

January/February 2024

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



Critter Chronicles



C.A.R.E in the Community
.....

Doctors Corner
.....

Meet **Dr. Bob!**
.....

Gift & Wine 2023 Success!
.....

Dog and Cat New
Year's Resolutions
.....

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.
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ON THE COVER:



ON THE COVER

From Left to Right, Dr. Nancy Moser, Dr. Bob Encinosa , Dr. Matt Encinosa

CAREing thoughts



President Joann With

Writing this in mid-December prompted me to reflect on the past year and to anticipate what the new year may bring. 2023 was an exciting year filled with major accomplishments, and the new building took center stage. Architectural drawings were completed and sent out for bid. Preliminary site plans were submitted to Hillsborough County, and as of this writing, we have received feedback from two of thirteen reviewers. The most exciting news was C.A.R.E. being awarded a \$1 million grant from the Caspersen Foundation. This generous gift enabled us to move forward towards breaking ground in 2024. Additional funds are still needed, and we are continuing our fundraising efforts.

Our Gift & Wine Fair raised a record \$18,815, an amazing result given competing holiday activities on the same day. By mid-December our Tree of Lights campaign raised \$5,265; this exceeds the entire total for 2022. We are very grateful to the community for their generosity and support.

Our greatest challenge in 2023 was a shortage of morning kennel volunteers as this requires some manual labor. Word of mouth is our most effective way of recruiting volunteers. To this end, we will increase networking within the Greater South Shore and Riverview chambers of commerce, and engage area clubs, schools, and communities.

Thank you everyone for your efforts and continued support, and best wishes for the New Year.

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Community outreach

Gift & Wine 2023. A great event and lots of fun!

By Rula Urso

After months of planning, coordinating, meeting and stressing Gift and Wine 2023 officially took place on a beautiful sunny December 2nd. It was a great event filled with beautiful art, jewelry, pickles, and pottery. The event had something for everyone and was a success in many ways. C.A.R.E. outreach committee members gained new contacts and friends but also received a huge outpouring of support from donors across the community. While we didn't reach our financial goal this year, we did reach the goal of putting together a great event that everyone truly enjoyed. Several people in the community showed up showing their support. Many vendors told us how important this cause is to them and that they would only do this for C.A.R.E. To our donors, vendors, outreach volunteers and all who helped thank you so much for making this a success in more ways than we can count!



Dot art by Artists Pauline Choate. Pauline also donated Art for Gift & Wine 2023 raffle.



Artist Harv Berman. Art work inspired by beautiful Florida nature captured in Water Color.



Vendor Tickle Ye Fancy, famous for their beautiful medieval inspired hats and feathers. Tickle Ye Fancy also donated to Gift & Wine 2023 raffle.



Treasurer, Board Member and Volunteer Marlene Greenberg with Donna Clemens, C.A.R.E. Volunteer.



Metalsmith Donna Carrion. Creating beautiful handmade jewelry using silver, brass and precious and semi-precious stones.

Dog and Cat New year's resolutions

Every year people make resolutions... they are going to lose weight, quit smoking, stop drinking, etc. However, most of these are abandoned after the first week. What if your dog and cat could make his/her own resolutions?



Dog Resolutions:

Resolution #1: I will become best friends with the mailman or anyone delivering packages. I will not chase his truck or jump up on him.

Resolution #2: If I get sick in the middle of the night, I will try and make the toilet. If not, I will try and hit the tile versus the carpeting.

Resolution #3: I will not eat my poop, the cat's poop or another dog's poop. I also will not eat the baby's diapers!

Resolution #4: I will stop watching you play video games and do a few laps around the house to get more exercise.

Resolution #5: I will be less afraid of the vacuum or other things that make loud noises. But I'm not making ANY promises about the fireworks on the Fourth of July or New Year's Eve.

Resolution #6: I will try and not talk to you (aka bark at you) when you are on the phone.

