



You Are The Oswego County Humane Society

Summer 2026

It Takes a Village to Save a Life

Issue 80

Every rescue begins long before an animal reaches safety. It begins with a neighbor who makes a call. A foster who says “yes” one more time. A volunteer loading carriers into a car in the middle of the night. A donor filling a food pantry shelf. A transport driver navigating country roads with coffee in one hand and hope in the other.

Recently, we were reminded that animal welfare is never the work of one person or one organization alone. It is a web of compassion stitched together by community. When two large-scale rescue situations unfolded in our region, the response was immediate. Local rescues coordinated placements. Volunteers stepped forward. Foster made room. Veterinary medical providers showed up. Supporters donated supplies. And OCHS became one piece of a much larger lifesaving machine. Because when animals are in crisis, everyone matters.

Everyone makes a difference.

While every rescue organization has different resources and specialties, collaboration, especially on a large scale, allows us to move mountains that would otherwise feel impossible. OCHS provided support through:



Some animals arrived frightened and shut down. Others had never experienced consistent care, toys, soft bedding, or regular meals. But within days, tiny changes began appearing: relaxed tails, curious eyes, cautious play, the first nap taken without fear. Those transformations belong to everyone who helped carry them forward to the bright futures unfolding ahead of every deserving creature.



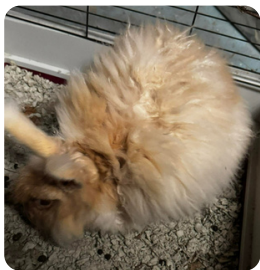
To every volunteer, foster, adopter, donor, transporter, veterinary partner, rescue ally, and supporter: **Thank you** for proving again and again that compassion is strongest when shared. Animal welfare is not built by one heroic moment; it is built by thousands of ordinary acts of kindness stacked carefully together until they become something extraordinary.

info@oswegohumane.org | www.oswegohumane.org

171 Mitchell Street, Oswego NY 13126 | 315-207-1070

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

Hope Beneath the Tangles



Before



Topaz & Agate

When Angora rabbits Agate and Topaz first arrived, their condition told a difficult story. Their coats, meant to be soft and cloud-like, were severely matted, and crusted with waste and debris. Layers of tangled fur restricted movement, pulled at their tender skin, and left both rabbits uncomfortable and endlessly stressed. Like many neglected rabbits, they had quietly endured far more than any animal should.

After careful grooming by an experienced foster, proper nutrition, and patient handling, their personalities slowly began to emerge from beneath the knots and fear. Topaz is a bit more shy and prefers to take her time warming up and quietly keeping things in order. Agate, on the other hand, is the curious adventurer who is more outgoing, playful, and eager to explore new spaces.

Today, these gentle buns are discovering comfort, care, and a much softer future. Their coats are growing in full and healthy, their eyes are bright, and they've traded survival mode for curious hops, cozy naps, and the occasional dramatic bunny sprint that appears powered entirely by optimism and wild dandelion greens.



Stories like Agate and Topaz's show why rescue matters: not just to save lives, but to restore dignity, comfort, and hope. Their transformation did not happen overnight, but thanks to compassionate supporters and dedicated care, Agate and Topaz now have the chance to simply be rabbits again.

From One in a Crowd to One of the Pack

Mitzi-Monet was one of more than 150 animals taken from a local hoarding case this spring. Despite her rough start, she easily charmed her way into our hearts from the moment we met her. In no time at all, she found her forever home as the only feline in a home full of dogs.

"She thinks she is a dog, she is doing well and has blended in fine. The dogs don't really mess with her too much anymore. I think she has realized how to teach them to back off. She sneaks up on them from time to time and it's funny to watch. She has no problem hanging out with them on the couch and has favorite dog beds in the living room.

Thank you for finding us the perfect cat!"

--Chris, her adoptive family



She's right in the middle!



Your Voice Matters

Scan the QR code below to share your thoughts in our brief community survey, and help us to shape our future.



Looking Ahead:

How Our Future Building Will Help More Animals

Large-scale rescues like these reinforce why OCHS's future facility matters so deeply. With expanded space and resources, we will be able to:

- Increase emergency intake capacity
- Safely house animals during large rescue situations
- Expand pantry and community support programs, like our low-cost spay/neuter clinic
- Create more dedicated recovery and quarantine areas
- Improve adoption visibility and visitor experience
- Strengthen partnerships with other rescue organizations



A larger facility is not just a building. It is a headquarters for planning and coordinating volunteers. It is breathing room during emergencies. It is flexibility when time matters most. It is the ability to say “yes” to more animals who need help.

