



PEPPERONI (LEFT) & PARSNIP

Kittens!

You want kittens? We got 'em! We chose Pepperoni and Parsnip to be our spokes-kittens for this newsletter, but we have many more of all sizes, shapes, and colors—all available for adoption.

Our goal is to make the

best match for every cat and every adopter or family, and sometimes that means kittens aren't necessarily the best fit. Those who haven't recently lived with baby kittens may not remember the rocket-powered energy, constant mess in the litter box, boundless appetite, sharp teeth, and needle-like claws that need frequent trims, and—most important—the potential 20-year commitment. Kittens can be irresistibly adorable, but they can also climb, crawl, and claw their way onto everything in the house, and they seem to always find a way to be underfoot just when it's least convenient. Don't be offended if we remind you about these "features" included with each kitten; it's easy to get carried away by cuteness and we want to help everyone find their "happily ever after."

We adopt our kittens in pairs, unless there's already another kitten or young cat in the family as a playmate. Having a pal helps kittens develop good social skills and burn up all that excess mental and physical kitten energy. A kitten left alone all day is likely to spend the day resting, so there's plenty of energy left to keep everyone awake all night. A bonded pair makes life easier for everyone.

All of our cats and kittens have been spayed/neutered, are up-to-date on vaccines, and have tested negative for FeLV/FIV. The adoption fee is \$150 for a pair of kittens. 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.

Chester

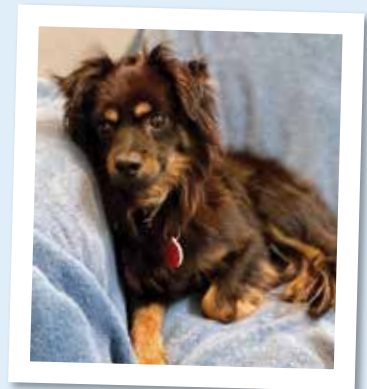
This sweet, shaggy face belongs to Chester, a little guy with a big dream: a home of his own, with a warm lap (or two) and an empty spot at the foot of the bed.

Chester's early years are a mystery, but when he turned up at a public shelter in California, he was a bit wobbly on his feet. He seemed fine otherwise, but shelter workers knew My Way Home Dog Rescue would provide thorough vet care, a loving foster home, and eventually, the perfect forever family for Chester.

After the long trip north to safety, Chester's vet discovered he had a few foxtails buried in his ear, causing a ruptured eardrum. With that problem resolved, Chester still showed some unsteadiness. The vet determined that minor neurological damage remains but Chester is a happy, healthy guy who has adapted well to his condition. He loves going for walks—he's a little slow out of the gate, but he gets steadier as he builds up speed. He may bump into a stop sign as he trucks along, but he'll turn and give it a growl, to make sure it doesn't get in his way again!

Chester doesn't need a big yard to roam—apartment life would suit him fine, as long as his people are home a lot and welcome him to hang out on the couch, at the desk, or anywhere a lap is available. Stairs can be challenging for Chester, so a one-level home would be ideal. Although he enjoys meeting new people, he's wary of the big dog who currently shares his home. He was indifferent to a cat he met on a recent walk. Older kids in the family would be fine, but no toddlers—Chester needs everyone else in his home to be steady on their feet, please.

Chester weighs about 10 lbs. He appears to be a long-haired Chihuahua mix, about three or four years old. He has been neutered and microchipped, is current on vaccines and flea control, and tested negative for heartworm. The adoption fee is \$250. If you are interested in meeting Chester, email mywayhomedogrescue@gmail.com or call 503-974-4944.