Resolution #7: I won't nudge you at your desk when you are busy working. But it really is all about me isn't it?

Resolution #8: I will not freak out when you leave the house, but I get bored and I miss you. Maybe you could leave me with a "to do" list like you do with the kids. Maybe I could help organize my toy bin (by the way, they are looking a little raggedy ... is there a new toy in my future?)

Resolution #9: I'll stop counter surfing if you promise to sneak me some table scraps every once in a while.

What I'm Not Changing:

I will continue to fart and not feel bad about it. Dad does it and he doesn't feel bad ... in fact he still laughs!

If you come home smelling like another dog, I will get jealous. Don't cheat on me.

I will continue to try and get what I want by whining (a little) and giving you my best sad eyes.

If it lands on the floor, forget about the five second rule ... it's mine!

I will not "tug" the stuffing out of your pillows if you buy me a tug toy!

I know I am spoiled and have a pretty cushy life. I suppose I could learn to share if you took in a foster dog.

I won't wake you up every morning by jumping up on the bed. But really, that alarm gets annoying when you hit the snooze five times.

I will not stop chasing the squirrels and rabbits ... they taunt me by thinking they are faster than me.

I will take my pills without spitting them back up only if they are wrapped in peanut butter or another yummy treat.

I will chew up your New Year's resolution list so you don't have to feel bad when you break all your good intentions!



Cat Resolutions:

Resolution #1: I will cut down on cat nip . Do you remember what I did at the Christmas party? 'Cause I don't. I think it's time to dispose of all those catnip-filled mice I hide under your bed.

Resolution #2: I will stop hunting Mice. Like squirrels, I've heard they are high in cholesterol. Plus, I know you don't like it when I leave you some in your shoe. Why waste my time when you are soo unappreciative?

Resolution #3: I will take more naps. 24 hours in a day is just not enough time to get all those naps in, but I should really try. That time I spent playing with you for example, could have been spent napping.

Resolution #4: I will use the litter Box. Since you went to the trouble to put it out, I guess I could at least use it. Besides, you really seem to like scooping it out - look at the how carefully you handle, bag, and seal it-must be worth it's weight in gold. In that case, I'll be sure to leave you more.

Resolution #5: I will let you sleep in. As part of my "take more naps" I will let you sleep in. Instead of waking you at 4am, I'll wait until 5am. (I don't want you to get lazy)

Resolution #6: I will get along with the dog. He may be big and smelly, but he is good for something. Who else can I blame when I shred the newspaper or knock over the lamp?

Resolution #7: I will be nice to the vet. Nobody likes going to the doctor, but I know she is just trying to keep me healthy so I can rule the world. I won't sink my teeth into her next time...as long as she doesn't take my temperature...

Resolution #8: I will play more. I am going to stay young by playing more. Which means you need to play with me more. I need to keep you healthy too...otherwise whose going to refill the food bowl?

Resolution #9: I won't scratch the furniture. I know you love it when I interrupt whatever thing you are doing because you are bored (working, typing on the computer, tending to kids etc), and sit and purr. So, I am going to do it more in 2024.

What I'm Not Changing:

Hmmm now that I think of it, all of the above! (except for number 3. I like that one!)

Prrrrrrr-fect for a family

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

10 AM to 3 PM • Tuesday - Saturday



▲ Socks

Socks 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.



▲ Gretta

Gretta is a friendly girl who came to the shelter pregnant. After raising her babies and seeing them off to their new home, she is patiently waiting for a forever home of her own. She is a beautiful, polydactyl cat who will make a wonderful companion.



▲ Smokey

Smokey is a very friendly and affectionate cat. He loves to be petted and enjoys all the visitors to his room. Smokey is neutered, vaccinated and ready for a home.



▲ Allie and Charlie

Our beautiful and spunky kittens Allie (black female) and Charlie (tabby male) had a lot of fun with Holiday gift boxes.

