



Snoopy

Welcome to the January edition of the LOHS Paw Print! As we step into the new year, we reflect on the incredible milestones and heartwarming stories from 2024. This issue is packed with exciting updates, including important information on the avian flu and its impact on our community. We are immensely grateful for your continued support and readership, which makes our mission possible. Thank you for being a part of our journey and for helping us create a brighter future for all the animals in our care. Here's to a wonderful year ahead!

-Your LOHS Team

DIRECTOR'S CUT:

By: Diane Robinson

Happy 2025! It is hard to believe the new year has begun. LOHS was busy last year and already rolling this year with adoptions and transport of a mom and eleven puppies to a partner organization. 2024 was not without its challenges, but we have many successes to celebrate.

Once again, our community programs have surpassed our goals and previous years numbers. LOHS' ability to help the community would not be possible without the support of our donors and the incredible hard work of our volunteers. Passion and compassion are the foundation of LOHS. It shows in the time and commitment in the everyday care of the animals, assisting our clients, and supporting the community programs enhancing the lives of the animals and their people.

January 31st we will be holding our first of the year Town Hall. Please join us to hear about the achievements in 2024 and our goals for 2025. It will be held at Lakeside Church Friday January 31, 2025, at 11 am. We hope to see you there.

Belle

Holly & Angel

Midnight

Pebbles

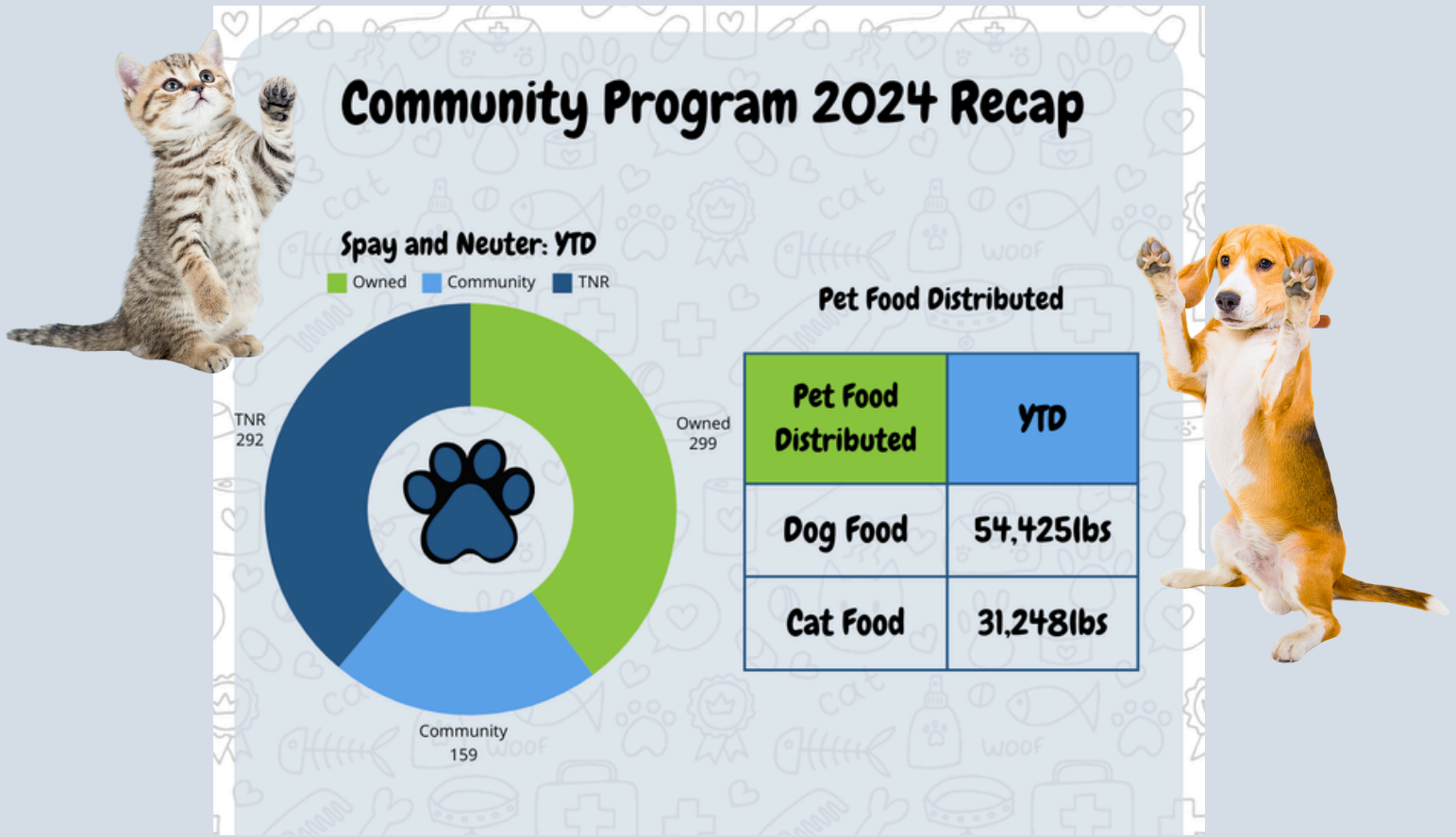


2024 ADOPTION RECAP

LOHS HAD 6 DOG AND 13 CAT ADOPTIONS FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER!!

As we close out the year, we are thrilled to announce that 131 cats and 132 dogs have found their forever homes through the efforts of LOHS. Each adoption represents one more life saved, and we couldn't be prouder of the tireless dedication shown by our staff and volunteers. Their unwavering commitment has ensured that every animal that comes through our doors is well-prepared for their new families. We extend our heartfelt congratulations to all the adopters and express our deepest gratitude to our incredible volunteers and staff. As we welcome the new year, we are filled with hope and determination to surpass our goals for 2025. Thank you for being a part of this amazing journey!

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS: A RECAP OF OUR 2024 YEAR



AVIAN FLU IN DAIRY COWS AND DOMESTICATED CATS:

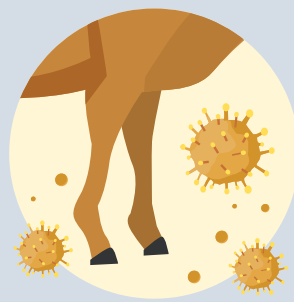
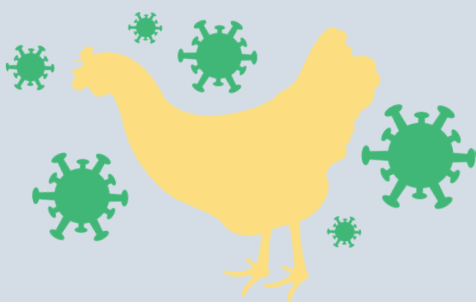
