

2025: Q2

Featured Stories

Sebring's Second Chance at Love

An adoption success story

Getting Into The Fix

First Pitties & Kitties of the year

Stirring The Pot

More than one way to win a chili cook-off

A Service Dog Story

Helping save one life for another

A Brighter Life For Beagles

Happy homes for some hoarded hounds

The Importance of Pet Pampering

A Historical look at the evolution

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Help From Up Above

Turning to the skies for pet rescue

ecently, when SPCA Florida received word that a beloved dog went missing, our team leapt

into action. That sinking feeling of losing a pet is one we all dread. But thanks to Trey Larson of Florida Game Recovery, there's now hope from above, literally. Just like any investigation, timing is crucial. That is why calling on Trey was necessary. Equipped with a hightech drone and a deep love for animals, Trey scanned the area from above with incredible precision. Within minutes, his infrared drone picked up movement. The dog was spotted nearby, thankfully unharmed. Trey's swift response and expert handling turned a potentially dangerous situation into a triumphant reunion. We are grateful for the peace of mind Trey brings to Polk County animal owners. •

Trey Larson www.floridagamerecovery.com



66 hen a close friend's birthday came around, I wanted to give something that really mattered—so I donated to SPCA Florida in their honor. It was simple, meaningful, and made a real difference for unhomed animals. If you're celebrating someone special, skip the usual gifts and donate to SPCA Florida. It's a powerful way to show love, support a great cause, and bring joy to both people and pets". Go to the SPCA Florida website and click "Donate" for more information. •



What's Old Is New Again

Finding love, a new life, and a second chance

y name is Sebring. When I first walked through the doors at SPCA Florida. life wasn't exactly a bowl of tuna. I was a "distinguished" senior gentleman, freshly surrendered by my human, sporting a fashionable collection of fleas, some itchy skin, and a stubborn cold that refused to leave. Adjusting to my new digs wasn't easy. The stress of it all had me grooming like I was trying out for a feline hair-loss commercial. Let's just say I was looking a little patchy. But despite my... "weathered" appearance, I kept my purrs polished and my head high. Then along came Marguerite — a volunteer with an eye for hidden

treasure. Where others might've seen an old cat with a few miles on him, she saw a gem (and who am I to argue?). It didn't take her long to realize that I belonged with her, and

frankly, I agreed.
These days, I'm
living the good
life, with comfy
beds, endless
snacks, and all
the love a senior
cat could ask for.
Sure, I showed
up looking a little
rough around

the edges, but turns out, I was just an heirloom waiting for the right person to dust me off.





A Little Nip, A Little Tuck

Fixing the problem before there's more. Litter-ally

nap at a

time. 💚

pril 4 was a big day for us four-A leggers! Tails wagged like crazy, whiskers wiggled with excitement, and the gossip at SPCA Florida was buzzing. It was the very first Pitties & Kitties event of 2025! And let us tell you, it was a howling, meowing, purr-fect success. Thanks to this special day, 120 of us proud pitties, curious kitties, and everyone in between got the royal treatment (aka a little snip-snip) to help keep the pet population under control. Sure, we were a little confused at first... one minute we were dreaming of endless treats, and the next we were waking up a little bit lighter! But honestly, we're all better for it — healthier, happier, and free from the drama of surprise litters. This isn't just about avoiding puppy or kitty duty. It's about giving our humans peace of mind, helping shelters breathe a little easier, and making our whole community a

kinder, fur-friendlier place. We owe big tail wags and head bumps to the amazing veterinary staff, the superhero volunteers, and all the humans who cheered us on. Because of you, SPCA Florida is on track to reache over 12,000 spay and neuter miracles again this year. And guess what? We're just getting started — fixing the future, one happy, groggy, tail-thumping



SPCA FLORIDA Lifetime CARE



When my mother passed away, her 13-year-old cat Josie was left with no one to care for her. Thankfully, SPCA Florida's Lifetime Care Program stepped in. This compassionate service gave Josie immediate entry into a loving environment, where her unique needs were honored. Many shelters won't accept older pets, but SPCA Florida matched Josie with a handpicked family who continues to provide her the love and comfort she always knew. Knowing Josie is safe has brought me incredible peace. The Lifetime Care Program ensures no pet is left behind, even when life takes unexpected turns. Please, make plans for the pets you love, because love doesn't end with goodbye. •

