



# Critter Chatter

A publication of Pender County Humane Society, a no-kill animal shelter.

[penderhumane.org](http://penderhumane.org) · 910.259.7022

## The Votes Are In!

Congratulations to 8th grader Emmalee Timaeus of Surf City Middle School for winning the Pender County Humane Society's T-Shirt Contest! Emmalee's design received the most likes, earning her:

- A free shirt featuring her artwork
- A commemorative plaque
- Well-deserved bragging rights!



## A Little Bit About Emmalee:

Emmalee has taken art in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade, including Advanced Art this year. Outside of school, she enjoys playing with her dog, attending youth group at church, working on her art projects, and spending time at the beach.

Emmalee's favorite medium is chalk pastels, and while she doesn't have a favorite artist, she admires Katsushika Hokusai (famous for *The Great Wave*) for his unique style. In 6th grade, Emmalee was selected as the Pender Spring Fest Artist for the 2023 T-shirt design. Now, as she wraps up her middle school art career, she's ending on a high note by winning the Pender Humane Society T-Shirt Contest—a perfect bookend to her artistic journey at Surf City Middle!

## What's Next?

The next step is getting the shirts printed, and we'll be sharing more information soon on how you can purchase a shirt to support PCHS and help save our furry friends. **Thank You to Everyone Who Voted and Supported This Amazing Event!**

## Help Our Long-Term Residents Aster and Piper Find Homes!

Aster is a lab mix who has been at the shelter for over a year. You may remember Aster and her two sisters, Autumn and Amber, who came into our shelter in 2023 when they were just three months old. Shortly after their arrival, they became critically ill, and we found out they had ingested rat poison before they came to us.



Thanks in part to our generous supporters, we were able to save them and pay off their huge vet bill. Autumn and Amber have found their forever homes, but poor Aster is still with us. She is good with kids and other dogs, is spayed, microchipped, and up to date on all shots. She is described as playful, goofy and high energy, but who wouldn't be after spending almost your entire life in a shelter!

Piper is a 5-year-old boxer mix who came to us when her owner passed away. As you can imagine, being at the shelter is very confusing and stressful for her since she had been in a home since she was a puppy. Piper lived in a home with a cat, and we recommend a slow introduction.



Piper would be great for someone looking for a couch companion. She is housetrained, up-to-date on her vaccines and heartworm negative - the only thing missing is you!

Both of these girls are more than ready to leave the shelter and we think they would blossom in a home of their own. Please email [penderhumane@yahoo.com](mailto:penderhumane@yahoo.com) for more information or call the shelter at 910.259.7022. Aster and Piper thank you for your support!



## *From the President's Desk*

By John Valente, *President*, Pender Humane Society Board of Directors

**I**t is with very mixed feelings that I let you know that I will be leaving Pender County Humane Society (PCHS) in the near future. I have been involved with PCHS since 2009, originally just assisting with getting volunteers for events, and being the emcee for the annual Fur Ball since 2009. I was elected Vice President in 2015, and then President in 2018. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve PCHS, and I will most certainly miss everyone.

Due to family matters, I will be moving sometime in late May or early June, and tender my resignation to the Board once I have a firm closing date on my home. I expect my last Board meeting to be May 13. At that time, Vice President Denise Gable will serve as Acting President until the Board elects a new President, or until the Annual meeting in August.

Because of people like those serving on the Board and the staff and volunteers at the Shelter and the FOFF Thrift Store, PCHS has solid leadership and excellent staff in place to carry on the work of saving our furry friends. I am deeply grateful for the opportunities afforded to me at PCHS. I will remember the people and my time here with great fondness.

Moving on can be a bit sad; changes are bittersweet. To improve the reputation of fundraising as a worthwhile profession, each of us has a responsibility to uphold the highest level of ethical standards as we carry on our work for PCHS. I hope to ensure that my exit is as smooth as my entrance. With that, I want to thank everyone who has made this experience so rich and rewarding. I believe I am leaving PCHS in good hands and sound financial shape. Please keep PCHS in your thoughts and please continue to donate to support our mission.

## **Memorial Plaque Dedicated to Bernie Zikos**

**P**ender County Humane Society members met on Feb. 22 to honor one of its past members, Bernard (Bernie) Zikos. A plaque honoring his memory was placed in the reception room of the PCHS Shelter.

Bernie was well known and loved not only by his fellow PCHS volunteers but also by many people in the Hampstead area where he lived.



