



FLORIDA KEYS SPCA

The Center for Animal Welfare & Education

April News from the FKSPCA!

Have you heard the news?



April 2024

FROM OUR DIRECTOR, TAMMY FOX



A Letter from the Heart.

April is recognized as Heartworm Awareness Month by the American Heartworm Society.

One of the most critical things you must do to care for your dog is to practice heartworm prevention. This is done by providing heartworm prevention medication to your dog on a monthly basis and having them checked for heartworms at your annual visit to the veterinarian. This is especially important here in the Florida Keys. Here at the Florida Keys SPCA heartworm disease is a condition we see in dogs

surrendered and it must be treated prior to adoption. This could have been prevented with one inexpensive tasty prevention chew tab given monthly.

Heartworm disease is spread by mosquitos and is a serious, potentially fatal disease, caused by foot-long worms (heartworms) that live in the heart, lungs and associated blood vessels of affected pets, causing severe lung disease, heart failure and damage to other organs in the body. All dogs- any age, breed, or size are susceptible to heartworms. Heartworm prevention is affordable at around \$8 a month while treatment can cost up to \$1000 or more and is difficult to treat. In honor of Heartworm Awareness Month, we have compiled some of the most frequently asked questions and answers to help you keep your best friend safe and healthy.

How do dogs get heartworms?

Heartworms are transmitted by mosquitoes. When a mosquito bites an infected dog, they can transfer heartworms to an uninfected dog.

How can I prevent my dogs from getting heartworms?

Using heartworm prevention medication is the only way to prevent heartworms. The average cost of this medication is less than purchasing a weekly coffee from Starbucks. Talk to your veterinarian to decide which prevention type is right for your dog.

What are the symptoms of heartworm infestation in dogs?

Initially there are no symptoms. As more worms form, the animal will develop a deep cough. Being easily winded will increase over time. With severe heartworm disease, we can hear abnormal lung sounds, dogs can pass out from the loss of blood to the brain, and they can retain fluids. Eventually, most dogs will die if the worms are not treated.

Once my dog has heartworms, what's the treatment? How much will it cost?

The treatment for heartworms is limited to injectable treatment. The treatment can be very difficult on dogs and is costly. The average cost of treatment is \$800-\$1200, in severe cases treatment can cost as much as \$2500.

If my dog is diagnosed with heartworms, can I just give him his monthly preventative instead of having him go through treatment? Won't that kill his heartworms?

The full treatment series is best practice for treating heartworms. Giving only monthly heartworm preventative can have side-effects such as long-term damage to the heart and lungs and can lead to death in severe cases.

Can I skip giving my dog his preventative during colder months, when there aren't any mosquitoes?

The American Heartworm Society recommends year-round prevention as mosquito species have been adapting to colder climates. Additionally, most heartworm preventatives have the extra benefit of a de-wormer for internal parasites. <https://www.heartwormsociety.org/>

If my dog gets heartworms, and is treated for them, can he get them again?

Dogs do not build immunity to heartworms. The only way to stop dogs from getting heartworms again is to keep them on heartworm prevention medication year-round.

If **you** have questions about how to keep your best friend free from heartworm disease and healthy, please call our medical team here at the Florida Keys SPCA at 305-294-4857 or email at Clinic@fkspca.org

With gratitude,

Tammy

Tammy Fox
Executive Director
Florida Keys SPCA



Thank You to Our Generous Sponsors Who Helped Put a Spring Into Our Animals' Steps!!

Now that our 16th Annual Spring Social Presented by [Hank's Hair Of The Dog Saloon](#) is over we wanted to be sure to send a giant thank you to all of our Sponsors.

Without these generous and supportive businesses from our local community, we could not raise the much needed funds to care for our animals while they wait for the second chance at a new life. Thanks to our Sponsors - who help underwrite our costs - we were able to raise \$170,000!

Please be sure to support our local Sponsors as they support us. We couldn't do it without them.