Contact Marie Culler: 863-577-4600 Mculler@spcaflorida.org

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A Refined Reflection

The glorious rise of pet pampering

ot too long ago, dogs slept outdoors under the stars, cats dined on pantry scraps, and the term "doggy daycare" sounded like satire. Fast forward, and our pets are now enjoying gourmet diets, orthopedic beds, birthday parties, and curated Spotify playlists. Some of them probably have better morning routines than we do. This evolution isn't just adorable, it's transformative. We now treat pets as family, often the favorite family member. We are expressing our love and care

with better food, preventive care, behavior training, and yes, even attention to our pet's mental health. But the impact goes beyond cute sweaters and pupcakes. This cultural shift has shined a spotlight on animal welfare. As awareness grows, so does compassion. More people are supporting shelters, adopting instead of shopping, and donating enrichment toys, high-quality food, and medical care. The very things we now expect for our own pets are being extended to those still waiting for a home. In short, the pampered pet revolution isn't just about indulgence, it's about inclusion. So yes, book that pup massage or buy the organic biscuit. You're not spoiling them; you're part of a modern movement that's making life better for all animals, one tail wag at a time. 💙



To purchase the book scan the **QR** Code below



Sharing a Life With Story

An illuminating tribute to one adopter's pooch not stories are too good not

to share. For instance, one that started here at SPCA Florida. In 2010, a hound named Lady was adopted from our shelter. She

was the inspiration for something special, a published book titled The Last One On The Left. Written by her adopter, Sir Colin Kingsbury, this fantasy driven story encapsulates just how magical and powerful adoption can be in both a pet's life, and their human's. With each purchase of the book the author is donating 100% of the proceeds to SPCA Florida. This serves as a reminder that every animal who leaves our shelter carries with them a story worth telling and sometimes that story is special enough to publish as a book to share with others. •



ello amigos! Katrina Barcellona here. SPCA Florida board member. animal lover, and now... proud chili contender! I recently had the pleasure

of participating in the City of Mulberry's Chili Cook-Off on March 1st, and what a day it was! But I wasn't alone, I had the best four-legged sidekick by my side: Frosty Flakes! Not the cereal, mind you, but our lovable, tail-wagging SPCA ambassador. Together, we set out on a mission: to win hearts, fill stomachs, and bring awareness to a cause close to our hearts. I cooked up my "Purr-fect" Turkey Chili (yes, that pun was fully intended), and to my delight, it was a hit! The judges awarded us 2nd place in the non-traditional chili category, along with a \$250 prize. While Frosty didn't get to sample the chili himself, much to his dismay, he made the rounds collecting belly rubs and charming the crowd

with every step he took. The celebration didn't end there. On April 15th. I was invited to attend a meeting in Mulberry, where SPCA Florida was honored with a generous \$1,500 donation from the City of Mulberry! Out of the \$15,000 raised during the event, 10 nonprofits were chosen to receive contributions, and we were thrilled to be one of them. The best news of all? Frosty Flakes has since found his forever home! Knowing that this event helped support so many animals like him makes every moment, every spice-splashed apron and every stirred pot, so worth it. Huge thanks to the City of Mulberry for their generosity and for hosting such a meaningful event. We'll see you at the next Chili Cook-Off. with even more flavor, fun, and furry friends! •





adies and gentlemen, creatures great and small—step right up! It's your ringmaster, P.T. Barkum, inviting you to the most spectacular night of the year: The Auction for Animals, returning Saturday, **November 8**, right here at the dazzling SPCA Florida campus! This year's theme? The Greatest Showmutt! Prepare to be amazed, inspired, and moved as we gather under the big top for a night of heart, hope, and high-flying generosity. This isn't just any event—it's our biggest fundraiser of the year, and every ticket, every bid, every cheer helps provide medical care, shelter, and love to the animals who need it most. As my namesake once said, "The noblest art is that of making others happy." And that, dear friends, is exactly what this evening is all about. So grab your top hat, polish off your paws, and join us for a night of magic, meaning, and second chances. The animals are counting on us—and trust me, you won't want to miss this spectacular show!



Operation hoarding-rescue revisited hose who know me call me Declan. When I first experienced the world around me, it wasn't a place of safety or warmth. My rescue-mates, also tiny beagle-dachshund pups, and I were crammed into dark, scary places. We didn't know kindness,

only fear. But everything changed

the day a rescue team showed up.

They didn't hesitate. They gently scooped us up and rushed us away from the hoarding nightmare. For the first time, we felt safe. 50 of us were saved and sent to shelters around the state. Five of us were sent to SPCA Florida, where they gave us medical care, soft beds, and more love than we ever knew existed. That's where I met Tim. He

made me feel calm. He saw me, not just as a rescue, but as a special dog. When he took me home, that's when I really started to come alive. The quiet, unsure pup I used to be began to fade. I became the curious, playful, and affectionate me. My rescue-mates and I still have healing to do, but we're on our way. Thanks to SPCA Florida, we finally have a chance to live the happy, healthy lives we always dreamed of. All of us got adopted and are living with some great humans. Take a look at us now! ♥

Help Us Help The Animals

Every donation, no matter the size, helps care for our deserving companions and find them fur-ever homes. Here are some examples of how your donations help

.....

