



Welcome to the November issue of LOHS Pawprint! There are lots of fun and informative topics in this month's issue, along with our usual shoutout to our adopted animals and community programs. Thank you for being part of the LOHS family. Happy reading!

-Your LOHS Team

EXCITING NEW DOG ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES AT LOHS!

By Lily Apollony



We are thrilled to announce some fantastic new dog enrichment opportunities at Lake Oconee Humane Society (LOHS)!

First, we are delighted to introduce **Richard Fischhof**, a certified professional dog trainer and the owner of Good Dog Oconee. Richard recently moved to the Lake Oconee area from Atlanta, and we are incredibly fortunate to have him working with our shelter dogs and volunteers. Richard has already hosted two insightful training sessions, covering essential topics such as dog body language, obedience training, and playgroups. His 100% positive reinforcement training methods have been a hit, making training both fun and a great way to better communicate with our dogs.

We are eagerly looking forward to continuing our collaboration with Richard. Here are the upcoming training dates:

November 8, November 15, November 22

Volunteers can sign up for these sessions in VicNet. Don't miss out on this wonderful opportunity to train our dogs with Richard!

In addition to Richard's sessions, we are excited to highlight the ongoing efforts of **Linda Crouchman**, who has been a dedicated volunteer with LOHS for the past two years. Linda has provided numerous training opportunities for our dogs, and recently, she has been facilitating agility training. You may have seen some of our pups, like Eris, Gerry, and Gina, showcasing their skills in a recent Facebook post!

We are committed to providing more enrichment opportunities for our dogs and volunteers. Stay tuned for more updates and join us in making a difference in the lives of our furry friends! Thank you for your continued support!



Apollo



Princess



Gino



Tortellini & Jasper



FUREVER HOMES FOUND

LOHS HAD 14 DOG AND 7 CAT ADOPTIONS FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER!!

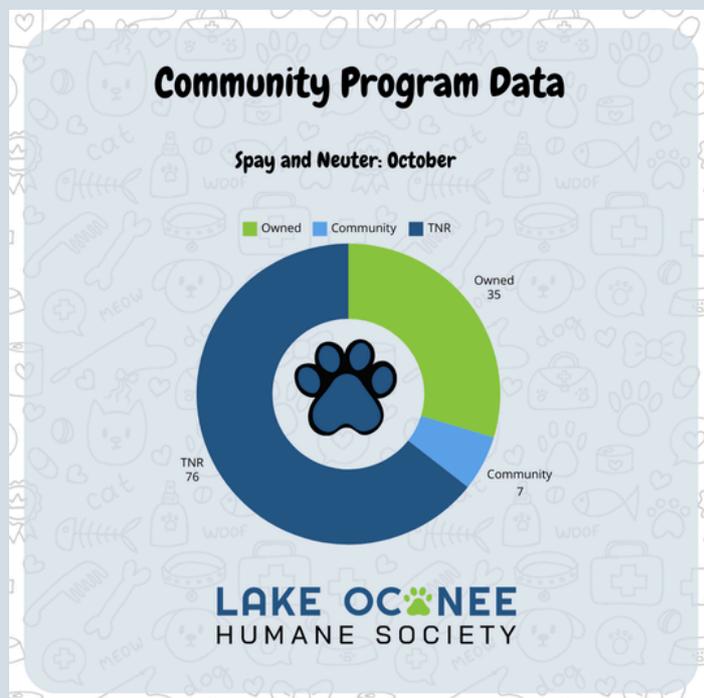
We are thrilled to announce that in October, we had 7 cats and 14 dogs find their forever homes! Each adoption is a testament to the incredible generosity and compassion of our community. We are deeply thankful to every adopter who has opened their heart and home to a shelter pet, making it possible for us to continue our mission of saving more lives here at LOHS. Our dedicated staff and volunteers work tirelessly to ensure that every animal is "home ready," and seeing them thrive in their new families is the greatest reward. Thank you for being a part of our journey and helping us make a difference, one adoption at a time.

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS: NUMBERS&CALENDAR

AT LOHS, WE ARE COMMITTED TO MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF PETS AND THE PEOPLE WHO LOVE THEM.

