

HAPPY
MOTHER'S
DAY

MAY 2025 NEWSLETTER

CATS FOR ADOPTION

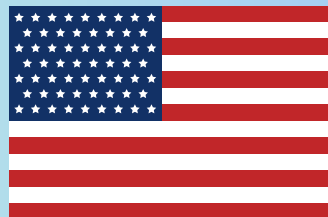
Leesburg Humane Society

Message from Debbie Butler, Executive Director

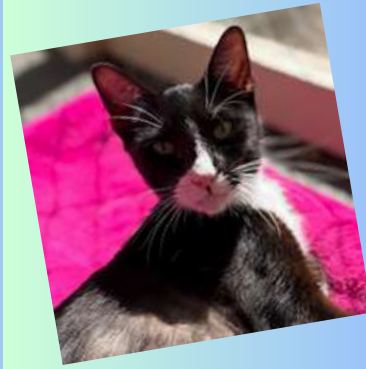
Greetings shelter friends and family..... We are still hanging on to the Spring weather as long as we can. We don't want the summer to clock in too early. If any of you spend any amount of time at the shelter, you would know that it is usually windy and beautiful here. It truly is a magical place to sit, relax and unwind. Many people come to visit just to soak it all up. The animals add to the atmosphere because they feel it too. When an animal is turned in to a shelter, no matter how beautiful, it is traumatic to them because they lose all of the things that are familiar to them. As hard as we try to make them feel welcome, they are unsure at first. They need to be showered with love immediately, even though they refuse it. We don't give up no matter how long it takes. Most everyone that is here usually has an animal that they are trying to bring around. We have dogs in the office under our feet at our desk, cats in the lobby that want constant attention and so on and so on. Kittens and puppies seem to adjust more easily than the older ones. Unfortunately they have learned not to trust people, which is sad. Once they relax and understand what has happened and they redirect, they feel free to be happy. It warms my heart to see a volunteer walking a dog around the property prancing with its tail wagging when it came to us scared and shy. It's truly amazing. It takes a village to make this happen and fortunately we have one. It takes more than the staff, although they are amazing. Volunteers are so important no matter what their role is. We have a wonderful bunch of gentlemen that work so hard at keeping all ten acres trimmed and mowed so that the dog walkers can walk the dogs in the entire property. Some of it is still a bit of a jungle, but that serves its purpose for the wildlife that takes refuge with us. We have people that walk our dogs so they have some time away from the kennels. We have the people that come and love our cats. They need lap time and cuddles while waiting for their people to discover that they are here waiting for them. Our special needs cats have a second cottage thanks to Rhondi and Ed. Rhondi is behind the scenes with thoughts and ideas for Ed to carry out for making the cottages the wonderful success that they are. Many people help out financially, which makes all of this possible. Heidi plays a big part in getting and keeping all of our wonderful volunteers. She is also behind the scenes making things run smoothly. I could go on and on, but I already have. With Spring having sprung, and all of the love that was in the air, we are filled with puppies and kittens. They are so precious and invigorating. They have a zest for life and they seem to want to explore all of the possibilities that life has for them. As humans, it is our job to make sure they can live the best life that they can have, and it should be as long as possible. Having a pet as a baby and seeing it through to old age is an honor. They just don't live long enough for us. I know most of you have had a pet taken from you before you were ready to let it go. I know I have. All we can do is love them and hold them as long as we can. That's not asking too much, is it? As always....Deb



MEMORIAL DAY



REMEMBER AND HONOR



JOE
2 YEAR OLD MALE



CANDY
4 YEAR OLD FEMALE



DART
4 YEAR OLD MALE



BOB
7 YEAR OLD MALE

Leesburg Humane Society

FOREVER HOME PET TRUST UPDATE

Things are moving along at the Forever Home Pet Trust property. Last week garages were added at each home. We are still waiting for the outdoor enclosures to be finished and are looking forward to these spaces so the cats and dogs can enjoy safe time outside. After all of the construction is completed, we can then focus on getting the lawn back to its previous beautiful state and adding flowers and plants that will help feed and support bees, butterflies and hummingbirds. We have a lot of non-human residents on the property including racoons, opossums, and an amazing variety of birds, including a bald eagle couple that has a nest across the street. Being nature and animal lovers, we look forward to all of the visitors we see every day.

If you would like more information about the program or a tour of the property, please contact Heidi at FHPT@leesburghumanesociety.org or 352-669-3348.



DAN
3 MONTH OLD MALE



FORREST
3 MONTH OLD MALE



BUBBA
3 MONTH OLD MALE



DOROTHY
3 MONTH OLD FEMALE



**Leesburg Humane Society's
Forever Home Pet Trust
Virtual Presentations**

**What Will Happen to Your Pet if
Something Happens to You?**

This remote presentation is ideal for anyone who lives out of our area. Learn about our program from the comfort of your home!

In person presentations are also available for groups.

Contact us to schedule a date that works for you. Once the date is scheduled, you will be sent a link to join the meeting.

FHPT@leesburghumanesociety.org
352-669-3348

- This program is available to any pet parent located in the US.
- Provides a permanent location for pets to live out their lives in homes with resident staff members if something happens to their human companion.
- Learn more about how the program works, funding options and advanced planning for your pet.