Feed a hungry puppy, kitten, dog and cat

Provides neuter surgery to prevent unwanted litters

Provides spaying services to maintain a healthy population

Provides necessary dental care for animals with dental needs

Provides emergency medical care to save precious lives

Impacts animal number of lives saved

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When Duty Calls, We Serve

A long-lasting flavor with this life saver

entry, a devoted service dog, is living proof that heroes come in all shapes. Even those with four paws and a wagging tail. His name means "a guard, a watchful protector", a role he's embodied in every chapter of his life. Once the steadfast companion of a Veteran battling PTSD, Sentry's life took a heartbreaking turn when his owner had to relocate to Texas for medical care. Sentry was found sad and alone when SPCA Florida got the call. But Sentry's story didn't end there. Thanks to SPCA Florida's compassionate team and dedicated foster network, Sentry was rescued just in time and placed in a safe, loving foster home. We soon learned the full extent of the

life Sentry once lived. His previous owner shared that this brave pup saved his life and acted quickly during a moment of despair. Sentry didn't just offer comfort. He gave someone a second chance at life. Now, Sentry needs someone to fight for him. He has recently tested positive for heartworms and will soon begin treatment. Just as he once saved a life, we are committed to saving his and finding him the forever home he so deeply deserves. His heart may be hurting, but it is still full of love. He is ready to share his life with another caring human. Sentry's story is one of courage, second chances, and the unbreakable bond between a dog and those he protects. •





Vou wouldn't believe how

much joy one little dog can bring until you've met Lasagna. The moment he trotted into our common room, tail wagging and eyes full of warmth, the whole place lit up. He was part of a program called Golden Pet Partners, a wonderful outreach from SPCA Florida that brings pets like Lasagna to visit folks like me in assisted living. Many of us here once had dogs or cats of our own, and while we may no longer be able to care for a pet full-time, that doesn't mean we've stopped needing the love they bring. These visits remind us of that bond. The animals clearly love being around people. It's more than just a nice visit. It's healing. It's comforting. We look forward to it. Golden Pet Partners brings smiles, stories, and sometimes even tears of joy. Because let me tell you, the unconditional love of a dog like Lasagna? It's something everyone should get to feel, no matter their age. •

Thank you, Jackie





hat's the secret recipe to success, daddy-o? It's a smooth blend of steamin' java, purring pals, and a whole lotta soul. Our groovy comrades at the Orlando Cat Café have



been dishin' out the love since the jump, serving warmth in a mug and whiskered wonders with a side of good vibes. Dig this, they just hit a far-out milestone of

3,000 cat adoptions! Yeah, you heard right. That's not just digits, man, that's 3,000 lives jazzed up, 3,000 soft meows echoing into the cosmos. 3.000 cool cats who've found their forever groove. From the bashful tabby breakin' out of her shell to the fiery little ginger struttin' right into someone's heart like he owns the place. It's all a beautiful beat of serendipity when felines and fresh brews collide. So next time you're loungin' with an iced coffee, vibin' with a furball on your lap, remember, you're sittin' in a spot where small miracles riff every day. Solid snaps to the Orlando Cat Café for those 3,000 righteous adoptions. Here's to the many more on the way. SPCA Florida tips its beret and says: thanks a latte, baby, for keepin' the love alive.



Don't Wait For The Storm

Saving animals before and after a disaster

reated with the mission to protect and save the lives of animals in times of crisis. As part of SPCA Florida, Florida SARC leads the charge in disaster preparation, response, and recovery across the state. Whether it's deploying teams during hurricane season, setting up emergency shelters, transporting stranded pets, or distributing critical supplies to animals at risk, Florida SARC is there on the ground both ahead of the disaster, and after

the chaos clears. With hurricane season just around the corner, their work becomes more vital than ever. Hundreds of animals depend on fast, organized response efforts to survive natural disasters and your support makes that possible. When you support SPCA Florida, you're not only helping animals today, you're helping keep them safe for tomorrow. Thanks for standing with us, rain or shine, to make sure no pet is left behind.



www.flsarc.org

s an ongoing commitment to saving animals during disaterous situations, Florida SARC invites you to participate in one of our training classes. You can find upcoming classes listed below, or for a complete schedule go to the Florida SARC website. Be part of the excitement and volunteer, get certified, or learn more about the heroic work the organization provides our state and nationwide.

TRAINING LEVEL 1

TRAINING LEVEL 2

June 20

TRAINING LEVEL 1

June 5 9am-9pm June 9-10 9am-5pm 8:30am-4:30pm

TRAINING LEVEL 1

July 19 9am-5pm SPCA Florida **Education Room**