

# A HOPE MEWSWORTHY

December 2021 Edition

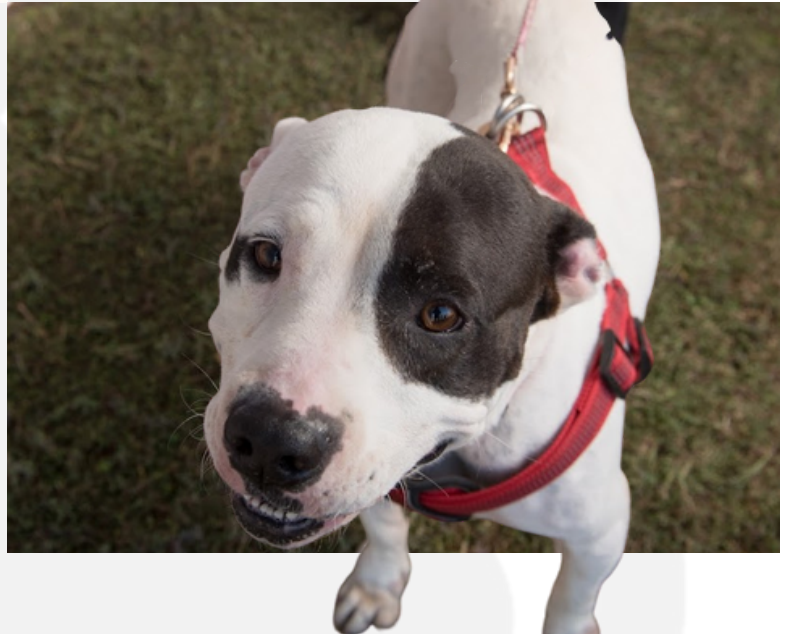


## WHAT ARE WE UP TO?

Our main event last month was A New Leash on Love, our annual adoption and community outreach event! Thanks so much to everyone who came out to see us along with the amazing vendors and rescue organizations who joined us. We had a great day hanging out with you and seeing your smiling faces. And even better, we saw 14 animals find their forever homes!

Check out who was adopted!

- Dogs Tommy, Callie, and Oscar (Min Pins and Mutts K-9 Rescue)
- Dogs Stevie and Dreamy (A Place of Hope Small Dog Rescue)
- Dog Bessie (The Mylo Foundation)
- Dog Chance (The Joy Committee)
- Guinea pigs Oreo, Alfredo, Guinness, Ash, and Clia (Alchemy Rescue and Sanctuary)
- Rabbits Stripes and Silver (Alchemy Rescue and Sanctuary)



And while we're at it, a round of applause for our fantastic MC Aimee Schaffer, who did such a great job making this event fun for everyone! Aimee has come out to MC for EVERY A New Leash on Love event. Thank you so much to Aimee, and thanks to her cat Paul Newman for letting her come.

We hope to see you all again at next year's event, which is planned for November 12, 2022!



## A very special thank you to the sponsors of A New Leash on Love 2021:

**American Shaman CBD**

**Phil Hall, P.A.**

**Live Music Productions**

**April's Zen Den**

**Paws N' Claws  
Pet Services**

**K&L Photography**

**Santa Rosa County  
Animal Services**



**Tiny Acres NWFL**



**The Joy Committee**



**A Place of Hope  
Small Dog Rescue**



**And thanks to all the vendors and rescues who made this event a success!**

**K&L Photography**  
**Santa Rosa County Animal Services**  
**Alchemy Rescue & Sanctuary**  
**Tiny Acres NWFL**  
**The Mylo Foundation**  
**Min Pins & Mutts**  
**Paw & Order Rescue Ranch**  
**Gulf Coast Rottweiler Rescue**

**Sunshine State Animal Rescue**  
**The Joy Committee**  
**A Place of Hope Small Dogs**  
**Santa Rosa County Sheriff's Office**  
**SOCKS**  
**Infinity Pets & Co**  
**Emerald Coast Wildlife Refuge**  
**WUWF**

**Sophie's Pupcake Pantry**  
**Cruz's Crepes**  
**Crystal's Snow Cones & Coffee**  
**BobbieCakes**  
**American Shaman CBD**  
**MELT Food Truck**  
**Dadgum Good BBQ**  
**Bagdad Fire Dept**

**Save the date for next year's A New Leash on Love: November 12, 2022**  
**Contact [events@ahope4src.com](mailto:events@ahope4src.com) to get involved!**





**Shopper says Happy Holidays!**

## BY THE NUMBERS

The lives we impact are so important to us! This includes every animal we can save through our rescue and rehabilitation program, every dog or cat that gets fixed through our spay/neuter transportation service, and every pet we feed through the pet food pantry and Bowl Filler programs!

