

ELSIE

Our lovely Elsie is truly one of a kind—her quirky and endearing personality makes us laugh every day, and that’s saying a lot for a cat! Sometimes just looking at her silly poses is enough to cause a giggle.

Although she has lived with other cats, Elsie is a bit stand-offish with them—she can amuse herself happily chasing her toys around the house for hours, and although she enjoys lap time and sleeping on the bed with her people, she’s likely to go find her own spot to snooze unbothered if other cats come around. She definitely defers to other cats, so we think Elsie would be quite content as the only princess in her castle but could also live in harmony with another low-key cat or two.

Her round face and super-plush grey coat give Elsie the look of the British Shorthair breed, and she does love her meals, snacks, and treats. She has learned that just because someone is in the kitchen doesn’t mean a meal is being

prepared for her, but she definitely knows when the top is popped on the can.

Elsie loves being brushed and fussed over, and is very good about nail trims. She will skedaddle into hiding when the vacuum starts up or the doorbell rings, but she comes right back out when the coast is clear.



Elsie is about one year old. She has been spayed, is up-to-date on vaccines, and tested negative for FeLV/FIV. Her adoption fee is \$100. To learn more about any of our cats available for adoption, please call 503-402-8692, email arcf@pdx-petadoption.org, or visit www.pdx-petadoption.org.

SASHA

Sasha is a sweet, petite, funny girl who had a rough start in life and is now ready to meet her forever family.

This little bundle of fur came from a hoarding situation in California, and landed in a Bakersfield shelter. Through the dedicated efforts of shelter staff and volunteers, Sasha was able to make her way to My Way Home Dog Rescue in Oregon. After some time in an MWH foster home to decompress



and catch up on needed vet care, her charming, easygoing personality has come out.

Sasha’s eyesight is somewhat limited due to early-stage cataracts, but she gets around just fine. She is crate- and

leash-trained, and follows the voices of her people. She knows when it’s time to eat, to go potty outside, and to come back inside for a nice long nap.

MWH volunteers are convinced that Sasha dreams of a quiet home with a safe little yard and preferably no kids or cats. She has obviously lived with many dogs, but meeting new dogs makes her nervous because she can’t see them well. She has been playful with other dogs at her foster home, but introductions must be done slowly for her to feel comfortable.

Sasha’s two favorite things in the world are her special treats and her soft bed, which her foster parents will send along to her new home. Sasha asks for very little else—she just wants to be near and hang around with her people, and toddle around the house and yard. No need for long walks, games of fetch, or other exhausting activities!

We believe Sasha is a Chow Chow/Pomeranian mix (note the partially purple tongue!), probably about seven or eight years old, and she weighs about 30 lbs.

She has been spayed and microchipped, is current on vaccines and flea control, and tested negative for heartworm. The adoption fee of \$300 includes leash, collar, blanket, and food sample. If you are interested in meeting Sasha, email mywayhomedogrescue@gmail.com or call 503-974-4944.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

We love summer here at ARCF World HQ in the great Pacific Northwest, but we are so relieved when fall finally arrives! While most folks are enjoying time off to relax and recreate, we're scrambling to find time and space for all the unwanted kittens who start arriving in waves in the spring and don't slow down until late fall. Summer is also the time when our adoptions drop to almost nothing—people are just too busy getting outdoors and going places. When vacations are over and the kids go back to school, families settle back into routines that work better for bringing a new pet into the household.

Potential adopters and supporters often ask, "Where do you find all these cats to rescue?"

The answer is, we don't find them, they find us. Here is a sample of one day's messages: employees of a car dealership discovered a momcat with three young kittens crawling in and around the cars on their lot; neighbors in a cul-de-sac have been feeding two abandoned cats for months but want them safely indoors before winter; a woman wants a home for eight pet rats left behind when her daughter moved out of state; two kittens found under a shrub have been captured, but the kind lady who found them doesn't know how to catch the other four babies plus mom, dad, and the rest of the family.

But the most common message we receive is a variation of this one: "A stray cat had kittens where I live or work, they are wild and we can't catch them. Help!" One of those situations brought us the "D" litter, including **Dolly**, who now has a new home and a new name—read about her family in our success stories.

