

Critter Chronicles

The Official Bi-Monthly Newsletter of the Critter Adoption & Rescue Effort, Inc.

1528 27th Street S.E., Ruskin, Florida 33570 * 813-645-2273 * www.careshelter.org



Meet Chicago!

Chicago is a handsome young guy with gorgeous eyes. He somehow found himself living in the woods. A caring person rescued him and helped get him the care he needed. Based on the condition we've been told he was in and where he was living, he clearly hit a rough patch in life. That's in the past thankfully. His body is all healed now. His heart has a little ways to go. Like many new dogs, he is a bit cautious in the shelter environment. Once he relaxes with



you though, he is silly and gives kisses. It was a joy to watch him zoom around the play yard... like the world's weight just lifted off his shoulders. He is eager to please during training sessions and seems to have a good disposition in the vicinity of other dogs. We still have a lot to learn about Chicago but we already are falling in love with this **Labrador Retriever/Terrier mix**.

Come and see Chicago and our other dogs between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday at the shelter.

Your 2019

Board of Directors

Penny Smith
John Fischer
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C.A.R.E.

Hours of Operation

Tuesday - Saturday

10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Call (813)645-2273 for your free shelter tour



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

From the President's Desk

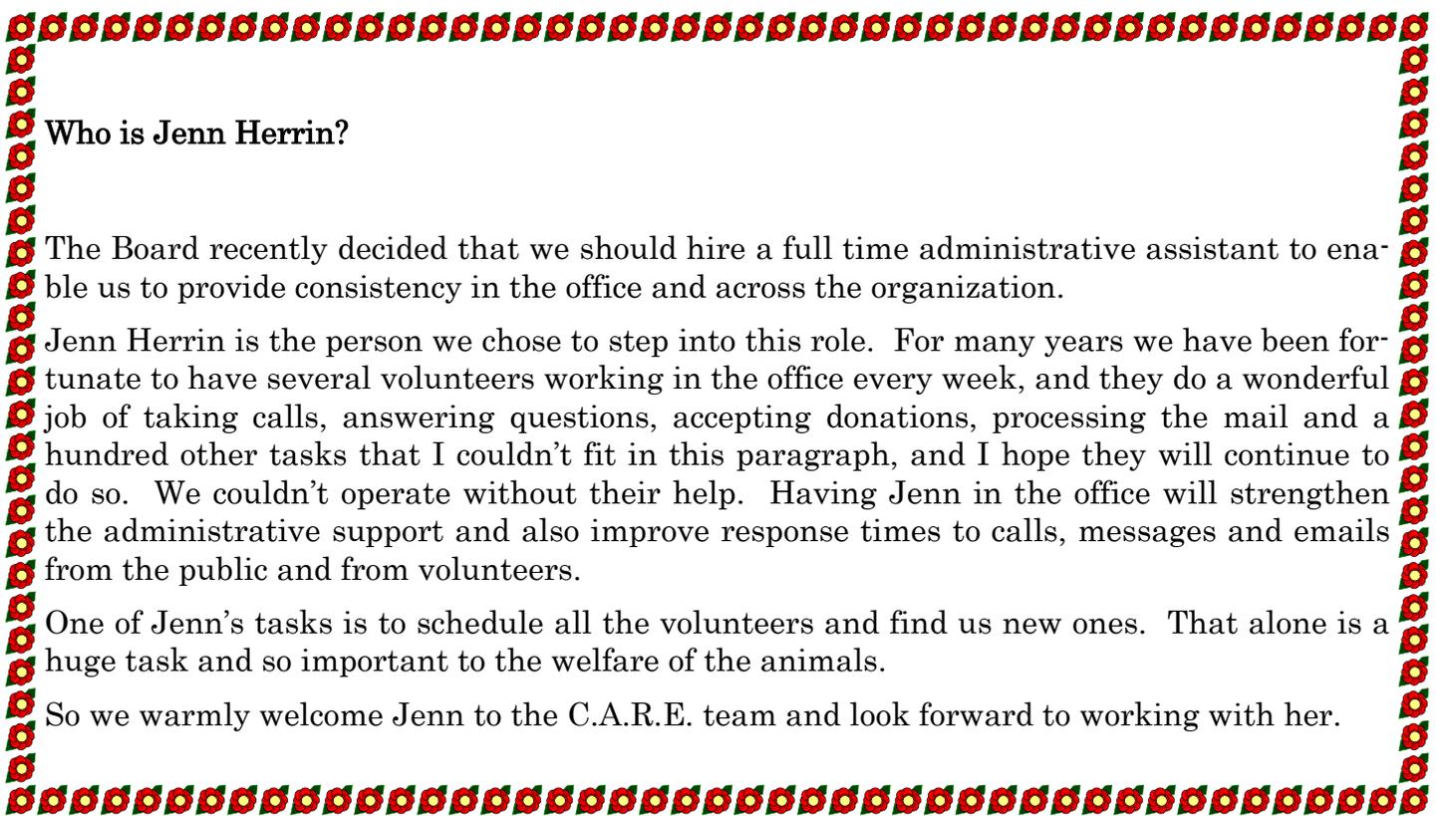
Spring is in the air! This is the time when we debate whether to spring clean the house, our wardrobe, the car, or just get out in the garden and enjoy the great weather.

