weeks later the Lab Rescue of Greater Richmond reached out. They had an adopter for Floppy! He just needed a ride to Roanoke, Va and his adopter would meet us there. Two volunteers took him one Sunday afternoon. Floppy was excited. He barked and howled a bit to get the ride started, but realized he was in for a long drive, so he settled in and took a nap.

It was love at first sight. Both Floppy and his new human fell hard for each other right away. He has finally found his forever name, Archie. He is a happy, active boy who plays fetch and gets wild zoomies when his human dad comes home. Archie is cherished and loved and home at last.



Mugsy found his fur-ever home. He and Fin are already best friends!!



LOOK WHO GOT ADOPTED IN AUGUST!!

Garbonzo Bean
Jade
Laverne
Patch
Lasagna
Big Mac
Diamond
Elgin
Bluey
Lemonade
Floppy

Pepper
Caspian
Leo
Mugsy
Lotus
Bearsden
Benson
Clover
Mable
Zinnia



VOLUNTEER HOURS

FOR THE MONTH OF JULY WE HAD 700.25. HOURS!! THAT IS AMAZING!

OUR VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH FOR AUGUST IS:

CINDY TAYLOR! CINDY IS OUR HUMAN ANIMAL RELATIONS COORDINATOR. SHE DOES AN AMAZING JOB WITH PAIRING UP THE DOGS AND TAKING THEM ON ADVENTURES! CONGRATS CINDY!!