Another momma with babies was discovered by accident as we were trapping a colony of about 15 cats in a SE Portland neighborhood. The babies were just a couple days old, and clearly momma was young and inexperienced, since the nest was really just a low spot in the middle of a bare dirt backyard with not a stick of anything for cover. They became the "**Q**" Litter; Queen Bey and her six little ones, who will be available for adoption soon.

We also receive requests from other areas of our state, including from our friends at Cat Utopia in Pendleton. We'll always try to help when space is available, and we recently took delivery of the "S" litter of four, including the adorable **Savannah**.

But here is the saddest message we received today: a property owner is cleaning the apartment of a tenant who has passed away and finds two cats that are so terrified she can't catch them. Even if she could, she has no idea what to do with them

because the tenant has no local family, and the executor of the estate is in another state and cares nothing about the cats. They are in a county with no public shelter for cats, and all private shelters and rescues are full, as always. This situation is heartbreaking and far too common—which brings us to the subject of our article on page 7: Making Plans for Your Pets After You're Gone. Please read it and share it with your friends and family. We don't ever want to get a call like this about your beloved pets.

We do respond to every message and even when we can't actually offer a solution (we don't have any rat rescuers in our group!), we do our best to connect people with the resources they need. We're often told that our group is the only organization to respond and sometimes just talking through the situation is enough to help people find their own solutions.

To tidy up a couple of loose ends from our last issue:

We returned to trap the mother cat and two kittens for the kind Russian-speaking grandma. Now the entire cat family has been spayed/neutered and successfully relocated to a bucolic private horse farm, and she no longer has to worry about caring for outdoor cats at her home.

Our sweet momma cat Isabella and her baby boy Ian have been adopted by wonderful, loving

homes. Ian's sister **Ivy** was so tiny, she needed extra time to grow—but then she just didn't. Some days she behaved like a normal kitten; other days she was obviously exhausted and couldn't climb up even one stair on her own. We discovered her heart was enlarged, putting pressure on her lungs. It wasn't a good prognosis for such a tiny girl so our foster home determined to give Ivy a great life, no matter how short it would be. Her foster siblings were very sweet and gentle with her.

And then one day Ivy climbed up one stair on her own, and then two, and then she managed to get to the second level of the cat tree without help. She was gaining weight and had more energy. She had definitely turned the corner, and now little Ivy is running the show! She'll soon be available for adoption with her best pal, Elvis. They are a dynamic duo who will make some family very happy.

We send our deepest gratitude to the generous supporters who make it possible for us to answer the calls and help the ones who need us most.

Happy Fall!

—Carma Crimins, President



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: DOLLY; Q KITTENS; SAVANNAH; IVY

Since ARCF does not currently have a dog adoption program, we are working with other local dog rescue groups who share our goals and philosophies of animal welfare and rescue.

MY WAY HOME DOG RESCUE

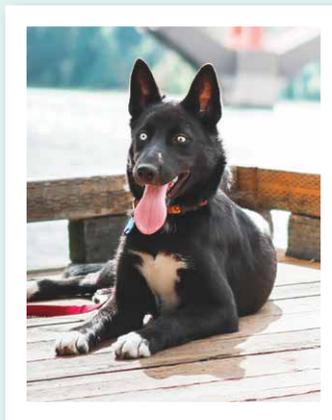
FOR MORE INFORMATION:
mywayhomedogrescue.org
503-974-4944

Juno (formerly Violet) & Banjo

The mission of My Way Home Dog Rescue is to save dogs from high-kill shelters. Usually MWH focuses on dogs that aren't considered easily adoptable, either because of age or medical issues. But occasionally puppies end up in public shelters too, which is what happened to Juno and Banjo. The exact circumstances aren't clear, but although healthy and beautiful when they arrived, they weren't well-socialized. Shelters aren't the best place for any puppies and these two needed more attention than staff could provide so MWH was asked to take them. The pups were quick to learn what was expected of them and MWH volunteers began looking for foster and/or adoptive homes.

