



1111 Dodgetown Rd.
Walnut Cove, NC 27052

www.friendsofstokesshelter.com



OCTOBER 2023

ISSUE #6



Welcome Back!!

By now the gala has happened, and all of the fun has been enjoyed from the Stokes Stomp and Fall Fest. Man, what a month it was! The Stokes Stomp had a downpour, BUT the kids had a great time while Emily manned the Kids' Area. Fall Fest was packed and the wheel was spun and spun and spun and the kids wiped us out of prizes! We were represented at the Stokes County Fair for the first time. There was an increase in volunteer sign-ups! One would say, we have once again had an amazing month.

We sure hope that you enjoy these newsletters and are getting the scoop on what is going on at the adoption center. Please send in any stories or send any suggestions to fossservicesmanager@gmail.com. Please don't forget that you can set up recurring donations. Just go to our website and sign up. I know we say this all the time, "We can't do this without you", but it is so VERY true that I'm going to say it again, in all caps: WE CANNOT DO THIS WITHOUT YOU! Thank you from the pups, kitties, staff and volunteers!!

Newsletter Highlights

Recurring Donation Incentive

2023 FOSS Gala

New Play Yard Shelter

Kirby's New Family

Update on Big Mac & Blueey

How to Explain the Loss of a Pet



A lost pet can happen to anyone: Plan ahead for a happy reunion

There are lots of ways a pet can get lost — a door or gate left open, a leash that slips out of your hand or a carrier that doesn't close properly, for example.

We reunite hundreds of lost animals with their families each year. But with your help, we can do even better. Do the following to increase the chances of a happy reunion if you and your pet are ever separated.



Make sure your dog or cat is wearing a **COLLAR** that fits well, with an easy-to-read **ID TAG** and your phone number embroidered directly onto the collar.

Include **MORE THAN ONE PHONE NUMBER** on the ID tag. Do you have a roommate, friend or family member who can be your back-up if you can't be reached?



Talk with your veterinarian about **MICROCHIPPING** your pet if they aren't already. Register the chip and update the information associated with it as needed. Call us at 503-846-7041 to add your pet's microchip information to our records at Animal Services.



LICENSE YOUR DOG. This provides another form of identification and can help establish that you are the owner of the dog.

Take **PHOTOS** of your pet and update them regularly. Get full body shots, as well as clear photos of their face. Be sure to photograph any unique features or markings. Finally, take a photo of you and your pet together.



Get to know your **NEIGHBORS** and let them know you have a pet. Those who live nearby may be the first people to spot your pet if it escapes from your yard or home.



We hope you'll never find yourself searching for your lost pet. But if you do, you'll be glad you followed the steps above.

Sign up for a minimum of \$25 Recurring Donation and receive this T-Shirt. After you sign up, call 336-914-9270 and let us know what size you need!

RECURRING DONATIONS

Go to our website www.friendsofstokesshelter.com

Click the **DONATE** tab > Click setup recurring donation here button



Check Out Our Cool Shelter!!



FOSS Team

Board Members

Mike Barsness – Chair
 Diane Coffill – Vice Chair
 Wendi Spraker - Secretary/Treasurer
 Fran Hollis – Facilities Chair
 Kate Waterman - Marketing 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!!

After many months of research and deal shopping, we finally decided that this would be the perfect shelter to help our pups and volunteers stay cool. Stay tuned for more information to come on the dedication. Then some amazing donors donated the funds for the fire hydrants.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Gorillas can catch human colds and other illnesses.
- A newborn Chinese water deer is so small it can almost be held in the palm of the hand. Ostriches can run faster than horses, and the males can roar like lions.
- The female lion does ninety percent of the hunting.
- Turtles, water snakes, crocodiles, alligators, dolphins, whales, and other water going creatures will drown if kept underwater too long.
- Deer have no gall bladders.
- There is an average of 50,000 spiders per acre in green areas.
- In Alaska it is illegal to whisper in someone's ear while they're moose hunting.
- Some male songbirds sing more than 2,000 times each day.

