

2025 : Q4

Featured Stories

Independent Feline

Our very own Cap the Cat

Kennel Crossing

Opening our big-dog kennels to curious adopters

National Treasure

Betty White's (our rescue pup) journey from scraggly to star studded

Long Term Cats

Hotel accommodations with a stay we hope will end in a loving home

Sixteen Years of Love

One adopter's account of a very special relationship

A Day of Giving

Supporting our foster kittens and pups on one hopeful day

Click link below to see the many ways you can donate or support

SPCA Florida

<https://www.spcaflorida.org/donate>



Cover Dog

Margarita: This playful pup is full of fun and flavor. No salt, just satisfying.



They Like What They Like

Longing for the great outdoors, and it's ok

As the saying goes, “not all who wander are lost”, and that’s certainly true for our friend Cap, a true Backyard Cat. This independent feline refuses to

come inside no matter what we say or do. A free spirit through and through, Cap loves roaming the SPCA Florida property line, proving that some cats march to the beat

of their own drum... or chase the occasional butterfly.

Even though Cap chooses his independence, we make sure he’s well cared for – neutered, vaccinated, fed daily, and regularly checked on by our team. Many backyard cats in our community enjoy similar support, with dedicated caretakers ensuring they’re up to date on vaccinations, spayed or neutered, which can also be done through our clinic’s Backyard Cat program, and given the resources they need to thrive.

We celebrate both the backyard cats and the humans who care for them, providing safe havens, shelter, and veterinary care for these beloved wanderers. After all, some love comes with a little space, and Cap wouldn’t have it any other way. ❤️



Getting Your Steps In

A great way to meet our curious canines and playful pup personalities

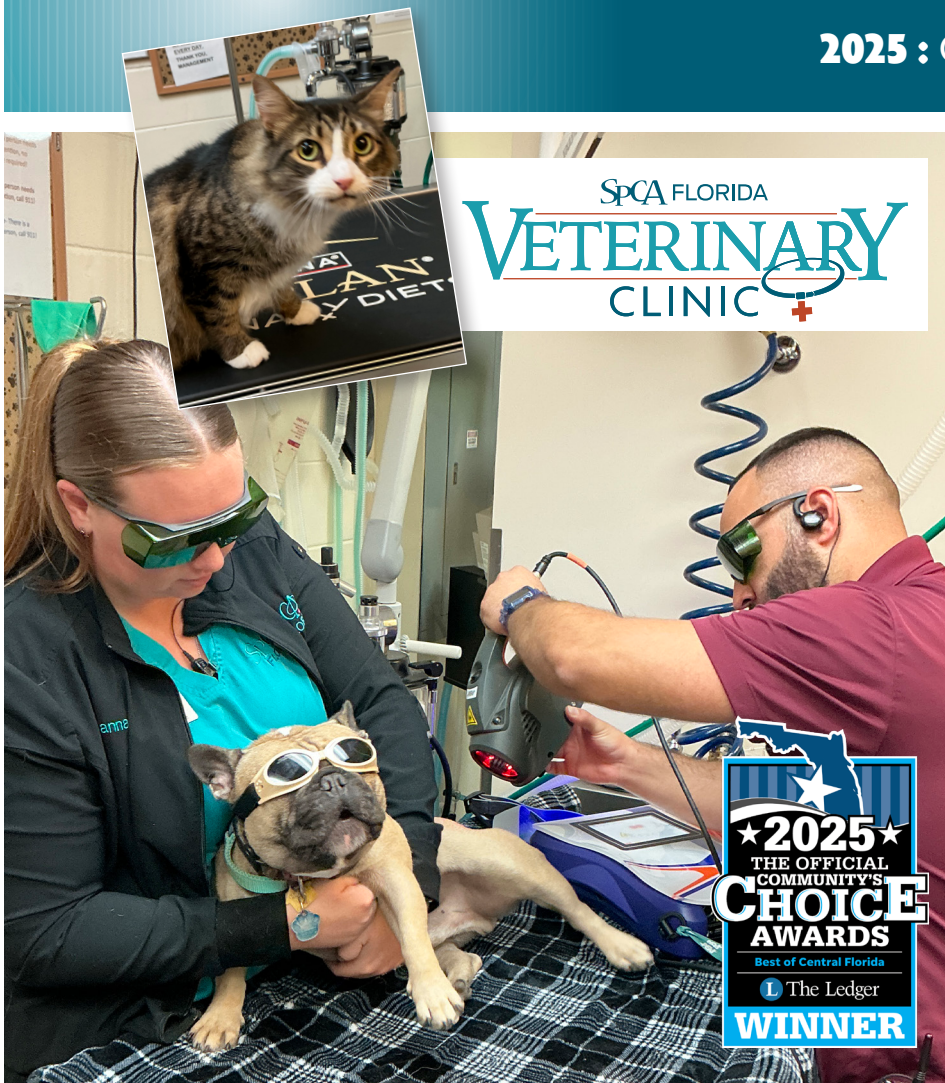
Step right up for a stroll down the path of personality, petting, and tasty rewards! We’ve recently implemented a Kennel Dog Walkthrough to give visitors the chance to walk through our kennel area, interact with our canine characters, and hand out