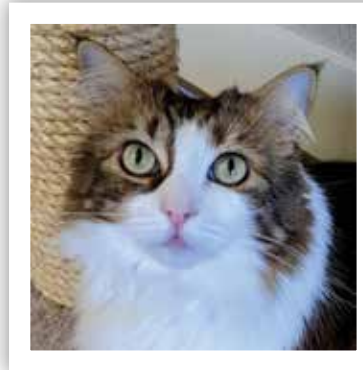
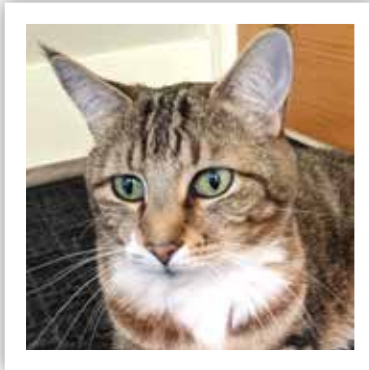
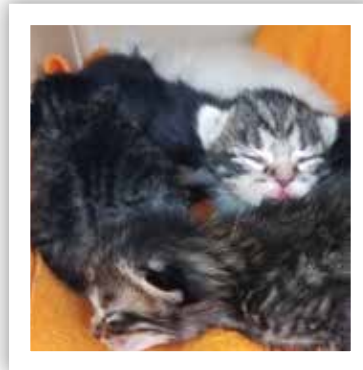
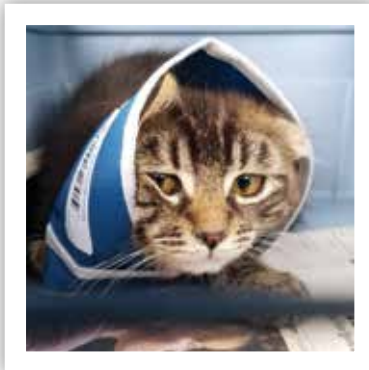
FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Summertime! And the livin' is—not so easy right now. As people of the world continue to cope with the effects of a new virus that makes its own rules, the need for assistance to animals has only increased.

Lion was one of those in need. He came to us just as most vets were forced to cancel all elective surgeries, in order to preserve their supplies for hospitals treating human patients. Lion had very severe dental disease which was limiting his ability to eat. His elective procedure had become urgent, so our vet was able to do the oral surgery. There were a couple of bumps along his road to recovery, but eventually he was healed. Stay tuned for Lion's happy ending story!

Just before Mother's Day, we received a call from a kind man who discovered that the stray cat he had been feeding for a year gave birth inside the boat parked in his driveway. We went prepared with a trap to capture momcat, but she was more than happy to let us gather up her babies while she enjoyed the delicious lunch we prepared for her. We popped the whole family into a carrier and off we went. There are five adorable "**L**" babies, who will be available for adoption about mid-July. The lesson we share from this story: "Feeding a stray? Neuter or spay!" If you aren't sure how to go about that, just let us know. Kittens are impossibly cute, but there are far too many in the world already with no hope of loving, permanent homes.

Sometimes, despite all best efforts, our adopted kitties can't stay in the homes we find for them. Seven years ago, **Denise** and **Nutella** were adopted as kittens by a young couple who adored them. One partner had mild asthma which was manageable for the first few years. Over time it became more severe, and their toddler also developed breathing problems. The family tried all remedies recommended by their physicians and veterinarians, but as the cats grew older, the symptoms grew worse. Although it was heartbreaking for all concerned,



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP:
LION; "L" BABIES; DENISE; NUTELLA; HANS

we agreed that the cats should be returned to us. It was a stressful transition, but foster parents Janet and Eric were dedicated to helping them adjust to the major changes in their life. Soon we'll be looking for the perfect forever home for these two lovely ladies.

One very challenging aspect of this new reality for ARCF and other small rescue organizations is the set of strict limitations placed by state authorities on veterinary clinics, including spay/neuter programs. The goal is to maintain a safe environment for staff, clients, and pets, with the result of severely limiting the number of surgeries that can be performed in a day. We have

relied on the Feral Cat Coalition of Oregon clinic for low-cost services for our rescued cats, but with the limitations in place, FCCO must prioritize capacity for their core mission—helping feral and stray cats. We are grateful to the other vets who are doing their best to absorb the increased demand, which puts added stress on their staff and resources. We appreciate all they are doing to help us continue our work, including providing neuter surgeries for **Hans** and his siblings.