BRRR-RUFF! Tips to keep your pets safe in the cold outdoors

Never leave pets alone in a car.

Limit time outdoors or keep pets inside. Shivering is a clear sign your pet is cold.

Bundle up! Coats and sweaters and yes, even dog booties, can keep your pet warm.

Outdoor cats seek heat from cars. Bang the hood or honk the horn before turning it on.

Prep the paws. Clip long fur between toes and foot pads to prevent ice balls.

Wipe snow and ice off the belly and legs with a moist rag to remove salt.

Common Allergy Triggers

Common allergy Trigger areas

2023 Fall in Love with a FOSS Friend Gala

The gala was a HUGE success! A BIG shout out to Wendi Sprakler, Fran Hollis, Sarah Blackwell and Renea Brown.

They worked for months and months on planning this annual fundraiser. There are SO SO many others to thank!!

Staff, volunteers, donors, sponsors and every supporter who purchased a ticket and bid on auction items and donated. Keep an eye out for the amazing pictures that Destination Magazine captured from this special night.

When all was said and done, over \$26,000 was raised (after all expenses taken out). We are SO thankful!! we look forward to seeing you at the 2024 gala!

Thank you to those who donated toward our auctions

Hemlock Golf Course Chevy Little Creek Diner Artist Way Bakery Bernanda Run Winston-Salem Dash R Thomas Jewelers John Hege Brown Trout Septic Cindy Taylor Lisa Bower Rebecca Dresser Tim & Sandy Thompson Chevy Bank Box Gail Doveport Carolina Vineyard	Mitchell's Butchery Andrea Templeton Chick-Fill-A Stokes County Arts Council Janice Frye Wanda Dyer Primland Daily Basket Kang El Cabo JT Outfitters Showtime Video Sam's Pizzeria Fratelli Tralton Steakhouse Childress Vineyards Main St. Diner Kathryn Chadborne	Just Plain Country Diane Coffill Rocky's Bruce Burgess As Good As It Gets Town Fork Mobile Kitchen Renea Brown & Pam Hooker Leslie Lackey Sarah Stephens Sarah Blackwell Hedgecock Builders Shoreack's Pawn Millicent Bullins Hampton House Gallery White Rust Photography Walnut Cove Furniture At the Table Bread Co
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Thank You to Our Sponsors!!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

FOSS Volunteer October Birthday's

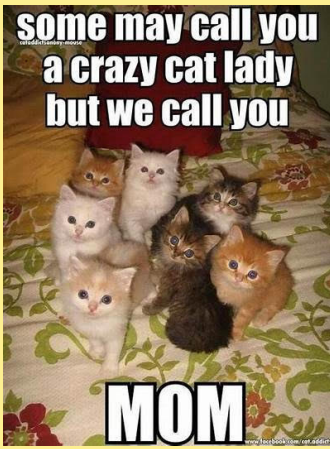
7th - Katelyn Hampton
 10th - Matthew Young
 15th - Mary Ann Barsness



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KELLY

Kelly is a 2 yr female mixed breed. She is so VERY loveable and really loves to hug you. She is a bit scared of sudden things but once she warms up to you, she is your friend. Please put in an application in at www.friendsofstokesshelter.com



“Kirby”

By: Cindy Taylor



When I started first grade there was the prettiest little girl who sat at my table with long strawberry blonde hair. On the first day of school she became my best friend. Fifty-eight years later, she still is. Though we have always lived several hours apart in our adult lives, we still talk and text often.

So when Ann’s youngest son, a Marine Corp veteran, decided it was time to bring a new dog home, she thought of FOSS. He’d lost his best buddy over a year ago to an aggressive cancer and was finally considering a new dog. She and her oldest daughter had each adopted from Stokes County Animal Shelter several years before and she knew what great dogs we have. It needed to be a special dog.

