

ORHS PAWS



THE DIRECTOR'S CUT

Rebranding Sneak Peek

For those who attended the January public board meeting or have seen the handout from it, you are aware we are rebranding. You may not realize this, but we are not the only Humane Society utilizing Oconee in its name. Unfortunately, that sometimes results in other organizations getting contributions meant to come to us, and food pallets being allocated incorrectly. So, as part of our 25th Anniversary celebration we are going to rebrand ourselves.

As we continue grow to enable us to provide more for the animals and people of our community aligning ourselves to Lake Country and LO affiliation, we believe, will improve our connection to this community while differentiating us from the other Oconee's.

We are currently working on a campaign including a new and improved website – stay tuned for more details. For now, I want to provide you with a sneak peek.



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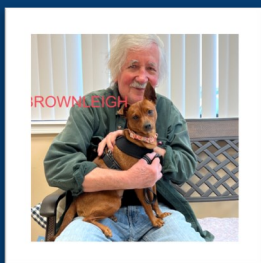
The Dog Pen

Recently, I had a volunteer ask for clarification regarding exercise restrictions for our dogs so I thought this might be a great opportunity to address that. When an animal is on limited activity or restricted exercise, the reason and duration (if applicable) is marked on the large whiteboard in the notes section. The whiteboard must always be checked prior to animal interaction for this very reason. Exercise is restricted for 7-10 days after spay or neuter surgeries, but again, those dates are written out on the whiteboard and then erased when no longer applicable. In cases where exercise restriction is required long term, like special medical cases or heartworm positive dogs, the whiteboard will simply say "restricted exercise". This means no running, jumping or playing. This is necessary to allow the animal time to recover from surgery, avoid reinjury, or in high positive heartworm cases - sudden death. When volunteers see "restricted exercise", that means the animal should only be out for potty breaks and socialization until they are healthy and well enough to resume normal physical activity. So, if you usually walk for blocks, go around the building, visit the pond, run, jump and play rough with your dog - it's too much! So, the biggest takeaway is to **check the whiteboard before every interaction with every animal.** As always, please reach out to the dog care team if you need any additional information. *Lily*

Adoptions last month: Dodger, Gatsby, Juliet, Martie, Natie and ...



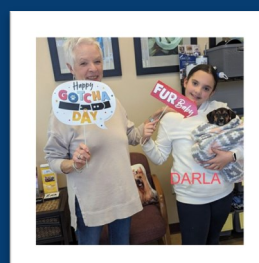
Gatsby



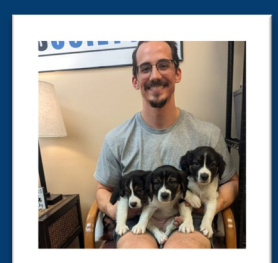
Brownleigh



Cody



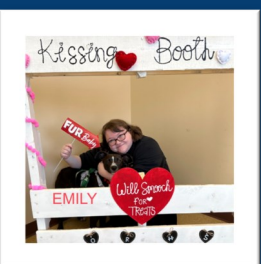
Darla



Orion, Apollo, Guinvere



Godiva



Emily



Renee



Zoe



Wesley

RULE OF 3



YOUR NEW DOG IS TRYING TO FIGURE OUT THEIR NEW HOME & FAMILY.



THEY BEGIN TO FEEL AT HOME & TO ESTABLISH A DAILY ROUTINE.