While we can't highlight every animal we worked with over the past month, here's what our November looked like *by the numbers*.

### In November, we...

Accepted **21 needy cats and kittens** into our foster program.

Assisted **25 animals** with finding their forever families. Yay!!!

Transported **82 cats and 5 dogs** to get fixed and vaccinated, bringing our year-to-date total up to **1,330 animals!**

Served **23 dogs and 25 cats** during our monthly pet food pantry. That included:

- 439 pounds of dry dog food
- 154 pounds of dry cat food
- 47 cans of wet dog food
- 44 cans of wet cat food
- 60 pounds of litter
- Plus treats, toys, and flea prevention!

Fed **5 dogs and 10 cats** belonging to senior citizens through the Bowl Fillers program, thanks to our November sponsor, St. Augustine Episcopal Church!



# HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?

## Volunteering at A HOPE looks like this...



## And also this...



## And this...



If you want to volunteer somewhere you can cuddle with kittens all day, this may not be the right place for you. But if you want to join a team that works hard every day to serve the people and animals in our community in order to save lives, you'll fit right in! Every day, our successful transportation services, adoptions, and events are impacting those lives thanks to the amazing volunteers who put their passion to work. In November, our team worked 1,093 volunteer hours (and probably lots more – these are just the hours they thought to log)!

Our organization is run by volunteers, and we're always looking for new team members. We have a job and a place for everyone, no matter your skillset. Some jobs you can do from home on your computer, and some are helping out hands-on with our services. Have questions about where you might fit in on our team? Reach out to our Volunteer Coordinator at [volunteer@ahope4src.com](mailto:volunteer@ahope4src.com), and she'll be happy to answer!

### Where we need people most right now:

- Help Desk Operators on the phone, from your home, to assist the community with their pets
- Visiting and caring for our adoptable felines at PetSmart
- Online marketing via our website and social media
- Planning or assisting with our events and fundraisers.
- And much more!



**Congratulations to our  
November Volunteer of the Month:  
Lydia Pope**

Bring your passion and skills to save lives with us!  
[www.ahope4src.com/volunteer](http://www.ahope4src.com/volunteer)



# WHO'S LOOKING FOR FOREVER?

## Meet Julius!

Julius showed up on our doorstep one day, hungry and looking a little beaten up. We got him all fixed up with a neuter, necessary vaccinations, and that honorary ear tip. After feeling all brand new, he started hanging around even more! Since we already have our own outdoor cat, Hope, Julius needs his own outdoor home where he can be the king of his castle! We're adopting Julius out as a barn cat, which means he'll live outside and protect your property from rodents and other small pests in exchange for food, clean water, and shelter (plus yearly vaccines and monthly flea and heartworm prevention).

Though Julius will be a barn cat, he looooooves people! He'll walk right up to anyone and beg for attention and pets. He's such a sweet boy that you might even want to invite him inside from time to time, which he would love!

Our team just adores Julius, yet we've noticed he's not a big fan of other cats. The best home for him would be somewhere his larger-than-life personality can shine without the shadow of other cats.



Want to hire the friendliest mouse-catcher in town to protect your property? This guy is available for hire and accepting applications.

You can learn more about barn cats, plus fill out an adoption application for Julius here, on our website at [www.ahope4src.com/barncats!](http://www.ahope4src.com/barncats!)



**Project  
Hallelujah  
2021**



↑  
**Insert  
cat  
here**

## WHAT DO WE NEED?

Right now, we're working on a huge TNR (Trap-Neuter-Return) case called "Project Hallelujah" where we are humanely trapping over 80 cats to get them all fixed and vaccinated. This project will take a lot of supplies. Here's what we're looking for:

- Flashlights
- Clumping cat litter
- Canned wet cat food (any brand)
- Catnip

If you can donate any of these items, please drop them off, or have them sent to our office, at 5755 Washington St, Milton, FL 32570.

