

November 2018

Dear Friend of the Shelter animals,

This past weekend we loaded up six big dogs, a bird, two guinea pigs and a bunny and hit the road.

No, we were not out for a family road trip – we took our new mobile adoption unit out into the community for the first time.

It was so exciting! People from around Indian River County came out to Walking Tree Brewery on a beautiful Sunday afternoon and soon, **five families were headed home with new family members –all rescued animals!**



Thanks to a grant from the Indian River Community Foundation to fund the mobile adoption unit, we no longer have to wait for prospective adopters to find us – where they are, we now are!

Finding more homes means saving more animals.

With our new kitten foster care program, we were able to care for a passel of newborn kitties this spring and summer – far more than we've ever been able to handle in-house.

Pets are safest and happiest in homes and we have redoubled our efforts to keep animals from being surrendered in the first place.



Mr. Jesus Z was introduced to the shelter through a caseworker from the Literacy program in Fellsmere. Mr. Z is a wheelchair bound widower who lives alone. He has only his two dogs to keep him company. When we first visited Mr. Z, we realized that although much loved, the dogs were not receiving the best of care due to insufficient funds.

With financial help from HSVB and collaboration with community agencies like the Literacy Program, we were able to bring the puppies to the clinic for a wellness check and to treat one of the dogs for heartworm disease.

Mr. Scott is a senior who depends upon an oxygen tank to survive. He lost his cat last spring and this summer found two abandoned kittens. He wanted to keep the kittens but their medical needs were greater than he could handle.

Thanks to a “peticaid” grant, we were able to treat the kittens’ parasites, vaccinate and spay them and help Mr. Scott to keep them in his home.

Thanks to you and other generous animal lovers, we are able to care for the neediest pets and people in Indian River County.

Which is why I am asking you today.

I hope you will join me in supporting HSVB by making a donation today.



Well beyond the immediate care we give to animals in need, your support is essential to sustaining a vibrant and safe Indian River County community.

Healthy animals have a direct impact on our community. They provide an essential bond with their families, which relieves stress, brings happiness and boosts well-being. The presence of well-cared for and healthy animals in our community enhances the lives of all Indian River County residents. How well we collectively care for animals reflects the compassion of our community and builds a foundation of caring for all who live here.

So, please join me today in support of the only “open-door” animal shelter in the county. Every animal we see this year – every animal who has nowhere else to call home – will be lovingly and well cared for, thanks to you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Susan', written in a cursive style.

Susan Schulyer Smith
President, Board of Directors

 P.S. We were so delighted to have your support. Please know that every gift at every level helps to support the precious Shelter animals.