Thank you [Hank's Hair Of The Dog Saloon](#), [Michelle's Foundation](#), [Garbos' Grill](#), [Mile 0 Fest Key West](#), [RokIsland Fest](#), [Key Western Fest](#), [Seaside Cafe at the Mansion](#), [Oropeza & Parks](#), [EXIT Realty Paradise](#), [Island](#)

Dental, Little Palm Island Resort & Spa, Fury Water Adventures Key West, Blue Heaven, Irish Kevins, The Keys Weekly Newspapers, Deep Blue Printing, Key West Marine Hardware, Inc., Key West Adventures - Jeep Rentals & More and Archeo Gallery.

Thank You to Our Sponsors!



Thank You Mike!

Our Marathon Campus would like to thank Michael Levin for his 8+ year dedication to volunteering at our Marathon Campus.

Over the years Mike spent his winters snow-birding in the Keys and volunteering both at our Marathon Campus, and our Marathon events. Now, at 89 years old, Mike is retiring from his volunteer commitment, and leaving behind a memorable legacy at our Campus.



On behalf of all of the staff, volunteers, and animals - THANK YOU, and we will truly miss you.

Critters + Campers = One Fun Summer!

Critter Camp is a Day Camp program designed for children ages 7-12 years old who love animals. Our next Camps will be held this Summer in the



Education Room of the Key West SPCA Shelter.

Summer Camps are each a week long, and are held from late May through early August. If you are interested, be sure to register your camper today! There are only 8 weeks offered and they are already selling out!

From 9am to 3pm each day, Critter Camp provides a fun, educational experience for campers and will add variety and

enrichment to the lives of our shelter animals. During camp, children will learn how to safely interact with animals, make fun craft projects such as toys and treats, and receive behind-the-scenes lessons in pet care from our Animal Care, Clinic, and Animal Control teams.

In addition, campers will learn from Guest Speakers and take field trips to local animal-focused organizations throughout Key West.

For questions and additional information contact Crystal@fkspca.org or 305-294-4857, or click on the button below to reserve your space now!

Sign up for Critter Camp NOW!

Wellness Clinic

We would like to take a moment to remind everyone of our Dogwood Vaccine and Wellness Clinic Schedule for 2024.

The Key West Campus Clinics will take place on the **SECOND** and **FOURTH THURSDAY** of every month, while our Marathon Campus Clinic will take place on the **LAST WEDNESDAY** of each month.

Please note that the Clinic is now by appointment only - all appointments must be made by phone through the Clinic @ (305) 294 - 4857.

Should you have any questions please contact the Clinic directly. Their email address is Clinic@fkspca.org.

We look forward to seeing you and your pet soon!



FLORIDA KEYS SPCA

SERVICES

- Vaccines - \$10 per vaccine
- Heartworm Test - \$20.00
- FIV/FeLV Test - \$20.00
- Microchip & Registration- \$25.00
- Nail trims- \$15
- Heartworm & Flea/Tick Prevention - Varies

A \$35 exam is required to receive vaccinations, any testing (heartworm/FIV/FeLV) and to purchase any flea/tick prevention.

At the FKSPCA, our goal is to provide pet owners in the lower keys with affordable preventative care options for their pets.

ALL DOGS NEED TO BE ON A NON-RETRACTABLE LEASH AND CATS IN A SECURE CARRIER.



2024 VACCINE CLINIC SCHEDULE

KEY WEST CAMPUS WILL HAVE VACCINE CLINICS THE 2ND AND 4TH THURSDAYS OF EACH MONTH.

MARATHON CAMPUS WILL HAVE VACCINE CLINICS THE LAST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH.

PLEASE CALL TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT

5711 COLLEGE RD, KEY WEST FL 33040 P:305-294-4857

10550 AVIATION BLVD, MARATHON FL 33050 P:305-743-4800

PLEASE REFER TO OUR WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA FOR HOLIDAY CLOSURES AND SCHEDULE CHANGES



Fosters Needed!