Allie is a sweet girl who is waiting for her forever home. She loves to play and get attention from everyone who visits the kitten room.

Charlie is sweet like his sister Allie and will follow her around for the next big adventure!



▲ Guinness and Rheingold

Our sweet boys, Guinness and Rheingold, are still up for adoption. Born September 2022, they are sweet, playful and smart! They are both neutered and up to date on all vaccines. They are good with other cats as well and very sociable.

Guinness (mainly white) playing with our other adorable cat up for adoption Smokey



Rheingold (Black with White Chest) Rheingold is very playful and loves all the fun toys he has to play with in the cattery. He is friendly to all volunteers and steals the heart of visitors.



Boyette Animal Hospital

Interview with Dr. Bob Encinosa

By Rula Urso

You see the Doctors Conor in Critter Chronicles, but I want you to meet the Doctor himself. Dr. Bob Encinosa. Raised in Valrico Florida Dr. Bob always wanted to be a vet. From a very young age he wanted to help farm animals and back in the day farms and their animals were pretty predominate in Florida. Through a natural transition Dr. Bob decided to go to small animal medicine instead. He started Boyette Animal Hospital in 1990 in a small 900 square foot facility. The idea was simple, a veterinary clinic that offered excellent service while remaining small. Dr. Bob never planned on the business to expand and grow to what it is today. Through hard work and word of mouth the practice grew to a staff of 80 professionals in a multi-unit complex area serving the Riverview community. The Boyette Animal Hospital has grooming, boarding, and training services.

I was given a tour of the exceptionally clean and modern space. Recently expanded to accommodate the growth. You could see the pride in Dr. Bob's face. He greeted everyone with smiles on a first name basis. He walked the halls and pointed out "this is where we keep the really sick animals, thankfully we have none right now." And then we turn the corner "Oh and this is the examination room and look at the Xray room, pretty cool stuff!" He brings an examination table down to show the multifunctional table and

then states to himself "that's right this is the one I need to fix". I thought, wow this is a man that could sit back on his laurels and hire someone else to take care of it, instead he was the one doing the repair. Every corner had Dr. Bob's touch; every animal had his oversight. We take the elevator to his office, a small space in the corner still needing its final touch, pictures, plaques, and memorabilia waiting to be hung up on the walls. He looks at me and states "this is the last part that needs to get done, but the other stuff is more important so it can wait". A laptop and a small fat red book, easily over 1000 pages, titled Small Animal Medicine sit on his desk. He turns to me with his big smile and states "what would you like to know?" I knew in that instant I was in the presence of a man that is genuine, humble, kind, and brilliant.

I asked Dr. Bob how did the relationship with C.A.R.E. Animal Shelter start and with a big smile he said, "Oh that's all Gloria!" Our Animal C.A.R.E. Manager Gloria Blue used to be a receptionist for Dr. Bob, she eventually left the practice to work for C.A.R.E. Gloria knew C.A.R.E. needed an experienced and trustworthy veterinarian and she reached out to Dr. Bob for help. Ever since the early 2000s Dr. Bob and his staff have been the medical resource for C.A.R.E. From spay and neuter surgeries to providing medical care and prescriptions even emergency visits in dire situations. Dr. Bob has nothing but glowing comments for Gloria, "She has done an exceptional job with that small space, she is so full of passion and love for the animals". He went on to state how unique C.A.R.E. is, being the only Animal Shelter in the South Shore area.

We continued our discussion to what he has seen over the years that has been positive in animal care and medicine. Dr. Bob explained on the good side “animal technology and medications and simple things we take for granted such as flea control are so immensely easy and attainable now. Back in the day it was quite the process”. On the flip side, he is seeing more and more people opt not to have kids and have pets instead he has also seen more people show compassion for animals and less compassion to other people. While he is happy that animal care, medicine and overall wellbeing of animals have greatly improved he is concerned with the “health” of our society.