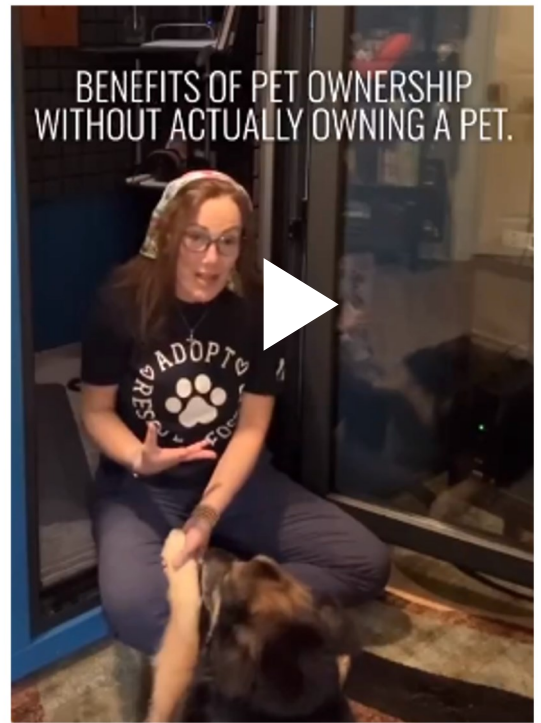
THEY ARE NOW PART OF THE FAMILY & YOU ALL LIVE HAPPILY EVER AFTER!



GIVE THEM SOME TIME & SOON THEY WILL BE YOUR NEW BFF!

Want a pet but can't have one?

Watch this video as our very own Kelley Buttrick describes three ways you can enjoy the benefits of having a pet without actually owning one.



the dangers of retractable leashes



- They can cause serious injuries to you and your dog.
- Retractable leashes don't offer enough control.
- Cords can easily break.
- Retractable leashes can encourage bad walking habits in your dog.
- The handles are bulky and difficult to hold.

Opt for a classic 6-foot leash as the best alternative.



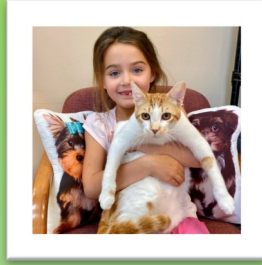
Catty Corner

Submitted by Dreama Thomas

ADOPTIONS LAST MONTH:



Champ



Darcy



Elroy



Junebug

Spring is approaching, and with it comes puppy and kitten season!

Found kittens of all ages need our help. If you come across these adorable bundles, here's what you can do:

START HERE: Are the kittens injured or critically sick?

YES →

CALL Animal Control or ORHS

Greene Co. Animal Control:
706-454-7039
Putnam Co. Animal Control:
706-485-3970

NO ↓

ESTIMATE THE AGE OF THE KITTENS



0-2 WEEKS OLD

Eyes closed or barely open



2-4 WEEKS OLD

Eyes open and alert; becoming mobile



4-6 WEEKS OLD

Very mobile and often talkative; can eat food



6-8 WEEKS OLD

Very active and playful; around 1-2 pounds



8+ WEEKS OLD

Very active and playful; 2 pounds or more

STOP! Can you see the mom cat OR a nest?

YES ↓

DON'T KIT-NAP!

A kitten's best chance of survival is with mom. **Leave the kittens where they are.** If you want to help, make sure mom has access to shelter, food, and water and contact a TNR group to have mom and kittens fixed when ready.

NO ↓

ARE YOU SURE?

Mom may be off hunting or not want to come around if people are present. Watch for her to come back for a few hours.

PRO TIP: Leave a ring of flour around the kittens. Check in a few hours if you see mom's foot prints in the flour!

If the kittens are friendly, utilize social media and your personal network to try and place them in homes.

Call your local vet or reach out to the TNAS or TSNIP to coordinate spay/neuter services if possible.

CALL ORHS

706-454-1508

Or visit orhspets.org

↑ MOM CAME BACK

↑ STILL NO MOM

ORHS is here for help and advice, but we need fosters for bottle babies and young animals. Our shelter is only so big and because a foster truly saves lives!

ON THE CATTY SIDE



Hello?