November Food Distribution Schedule:

- Thursday, 11/14: 11am-1pm, Lake Oconee Lutheran Church, 1089 Greensboro Rd, Eatonton
- Saturday 11/16: 7:30am-9am, Second Harvest, First United Methodist Church N. Campus, 202 West Broad Street, Greensboro
- Saturday, 11/23: 9am-11am, Lifesource, Putnam County Elementary School, 314 South Washington Ave, Eatonton
- Thursday, 11/14: 11am-1pm, Lake Oconee Lutheran Church, 1089 Greensboro Rd, Eatonton



[CLICK TO HELP MAKE THE DIFFERENCE BY VOLUNTEERING!](#)



DIRECTORS CUT: CROSS CONTAMINATION

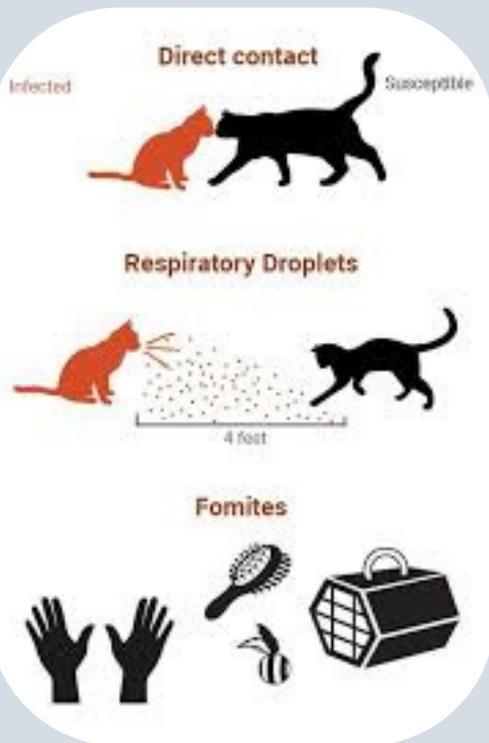
By Diane Robinson

In animal rescue, one of the challenges is bringing animals together in the shelter we know very little about, whether it be their background, behavior or vaccination history. Everything we do is an attempt to do the best for all of them. As a limited admission facility, meaning we don't take in strays and court cases under the jurisdiction of the municipal entities, we are able to admit animals we can safely provide shelter and care until they are adopted.

Disease transmission between animals is an area of concern in any facility, open or limited admission, but most often found in open admission facilities that are required to take in any and all animals under their jurisdiction. We are fortunate to be able to limit our risks despite pulling animals from these facilities.

Despite the care taken when selecting animals for LOHS sickness is unavoidable. What is avoidable is taking precautions to prevent cross contamination when an animal begins to show symptoms of illness. Our facility does not have an area for quarantine when animals first arrive nor isolation if they break with something. A frustrating challenge we are always trying hard to minimize the risks of needing.

The reality is animals get sick with contagious illnesses such as kennel cough, parvo, ringworm, panleukopenia, etc. When this happens, we have policies in place using the best practices guidelines developed by the Association of Shelter Veterinarians to prevent cross contamination with the rest of the population.



Feline Panleukopenia

Signs, Diagnosis, Treatment, and Prevention

Panleuk is...
- Caused by a parvovirus
- Highly contagious
- Life-threatening - especially to kittens
- Not contagious to people

Panleuk kittens may show...
Diarrhea
Vomiting
Depression
Lethargy
Anorexia
Death

Prevention:
VACCINATE With a modified-live vaccine at shelter intake or at 6-8 weeks old + every 2 weeks until 16-20 weeks old.

Supportive Care

Testing: Parvovirus SNAP test

Proper Disinfection:
#1 Wash hands
#2 Remove organic debris
#3 Use an effective chemical (Bleach, Accel, Trifectant)
#4 Let stand for 10 minutes. Repeat twice.

Adoption
After a waiting period, recovered kittens are available for adoption. Kittens who survive infection often go on to live normal healthy lives!

What you need to know about Kennel Cough

What is kennel cough?
"Kennel cough" or "Canine cough" is a general term encompassing a viral or bacterial illness that inflames the windpipe and lungs and causes a cough. The severity and sound of the cough varies by virus and by a dog's overall immune system.

Timeline
2-14 days incubation period
7-14 days symptoms usually last
10 days contagious for after last clinical symptoms

How is it spread?
The virus spreads just like a human virus—it is an airborne virus and can be spread through coughing, sneezing, and contact of surfaces.
Environmental irritants (like pollen) may increase the likelihood of some dogs developing kennel cough.

Can I protect my dog?
There is no true protection, just as there isn't with a human cold or flu.
The Bordetella vaccine creates immunity against a few strains, but not all. The Bordetella vaccine will not prevent your dog from catching kennel cough.