Debi and Ron had adopted handsome Earl (our Winter 2018 cover dog!), so Cheryl at MWH asked if they might want to foster Banjo. Debi reports that upon seeing the photo of Banjo, they knew they had "foster failed" before even starting to foster. Upon meeting him and seeing how he interacted with Earl, the deal was sealed and Banjo joined the family.

They hadn't planned on adopting a puppy, and as with caring for most infants, there are moments of extreme annoyance and frustration. But Earl has proved to be the best big brother—Banjo watches him for guidance and people-to-dog-speak translations. They have a designated dig area in their huge yard, where Earl and Banjo love digging holes, then knocking balls around the "course," in their own version of putt-putt golf. Debi and Ron spend a lot of time outdoors and Banjo is learning to be a confident kayaker!



FROM TOP TO BOTTOM: BANJO & DEBI;
EARL (LEFT) & BANJO; JUNO

Michelle and Steve wanted to adopt a puppy for months, visiting all the shelters and searching online. Competition was pretty fierce and they were always just a bit too far back in line.

Then one day they were walking with friends on NE Alberta Street in Portland. Their friend noticed a woman with a very cute dog and struck up a conversation. The woman had adopted her dog from MWH and highly recommended them as a rescue organization. Michelle and Steve looked them up, saw a photo of Banjo, and filled out an application right away. Banjo had been adopted by then but his sister Juno was ready for adoption, and that was quickly accomplished. *(Mystery woman adopter on Alberta, please contact Cheryl at MWH so she may thank you for the referral!)*

Not surprisingly, Juno also possesses the digging superpower! Michelle is an experienced puppy adopter, and decided to enroll Juno in basic obedience training classes. She asked Debi and Ron if they were interested in joining the class with Banjo, and it's worked out great—the pups enjoy having a reunion while they are learning the important life skills for becoming grown-up doggos.

Banjo and Juno appear to have some combination of Siberian Husky, German Shepherd Dog, and Border Collie genes. Debi and Ron have submitted Banjo's DNA for a "Who's Your Daddy?" test. In a few weeks, they'll get the results and find out what went into the mix that made these smart and beautiful pups.

No matter where they came from, Juno and Banjo are now living their best lives with families who adore them.

ANIMAL PLACEMENTS

June-July-August: We rescued and cared for 44 cats and kittens, including veterinary exams, hospital care, vaccines, spay/neuter surgery, microchipping and more. We placed 25 cats and kittens in loving, responsible homes.

Major expenses for the quarter were:

Veterinary: \$4771.44

Food/Supplies: \$2754.18

Newsletter: \$1644.31



SQUEAKS

Bibi Momsen adopted a dignified old lady cat (then called Mrs. Partridge) from ARCF in February 2015. She quickly settled into her golden years with Bibi and her elderly dachshund, Ebony. She had the loudest purr Bibi ever heard from a cat, and she loved to spend her late afternoons sunning herself on the warm concrete of the balcony. Squeaks survived the loss of Ebony and the arrival of cat Chico Bear to the family. Earlier this year she began to fade and then came the day in July she let Bibi know it was time to go.

AnimalTalk

ANIMAL TALK is a quarterly newsletter published by Animal Rescue & Care Fund.

Our Mission: To rescue, shelter, and care for homeless animals and place them in permanent, responsible homes; to promote and support spay/neuter for all companion animals.

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Animal Rescue & Care Fund is a private, non-profit, tax-exempt corporation funded solely by private donations. We are a 501(c)(3) organization so all donations are tax deductible. Our tax ID is 51-0137768. A board of directors makes decisions on policy and activities. All funds are used to support our programs, including publishing this quarterly newsletter.



How lucky I am to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard.

—A.A. Milne
(Winnie-the-Pooh)



When the time comes to help our ill and elderly pets leave the world without pain, it may bring comfort for you and your pet to have humane euthanasia administered at home by veterinarians who make house calls for this purpose. Here are some Portland area vets who provide this service:

Compassionate Care

Dr. Lori Gibson

503-880-1172, drlorigibson.com

Vet to Pet

Dr. Laura Chang

503-757-6124, vettopet.net

At Home Veterinary Services

Dr. Louise Mesher

503-281-1631, pdxhomevet.com

Tina and Cason Franklin recently lost their beloved dog Riker to lymphoma at the age of 11. Choosing to adopt senior animals means there will be more heartbreaking goodbyes, but being able to fill their final years with love and joy is its own special reward. Riker is deeply missed by his canine sister Daisy and his feline companions Luna and Nietzsche, as well as all his human family members and many, many friends.



