

A quarterly newsletter for Volunteers, Friends & Supporters of The Oasis Animal Sanctuary, Inc.

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RUN FORREST RUN!

Our latest surrender had quite an exciting introduction to the farm where Oasis boards its horses. Hungry and scared, a young pot-bellied pig wandered out of the woods behind the horse fields. Apparently he was one of the animals a local farm "released" because of SPCA issues, and he was missing his former equine buddy. The little pig saw the horses, and not knowing they are natural enemies out in the wild, proceeded to go into the field to befriend our Belgian draft horse Pius. Foster Mom Denise said she never saw Pius move so fast before – but he was moving toward the pig, valiantly to protect his herd. The ominous look in Pius's eyes told Denise that she had to get the little animal out of the horse pasture before he was stomped to death. Screaming "Run Forrest run!" (just like Jenny in "Forrest Gump") she hurled a bucketful of water in front of Pius which stopped him long enough for the little guy to dart away. Unfortunately he ran into another field of horses! Before Denise could get to him, one of the mares stuck her nose underneath his belly and flipped him into the air. Landing with a thud, the little pig just laid there, exhausted, bewildered and bleeding. Denise ran over and got him away from the horses. She carried him onto the porch of her home, cared for his wounds, and called Pam at Oasis.



Forrest as he first appeared at the farm

Altho Forrest is a little more leery of equines since his first day at the farm, he is doing well. He has put some weight on and was neutered. He is a friendly little fellow with a pleasant curiosity and he adores apples and carrots. He would so like to be somebody's best friend, and is ready for his new forever home.



Forrest gets a carrot treat from volunteer Jill Galka

GINGER UPDATE:



Ginger continues to recover



Thanks to so many of our supporters for the special donations to help with Ginger's care.

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She has improved but still has some discomfort in her front foot. Supplements and special trimming by the blacksmith keep her as comfortable as possible. Her pain level is monitored daily. Her winter coat is coming in thick and shiny, a beautiful liver-chestnut color. Ginger has her own stall at night, and curls up in a thick soft bed of wood shavings generously donated by Mr. Stephen Procida, who owns "Capture the Southwest", a hand-crafted wood furniture store and art gallery at 2740 Rte. 42 North, Sicklerville, NJ. She enjoys her special feed which has been kindly donated by Mr. & Mrs. Patrick O'Donnell of North Cape May, NJ. Ginger is in good spirits and she appreciates her care.

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THE STERILIZATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM REPORT 2010:

As with 2009, in the first half of 2010 Oasis felt the chilling effects of the economic downturn, with both a decrease in revenue and an increase of animals in need. Our Sterilization Assistance Program had a significant reduction in grant income because the Foundations were negatively impacted by the economy. Since this is the main source of revenue for the Program, the Board members temporarily suspended the Program for two months early in the year, giving the Company some time to raise funds with a Spring Money Raffle and other events. When the Program re-opened, the co-pays were temporarily increased to help offset the increased vet fees. We are pleased to report now that the grant funding for 2011 appears to be in a much better position, and have reduced the co-payments for cats to \$20 for a male neuter and \$35 for a female spay. Applications for the Program can be obtained from our website www.oasis-animalsanctuary.org or by calling the office at 856-262-1222.

PIUS UPDATE:

For those of you who do not know Pius's story, here it is, straight from the horse's mouth!

"A long time ago I was a work horse on a farm around Lancaster PA. I had a very hard life – I even suffered a broken hip that was never set. After about 20 years, when I was no longer able to work my owners sold me and I was bought by the 'Killers'. I didn't know who they were, but someone didn't want me to go with them so just before I headed up a truck ramp someone called a woman who bought me. I went to live with her but I came with some health issues: my feet were cracked, overgrown and sore. I had skin infections all over. I suffered a trauma to my jaw earlier in my life resulting in some bad teeth and I could not eat very well. I wouldn't let anyone near my face! I was sad, thin and weak; I hurt all over, and was scared of everyone too. The nice lady worked with me to overcome my fears. Then she called Oasis and surrendered me to them. They got me medical attention, had some dental work done by an equine dentist, and got



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a blacksmith to trim my feet. That was really scary because I was afraid he would hurt my sore hip. But now I know he won't hurt me, and I am surrounded by gentle people who love me, and some other friendly horses taken in by Oasis. And I can finally EAT! Because of my age and condition, the people at Oasis said I could stay with them forever and that's exactly what I want to do. Your donations help pay for my care. Thank you from the bottom of my heart! Love, Pius"



Phyllis Van De Weghe and Pius

That article appeared in the Fall 2009 newsletter and a number of people responded, providing the funds for this gentle giant's extra care.

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He has done well. In 2010 Pius enjoyed the summer hanging out with his herd in the serenity of the farm where he lives – except of course for the day that Forrest the pig showed up. But he is starting to have some trouble with his teeth again, where he can't chew his hay properly and the food drops out of his mouth. In equine terms this is called "quidding", and it could very well be just a result of old age. By the time you read this the equine dentist will have evaluated him, and if this is due to the natural progression of aging, he will be given rations of hay cubes instead of regular hay, which is simply hay that has been finely cut and dried into tight cubes. They will be soaked in warm water to make them easy to eat, like a hay "mash". Hay cubes are more expensive than regular baled hay; therefore we are hoping readers will respond to our annual Pledge Program to again offset Pius's care. As a sponsor for Pius, you will receive quarterly updates on him throughout the year. Thank you for consideration of this request.

Yes, I would like to sponsor Pius for 2011!

Please send me quarterly updates on his progress.

Name _____

Address: _____

City/st/zip _____

Phone# _____

Please charge my Visa / MasterCard (circle one) \$_____ per month for his care.

