



FLORIDA KEYS SPCA

The Center for Animal Welfare & Education

July News from the FKSPCA!

Have you heard the news?



July 2025



Do Our Pets Experience the Feeling of Love?

We know how they make us feel, but do our pets truly feel love in return? Science is beginning to say yes, and your heart probably already knows it.

If you've ever locked eyes with your dog during a cuddle or felt your cat's gentle purr vibrate through your chest, you've likely sensed something deeper than instinct. Something real.

Researchers at Emory University used MRI scans to examine dogs' brain activity, revealing that the caudate nucleus, associated with love and pleasure, lights up when dogs smell their favorite humans. Similarly, cats release oxytocin, the "love

hormone," when they interact with those they trust, just as we do when we hug someone we care about.

However, beyond science, the proof is in the quiet moments: the wagging tails when you return home, the slow blinks of a lounging cat, and the loyal eyes that follow you from room to room. These are not random behaviors. They are expressions of deep emotional bonds.

At the Florida Keys SPCA, we witness love in its rawest, purest form every day. A senior dog waiting patiently at the kennel door, hoping for one more walk with a favorite volunteer. A shy cat who finally curls into a warm lap. These are not just animals. They are hearts wrapped in fur.

They don't just need homes; they need families. And when we welcome them into ours, we don't just save them. They save us, too. With a love that is unconditional, uncomplicated, and real.

And remember, families come in all forms. Whether it's a bustling household or a home of one, what matters most is the love and commitment we give. You don't need a full house to make a full heart.

You can help write the next love story. Your actions matter. Whether you choose to adopt, volunteer, or make a gift, you are making a difference. Support one of our many programs that help keep pets with the families who love them. Visit fkspca.org to learn how you can contribute to this vital cause.

With gratitude,

Tammy and the animals

Tammy Fox, Executive Director

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You Nominated Us, Now We Need Your Vote!

The Florida Keys SPCA would love your **VOTE** for the **Best Non Profit** under the 'Our Community' category for the **2025 Bubba Awards!**

Voting continues through Midnight on Sunday July 6th, so please **VOTE** each day! Thank you for your support!

Click Here to VOTE for Us!



- Closed on Sunday

Beginning July 1st our **Marathon Campus** will be changing their operating days and hours to the following:

- Monday - Friday 9:30am - 4:00pm
- Saturday 10:30am - 2:00pm

We feel that this change will bring better cohesiveness to our campuses which will now both be closed on Sundays. We look

forward to serving you during our new business hours in July!

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Vaccinated and Loved Clinic Event

Announcing our *first* **Petco Vaccinated and Love Clinic Event!** Thanks to Petco's National vaccination initiative, we will be providing **FREE** vaccines to family pets in need.

When: Wednesday July 9th from 9am-3pm

Where: MLK Community Pool & Center Parking Lot, 300 Catherine Street, Key West in our Mobile Unit

What:

Free Petco Vaccines Offered-

- **Canine DAPPv** for dogs which protects against Distemper, Hepatitis, Parainfluenza and Parvovirus
- **Feline HCP** for cats which protects against Feline Rhinotracheitis Virus, Feline Calicivirus, Feline Panleukopenia Virus

Other Free Services Offered-

- Rabies Vaccine
- Wellness Exam

Services Offered at Our Regular Pricing-

- Nail Trims
- Heartworm Testing
- FIV and FeLV Testing
- Bordetella Vaccine
- Microchipping- *July is National Lost Prevention Month!*

For additional questions on our Vaccinated and Love mobile unit clinic, please contact the Clinic Team directly at 305-294-4857, then dial 2, or email them directly at clinic@fkspca.org.

Clinic Program Details

Free Pet Vaccines

Thanks to  petco love



Date & Time: Wednesday, July 9th from 9am-3pm

Location: MLK Community Pool & Center Parking Lot
300 Catherine St, Key West, FL 33040

Free Vaccines Offered: Rabies, DHPP, FVRCP

Other Services: Bordetella:\$10 Heartworm & FIV testing: \$20
Nail Trims: \$20-30 Microchipping: \$25

No Appointment Necessary. First come, first served.

This event is for full-time Monroe County residents only. Must have a valid Monroe County ID to be seen.

Dogs MUST be on a non-retractable Leash. Cats MUST be in a secure carrier.
For questions please contact clinic@fkspca.org



FLORIDA KEYS SPCA

freepetvaccines.org



**Double your Donation
for the entire month
of July!**

Thanks to The Dogwood
Foundation, every donation



made towards our campaign to support our Mobile Unit for clinic services will be **MATCHED** up to

\$20,000!