With the 2024 Hurricane Season rapidly approaching, as well as the 2024 Kitten Season, we are preparing a list of Kitten Fosters as well as Hurricane Fosters. We hope you will be willing to make the generous commitment of fostering a litter of kittens who need socialization and care before they are put up for adoption, or one of any of our animals should a hurricane be

imminent.

If you are interested in sheltering any of our cats, dogs, or small animals, please apply on our website at <https://fkspca.org/volunteer/become-a-foster-volunteer/>, or by clicking the button below.

There will be a brief meeting in May, if you missed our April meeting, to discuss the details of being a Foster. Keep an eye out on our website and social media for the upcoming date.

If you would like to Foster, please reach out to Tara in Marathon at Tara@fkspca.org or Torie in Key West at Foster@fkspca.org

We look forward to hearing from you!

Become A Foster Today!

Donation Drive!

The Florida Keys SPCA participates in a vehicle donation program, which is a unique way to make an impactful gift. CARS will pick up your car, truck, boat, motorcycle, SUV or even plane

for free; they will complete the sale of your donated vehicle and it will directly benefit the homeless animals!

The sale of even a single vehicle can make a BIG difference!

You receive a tax deduction and proceeds from your vehicle sale directly help the Florida Keys SPCA and our mission!

Call 1-855-550-GIVE (4483) or click below to complete the online form.



[Click Here to Donate Your Vehicle](#)

10 Tips to Prevent Animal Cruelty

- 1 Be a responsible pet owner
- 2 Be an example of kindness to other pets
- 3 Intervene if you witness animal cruelty, abuse or neglect
- 4 Report animal cruelty, abuse or neglect
- 5 Teach your children to have respect for animals
- 6 Demand stricter laws for the protection of animals
- 7 Shelter an animal in need
- 8 Consider that neglect of animals can be closely linked to domestic violence
- 9 Educate people around you about the issue
- 10 Offer help to people who are overwhelmed with their animal

FOUR PAWS

April is Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Month!

T.S. Eliot so famously wrote, "April is the cruellest month..." While he may not have been writing about the treatment of animals, there couldn't be a better time for those of us here at the Florida Keys Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals to remind everyone of 10 tips to

help prevent animal cruelty.

While all of these tips are important, please take a moment to take note of tip #4. The Florida Keys SPCA Animal Control Officers conduct

cruelty and neglect investigations from Key West to Marathon, Mile Marker Zero to 70. Report suspected animal cruelty when you see it!

From MM0-MM16.7 Call our Key West Campus at 305-294-4857 or [Email us here](#).

From MM16.7-MM70 Call our Marathon Campus at 305-743-4800 or [Email us here](#).

With your help, we can improve the lives of animals in our community. To learn more about how we can work together to stop animal cruelty, click [HERE](#)

Keep Your Cool While the Temperature Heats Up!

It's April and temperatures are heating up all over - especially here in the Keys! Be sure to keep your look cool with our T-shirts, tanks, and more! We also have mugs, totes, hats and more to keep you looking cool whether at home or at work!

Brighten up your wardrobe and help save a life!

Check out our Online Store Today!





ADOPT ME!



Make It a New Year for Diva!

Can Diva get adopted before 365 days have passed? April marks month 12 that she's been waiting for her forever family, and we want nothing more than for her to find a family before she spends an entire year at our Marathon Campus.

Diva is a fantastic dog, and we're not sure why she hasn't had any interest. Diva is friendly with other dogs (sorry, no cats), and absolutely loves kids. She would love to be a family dog! She loves the water, she never makes a mess in her kennel and she's sure to keep your yard Iguana free!

Don't let Diva spend one more day inching closer to 365 days at our Marathon Campus. If you're looking for a friendly, social, water-loving, Keys dog for you and your family be sure to meet Diva today!

Learn more about Diva by calling our Marathon Campus at 305-743-4800 or visit us online at <https://fkspca.org/adopt/adopt-a-dog/> to fill out an online adoption application today!