Card# _____ Exp Date: _____

Signature of card holder: _____

OR, I will send a check for \$ _____ every month for his care.

Please cut out and mail to The Oasis Animal Sanctuary
P.O. Box 3 Williamstown, NJ 08094

ADORABLE ADOPTABLES

Adoption is the best option!

Please note that we are running a "Twofer" special – adopt two animals for the price of one, through December 31.

All Oasis adoptable animals are sterilized, up-to-date on age appropriate shots, and are socialized. While you can see all of our adoptable pets on Petfinder.com, here are some to choose from:

Samson and **Romeo** are two adult cats that need to be adopted out together. They are both neutered, up to date on shots, and very well behaved. They lost their beloved family because one of the caregivers became seriously ill.



Samson



Romeo

They are both super friendly and like other cats and some dogs. Romeo loves to be petted and rubs his head on everything. He's not big on getting his hair brushed, but he will allow it for a short time. He is a huge fan of treats. Romeo is a little more playful than Samson, although they are both relatively sedentary. Neither cat particularly likes being held, but they will both sit with you. Samson absolutely LOVES to have his hair brushed. This "pair of bookends" love the sun. They are perfectly happy as long as they have a window to sit in or a screened porch to explore. They are just great cats!

Lil Girlfriend is a little silver and white former stray who should be called Lil Miss Personality! She is quite the character. She survived outside in the very harsh NJ weather this past winter as a kitten herself, and by spring-time she had a litter of her own. Terribly thin and starving, she found a home that would feed her. Soon she allowed her caregivers to touch, pet and groom her. Her kittens were trapped by another local shelter, and Lil Girlfriend was taken in by Oasis. Lil is OK with other cats, and dogs. She has an adorable personality; quite friendly, outgoing and talkative. She is spayed, up to date on shots, de-wormed, and ready to go home!



Lil Girlfriend

Othello and his 3 sisters were born on 2/26/10 to a stray mama. A nice family kept the mother after the kittens were weaned, having her spayed so she could reproduce no more. The kittens have all been socialized with other cats and dogs, up to date on shots, and have been sterilized. These animals are very well behaved and just beautiful. Othello's name is Italian for "prosperous"; **Odessa's** name is Greek for "long journey"; **Oksana's** name is Slavic for "Praise be to God"; and **Olivia's** name is English for "elf army".



Othello



Odessa



Oksana



Olivia

Anya is a beautiful calico kitten who was born on 4/10/10 to a feral mom. She has been socialized with other cats and dogs. In fact she is very affectionate with one of Foster Mom's dogs, rubbing and purring the canine while the dog just sits and enjoys it! Anya's name is Russian for "gracious and merciful". She is up to date on shots, spayed, and ready for her forever home.



Anya

(adoptables continued on next page)

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and input the zip code
"08081" to see all of our
adoptables.

ADORABLE ADOPTABLES

(continued from previous page)

Carmelo and his sister **Laurel** came from a south Jersey prison, even though they are innocent! They are both about 5 months old, sterilized, up to date on shots and being fostered in a home with other cats, a dog, and children. Carmelo, a buff tabby, is just so full of personality and charm. He is friendly, outgoing, will walk on a leash, and likes to cuddle. He is playful, bold and silly. Laurel, a gorgeous torti, was just a little more shy than her brother, but has warmed up nicely and will make a great pet. They can be adopted separately.



Carmelo

WISH LIST

- Large muck buckets for horse care
- Non-clumping cat litter
- Gift certificates to any ShopRite, WaWa or Staples stores
- Postage Stamps
- MannaPro horse feed
- Gift certificates to Horse N' Around Tack Shop in Sewell, NJ 856-227-6080

NUMBERS... NUMBERS... NUMBERS...

Surrenders: 31 in 2010 so far (5 foster homes!) - 419 since 2002

Adoptions: 19 in 2010 so far

Sterilization Assistance Program: 300 in 2010 through November 5, 2010
4,125 since inception of Program (2001)

Hundreds of thousands of future unwanted animals were humanely prevented by spaying and neutering! The following numbers were taken from the website of the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services. This is part of their "Stray Animal Intake and Disposition Survey – Dogs & Cats, 1984 - 2008", conducted through the Infectious and Zoonotic Disease Program. While the numbers are still staggering, it reflects an overall trend of decreasing animal deaths in NJ shelters:

Year	Impounded	Adopted	Euthanized
1984	161,146	31,311	82,566
1994	118,894	40,337	51,607
2004	114,942	38,111	49,975
2005	105,355	39,501	40,706
2006	100,858	37,119	41,254
2007	100,734	38,090	38,742
2008	100,529	37,517	37,673



Laurel

WITH GRATITUDE AND APPRECIATION TO:

- Petco Foundation for their \$4,000 grant to the Sterilization Assistance Program
- Katie's Fund of the Philadelphia Foundation for their donation of \$500 to our general operating account
- The M. Edward Morris Foundation for their \$4,633 grant to the Sterilization Assistance Program
- The family and friends of the late Mr. Al Nardi, who made donations to Oasis in his memory
- The family and friends of the late Mr. Tyrone Vescove, who made donations to Oasis in his memory.
- Barcelona's European Bistro in Pitman, NJ for hosting a fundraising dinner for Oasis.
- Ginger's sponsors, especially Capture The Southwest (2740 Rt 42N, Sicklerville, NJ) and Mr. & Mrs. Pat O'Donnell in North Cape May, NJ

The Oasis Board members would like to also recognize the Estate of the late Dr. Harriet Doolittle, which has provided Oasis with the wherewithal to move forward with our property search. Thank you, dear Harriet.

WAIT... HELP STOP!

Do you really want to help the animals, at **NO** cost to you?!

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