For ARCF, this means our veterinary expenses have increased significantly, as has the amount of food and litter we must purchase, since the animals stay in our care longer as we wait for

available appointments. Even though the cost of caring for each animal has gone up, we will not raise our adoption fees and as always, we will respond to every request for help that comes our way, and do our best to meet the needs of our community.

We rely on the generous support of our donors to keep doing our work—even more during these difficult times. On behalf of Lion, Hans, the "L" family and all the others, we thank you.

Happy Summer!

—Carma Crimins, President

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.

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

MY WAY HOME DOG RESCUE

Twyla

(formerly Belle)

Some happy endings seem to be just too good to be true, but in Twyla's case with her new family, the story is absolutely true and couldn't be happier.

What we know of Twyla's story begins at a high-kill shelter in California where she was taken as a stray. She was limping badly—wouldn't put weight on her front leg at all. Twyla was small and adorable, but without adequate resources to diagnose, treat, and foster her, the shelter staff knew Twyla needed help from a private rescue organization. Cheryl at My Way Home Dog Rescue stepped up, and soon Twyla was on her way to Oregon.

A thorough exam revealed that Twyla had suffered a broken leg which was never treated and had not healed properly. The decision was made to amputate. By the morning after surgery, Twyla was on the mend and, finally free of pain, much more active and clearly enjoying it. She would soon be ready for adoption.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: 6 LEG NAP TIME; JENNIFER & TWYLA; JENNIFER & LOSHI, ADAM & TWYLA ON ADOPTION DAY

Meanwhile, Jennifer and Adam were thinking of adopting a buddy for their dog, Loshi. His story was somewhat similar, although he was surrendered to a vet in upstate New York. He had a severely damaged front leg that required amputation. Jennifer and Adam had a connection to someone on the clinic staff, and Loshi soon joined their family.

applied instantly—how could they pass up an adorable dog whose “special need” perfectly complemented Loshi's? A meeting was arranged and the family soon included two dogs with six legs total.

Twyla (full name Twyla Isabelly Quarantina) is younger and spunkier than Loshi—Adam describes them well: “the quick brown fox jumped over the lazy dog.” But Twyla is able to entice Loshi into some thrilling Wrestle-mania matches, known in the family as West Coast vs. East Coast throw-downs. They love taking walks together, followed by snacks and long naps—pretty much mastering the quarantine lifestyle.

Jennifer and Adam look forward to introducing Twyla to new people when that opportunity is available again, but in the meantime everyone can follow their story and see more of this adorable pup pair on Loshi's Instagram @loshigram.

Together they moved first to Michigan and then to Portland, where they've been working from home and keeping an eye on Petfinder.com, hoping to find their new family member. When they saw Twyla (then called Belle), they



ANIMAL PLACEMENTS

March-April-May: We rescued and cared for 35 cats and kittens, including veterinary exams, hospital care, vaccines, spay/neuter surgery, microchipping and more. We placed 18 cats and kittens in loving, responsible homes.

Major expenses for the quarter were:

Veterinary: \$6,110.55

Food/Supplies: \$2,053.01

Newsletter: \$2,072.40

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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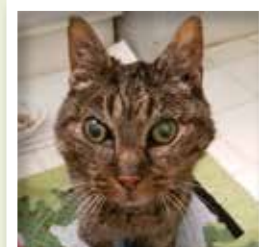
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MR. KITTY

In January, we rescued a dear old cat who had been living outdoors for all his 24 years. His name was Mr. Kitty and we had the pleasure of spoiling him with unlimited servings of gravy-soaked food and a cushy heated bed in a room with a view. Sadly, he had only three months in our care, but he purred almost every single minute of that time. One spring morning he was not able to lift his head or rise from his bed so we helped him along to the next stop on his journey.

Eudora came to us as a deaf and blind but still dignified senior lady whose tiny fragile body showed signs of long-term neglect. It was too late to reverse the damage, but she spent her last weeks in our care, enjoying a warm, safe space with everything she needed within a few steps. A tumor in her mouth grew quickly and Eudora let us know it was time to let her gentle spirit float away, free of pain.