Meet Your New House Panther!!

Meet Cornbread!

Three years ago Cornbread came to our Marathon Campus as a



stray, and she's been waiting for a home ever since. With her fantastic personality and adorable tiny high pitched meow, it's almost impossible to imagine that she has yet to find a family to call her own after all this time.

Recently we noticed that Cornbread was having trouble eating, and after a thorough examination by our incredible Veterinary team she was diagnosed with a painful oral inflammation condition called stomatitis. Stomatitis in cats is a complex, painful, and frustrating disease that causes severe inflammation of the entire mouth, including the gingiva (gum tissue around the teeth) and mucous

membranes. Even at such a young age, her condition was so bad that she would need complete dental extractions.

Thanks to Dr. Lisa at Keys Animal ER/Cruz Animal Hospital, Cornbread received exceptional care during her long, complicated surgery. Currently, Cornbread is recovering well and feeling much more comfortable without all the painful inflammation in her mouth. Now that this expensive procedure is complete, the only thing her future adopters need to do is ensure that she has plenty of wet food for the rest of her life.

If you've been thinking of adopting a special cat, and want to give a place in your home and heart to a kitty who has been waiting so long, then be sure to ask for Cornbread at our Marathon Campus.

Tiny Rabbits In Search of Big Love!

Meet Daddy Peanut and Mama Foo Foo (pictured here), two adorable dwarf rabbits available

for adoption at our Marathon Campus. Found as strays, these two unexpectedly became parents shortly after they were found by a Good Samaritan, who has lovingly fostered them over the last 7 months. Together, the bonded pair of bunnies raised their babies which have all since been adopted. Now fixed, these two are in need of their forever home.



Daddy Peanut and Mama Foo

Foo are house rabbits, which means they have free range of their foster moms house. They are well socialized with both their canine brother and their human siblings, making them fantastic family companions. They are potty trained, primarily eat Timothy Hay and are 100% free range. Because they are dwarf rabbits, they are both under 3lbs, even fully grown.

If you're interested in adopting these two adorable little rabbits, please visit us online at <https://fkspca.org/adopt/adopt-small-animals/> and click their photo for a link to our online adoption application.

Since these rabbits are in foster, and not at our Marathon Campus, once we've received your application, an adoption counselor will reach out to schedule a meet n greet with you, and the foster, to ensure it's a good fit. For more information call our Marathon Campus at 305-743-4800.

Meet an English Gentleman Named Pepe!

Meet Pepe!

Pepe is a 4 year old purebred English Bulldog currently residing at our Key West Campus. Loved for their goofy personalities, and



adorable squatty bodies and wrinkles, the Bulldog has been bred to a point where genetically they often suffer from an assortment of issues, including the most apparent from his photo - cherry eye.

Cherry eye is a prolapse of the third eyelid gland, and correctable with surgery. Although it may look unappealing, we hope his future adopter can look past this treatable issue and see what an amazing, sweet dog Pepe is.

For more information on Pepe, and all of our adoptable dogs, follow this link: <https://fkspca.org/adopt/adopt-a-dog/>

Do You Have a Cat-Shaped Hole in Your Heart?

Meet Copper!

Copper is a handsome 7-year-old boy who was found wandering the streets of Stock Island. The person who brought him in said the owners moved out of the country and abandoned him.



Copper has been the best kitty he can be since arriving. He is a little scared, however he turns into a complete love bug once you start petting him. His most favorite thing to do is make biscuits on your lap or in your arms.

Copper loves cuddles, kisses, and pets! He would do well in a house that can keep him indoors and give him the love he deserves.

Do you have a cat-shaped hole in your heart? Let Copper fill it!

Stop by our Key West shelter and meet him today!



You Silly Kids, Tricks Are For Rabbits!

Meet Bixby, the pint-sized bundle of bunny joy at our Key West campus!

This mischievous two-year-old hopper is a master of mischief and a connoisseur of carrots. With ears as cute as can be and a twitchy nose that could sniff out a snack from miles away, Bixby is the ultimate adorable

troublemaker.

