

COOL NEWS & ANIMAL VIEWS

Celebrating 34 YEARS in 2016!



Lifesaving Transport of Homeless Cats to NH SPCA

It's Kitten Season! While we certainly enjoy cuddling the many cute purring fur balls in all their different colors and breeds, it is also a very concerning time as we try to find homes for them all. There are SO many kittens that our HS/SPCA and the many wonderful rescue organizations with which we normally network are filled beyond capacity. If only everyone would spay and neuter their pets we would not be in this position!

Recently we had the good fortune to partner with the New Hampshire SPCA in Stratham, NH thanks to one of our newest Board members and volunteers Gloria Litman formerly with the NH SPCA. She arranged a transfer of 33 felines to them! Gloria commented that "networking nationwide is a necessity for all animal rescue organizations nowadays if they want to see more lives saved. We call upon our connections we have made over the years and continue building working relationships with others if we want to make an impact. But the greatest effect will be seen through continued spay/neuter efforts and education of the next generations about responsible pet ownership."

After several weeks of intense work vetting them with vaccinations and health certificates, 30 kittens and 3 adult cats were loaded into our van and driven to a rendezvous point in Virginia. Our Kennel Manager Carol Legrand added that "it's been a quite an organizational challenge prepping this volume of cats for an interstate transfer but it's all so gratifying knowing how everyone works together to make it happen. It's truly the definition of community but on a larger scale!"

There we were met by an NH SPCA transport team who took them the rest of the way. Happily, everyone arrived in good condition. Within a week more than half of them had been adopted. Within a month they were all in forever homes! Thanks so much to the dedicated people at the NH SPCA and to the many wonderful New Englanders who opened their hearts and homes to a deserving Florida cat...or two! We have promoted our many lovely felines during National "Adopt a Shelter Cat" Month and subsequent adoption special events to save as many felines as possible. As of this writing we were topping our scratching post record with over 80 adoptable cats! So we strongly encourage interested adopters to come by and consider adding a fun vibrant member or two to your family!



Groucho, the 1st kitten adopted from the NH SPCA won't be so grouchy now with his new family!



Elvis was adopted on his 2nd day in NH! He has left the building!

Humane Society/SPCA of Sumter County, Inc.

PO Box 67 994 CR 529A
Lake Panasoffkee, FL 33538
352-793-9117
www.hsspc.org

Our Mission

- Encourage responsible animal ownership practices through education;
- Report incidents of animal cruelty and/or neglect to government agencies chartered to take appropriate action;
- Provide care for adoptable animals that are injured, abused, unwanted or abandoned;
- Secure permanent homes for as many adoptable animals as possible;
- Provide spay and neuter services for animals to be adopted, as appropriate, to reduce unwanted animal populations.

Board of Directors

Celine Petrie, **Chairman**
Bill Gottschalk, **President**
Mary Chiles, **Secretary/Director**
Claudia Labbe, **Fundraising/PR, Director**
Gloria Litman, **Director**
Grover Stewart, **Director**
Kathryn Lane, **Treasurer**

Staff

Carol Legrand, **Kennel Mgr.**
Anne Miller, **Adoption Coordinator/
Office Mgr.**
Patty Bennett, **Kennel Tech.**
Moira Scott, **Kennel Tech.**
Star Gusman, **Office Asst.**

Always consider yourself invited! We welcome interested visitors to see what we are about, how well cared for the animals are and meet our great staff and volunteer team. We want you to feel confident about where your donations are going too. Our shelter hours are Mon.-Sat. 9am-3pm. Office closes at 4pm..

If you are interested in VOLUNTEERING, we host a Volunteer Orientation on the 1st Saturday each month. Just complete an application in person or on our website. We can't say enough about the importance of our volunteers.

With the exception of our two full-time employees and part-time kennel technicians, our HS/SPCA is ALL thanks to volunteers!

Calendar of Events

Check in with our Facebook page and website for the most current happenings! Many other exciting events are in the works!

October National Adopt a Shelter Dog Month

10/15 Blessing of the Animals at HOPE Lutheran Church, CR 466, The Vlgs., 10am-Noon.

10/22 4th Annual Golf Ball Drop at George Nahas Chevrolet with ReMax Premier Realty
11am-2pm, Tethered Hot Air Balloon Rides 9-11am (weather permitting), Golf Balls Drop at Noon, Live & Chance Auctions, Food, Music, Sheriff's K9 Demos, Vendors, animals & more!

