

ISSUE

16

APRIL

2024



LHS PAWS

THE DIRECTOR'S CUT

**Have a Heart to Help Animals Impacted by
Heartworm Disease**

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April is National Heartworm Awareness Month, and the Oconee Regional Humane Society is back with our Have a Heart campaign to drive community awareness of heartworms' devastating impact and raise critical funding to help more animals impacted directly upon intake at the shelter.

**An anonymous donor will match up to \$12,500 raised from this campaign from
April 1-April 30, 2024!**

Did you know that heartworms are among the most dangerous parasitic worms that infect our companion animals? Over one million dogs are estimated to be infected with heartworms yearly, according to the American Medical Veterinary Association (AVMA). Dogs become infected when bitten by a mosquito carrying microscopic larvae. These larvae are deposited on the pet as a mosquito feeds and quickly penetrate the skin to migrate into the pet's bloodstream. Eventually, adult heartworms can grow to ten or twelve inches long and make their home on the right side of the heart and pulmonary arteries. There, the presence of heartworms leads to arterial and lung disease and, in some cases, heart failure.

Heartworms can live inside your pet for 6 months before a test can tell your veterinarian they're there. To stop the cycle, keep your pet on heartworm prevention beginning at 6-8 weeks of age!

While this disease can be found in all 50 states, the climate and topography of the Georgia Lake Country make it an optimal breeding ground for mosquitos carrying this dangerous disease.

The team at ORHS often encounters heartworm-positive dogs upon intake! [Click here](#) for more information on three very special dogs who are going through heartworm treatment AND are still looking for a forever home!

If you would like to donate please scan the QR code or [click here](#).



The Dog Pen



PROTECT YOUR PET FROM HEARTWORM **12** MONTHS A YEAR.
TEST FOR HEARTWORM EVERY **12** MONTHS.

www.heartwormsociety.org

WISH LIST:

- Dog beds
- Canned food
- Puppperoni
- Pill pockets
- Nylabones
- Kongs
- Wire cages
- Slip leads - 1"



Pets ♥ Vets

a **FREE**
Pet Adoption Program
for U.S. Military Veterans

HOW DOES IT WORK?

1. Complete an adoption application & submit to pet shelter.
2. Upon approval, meet with participating pet shelter to view available pets.
3. Select a pet and conclude **FREE** adoption!

Adoptions last month: BB, Eros, Godiva, Lady, Merlin, Penelope, Pete, Poseidon, Roo, Sable, Wesley and ...



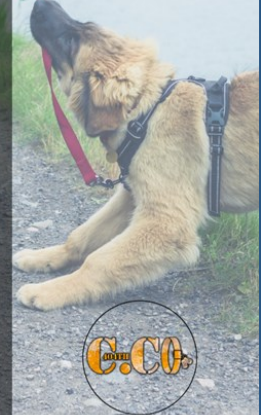
**ADOPTED
FROM ORHS?**



**HAVE QUESTIONS
ABOUT ANIMAL
BEHAVIOR OR
TRAINING?**



**404TH CHARLIE CO.
IS HERE TO HELP!
CONTACT CHANDLER FOR
A FREE CONSULTATION!
(305) 764-2204
404CHARLIECO@GMAIL.COM**

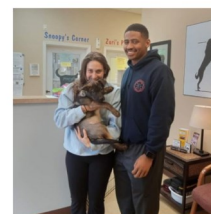


We're thrilled to announce that Chandler, the owner and dog trainer from 404th Charlie Co, is offering a **FREE** consultation to all dogs rescued from ORHS!

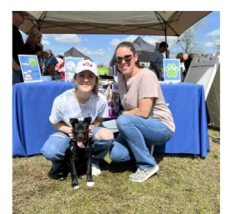
As a US military veteran-run company, 404th Charlie Co shares our commitment to giving back to the community. We're incredibly grateful for our partnership with Chandler and the invaluable expertise he brings to our ORHS family.

Don't miss this paw-some opportunity to give your new best friend the best start in their forever home.

