

November/December 2023

C.A.R.E is a No Kill Animal Shelter



Critter Chronicles



BIG News!

Looking Ahead to
2024 and what we are
Thankful for in 2023

C.A.R.E in the Community

Doctors **Corner**

A Cat Named **Peepo**

AND MORE!!!

**COME ON OUT AND SEE OUR SWEET
CATS AND DOGS UP FOR ADOPTION.**

careshelter.org

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Special Note:

This is a Electronic Issue C.A.R.E. has produced. If you are viewing electronically check for links associated with buttons, ads, and stories throughout this publication.

The Official Bi-Monthly Newsletter of the Critter Adoption & Rescue Effort, Inc.
1528 27th Street S.E. ,Ruskin, FL 33570 • (813) 645 -2273 • careshelter.org

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Sonny Palmer

Joann With

Rula Urso

ON THE COVER:



ON THE COVER

From left to Right, C.A.R.E. Board Member and Secretary Joyce Maggio, Veterinary Technician Kelsey Hinsz, Dr. Nancy Moser (Holding Ranger), C.A.R.E. Animal Manager Gloria Blue

Big News

C.A.R.E. RECEIVES One Million GRANT!

The board of directors are pleased to announce that C.A.R.E. Animal Shelter has received a grant from the Caspersen Foundation for \$1,000,000. We are grateful to the Caspersen Foundation for this extraordinary gift that will enable us to move forward with the building of our new shelter. We accept this grant in honor of John and June Caspersen and are pleased that our vision fits well with what they hoped would happen with their estate.

The new shelter will be located on a five-acre parcel near our current facilities. The new shelter will not only replace our aging structures but will allow us to take in more animals in line with our mission to help reduce the number of homeless and unwanted animals in the area. Plans have been drawn up, and our hope is to break ground in early 2024. We will be writing additional grants and reaching out to the community to raise the additional funds needed to complete the project. Watch for updates.

Dr. Hal Ott had a vision when he founded our shelter in 2000. With the generosity of the Caspersen Foundation, we will build on his dream.



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C.A.R.E.

GIFT AND WINE FAIR

Sat. Dec. 2, 2023 10 AM to 2 PM

A Critter Adoption and Rescue Effort (C.A.R.E.) Fundraiser

In the Southshore Falls Grand Ballroom 122 Falls Blvd. Apollo Beach

A Wine Tasting Adventure with unique gift vendors to help you complete your holiday or personal shopping:

Glass Art, Wood Crafts, Wine Accessories, Jewelry, Visual Art, Custom Charcuterie, Bath and Body Gifts, Raffles, Jams and Jellies, and a 50/50 Drawing



Tickets available at the door for a \$10 Donation to benefit our animal rescue in Ruskin. Includes one Raffle Ticket.

C.A.R.E. Animal Shelter, a 501 (c) (3) Public Charity



GIFT & WINE FAIR

Please make sure to come out on December 2nd to the Gift & Wine Fair at South Shore Falls in Apollo Beach. This event has it all! From unique Arts, crafts and wines that are hand selected by the Outreach Committee to fun raffles and prizes. Trust me there is something for everyone on your holiday list.

Photos from our 2022 event, we raised over \$20,000 last year and our goal this year is to raise \$23,000!



Joann (C.A.R.E. Board President) with Brian Kleinschmidt (HGTV Host on 100 Day Dream Home)



Sue Oland (C.A.R.E. Outreach Committee member), with Gloria, Cheri Schumacher and Kris Hart (Both C.A.R.E. Outreach Committee Members)



Gloria (C.A.R.E. Animal Manager) and Joann



Brian with Kris Hart (C.A.R.E. Outreach Committee member)

Prrrrrrr-fect for a family

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

10 AM to 3 PM • Tuesday - Saturday



▲ Danny

Danny is a sweet cat who can often be found laying in the funniest positions. He loves hanging out on the lanai and watching the lizards and birds. Danny enjoys the volunteers visiting him and giving him pets. He's a quiet boy who is content laying around and watching the wildlife.



▲ Angel

Angel female kitten, she is the sweetest and softest of the lot. She has a gentle demeanor and is very smart.



▲ Guinness & Rheingold

Dynamic duo Guinness (mostly white) and Rheingold (mostly black) are sweet brothers who were born outside a brewery in September 2022 and brought to CARE to find loving homes. These boys get along with feline roommates and enjoy the attention given to them by our volunteers and visitors.