As someone who recently retired from a career, I have spent time re-evaluating my priorities. What do I want to spend my time on, now that there are no demands to go to an office every day. Well, it's no surprise to anyone who knows me, that I have ended up spending a lot of my time either at the shelter, or working on behalf of the shelter, raising money and finding fur-ever homes for our precious guests at the shelter. And I don't regret a minute of my time spent on those pursuits.

I am extremely proud of all our volunteers, around one hundred of them, who come in for their shift to help take care of the cats and dogs, and often do more than we ask of them. But we can always use more volunteers. Fridays seem to be a challenging time to find consistent volunteers to help with the dogs. If you would like to help from 7am to 10am, or 12 noon to 3pm please let us know. Volunteer Applications are on our website at www.careshelter.org or in the office between 10 am and 3pm, Tuesday through Saturday.

I am happy to report that most of our puppies have found homes and we no longer have a maternity ward. Now we need homes for the mamas, Chickie, Chloe, Zoey and Peppermint.

Thank you all for your support and please join C.A.R.E. as a member if you haven't already! Turn to page 6 to find out about our most exciting news!



Who is Jenn Herrin?

The Board recently decided that we should hire a full time administrative assistant to enable us to provide consistency in the office and across the organization.

Jenn Herrin is the person we chose to step into this role. For many years we have been fortunate to have several volunteers working in the office every week, and they do a wonderful job of taking calls, answering questions, accepting donations, processing the mail and a hundred other tasks that I couldn't fit in this paragraph, and I hope they will continue to do so. We couldn't operate without their help. Having Jenn in the office will strengthen the administrative support and also improve response times to calls, messages and emails from the public and from volunteers.

One of Jenn's tasks is to schedule all the volunteers and find us new ones. That alone is a huge task and so important to the welfare of the animals.

So we warmly welcome Jenn to the C.A.R.E. team and look forward to working with her.

C.A.R.E. Wish List

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE (HELPS PAY FOR THE FOLLOWING)



Monthly Animal Medical Expenses
 Veterinarian Services

ANIMAL SUPPLIES



Milk Bones
 Dog & Cat Toys
 Yesterday's News Brand Cat Litter for Kittens
 Cat Treats
 Soft Dog Treats
 Puppy Pads

OFFICE SUPPLIES



Printer Toner for HP M 477dfw
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Bleach
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 Laundry Detergent (he)
 13 Gallon Trash Bags
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Pet Supply Gift Cards
 Office Supply Gift Cards
 New C.A.R.E. Members
 Volunteers





Tigre is one of our newest guests. He was abandoned, as so many are. Do you see the white star on his chest? Tigre has a beautiful brindle coat and has already won the hearts of our volunteers. He plays well with other dogs and is even pretty calm around cats. He is calm, handsome, sweet and playful, weighs about 66lbs and will make a wonderful pet for a family.

Please come out and meet Tigre!

10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday.

And if you would like a free tour of our facility, please call 645-2273 to make arrangements. One of our volunteers will be happy to show you around.



With almost all the puppies in their new homes, things are a little less crazy at the shelter!