EUDORA

Theresa and Norm LoMonaco shared the sad news that Belle, a beautiful black cat adopted from ARCF at Christmas time 12 years ago, recently succumbed to kidney failure. Belle was also remembered with a donation from their dear friend Patty Davies.

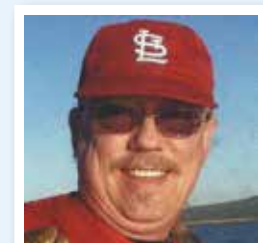
Glenda Hughes let us know that her friends Scott and Jill Schoen lost three of their beloved pets in a short time. She made a donation to ARCF in memory of their dogs Marley and Buddy, and Scratch, the cat.



JOSÉE

We were deeply saddened to learn that cancer claimed Josephine (Josée) Peterson, a strong, kind, and compassionate citizen of the world. We met Josée when she and her husband Pete adopted two cats, Rumble and Raisin, from ARCF 10 years ago. No cats could have been more adored, and Josée became a loyal supporter of our group. We send our sympathy to the Peterson family, who have lost their anchor and their heart.

Our ARCF community suffered a great loss with the passing of Don Malinowski, husband of our dedicated volunteer Anne Malinowski. For almost 10 years, Anne has been fostering cats and kittens for us, and although Don stayed behind the scenes, his support was invaluable and the kittens loved him. He also enjoyed feeding birds and squirrels and was especially devoted to his favorite birds, the St. Louis Cardinals. He will be deeply missed by his family, including feline members Billy and Stella.



DON

Flee, fleas, fleas!

Why do fleas exist, when all they do is create misery? We don't have an answer, but we can tell you just how essential it is to treat your pets with safe, effective flea control products.

Why?

We all know that fleas cause itching, but fleas can also cause much more than itchiness. In fact, fleas can lead to severe problems for animals and their humans. All that itching leads to scratching. Constant scratching can cause the skin to break open, making your pet more uncomfortable and allowing infection to set in.

In addition to skin irritation, fleas cause internal issues you may never have thought of! Tapeworms are parasites that reside as larvae inside fleas and are transmitted to pets when swallowed during grooming. Tapeworms cause weight loss and itchy discomfort around the anal area.

Flea bite anemia is a risk for any young or small animal infested with fleas. This occurs when fleas feed so much on your pet that her red blood cell count decreases and she gets anemic.

Fleas aren't just hazardous for your pets—they can be dangerous for you, too! Fleas can carry certain diseases that can spread to humans, including bartonella (Cat Scratch Fever).

Long story short: letting fleas run loose can lead to emergency vet and doctor visits!

Ok, got it! What do I need to know to treat my pet?

First, it's always easier to prevent fleas than to get rid of them. Treat preventatively using flea control products that are safe to use all the time.

Second, choose a flea medication method very carefully, and with guidance from your veterinarian.

There are many medications out there that, at best, simply don't work. At worst, you can accidentally use a medication that causes your pet harm!

TIP: ALWAYS READ THE LABEL!

Flea Treatments to Avoid:

- Flea products with Amitraz, pyrethrin, permethrin, or pyrethroids (found in 1000+ pesticides,



XENIA JUST SAYS NO TO FLEAS!

flea dips, shampoos and topical applications)—At toxic levels in the bloodstream, these chemicals can cause seizures and even death.

- Low cost flea collars—These are generally ineffective and can pose a choking/hanging hazard. We have rescued more than one cat with a lower jaw or leg caught in a toxic plastic collar.
- Essential oils—Not only are they ineffective at killing fleas, they often have phenolic compounds that the feline liver cannot tolerate. Tea tree, eucalyptus, and oregano oils found in "organic" topical parasiticides are dangerous for both cats and dogs.
- Cats Only—Flea medications designated for DOGS ONLY can cause irreversible neurological damage or death in cats. For many of these

medications, it isn't even safe for the cat to have contact with a dog for a short time after.

If I Have Dogs and Cats, Can I Use 1 Treatment for Both?

NO! Canine flea medications and topical insecticides are one of the top feline toxins reported to the Pet Poison Helpline. Some are so

toxic that you should keep your cats away from a dog that has been treated for short periods after application. Flea treatment residue left on shared bedding or spread by physical contact or grooming can be just as hazardous.

