



1111 Dodgetown Rd.  
Walnut Cove, NC 27052

[www.friendsofstokesshelter.com](http://www.friendsofstokesshelter.com)



JULY 2025

ISSUE #27



## WELCOME BACK

The month of June had some record high days but we survived! The pups took some "literally" icy water swims while the kitties stayed in the cool air conditioned play room. Thanks to some dedicated volunteers, everyone had an amazing June! We can NEVER say it enough, the volunteers run FOSS. If you are interested in volunteering, submit a request for information by going to our website: [www.friendsofstokesshelter.com](http://www.friendsofstokesshelter.com).

In the month of July, we will FINALLY get the cement for the reflection patio poured! We are SO excited! We are one step closer to the completion of our reflection patio. Stay tuned for some amazing updates about how things are coming along.

There are some cool updates about some of our adventures that we had in June. We hope that you enjoy this issue!

## Petrie Spaying & Neutering Foundation



FOSS was the lucky recipient of a 2024 grant from the Margo T. Petrie Spaying & Neutering Foundation. This grant made it possible to spay/neuter 170 animals! Of those animals, 7 were feral cats, 45 were owned community animals, and 118 were FOSS adopted animals.

The mission of the Margo T. Petrie Spaying and Neutering Foundation is to support long-term solutions to pet overpopulation and reduce the number of dogs and cats euthanized annually, thereby improving the lives of companion animals in North Carolina. The Foundation makes grants to qualified charitable organizations that provide spaying and neutering services to dogs and cats. We are so very thankful for wonderful foundations like the Petrie Foundation, which make it possible for us to not only help our non-profit but also make it possible for us to help our community.

## Newsletter Highlights

### 2nd Annual Pet Contest

Dixie Bell AKA Mozzarella

Rusty

Callie AKA Ennie

Charlie AKA Yoo Hoo

Simon

2nd Annual Putts for Pet  
Golf Tournament

## Upcoming Events

STAY TUNED  
FOR PICKLEBALL  
DATE!!!!

Donate Supplies  
from our  
amazon wishlist



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

## Look Who Got Adopted in June

Annalee	Rae	River	Bambam	Katydid
Bella	Winkin	Lake	Darla	Queso
Lexi	Nod	Cosmo	Alfalfa	Jaxs
Waffles	Hansel	Pebble	Spanky	Mandarin
Rosemary	Gretel	Boulder	Tinkerbelle	Creek
Linen	Maggie Mae	Gem	Tank	Simon
Tangelo	Marley	Stone	Mildred	Granola
Tangerine	Laredo	Rock	Popette	



**Dixie-Belle  
AKA  
Mozzarella**

**By: Gina Gowie**

Hello! I just wanted to share a few pics of Dixie-Belle (she was named Mozzarella when we adopted her). She is fitting in nicely and growing bigger every day!

Thank you for your commitment to precious companions like Dixie-Belle!



## 2nd Annual Pet contest

On June 21<sup>st</sup>, the FOSS crew headed out to Fowler Park in Walnut Cove and presented our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Pet Contest! We had an amazing group of judges: Mayor Nellie Brown, Stormie Speaks of Stormie Speaks Insurance Agency, and Kristie Mitchell of Mitchell's Butchery. We had 8 pups sign up and several that just came out to have fun. Toby took away the 1<sup>st</sup> place, Kiya took 2<sup>nd</sup> place, and Liberty took 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Way to go!!

Thank you to Tory Mabe for being an awesome DJ on his birthday, the judges, WestieWeen's for the gift certificates, Blue Skies Creamery for the yummy ice cream, and the Walnut Cove Library.