10/22 Hometown Civitan Club "Doggie Joggie" at Wildwood Dog Park @ Huey St/Powell Rd.

November National Animal Shelter Appreciation Week (Nov. 6-12)

11/26-12/03 Festival of Trees Christmas Tree Auction @ The Grand Oaks Resort, Weirsdale

December

12/10 Holiday Party at Wildwood Country Resort

12/17-24 Barnes & Noble Gift Wrapping

January

TBD ZUMBAthon

February

Funtime Follies Show (in the planning stages)

02/04 Rotary Home & Garden Show Booth, Lake Sumter Landing

02/11 Walmart "Fill the Van" & Adoption Day 10am-2pm, The Vlgs.

02/12 Walmart "Fill the Van" & Adoption Day 10am-2pm, Bushnell

02/18 Hoedown, Villages Polo Field, CR 466

2/23 World Spay Day

March

TBD Paper Shredding Event

03/18 Strut Your Mutt Dog Walk, Vlgs. Polo Field

2017: HS/SPCA's 35th Anniversary Year!

Come meet many of our adoptable animals every 3rd Friday at the Villages Regional Rec. Centers listed below for the remainder of 2016. Our adoptable animals and volunteers will be situated outdoors at the adjacent gazebos from the main entrance from 11am-2pm, weather permitting. If the event must be cancelled, an HS/SPCA volunteer will be in the lobby area with our adoption books, applications and general information about our organization. This is open to the public.

10/21/16 Eisenhower Rec. Ctr.

11/18/16 Mulberry Rec. Ctr.

12/16/16 Seabreeze Rec. Ctr.

For your shopping ease, your purchases through AmazonSmile and Ebay For Charity can help our shelter! Shopping online can have dual benefits!

<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/59-2999283>

If you are an Ebay Seller and wish to help, please consider making a portion of your sale directed to our non-profit. Visit Ebay For Charity and see how easily you can help!
<http://www.ebay.com/usr/hsspc>

Wish List

A year-round need of dry dog/cat food (especially Purina O.N.E.)

Clumping cat litter

Blankets, Towels & Flat Sheets

OdoBan Odor Eliminator & Disinfectant

Bleach

Industrial/Contractor 60 gal. Trash bags (2.1-4mil strength), 13 gal. trash bags

Paper Towels

Dog/Cat Shampoos

General Office supplies (copy paper, Epson #127 Black/Color Inks, postage stamps)

Gift Cards: Walmart/Sam's Club, Gas cards & local businesses

Remember to donate your recyclable used ink cartridges, old cell phones & alum. cans! We have convenient drop off locations throughout the County too.

Stay tuned to our website, Facebook page & local papers for upcoming adoption dates & events!

Regretfully, but necessarily, our Humane Society/SPCA of Sumter County terminated our newspaper recycling effort Aug. 1st. We shall continue to be "green" with our aluminum can collection (rinsed & crushed please), our ink cartridges & old cell phones. The newspapers were too cumbersome, time consuming & little return for all the costs/effort involved...but we all certainly tried and we appreciate everyone's effort!

"Kibbles on Wheels" is Rollin' Along

We don't want any pet to go hungry nor do we ever want to learn that someone had to surrender their furry family member due to the cost of feeding it! Thanks to local pet food donors, many low income residents in Sumter County won't have to worry about their pets going hungry each day. Sumter County eligible residents, currently over 100 families (more than 200 dogs and cats) are receiving approx. 4,500 lbs. of dry pet food monthly. Donations to fund this program are always appreciated as the need continues.



Petco Foundation Invests in Our "Big Fix" in a Big Way!

In April, we accepted the invitation to become a Petco Adoption Partner, housing some of our many adoptable cats at Petco's in-store cat adoption center. HS/SPCA



Chairman and volunteer Adoption Counselor Celine Petrie noted that "We're thrilled to have this new venue to showcase our cats. We are confident prospective cat adopters will meet their new best friend at the Villages area store. There are an abundance of socialized, healthy and beautiful cats which are ready to become part of a forever family." Celine added that "our shelter will continue to house many adoptable cats at our main Lake Panasoffkee facility, but this added exposure at Petco in Rolling Acres is a wonderful opportunity to reach adopters in a wider area and save even more deserving lives." Thank you again Petco for making a big difference for animals in need!

A Note from the Chairman

I am pleased to report that Animal Transfers and Adoptions so far have already exceeded our totals for all of last year. Through August 2016 we have done 341 adoptions and 793 transfers for a total of 1134 animal lives saved. People most often think of the dogs and cats, but that number also includes a variety of other animals - hamsters, guinea pigs, rabbits, pet birds and chickens.