The FKSPCA's Mobile Unit **supports pet owners in the community** where the barrier of transportation is evident in remote areas of the Florida Keys. Each dollar donated will support our efforts to help pet owners in need receive the wellness care they deserve and double the impact we can make in our community.

If you would like to support our Match Campaign and **help us reach our \$20,000 goal**, click the button below. **Even \$10 can make a difference** in the lives of our community pets. For questions about this campaign, please contact Jennifer@fkspca.org. Thank you for your support!

Double Your Donation through our \$20,000 Match!

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Honk If You Love Our Animals!

*Asked a dog what she wanted to be
She said, "Baby, can't you see?
I wanna be adopted, a star on the scene"
But you can do something in between...*

The Florida Keys SPCA participates in a vehicle donation program with CARS,

which is a unique - and easy - way to make an impactful gift to benefit our animals while they await their second chance at a new life.

CARS will pick up your car, truck, scooter, boat, motorcycle, SUV - or even plane - for FREE! No matter the condition!

They will then complete the sale of your donated vehicle which will directly benefit the homeless animals of the Florida Keys SPCA! All you have to do is take the first step. 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 the button below to complete the online form.

Click Here to Donate Your Vehicle Today!

Looking for Your Next Summer Outfit?

Look no more! Cool off this summer and show your love for the animals with our t-shirts, tanks, mugs and totes. Support the homeless animals and keep your temperature low by saving a life!

Check out our Online Store Today!





Spike is Sure to Be Your Next BFF

Meet Spike, the big goofy guy at our Marathon Campus! At 4-years-old and a whopping 75lbs Spike is your all American Bulldog. The American Bulldog is affectionate and loyal, which makes life in a shelter particularly hard. Spike is desperate to be around people, he gets so excited he cannot contain it. This creates behaviors such as jumping, which could easily knock over a small child, or someone of smaller stature, meaning this big boy needs an equally strong handler. Spike has been working hard with our volunteer trainer, and with lots of treats, praise and exercise he's getting better and better everyday!

There are lots of things to love about Spike. He's very food motivated making training sessions a breeze. He loves people so much he wants to be around you 24/7, making him an instant BFF. He's dog friendly with other equally sized/matched dogs, so he could be a good addition to a family with another big dog, as long as it's the right fit. He loves to play ball, the bigger the tennis ball, the better! He's also one handsome dude, we can't get enough of that one icy blue eye. Meet Spike at our Marathon Campus, or check out more photos and submit an online adoption application on our website at <https://fkspca.org/adopt/adopt-a-dog/>.



Spot & Freddy are Ready for National Kitten Day!

Meet Spot (pictured here) and Freddy, two kittens who were sadly returned to our Marathon Campus due to no fault of their own, they were simply being kittens.

July 10th is National Kitten Day and this is the purrfect time to bring 2 kitties that need a home into your life! Now big enough for our Catio, these

rambunctious young cats are making the best of their time back at the shelter until they find their true forever home. Both Spot (female) and Freddy (male) would do great in most homes and families. They're friendly, outgoing, playful, social and good with kids and other cats. You can meet Spot and Freddy at our Marathon Campus Catio, or visit us online at <https://fkspca.org/adopt/adopt-a-cat/> and click their photo for a link to an adoption application today!

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Waddles is Waiting for You!

Here is Waddles' story- Waddles was surrendered out of love from the only home he knew. His owners both became ill and were unable to care for him the way they knew they should. They were unable to rehome him with family or friends, and heartbroken, they brought him to us. He was timid, not a fan of strangers and uneasy around other dogs.

That was **1301 days ago today**, or 3 1/2 years. And we have never given up trying to find Waddles the furever home he deserves. July 4th is Waddles' 10th birthday, and he would love nothing more than to find a family that understands his needs and lets him live out his golden years in happiness.

Waddles likes routines. He has favorite staff members and volunteers. He is comfortable in the shelter. But he deserves more. He has made his needs very clear, but finding that perfect home has become a challenge. Waddles is not social, but devoted to those he learns to trust. He needs a quiet environment with minimal visitors, no kids and no other pets. He needs someone that is ready to truly save a life. If that is you, stop by the Key West Campus and meet Waddles today. He may not be your best friend at first, but with patience and kindness, the work will surely be worth the wait.

Christmas in July?!

Christmas was found as a stray kitten **1662 days**, or 4 1/2 years ago. December 11th, 2020 is a day most of us cannot remember what we were doing and Christmas has been looking for a family ever since.