If you're ready for endless energy, and a whole lot of bunny love, Bixby is your guy! Just be sure to bunny-proof your home and hide your prized possessions - this little furball is always up for a game of hide-and-seek... with your socks!

You can find Bixby online at <https://fkspca.org/adopt/adopt-small-animals/> or Hop on over to our Key West campus and meet him in person!



Wednesday, April 17th

Yappy Hour at the Perry Hotel

4pm - 6pm

Perry Hotel, 7001 Shrimp Road, Stock Island

All well behaved pups are welcome!

Join us this Wednesday from 4pm – 6pm for Yappy Hour at the Salty Oyster at the Perry Hotel!

There will be live music, an adoptable animal meet & greet, raffles, and tons of fun!

The best way to celebrate the middle of the week is to be at The Salty Oyster Dockside Grill & Bar with your friendly, four-legged friends!

We will see you there!



THE PERRY HOTEL & MARINA
KEY WEST

7001 SHRIMP ROAD

877.496.8712

PERRYKEYWEST.COM

Raffles!

Adoptable Animals!

**WEDNESDAY
APRIL 3RD & 17TH
4PM - 6PM**

**YAPPY
HOUR**

**THE SALTY OYSTER
@ THE PERRY HOTEL**

Dog Friendly!

Live Music!

*Drink
Specials!*



FLORIDA KEYS SPCA

April 23rd through April 28th

Broil Gives Back!

5pm - 9pm

21611 Old State Road 4a, Cudjoe Key

Have a hankering for a great meal? Looking to enjoy yourself while giving back at the same time?

Look no further than Broil Restaurant!

Treat yourself to an evening at Broil from April 23rd to April 28th and Broil will be donating 5% of their sales to our animals at the Florida Keys SPCA!

Check out their menu [HERE](#)

BROIL^o

&



FLORIDA KEYS SPCA

April 23rd-28th

5% of sales will be

**5% of sales will be
donated to FKSPCA**

Come dine with us at Broil

21611 Old State Road 4a

Cudjoe Key, FL 33042

MM 21.5

Hours: Tuesday thru Sunday

5pm-9pm

(305)741-7879

Saturday April 27th

Doggie Day Sail

11am - 1pm

Historic Waterfront, 0 Margaret Street, Key West

Join us for our pup friendly Doggy Day Sails with Argo Navis! You will enjoy lunch aboard the only 75 foot luxury sailing yacht in Key West. All well-behaved pups welcome!

Menu includes pork or brisket sliders from Smoked on the Water in KW, cucumber salad, pasta salad, various sides and dessert for the human types. Hot Dogs, dog treats and "burnt ends" for our canine friends. There will be treats, toys and giveaways for all! Limited to just 24 guests and 12 well behaved pups. \$100 per person with or without a pup. \$30 from each reservation will be donated to the Florida Keys SPCA. Reserve your spot today by clicking [HERE!](#)

S/V ARGO NAVIS YACHT

DOGGIE DAY SAIL

SATURDAY APRIL 27TH, 11AM-1PM

\$100 Per Person includes lunch for you and
your pup, drinks and a beautiful sail!



FLORIDA KEYS SPCA



Book By
Scanning
Here

PROCEEDS DIRECTLY BENEFIT THE FKSPCA
WWW.SAILARGONAVIS.COM (305)509-1771
KEY WEST HISTORIC SEAPORT

Wednesday, May 1st

Happy Hour at the Marathon Marriott Courtyard

5:00pm - 7:00pm

Marriott Courtyard, 2146 Overseas Highway, Marathon

Don't forget to grab your suit and join us Wednesday, May 1st, from 5pm to 7pm at the Marriott Courtyard in Marathon for our First Wednesday of the Month Tails & Tides Happy Hour!

We'll be eating and drinking at the simply outstanding [Blue Waters Bar and Grill](#) all in support of our homeless animals!

