



# Animal Tracks

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## NEWSLETTER

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

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### ARE YOU AWARE?!

**On June 22, 2017, NJ passed Resolution #237, which urges animal shelters and pounds in NJ to adopt "no-kill" policies by no later than 2025.** The bill's primary sponsors are Tim Eustace, Valerie Vainieri-Huttle, Parker Space, Reed Gusciora, and Daniel Benson; co-sponsors are John McKeon and Kevin Rooney. The votes were: 74-Yes, 0- No, 1-Abstain. For the complete Bill and a list of how your Assembly Person voted, please see our website. Alternatively you can research Bill AR237 on the NJ Legislature website.

We at Oasis are very excited about this wonderful turn of events for our homeless and abused NJ animals.

*Interesting tidbit – The Bill recognizes Best Friends Animal Society as a model and source of information. That is EXACTLY where the Co-founders got their inspiration for Oasis 16 years ago!*

### WELCOME!

**We have many new faces at the farm!**

#### The Villa Manor Litter

The first litter was dumped in a box and placed in front of the banquet facility the night before our scheduled Sweet 16 Party. Thankfully one of the facility employees went out the front door and stumbled upon a box of four very tiny kittens – probably three weeks old! Much too soon to be taken away from their mother, these little ones were "bottle feeders". The woman tried her best to care for them until we showed up at the facility for our evening's event. The babies were taken in by a volunteer. One little female needed an emergency trip to the vet, but the health scare has cleared up. They are now weaned and although all are smaller than usual, they are in good health. There are three females - Keno (the mackerel tabby in the front of the picture), Sandy and Sunnie; and one male – Hank. They are up for adoption.

#### The Z Litter

The second litter was found by a volunteer befriending a starving cat who was searching for food in a dumpster. Very small and emaciated, it was obvious that she was a lactating female. The volunteer brought the cat home and fed her, then returned her to the dumpster thinking the animal would go to her babies. She did, and the volunteer followed. Scooping up the tiny starving babies and Mom, the volunteer brought the family into her home and cared for all of them. Once the kittens were weaned a few weeks later, Oasis took them in (Mom found a home with the volunteer). Out of the 4 babies, only 1 is still awaiting adoption – a little guy named Zeke. He is a happy and playful little boy & ready to go home.



**Zeke**



**The Villa Manor Litter**

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**WAIT... HELP STOP!**

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

**Call TD Bank at 856.728.1700 NOW**

Just sign up for their **Affinity Program**, select **Oasis Animal Sanctuary** as your charity of choice. The more people that sign up, the greater TD Bank's donation will be to Oasis. **CALL NOW!!**

***It is with heavy hearts that Oasis acknowledges three more of our senior permanent residents who have passed on in recent months. It has been a painful time for all of us involved with these wonderful creatures. We are thankful for their wisdom, friendship and most importantly the life lessons they offer.***

**Omid**

At almost 30 years old, Omid -also known as "Meedy" and "Beautiful Shy Girl" - was a delicate looking lovely gray Arabian mare. Originally from Florida, she was rescued many years ago by a kind woman who found both Omid and a herd-mate tied up in a forgotten barn. Near death, the two had collapsed from starvation and were nearly hanged by their chains. After they were rescued and returned to health, they were transported to an Arabian horse farm in New Jersey where they were adopted by a very compassionate woman.

Oasis eventually took her into our care in 2014, although we have known her for about 10 years. We observed how her herd-mates prevented her from eating at the round bales of hay at another farm. Oasis offered to take her in and help her, pairing her up with her friend Dixie and a new friend Magic. She was so happy to be with herd-mates that did not mistreat her. Once the Oasis farm was purchased, she and Dixie were moved to the facility where they enjoyed their continued friendship.

In 2016 she was diagnosed with cancer. She was treated for it but she never fully recovered. Her loss was tragic, but she will always be in our hearts - her sweet face, BIG dark eyes and soft gray muzzle.

**We also want to thank everyone who helped support Omid's cancer treatments.**



**Omid**

***"When the heart weeps for what is lost, the Spirit laughs for what it has found."***

*- Sufi proverb*

**Captain**

The most disabled equine at Oasis, Captain was as strong-willed as he was kind. Many years ago the little Arabian gelding had a serious injury that left his right hip dislocated, and the farm from where he was surrendered provided very little basic care. He was emaciated and had a severely infected eye. He was forced to live in solitude - a tiny paddock away from even the scent of another equine. Alone, in pain and always hungry, his spirit was nearly broken. He came to Oasis as "Lexus" in late October 2015, and simply blossomed from that day. We renamed him Captain to fully put his past behind him and give him a new identity.

