### **Unprecedented times**

We prepared for COVID in 2020, never anticipating even greater challenges in 2021. The request to limit spay and neuter last year resulted in overwhelming increases of births of unwanted litters, filling our shelter hospital every day with over 175 sick puppies and kittens, and another 175 healthy adults awaiting homes.

Pet adoptions increased dramatically by 70% between March 2020 and March 2021, according to Petfinder.com. And while finding homes is our mission, the demand it placed on the veterinary world has impacted SPCA Florida's Medical Center along with veterinary hospitals across the country.

Backlash from the pandemic continues, and while we charge forward harder than ever... more than ever, we need and appreciate your support! Thank you for helping us through some very difficult days.

Shelley Thayer, Executive Director

## Medical Center Appointments

SPCA Florida's Medical Center will temporarily not be able to answer live phone calls. We will retrieve all voicemails as quickly as possible and call every client back within 24-72 hours. We understand this delay may cause an inconvenience, for which we are sincerely sorry.

Until we are fully staffed, we encourage clients to use our app "Pet Page" to make an appointment, or fill out the form at www.spcamedical.org/appointment

For non-urgent requests or general Medical Center inquiries, you may e-mail us at clinic@spcaflorida.org



## Voted Best Veterinarian

Dorian Lara, DVM Director of Surgical Services

SPCA Florida's Medical Center offers a wide range of advanced surgeries at reasonable prices. We can help with complicated mass removals, back surgery, fracture repairs, TPLOs (cruciate ligament surgery) and many other advanced surgical procedures.



## Win a Dream Vacation or \$5,000 Cash!



See all prizes and get your tickets at www.spcaflorida.org/silverpaws or call 863-577-4600.

Drawing will be at the 2021 Auction for Animals, 11/13. Need not be present to win.





September 2021

### In This Issue

- Cover: The Magic of Fostering
  - A Scrap Book from Summer
  - Online Medical Center Appointments
- A word from our
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  - Best Veterinarian
- Silver Paws, the 2021

  Auction for Animals
- Win a Dream Vacation or \$5,000 Cash

## Adoption by Appointment

SPCA Florida's Adoption Center still works on an appointment system. Go to spcaflorida.org/appointment or call 863-577-4615 to schedule a time to visit the cats and dogs!

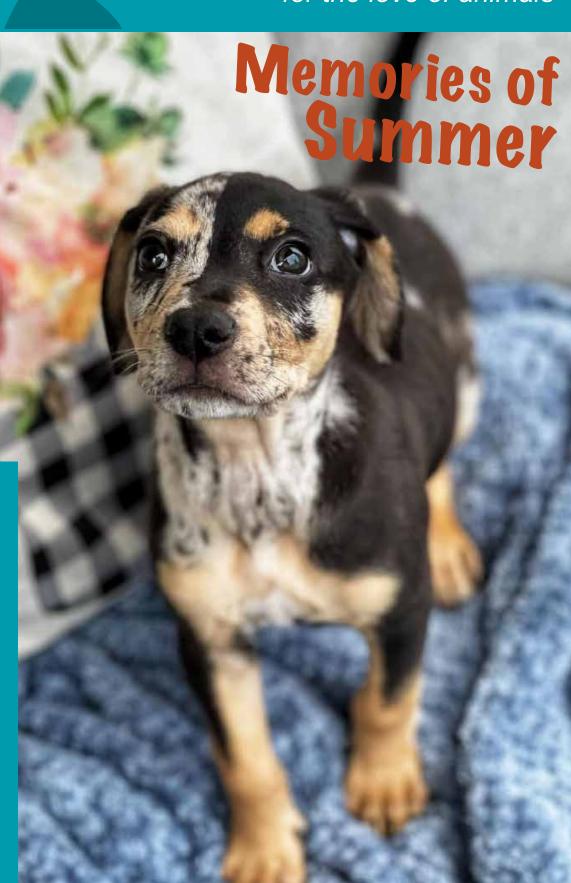
> 5850 Brannen Road S. Lakeland, FL 33813 863-646-7722

Adoption Center
Mon - Fri 11 AM to 6 PM
Sat - Sun 11 AM to 5 PM
SPCA Florida
Medical Center
Mon - Sat 7:30 AM to 4 PM



# pawsTALK

for the love of animals



## Scrap Book

Where did the days go? This summer we...

Gratefully worked in a Surgery Trailer and dreamed of a Surgery Center.

All pets in the Adoption Center were spayed or neutered in a borrowed trailer. Our plan to build a \$600,000 Surgery Center addition will save 2,000 additional lives next year, AND free up the Surgery Trailer for an additional 2,000 spays and neuters. In one year, we will end the suffering of approximately 4,000 dogs and cats, and eliminate the senseless euthanasia of unwanted litters.

We are raising needed funds now. Please call Shelley Thayer at 863-577-4605 or e-mail SThayer@spcaflorida.org if you can help.

### Compiled a Wish List

Urgently Needed Items Kitten and Puppy Formula Cat and Dog Toys Small Cat Bads Friskies Pate Wet Food Periodontal Kit, \$375 Spay/Neuter Instrument Pack, \$500 Dental X-ray Equipment, \$15,488 Name a Room \$15,000 - \$35,000



Miller Construction will build a 2,200 square foot remodel and addition for pharmacy, hospital, surgery, and dental care. Did you know that 27.8% to 53% of dogs and cats who arrive need dental care? The Surgery Center will allow us to provide that service.







Roger, who had a dangerous case of pneumonia, ear infection, puffy paws, and a bullet in his leg, healed and found a wonderful family.



Learned CPR for Dogs and Cats. They like to put everything in their mouths...

Fostered 1,295 puppies and kittens with more in sight 💕



Hospitalized and treated over 175 sick animals on any given day



We also taught 40 Lincoln Memorial and Ross

Surgery and Medical Care

University Senior Veterinary Students the Basics of

We packaged and distributed food to fill many hungry tummies through our Food Assistance Programs, and set up food stations for colony cats. Houses to keep their food dry were built and donated by New Day **Custom Creations.** 

#### **Housed Cats**

in foster homes, offices, cages, open spaces, and off-site locations in an effort to save more lives.



**Housed Dogs** 

with cozy donated beds, blankets, and peanut butter ice cubes that volunteers made for hot summer days.





**Transformed** our Dog Walking Trail

Captrust employees spent weekends clearing a 1/4 mile wooded walking trail and training pens to provide increased enrichment and cooler temperatures for adoptable dogs.