Do I have to worry if all my pets stay indoors?

YES! Fleas are tenacious little buggers! They can jump up to 7 inches and are happy to piggyback into the house on human clothes and shoes, as well as other pets. Many indoor-only pet owners apply flea treatments simply to prevent the chance of infestation. So even

if your cats stay inside, it's smart to check for fleas periodically.

So which products are safe to use?

Products sold by veterinarians typically undergo either FDA- or EPA-reviewed clinical trials to establish safe dosage and document adverse effects.

Use these vet-recommended medications as directed, as even these can be deadly if applied in a larger-than-recommended dose. In addition, your vet can tell you which products lose effectiveness due to resistance developed by fleas in certain areas.

The Upshot

We recommend that you work closely with your vet to ensure you use the right medication in the right way for your pet. This can save significant discomfort and prevent serious illness for both you and your pet!



BRAND NEW "F" BABIES!

Fawn and her family

Fawn came to us in late January looking very much ready to give birth. On February 19th she delivered six babies: Fred, Flora, Felicity, Fajita, Farrah, and Fiona. Just about the time they would have been ready for adoption, most veterinary surgeries, along with the rest of the world, came to a screeching halt. But eventually we were able to get them all spayed and neutered and it didn't take long for their new families to find them!



FREYJA

Freyja

(formerly Fawn)

Grace adopted gentle and loving Siamese girl Carmella from ARCF in 2010. Sadly, Carmella recently passed away from lymphoma. When Grace was ready to welcome a new companion, we suggested she meet Fawn. As we all know, animals move at their own pace, and although it wasn't the most perfect first meeting,

Grace was patient and willing to give Fawn time to settle in.

She is doing well! The name we chose is Freyja, a Nordic fertility goddess whose chariot is pulled by cats! As she's settling in, we're seeing more of her personality. She has a lot of kitten-like energy. She loves to slip and slide on our rugs and will sometimes fetch toys. She's very friendly and makes her rounds to our home offices during the day. Luckily, she's no longer yowling at our patio door in the wee hours. She will let us know that it's her feeding time at 5 am (which is a much better trade-off but still a bit early). She still gives head butts and has a very loud purr motor.

—Grace Shim

Fiona & Fern (formerly Farrah)

When Sarah's family decided the time was right to adopt kittens, they were referred to ARCF by their friend Chelsea Catto, who adopted kittens from us a few years ago. We thought Fern & Fiona might make a good match for Sarah's family of two adults and one kid. (And thank you, Chelsea! We love referrals from our previous adopters.)

We feel like we won the cat lottery and are all completely kitten smitten around here! Fern and Fiona are thriving; they happily tear around the house together, upstairs and down, mornings and late evenings and then sleep and cuddle the afternoons away.

They are growing rapidly into beautiful young cats, even in just the month they've been with us. We couldn't be more delighted with our sweet, adorable, and fun furbabies.



FERN (LEFT) & FIONA

—Sarah, Jordan, & Lucas

Tadao & Zaha (formerly Fred & Flora)

Hannah is used to working from home but was looking for some companionship after her social life was eliminated by quarantine. We suggested she meet this cute and cuddly pair.

The kittens have now been named after famous architects Zaha Hadid and Tadao Ando. They are adorable and full of energy and cuddles. Tadao (Fred) is the more energetic one. He plays hard and likes to start shenanigans like getting into the dishes in the kitchen sink. Zaha loves to play, too, but is a little quieter and more likely to knock a toy around alone for 20 minutes. She is first to curl up on my lap when I'm working. Then Tadao will casually make his way over to step/sleep on top of her. They have settled in so nicely here!