**Leesburg Humane Society
Donation Pick Up Runs**



Do you have items you would like to donate to the shelter or bargain store but don't have time to drop them off?

We offer pickup of donations at scheduled stops throughout The Villages where you can meet us with your donations. Please contact us to let us know which location works for you and we will send you the time to meet us.

Support our shelter by donating any of the following items:
Frequently Used Items (full list available upon request)
cat/dog food, dog/cat beds, cat trees, toys, cleaning supplies, etc.

Items that can be sold at our bargain store:
clothing, household, garden, books, handbags/accessories, decorative, etc. (no large furniture)
All sales at our bargain store help to fund shelter operations

Pickup Dates & Locations
Pickup Time Will Be Given When You Reserve a Date & Location

Upcoming Dates: April 1, May 7, June 4

Hacienda Recreation Center
Springdale Neighborhood Pool
Lake Sumter Landing
Walmart Neighborhood Market, Heald Way
Rohan Recreation Center
Everglades Recreation Center
Ezell Recreation Center



Contact for more information:
volunteer@leesburghumanesociety.org 352-669-3348



VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION WEEK

On April 27, we provided lunch for the shelter volunteers to celebrate Volunteer Appreciation Week. Our thanks to them is given every day of the year but we wanted to do a little something so they could gather and meet people they had not yet and receive our heartfelt thanks. We were so busy eating and chatting that we forgot to take photos! But a nice time was had by all.

Leesburg Humane Society

Featured Dog - Bella

Bella is a sweet, happy, active, 2.5 year-old Hound Mix. As soon as she sees a ball, she's ready to run! Bella is great on leash walks and loves all other dogs – big or small. Bella had a rough start to her life but she's ready to add happy memories to her next chapter. She surrendered with her sister Kash who has been adopted. Bella wonders when it will be her turn. She weighs 46 pounds and is housebroken.



Featured Cat - Smokey

Meet Smokey, a 5-year-old sweetheart who's the very definition of a love bug! This affectionate girl lives to be by your side, offering endless cuddles and gentle kisses to anyone lucky enough to call her their own. Smokey will be the first to greet you at the door, and the moment you settle into your favorite spot, she'll be right there, ready to smother you with love. Whether you're watching TV, reading a book, or just relaxing, Smokey's favorite place is wherever you are. If you're looking for a loyal companion with a heart full of love, Smokey is your girl.



PRINCE
5 YEAR OLD MALE



BEULAH
6 YEAR OLD FEMALE



WALKER
8 YEAR OLD MALE



MR. CHARLIE
2 YEAR OLD MALE

facebook

To see all the latest news at the shelter, please like and follow our Facebook Page. And tell friends and family! Thank you!

facebook.com/leesburghumanesociety

Leesburg Humane Society

Volunteer Spotlight - Emily & Amber

Emily and her daughter Amber began as volunteers to help Amber get community service hours for college. Having always been animal lovers, this opportunity was a dream come true! They love meeting all the new animals and giving them the love and attention they deserve. Walking the dogs first for great exercise and then playing with the kittens and cuddling the cats. Emily loves the experience so much that even though she started for Amber, she plans to continue volunteering even after Amber goes off to college.

Amber is a talented artist and saxophone player. She is in The Villages High School marching band. She plans to major in art and hopes to continue marching when she goes to college.

Emily is a patient safety coordinator for AdventHealth Medical group and in her spare time enjoys running. This past year she became an ultra-marathoner, and this February completed her first 100 mile race in 34 hours and 38 minutes.

They both love Star Wars, marvel movies, and cosplay attending Comic con and Mega con. Amber also loves Beanie Boos, video games and anime.



Contact Information

Leesburg Humane Society

41250 Emerald Island Road

Leesburg, FL 34788

352-669-3312

adopt@leesburghumanesociety.org

Forever Home Pet Trust

41220 Emerald Island Road

Leesburg, FL 34788

352-669-3348

fhpt@leesburghumanesociety.org

Bargain Store

32445 County Road 473

Leesburg, FL 34788

352-742-2686



Volunteer Hours

In April, shelter volunteers gave 162 hours.

Thank you!!

INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING?

Volunteer roles include dog walking/socializing, cat socializing, events, outreach, bargain store, and fostering.

Contact 352-669-3348 for more information



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Marcia Turner, President
Patti Mosteller, Treasurer
Jennifer Hapner, Secretary
Debra Butler, Member
Linda Burfield, Member
Ronald Thompson, Member

Leesburg Humane Society

Adoption Story

Rookie - Rookie was surrendered to us due to his owner having to move into assisted living facility. Rookie was confused at first but was the perfect dog during his time here at Leesburg Humane Society. He even had people calling to vouch for him! He now lives on an 8-acre farm in Lecanto. Congratulations Rookie and his new mom Cheryl



Thank You!

A big thank you to BJ's Bingo for holding another fundraiser game and donating \$800 to the shelter. We greatly appreciate their continued support!



William Najger a.k.a. The Love Sign Guy, made us these beautiful signs to display at the shelter and events. We cannot thank him enough for his generous offer to paint these for us. Check out his work on Instagram @thelovesignguy



Thank you to Tractor Supply in Leesburg for donating food and supplies to the shelter every month.