A NEW THREAT By Dreama Thomas

Avian Flu (H5N1), also known as Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI), has recently been detected in dairy cows and domesticated cats. This marks a significant development in the spread of the virus, which was previously confined to birds and poultry. In Wisconsin, there has been one confirmed fatal case in a cat, while Los Angeles has declared a State of Emergency due to the disease spreading to a quarter of the state's dairy farms in the last month, with ten confirmed cases in cats.

The virus is primarily transmitted through ingestion of or exposure to wild birds, consumption of contaminated raw bird meat, and drinking raw milk. Currently, the survival rate for infected dairy cows and cats is zero. The clinical signs of Avian Flu in affected animals are similar to those of upper respiratory infections and rabies, including sneezing, coughing, nasal discharge, circling, tremors, and seizures. As of now, there have been no reported cases of transmission from cats to humans. However, the virus spreads rapidly among animals, and by the time clinical signs are evident, it is often too late to isolate the infected animal. Avian Flu is classified as a reportable disease, meaning that any suspected cases must be reported to the appropriate health authorities immediately.

To prevent and control the spread of Avian Flu, it is crucial to avoid feeding animals raw or undercooked meat and unpasteurized milk, limit exposure to wild birds and contaminated environments, and implement strict biosecurity measures on farms and in households with pets. With Lake Oconee Humane Society being so close to Putnam County, the "Dairy Capital of Georgia," we are taking great precautions to protect our animals and community. The emergence of Avian Flu in dairy cows and domesticated cats is a serious concern, and immediate reporting and stringent preventive measures are essential to control the spread of this deadly virus.

To read the full article and learn more about the updated intake and visitation procedures at Lake Oconee Humane Society, click [HERE!](#)



STAFF MEMBER HIGHLIGHT: DREAMA THOMAS

How are you involved with LOHS? / What is your position with LOHS?

I have the wonderful responsibility of taking care of LOHS cats and kittens! I am the Cat Program Manager.

How long have you been a part of LOHS?

I have been the Cat Program Manager for 3 1/2 years.

What makes LOHS special to you?

LOHS holds a special place in my heart because it allows me to combine my passion for animal care with my professional skills.

Tell us about your family.

I have three grown children, 6 grandchildren, and 1 great grandchild.

Do you have any pets?