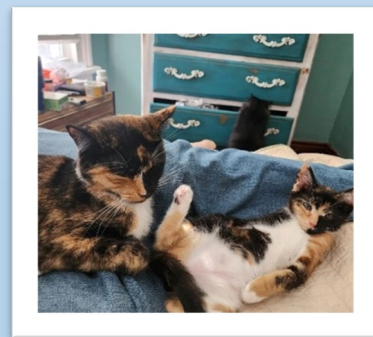


Yes, of course March 28th is "Respect Your Cat Day"!!

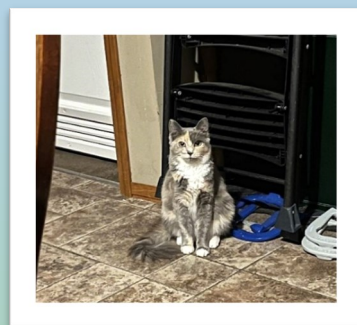
Hope you shoulder heals soon Roslyn Carson!!



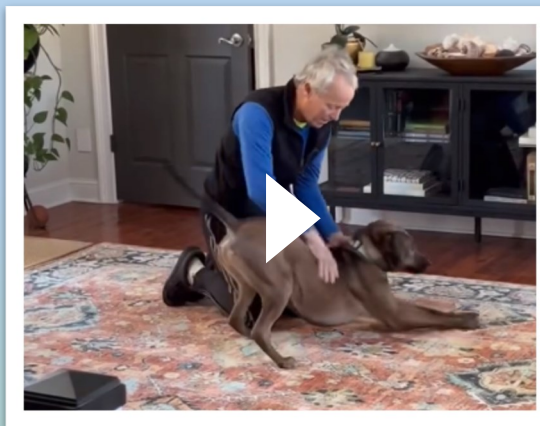
Adoption Update



Ariel with her new sister



Little Angel very settled in her new home



Here is Mulligan, one of our golf pups that was trained and loved on by all of our volunteers. This is him today with his mentor "Bull". His new owner says he is so loved and is doing great!



We're always thrilled to see our ORHS Alumni, and nothing warms our hearts more than hearing "Happy Tail" updates! Recently, at our adoption event at PetSmart, we had the joy of running into an old friend - Archer, who's now lovingly known as Cowboy, and his dad Elias. It's been two years since they found each other through us, and seeing their smiling faces was the highlight of our day! They're living proof that happy endings are just the beginning of a beautiful journey together. Keep those tails wagging, Cowboy and Elias!



An update on Dodger aka Delta2:

Thanks to the incredible partnership between ORHS, the Rotary, and 404th Charlie Company, Delta2 found his forever home with Lt. Bravo through our Pets Love Vets program.

Not only will Delta2 bring immense joy into Lt. Bravo's life, but together, they are embarking on a journey of healing and support. With the help of the 404th Charlie Company, Delta2 will transform into a trained service dog, providing Lt. Bravo with invaluable assistance and unwavering companionship.

Here's to Delta2 and Lt. Bravo, wishing them the happiest of lives filled with endless love, adventures, and cherished moments together !



New Director of Development

We are delighted to introduce Jeri-Michel Duncan as the newest addition to the Oconee Regional Humane Society family. Hailing from the vibrant city of Chicago and having called Augusta home for over three decades, Jeri-Michel brings a wealth of experience and a genuine love for animals.

Jeri-Michel is not just a seasoned development professional; she is a dedicated animal enthusiast who recognizes that animal welfare and advocacy are at the heart of ORHS's mission. Her journey began in her youth, fueled by a profound affection for our furry friends. For an impressive 11 years, she operated "Happy Valley Rescue Ranch" in Thomson, GA – a sanctuary for displaced farm animals and a haven specializing in deaf and/or blind Great Danes.

Committed to advancing the mission of ORHS, Jeri-Michel will take the lead in planning, organizing, and directing all fundraising efforts. This includes managing special events, major gifts, annual fund, planned giving, and capital campaigns.

In addition to her passion for animals, Jeri-Michel has devoted over a decade to nonprofit work. She advocated for Veterans as the Director of Development for Forces United and, most recently, worked tirelessly for underprivileged children as the Grant Writer and Program Resource Coordinator for Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Augusta.