RIKER

Sophie

Last spring we got a call from Sue Yamada, who asked for help with a stray cat who appeared at her family's nursery



TOP: BRAND NEW BABIES; SOPHIE

business and was obviously pregnant. Sue wanted to keep Sophie as a house cat, but she knew that caring for a litter of kittens and finding homes for them was too much to take on. She had contacted other organizations who were willing to take Sophie and the kittens-to-be, but would not allow Sophie to be returned. We agreed to take responsibility for the kittens and return Sophie to her home once they were weaned. We arranged to pick her up the next day.

Sophie settled her into a foster home and five days later she gave birth to five healthy babies—one tabby boy and four black and white tuxedo girls. It's very unusual for kittens to be born to cats in our care; we were grateful that Sophie

was such a good momma. But about seven weeks later the kittens were done nursing and Sophie was definitely done with them! She was spayed and went back to Sue's home to live as a pampered house cat. Sophie gave us a scare shortly after going home when she bolted out of the house and into the neighbor's yard. She was too scared to leave her hide hole under the neighbor's woodshed, so we baited a trap with Sophie's favorite treat and soon she was safe in her home again. Sue reported that Sophie was pretty clingy for a few days after that adventure but now has settled in and is working on getting her people properly trained.

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We enjoy having Sophie in our home. She wants to be brushed every day by Roger and me, and she wakes me every morning by rubbing her head on my hands. If I don't respond to her wake-up call, she bites my hands lightly because she wants her TUNA for breakfast! She loves to play with the catnip mouse you gave her. Sometimes I spray it with catnip oil.

I appreciate what you have done for Sophie and her babies. I am so glad to find your organization through my friend Cindy Kruger. Sophie brings us so much joy!

—Sue Yamada



ASHLEY, AMY, APRIL

Ziggy & Pony

(formerly Freya & Amy)

Sophie's babies were the first kittens we rescued in 2019, so they were each given a name starting with "A." They shared a foster home with the "D" and "F" litters, who became best buddies and, in some cases, adoption partners.

Amy was the first of Sophie's babies to be adopted, along with her pal Freya. We soon received this report:

Just wanted to give an update and say thank you for the wonderful kittens! They settled in right away. We couldn't



ZIGGY (LEFT) & PONY

believe how at home they seemed, just a few minutes after we brought them home, even with my toddler squealing with excitement and chasing them a bit. They were just game! They've been good about the litter box with just a couple accidents. It really shows, the care you put into fostering these babies. They are so sweet and well-adjusted. They didn't even jump at our insanely loud dishwasher.

My daughter renamed them.

Freya is now Ziggy, and Amy is Pony (short for Appolonia). We are looking forward to a lifetime with our babies.

—Corina, Skyler, and Hazel Stearns

April & Alix

Next to be adopted were April and Alix. Our friends Loreen and Bill Hinkle had just lost their sweet Dixie, adopted from us in 2006 along with her brother Jinx. Jinx passed away a couple years ago and with Dixie gone, their home was cat-less for the first time in 34 years. Loreen has a soft spot in her heart for black and white kitties, so we were pretty sure they would fall in love with Sophie's babies.

They settled in the first day we brought them home. The first morning I couldn't find them—not under the furniture, nor in the closet, nor anywhere else. Eventually they let us find them behind the computer monitor, which became their hiding spot for the next couple weeks.

These girls are really smart! We only had to show them once where the litter box was, they learned about “no” and

the squirt bottle right away. They are learning “dinner,” “bug,” “birdies,” and “squirrel.” Alix pushes boundaries and still gets squirted from time to time, but with April it's enough to shake the bottle. We briefly had an issue with clawing on my office chair but we put a couple of scratchers in my office area and they learned.