Oh boy, do I have pets! Munson, Bentley, Conner, Willow, and Toby are my babies, and Eleanor, Sage, and Pumpkin are my grandpets. Out of our eight pets, six are LOHS rescues, and Eleanor is a CA rescue. Munson, who was given to me by a family member when he was two years old, is now about to turn 14.



MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS:

The Lake Oconee Humane Society is deeply grateful for the generous donations made in honor and memory of beloved pets and cherished individuals. Charles & Beth Moore honored Amos & Abby (LOHS alumni), while Charlene Roberts honored Bailey, the sweet dog of Joyce & Gary Moyer. Barbara Janzen honored the Moores, and Rita & Michael McCurdy honored Derby (LOHS alumni). Charlene Roberts also honored Dexter, the sweet dog of Bob & Linda Moore. Stan & Mary Lynall honored Their Good Neighbors, and Sharen Lide honored Grace (LOHS alumni). Sylvia Ferrell honored Janet & George Boccagno, Kim Kramer honored Rachel Kramer, and Patricia Hurd honored Rosie. R Allen Haywood honored Sparta Animal Shelter, Phyllis Blanton honored Stetson, the black cat, and Nancy & John Brewer honored Totsy Brewer. Brinkley & Jim Pound honored their Family & Friends, Beth Flick honored Yolie & Will Bybee, and Tammy & Bill Hedge honored Robert & Linda Moore. In loving memory, Beth Pounds remembered sweet Bailey Pounds, Vickie & Don Wirth remembered their beloved Banjo, and Kathleen & David Douglas remembered their sweet Callie Grace. Ileane Slocum remembered Christine Hamilton, Jane Marshall and Beverly Sparkmon remembered Crosby, the beloved dog of Cheryl & Doug Ducray, and Clifford Boner remembered Dianne Boner. Karen Stevensen remembered Her Mom, Gloria Adams, Kim Binder and Jeter remembered their beloved dog of Jane & Louie Seabolt, and Richard Fischhoff remembered Kibou, the beloved pet of CJ Czerniawski. Roger & Jill Schurig remembered Rosalyn Carson, Mike & Karol Cline remembered Shirley Uhrich, and Diane Stone remembered her beloved Sonshine & Neka. We also want to send a shoutout to Lee Carmon, owner of Best Friends Biscuits, who donated a percentage of their 2024 sales to LOHS!

These heartfelt contributions help support the mission of the Lake Oconee Humane Society, ensuring a brighter future for animals in need and we are so thankful for each and every one!

CELEBRATING THE END OF 2024 AND WELCOMING 2025!

By Lily Apollony

As we bid farewell to 2024, we reflect on a year filled with heartwarming stories and incredible adoptions that have touched our hearts. One of the most magical moments of the year was the adoption of Clover. Despite arriving with a severe skin infection, Clover never stopped wagging her tail. Her resilience and spirit shone through during her six-month stay with us, and she finally found her forever home with one of our dedicated volunteers. Clover's journey is a testament to the power of love and care.

Another remarkable adoption that capped off 2024 was that of Cinnamon, a puppy with carpal laxity. After spending months in foster care, Cinnamon was officially adopted, proving that patience and perseverance can lead to beautiful outcomes.

As we step into 2025, we are already off to a fantastic start. We recently assisted a large family of a mama dog and her eleven tiny puppies in finding safety. When a local county facility reached out for help, our Executive Director, Diane Robinson, leveraged her connections to secure a foster home for the family with the Atlanta Humane Society.

These stories remind us of the impact we can make together. Here's to more happy endings and new beginnings in 2025! 🐾✨

Happy New Year! 🎉



Public Town Hall Meeting

January 31st at 11am

Lakeside Church- 5800 Lake Oconee Pkwy, Greensboro, GA 30642

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LOHS BOARD

Barbara Gniewek – President
Chris Hock – Vice President
Jeanne Lehmann – Treasurer
Donna McCollum – Secretary
Kristina Johns
Bob Hartman
Heidi Hausler
Kevin Aycock
Howard Goldstein
John Stenson

OUR MISSION

LOHS is dedicated to creating a more humane community by reducing pet homelessness and helping pets and their owners have the best quality of life available.

OUR VISION

A community where companion animals live in a safe and loving home and the human/animal bond is honored by respect and compassion.



LAKE OCONEE HUMANE SOCIETY



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OUR VALUES

COMPASSION, INTEGRITY, FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY, COMPLIANCE TO LAWS, TEAMWORK.

We believe no rehabilitatable cat or dog should be abandoned or unnecessarily euthanized.

- Give a second chance to animals that would otherwise be discarded.
- Set standards for responsible pet ownership through public education.
- Help people and their pets stay together when they have difficulties that are economic, behavioral or medical.