Kirby had come to FOSS a few weeks before and I, along with other volunteers and staff, had fallen in love with his playful and sweet nature. I sent Ann his photo and answered lots of questions about his personality, energy level, friendliness with dogs and people, and traveling. Ann sent all the information to her son and nothing happened for a week or so. It takes some time to turn the corner from grief to loving another dog again. But then, Jon texted his mom to find out if Kirby was still available. He was, and within days Jon made a 5 hour trip from the DC area to meet Kirby for himself.

It seemed to be love at first sight for Kirby. He gave kisses and asked for belly rubs and generally seemed to respond to Jon in a way we had never seen. Jon seemed to really like Kirby too. They spent a couple hours getting to know each other and Jon knew Kirby was going to be his dog.

It was another 10 days before Jon could drive back to pick him up and Kirby was so glad to see him again. He packed up some squeaky toys ready for the long ride home. Being part of a real family is new to Kirby and he’s learning about things like TVs and washing machines and living indoors and that he’s really in a home to stay. In just a few weeks he has found his favorite spot to snuggle on the couch and the best balls in his toy box to play fetch. He has adjusted to routine and become comfortable with things he used to find scary. Jon and Kirby have become inseparable.

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 Grants & monthly donor

Quaker Gap Baptist Church
Kevin Wiley Webster

Karen Fulscher
Vicki Lathery

Kim Craig
Shirley Bullins
Christopher & Sherry Mabe Grenier
Shirley Bullins
Beth Slate
Shirley Bullins

Recurring Donors

Elizabeth Trumpie
Lisa Tutterow
Robin Amos

In Honor of People

Caleb Swaim
Karen Lane

Special Thank You Land Dog Landscaping

If you would like to send a donation in honor or in memory of a loved one, please send it to: Friends of Stokes Shelter
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Trixie (AKA Mamacita)

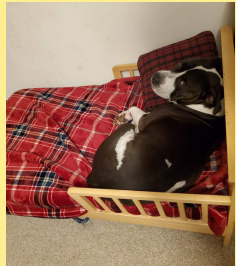
By: Scott & Karen Lindemuth

My husband and I were thinking it was time to get a second dog. The FOSS adoption page kept showing up on FaceBook so I figured that was a sign to start there. We went to the website and saw a dog we wanted to see so we made an appointment and brought our current dog with us to meet him too. Unfortunately, the meet and greet didn't go well with the two dogs so we continued our search. We had heard the story of a dog that was there with her puppies, so we inquired about her and set up a meet and greet, again with our current dog. The two dogs got along great, so we brought Mamacita home with us (now known as Trixie). She settled into our home right away. She loves to go on car rides and has been on a couple of camping trips. Her favorite place to lay her head is on the couch and when we sit next to her she wants to be petted and as close to us as possible. For fun and exercise she and our other dog play and chase each other in the yard. She is happy here and we are happy we have her.

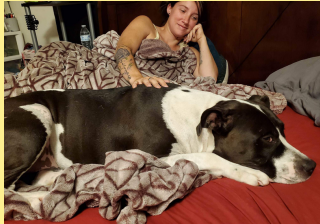


LOOK WHO GOT ADOPTED IN SEPTEMBER!

Shirley	Fruity Pebbles	Penelope	Fireball
Sunflower	Shrimp	Luzianne	Plankton
Begonia	Mr. Bojangles	Bonita	Cookie
Kirby	Joey	Dewdrop	Camelia
Rootie Toot	Snapple	Twitchie	



Big Mac, living his BEST life! Laying in HIS toddler bed with HIS pillow. After he had eaten and gone outside he decided that he would rather get in bed with his mom!



Bluey is living her BEST life. She is loving her human brothers and getting along great with her older sister.



chewy.com

DON'T FORGET THAT YOU CAN ORDER FROM OUR CHEWY WISHLIST

https://www.chewy.com/g/friends-of-stokes-shelter_b114903946

VOLUNTEER HOURS

FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER WE HAD 670.25. HOURS!! THAT IS AMAZING!