They are awesome bug hunters—anything from a fly to a gnat doesn't stand a chance in our house. They enjoy the big bay window and the patio, although they are very people-oriented so don't use it as much as our previous cats. Alix is more vocal, loves to be held, and gives kisses on our noses. April prefers to be petted and get belly rubs. And she fetches, but not just anything!—only the furry mice. She is not only the third cat I've had that fetches, but the third black and white cat. Jinx was the second.



APRIL (LEFT) & ALIX

We still sometimes can't tell which one is which. We look at their feet since we can't always see April's chin; other than markings, Alix has a thicker coat than April (hers is silky), and when April sticks her tail up, the tip touches her head or shoulders (I've not seen that on any cat before). They can be stinkers at times but they give us so much joy and lots of laughs. We are so glad you let them come live with us.

—Loreen & Bill Hinkle



CHARLOTTE (LEFT) & NANCY KING

Nancy King & Charlotte

(formerly Dolly & Dumpling)

When we met Mary about ten years ago she had a houseful of rescued cats.

Each had his own quirks and special needs which occasionally challenged Mary's patience, but she gave each one the best life possible. Recently she lost her beloved Billy, which left only 12-year-old Peterson. She and Peterson were lonely, and after a respectful period of grief (about two hours), she asked if we had kittens ready for adoption. Mary has many students coming to her home for music lessons, so she needed kittens with nerves of steel. We invited her to meet Dolly and Dumpling, with the understanding that their new names would be Nancy King (named after a local singing legend/dedicated cat lady) and Charlotte.

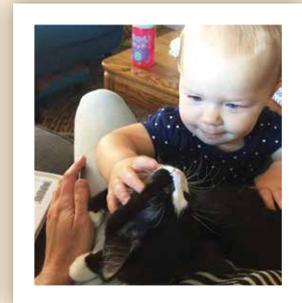
I am excited to have kittens in my house again! They're perfect! I adore them and all my music students do, too. My older kitty boy Peterson is warming up to them—yesterday they all slept together on the bed. Thank you!

—Mary Kadderly

Midge & Mr. Meowi

(formerly Ashley & Diamond)

Midge & Mr. Meowi became BFFs at their foster home, and they were ready to meet their forever family when Haley's family finished their summer vacation travels and were ready to meet some kittens. The meeting went well!



LEFT: OWEN & MR. MEOWI; MABEL & MR. MEOWI

Midge & Mr. Meowi have fit in wonderfully to our home. They are very social and enjoy cuddles and playtime with the whole family, including 4-year-old Owen (who helped choose their new names) and 1-year-old Mabel. They scamper endlessly after their stick toys and enjoy coozing up together on their new cat furniture. We all love them and are so grateful that they joined our family!

—Haley Landau

Making Plans for your Pets After You're Gone

It's hard enough to face losing our pets during our lifetime, but at least we understand the circle of life and the process of grief and recovery. Imagine your pet's confusion and anxiety were you to disappear suddenly. Even for young and healthy people, there is no guarantee that you will return safely every time you leave the house. It's painful to think about but investing time now to make arrangements will pay off in your peace of mind later, knowing your pets will never be left to the mercy of someone who does not know and love them as you do.

Sadly, an estimated 500,000 pets are euthanized each year simply because their owners pass away or are otherwise incapable of caring for them. Please make sure your pets don't contribute to this statistic.

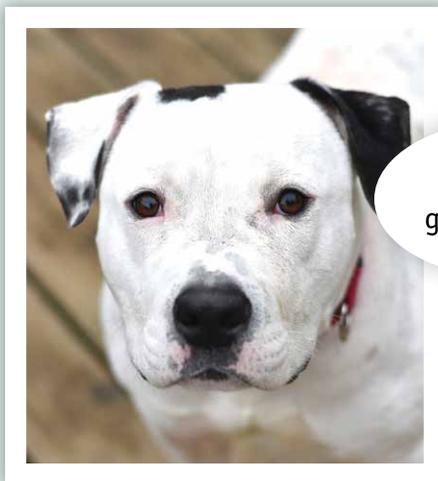
Here are the steps you can take now:

FIND YOUR PEOPLE

Identify the person who will care for your pets in the hours, days, or weeks after an emergency, as well as those who would be willing to adopt your pets should you die or become incapacitated. If you cannot find friends, relatives, or neighbors to serve as potential caregivers, local pet sitters or members of animal rescue groups may be able to help. If you do not identify a caregiver for your pets who outlive you, a complete stranger may determine if and how your pets will continue to receive care.

