

Happy Tails from The Lois Pope Pet Clinic

July 11, 2024



Dear Friends,

We all know the saying that July and August represent the “dog days” of summer. But I’m betting that very few of us – myself included – actually know why. Thank goodness for that wonderful little computer search engine called Google; a quick search revealed that when the constellation Sirius, the Dog Star, would appear in the sky just before the sun, near the end of July, it marked the beginning of the hottest days of the year. The Romans referred to this period as “dies caniculares” or “days of the dog star.” This was eventually shortened to just “dog days.”



The Lois Pope Pet Clinic at Tri-County Animal Rescue offers low-cost and often free health and medical care for pets from low-income underserved families.

I tell you this because I’ve been thinking a lot these days about dogs – my own brood and all the other canines across the country and around the world who give us their unconditional love every day.

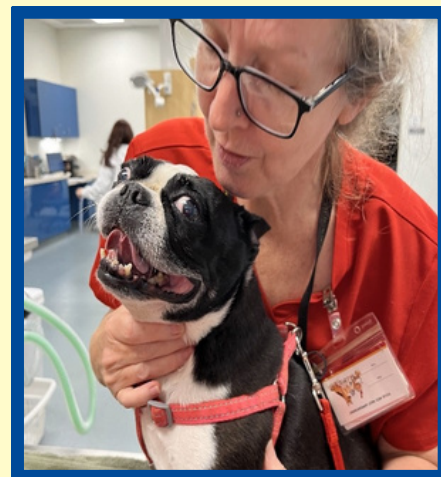
In return, we feed them, play with them, buy them what seems like truckloads of toys, walk them, snuggle with them – indeed, we give them our unconditional love right back!

So when they are sick or injured, we can’t do enough to help them heal and get better. What happens, however, to those dogs who are part of loving families but whose owners simply cannot afford to care for them due to unforeseen circumstances?

Several years ago, I endowed The Lois Pope Pet Clinic at Tri-County Animal Rescue. The clinic is the only veterinary center in the Palm Beach, Broward, and Miami-Dade region that offers low-cost and often free health and medical care for pets from low-income, underserved families.

Most of you know that Tri-County is led quite wonderfully and effectively by our dear friend and LIFE Board member, Suzi Goldsmith. I was speaking with her the other day and was pleased to learn that since the clinic opened in 2019, her dedicated and amazing team has:

- 🐾 Spayed and neutered over 11,000 animals and counting.
- 🐾 Examined more than 25,000 animals.
- 🐾 Completed over 18,000 successful surgeries.
- 🐾 Provided tons of pet food to feed animals from families who can't afford it.
- 🐾 Saved thousands of animals who might have died because their owners didn't have the money.



A beloved dog, Lily, recently faced a medical issue that her family was struggling to overcome. With the help of Tri-County, Lily is better than ever!

Here are some examples:

A beloved dog, Lily, recently faced a medical issue that her family was struggling to overcome. Her parents reached out to the clinic, desperate for help. They had been experiencing severe financial strain due to personal medical issues and loss of income. To their horror, a growing mass was discovered on Lily's mammary chain, raising concerns about cancer. Understanding the urgency of the situation, the clinic team acted swiftly – getting preoperative blood work and chest x-rays. Lily was cleared to proceed with surgery – which we performed successfully at ZERO cost to the owners.

Similarly, four-year-old Maximus was brought to the clinic by his distraught parents. They had discovered that their beloved pet had ingested numerous bathtub toys, a potentially life-threatening situation. Time was of the essence.

The financial burden of emergency surgery was overwhelming for Maximus's family. With tears in their eyes, they informed the veterinarian that they could not afford the procedure and had made the difficult decision to euthanize their dog. However, the clinic refused to give up on Maximus.

With the family's blessing, a team was quickly assembled to get the job done. The bathtub toys were carefully extracted from his stomach and esophagus, and his wounds were sutured closed.

Within a day, he was wagging his tail and eating again. And the family was overjoyed to see their beloved pet alive and well.

Maximus and Lily are but two pups The Lois Pope Pet Clinic has given a new “leash on life” – not just during the “dog days” of summer, but year-round.

So let's all “take paws” and think of how remarkable they are in taking a “gargantuan bite” out of the problem of having to euthanize dogs and other pets simply because their owners can't afford their care.

It's all about love – unconditional love.

And, of course, my love always,

Lois



Four-year-old Maximus was brought to the clinic by his distraught parents. Their beloved pet had ingested numerous bathtub toys, a potentially life-threatening situation. Tri-County's team quickly took Maximus into surgery and got the job done.

Next month's newsletter will showcase our entertainment for the 31st Annual Lady in Red Gala, which will take place on March 2, 2025, at The Breakers!

Reserve your tickets and tables early!



SAVE THE DATE

**LOIS POPE AND THE BOARD
OF LIFE PROUDLY PRESENT
LIFE'S 31ST ANNUAL**

LADY IN RED GALA

SUNDAY, MARCH 2, 2025

THE BREAKERS, PALM BEACH

Proceeds benefit hungry children through the
Lois' Food4Kids program
at the Palm Beach County Food Bank, Lois' Vision4Kids
with Bascom Palmer Eye Institute,
and disabled veterans through the
Pups4Patriots initiative at American Humane.

*For sponsorship, table, and ticket
information, please contact LIFE at*

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