Captain had the heart of a lion. He ended up blind in that infected eye and was crippled in one hip. He could run only on 3 legs, and was, at times, unsteady on his feet. Due to his unsteadiness he, during this past winter, would fall down and need help getting up. Each time he was talkative and interactive with his caregivers, almost encouraging us to keep trying to help him. Once back up, he would trumpet to the other horses that all was OK again. Except for the last time. . .

In early June he went down again. This time he was "different" as there was no interaction with his caregivers. It appeared he had suffered a serious stroke. Captain never got up again.

**Oasis is very thankful to all who supported Captain with his Chinese herbs.**



**Captain**

**Sebastian**

Our permanent resident Sebastian, was a beautiful male flame point Himalayan cat. Born in 2000, he lived with his caregivers until Mom passed away in 2008. He was surrendered to Oasis because a new family member was allergic to him. Sebastian was placed in foster care. He was both adopted and returned in 2009. Supposedly neutered by his first caregiver, it became apparent that the poor animal had 2 retained testicles; he acted like an intact male around female cats! He was subsequently neutered and adopted again in 2010. He stayed in this new home until his caregiver passed away in late 2011. Sebastian was surrendered again to Oasis in early 2012, and was a bit shy when he was placed into a new foster home. However, he quickly settled in with his new family; he was loved dearly by them and was accepted by the other cats. Because of his age and history, Oasis decided to keep him as a permanent resident so he would no longer be bounced around. Sebastian was humanely euthanized recently due to irreparable health complications caused by advanced age. He will be greatly missed.



**Sebastian**

***Do not mourn my passing,  
for if you could only see,  
By slipping all my earthly bonds,  
I'm young again and free.***

***By day I run the Heavenly fields,  
my body well and strong,***

***At night I sleep at Angel's  
feet, lulled by celestial song.***

***So do not mourn my passing,  
just close your eyes, you'll see***

***I'm once again that gallant horse,  
as you remember me.***

*- Author Unknown*

## UPDATE ON THE CAT COTTAGE

In prior newsletters, we have reported that we had hoped the cat cottage would be open by late spring / early summer. Regrettably we have had to push the date back.

Last August we hired an architect to draw up the plans for the building and presented them to the township and County for approvals and permits. The unexpected and by far most costly set back is the sanitation system attached to the building. The Law for animal shelters is that the system must be able to handle 10 gallons of water per cat per day. With 15 cats in the cottage, the small system is not rated to handle that kind of volume. It was suggested that Oasis either install a brand new septic tank, or connect the building to the new system that was installed for the main farmhouse, a short distance away. Aside from the additional cost and time for either of these two options, another main concern is that there are a number of very old trees, and one ancient and rare Mulberry tree in close proximity of the cat cottage. It is a very distinct possibility that they will be destroyed by the digging. Indeed, when the farmhouse's original cesspool was replaced with a new septic system at the time we purchased the farm, a huge oak tree near the construction site died and a large pine tree nearby is in the process of dying. Removal of any dead trees will be an added, significant cost to the sanctuary.

The good news is that the permits for other work (electrical, plumbing, roofing) have recently been approved and we are in the process of selecting a contractor for those jobs.

We are working to overcome these obstacles, and will keep you abreast of the developments.

## THANK YOU, TD BANK!

TD Bank has a corporate giving program called the "Affinity Program". The Bank donates money to charities based on their customers' choice; donations come from the Bank's annual earnings, not from the customers' accounts. This past June, Oasis received a donation of over \$2,300! We are very grateful for this funding, especially with having the significantly increased costs for our equine residents.

If you bank at TD Bank, please participate in their Affinity Program. Simply call the Bank and ask to be a part of their program, and indicate your selection of The Oasis Animal Sanctuary as the beneficiary. The Bank reviews the balances in your account every month and at the end of the year averages them out. They will base their donation from THEIR corporate account on the average balances of all those who have joined the program and selected Oasis. TD Bank has been very generous to us over the years with this Program and we hope to continue to be a part of it. Please call the Williamstown NJ office at 856-728-1700 and ask for the Manager to sign up. It costs you nothing and the animals at Oasis get a great benefit.