2.

treats to help socialize in our dogs, all while giving them a little extra love.

This new procedure is a tail-wagging, confidence-building, and full-on charm school for our pups. Every walk is a social event: belly rubs, ear scratches, and plenty of

“Who’s a good boy?” moments. We’ve already seen great progress in how the dogs interact with others, and they are loving every moment. When the right family comes along, they’ll be ready to greet them with a wag, a wiggle, and a whole lot of love. ❤️



A Clinic That Keeps On Going

Giving their best to the community and its pets

Best in show? Try Best of Central Florida! For the fourth year in a row, SPCA Florida Veterinary Clinic has been honored as the best veterinary clinic in Central Florida, and we couldn't be prouder! The clinic began in 2001 offering spay and neuter procedures and has grown into a full-service veterinary hub. We offer vaccines, preventative and wellness care, daily spay and neuter, soft tissue and specialty surgeries, and dental care. Our clinic hosts two Pitties & Kitties low cost, and no cost spay and neuter events every year, sterilizing 120 dogs and cats in one day. And in 2024, we reached a life altering milestone

of 12,641 spay and neuter surgeries. We work with outside hospitals when we can accommodate urgent medical requests and we partner with Polk County Animal Control, often providing medical care and surgery for their animals. While our clinic has come a long way, we recognize that there's always more room for growth. We're committed to continuing our mission to improve the lives of pets and the people who love them, making Central Florida a healthier, happier place for animals, both big and small. Our gratitude runs deep for the opportunity to care for our communities' pets and make a positive difference in their lives. ❤️

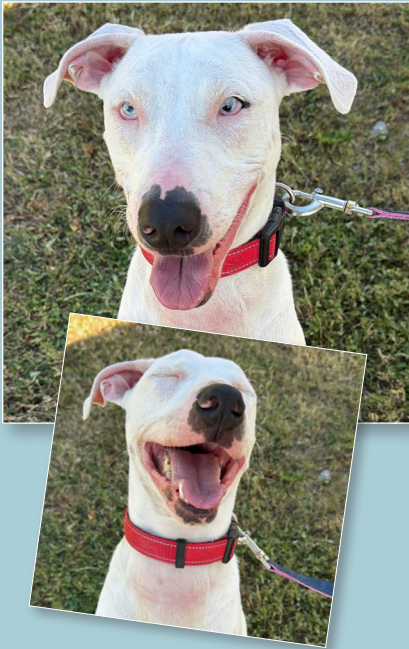
BE A MEMBER



Become an SPCA Florida Member and make your mark. When you become a valued member, you help pave the way for homeless animals to find their forever homes. When you donate \$100 or more for membership, you receive an honorary brick that is placed on our campus in perpetuity. Your brick joins our "walks of love" that are visibly placed throughout our campus in memory of, and in honor of pets, people, and events. This holiday season, consider the gift of life and love and give a membership brick. It's life changing. ❤️

<https://www.spcflorida.org/membership>





Our friend and SPCA Florida resident Seymour recently made his first public debut at our Auction for Animals. He confidently strutted his stuff down the runway. What makes this moment extra special is that Seymour is both blind and deaf. Guided by love and trust, Seymour showed everyone that pets with disabilities can live full and joyful lives. This star-studded, show stopper reminded us that every animal, no matter their challenges, deserves a chance to live their best and happiest life. ❤️



Shortly after this article was written, Betty White found her forever home and is doing great settling in.