▲ Sophie

Sophie female kitten loves to climb all over you and snuggle , she does love to play catch. As you can see she is waiting behind our white chair to pounce!

▲ Scout

Scout is a male kitten that loves to be held in crook of arm and loves belly rubs. He is playful and loves socialization.



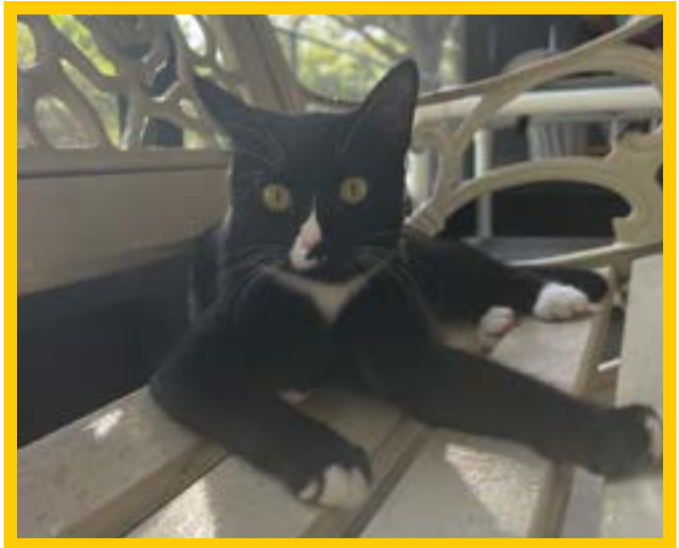
▲ Taz

Taz Predominantly gray female kitten ,is rambunctious . She loves to play and chase the other kittens.



▲ Skye

Skye White and Gray female kitten, loves to held and get belly rubs is super friendly and affectionate.



▲ Socks

Socks is one beautiful kitten. She is a very affectionate young kitten and gets along very well with her roommates at our shelter. She has a lovely silk black coat and white paws. She is very gentle and enjoys interaction with our volunteers and visitors.

Looking Ahead to 2024 and what we are Thankful for in 2023

By Rula Urso

As 2023 comes to an end and we gear up for the Holidays, I gave the Board a little homework. I asked them to tell me what they are Thankful for in 2023 and what are they looking forward to in the New Year . Below is what they shared.

Joann With , C.A.R.E. President and Volunteer

I am grateful for my fellow board members and for our volunteers.

I am grateful for the many dear friends I have made at C.A.R.E.

I am grateful for the generosity of the Caspersen Foundation.

I am grateful for Sam Greenberg without whom our new building would still be a dream.

I look forward to breaking ground for our new building in early 2024.



Photo of Joann at Hillsborough Community College event with their mascot



Photo of Joann with her daughter, Laurie, and Golden Retriever, Phoebe at the Firehouse Cultural Center.



John Fischer, C.A.R.E. Board Vice President and Volunteer

I am thankful for the many dedicated volunteers and staff who work diligently to make C.A.R.E. function. As a member of the Building Committee, I am thankful for all the work that has been done on this project. It's not as simple as many think. I am looking forward to getting approvals from the County for the project and breaking ground soon and seeing a new building take shape.



Beth Ann Stein, C.A.R.E. Board Member and Volunteer

I'm thankful that no matter the personality of an animal, we see love.

I'm grateful that our focus is growth, not just physical growth of a new facility, but growth of service for 2 and 4 legged beings. It would be great for a world where we are no longer needed.



Marlene Greenberg, C.A.R.E. Board Treasurer and Volunteer

I am thankful for a great Board and President. I am thankful for all of the volunteers and employees of C.A.R.E. I am looking forward to the new building. It will be a great new home for C.A.R.E.

Marlene has been an integral part of planning for the new building along with her husband, Sam. They have been working for months with architects and Hillsborough County to make sure every detail in planning, architectural designs and requirements by the county are met to code.



Joyce Maggio, C.A.R.E. Board Secretary and Volunteer

I am thankful for the opportunity to work with our furry friends and the people that make C.A.R.E. Animal Shelter such a great place to volunteer at.

I am looking forward to continuing to learn about the care of our furry friends and the building of our new home.

