

April 2024

# TAIL WAGGIN' TIMES

Monthly Newsletter for NHA Fosters

FOSTER FEATURE  
Nate  
&  
Archibald



## From Shy to Spry

Nate and Archibald recently came to NHA as strays, along with their mom, Ivy, and sisters, Nala and Zoey. When they first arrived, they were shy and spent much of their time hiding under their beds and blankets. Nate and Archibald moved to a foster home so they could become more comfortable with humans. When they first arrived at their foster home, they were very shy and spent most of their time under the bed. Within only a few days, they became curious, explorative, and playful. In what seemed like no time, they began letting their fun personalities show. Nate makes the cutest little chirps, and Archibald has a high-pitched drawn-out meow that melts the heart. They are both energetic little cuties who love to explore and chase each other.

With the help of their amazing foster, Hanna W., they were given the chance to break through their social barriers, and go from shy to spry. Nate and Archibald are proof that having a caring, committed foster makes a wave of difference in the lives of animals like them. If you've ever considered fostering an animal to socialize, it's a great opportunity to see an animal blossom.

## Reactive? More Like Interactive!

When Oreo first came into NHA's care, he was known to have very puppy-like behaviors, such as being mouthy and destroying toys. While in the shelter, he was an incredibly stressed pup that reacted to any dogs or humans who visited his kennel. We knew that going to foster would be the least stressful option for him.

Since going to foster, he has bloomed into an incredibly affectionate lap dog and snuggler. Oreo is a very smart boy who has mastered a few commands and is eager to learn more. He greets every new experience he has with a lot of positive energy and curiosity. Oreo is a big licker and takes pride in licking you in the face when you're not looking!

Due to all of Oreo's amazing fosters, he was given the chance to show the world who he is. In March, after being in our care since August 2023, he found his perfect home. Thank you to all of the amazing foster pawrents that loved and trained him!

FOSTER FEATURE  
Oreo



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## Training Saves Lives

Gus and his sister Gale were 8 weeks old when they came to NHA with what appeared to be chemical burns on their paws. Since dogs depend on their paws for balance, stability, traction, and shock absorption, these injuries were challenging for the young pups. In addition to physical issues, Gus struggled with behavioral concerns. Although he was smart and learned quickly, he easily became overstimulated, leading to mouthy behaviors when he wanted to play or didn't like something. Gus was mouthy on that he preferred his foster's body to toys. It wasn't intentional as he hadn't had an opportunity to learn from his mom or other dogs and was easily overstimulated.



That's when Gus' foster, Courtney J. came to the rescue and started him on GoodPup, an online training program designed to accommodate busy schedules. NHA had the opportunity to offer the program, free of cost, to allow her to improve on Gus' troublesome behaviors. With 8 years of experience handling a reactive dog, Courtney had a deep understanding of dog behavior and was ready for the challenge. However, Gus presented new challenges. Partaking in the GoodPup program proved invaluable as Gus' trainer observed their interactions, pinpointing Gus' mouthiness. The trainer offered effective strategies to redirect Gus and teach impulse control, suitable for various levels of overstimulation. These tactics made a significant impact on Gus' behavior. By the time Gus found a permanent home, his mouthiness had decreased, and he displayed more typical puppy behavior. GoodPup truly gave Gus a second chance, preparing him to be the ULTIMATE forever companion, thanks to the dedication of his foster and the program's support.

## Foster Fails, Happy Tails

Meet Buddy (fka Knack)! His foster Rachel D. expected to have him for a few weeks while his broken tail healed, but his stay quickly turned into 6 months. Although Buddy was nervous and shy for the first 24 hours, his personality really started to come out and from that point on, he never met a stranger. Buddy never left Rachel's side (though he prefers a lap), but when he did, it was to happily run from room to room with a toy in his mouth chirping to himself and making up his own games.

When Rachel's parents came to visit, they fell in love with Buddy and eventually adopted him! He has filled a void for Rachel's parents after losing their cat at 18 years old, right before she started fostering him. Buddy is now living his best life with them!





# PUPARAZZI PICS



*For the Month of March*



Want your foster photo featured? Email us at [foster@nashvillehumane.org](mailto:foster@nashvillehumane.org) with photos or send them to our foster phone number mentioned in your guide.