### >> DID YOU KNOW?

### 7 amazing facts about kittens

1. One litter of kittens can have multiple due dates. The heat cycle of a cat is about one week. That means she can get pregnant with one father and then another several days later.
2. Kittens with short hair open their eyes sooner than kittens with long hair. Scientists don't know why this is, but it's true of every breed.
3. Kittens can get pregnant as young as 5 months old. A 5-month-old cat still looks like a baby, but biologically they're mature enough to have babies of their own. That's why spaying and neutering is so important.
4. If kittens smell something unfamiliar, they hiss. Kittens are born with their eyes and ears closed. Smell is one of their only senses and allows them to know when danger is close.
5. When kittens are nursing well, their ears wiggle. There's a muscular connection between a kitten's head muscles that causes their ears to wiggle when they've successfully latched on to the bottle.
6. A kitten's whiskers are as long as their bodies are wide. Kittens' whiskers grow to be as wide as their bodies are wide to help them navigate the world.
7. Kittens are blind and mostly deaf until they're 2 to 3 weeks old. Kittens open their eyes for the first time when they're around 1 week old, though they still can't see very well. They also can't hear clearly at first. They're completely dependent on their mom during this time.



## FOSS Team

### Board Members

Leslie Staples - Chair  
Mike Barsness - Vice Chair/General Manager  
Leslie Staples - Treasurer  
Tanya Gardner - Secretary  
Fran Hollis - Facilities Chair  
Kate Waterman - Fundraising Chair  
Aaron Sisco  
Cindy Holby - Marketing Chair  
Sherry Smith  
Dr. Deborah Cowan  
Lee Winfrey

### Part-Time Employees

Emily Burgess - Animal Operations Manager  
Renea Brown - FOSS Services Manager  
Tonya Palmer - Kennel Assistant  
Crystal Finney - Kennel Assistant  
Erika Podhajser - Kennel Assistant

### Volunteer Coordinators

Lorrie Bennett - Volunteer Coordinator  
Katie Winfrey - Volunteer Coordinator  
Cindy Taylor - Human-Animal Relations Coordinator

**Along with 30+ active volunteers!!**





# Rusty

By: Karin Giordano



Hello. Not sure you still want updates, but I love this boy and have to brag. Rusty is doing great. He knows sit and shake and is getting pretty good at stay and down. Potty training is a work in progress but I keep telling myself to be patient. He loves to rough house with his favorite brother (the husky mix) and snuggle on the couch with us. He loves his food and their post-breakfast treats of American cheese (not spoiled). He passed his first vet check with flying colors - except for some worms - and fell asleep on the car ride home. When I work at night he sleeps under my feet. Here are a few pictures of his happy life. He is also growing like a weed. Pretty soon I won't be able to cradle him like a baby! 🥺

Thank you for saving him and his siblings!



## Callie AKA Eenie

I got a call from Nonie asking for an update on Eenie. We now call her Callie. She completed Bronze training at the K9 Academy and she's an absolute joy. She loves Rocket, and he loves her. Nonie asked if we could share some photos. I'm sending a few for you to choose from.



## Beth and Scott



## Adopt me



## Argyle

Argyle is a sweet little 5-month-old neutered male. He is extremely playful and likes to be the leader of the mischief games. He is just waiting on a cat tree of his own in his own home. Apply today at [www.friendsofstokesshelter.com](http://www.friendsofstokesshelter.com)

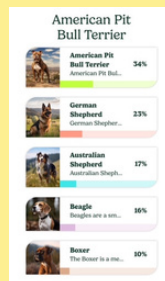
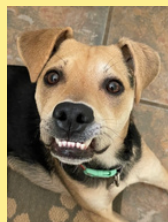
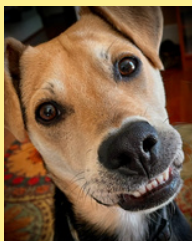
## Charlie AKA Yoo Hoo

I wanted to message you & give an update on a puppy we adopted from y'all on September 17th of last year. When we adopted him, his name was Yoo Hoo. We had met y'all at the Stokes Stomp & I had immediately fallen in love with him. His name is now Charlie & we love him so very much. He is the best, good boy.

Well, today is his birthday!!! He's one year old!

Thank you all for everything!

~Nikki Gregory



# FOSS Donation Wall

We sincerely apologize for any errors or omissions. Please contact (336) 914-9270 or [fosservicesmanager@gmail.com](mailto:fosservicesmanager@gmail.com) with any corrections or questions.

