

# PUPDATES AND MEWS!

FAITHFUL FRIENDS' NEWSLETTER



## TAKE A PEEK!

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## HOLIDAY DONATION INFO

### 'TIS THE SEASON FOR GIVING!

The holiday season is here and the Faithful Friends family is ready to help spread joy and love by matching up even more pets with their new families. But to do that, we need your help!!!

The holidays can be a stressful time in the animal rescue world as foster home numbers decrease and pleas for help from overcrowded shelters increase. Here are some ways that you could help more Faithful Friends this holiday season!

- \*Open your home as a temporary foster!
- \*Sponsor a donation drive at work or in your community!
- \*Sponsor an adoption fee or medical treatment in someone's honor!
- \*Add a Faithful Friend to your family by adopting!

#### TOP 5 DONATION ITEMS NEEDED:

1. Purina ProPlan kitten dry food
2. Fleece blankets
3. Pill Pockets
4. Purina ProPlan puppy dry food
5. Small and medium sized dog collars

If you have any questions on how you can help out this holiday season, please do not hesitate to email us at [FaithfulFriendsPRR@gmail.com](mailto:FaithfulFriendsPRR@gmail.com)!

# LONG TERMER **BIG LOUIE** NEEDS A HOME!

HELP US HELP HIM FIND A FOREVER HOME!

Big Louie joined the Faithful Friends family as a refugee from Jacksonville as Hurricane Dorian made it's approach. While all of the other refugees found their new families quickly, Big Louie was overlooked as he grew up each week and eventually attending adoption events became too stressful for him.

In his foster home, Big Louie is an absolute joy! His foster says that he is famous for his cuddles and kisses, but he has an equally hilarious and fun loving, playful side. He also gets along well with both dogs and other cats. While we have not seen him interact with children, we suspect that he would do just fine after a transition period.

Now that Big Louie is about 6 months old, he's not a small as some of the other kittens needing homes, but adopting a 'teenage' kitten can have it's many advantages! He's at a young age where he will transition into a new home more smoothly and quickly, but not also not so young that you will have to worry about litter box training! Also at this age, his loving and playful personality is very well established. We are so lucky to have an amazing foster home that is dedicated to seeing Big Louie through to his adoptive home, and cannot wait to meet them (hopefully!) soon!

Because he does not attend adoption events, please email us to set up a meeting with Big Louie!



**Maybe we're a purrfect match? ~Big Louie~**

# COMMUNITY BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

HELP US THANK SWEET PAWS BAKERY AND ALL PETS CLINIC FOR THEIR CONTINUED SUPPORT!

Sweet Paws Bakery is a locally owned, pet specialty store located in Haile's Plantation Village Center and All Pets Clinic is a veterinary clinic located in Ocala. Both of these local businesses have decided to support FFPRR this holiday season by setting up Christmas angel trees! Be sure to stop by either (or both!) locations if you would like to sponsor donation items for a specific pet this holiday season. If you shop at Sweet Paws Bakery for your Christmas angel, you'll get an extra 10% off any Christmas angel tree donations that you purchase there in-store!

We absolutely love working with local businesses like Sweet Paws and All Pets Clinic and are so appreciative of their giving nature and passion to give back to their communities. We hope that our supporters will consider them when doing their own personal shopping or when looking for an excellent veterinary clinic to provide care to their own furry friends!





# RESCUE STATS

TAKE A LOOK AT ALL OF THE LIFE SAVING YOU HAVE HELPED ACCOMPLISH!

## STATS FOR NOVEMBER

Total adoptions: 88  
62 canines, 26 felines

## CURRENT RESIDENTS

97 canines, 39 felines

## 2019 SO FAR

Total adoptions: 937  
652 canines, 284 felines

**ONLY 63 MORE  
TO MEET OUR GOAL OF  
1000!**



# VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

## JAIME WILSON

JOIN US IN THANKING JAIME FOR ALL OF HER HARD WORK!