How bad is it?
The majority of cases are the equivalent of a cold in a human and don't require any medical intervention or antibiotics. Allowing your pet's body to heal itself naturally is always advisable.
Just as in humans, it can develop into something serious, such as pneumonia. If it doesn't resolve itself within a few weeks, a vet visit is advisable.

First and foremost, regardless of whether there are confirmed cases of contagious disease, wearing the appropriate PPE (gloves, etc.), washing hands and or using hand sanitizers between animals, or pens/rooms minimizes risk of spreading fomites (objects or materials which are likely to carry infection, such as clothes, utensils, and furniture) to the rest of the population.

Cleaning should always begin with the most vulnerable animals first. These are kittens, puppies and immunocompromised animals. Animals with known contagious illness should be cleaned last or by an entirely different person who focuses only on those animals while others focus on the healthy animals. Our cats living in community housing makes it difficult to the spread of disease within the room, following proper procedures prevents the spread to other areas. Keeping dogs from coming into contact with each other, going nose to nose, and following proper procedures minimizes the risks.

Finally, to prevent bringing anything home to your own pets, change clothes and sanitize your shoes. Your commitment and support of LOHS and the animals means everything. We can't do it without you. Thank you for putting the health of the animals first.

STAFF MEMBER HIGHLIGHT: MOLLY ROWLAND

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

I first joined LOHS as a volunteer back in 2012. After my second son was born, I took some time off, but in 2021, I returned as a volunteer. While volunteering, the opportunity to become an Animal Care Specialist came up, and I've been happily in this role ever since!

How long have you been a part of LOHS?

I initially started in 2012, took some years away & returned in 2021.

What makes LOHS special to you?

It's the animals and the connections they bring. Each one has touched my life in some way, and seeing them find their forever homes is incredibly rewarding. Beyond that, my coworkers and volunteers make it a place of shared purpose—we all put our hearts into making a better world for cats and dogs!

Tell us about your family.

I have four boys—Liam, Jayden, KK, and Christian. The younger ones keep me on my toes!

Do you have any pets?

Yes, we have five beloved pets: two dogs—Adam, who will be 17, and Temps, our special LOHS adoptee; two cats, Kiwi-Flower and Bubbles (another LOHS gem); and last but not least, our baby turtle Donatello.



REMEMBERING ROSALYN CARSON

By Dreama Thomas

It is with a heavy heart that we at LOHS mourn the sudden passing of our beloved volunteer, Rosalyn Carson. For over a decade, Rosalyn and her husband Jack have been the heart and soul of our Friday morning cat program. Every week, Rosalyn's radiant smile and positive spirit lit up our shelter, even on the cloudiest of days. Rosalyn was more than just a volunteer; she was a beacon of kindness and joy. Her unwavering dedication and warmth she brought to everyone she met made her irreplaceable part of our community.



Whether a rainy morning or busy day, Rosalyn's presence always brought a sense and calm and happiness. Her contributions over the past ten years have been invaluable, and her absence leaves a void that will be deeply felt by all of us. Rosalyn's legacy of love and compassion will continue to inspire us, and she will forever be remembered as one of the sweetest and most dedicated individuals we have ever had the privilege to know. We extend our deepest sympathies to Jack and the entire Carson family during this difficult time. Rosalyn's memory will live on in the hearts of all who knew her.

We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to all those who made a donation in memory of Rosalyn Carson. Your generosity and support mean the world to us. Special thanks to Dave and Marie Delich, Rich and Katherine Calhoun, Joy and AJ Warner, Jeanne Lehmann, FHI Clinical, Jackie and Andy Stolarski, Kristen Leob, Pat Shadle, and Ed and Janie Fritch, Celia and Harrison O'Shea, Nancy Stahl, Christine Ellison, and Marcia and Robert Elkins. Your contributions help us continue our mission and honor Rosalyn's legacy in a meaningful way. Thank you for being a part of our community and for your unwavering support.

CELEBRATING OUR GUIDING LIGHT

By Catherine Moore



At Lake Oconee Humane Society (LOHS), we are incredibly fortunate to have a remarkable leader steering our ship through the stormy seas: our Executive Director, Diane Robinson. Her background in disaster relief and preparedness has not only prepared us for the challenges we face but has also shown us the true meaning of dedication and community spirit. When Hurricane Helene unleashed her fury, Diane was the first to spring into action. With unwavering determination, she organized emergency meetings to ensure that every member of the LOHS family—animals, staff, volunteers, and the broader community—was safe and prepared to weather the storm. Diane’s commitment extended beyond our immediate circle; she reached out to neighboring communities, offering her expertise and assistance to those less fortunate.

