

CRITTER CHATTER MAGAZINE



NEWS FROM THE
SPCA OF WAKE COUNTY

ISSUE 3 | SUMMER 2026

FULL SPEED AHEAD!

COMMUNITY CELEBRATES
MAJOR MILESTONE

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WHEN
EVERY
MOMENT
COUNTS

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THE FIRST LIVES SAVED

INSIDE THE NEW
RESOURCE CENTER

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PICTURED HERE:

Scooter has a summer
blast in the play yards
of the newly opened
Pet Resource Center!

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CRITTER CHATTER MAGAZINE

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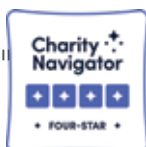


ABOUT US: Founded in Raleigh in 1967, SPCA Wake is an independent, 501(c)(3) animal welfare organization. Funded by charitable support,

we provide vital community programs that pick up where local government agencies leave off. We work in 59 NC counties through collaborative partnerships that save pets and help people.

We are not affiliated with the ASPCA and we do not receive tax dollars or government funds. We are supported by caring donors like YOU.

SPCA Wake holds a 4-star rating (highest rating possible) from Charity Navigator – the nonprofit sector's premier trust indicator.



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Susan Ward cuts the ceremonial ribbon, marking the opening of the Peggy Garner Britt Pet Resource Center.

IT'S GO TIME!

Dear Friends,

With a commitment to creating a brighter future for homeless pets, a belief in the strength of the human/animal bond, and the generous support of an entire community, SPCA Wake celebrated the opening of a state-of-the-art Pet Resource Center in April 2026.

At the heart of the Susan and Randall Ward Regional Campus for Pets and People, the Peggy Garner Britt Resource Center was specifically designed to increase our capacity to provide lifesaving medical care, significantly expand spay/neuter services, and offer critical resources to keep pets in homes and out of area shelters.

Surrounded by an enthusiastic crowd of fellow supporters, community leaders, SPCA staff, volunteers, and four-legged celebrants, Susan Ward cut the ceremonial ribbon as humans and pets alike erupted in cheers, applause, and wagging tails. "This is a great day", shared Ward. "This place - what it's done, and what it's going to do - is almost unbelievable."

Already, the new Pet Resource Center is expanding our programs and lifesaving capacity, better equipping SPCA Wake to meet the growing needs of pets and families both in the Triangle region and across North Carolina.



President & CEO Kim Janzen shares how the Pet Resource Center will save lives for years to come.



Community leaders joined pets and supporters to celebrate a brighter future for animals in NC.



Local media brought the news of this exciting day to animal lovers throughout our community.

Since moving into the new facility, we have:

- Provided low-cost spay/neuter surgeries to 2,118 pets and 997 families.
- Provided medical care and support to 870 pets with medical conditions.
- Taken in 1,443 pets into our care.

As lifesaving work ramps up inside the Resource Center (see pages 4–5), our vision for the Regional Campus continues to take shape around us. We are profoundly grateful for every donor, partner, and advocate who has brought us to this extraordinary moment and whose support continues to make this work possible.

But make no mistake, this incredible new Resource Center is not the finish line; it is just the beginning. This new facility has given us the space to save more lives and also the imperative that we must do more. Now comes the work of expanding lifesaving medical care, increasing access to spay/neuter services, and reaching more animals and families who need us.

At a time when more than 40,000 dogs and cats are still losing their lives in North Carolina shelters each year, the imperative to do more could not be greater. This is the moment to turn the tide: to prevent animals from entering shelters in the first place, to ensure that treatable medical conditions are never a barrier to a second chance, and to dramatically expand access to spay/neuter services across our region.

We have built the place. We have created the capacity. And now, with your continued commitment and the participation of this extraordinary community, we have the opportunity and the responsibility to put it to work, saving more lives than ever before.

With gratitude,

Kim Janzen
President & CEO

THE DOORS ARE OPEN FOR MORE LIFESAVING

Since opening the Peggy Garner Britt Resource Center in April 2026, we've been putting every new space, tool, and capability to work – helping more pets, supporting more families, and saving more lives.



SPCA Wake veterinarian Dr. Dallas cuddles a puppy having his first vet experience at our most recent Wellness Clinic.

More Room for More Families

The new Pet Resource Center gives us more room to help out the community – including our low-cost Wellness Clinics! Since opening the Resource Center this spring, **we've already hosted two of five Wellness Clinics planned for the year**, so far providing essential vaccines and microchips for 713 pets and their families.

The new facilities offer a larger, climate-controlled indoor space and more comfortable surroundings, so we can host even more clinics throughout the year – even in the heat of summer or the cold of winter. These highly-sought-after clinics will mean more families can keep their pets healthy, protected, and by their side.

In-House Care = Rapid Response

When Dr. Who first arrived at SPCA Wake, he wobbled from the weight of what felt like a bowling ball in his stomach. The cause was a complete mystery. Did he have a massive tumor, or was he suffering from bloat, which can turn fatal? Fortunately, the new Resource Center is outfitted with the technology to quickly find out.

Our medical team rolled the ultrasound machine to his side and immediately identified the issue: Dr. Who's stomach was dangerously packed with compacted food – and he urgently needed fluids, medicine, and hospitalization. **Because of your support, this hidden emergency was uncovered in minutes**, allowing our team to rapidly intervene and save Dr. Who's life.



New ultrasound capabilities helped reveal Dr. Who's hidden emergency in minutes, allowing for rapid intervention when time was of the essence.



Doubling our capacity for low-cost spay/neuter will prevent tens of thousands of puppies and kittens from ever experiencing homelessness.

Doubling Down on Spay/Neuter

For years, affordable spay and neuter surgery has been one of our most sought-after services, with appointments filling almost as quickly as they become available. It's also one of our greatest opportunities to prevent pet overpopulation before it starts by reducing unwanted litters and keeping more pets in loving homes.