Rula Urso, C.A.R.E. Board Member, Critter Chronicles Editor and Volunteer

I am extremely thankful to Beth Ann Stein! I wouldn't have known about C.A.R.E if it wasn't for her telling me about this amazing shelter and telling me about the Board. I joined my first Board meeting September of 2022 and was just in awe of the amazing people at work trying to make a difference in the lives of these helpless cats and dogs. When I visited the shelter for the first time I met one of the Senior Volunteers Sally Ford. Sally was my assigned volunteer trainer. We connected right away with our shared history of living in Oklahoma and love of Dogs! Sally is an amazing Volunteer and woman. She is knowledgeable of all things dog volunteering and detail oriented. The dogs are in great hands with Sally. I am also very thankful to John Fischer for handing over the Editor position of Critter Chronicles to me. He showed me the ropes in our first joint edition of May/June 2023. I know it wasn't easy for John to let go of his "baby" I am very thankful for his faith in me and the opportunity! I am also extremely thankful to our amazing staff, Gloria, Karen, Micah and Jessica. Their hard work is what makes this shelter an amazing rescue! Our volunteers are among the best! You see the love and care they provide and it shows in every aspect of C.A.R.E, from the shelter, the animals and even our Website and Facebook page. Last but not least, I am thankful for James Demass. James is our Creative Director of Critter Chronicles. He is the one that puts the creativity in all the information, stories and pictures I provide him. James is what I like to call the "Magic behind the scenes!" he makes the words pop and the pictures come to life! You can checkout James' other creative works by visiting his website, jamesdemass.com

I am looking forward to our new building and the many opportunities it will provide for our animals, staff and volunteers. I am also looking forward to another successful year of Critter Chronicles!



Looking for a **dog-gone** home

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

10 AM to 3 PM • Tuesday - Saturday



▲ Annie

Annie is a shelter favorite. She is a very sweet young girl, and we all love her.

She has a big, friendly, tail-wagging personality and seems to have a perpetual smile on her face.

She has a lot of energy and loves to run in our outdoor yards. She is quite the ball player!

She is about 3 years old and weighs 35 pounds.



▲ Gunner

Gunner is a great puppy. He is a sweet boy with a very goofy personality. He loves balls and is very playful. Gunner is dog friendly and full of love. He will make a great companion.

Holiday **Treats**



Gingerbread Cookies for Dogs

We used a blend of healthy whole wheat and oat flour our recipe, but you can use any type of flour that works for your dog's needs, or whatever you have on hand.

Author: Kiki Kane

Prep Time: 15 minutes

Cook Time: 25 minutes

Total Time: 40 minutes

Yield: 1 Tray 1x

SCALE 1x2x3x

Ingredients

1 1/2 cup whole wheat flour	Pinch of allspice
1 1/2 cup oat flour (made from rolled oats)	1/4 cup molasses
1 tsp baking powder	3/4 cup applesauce
1 Tbsp ground ginger	1 egg
1 tsp turmeric	1 tsp vanilla extract
1 tsp ground cinnamon	1 Tbsp coconut oil
Pinch of ground clove	OPTIONAL: carob chips for gingerbread eyes and buttons

Instructions

Preheat oven to 350°

Combine the flours, baking powder, and spices in a bowl and mix to combine.

Add the molasses and applesauce and mix to combine.

Add the egg, vanilla, and coconut oil and mix to combine, adding more flour if necessary.

Roll out gingerbread and cut into gingerbread men or your choice of shapes.

Bake at 350° for 20 minutes or until just starting to get golden around the edges for a soft cookie, or until crunchy for longer shelf life.

Meet our VOLUNTEER



A Cat Named Peepo

By Dolly Norton

This is my cat Peepo. I'm a volunteer at CARE and adopted her as a kitten. I'm often asked how she got her name, so I thought I would tell her story.

Quite a few years ago my husband rented an apartment from a man named Peepo. While speaking with him we got on the subject of cats. He said how much he hated cats. That really surprised me. How could anybody not like cats? So the next day I told my husband the next cat we get we're going to name it Peepo. And eight years later I did.

Peepo is now 10 years old and a sweet kitty but a little on the shy side. She prefers only me and will follow me around all day while giving everyone else the cold shoulder. Her favorite thing to do is eat tuna and chase lizards on the patio. Her bad habit is eating the toilet paper.

Her full name is Peepo Nani (pronounced nah-nee). Nani is Hawaiian for pretty. I think I named her perfectly.

Dolly is a Volunteer at C.A.R.E. She reached out to me (Rula) a few months ago asking if her story could be placed in the latest Critter Chronicles. Of course I said yes! We love to receive stories such as Dolly's.

If you have a story you would like to share or something you would like to see in Critter Chronicles, please reach out to me, I would love to hear your thoughts and capture your stories. You can email me at urso.rula@gmail.com.