Let's extend a warm welcome to Jeri-Michel Duncan as she assumes the role of Director of Development. Together, we anticipate creating positive change and enriching the lives of the animals we hold dear.

Welcome aboard Jeri-Michel!



GETTING TO KNOW ...

Ryta Lett



How long have you been a volunteer?

2 years

In which areas do you volunteer?

Morning cat care and food bagging.

Tell us a little bit about your family

I have been married to Larry for 38 years and we have three children. Larry is a retired neurologist and played in the US Junior Open in tennis. Our daughter is a UGA graduate who played tennis for the Dawgs. I guess she received her talent naturally.

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

We have owned our house for 18 years but only moved here full-time from Indianapolis, IN two years ago. A friend of ours had suggested we check out Reynolds Lake Oconee and we fell in love with the area!

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

I enjoy playing bridge, Mah Jongg, Canasta and golf. I also plan to join a book club through the Reynolds Ladies' Club.

Do you have any pets?

We have a very special cat! You might remember him - Andy the escape artist. When I started volunteering at the shelter Andy used to hang out in the reception area. He would follow me out to the patio and want a treat. I couldn't resist him and luckily he chose me to be his furever Mom!

What else would you like us to know about you?

I was a piano major/voice minor at the Indiana University School of Music. I taught K-12 music and was a former member of the Indianapolis Symphonic Choir. While in Indy I took care of 13+ feral/domestic cats and trapped, neutered and released these cats. Our house was known as the Kitty Hilton Hotel! I support many animal rights groups.

Volunteer

Mews & Pawsibilities



For all volunteer questions
please contact Catherine Moore at:

catherine@orhspets.org

706-817-9437



Rebecca has a new phone
number. Please make
note of it and change it in
your contacts!

478-718-2976



VOLUNTEER

Your time and effort can have a tremendous impact on our mission to support and improve the well-being of animals in our care and those in the community. Whether you have a few hours a month or a day each week, your contribution is invaluable! Together we can continue to grow our community programs and keep pets in their loving homes!

Current Volunteers Needed

Early Riser

Lend a hand at the center with spay and neuter drop-offs, starting the day with a purpose.

Spay and Neuter Transporters

Assist in the vital task of transporting pets for low cost spay and neuter services.

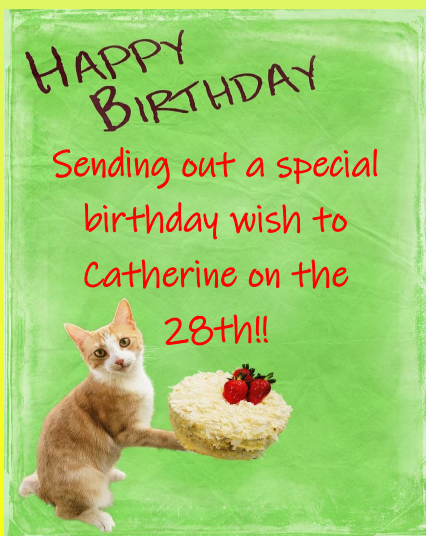
Pet Food Distribution Team and Drivers

As a driver, help us deliver essentials to different distribution sites in Greene, Putnam, and Baldwin Counties. As part of the pet food distribution team you can help us keep pets in their homes by handing out pet food to owners in need of an extra hand.

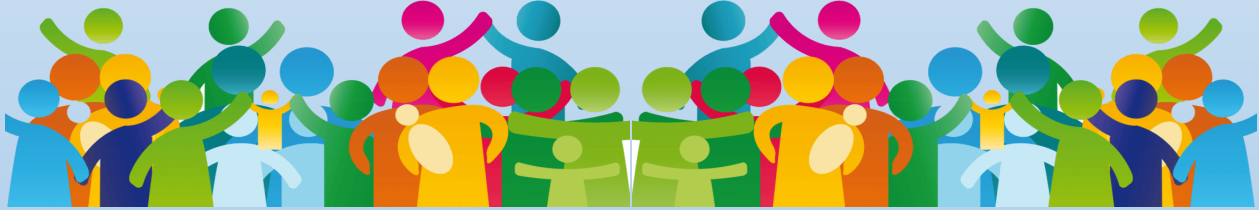
If you would like more information, please contact Catherine Moore at catherine@orhspets.org.