Christmas has grown up at the shelter, so he plays well with others. He's energetic, loves his treats and running after his toys. He may be shy at first, but with a little trust building, he will truly be a great family cat. If you think Christmas is the kitty for you, stop by our Key West Campus to meet him today!



2 for 1 Bundles of Fun!

Opal and Pearl are two incredibly sweet sisters looking for a home together- and trust us, they're as precious as their names.



Pearl is the all-white, pink-eyed explorer of the duo. As an albino rat, her vision isn't the best, but she has instinctive movements to help her find her way. Opal is a total "shoulder rat"; her favorite place is right on your

shoulder, taking in the world from above like a tiny queen. She's curious, calm, and always up for hanging out.

These girls came to us from a bustling home and are smart, snuggly and social little companions! Stop by the Key West Campus to meet these 2 bundles of fun today!

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Friday, July 11th

Dog Daze of Summer Yappy Hour

5pm - 7pm

The Marker Resort, 200 William Street, Key West

Join us for the Dog Daze of Summer Yappy Hour! We are celebrating Summer with local friendly swimming and doggy pools for your pups! There will be raffles, drink specials and adoptable dogs.

Let's cool off your pups with a pool party to benefit the animals of the Florida Keys SPCA! Questions? Contact Vanessa@fkspca.org. We will see you there!

DOG DAZE OF SUMMER 🐾 YAPPY HOUR! 🐾

Benefiting
FLORIDA KEYS SPCA

Join us at: **THE MARKER**
FRIDAY, JULY 11TH
5:00-7:00 PM



FLORIDA KEYS SPCA

**SOCIAL DOGS
WELCOME!**

DOGGIE POOLS

**ADOPTABLE
MEET & GREET**

**RAFFLE ITEMS &
DRINK SPECIALS
WITH \$1 GOING
TO SPCA**



The
MARKER

200 WILLIAM ST, KEY WEST

Wednesday, July 16th

Yappy Hour

3pm - 6pm

Mac's Place, 1605 N. Roosevelt Blvd, Key West

Join us for a tail-wagging good time at Mac's Place on

Wednesday, July 16th from 3–6 PM!

Enjoy happy hour specials on drinks and bites while supporting a great cause. Yappy Hour is proudly sponsored by Goodboy Vodka, and a portion of their sales during the event will go directly to help the animals at the Florida Keys SPCA.

Catch live music from 2024 Fantasy Fest Queen Marjory Lee, who'll be bringing her charm to the stage. Plus, we'll have a raffle with paw-some prizes and a pup-friendly menu so your furry friends can join the fun too.

We can't wait to see you there!



Wednesday July 23rd

Fantasy Fest King & Queen Mandatory Meeting

5-7pm

FKSPCA Key West Campus, 5711 College Rd, Key West

Get Ready To Create a Happily FUR-Ever After for the animals of the Florida Keys SPCA!

We have one meeting left for your chance to be the next Royal King & Queen Campaign of Fantasy Fest 2025! We are ready to make a huge difference in the lives of homeless animals and the pets in our Community through funds raised with this 6 week Race for Royalty!

If you are interested in becoming a King or Queen Candidate you **MUST** attend **July 23rd's MANDATORY meeting**. For additional details on how to become the next member of the Royal Court and to download a copy of the King & Queen Application, click the button below.

If you have any questions on the process or details of the Royal Campaign, email Jennifer@fkspca.org. Thank you!

King & Queen Information HERE!

Happily Ever After
Fantasy Fest Royal Campaign 2025

**Call For
Fantasy Fest
King & Queen
Candidates!**

INFO SESSION:

Wed, July 23 ←
5-7pm MANDATORY!

Key West Campus:

5711 College Rd



FLORIDA KEYS SPCA

FOR MORE INFO OR QUESTIONS EMAIL: JENNIFER@FKSPCA.ORG



COMMUNITY & OUTREACH



PET SAFETY HURRICANE CHECKLIST

BEFORE THE STORM: Remain Calm, Stay Informed and Be Prepared.
The calmer you are, the less stressed your pet will be.

To do LIST:

- Get pet emergency stickers
- Microchip your pets
- Choose an alternate caregiver
- Download ASPCA mobile APP
- Keep up heartworm prevention
- Store vet info in your phone
- Be prepared to evacuate
- Gather hurricane supplies

HURRICANE KIT SUPPLIES



AFTER THE STORM: Don't lose hope if you become separated from your pet.
Remain calm if your pet is injured. Use your first aid kit and call a vet.

Hurricane Season is HERE! Stay Prepared.