I'd like to say thank you to everyone because when I say that we saved these animals I mean all of us - everyone at the HS/SPCA, SCAS, the many rescue organizations and animal advocates with which we work and all the volunteers and donors - all of us working together rescue these deserving animals. Thank you!

Celine Petrie

Purina is O.N.E. Big Hero to Patch and his Shelter Friends!

In July, Purina honored our request for help feeding the steadily growing number of dogs and cats in our shelter with a generous donation of nearly 3000 lbs. of assorted Purina O.N.E. dry dog and cat foods. Patch was SO grateful he wanted to curl up in the storage room all day but instead he sent his thanks to them on Facebook! We work to keep the dogs and cats on one consistent formula to maintain digestive ease and Purina O.N.E. has been our nutritionally balanced and affordable option. Thank you Purina!



2016 Volunteers of the Month

May: Judi Gray

June: Karen Taylor

July: Alison Grambs

August: Barry Greenawald

Sept.: Jane Mouradjian

Oct.: Dennis Herman

Petco Showcasing Our Adoptable Cats

In May, we accepted the invitation to become a Petco Adoption Partner housing many of our adoptable cats via Petco's in-store cat adoption center. HS/SPCA Volunteer Adoption liaison with Petco and Chairman Celine Petrie noted that "we're confident interested cat adopters will surely meet their new best friend at the Villages area store. We have an abundance of socialized, healthy and beautiful cats which are eager to become part of a forever family." Celine added that "our shelter will continue to house many adoptable cats at our main Lake Panasoffkee facility, but this added exposure at Petco will make it a wonderful opportunity to showcase and save even more deserving lives." Thank you again Petco for making a big difference for animals in need!



Sammie was our inaugural adopted cat becoming part of the Dunne family!

Remembering Your Own Pets in Planned Giving Preparations

Making a will is a topic so many people avoid for a slew of reasons; their health is good, nothing tragic or unexpected will happen to them at this time of their lives, they believe they don't have much in assets to leave anyone, or it simply is a taboo topic they will deal with 'someday' in the distant future. Unfortunately reasons can change in an instant. Would you want your possessions, which includes living pets, to be decided by a court or the State to receive all your valuables? August is National "Make a Will" Month and while we consider our human family, friends and non-profits, all too often we assume our pets will have people standing in line offering to take in our pets, whether they are a single kitten or trusted riding horse. But this isn't always how things end up. In addition, pets cannot sit "in probate" for the obvious reason of needing daily care.

We remind animal lovers to include provisions for their surviving pet(s) in a legal Pet Trust not only in the event of their passing. We may need a temporary caregiver while hospitalized or become permanently unable to care for our pets. Speak to those you feel your pet would be well cared for then assign them, and an alternate choice, as your pet's caregiver. Allocate funds for their short or long-term care and have the trustee maintain asset control according to your wishes.

"A prepared will can provide peace of mind knowing everything that is important to them has been accounted for and left to those people or local charities that mean something significant to that individual" noted HS/SPCA volunteer Claudia Labbe. "As many people know, I am actively involved with our HS/SPCA and of my love of all animals. This is why I made plans accordingly to continue supporting them in the vital work they do even after I have passed. I have had the joy of witnessing how many lives are improved, both of animals and people, by the efforts of the HS/SPCA of Sumter and I want that to continue through my planned giving."

Our HS/SPCA offers a printable guideline of valuable planned giving information to those wanting to support our local non-profit via their estate planning preparations. This can be presented to their independent financial and legal counsel when executing wills, trusts, contracts and other agreements. For those interested in saving lives by "Leaving a Legacy of Compassion," visit <http://hsspc.org/estate-planning/> or contact us at 352-793-9117, PO Box 67/994 CR 529A, Lake Panasoffkee, FL, 33538 for a mailed copy of the guidelines.

Hurricane Season Is Still Upon Us... Are Your Pets Ready?

Our Humane Society/SPCA of Sumter County wants to make sure your pets are kept safe as Florida residents are still at risk in the 2016 hurricane season through November. We have seen the recent extremes reached in weather throughout our country and want our community to be at its best in preparedness. We offer resources and tips on our website at: (<http://hsspc.org/hurricane-season-soon-upon-us-are-pets-ready-2/>) or a handout brochure to learn how to protect your pets for hurricane season. The Sumter County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) has many other helpful disaster planning tips available at www.sumtercountyfl.gov.