



You Are The Oswego County Humane Society

Spring 2026

The Heart of Our Rescue

Issue 79

Each foster home in the Oswego County Humane Society network provides more than just routine care to animals in need. These homes are a safe place to regain human trust, learn to accept love, meet other animals and people, and for us to learn exactly what their perfect adoptive home would look like.

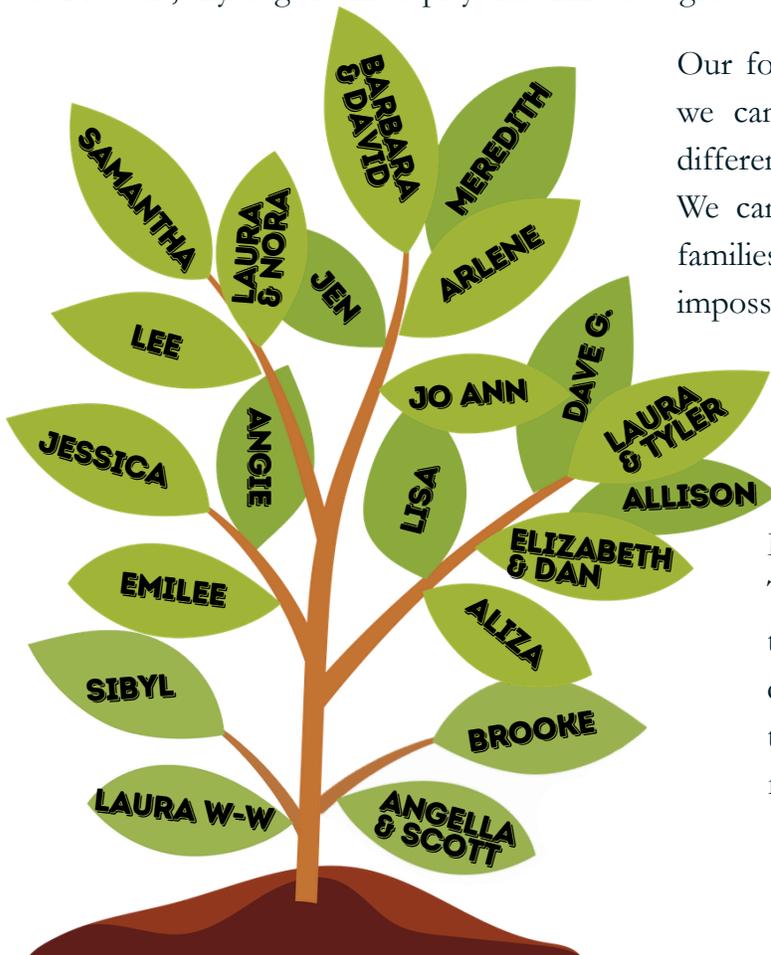
Our fosters open their homes to animals who are scared, confused, healing, growing, or simply waiting. Our fosters are there to celebrate the first tail wag, the first purr, the first night they sleep peacefully. They work through accidents, training set-backs, and chewed-up surprises. They provide the structure that builds confidence and the patience that builds trust. It's the safe space that allows personalities to bloom. Because of our fosters, shy dogs learn to play and timid cats grow to seek affection.

Our fosters are the cornerstone of helping each animal that we can. With hard work, this network has grown to 20 different homes! Together, there are 40 animals in our care. We cannot show enough appreciation of how much these families matter to our cause and while we try, it is truly impossible to express our gratitude.

Every adoption has their foster's fingerprints on it



Here is a huge **shout out** to each of our foster homes! There are always more leaves to grow on our foster tree, even short-term one-night-stays make a difference. We simply could not do this work without them. Every success story starts in a foster home. Our fosters are the heart of this rescue.



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NYS Registered Shelter/Rescue RR239 | EIN: 16-1586001

Open Your Door. Transform a Life.



We want to thank you all again for allowing us to adopt Jackie and Frida (now known as Wilma and Betty)! It took a few days for our Macy to warm up to the "new" kids but they're all fast friends now. They made themselves at home immediately and act like they've been here forever. Please thank their foster mom for doing a wonderful job raising them! I've attached some pictures.

-Lee & Diana

WANTED!

A HOME FOR ZEKE

VACCINATED,
NEUTERED &
READY TO GO!



Zeke is a bright, affectionate young dog with a big heart and an even bigger zest for life. At about 40 pounds, he's the perfect medium-sized companion — big enough for adventures, small enough to curl up beside you on the couch. He loves snuggling, burrowing under blankets, and doing his best to convince you he belongs in your bed at night. He's smart, eager to learn, and full of that fun, goofy puppy energy.

- Male, 1.5 Years old
- Medium Sized
- Likely Doberman / Rottweiler / Shepherd / Hound mix

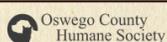
Training & Good Habits

- House trained
- Crate trained
- Knows sit and wait, especially for meals
- Responds to an "OK" release cue
- Very trainable and food-motivated
- Loves tough toys and enrichment
- Great with kids and other dogs

Things to Know (Honest & Important)

- Zeke is still young and learning, so he'll thrive with someone who can continue guiding him.
- He jumps when excited
- Still learning manners with cats — not aggressive, just wants to play
- Will destroy soft toys unless they're extremely durable

Report
interest to



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Here are five high-impact ways YOU can help support OCHS today!