Please note that no one at Oasis will ever know who participates in this Program.

Thanks again to TD Bank, and thank you to all those who have selected Oasis as their charity of choice!

*"As we express our gratitude,  
we must never forget that the  
highest appreciation is not to  
utter words, but to live by them."  
- John F. Kennedy*



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## WISH LIST

- Gutters for our barn & installation of same (call for details)
- Installation of an electric hot water heater
- Purina brand dry & wet cat food
- Purina kitten chow
- Clean, orchard grass hay bales
- Horse de-wormer tubes – Strongid, Ivermectin
- Pine and cedar shavings for horse bedding
- Dumoor's timothy/alfalfa chopped hay (Tractor Supply brand)
- Gasoline gift cards
- Wal-Mart gift cards
- Office supplies: Envelopes - #10 and #6-3/4, postage stamps
- Bathroom supplies & laundry detergent (safe for septic systems & environment, cruelty free please)

## OASIS TURNED SWEET 16!

On June 19th, Oasis officially turned 16 years old. Our annual birthday bash on June 1st (a/k/a "The Animal Lover's Annual Dinner & Silent Auction") was a huge success! About 115 people attended the event and enjoyed the food, music, auctions, Bingo, farmer's market and general camaraderie. Our generous donors provided unique and valuable items on which the attendees bid; there were many giveaways and this year's table centerpieces (donated by Triple Oaks Nursery) were stunning. Plus we had the unexpected attraction of 4 tiny kittens that were dumped at the facility the evening before.

Oasis smashed through its goal of raising \$10,000 by almost \$2,000! This was a great help in paying for the vet care, feed and supplies needed by all of our animals.

## SAVE THE DATE

Our Open House  
& Craft Fair  
will be held on  
Sunday,  
October 22nd, from  
11AM until 4PM.

Come meet the animals and enjoy a delightful day at the farm! Plus, our generous crafters and vendors donate a portion of their sales to Oasis, so you can do some Holiday shopping in a pleasant setting and help the Oasis animals! More information will be available on our website soon.

# WE WANT TO GO HOME!

In addition to the new animals written about on page 1, these animals below are also (still) up for adoption. Please know that if you adopt a pair the adoption rate is discounted by 20%. All of our animals are sterilized, up to date on their vaccines, vetted, and socialized.

These wonderful pets are waiting for that very special person to come whisk them away to their new forever home where they will feel loved and safe. In return they promise to love you unconditionally. Could that very special person be YOU?

### Morgan (M) & Bailey (M)



Morgan & Bailey - These two beautiful orange tabby males are waiting for their new person to love them. They need a quiet home.

### Miss Kitty (F)



### Sassy (F)



Miss Kitty and Sassy can be adopted together or separately. They are both exceptionally sweet and ready to go home!

Daisy & JaiJai (Right) - We are looking for a new home for this sweet pair. Daisy and JaiJai are both females, about a year old, and very cuddly.

### Hugo (Gelding)



Hugo - A magnificent animal; BIG, graceful and sweet. Hugo has a fused fetlock and cannot be ridden. He will however, make a good pasture pal for another horse.

### Buttons (M)



This little cutie-pie was adopted out from Oasis as a youngster but when the family expanded, Buttons had to leave because of allergies. He was in a foster home but due to hospitalization of his foster mom Buttons came back to the Oasis facility. Buttons is hoping for a quiet home where he can spend the rest of his life enjoying the lap of an adoring caregiver. And oh - that little button nose is just too cute!

### Willow (F)



Willow - This gorgeous, FRIENDLY female cat is just waiting for your lap!

### Daisy (F) & Jai Jai (F)



### Cody (M)



In June, Oasis took in another senior horse, a small quarter horse named Cody. Cute as a button and sweet as can be, he was growing very thin and needed medical care his owners could no longer afford. While he could potentially be adopted out as a "pasture pal" for another horse, he most likely will be a permanent resident at Oasis. He has already settled in quite comfortably, totally enjoying all the loving attention he gets from the staff and volunteers.

## Please Help the Animals!

Send your tax deductible donation to:

The Oasis Animal Sanctuary, Inc.  
698 Central Avenue  
Franklinville, NJ 08322

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