*20% of all food & drink sold during this time goes straight to our animals!

*Bring your suit! Locals are invited to swim!

*Meet an adoptable doggo!

*Take your chance at a 50/50 raffle!

Make the middle of your week a Happy one by supporting the animals currently at our Marathon Campus, and having a great time doing it!

*Please note that this is a people only event. Thanks!



SIP, DINE & GIVE BACK

Wednesday, May 1 | 5 - 7 pm

JOIN US FOR ANOTHER COMMUNITY
HAPPY HOUR GIVE BACK EVENT.

20% of all dinner & happy hour event proceeds
benefit Florida Keys SPCA.



Blue Waters at Courtyard Faro Blanco Resort
2146 Overseas Hwy, Marathon, FL 33050
305-289-2100
BluewatersBarandGrill.com @bluewatersbarandgrill

Sunday, May 5th

11th Annual Running of the Chihuahuas

1:00pm - 4:00pm

Rick's Key West, 202 Duval Street, Key West

Join us for the 11th Annual Running of the Chihuahuas!

The smallest dogs with the biggest personalities are invited to enter the Chihuahua Races and win prizes along with bragging rights!

Come to Rick's Bar, 202 Duval Street, on Sunday May 5th to see all the fun.

Doors open at 1pm, races start at 3pm. 3 categories of racers are:

- 1) Chihuahua Pure & Mixed Breed
- 2) Senior Pups
- 3) All Other Small Dogs (If your dog can fit through the racing hole, they can race!)

You can pre-register below or show up and register day of! It's \$25 per dog to race and all proceeds directly benefit the animals of the Florida Keys SPCA! There will also be a costume contest for extra prizes! This is a family friendly event where everyone is invited for a great time.

Pre-register Your Racer Today!



CHIHWAHWAHS

BENEFITTING THE FLORIDA KEYS SPCA
SUNDAY, MAY 5TH



HOSTED BY CAROLYN G.
FROM WAIL 99.5
THE HOEBEE IN THE AFTERNOON EXPERIMENT

CASH & PRIZES FOR OVERALL RACE WINNER

**SMALL DOG FUN RUN
OPEN TO ALL SMALLER BREED DOGS**

COSTUME CONTEST FOR ALL DOGS

CELEBRATE CINCO DE MAYO DRINK SPECIALS

ALL PROCEEDS FROM THE RACE GOES TO THE SPCA

DOORS OPEN AT 1PM - RACES START AT 3PM

THIS IS A FAMILY FRIENDLY EVENT - KIDS ARE WELCOME

**RICK'S UPSTAIRS AT 202 DUVAL ST. - FOR MORE INFO 305.942.1924 OR
FOR PRE REGISTRATION - FKSPCA.ORG/EVENT/THE-RUNNING-OF-THE-CHIHUAHUAS/**

Main races open to Chihuahuas only (Pure bred & mixed breed). For the safety of the dogs they must be current with pet vaccinations and leashed when not racing. Unruly dogs will be excused. Owners must pick up after their pets.

POSTER BY F.BUSHEY

Sunday, May 12th

Pup Paw-ty at Morning Joint

2:00pm - 4:00pm

Morning Joint, 22864 Overseas Highway, Cudjoe Key

We're throwing a party for the pups and all dog-friendly dogs are invited!

This paw-ty will take place at Morning Joint

(22864 Overseas Highway in Cudjoe)

on

Sunday May 12th from 2pm – 4pm!

Please join us and enjoy food and drink specials, games for both you and your pups, exciting raffles, and much more!



PUP PAW-TY



MAY 12TH 2024

2PM-4PM

MORNING JOINT

22864 Overseas Hwy
Cudjoe Key, FL 33042

Support the Florida Keys SPCA for a day of
fun with you and your pup!