Contact Chandler for your free consultation by calling 305-764-2204 or emailing 404charlieco@gmail.com



Huckleberry



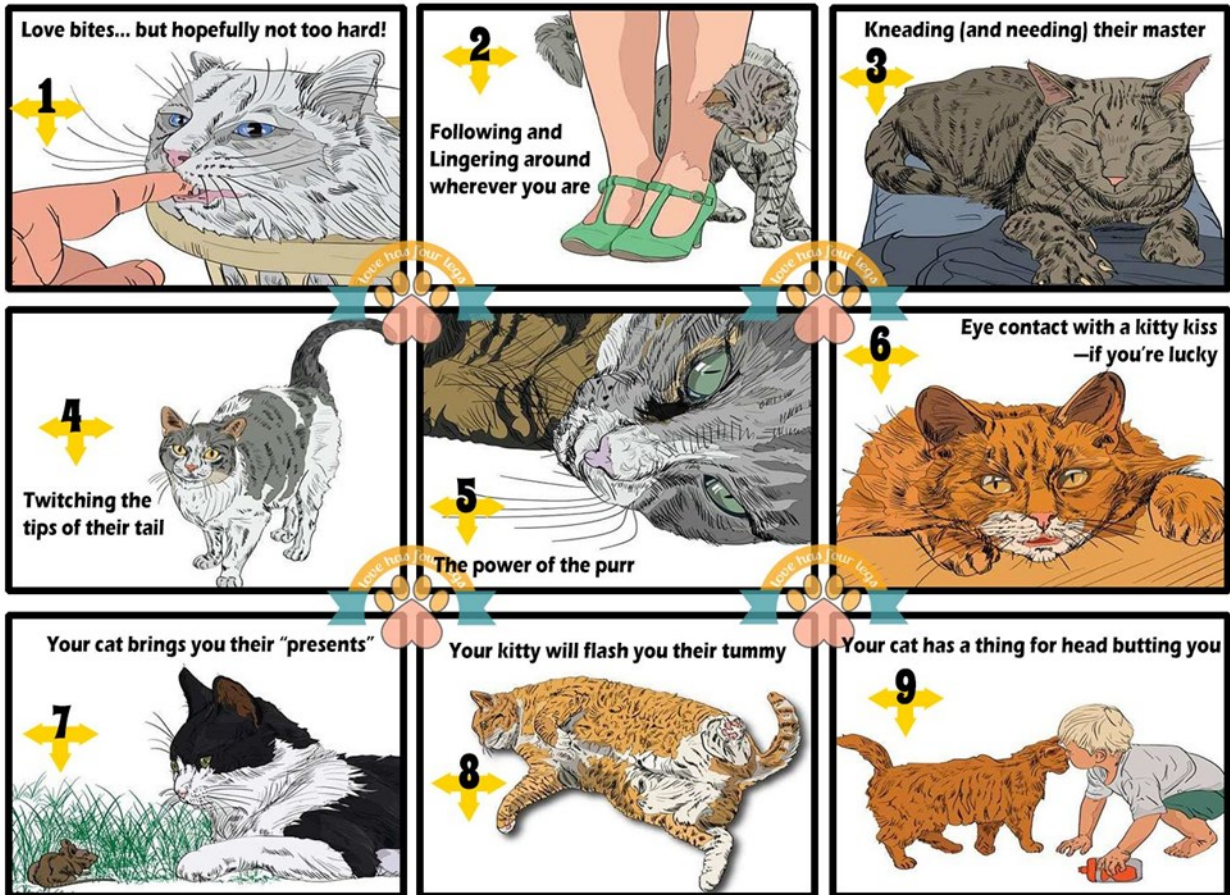
Bram

Catty Corner

Submitted by Dreama Thomas



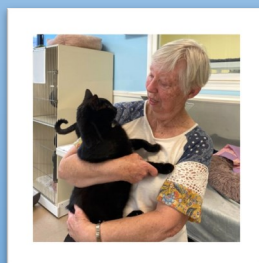
9 SIGNS That Your Cat Truly LOVES YOU!



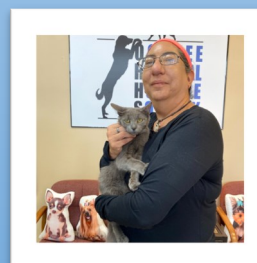
ON THE CATTY SIDE



ADOPTIONS LAST MONTH: Finn and ...



Cassie



Stella



Hayden



New Animal Care Specialist

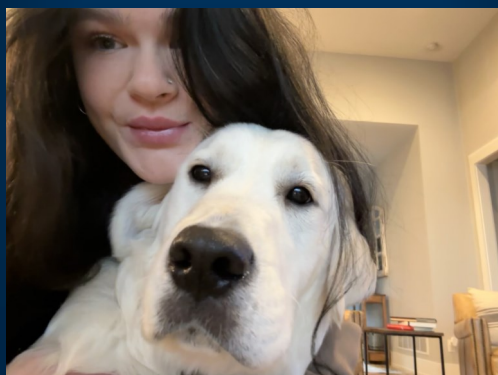
We are delighted to introduce Natalie Van Den Elzen as the newest addition to the Oconee Regional Humane Society family.

"I am Natalie Van Den Elzen, the new Animal Care Specialist at ORHS! My passion for animals, deeply ingrained from childhood, has led me to pursue a career centered around their care and welfare.