Thank you for your continued support!

To learn more about Project Hallelujah or donate funds, visit our website at **[www.ahope4src.com/ph2021](http://www.ahope4src.com/ph2021)**. Stay tuned next month to find out how it went!

## HOPE'S HEROES

**A huge THANK YOU to our November donors:**

Robin Gilmore  
Jebbye Lemons  
Donna Fite  
Lynn Melton  
Katherine Lyons  
Holly & Jay Shands

Lona Thrasher  
Bridget Knight  
Jon & Tricia Green  
Christy Carlson  
Katie Johnson

Deborah Lewis  
Virginia Bowman  
Kerry Anne Schultz  
Maureen Brescia  
Mary Causey

Karan Llewellyn  
Paige Cary  
Ken Davis  
Deanna Mungle  
Linda Maguire  
Cynthia Fulford

**Don't see your name on this list?**  
**Add it by becoming a monthly donor here:**  
**[www.ahope4src.com/hopesheroes](http://www.ahope4src.com/hopesheroes)**



# UPCOMING EVENTS

## **December 13th - 23rd: Project Hallelujah**

- What it is: Our volunteers trapping more than 70 cats from a local community and providing care until they can be fixed, vaccinated, and returned to their outdoor homes.
- Learn more or donate:  
**[www.ahope4src.com/ph2021](http://www.ahope4src.com/ph2021)**

## **December 28th: Spay/Neuter Registration Day**

- Time: 12:00 PM (Noon)
- Available slots: 45
- Location: Online at  
**[www.ahope4src.com/reserveaspot](http://www.ahope4src.com/reserveaspot)**

## **January 9th: Pet Food Pantry**

- Time: 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM
- Location: 5755 Washington St, Milton
- Info: **[www.ahope4src.com/petpantry](http://www.ahope4src.com/petpantry)**

## **January 11th: Spay/Neuter Registration Day**

- Time: 12:00 PM (Noon)
- Available slots: 45
- Location: Online at  
**[www.ahope4src.com/reserveaspot](http://www.ahope4src.com/reserveaspot)**

**See all upcoming events at  
[www.ahope4src.com/events!](http://www.ahope4src.com/events!)**



**Happy Holidays from our family to yours!**

# TAIL ME ABOUT IT!

**Richard asks: Why won't my cat drink out of her water bowl, but she will drink out of puddles, dirty dishes, the sink, the toilet, potted plants, you name it?**

Many house cats, no matter how spoiled, still think of themselves as mighty predators in the wild. They follow their natural instincts, which don't always make sense to us. Those instincts might tell your cat to avoid her water bowl for a number of reasons, including:

**The water bowl is too close to her food.** In the wild, water near where a cat hunts can be contaminated by the carcasses of prey, so feline instincts say not to drink where you eat.

**The water is contaminated.** Your cat's senses are very keen, and she might sense contamination in her water bowl that you don't. Plastic bowls often get tiny scratches over time, and bacteria can live in those scratches, which your cat can smell. Purifying chemicals in human drinking water might also smell like contamination to your cat.

**The water bowl bothers her whiskers.** Cat whiskers are extremely sensitive. If your cat's whiskers brush against the side of the water bowl every time she drinks, this may overstimulate her and cause her to look for water elsewhere. The same goes for food bowls.



When your cat decides her water bowl is inadequate, she'll look for water anywhere else she can get it. Even if we know sources like the toilet or muddy puddles aren't safe, your cat doesn't. But you don't want your cat drinking dirty water, as this can lead to illness and parasites like giardia.

Here's how you can make your cat's water bowl more appealing:

- Get a metal or glass bowl that won't get those tiny bacteria-housing scratches
- Get a flatter, wider bowl that won't touch her whiskers when she drinks
- Get a water fountain with running water, as running water is less likely to develop bacteria, and cats are more likely to drink it
- Place the water bowl far away from her food and litterbox

**Do you have questions? We want to answer them!**

**Send any inquiries to [ahopenews@gmail.com](mailto:ahopenews@gmail.com), and maybe we'll answer yours in next month's Tail Me About It!**