A Rose By Any Other Name

Scraggly to stunning, a SPCA Florida makeover

Meet Betty White, our very Own Golden Girl! This 10-year-old poodle mix may be small, but she's got a big personality, and an even bigger comeback story.

When Betty first arrived at SPCA Florida, she wasn't exactly ready for prime time. Found on the side of the road, she was in rough shape. Her fur was matted, she had a fluid-filled cyst on her forehead, along with bladder stones. To make matters worse, she was battling pneumonia. But like her namesake, this girl refused to let life's challenges dull her sparkle.

Fast forward to today. After some top-notch medical care and a red-carpet-worthy makeover, complete with luxurious baths and a stylish haircut. Betty is healthy, thriving, and stealing hearts like the star she is. She struts through our Pharmacy in style (often in her favorite pink dress), keeping staff company and spreading joy wherever she goes. With her health restored and her confidence shining brighter than a Miami sunrise, Betty reminds us all what resilience looks like.

And in true Golden Girl fashion, she thanks us for being a friend. ❤️



Panda



Angelica



Wellington



Tabasco



Sugar



Begonia

Overstayed, But Not Over Welcomed

Long-term felines looking for long-term love

Hi there! We're the cats of SPCA Florida, your exclusive guests at what we like to consider, the SPCA Florida five-star cattery resort. Some of us guests have been checked in a little longer than others, and we must say, life here is pretty paw-some. Between the belly rubs, room service, cuddles, complimentary snacks, and all the care from the humans, we're living the high life!

But even at a luxury cat hotel, we dream of checking out and finding our forever suites. The loving homes where we can stay purr-

manently. Some of us have been here a while, and we're hoping our patience will pay off soon.

Don't get us wrong, we're not grumpy! Far from it. We're ready to strut our stuff and charm the humans who will open their hearts and doors to us. Think of it as "the cats come out to play", except now we're ready for adoption!

We're feline fine, fully pampered, and have plenty of love to give. Could you be the one to make a long-term cat's dream stay a forever stay? ❤️

Give Our Animals the Love and Support They Deserve

Find out the many ways you can show your support and be part of our network of hope by making a heartfelt donation. ❤️

<https://www.spcaflorida.org/donate>



SPCA FLORIDA Paws to Read



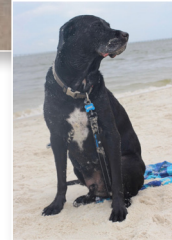
There's nothing quite like curling up with a good book... unless it's curling up with a good book and a furry friend! Our Paws to Read program invites readers of all ages to share stories and snuggles with shelter pets at various locations throughout Polk County. It's storytime that builds confidence, increases literacy, encourages compassion, and fills every page with a little extra love. ❤️

<https://www.spcaflorida.org/paws-to-read>





Sebastian's journey began with us when he was transferred from Polk County Animal Control to SPCA Florida. Despite losing all his teeth to stomatitis, a painful mouth inflammation, this nine-year-old sweetheart never lost his playful spirit or love for life. FIV+ but full of joy, Sebastian quickly became a staff and volunteer favorite, earning the nickname **"the hugger"** for his signature full-body embraces and love of being carried like a baby. After charming everyone at this year's Auction for Animals, Sebastian found his forever home with three devoted cat dads who couldn't resist his gentle heart and endless purrs of gratitude. ❤️



You'll Be In My Heart

When destiny calls, you must be strong

Sixteen and a half years ago, while volunteering with his students at SPCA Florida, Nick, one of our adopters, met Monday, a small black lab puppy and one of seven siblings originally named for the days of the week. But this puppy, who cried whenever Nick put him down, was destined to be so much more than just another adoption. With a nominal adoption fee and a heart full of hope, Nick brought home the puppy, renamed Roux. It was the best money he ever spent.

From that day on, Roux became a cornerstone of Nick's family. He was there for every milestone, a wedding, the births of three children, cross-country moves, holidays, and countless ordinary days made extraordinary by his

presence. Roux loved dressing up for Halloween, resting his head on his children's laps, and being the gentle guardian of every home he lived in. In his later years, even as age took his sight and strength, he continued to provide comfort, becoming a pillow for his kids and a safe haven for the family's newest rescues.