Boyette Animal Hospital staff examine dogs at the state of the art examination room



Dr. Nany and Veterinary Technician Kelsey Hinsz examine Ranger at C.A.R.E.

Everyone is asking Dr. Bob, “when are you retiring?” but he said with all seriousness “I cannot, not be productive! There is always something to do”. His goal was never to be the biggest practice in the area, he never once advertised. All the Boyette Animal Hospital growth was organic by proving the best care for the animals and their fellow humans. He is on multiple boards and offers his expertise to other veterinary locations across the U.S. During the time of our interview, he had a trip coming up to the Midwest to provide expertise on animal hospital development. While Dr. Bob is involved in multiple nonprofit organizations, running his business, and traveling all over the U.S. his family remains at the heart of it all. His son who also followed in his father’s footsteps, also became a veterinarian. Dr. Matt admitted to me during my visit, “I have big shoes to fill!” at which point Dr. Bob turned to me with a big smile and said, “that’s right!”.


Thank you to Dr. Bob, Dr. Matt, and Dr. Nancy and the Boyette Animal staff for graciously giving me their time to show me around and let me take lots of pictures. I could truly see the dedication and love they have for the animals they care for and for being part of something truly special.



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Looking for a **dog-gone** home

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Annie ▲

This is Annie. She loves to play ball, Frisbee and a good roll in the grass. She is the perfect companion for an active person. Annie is very smart and would love to be with someone who will take her to explore the world around her. She is an active girl who wants to be queen of the house and should be the only dog in the home.

Community outreach

Sun City Center Shell Club Donates to C.A.R.E.

The Sun City Center Shell Club selected C.A.R.E. as a recipient of their 2023 fundraising efforts with a \$1000 donation. Laura Lee, the President of the club, nominated C.A.R.E. for the work they do in the south shore community assisting the rescue and adoption of homeless cats and dogs.



Sally Davis Shell Club Treasurer & Cheri Schumacher C.A.R.E. Outreach Coordinator

Thank you to the Riverside HOA Club for their generous donation to C.A.R.E. as part of their "Reverse Trick O ' Treat"



From Left to Right C.A.R.E. Office Manager and Volunteer Coordinator Karen with Cattery Volunteer Cindee Riek

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Cat "Meowth" Problems

By Matt Encinosa, DVM

Most people are aware that their dogs can get dental disease, but what about cats? Our furry feline friends are often overlooked when it comes to dental care. According to Cornell University Feline Health Center, "Between 50 and 90% of cats older than four years of age suffer from some form of dental disease".

Some of the most common forms of dental disease in cats include periodontal disease and resorptive lesions. Periodontal disease starts as inflammation in the gums which progresses to infection and eventually can result in loss of a tooth. Resorptive lesions are holes that can form in teeth which can damage the roots and cause potential fractures and severe pain. Some cats develop a very painful condition called stomatitis which is a much more severe form of oral inflammation often requiring dental surgical intervention.

Common symptoms that can cue you into whether your cat may have dental disease include drooling, difficulty eating (usually with hard food), weight loss and loss of appetite, bad breath, and potentially swelling of the face or lymph nodes.

Brushing your cats' teeth may be helpful in preventing dental disease if they allow you to do it. There are also dental diets and treats that may be beneficial.

Your vet may recommend doing a dental cleaning under general anesthesia and dental x-rays to screen for any issues below the gumline. It can be difficult to do a complete dental exam in many cats without anesthesia, so this also allows for a more thorough oral exam

to identify if there are any growths or lesions not related to the teeth. Ultimately, if any teeth are compromised, the best treatment may be extraction. Bringing your cat to your local veterinarian annually is the best way to identify and treat dental disease early.



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Pet Holidays

As we bid farewell to the old and welcome the new, it's that time of year again - when we're all busy making resolutions and dreaming up ways to make our lives pawsome in the coming year. But wait! Let's not forget about our furry companions and their resolutions too! So, grab a treat and get ready to embark on a fabulous journey of pet celebrations this year. From wagging tails to purrfect moments, there are many reasons to celebrate and cherish our four-legged friends. Let's make 2024 their best one yet!