OUR VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH FOR SEPTEMBER IS:

SYDNEY ZURICH!! SYDNEY ATTENDS SOUTH STOKES HIGH SCHOOL AND DEDICATES A LOT OF HER TIME VOLUNTEERING AT THE ADOPTION CENTER. SHE HELPS WITH BOTH THE CATS AND THE DOGS. WE APPRECIATE HER SO VERY MUCH! CONGRATS SYDNEY!!



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How to Explain a Pet's Death to Your Child

When explaining a pet's death to children, it is important to be straightforward and honest. For many children, a pet's death is the first time they experience grief. Handling a pet's death in a positive way empowers children to better handle grief in the future.

Children Cope Better When A Pet's Death Is Explained Honestly

The terminology that is used when explaining pet death to children is crucial. Euphemisms and clichés do not work. When explaining pet loss, use the words "death," "dead" and "dying" instead of "putting to sleep," "with the angels," or "visiting Uncle Harry" (or a relative who died recently). These are all concrete words that children can wrap their brains around. Be clear, because children's minds may extrapolate harmful connotations from sugar-coated explanations.

A common euphemism for euthanasia is "put to sleep." There is no reason why children wouldn't think of this as a reversible process - "If the pet is asleep, let's just wake him up." Lying to your children by telling them that the pet ran away or that you gave it to a friend is a bad idea. Your children may exhaust every possibility looking for a lost pet, and the empty feeling of a pet that suddenly disappeared is worse than the truth about euthanasia. All of this only gives children a different kind of grief. If you say that you gave their pet to a friend, they wonder why their best friend would abandon them or why their parents would want to separate them from a creature that meant so much to them.

Instead, if you have made the decision to euthanize, it's a good idea to explain it in these terms - because we love Fluffy so much, we do not want her to suffer. We are helping her to die because she is experiencing pain that we can no longer treat.

Prepare Your Child

Talk about the death of a pet before the death occurs. Involve your child in the decision-making process. Not including children in the process makes them feel completely powerless about what is going on with their pet. If the pet has a terminal disease, talk honestly about the options with your children.

Parents often wonder if a child should be allowed to be with the pet during death and see the body afterward. It may be a good idea to ask a child what he or she wants to do. If the parent or child does not want to be present during the euthanasia process, then they can go back into the room to say goodbye. Seeing that the pet is actually dead often helps give children and parents a sense of closure.

Help Your Child Cope

Grief issues do not just happen in the veterinary hospital; they happen after the children (as well as the adults) leave. Sometimes grieving occurs months or even years later. During the grieving process, family members at various age levels will react differently. Children under 2 years can sense stress in the house even though they do not know the cause. If this is the case, comforting them and paying extra attention to them may help. Children 2 to 5 years old typically believe they are invincible and regard death as a reversible feat that cartoons like The Roadrunner and Coyote enact. Although they may not understand that their pet is dead, explaining death concretely now helps them understand it better at a later date. Eight-year-olds might understand that death is irreversible; however, in their minds, the universe revolves around them. If they think bad thoughts like, 'I don't want to walk Fluffy today. I wish she would just die' and then a couple of months later, Fluffy dies, a child this age might believe that their bad thoughts caused the death of the pet.

Showing your own grief in front of your child is healthy. Grieving and crying in front of a child validate to the child that these emotions are okay to express. Hiding grief might make children wonder why you don't miss Fluffy. This could lead to them wondering if you would be sad if they died. Children may react in ways that surprise adults. They may draw pictures of their pet underground, bury dolls, or ask shocking questions about what is happening to their pet's buried body. All of these responses are normal and healthy.

Families can be creative about memorializing their pets. Plant a tree. Put an engraved stone in your cat's favorite spot in the house. Encourage children to draw pictures. Each family member should be encouraged to memorialize their pet's death in a way that is meaningful to them.

If you or a member of your family is having trouble dealing with the loss of a pet, call your veterinary hospital for information. There are many Pet Hotline telephone services and counseling services available to families that have lost a pet.



Be on the lookout for the launching of our brick paver fundraiser!! The fundraiser will run from October 2023-March 2024. The bricks will be \$50 and in April, they will be placed as the flooring for our outside shelter.