1. Become a Recurring Donor

Monthly giving provides steady, reliable support for food, medical care and emergency needs. Even \$10–\$25 a month creates predictable funding we can count on.

2. Donate to the Pet Pantry

Our pantry is low and always in need of cat supplies and poultry free or grain free dog food.

3. Host a Small Fundraiser

Organize a workplace dress-down day, school collection drive, or donations in lieu of gifts. These efforts raise both funds and critical supplies while introducing new people to our mission.

4. Foster a Pet

Try it out to see how you can be a rescue warrior and join our cause to save lives.

5. Share & Advocate

Follow, share and engage with social media posts. Word-of-mouth referrals for adoptions, events and fundraisers expand community reach at no cost.

Every action, whether financial, hands-on or simply sharing, helps us continue saving lives.

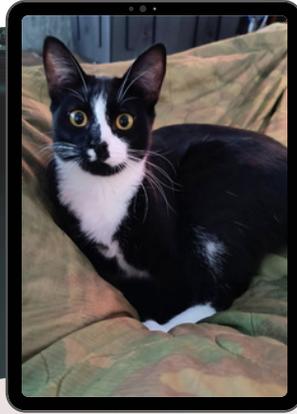
Foster homes are great, but they aren't the real **DEAL**

These adorable kitties have been in foster care since last summer! Each with a different personalities, these three musketeers are just like every other house full of 3 rowdy children. They have blossomed into their own and are ready to take the next step: adoption! Do you know of a home that would best suit each of them?



JENNY

Gentle and timid, she is very soft and a perfectly sweet companion. She loves being pet but scares easily. She would choose the deal with a quiet house with someone gentle to love on her. She also wouldn't mind sharing with another cat that matches her.



JOSIE

She is very playful with other cats! She is affectionate on her terms and can be quick to run if unsure. She also plays fetch with a ball, it's possible she is secretly a dog. She wants a deal with no kids in the house.



POTSIE

Have you ever wondered what it was like to have a Curious George of your own? This it it! He has to be in everything all the time and he's a wiggle-worm if picked up. His deal is any deal, he likes to go with the flow and play for hours!



What is 26-C? and What are we doing about it?

Article 26-C is a new section of the New York State Agriculture & Markets Law aimed at creating uniform care, housing, sanitation, training, and record-keeping standards for animal shelters and rescues across the state. It requires all shelter and rescue organizations that house companion animals to be licensed, inspected, and compliant with these standardized regulations. The law's stated goal is to improve consistent standards of care for animals in shelters and rescue operations statewide. OCHS staff, volunteers and Board of Directors have been working on:

- Updating the organization's policies and procedures, and all our forms
- Aligning our renovation plans to meet regulations
- Creating and enforcing training for all staff, volunteers and foster homes
- Attending forums, trainings and webinars to stay up-to-date with what other organizations are doing
- Communicating with other NYS organizations to share resources, advice and materials to work as a team

*These changes and updates may seem overwhelming at times, but OCHS has completed much of the work and looks forward to our first educational meeting with a State representative this spring to review everything and continue toward compliance!

Keeping pets in mind during Spring Cleaning

As we welcome warmer days in Central New York, spring also brings seasonal risks for our pets.

Ticks & Fleas: Parasites become active quickly in spring. Use veterinarian-recommended monthly preventatives, check pets after outdoor time, and keep lawns trimmed to reduce exposure.



Spring Cleaning: Store cleaners securely and choose pet-safe products when possible. Allow surfaces to fully dry before pets return, and use caution with strong scents and essential oils, and always make sure to vent your space!



Allergies: Pets can develop seasonal allergies just like people. Watch for excessive scratching, licking paws, ear infections, or watery eyes. Early veterinary guidance can help prevent secondary skin infections.



Seasonal Hazards: Watch for antifreeze residue, fertilizers, cocoa mulch, and lawn treatments. Secure windows, doors, and gates to prevent escapes as outdoor activity increases. Other critters will be looking for food too, so keep an eye on your pets when they are outdoors to avoid unwanted encounters!



Outdoor Plants: Many spring blooms are toxic. Lilies are extremely dangerous to cats, and tulips and daffodils can also cause illness. Always confirm plants are pet-safe before bringing them indoors.



A little prevention now helps ensure a safe, happy spring for every four-legged family member!

Upcoming Events

Spring and summer are gearing up to be a busy time! Be sure to visit our website and Facebook page for more information and dates on these upcoming events. We are all looking forward to saying goodbye to winter and soaking up the sun with friends and family!



- April** Chicken BBQ Fundraiser
- May** Shop & Play Raffle
- May** Spring Plant Fundraiser
- June** Paws on the Patio
- July** Dexter Duck Derby
- July** Mutt Putt Golf Tournament

CONSTANT COMPANIONS-- The Other Heart of Our Rescue

Constant Companionship, recurring donations that we can count on, give us something priceless . . . stability, allowing us to plan, respond quickly in emergencies, and say "yes" when an animal needs us most. With that stability we don't just rescue when we can . . . we provide the ongoing services that can save and rebuild lives over the long run. From the timid cat who finally learns to purr, to the shy dog who learns the joy of playing tug, the faithful kindness of our Constant Companions lives in every success story. You can join this special group by just checking the appropriate box on our online donation page at or call us at 315-207-1070 to set it up.