Every foster home, volunteer hour, donation, and adoption becomes part of a future when more animals can move from crisis to comfort in a community where animals are seen, supported, and given the chance to thrive.

As OCHS looks toward the future, we are deeply grateful to everyone helping turn that vision into reality. Together, we are not simply building a facility. We are building a stronger safety net for animals and the people who care about them. We understand that this process is taking longer than anticipated, but we promise it will be worth the wait!

Your Bottles Can Change Lives

This summer, you can have fun with friends & family AND help support the Oswego County Humane Society! At your next party, or with help of the host of the party you are attending, create a sign that you will be donating all cans and bottles to OCHS. You can drop off your bags directly to the redemption centers below and tell them to donate to our organization. If you'd rather drop them off directly to our office, give us a call and we can coordinate a drop off time and day.



Can
Make
Money

**Can Make Money
Redemption Center**
219 Co Rt 57, Phoenix
3 Rivers Plaza



6 cents per
return here!



Great Lakes Recycling
181 Gardenier Road, Oswego
159 East Bridge St, Oswego
60 W 1ST Street N, Fulton

Pawsitive Lessons for Little Animal Lovers

We recently had the opportunity to participate in Earth Day at Volney Elementary School. Humane education is a vital component of our organization's mission and community outreach. These types of events allow us to showcase our organization's values while teaching kids about dog safety. And the kids always love the hands-on experience!



Oswego County Humane Society

PAWS ON THE PATIO

SUNDAY, JUNE 28, 2026

3-6 PM



GIBBY'S TRISH PUB

8 WEST SECOND ST, OSWEGO, NY

NO COVER CHARGE
DONATIONS AND PET SUPPLIES
ACCEPTED

MUSIC & RAFFLES
GIFTS & TREATS
FOR DOGS



PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY



THE MUTT PUTT 2026

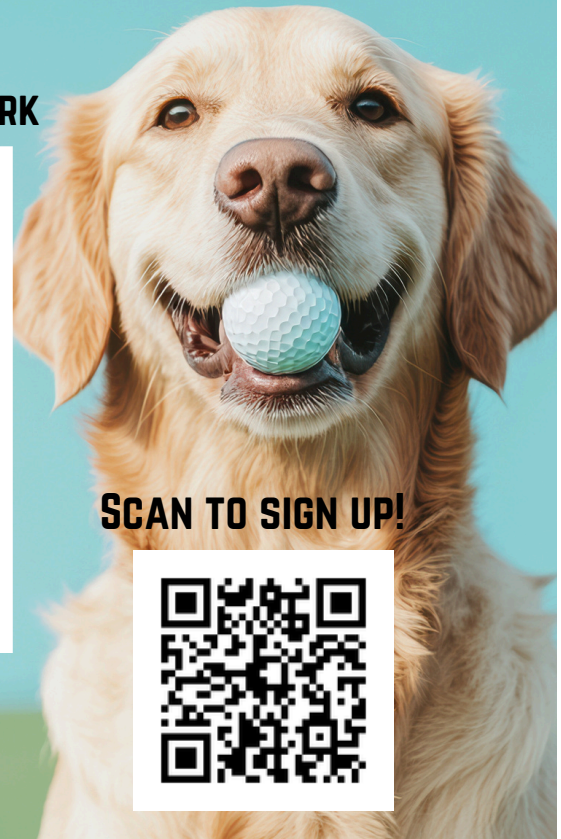
SUNDAY, JULY 19 AT BATTLE ISLAND STATE PARK

SILENT AUCTION
RAFFLES
\$10,000 CASH PRIZE
HOLE-IN-ONE PRIZE

MUSIC BY
RICH HART

\$30
NOT A GOLFER?
JOIN US AT
YAPPY HOUR FOR
SOME BITES 1-4

NEW THIS YEAR!
CAN'T ATTEND BUT
WANT TO BE A PART OF
A GREAT DAY?
SPONSOR A SIGN WITH
YOUR FAMILY'S NAME
OR IN HONOR / MEMORY
OF YOUR MUTT!
GIVE US A CALL
315-207-1070



SCAN TO SIGN UP!



CAPTAIN & CREW SHOT GUN START AT 9AM
\$420 PER TEAM- 18 HOLES AND CART WITH LUNCH
& YAPPY HOUR ADMISSION