## AND FOR ALL OF THE AMAZON WISH LIST PURCHASES

### IN MEMORY OF PERSON

Susan McFadyen  
Clyde & Helen McFadyen  
Susan & David Briley  
Elizabeth & Donald Gober  
Marcia Wrangham  
John Arrowwood  
United Methodist Church Choir  
Ann Meadows  
Sarah Stephen  
Linda Mason  
James Grogan  
Melinda Sealy  
JoAnn Lawson  
Becky Harris  
Gina McGee  
Roger Gordon  
Jennifer Collins  
Johnny Wesley Whitman  
JClub  
Paul & Judy Martin  
Virginia Smith  
Dianne Durham

### DONATIONS

Alyssa Jenkins	Norman Smith
Richard & Marlene Vaughn	The Richardson's
Tonya Hurst	Amy James
Joanne & James Lansing	Jessica Lawrence
Barbara Stumbo	Laura Lane
David Mecum	Landon Butner
Linda Azelton	Terry & Vikki Meeks
King Public Library	Allison Washburn

### VPP HEROES

Elizabeth Trumpie	Barbara Self
Deborah Dodson	Emily Ann Williams
Lisa Tutterow	Candi Carter
Karen Coleman	Tammy Meadows
Robin Amos	Jeanette Burleson
Sandra Kollar	Courtney Dwyer
Kathryn Ball	Ruth Harden
Dana Curtis	Deb Fox
Larry Greenwood	Rose Oakes
Cynthia Wadkinson	Lauren Osterman
George Wadkinson	Regina Rollins
Lisa Robertson	Nancy Wagner
Karen Grano	Sheri Lynn Rokosh
JoAnne Silvia	Karen Fulscher
Robert Barnett	Angela Gamble
Lynne Pasquale	

### SPECIAL THANKS

Mayor Nellie Brown  
Stormie Speaks  
Kristie & Annie Mitchell  
Blue Skies Creamery  
Walnut Cove Library  
Lisa Bowers  
Stokes Early College Interact Club

### IN MEMORY OF PET

Troy  
Samantha Cooley

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 1111 DODGETOWN RD., WALNUT COVE, NC 27052

## Amazon Donors

Amazon has stopped allowing us to send out electronic "thank yous" for your generous donations. We have decided to say our thank you in the newsletter. We are so thankful for you. Some donations do not come in with a receipt so if you do not see your name, WE ARE THANKFUL FOR YOU.

Tonya Hurst  
Nicole Carone  
Cory Bowman  
Kimberly McFadyen  
Lauren Haywood  
Tina Anderson

Lindsay Hammond  
Wanda Dyer  
James Cox  
Jesse A. Grimm  
Katelyn Stewart  
Tabitha Deskins

Katie Mitchell  
Karen Oakley  
Jen  
Debbie Lavoie  
Norman Smith  
Valerie Thomas

Lori A. Harrington  
M. Ware  
Shannon Day  
Jen & Mark Axelson



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June

**Our Volunteers Are AMAZING**

July

Volunteer Hours

Volunteer of the Month

Birthdays

**834.50!!!**

**Michael Duvall**

Michael is so dedicated to the cats!! She brings her toys in and sets up the most incredible playland for them. She gives them each special time and special treats. She does a great job letting us know the personality of each cat. Thank you for your dedication Michael!!

3<sup>rd</sup> - Ava Clark

4<sup>th</sup> - Riley Blankenship

5<sup>th</sup> - Mattie Joyce

6<sup>th</sup> - Darlene Venable

27<sup>th</sup> - Tammy Hill

30<sup>th</sup> - Kenny Layman

**Simon**

**By: Christina Yao**

Hi Stokes Adoption Team,

Thank you for going through Simon's application process today with me. Could you please send me the adoption photo?