Preparing for hurricane season is a must in the Keys. When making plans on what you will do in the event of a natural disaster make sure you are not only including all your pets in your plan, but creating a plan exclusive for your pets.

Being prepared with food, medications and supplies for your pet as well as knowing where you can go that is pet friendly is essential for an evacuation, or environment should you choose to stay home. **NEVER leave without your pets during a hurricane.** For more details on how you and your pet can be ready go to our website by clicking the button below.

Hurricane Preparedness Checklist

Hurricane Fosters Needed!

Hurricane Season requires a very special foster need for all of our animals. Because our Marathon Campus is unsafe to house animals during a storm, we place all our animals into foster home whenever a hurricane threatens the Florida Keys. We also need to evacuate as many animals as possible to make room for those animals coming into our Key West facility.



When fostering an animal for a storm we ask that you keep the animal safe with you until the storm has passed. Should you decide to evacuate, you must be willing and able to evacuate with the foster animal and return the animal to the Florida Keys SPCA after the storm has passed. If you are interested in fostering an animal during a hurricane please contact our Marathon Campus at Tara@fkspca.org or our Key West Campus at Torie@fkspca.org.



The Vet's Corner: Heat Stroke in Pets

Monthly we will be bringing you a NEW column from our very own Dr. Whipple. She will be offering expert advice for our community pet owners.

Heat stroke is a life threatening condition when a pet's body temperature reaches an abnormally high level (usually > 104 degrees Fahrenheit). Unfortunately,



due to the very warm weather that we experience in our environment, heat stroke is a frequent problem

that we see and all pet parents should be aware of it. Some of the common symptoms of heat stroke in pets include excessive panting, drooling, very red gums, vomiting, pacing, weakness, and even seizures.

If you feel like your pet is suffering from heat stroke, wet their body with cool (not ice cold) water and seek veterinary care immediately. Heat stroke can cause organ damage, blood clotting issues, shock, and some pets do not survive. The chances of recovery for a pet with heat stroke depend on the duration of time that the pet was overheated, as well as how elevated the temperature became.

Heat stroke can be prevented by reducing the exposure of our pets to extremely hot temperatures. Never leave a pet in a car unattended and try to keep pets indoors during periods of extreme heat. Offer plenty of water and provide shade to animals that are outside. Stay safe this summer!

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Can't Adopt? Sponsor a Homeless Pet!

Our Sponsor-A-Pet program gives you a chance to help change the life of one of our pets in need. Your monthly \$25 donation a specific pet's needs, whether it's medical, an animal that has been with us for a very long time, like Ron pictured here, or a special needs animal. Each pet that is available for sponsorship can be found by clicking the button below.



Each sponsor will receive a welcome letter, a picture of their pet, a sponsorship certificate and updates on your sponsored pet. You can also give the gift of saving a life in honor of someone special. Pets like Ron, who have been with us the

entirety of his 5 year life, need a little extra love and you can be that support for them! Questions? Contact Jennifer@fkspca.org.

Sponsor a Pet Here!

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Thank YOU for a Great Key West Minster Dog Show!

We have so many amazing people to thank for making it all happen!

The incredible creative team at Sunset Pier who planned, executed and staged one of the most fun and successful events we've had! We are grateful for each and every staff member.

Our hosts Comedy Key West, our generous sponsors Tito's Handmade Vodka & Marino Construction Group, our superb photographer Nick Doll, our beats master DJ Sanaris, our wonderful judges Queen Marjory Lee, Dr. Brown and April & Andrew, and to all our volunteers, vendors, and supporters who make these events possible. Finally to the dogs and their humans who showed up in style and spirit to strut their stuff and support animals in need.

Presenting the Key West Minster 2025 Winners Circle:

Best Underbite – Penelope

Puppy Love (under 1 year) – Fin

Sweetest Senior (8+ years) – Finley Warner

Lowest Rider – Gigi

Floppiest Ears – Big Hoss

Most Likely to Steal a Fish – Zion

Best Butt Wiggle – Louis

Biggest Attitude – Archie

Best Dressed – Bronx

Most Unlikely to Get Lost in a Crowd – Sadie

Best Dog/Owner Look-Alike – Wilson

Terrific Trick – Ruby

Big and Beautiful – Princess Leia

Best Name – Jimmy Ruffit

Best Sausage Catcher – Koda

Coolest Key West Costume – Arnold

Comedy Key West Choice Award – Suny’s sister

People’s Choice Award – Marley

Good Dog Award – Pearl

We will see you there next year!



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!

