What will become of Owlet?

Some months ago, several months apart, Soarin' Hawk was shocked and sad when both ambassador great horned owls, Apollo and Zeus, died. They both had personalities as big as the sky, and the great sadness of their loss is still felt today. When Soarin' Hawk found out that Owlet would never fly, they applied for and received permission to train her to be an ambassador bird – one that teaches humans about owls and the natural world. Owlet went to live with Barb H., who helped her grow accustomed to humans and being handled, and gave her lots of owl-y toys to play with, to help make her life interesting and make her think and learn things and have fun.

But Owlet needed a real name.

To honor Apollo and Zeus, it was decided that Owlet's name would come from Greek mythology. Several mythical names were narrowed down to four, and Soarin' Hawk's volunteers voted. Then, on May 25, 2020, Owlet had her very own virtual baby shower, with lots of people watching on the internet, and lots of wonderful owl-y gifts, including a mouse cake made by Mary, a presentation of educational jesses by Pam, and enrichment items made by Soarin' Hawk's enrichment team, presented by Emily. Finally, the balloon that contained the scroll with her new name was popped and, magically, she was no longer Owlet.

She was ATHENA!

Athena will have a life-long home with Soarin' Hawk. She will be loved and cared for and will play an important role in educating the public about owls and the environment.

(In Greek mythology, Athena is Zeus' favorite daughter, and Apollo's half-sister. She is the goddess who oversees wisdom, courage, inspiration, civilization, law and justice, strategic warfare, mathematics, strength, strategy, the arts, crafts, and skill. Athena is often portrayed as companion of heroes and is the patron goddess of heroic endeavors.)