Now, the new Veterinary Medical Center is helping us meet that overwhelming demand. With four surgery tables and two surgical teams working side by side, **we're doubling our annual spay and neuter capacity from about 5,000 to about 10,000 procedures each year** – making this essential service available to thousands more pets and the families who love them.

An Even Warmer Welcome

When homeless pets first arrive at SPCA Wake, they're often (understandably) scared, confused, or uncertain about their new surroundings. **But thanks to you, we're now able to offer a gentler first impression than ever before.**

Our new Transfer Garage offers a secure, climate-controlled space for pets first stepping off our transport vehicles – eliminating any risk of escape and minimizing the stress of entering into unfamiliar surroundings.

From there, each pet is greeted by our Intake Team in one of the new Intake Exam Rooms – private spaces much like those at your own veterinarian's office. Here, pets receive their initial medical exams and vaccines in a quiet, comfortable environment. These rooms were also designed to make cleaning between patients faster and more effective, helping reduce the spread of any contagious illnesses they may unknowingly carry.

Every detail of these new intake spaces was **created with one goal in mind: giving every pet the safest, calmest possible start to their journey at SPCA Wake.** For many pets, it's the first moment they've felt truly safe in a long time. Thanks to your support, the first steps each pet takes at SPCA Wake will help them feel in their bones that their future is about to get much brighter.

Since opening, over a thousand pets have already begun their SPCA Wake journey in these new spaces designed to make every pet feel safe and comfortable.



7-week-old Chikpea is calm for his first lice treatment in this comfortable, bio-secure exam room upon first arriving at SPCA Wake.

YOUR SUPPORT IN ACTION

SADIE, UNCAGED



Sadie warms up in the sun after a medicated bath to wash away a major flea infestation and soothe her painful skin inflammation.

For eight days, Sadie, a two-year-old deaf boxer, was locked in a crate next to her owner, who had suddenly passed away. **For the first time, she was alone in the world.** And for those eight days, everything was still and silent.

When Sadie and her owner were finally found, Sadie was starving and desperately thirsty. Her world had turned upside-down, and she'd lost a dangerous amount of weight.

Family members took Sadie for the time being, but with six kids and two dogs of their own, space was scarce – so Sadie was kept in an outdoor pen behind their small trailer.

When we got the call about Sadie, a major storm was approaching. Sadie needed somewhere safe to go, and fast – or else she'd be stuck outside to weather the storm from the dangerous confines of her pen.

Thanks to your generous support, Sadie was welcomed with open arms to SPCA Wake.

Sadie seemed to sense that things were starting to turn around. As we poked and prodded, examining her sores, inflamed skin, and emaciated state, Sadie just leaned into us, looking up into our eyes.

It took two months for Sadie to gain enough weight to safely be spayed. In those two months, we watched this quiet, cautious dog bloom into a playful, bouncy pup, ready to take on a new future – whatever it may hold.

Because of you, Sadie got the lifeline that she needed. As her body recovered, so did her spirit. And before long, Sadie was walking out the door with her new mom.

We ask a question of every new adopter: "What is most important to you about your new pet?" **Sadie's mom wrote, "that they are happy and loved."** Thank you for giving Sadie the ultimate gift: a future where she will always be happy and loved.



Thanks to you, Sadie is enjoying this fresh start with her belly up and tail wagging!

THE SUN CAME OUT FOR CLOUD

How you helped Cloud weather his storm

Like people, cats can have diabetes – and like us, it can lead to life-threatening complications like diabetic ketoacidosis (DKA). This was the case for Cloud, a 4-year-old Balinese cat, when we received an urgent plea to take him in. **Cloud was crashing fast and needed emergency hospitalization to save his life.**

Our team rushed into action as Cloud came through our doors. His condition was rapidly escalating, and time was of the essence. Fortunately, your support meant the resources were at the ready to get Cloud straight into emergency care.

We held our breath as Cloud's diagnoses piled up: dehydration, severe pancreatitis, DKA. But you were there to make sure Cloud got a fighting chance.

For several days, things were touch and go. But with comprehensive treatment and round-the-clock monitoring, Cloud began to stabilize. When he started meowing for affection, we knew he'd turned a corner.

Because of you, Cloud's story didn't end in crisis. Instead, he found a new beginning.

Cloud was adopted into a home well-versed in caring for cats with diabetes – and with other rescue cats to cuddle and keep him company. "Cloud asks for so little and gives so much back," his adopter told us. "Having a bad day? Cloud to the rescue. Stressful day of meetings? Cloud lays in my lap. It's a perfect fit."

Thank you for giving Cloud the chance to spend the rest of his life exactly where he belongs: safe, loved, and in someone's lap.



Your generosity helped this majestic 4-year-old Balinese survive his life-threatening medical emergency.

The donations and volunteers who helped care for Cloud gave him a future that is bright. He will have a long and wonderful life.

– Cloud's adopter



Cloud's favorite activity in his new home is blocking his mom's keyboard so she can't work. She calls him her Microsoft CoPilot.

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Scan the QR code above, visit spcawake.org/monthlygiving, or call Gwyn, Director of Development, at 919-532-2082.

ALREADY A MONTHLY DONOR?

If we haven't already reached out, contact Gwyn at 919-532-2082 or glong@spcawake.org to redeem your thank you gift!

*Every day, pets arrive at
our door needing urgent help.*

And when they do, we absolutely must have the resources already in place to be able to save them.

As a Monthly Donor, YOU help make rescues happen every month. This is a **special group of the SPCA's most passionate supporters** who make it possible to plan for rescue efforts today and in the future by signing up to make automatic monthly gifts.

Please join this lifesaving group of animal lovers like you!