I started as a Veterinary Assistant at Durham Veterinary Clinic, where I gained experience in animal healthcare and handling. I also had the opportunity to shadow at Lake Oconee Animal Hospital and Harmony Crossing Animal Hospital, where I learned the intricacies of veterinary practice and patient care. Currently, I am enrolled at Penn Foster for Veterinary Technician studies and am committed to enhancing my expertise and making a significant impact in the field of animal healthcare and welfare.

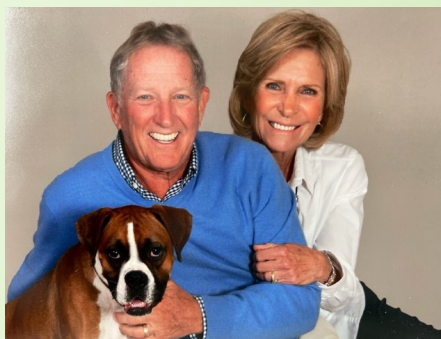
Having lived on a horse farm and competed in equestrian sports for many years, I understand the bond between humans and animals firsthand. I bring this firsthand understanding and love for animals to my work.

I am so excited to be apart of the process of finding each animal their perfect home and am determined to make a difference in the lives of pets everywhere. So excited to be here!"



GETTING TO KNOW ...

Patricia Rech



How long have you been a volunteer?

3+ years

In which areas do you volunteer?

Dog care.

Tell us a little bit about your family

My husband and I have been married for 54 years. We have two married sons, six grandchildren and two great-grand children who all live in the Alpharetta/Cumming area. We have been members of Christ our King and Savior Catholic Church since moving to Greensboro. Everyone in our family are college sports enthusiasts and all of the grandchildren are involved in sports. Penn State, Alabama and Maryland are our favorite teams as they were all attended by family members.

How long have you lived in the lake country and what brought you here?

We have lived here 30 years since moving from Connecticut in 1993. The lake and golf brought us here, but the people have kept us here!!

Besides volunteering at ORHS, what do you like to do in your spare time?

I enjoy spending time with family and friends and attending our grandchildren's sporting events on the weekends.

Do you have any pets?

We especially love dogs and have five in the family - three boxers and two golden retrievers. We currently have a female boxer named Abby who is 5-yrs-old and so sweet. She does have one flaw though -she doesn't like the car!! We have also had cats over the years.

What else would you like us to know about you?

I have always been an animal lover ... not just dogs. My husband bought me a t-shirt that says "I don't care who dies in the movie as long as the dog lives". That's me, but with ALL animals!!!

Volunteer Mews & Pawsibilities



Martha Keyes	4/5
Casey Daniel	4/8
Jennifer Sine	4/13
Sharon Ross	4/15
Brendan Golish	4/15
Anna Bickford	4/16
MAYRA ARIAS	4/16
Larry Ross	4/17
Stevie Plew	4/20
Debra Kirkendall	4/30
Randi Miller	4/30

Current Volunteers Needed:

We are still looking for help with pet food distribution and evening dog care.

Wouldn't you like to have dinner with a dog???

Please contact Catherine if you would like more info about these positions.

catherine@orhspets.org.

Guess what? It's ...

National Volunteer Something for Everyone Month

National Volunteer Month in April celebrates the impact volunteers have on our lives and encourages active volunteerism in generations to come. Most often unpaid, they generously donate a part of their lives to do the work that nobody else likes to do — cleaning up after the event, fostering shelter dogs, chaperoning field trips, or helping the librarian; there are so many areas requiring volunteers. This month, we salute them for their unwavering services to businesses and communities and hold aloft their examples to inspire the young and adults towards volunteerism.

4 FACTS ABOUT VOLUNTEERING:

1. Volunteering makes people happy -96% of volunteers believe that it makes them happier people
2. It leads to better job opportunities – it can take you to places and introduce you to careers you might not know about.
3. It reduces depression
4. Endless opportunities – there are 1.8 million non-profits in the US alone, so the opportunities are endless.

Goodbye & good luck



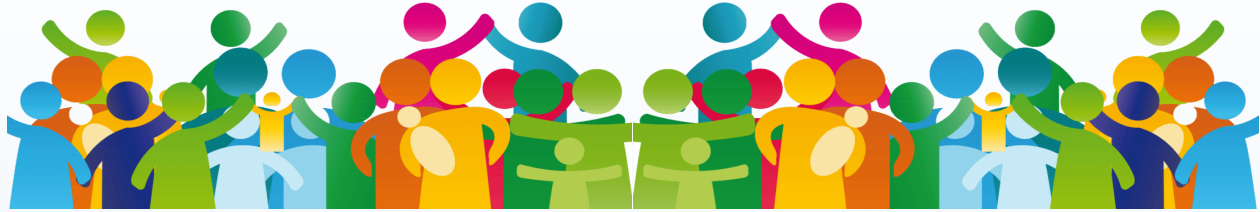
As you may have heard, Rebecca has left us to start a new journey. Here are some of her parting words:

"Although my time at ORHS may be coming to an end, please know that I carry each of you with me in my heart. I cherish the memories we have shared and the bonds we have formed, and I am committed to staying in touch. PLEASE keep me updated on the status of our furry friends!!"