Now we need to find a home for **Chloe and Zoey**. These two love bugs were awesome moms and took care of each other's puppies while they were here. They are bonded and protective of each other with strangers. They are both very silly and loving once you get to know them. They would very much like to be adopted together. If interested in adopting these two chi/terrier mixes, please plan to make a couple of trips to get to know them.



Chickie is an awesome little lady! She is super cute, sweet and playful. Chickie is a Chihuahua/Dachshund mix. She has lived with other dogs, too. She likes to cuddle and her tail always wags when she sees her friends. She gave birth to 6 huge puppies a few months ago. She has been a great mom through it all! Now that the puppies are ready for adoption, it's time for Chickie to be in the spotlight. She deserves a great forever home of her own!

Come and see Chickie Tuesday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

SouthShore Business Association

Key Players in Your Community

Weekly Meetings
Wednesdays: 7:30a.m. to 8:45 a.m.

The Alley at SouthShore
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For Additional Information contact Penny Smith
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CENTURY 21

Beggins Enterprises



We are happy to share that **142** Community Bags have already been sold at the **Winn Dixie in Sun City Center** this month – which means we’ve already generated **\$142** in donations!

Thank you to everyone that has visited Winn Dixie and purchased a Community Bag. With **only a few** days left in **March**,

there is still time to visit **Winn Dixie** and pick up a few Community Bags. All you have to do is grab a Community Bag, and we’ll receive \$1! You can find the two colorful reusable Community Bags with the Giving Tag on the reusable bag rack at the store. The key is to look for the bags with a tag that features a blue heart on it.

Thank you all for your support!

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A+ Hearing Center, Inc. is owned and operated by Don and Chris Guiley.

Don and Chris have been in the hearing business for over 45 years combined. The Guileys share the commitment of educating people that hearing should be treated the same as eyesight, as it is one of our contacts with the outside world. Additionally, they share the motto of "We are not just in the hearing aid business, but in the business of helping people hear." Because we care, we strive to produce individual solutions for each hearing impaired person we serve.

Symptoms of hearing loss may differ for each person with a hearing impairment. No single type of hearing instrument is appropriate for everyone with a hearing loss, which is why we treat each person with a hearing impairment with special attention.



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This beauty with the golden eyes is **Catita**. She was left at the gate on December 18th and 4 days later gave birth to 7 kittens! Six are males and the grey and white one with a white circle on the middle of her back is female. Catita has been a great mother to these little balls of energy and now they are all ready for new and permanent homes. They are so active it's difficult to get good pictures of them all!



Read all about it! C.A.R.E. to Build New Facility!

!

We are excited to announce our plans for a new facility on the current property. The main shelter building was built in the early 60s and while our staff and volunteers have done wonders with it since then, we are continually running into plumbing and electrical issues. Repairs to existing systems can be costly and could ultimately lead to much bigger problems.

This is an ambitious project and we need to raise the capital needed to build a larger and more efficient building. On May 31st, C.A.R.E. is hosting an event at the Sun City Center Chamber of Commerce with the assistance of the Greater Riverview Chamber of Commerce, and the SouthShore Chamber of Commerce. This event will kick off our Capital Funding Campaign for the project. We invite you all to attend and help us celebrate, as we unveil the future plans for our shelter. We also hope that you will find it in your heart to contribute to the Campaign. The SouthShore Community has been good to us for the last 20 or so years and we hope we can rely on you as we move forward with this project.

The event will begin at 11:30am on May 31st. We hope to see you there!



Stop the Presses! New Boy in Town!

Meet handsome Beau, a 13 year old Schnauzer, whose owner could no longer care for him. Beau has taken up residence as the "Office Dog" and is reveling in all the attention. Everything is strange for him right now but hopefully we can find his new forever home very soon. How can you resist?

Come and meet Beau on Tuesday through Saturday, between 10am and 3pm.

C.A.R.E. Membership

If you haven't yet renewed your membership, please do. In fact please consider a monthly automatic donation to help with our operating costs. Even a small amount helps us with food and medical care for the cats and dogs we rescue. We can help you set it up, and you set it and forget it with the peace of mind that it's done.

If you were never a member before, now is a great time to join! We are embarking on a new journey for the future of C.A.R.E. and you could be a part of that. You will be able to say, "I remember when C.A.R.E. was in a small dilapidated converted house, and with my help, they were able to build a new state of the art facility." As the SouthShore community explodes with all the new housing around us, the need is greater than ever before for our shelter to rescue and rehome the abandoned, neglected and surrendered dogs and cats. We, as the only no-kill facility in South County, are their only hope.