I just wanted to share a quick update—Simon has safely arrived at our home today and is already making himself comfortable. He was a little shy at first and took a nap tucked away in a corner, but later in the evening he started exploring and doing his business like a champ. He's already peed and pooped, and ate both the dry and wet food we prepared for him!

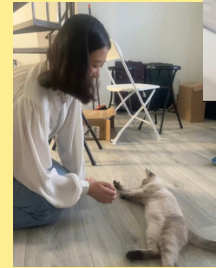
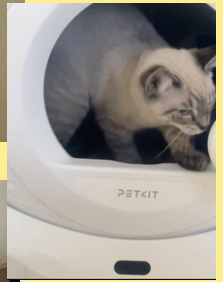
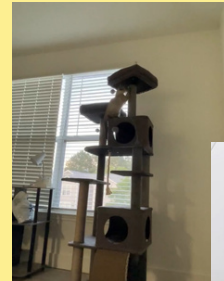
He seems especially fond of the water fountains and cat trees. He's been so clingy and purrs constantly, always asking for head pets. He is so sweet and gentle! We're so grateful to have him with us.

One thing we've noticed, though, is that he gets quite vocal when he's left alone. We've had to leave the bedroom door open and give him a few treats late at night to help settle him. We absolutely love how attached he is, but we also hope he can gradually feel more comfortable being alone when needed. Would you happen to have any suggestions for helping a clingy kitten build more independence?

Thank you again for all the care and love you gave him. We'll continue to keep you posted!

Warm regards,

Christina



## 2nd Annual Putts for Pets Golf Tournament

Well, we have put the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Putts for Pets Golf Tournament in the books as being a HUGE success! After it was all said and done, the event brought in \$12,028.16 to FOSS. That is incredible! We had a ton of sponsors and 22 teams. The day started wet, but the teams were able to finish with beautiful sunshine and warm temperatures. They filled their bellies with some donated biscuits from Biscuitville and Bojangles, and Haley's Bakery sent over some fresh and VERY delicious pastries before they started their day. Clutches Coffee Bar sent over some tasty hot coffee, along with some cold coffee, for those who wanted some iced coffee. The 3 snack carts made sure that they weren't hungry or thirsty while they were out having fun. When they finished their day, they had fresh hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, cupcakes, and cookies waiting for them. After the tally was done, the winners of the tournament, longest drive, closest to the pin, raffles, and 50/50 were announced. There were some pictures put on the website, but we are waiting on a few more to be sent to us. The FOSS crew had a great time, and it is safe to say that all the guests did as well. Go ahead and mark those calendars that in May 2026, there will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Putts for Pets Golf Tournament. In the meantime, stay tuned to find out the date for our 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Pickleball Tournament. Place, date, and time TBA.

Be sure to check the website [www.friendsofstokesshelter.com](http://www.friendsofstokesshelter.com) for the sponsors and thank them the next time that you see them. They made a HUGE difference in the money that was raised.



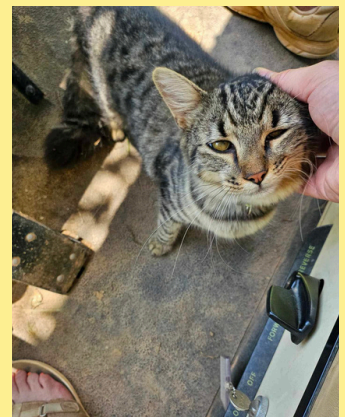
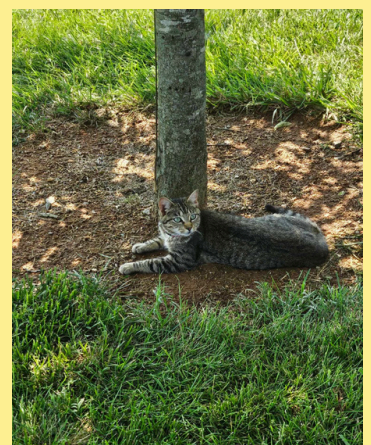
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# OUR FUREVER HOME SWEET HOME





# HAPPY ADOPTION DAY!!