Bernie joined PCHS as a volunteer many years ago when the PCHS shelter was located on Burnett Veterinary property. Throughout the years Bernie assumed many roles, including walking the dogs; carrying animals to Raleigh for spay/neuter clinics; helping at fundraising events such as the spaghetti dinners, and of course, cooking his famous "Bernie hotdogs" at many PCHS fundraisers. He served as Vice President of PCHS until his health forced him to give up these responsibilities.

Bernie was honored not only for his many PCHS activities but also for including the organization as a benefactor in his will. The donated funds will be used for Shelter renovations.



**W**ilmington resident Judy Budd decided to do something special for her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday party. She asked her guests to bring pet food donations to benefit PCHS's Pet Food Pantry. Pictured are some of the donations we received. Judy's guests also contributed cash donations. Happy birthday Judy and thank you!



## New Member Recruitment – We Need You!

**W**ant to make a difference in the lives of homeless and unwanted animals in Pender County? The Pender County Humane Society is looking for animal-loving people interested in volunteering with our organization in several capacities, including working on fundraising or social media, helping with administrative tasks, or volunteering at the Shelter itself. We need people who want to lead committees and work with the Board to keep our organization moving forward. We cannot survive without new members getting involved, and even a few hours a week or a month can make a huge difference! For more information, email Denise Gable at [gabledenise@verizon.net](mailto:gabledenise@verizon.net).

## Need Help Feeding Your Pets?

**P**ender County Humane Society's Pet Food Pantry **Can Help!** Our Pet Food Pantry has both dog and cat food available free of charge. Anyone in need of food will be asked to fill out a brief form and show proof of income or proof of government assistance. Forms are available at the Shelter located at 1407 NC-53 in Burgaw, or on our website at [www.penderhumane.org](http://www.penderhumane.org). The Shelter is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to noon. For more information, please call the shelter at 910.259.7022.

## Help Us by Donating Food to Our Pet Food Pantry

**W**e are always in need of donations for our Pet Food Pantry. Help us help those less fortunate in our community by donating any brand of wet or dry dog and cat food, cat litter and treats. Donations can be dropped at the Shelter, located at 1407 NC-53, Burgaw, between 9 a.m. and noon daily, or at Coral Cottages Boutique, 14061 NC-50 in Surf City. We thank you for your support!



**Rae Salling**, a resident of Scotts Hill, presented a check for \$1210 to PCHS from proceeds from a neighborhood wing contest held April 5 to benefit PCHS. Salling's neighborhood has held two fundraisers a year for the last five years to benefit various causes, including breast cancer support and families in need. Thank you to Salling and the Scotts Hill neighborhood for their generous support!

## Our Shelter Wish List

### Dogs:

- Pedigree puppy and dog food
- Purina One puppy food
- Dog and puppy collars
- Hard chew toys for adult dogs (please no rawhide)
- Poop bags

### Cats:

- Cat Chow Complete for adult cats
- Cat and kitten collars
- Cat scratching mats
- Non-clumping cat litter

## Calendar of Events

May Board Meeting .....	5/6
June Board Meeting .....	6/3
Blueberry Festival .....	6/21
July Board Meeting .....	7/1
Annual Board Meeting/Elections .....	8/5

**REMINDER:** Pender County Humane Society is a no-kill shelter. We are a 501(c)3 organization and are NOT affiliated with Pender County Animal Control or Pender County government, and we receive NO county, state or federal funds. We exist on proceeds from our For Our Furry Friends (FOFF) Thrift Store, also in Burgaw, as well as generous contributions from our corporate sponsors, and you, our supporters.





## Many Thanks to Our Corporate Sponsors



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**If you are mailing in your donation, please use the form below:**



My Tax-Deductible Donation to Pender Humane Society Shelter. Please cut and insert this form with your donation. Mail to: PO Box 626, Burgaw, NC 28425 Phone: 910-259-7022

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE PROVIDE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS. THIS WILL SAVE US A SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT OF TIME AND MONEY (I.E., STUFFING ENVELOPES, POSTAGE)

Total Tax Deductible Donation Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please allocate my donation as follows:

1. General Operating Account (Funds used at the discretion of PENDER HUMANE SOCIETY) \$ \_\_\_\_\_
2. Pet Pals Provider: RECURRING MONTHLY DONATION OF \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for five years, deducted from my checking account.

Routing Number \_\_\_\_\_

Re-enter Routing Number \_\_\_\_\_

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3. To donate online go to [www.penderhumane.org/donate.html](http://www.penderhumane.org/donate.html)

**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR FURRY FRIENDS!**