Dolly Norton with Peepo Nani

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Equal Housing Opportunity

On the First Day of Christmas, my pet gave to me....a trip to the ER?!

By: Courtney Pellerin, DVM

Christmas is one of the happiest times of the year-decorations, family gatherings, yummy feasts. With all those busy, joyous plans, we have no time for a pet health scare!

Here are some common holiday dangers to avoid making sure your pets have a safe and happy holiday season as well.

Christmas trees: For their safety, it's best to establish a physical barrier between pets and the tree. Cats can climb on the tree, potentially knocking it over. Pets can also chew on the wires for the lights, risking electrocution. Tree needles or glass ornaments on the floor can cause gastrointestinal upset or damage.

Tinsel/Wrapping Ribbon: Crafty pet parents should make sure to properly store ribbons or decorative tinsel as these objects can wrap around pets' tongues and cause intestinal obstructions, requiring emergency surgical intervention.

Batteries: Decorations and gifts often require owners to have plenty of battery power around the house. If ingested, batteries can leak caustic substances that can burn the mouth, esophagus and stomach of your pet in addition to putting your pet at risk of intestinal obstructions as well.

Plants: Many festive plants become increasingly popular during the holidays, but can cause harmful effects, such as gastrointestinal upset, hypersalivation, and prolonged ethargy, if ingested by your pet. Some common ones include holly, mistletoe, juniper, amaryllis, rosemary, and poinsettias.

Table food/alcohol: Holiday times are full of chances to eat, drink and be merry but please don't share your treats with your furry friends. Human food consumption can cause a variety of undesirable results from gastrointestinal distress, anorexia, pancreatitis or even organ damage. Alcohol can be extremely toxic to any size pet and even seemingly harmless amounts can be lethal. Remember that many baked goods, such as fruit cake, can contain alcohol products as well.

There are so many ways to include your pets in the holiday fun! (may I suggest adorable family pictures in matching Christmas sweaters?) But avoiding these things can keep your Christmas as stress-free as possible.



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Pet Holidays

NOVEMBER

While you prepare for Thanksgiving festivities throughout the month, remember to prioritize your pet's safety and avoid feeding them toxic foods. Check out Doctors' Corner to learn more.

MONTHLONG OBSERVATIONS:

- National Adopt a Senior Pet Month
- National Prevent a Litter Month

WEEKLONG EVENTS

- Nov. 5-11: National Animal Shelter Appreciation Week

HOLIDAYS:

- Nov. 1: National Cook For Your Pets Day
- Nov. 7: National Canine Lymphoma Awareness Day
- Nov. 17: National Hiking Day
- Nov. 19: National Camp Day

DECEMBER

There aren't many pet-specific holidays in December, so make sure to involve your pet in all the other exciting holiday festivities throughout the month.

MONTHLONG OBSERVATIONS:

- National Cat Lover's Month

HOLIDAYS:

- Dec. 2: National Mutt Day (again!)
- Dec. 4: Wildlife Conservation Day
- Dec. 9: International Day of Veterinary Medicine
- Dec. 10: International Animal Rights Day
- Dec. 27: Visit the Zoo Day

C.A.R.E. Business Partners

C.A.R.E. is grateful to the many Business Partners that support our mission. Annual Business Partner donations help us to continue to provide food, shelter, and medical care for the cats and dogs we take into our shelter each year. As a Business Partner your name will be promoted in the community as a supporter of local animal welfare.

If you are interested in becoming a C.A.R.E. Business Partner, you can contact the shelter at 813-645-2273 or our Outreach Coordinator at cherischumacher2@gmail.com

Let's work together to promote your business and further the mission to reduce the number of homeless and unwanted cats and dogs in the Southshore area.



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- Business Partner Name listed in C.A.R.E.'s Critter Chronicles
- Business Partner Hyperlink on C.A.R.E. website for one year
- Subscription to C.A.R.E.'s Email Newsletter and invitation to fundraisers

CONTACT

Careshelter@aol.com
(813)645-2273

BECOME A PART OF SOMETHING BIG

C.A.R.E. invites you to participate in our annual

Tree of Lights Fundraiser

Your donation will benefit the animals of C.A.R.E.

Honor or memorialize your pet(s) by purchasing a Christmas bulb (non-personalized) or personalized ornament*. Bulbs and ornaments will be hung on one of the Christmas trees that decorate the shelter from mid-November through December. Purchasing additional ornaments for the animal lovers in your life can be a wonderful Christmas gift. (*Ornaments remain the property of C.A.R.E. and are reused each year.)