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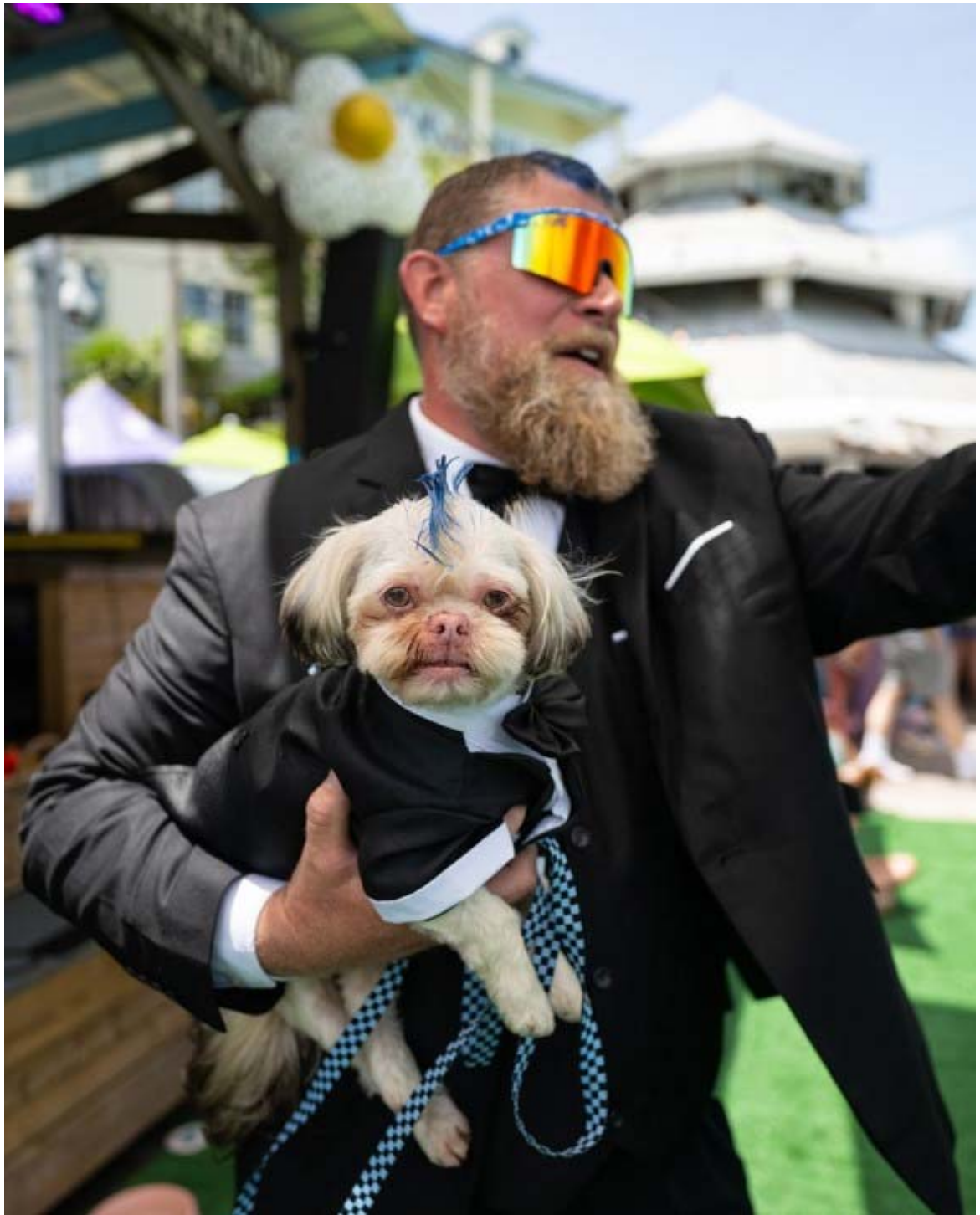
Do you need some feel-good moments in your life right now? Check out and Like our Facebook page or become one of our Instagram followers today! We are posting happy, silly and fun animal content daily just like below!



Connect with us
on Facebook!



Follow us on
Instagram!





Blippi Found His Family!

23 days shy of his one-year anniversary at our Marathon Campus, Blippi was finally adopted. We're so happy for Blippi and his new family. His new Dad is thrilled to have Blippi as his forever companion and we think they're just perfect together.
Way to go Blippi!

***** Did you adopt an animal from our Key West or Marathon campus and have an update for us? Let us know! We love hearing your success stories and updates on the animals who have come and gone at our shelter. You can email vanessa@fkspca.org to share your story. Please include photos as well!*****

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