FOOD & DRINKS - RAFFLES - LIVE MUSIC - DOG GAMES - ICE CREAM

COMMUNITY & OUTREACH

IMPORTANT NEWS FOR OUR MILITARY SERVICE MEMBERS AND THEIR PETS:

Department of Defense Approves
Policy to Reimburse Pet
Expenses Due to a Permanent
Change of Station



The Department of Defense has approved a new policy to cover pet travel expenses, like pet shipping or quarantine fees, incurred by Service members during a Permanent Change of Station (PCS).

As of January 1, 2024, military Service members going through a PCS within the continental United States can be reimbursed up to \$550 for one household pet, either cat or dog, and up to \$2,000 for moves to or from a location outside the continental United States to cover costs related to the transportation of a pet.

The Services estimate that this new allowance may be used by an estimated 227,000 Service members. Historically, Service members paid the majority of out-of-pocket expenses to transport pets when assigned to a new duty station. This policy reduces that financial burden while recognizing the important role a pet plays in a military family's household.

Behavior Helpline Information

Florida Keys SPCA Animal Behavior Helpline

DOG PROBLEMS? CAT CONCERNS? BUNNY BURDENS?



WE'RE HERE TO HELP!

CALL

305-294-4857

EMAIL

behaviorhelpline@fkspca.org

Sharing your life with a companion animal can be incredibly rewarding but it also comes with a unique set of challenges. Even the most experienced pet parents need a helping hand at times.

The Florida Keys SPCA has a team of animal experts who are ready to help. Simply leave a voicemail or email about your pet's behavioral concern and one of our Behavior Helpline team members will reach out to help within 24-48 hours.

(Please note: This is a helpline, not a hotline. For Animal Control Emergencies, please contact our After Hours Emergency number.)

[Click Here for More Behavior Helpline Info!](#)

Do you need some feel-good moments in your life right now? Check out and Like our Facebook page or become one of our Instagram followers today! We are posting happy, silly and fun animal content daily just like below!



Connect with us
on Facebook!



Follow us on
Instagram!

A QUICK REFERENCE FOR HURRICANE CATEGORIES





From Shelter to Forever Home!

Gwen adopted Sergio from our Marathon campus in January. If anyone in the community knows Gwen, they know she's a true friend to the animals! Here's what Gwen has to say about Sergio:

"I'm the lucky dog owner who adopted a little mixed breed puppy from the Marathon campus of the Florida Keys SPCA in January. Sergio is now 7 months old and 40 pounds. I'm so grateful for his foster family. They raised him up right. He came fully loaded: he could sit, stay, and handle business outside.



I never understood what a gift pet foster families provided until I adopted Sergio.

Florida Keys SPCA's adoption system was so efficient and user-friendly. Plus they supplied a lot of basic items I needed right away.

I wasn't looking for a puppy. When I called about another dog at the shelter, an SPCA worker texted me pics of this little fella. I went to the SPCA campus in Marathon for a visit.

On our ride home from the Marathon SPCA campus in January, I told the little guy, "Look, you're cute but all puppies are cute. You don't know me and I don't know you. But you seem reasonable. I like it."

I lost my boy Pedro in April 2021, after 13 years. He was my first dog and I was heartbroken. I leaned on people who gave even through the same pain. I found comfort in visiting my pals' dogs and occasionally dog-sitting.

Now, when I think of Pedro, I smile and can feel the gratitude. Grief is the price of love. I've been told.

Watching Sergio's firsts — I got to see him learn what raindrops are — has been astonishing. Watching his little personality take form — and handling let's call them challenges — Gratitude City: population us. Thank you, Florida Keys SPCA and everyone who's ever fostered a dog in need of care.

#grateful #puppylife #adopteddogg #newsound #petfosterfam #puppylife #newdog #babypic #growingup #newfam #dogowner #goodboy #keywest

Gwen Filosa"

Check out our Key West Amazon Wishlist for our greatest needs!

**Donate Today!
Click here for more info**

Check out our Marathon Amazon Wishlist for our greatest needs!



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Florida Keys Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
5711 College Rd Key West, FL 33040 10550 Aviation Blvd Marathon, FL 33050