Please join us! Call the shelter at 645-2273.

Critter Adoption & Rescue Effort, Inc.

1528 27th St SE Ruskin, FL 33570  813-645-2273  www.careshelter.org

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ ST: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

\$35 - Basic Membership (includes car magnet) \$50 - Premium Member (includes car magnet + t-shirt)

***Premium Members, please select a shirt size: S M L XL XXL

Check # _____ (please make checks payable to CARE)

Visa Mastercard Discover CC #: _____ Exp. Date ____/____

Signature: _____

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

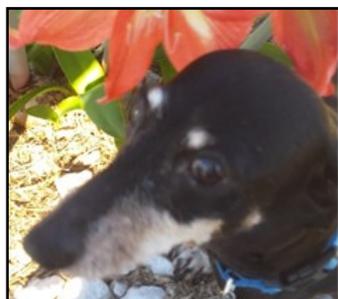


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What does my adoption fee cover?



- Rabies Vaccine \$18
- Flea/Tick Treatment \$20
- Micro Chip \$35
- Physical Exam \$50
- Spay/Neuter \$250
- Deworming \$30
- Heart Worm Test \$30
- Distemper combo vaccine \$18 per booster

Our adoption fees cover a \$400+ value for only \$100!

1528 27th St. S.E.
Ruskin, FL 33570
Telephone: (813) 645-2273
E-mail: VolunteerCARE@aol.com

Visit us online at www.careshelter.org for more information



This precious ball of fun is **Chickie!**

Chickie was our third momma to give birth. She is a Chihuahua/Dachshund mix and is super cute, sweet and playful. She has lived with other dogs, too. She likes to cuddle and her tail always wags when she sees her friends. She gave birth to six huge puppies a few months ago. She has been a great mom through it all! Now that the puppies are ready for adoption, it's time for Chickie to be in the spotlight. She deserves a great forever home of her own and will be a great companion to snuggle with!

Come and see Chickie 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Tuesday through Saturday.

Spotlight on Cats

Looking for a Home



This is **Amber**. A beautiful amber-colored mommy cat and her five tiny, nursing kittens were rescued by a volunteer and brought to CARE around Halloween 2018. One of her males (Smoky) and two of her females (Scarlett and Topaz) have already been adopted. Her two remaining males (Silver and Inky) are now in the kitten room awaiting their forever homes. Although all of Amber's kittens tested negative for FIV, Amber was not so fortunate. This is why she is calling the ICU her temporary home. FIV cannot be spread to humans or dogs, etc. The only way FIV can be spread to other felines is by heavy biting or attempting to mate.

Therefore, it is best if Amber can find her forever home as the sole feline in a quiet household or in a home with another FIV-positive cat. FIV-positive cats can have a normal lifespan and can remain healthy and be a great companion animal for years to come. Amber is a small cat and was a young mother who enjoyed playing with her kittens when they were all together. Please consider giving her a quiet home where she can receive all the love she deserves!



Simon is a really affectionate black short haired kitten. He is about 6 months old and he gets along well with other cats. He loves to play with and cuddle with the volunteers.

Simon will make a great companion for someone who enjoys the interaction with him, as he's so responsive. He is up to date with his vaccinations and is also housetrained, and keeps his cat condo very clean. Come by and visit with Simon between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday.