Jaime is a Friday night set up extraordinaire! There is so much that goes on behind the scenes, including completely setting up for adoption events the Friday evening before. Few people are willing to give up a few hours of their Friday night, going into the weekend, but Jaime is there almost every single week, making sure that everything is ready for the event the next day. Without this help at set up, things certainly wouldn't go as smoothly for the pets and their new families come Saturday. Not only does she volunteer her time to help pets, but Jaime is dedicated to helping pets in her day to day job at the UF Vet School!

We hope that you join us in thanking Jaime for all that she has done and continues to do to help further the mission of Faithful Friends!



# THANK YOU JAIME!

# IN MEMORIAM: CHERYL

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR DIRECTOR ON THE LOSS OF A FAITHFUL FRIEND

Sometimes it's really difficult to put my feelings into words. I often procrastinate posts like this...and maybe I've ended up skipping them all together many many times because I don't stop long enough to allow myself to process. It's just hard to find the time to write something worthy. It seems like it's often the sweetest souls who get dealt the worst hand.

Cheryl came into Faithful Friends from Gilchrist Animal Services on May 3rd, 2019. The shelter director has known me for 15 years and anyone who knows me at all knows I have quite the soft spot for momma dogs. It took me nearly a week from the time I was made aware of Cheryl's predicament to figure out where I could squeeze her. She looked pretty much like a black blob in the photo I was sent, but when I saw her in person, my heart melted. This pregnant, white-faced, stumpy-legged, barrel-shaped old gal was just my cup of tea.

Cheryl's first impression set the bar high, but she never failed to impress me with her sweet, calm, affectionate disposition. She soon gave birth to the Star Wars Litter and was an excellent mom. Despite her constant attention and plentiful supply of milk, one of her puppies was struggling...and so he (the famous Lando) came home with me for bottle feeding. Cheryl always got so excited when I would bring Lando back to her for visits as he grew stronger. Cheryl was one of those "one in a million" dogs. The kind that anyone would be lucky to have. Just easy. Well mannered, happy, calm, but somehow the right amount of goofy, too. Three months after her intake, once she managed to wean her puppies, Cheryl was spayed and placed up for adoption. She was adopted at her second adoption event to a nice family. They loved her very much.

Unfortunately, although Cheryl appeared healthy at the time of adoption...on the inside, cancer was taking over Cheryl's body. Cheryl's family didn't have much experience with pets. They thought that Cheryl had gotten into poison ivy and was having a rash/reaction to it on her abdomen. What they were seeing was actually two large, ulcerated mammary masses. Her family reached out to us to return her to Faithful Friends because they could not afford to care for her, but did not indicate she was having any medical issues. When she came back, it was clear that Cheryl needed immediate veterinary care. She hurt and she was tired. She made the trip to West End Animal Hospital. Radiographs revealed bone cancer. All over. Her leg, her chest, her spine. Dr Schirmer called me to give me the bad news. There would be no saving Cheryl. I asked for the best pain med cocktail possible and picked Cheryl up from the clinic. With her meds on board, Cheryl was actually comfortable for the first time in weeks (or months). I hoped to give her a day or two in comfort (with lots of meds) because it just killed me to think she had been suffering. Cheryl rode shotgun with me that day. She ate bacon cheeseburgers and peered out the window. But mostly she nuzzled her sweet face into my hand as I pet her for hours telling her what a good girl she was and how much I loved her. We ended up having to say goodbye that evening. Thursday. It was a very tough day. This dog, who wasn't even "mine," left pawprints all over my heart. I spend a lot of time with the momma dogs who come through the rescue. I truly think they are the best dogs ever.

I hope that I can communicate more effectively in the future to our adopters that we are always here for our Faithful Friends. That there is no shame in asking for help. That we don't judge here - that our compassion doesn't just end with our animals...that it extends to the people they love, too. RIP Cheryl. You were very loved by all who met you.