We wish you well in your new venture Rebecca!!

For volunteer scheduling
and questions,
please contact
Catherine Moore
catherine@orhspets.org

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS



Focused on being a community resource for pet owners and on helping to keep pets in their loving homes

* LOW-COST SPAY & NEUTER AND TNR PROGRAM * PET FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM * MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

➔ Did You Know?? The ORHS Community Pet Food Distribution is making a huge impact in Greene, Putnam, and Baldwin counties! Every month, we distribute thousands of pounds of food to help keep our furry friends fed and healthy. Check it out!



Community Pet Food & Supply Distribution

Greene County

- Greene County Food Pantry (706) 453-1380, 10 ML King Jr. Drive #519, Greensboro.
- Meals on Wheels/Senior Center (706) 453-7463, 131 Silver Drive, Greensboro.
- Second Harvest, First Methodist Church, North Campus, 202 West Broad Street, Greensboro. Distribution is on the third Saturday of each month.

Putnam County

- Putnam Christian Outreach (706) 485-4066, 151 Industrial Boulevard, Eatonton. Distribution is on the third Monday of each month.
- LifeSource, Putnam County Elementary School, 314 South Washington Ave, Eatonton. (Right next to Uncle Remus Museum.) Distribution is usually on the first Saturday of each month except when it conflicts with a holiday.
- Lake Oconee Lutheran Church (706) 485-4600. 1089 Greensboro Road, Eatonton. Distribution is on the second and fourth Thursday of each month.

Baldwin County

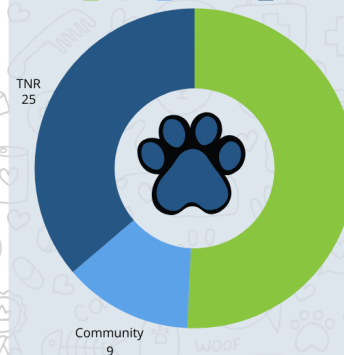
- Chard Wray Food Pantry (478) 414-1126, 472 Broad Street, Milledgeville.
- First Presbyterian Church (478) 452-9394, 210 South Wayne Street. Milledgeville.
- Freedom Church (478) 452-7694, 500 Underwood Road, Milledgeville.



Community Program Data

Spay and Neuter: March

Owned Community TNR



Pet Food Distribution: Year to Date

Pet Food Distributed	YTD
Dog Food	11,086lbs
Cat Food	4,197lbs



Check out our booth at The Big Event last month. We not only got a chance to reveal our new branding, more importantly we were able to share information with the public about all of the great community programs that we offer at ORHS!!



Our Staff

Diane Robinson	Executive Director	diane@orhspets.org
Dreama Thomas	Cat Care Manager	dreama@orhspets.org
Lily Apollony	Dog Care Manager	lily@orhspets.org
Molly Rowland	Animal Care Specialist	molly@orhspets.org
Jeri-Michel Duncan	Director of Development	jeri-michel@orhspets.org
Tammy Ellis	Office Administrator	tammy@orhspets.org
Catherine Moore	Community Outreach Mgr.	catherine@orhspets.org

**LAKE
OCONEE**
HUMANE
SOCIETY



706-454-1508
orhs@orhspets.org
www.orhspets.org

Our Board

Barbara Gniewek - President
Chris Hock - Vice President
Jeanne Lehmann - Treasurer
Donna McCollum - Secretary
Karyn Scott
Kristina Johns
Bob Hartman
Heidi Hausler
Kevin Aycock
Howard Goldstein

Our Mission

A center dedicated to advocacy for the care of cats and dogs in need of help through an approach that benefits and improves the community and lives of animals utilizing outreach, education and services accessible to all.

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.

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.



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oconeeregionalhumanesociety](https://facebook.com/oconeeregionalhumanesociety)



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OCONEE REGIONAL HUMANE SOCIETY

ORHS is a non-profit, 501(c)3 Organization - ID# 58-2440625
1020 Park Avenue, Suite 101, Greensboro, GA 30642
Open Tuesday - Saturday 11am - 3pm and by appointment.