

Leesburg Humane Society

Greetings shelter friends and family.... It's been a while since we have sent a newsletter, and there are a couple of reasons for that. First and foremost, we have been busy with many, many new projects. Starting in October, we will send out a monthly newsletter but this month we would like to catch you up on what has been happening at the shelter this year.

Debbie Butler, Executive Director

Thank You for Your Donations

We want to thank all of our supporters for donations to the shelter. We are 100% supported by private donors and do not receive any government funding. Not only do your donations help support day-to-day operations of the shelter, but also help support programs such as the cottages, assisting pet parents with spay/neuter, our volunteer programs and Forever Home Pet Trust. Any amount helps and we have a variety of ways for you to support our Mission. You can look at the Donate page on our website to see the different options to provide your support.

Forever Home Pet Trust

The Forever Home Pet Trust property and all that goes along with, not only ironing out all the details of the program, but also getting the new property ready and having the homes built has kept us all busy.

Heidi has been doing a great job at getting the program up and running as well as getting the word out and telling people about it. We have many people signed up and they can be assured that their pets will be taken care of when they can no longer do so. One less thing to stress about in a stress filled day and age.

Speaking of stress, if any of you have built a new home, you will relate to this next topic. The two homes that are being built on the property for Forever Home Pet Trust has been challenging, to say the least. We are forever grateful that we have been able to do this, and there have been no real tragedies, but permits, contractors etc., etc.,- the ins and outs of getting this done has taught us more about the building business than we wanted

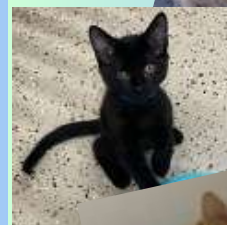
to know! I write all of this with a smile on my face because the end result is going to be worth any stress that it may have come with.

Shelter Update

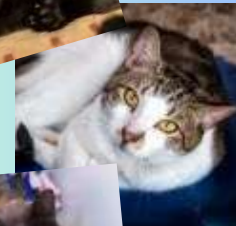
The shelter keeps on, no matter what else we may be doing. Summertime tends to be a quiet time and adoptions, historically, are down. We look forward to gearing up for the fall and being busy again. Springtime brought us the usual loads of kittens who are doing what kittens do best, being cute and growing like weeds. Our "Kitten Cottage" and our "Teen Room" are filled to capacity. We have actually had to put some cages in the lobby to handle the tinies that are too little to go in either place. Every year brings the same challenges, too many kittens and not enough room, and even if we built another wing on the shelter, we would still have the same problem. I'm sure that everyone will agree that spaying and neutering is the only solution to that problem. We do our best to help people get their animals spayed and neutered whenever possible. As usual, that all takes money. We are brainstorming about starting a program for low cost spay/neuter. Stay tuned....

Cat Update & Yoga with Cats

The cats that are living in our adult area, otherwise known as our "cat porch", are just living their best lives. Some stay inside in the AC and some love to lay in the sun outside. We have had several Yoga with Cats classes, which the cats just love. I'm not sure how much yoga gets done, but a good time is had by all. Due to it's success, we are holding more classes from October - March. If you would like to attend, email Heidi at volunteer@leesburghhumanesociety.org.



CAT ADOPTIONS



Leesburg Humane Society

Special Needs Cats

Our long-term cats, with special needs, have been thriving in their cottage that was built for them. They love lounging inside while watching their television with their favorite show playing. Any guesses on what that might be? They have several! There are fights over who gets to hold the remote, so we must hide it! Some love to go out on their porch and watch the birds fly by or the squirrels running around. These cats are doing so well that we decided to build another one for more cats to enjoy themselves. We are grateful to the supporter who donated a shed to us to achieve this goal. We have so many cats that have special needs, be it medical, behavioral or they just can't adjust to living in a group setting that we have at our shelter. Most cats love our community living on our "cat porch" as we call it, which is basically the same setting as the cottages, only more cats. Many of the older cats that we take in simply can't adjust. They are not "unadoptable", they just need a bit of a quieter setting. Hopefully it will be done soon and filled with happy cats.



Future Plans for the Shelter

We would like to have several little houses to separate the cats and let them all have their own space, i.e., kittens, teenagers, seniors, problem children, etc. Back to that money thing again. These cottages cost a bit to get done. If you would like to support this goal and help us with either a financial donation or donation of a shed, please contact Heidi at volunteer@leesburghumanesociety.org.

Dog Update

Our dogs have been keeping cool this summer with special frozen treats and sprinkler/pool playtime. Our dog kennel attendants love to make ice bowls and frozen treats for the dogs. We also have kiddie pools that we fill up for the dogs to splash around in and keep cool. We love to be able to let potential adopters know which dogs enjoy water. As previously mentioned with our cats, adoptions tend to be slower in the summertime, but we have had some special babies go to their furever homes. Look for more updates in our future newsletters about featured adoptable pets and some great adoption stories.

Contact Information

Leesburg Humane Society
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Leesburg, FL 34788
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adopt@leesburghumanesociety.org

Forever Home Pet Trust
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Leesburg, FL 34788
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Bargain Store
32445 County Road 473
Leesburg, FL 34788
352-742-2686

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DOG ADOPTIONS



Leesburg Humane Society

Volunteer Spotlight – Kelly

I started volunteering at the Leesburg Humane Society almost a year ago. I come twice a week to walk the dogs, and I look forward to it every week! I love these dogs so much and my goal every time I come is to give them all the love and affection and fun walks I can until they find their forever home! My favorite part about volunteering is how happy the dogs always are to see me! No matter what craziness is going on in the world or what stresses I'm under, as soon as I get to the shelter and see the smiles and tail wags of all the dogs, all of that disappears and I just focus on enjoying time with them!

I come from a family of animal lovers, my love for animals started before I could even walk! I started volunteering at animal shelters in high school with my mom and sister and I've been doing it at different shelters ever since! I've had dogs and cats all my life and currently have a dog I rescued from the streets of Peru, South America after he was hit by a car and 2 cats I've rescued from local shelters. My love for animals led me to go to school to become a vet tech and work with animals, but after I graduated college, I landed a job in finance and have been working full time in the finance field since then. I'm sure someday I'll get back to working in the animal field, but until then, I get my animal fix through my weekly visits to the humane society! I encourage everyone to volunteer at your local shelters, even if it's just for 1 hour a week, you can make such a huge difference in these animal's lives! It's so much fun and not only is it the highlight of these dogs' days, it's absolutely the highlight of mine too!

When I'm not working or volunteering, I'm usually doing something outdoors - Biking, hiking with my dog, kayaking, gardening or reading in my hammock! I also love road trips and traveling!

Bargain Store Update

by Marcia Turner, President, Board of Directors

We always start with a gigantic THANK YOU to our volunteers, donors of "great stuff" and of course our shoppers. We love the "repeat" shoppers that stop in regularly looking for the "perfect find" be it books, dishes, clothes or a replacement lid, cover or coffee pot. It is such fun to talk to a new shopper who was just driving by and discovered us.

A request - Sales this year are lagging behind our 2023 numbers a bit so we are hoping you will help us spread the word. Tell your friends and neighbors about us and share our Facebook posts. With the weather a tiny bit cooler (yes 80-90 is cooler) and kids back in school we hope you will wander in and say hello.

Our Bargain Store is located at 32445 County Road 473, Leesburg. Please call first to make sure the store is open, as it is solely run by volunteers. 352-742-2686



VOLUNTEER - KELLY