When it was unfortunately time to say goodbye, Roux was surrounded by as much love as he gave. His family fed him cheeseburgers, whispered how good he was, and thanked him for a lifetime of devotion. His story reminds us why shelters like SPCA Florida exist. Because when you adopt, you don't just save an animal's life, you enhance yours, as well. ❤️



This holiday season, look past the wrapping paper and give a gift that even Santa can't deliver. Honor a loved one, whether they're two- or four-legged, with a donation to SPCA Florida in their name, and help bring comfort and care to at risk animals. ❤️

<https://secure.qgiv.com/for/sfhd/>



Kids These Days

You're never too young to start caring

At SPCA Florida, we're seeing a heartwarming trend. More and more young people are stepping up to make a difference for unhomed animals. From school projects to birthday fundraisers, their compassion is shining brighter than ever. Just recently, a little girl celebrated her third birthday with a Paw Patrol-themed party, but

instead of asking for gifts, she asked her friends to bring donations for shelter pets.

Moments like these reinforce that kindness starts early and that the future of animal welfare is in good hands. We hope to inspire even more young "good deed doers" to join this growing movement of compassion and care. ❤️



You spoke, and we listened! Based on the enthusiastic feedback from our recent survey, SPCA Florida will move primarily to digital newsletters, with a limited number of printed editions still available upon request. This change helps us allocate more resources where they matter most, for the animals. ❤️



It's a Hard-Knock Life

Give a little support to our orphaned animals

Thanks to you, the sun will come out tomorrow for orphaned kittens across Polk County. This **December 2nd**, also known as "Giving Tuesday", we're shining a spotlight on Annie's Fund, a special campaign dedicated to giving vulnerable kittens and pups the loving start they deserve. Inspired by Annie, both the beloved Broadway orphan and a tiny orange tabby who shared her resilience, Annie's Fund honors the journey from hardship to hope, and from shelter to forever home. This fund ensures that every orphaned pet in our foster program receives the formula, warmth, and care they need to thrive.

Every dollar donated to Annie's

Fund directly supports nutritious food for foster animals of all ages. Life-saving medications, medical supplies, and comforting items help scared animals feel safe, and provide essential resources that make fostering possible. When you give to Annie's Fund, you're helping our 140+ foster families continue their lifesaving work, turning stories of struggle into ones of hope. With your love and support, the sun won't just come out tomorrow, it'll shine brighter for every little Annie today. ❤️

**Annie's
Fund**
Celebrating Giving Tuesday

Click link for more information

<https://www.spcaflorida.org/annies-fund>



The Donation Cottage

Where we hang our hearts and hopes

The new Donation Cottage at SPCA Florida is more than a place to drop off supplies, it's a heartfelt symbol of love and community. Here, supporters can safely leave food, towels, toys, newspapers, and other animal care items, knowing each donation helps give comfort and care to homeless pets. It's where we hang our hearts, built on kindness and compassion.

This special cottage was made possible through the generosity of Brenda Hunter, in loving memory of her late husband, James Hunter. James grew up on a farm and always had a deep love for animals. Before his passing in January 2025, he expressed

his wish for SPCA Florida to be the recipient of their family's donations, a reflection of his lifelong devotion to animals and their well-being.

Brenda's family continues to carry that legacy forward. Her daughter Tammy, a teacher, shares her parents' giving spirit, and her granddaughter Moira, age eight, already dreams of attending SPCA Florida's Critter Camp next summer.

Thanks to the Hunter family, the Donation Cottage will forever stand as a place of generosity and love — a reminder that when we come together for animals, we create something lasting, something truly from the heart. ❤️

Help Us Help The Animals

Every donation, no matter the size, helps care for our deserving companions and find them fur-ever homes. Here are some examples of how your donation helps.

\$35 Feed a hungry puppy, kitten, dog and cat for one week

\$50 Provides neuter surgery to prevent unwanted litters

\$125 Provides spay services to maintain a healthy population

\$250 Provides necessary dental care for animals with dental needs

\$500 Provides emergency medical care to save precious lives

\$1,000+ Impacts animal welfare and the number of lives saved



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Click the link below to make a difference in an animals life.

<https://www.spcaflorida.org/donate>