Because of Diane, we were able to use our pet food distribution program at LOHS to help pet owners in need in places like Augusta, who were severely impacted by the hurricane. This outreach was a lifeline for many, ensuring that pets stayed fed and healthy in the aftermath of the storm.

Reflecting on her efforts during Helene’s aftermath, Diane shared, “I was asked by Josh Cary with American Humane Association, the organization where I got my start, to work at the Georgia State Operations Center (SOC) as their representative for the National Animal Rescue and Sheltering Coalition (NARSC). NARSC was formed following the 2005 disaster season, which included Hurricane Katrina, made up of organizations working in the disaster community. I sat at the ESF 11 desk (emergency support function 11) responsible for coordinating rescue and response efforts for agriculture and companion animal issues resulting from Helene. I worked with partner organizations moving food and supplies around the state to support animal welfare organizations and communities. I was on the state coordination calls and, as the NARSC rep for the state, I attended the virtual calls for all of the states impacted by Helene, reporting our efforts in Georgia and ongoing needs, as well as the federal response for the other states. I worked with Georgia and the American Red Cross to implement a pilot program to get pet food added to their trucks delivering food in the impacted areas and helped establish distribution sites, including at established food banks. I continue to support the effort as I am able. I was on standby to go to North Carolina to assist with animal rescue but was put on hold when Milton became a threat.”

Diane’s leadership and compassionate heart have left an incredible mark on all of us. Through her efforts, we not only survived the storm but emerged stronger and more united. Her dedication to ensuring the welfare of animals and the well-being of our community showcases the true essence of her character.

Lake Country is truly blessed to have Diane on our side to help guide us. Thank you, Diane, for being a hero and for showing us what it means to truly make the difference.

SPREAD HOLIDAY CHEER BY FOSTERING A PET FROM LAKE OCONEE HUMANE SOCIETY!

By Catherine Moore



As the holiday season approaches, we at Lake Oconee Humane Society are reaching out to our wonderful community of followers and volunteers with a heartfelt request. This Thanksgiving week, Christmas time, and New Year holiday, we invite you to open your hearts and homes to a dog, puppy, cat, or kitten in need of a loving foster home. Whether it be for a couple of days or the whole holiday season, everyday helps!

Why Foster? Fostering a pet during the holidays is a beautiful way to share the joy and warmth of the season. By providing a temporary home, you give these animals a chance to experience the love and comfort they deserve. Imagine the happiness of a dog or cat snuggling up in a cozy home, surrounded by the festive spirit!

Benefits for Our Volunteers and Staff Finding foster homes for our animals also allows our dedicated volunteers and staff to spend quality time with their families during the holidays. Your generosity in fostering a pet not only enriches the life of the animal but also supports the well-being of our team.

How to Get Involved If you are interested in fostering a cat or kitten, please reach out to Dreama at dreama@lohspets.org. For those interested in fostering a dog or puppy, contact Lily at lily@lohspets.org. They will provide you with all the information and support you need to make this a rewarding experience.

Make a Difference This Holiday Season Your decision to foster can make a world of difference. Not only will you be giving an animal a chance to celebrate the holidays in a loving home, but you'll also be creating space at our shelter for other animals in need. Together, we can ensure that every pet has a warm and joyful holiday season.

Thank you for your continued support and compassion. We wish you and your loved ones a wonderful holiday season filled with love, joy, and furry friends!

MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS:

We are deeply grateful for the generous honorariums and memorials donated to LOHS. Oconee Land Development Co, LLC made a heartfelt donation in memory of Laurie Steele. Susan and Mark Blanton honored the memory of Zoey, the beloved dog of Dan and Melanie Grucza. Tina Fischlin's donation was made in honor of Jane and Louie Seabolt. Jackie and Andy Stolarski contributed in memory of Dougal, the cherished dog of Susan and Gary Strack. Libby Lindahl's donation was in memory of Jeter, the beloved dog of Jane and Louie Seabolt. Lastly, Karen Farr made a touching donation in memory of Mike Lewis. These contributions not only honor the memories of loved ones but also support our mission to save and care for more animals in need. Thank you for your kindness and support.

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LOHS BOARD

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Donna McCollum – Secretary
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Kristina Johns
Bob Hartman
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Kevin Aycock
Howard Goldstein
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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.