Joy Warner	3/3
Tracy Abar	3/5
Cole Harris	3/8
Dan Golish	3/10
Lilah Gapp	3/12
Madlyn Inserra	3/13
Janet Lewis	3/14
Tammy Gilmore	3/16
Rodrigo Gana	3/22
John Carson	3/23
Howard Goldstein	3/23
Trinna Tressler	3/25
Terry Street	3/28
Sarah Evans	3/31



COMMUNITY PROGRAMS



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



Our recent Pet Food Distribution Orientation was a resounding success, and we're thrilled to see our community programs flourish. A heartfelt thank you to all the passionate individuals who joined us!

Our dedicated volunteers dove into the heart of our mission, learning the ins and outs of our efforts to keep beloved pets with their families. But that's not all - they also discovered how every helping hand makes a significant impact.



LOW COST SPAY & NEUTER AND TNR PROGRAM

- ORHS works with veterinarian clinics in Athens and Atlanta to help provide low cost spay and neuter services to cat and dogs belonging to members of the community, as well as providing these services to free roaming and community cats. Please contact us for specifics on these low prices and any other details.

PET FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM

- ORHS partners with existing networks throughout Greene, Putnam, and Baldwin County to help make sure owners are given a resource to feed their beloved animals. Pet food can also be picked up from our Adoption and Resource Center. For more information on the Food Distribution Schedule, please visit our website or give us a call.

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

- We understand that emergencies happen and that difficult times can fall on anyone at any time. Our Medical Assistance Program is available to the community to help with portions of veterinary expenses when resources allow. Please give us a call for learn more.

BENEFITS OF SPAYING AND NEUTERING

REDUCED OVERPOPULATION

BETTER BEHAVIOR

This can include reduced aggression and reduced marking and spraying

HEALTHIER PETS

It reduces the risk of cancer and roaming behaviors . Sterilized animals live YEARS longer than intact animals!

A special and heart-warming update of one of the dogs, Molly, that our community Medical Assistance Program here at ORHS was able to help recently!

Molly, an emaciated, senior, hound mix was found by a member of the community and reached out to us for some monetary help with a vet visit to get her evaluated and vaccinated!

Because of our Medical Assistance Program, we were able to help sweet Molly get assessed!



"I wanted to update and thank you for your help! Molly has no worms or infections! We got her a rabies shot so she is all set! We are feeding her constantly to gain weight and she loves it! She is about 50% hound and around 10-12 years old. We are so excited she can spend her last years with us, where she will be showered with love and affection! Without your help, I don't know what we would have done! Thank you so very much!

ORHS COMMUNITY MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM UPDATE!

World Spay Day is held annually on the last Tuesday in February. Its aim is to decrease stray pet populations by increasing awareness of the importance of spaying and neutering programs around the world.



WORLD SPAY DAY

Our Staff

Diane Robinson	Executive Director	diane@orhspets.org
Dreama Thomas	Cat Care Mgr	dreama@orhspets.org
Lily Apollony	Dog Care Mgr	lily@orhspets.org
Molly Rowland	Animal Care Specialist	molly@orhspets.org
Rebecca Richardson	Animal Care Specialist	rebecca@orhspets.org
Tammy Ellis	Office Administrator	tammy@orhspets.org
Catherine Moore	Community Outreach Mgr	catherine@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.



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.
[706-454-1508](tel:706-454-1508) | orhs@orhspets.org
www.orhspets.org