JANUARY

- January 2: National Pet Travel Safety Day
- January 2: Happy Mew Year for Cats Day
- January 14: National Dress Up Your Pet Day
- January 22: National Answer Your Cat's Question Day
- January 24: Change A Pet's Life Day

FEBRUARY

- Pet Dental Health Month
- Dog Training Education Month
- National Cat Health Month
- Responsible Pet Owners Month
- Spay/Neuter Awareness Month
- February 7-14: Have a Heart for Chained Dogs Week
- February 18-24: National Justice for Animals Week

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.



become a business partner

A BUSINESS PARTNER GETS THE FOLLOWING:

- Use of the C.A.R.E. Business Partnership Logo on marketing materials
- Digital Partner Certificate and Window Cling
- Business Partner company logo on C.A.R.E. website
- Business Partner Name listed in C.A.R.E.'s Critter Chronicle
- 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

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BECOME A PART OF SOMETHING BIG

be a part of something big

become a member of C.A.R.E.



Why you should consider becoming a Sustaining Member

Many of you may already be regular or premium members of C.A.R.E. and we appreciate all of you. To those of you reading this who are not members, why should you consider it? The prime reason is that membership fees help us to pay our overhead bills. So when we receive your renewal fees, that is a good month for us. But that is only once annually.

What I would like you to consider is becoming a Sustaining Member. What does that mean?

A Sustaining Membership means that you are committing to donate a set dollar amount every month. We have the ability to set this up automatically for you so that your account or card will be debited for the same amount on a specific day of each month. The benefit for you is that you "set it and forget it" and may actually be able to give more by splitting up the payments. The benefit to C.A.R.E. is that we know we can count on that regularly donation every single month to pay electric bills, telephone bills etc.

No amount is too small and no amount is too big. Become a part of something bigger and make that commitment now. **Call 645-2273 for assistance.**

Critter Adoption & Rescue Effort , Inc. Membership

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Please check shirt size: S M L XL XXL

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Signature: _____

NOTE: The annual membership period is January 1st through December 31st of each calendar year. For any membership initiated during the fourth quarter (October 1 - December 31) the new member receives their membership that quarter for free.

C.A.R.E. is a 501(c)(3) organization (59-3678003) registered with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Registration No. CH-14526. A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE (800)435-7352 WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE.

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.

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Urso.Rula@gmail.com

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

Special Thanks to:



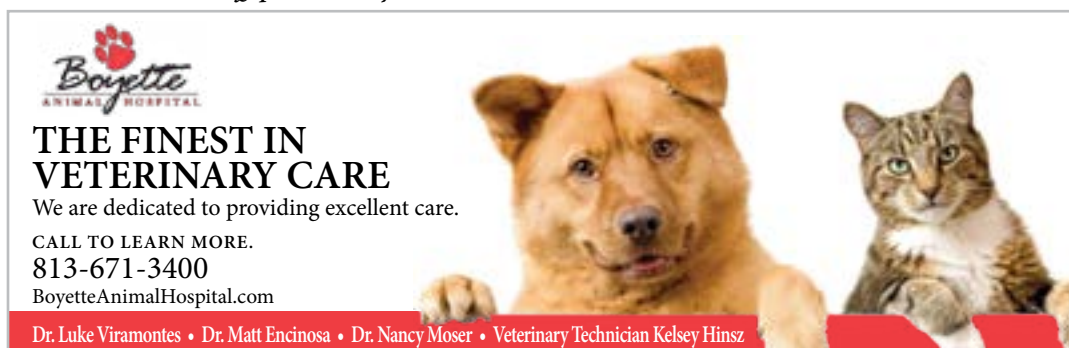
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advertising opportunities

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
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Advertising creation	\$40
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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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C.A.R.E.



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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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