Each year, one dog and one cat are selected as mascots for the fundraiser. The rescues selected as mascots all found their forever homes either during or soon after the fundraiser's completion. Let's hope the same will be true for this year's mascots, Ollie and Socks!

Number of Bulbs (non-personalized) _____ @ \$5.00 = \$ _____

Number of Personalized Ornaments _____ @ \$10.00 = \$ _____

Tax Deductible Total = \$ _____

Names of Pets for Personalized Ornaments:

_____ Cat/Dog	_____ Cat/Dog
_____ Cat/Dog	_____ Cat/Dog
_____ Cat/Dog	_____ Cat/Dog
_____ Cat/Dog	_____ Cat/Dog

Name of Donor: _____

Credit Card#: _____

Address: _____

Exp. Date: _____

Check#: _____

Please return the completed form with your payment to:

C.A.R.E. 1528 27th Street, S.E., Ruskin, FL 33570

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT & HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

we want to hear from you

Do you have a story or an article you would like to see in our magazine? We are always on the lookout for the community to participate on what we do here at C.A.R.E.

PLEASE EMAIL

Urso.Rula@gmail.com

Please put **Critter Chronicles** in the subject line with your Ideas and substitutions.

Special Thanks to:



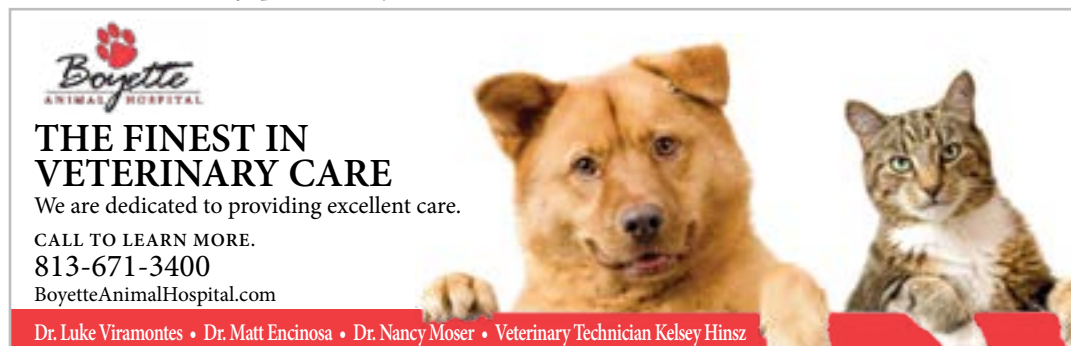
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advertising opportunities

C.A.R.E. is a non-profit no-kill animal shelter. We rely heavily upon the financial assistance of concerned citizens and socially responsible businesses to reach our goals. To help support our activities, we offer advertising opportunities on our website and in our monthly Critter Chronicles newsletter.

Critter Chronicle Newsletter Ad Rates	
Full Color	Price
1/6 Page Vertical 1/6 Page Horizontal Short 1/6 Page Horizontal Long	\$75 per edition
1/3 Page Horizontal	\$150 per edition
2/3 Page Horizontal	\$300 per edition
1/4 Page Vertical Ad	\$125 per edition
1/2 Page Vertical Ad 1/2 Page Horizontal Ad	\$250 per edition
Full Page Ad No Bleed	\$400 per edition
Full Page Ad	\$400 per edition
Additional Value	
Advertising creation	\$40
Inside front cover placement	Additional \$25
Inside front cover placement	Additional \$50

Anyone interested in placing an ad in the Critter Chronicles should contact **Urso.Rula@gmail.com**.

Electronic files should be at least 300 dpi and in .jpg or .pdf file format. (no Microsoft Publisher).

Dedicated volunteers are always needed at C.A.R.E.

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volunteercare@aol.com
if interested.

C.A.R.E.



We are dedicated to
finding forever homes

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

10 AM to 3 PM
Tuesday - Saturday

VOLUNTEER

C.A.R.E. has a two acre shelter located in Ruskin and is a mostly volunteer effort. We rely on the generosity of public donations to continue our work. We are unique in the shelter-ing world as our animals do not spend their time living in cages. Dogs are outside during the day and cats live in three open bays. We encourage visits and offer tours to local groups.

THE OFFICIAL BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE CRITTER ADOPTION & RESCUE EFFORT, INC.

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