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- Future Events
- Capital Campaign Kickoff
 - May 31st 11:30am
 - Sun City Center
 - Chamber of Commerce
 - ~~~~~
 - Adoption Event
 - June 22nd
 - Inspired Living
 - Sun City Center

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Dr. Bob Encinosa, Medical Director

Dr. Amanda Esposito

Dr. Damen Muller

Kelsey Hinsz CVT

Gloria Blue, Animal Care Manager



Healthy Pet, Healthy Life

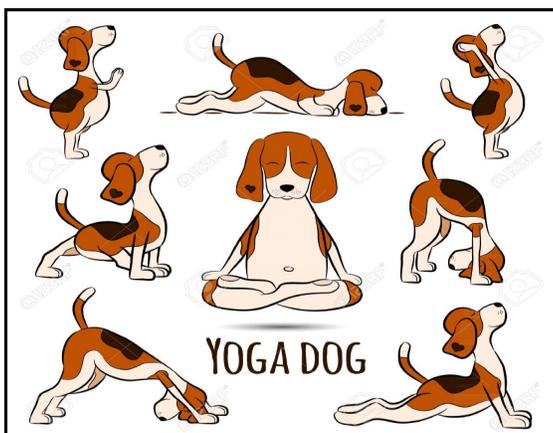
By Dr. Lorraine Ellwood

Most of us realize how much our pets can improve our quality of life. Studies have shown that owning a pet can have a positive effect on an emotional level by decreasing depression, stress and anxiety and loneliness. Our furry friends can also keep us healthier by lowering blood pressure and cholesterol levels, improve our immunity and reduce the risk of heart attacks and strokes. Despite all the good that pets do for us, there are some unhealthy aspects to the relationship. Many of us lead an increasingly sedentary and overindulgent life style. Not only are we becoming more overweight, but many of us have passed these habits to our beloved pets. Our pets are becoming couch potatoes just like us. As many as 50 percent of dogs and 55 percent of cats are considered overweight. They are at risk of developing health problems such as Diabetes, arthritis and heart disease.

So what can we do to stop this? Of course we can cut back on the treats and snacks that we give to our pets. We can also start a regular exercise program to keep us and our pets healthy and trim. For cats the best exercise is to encourage them to chase toys, balls, sticks with feathers and laser pointers. Providing a cat tree or condo and scratching post can also help to get them moving. For our dogs there are many forms of exercise we can do - walking, jogging, swimming, dancing, hiking, games, agility training, yoga and more. Most dogs should get between one to two hours of exercise a day, but this can vary depending on the age, breed and health of your pet. It is always a good idea to check with your veterinarian before starting an exercise regimen.

Always make sure that you start slowly and gradually with an exercise plan to build up endurance and tolerance. Watch for signs of exhaustion such as heavy panting, wheezing, lameness and disorientation. Be careful on hot days and be sure to let your pet have access to cool, fresh water. Stop or reduce exercise if your pet seems tired or sore. Also be careful running or walking your dog on hot pavement. It burns! If you notice any signs of illness or lameness during or after exercise contact your veterinarian.

So turn off the TV, get off the couch and enjoy some quality time exercising with your pet! You both will benefit from it.



Hillsborough Community College Celebrates 10th Anniversary!

You may know that our local Hillsborough Community College celebrated its 10th Anniversary recently, and C.A.R.E. was represented there by Joann With and Phyllis Gannon, who gave out information about the shelter and about the need for more volunteers.

The shelter currently has over 100 volunteers, which sounds like a lot, but we have a morning and afternoon shift for both the dogs and the cats and usually 6 to 8 volunteers per shift. Some volunteers work one shift per week and some do more. There is always room for more!

Call the office 645-2273 for more information.



On March 10th, Robin Rose and Joann With represented C.A.R.E. at the **Salty Shamrock Irish Pub's** inaugural **St. Puppy's Day** event. There were numerous vendors, a DJ, a face painter, doggie and people treats, and numerous raffle prizes. The highlight of the day was the costume contest where more than 40 dogs and their owners competed for trophies in 5 different categories and for the grand prize of a custom made dog bed. The big surprise, however, came when C.A.R.E. was awarded \$500 from the proceeds of the raffle. Many thanks to owner, Sean Rice, and Fishing Tournament Director, Jeanette Burnett, for their support.





Adopt-a-Road Cleanup

We are very grateful for the Middle and High School students from the Apollo Beach Campus of Bell Shoals Baptist Church who cleaned up our road on February 2nd. Volunteer, Cheri Schumacher oversaw this effort. The students worked really hard and then spent some time with Timber.





Critter Adoption and Rescue Effort, Inc.

1528 27th St. S.E., Ruskin FL 33570

CARE has a three acre shelter located in Ruskin and is a mostly volunteer effort. We rely on the generosity of public donations to continue our work. We have adopted over 2,000 animals and have spayed and neutered over 4,000 in our discount clinic. We are unique in the sheltering 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.

CARE Medical staff provided by:



- Dr. Bob Encinosa*
- Dr. Amanda Esposito*
- Dr. Daren Muller*

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