Do not assume that your friends or family will step in when the time comes! We have seen the sad results of this assumption far too many times, especially when there is a rush to empty the property and get it listed for sale.

Not everyone loves animals as we do—pet care takes time, space, and resources. Your neighbor may move away, your grandkids are busy, and your best friend might have too many pets of her own. Does your dog need a yard? Does your cat need a special diet?



Some foods give me hives



I plan to live another 50 years

Is your bird likely to live for 50 more years? They are counting on you to make sure their needs will always be met.

Your backup person doesn't necessarily have to be the one to take permanent ownership of the pets, but must be trusted to step in immediately and make decisions for their short- and long-term care, if necessary.

Have a real discussion with this person about the seriousness of this

commitment, then go through the same process to find a second person to back up your backup. Yes, it's a lot of trouble, but you are the only one who can do this for your pets.

PUT IT ALL IN WRITING

Once you have your backup caregivers identified, prepare written instructions outlining exactly what you expect.

Include contact information for everyone. Make copies and give them to your immediate family members, close friends and neighbors, and your veterinarian. This should prevent your pets being relinquished to a shelter because no one knew there was a plan in place.

Documentation should include instructions specifying how your pets should be cared for. How do you want your pets to live? What kind of special care do your pets require? Do you want your pets to stay together? To make sure your wishes are followed, you must document your instructions and let others know where these instructions are located.

Have your vet scan your pet's microchip, make sure you have a record of the number, and then contact the chip company to confirm all contact information is up to date. Include your backup person as the alternate contact with a current phone number. Shelter data shows that 60% of microchips are never registered to owners, or have outdated contact information. Don't let this be you! If your pets aren't microchipped yet, get that done immediately.

Take photos of your animals and write a bio for each one. Describe their personality, habits, daily diet, medical conditions, bonds to other pets, and anything else a future caregiver should know. Include the name and location

THINGS WE LIKE

of your veterinarian. If you have a return agreement with the breeder or shelter where you adopted your pet, include that as well, but don't assume that every shelter will accept animals adopted from them in the past—ask first and get that commitment in writing, and make sure you clarify whether a donation is expected or required if your pet is returned.

MAKE IT LEGAL AND LEAVE SOME MONEY

You currently pay for food, supplies, and medical care for your pets. Should anything happen to you, these expenses will still need to be covered. You can specify in your will who will take ownership of your pets and what assets you wish to leave that person for the care of your pets for their lifetime. But specific instructions for pets' care contained in a will are not enforceable; for this you need to create a pet trust.

You can use the pet trust to specify what type of care your pet will receive, who will receive and/or disburse the funds, what happens if the caregiver is no longer able to keep

I hate other girl cats



the pet, etc. There are different types of pet trusts and not all are recognized by all states, so consult an attorney or other qualified professional about what pet trusts are recognized where you live.

Take into consideration the amount you spend each year on your pets and the life expectancy of the pets. You may want to leave cash, life insurance, stocks and bonds, or other assets to provide funding for pet care. We recommend you ask your attorney about the best way to insure your pet's future, based on your personal circumstances and financial situation.

For more information and resources to help you plan for your pet's lifetime care, please contact

2nd Chance for Pets,

an organization whose mission is to reduce the number of pets that are euthanized in the

United States due to the death or disability of their human companions. They have an online library of extremely helpful tools, documents, and general information. 2ndchance4pets.org, or email info@2ndchanceforpets.org.

I need daily medication



YES! I want to help

Animal Rescue & Care Fund depends entirely on your donations. Our work includes rescue, medical aid, food and shelter, humane education, neutering/spaying, and more. Your contribution goes directly to help the animals. All contributions are tax-deductible.

Make a secure online donation using a credit card, debit card, or PayPal account. Save time and postage!
Visit our website for more details: www.pdx-petadoption.org.

- I enclose _____ for humane work. (\$35 sponsors an animal, but we appreciate any amount.)
- Sponsors can check here to receive a story and a photo about the animal being fostered.
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