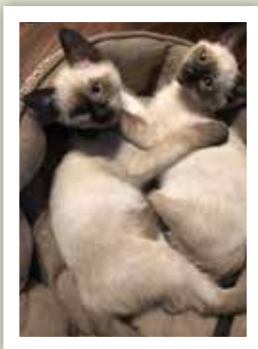
ZAHA (TOP) & TADAO

—Hannah Silver

Lily & Luna

(formerly Felicity & Fajita)

When it was time for Felicity and Fajita to go to their new homes, we weren't surprised to receive a flood of applications. We started down the list conducting phone interviews, and scheduled a meeting with a family who seemed a perfect fit. The kids and dad fell in love with the kittens instantly,



LILY (LEFT) & LUNA

so imagine our surprise when mom vetoed the adoption! But it was just as well, since our next application came from Cynthia and that meeting went much more as expected.

Lily and Luna are doing great! Lily had a difficult time adjusting the first day but now they are right at home. They have earned the run of the house during the day. I still put them in one room at night for sleep. They are very well-behaved and a great fit for us. We are happy to have them. Thanks so much!

—Cynthia Aks

Colin & Fiona (formerly Eric & Elsa)

Last winter we rescued a cat family being given away through an online ad to whomever could get there first. These situations give us nightmares, so we were glad to welcome them to our foster home. We called the momma Elsa and her favorite kitten was Eric. They were very sweet and we knew there was a lucky family in their future.

Linda and Doug Rennie had recently lost their beloved tabby cat Tyler at the age of 16. As long-time supporters of ARCF, they contacted us for help finding their new family members.

Colin and Fiona are loving it here, and we are loving having them in our lives. Colin is a feline perpetual motion machine, forever racing and romping, with Fiona often joining him. You defined them as a bonded pair, and that they are: playing together, sleeping together. Colin's main move is to walk up on your chest and instantly flop over on his side, burying his fur in your face and purring, and

crawling into any open space he can find. Fiona is more inclined to roll back and forth on her back to solicit pets. They find all kinds of ways to enmesh themselves in each other for long afternoon naps.

They are happy kitties, simultaneously mom and son and good buddies.

We could not have adopted them at a better time as they have been so entertaining and endearing during this isolation. Many thanks again for this crazy, sweet duo.

COLIN (LEFT) & FIONA



—Linda & Doug Rennie



HUGO

Hugo

In our spring issue we told you about Hugo, a handsome young gentleman who was adopted from ARCF as a kitten and returned a couple years later because he developed some bad behaviors, including inappropriate elimination, which created high stress in his home. We don't know what triggered his

behavior, but as soon as he returned to ARCF, it stopped. Hugo quickly won the hearts of his foster family, and after a few months of perfect behavior, it was time to find his forever home.

Kyle and Aaron recently lost their senior cat to kidney disease and were ready to add a new feline family member. We talked at length about Hugo's history and habits. They came to meet him, and although the ride home and first 48 hours were tense, Hugo quickly made himself at home.

Hugo is doing amazingly well! He is the best kitty with such a big, silly personality. He is so loving and wants to be around us at all times. His favorite toys are hair ties (I buy packs of his favorite type which he loses frequently under furniture—of course I try my best to retrieve them for him) and strings of yarn (he prefers it to toys on strings.) Best of all is bird watching at the open windows (he especially likes his hummingbird friends that come to the feeder). He sleeps in bed with us which we love, and when he's tired enough, he will snooze in my arms belly up like a baby. He loves being combed but especially likes getting ready with me in the mornings and getting brushed with my hair brush (hah!). We feel so incredibly lucky to have found him so I thank you very much!

—Kyle Garrity & Aaron Prosser

SWEET SENIORS SEEK RETIREMENT HOMES

Peter & Sasha

Peter and Sasha came to us when their person passed away unexpectedly in March. Although we did not know her or the cats, a provision in her will directed that Peter and Sasha become property of ARCF. It was a traumatic experience having strangers come into their home, especially since they had only lived with one mostly home-bound person for all their 11 years.



PETER

Peter and Sasha were very frightened and well-hidden but we were able to find and safely remove them from the home so it could be cleared and prepared for sale.

ARCF is not a sanctuary and our few foster homes are always full, so the only immediate option was to arrange boarding. Fortunately, Lauren and John offered to foster Peter and Sasha in their home, and to help us assess their needs and personalities, since we had no information about their preferences and behavior.

Peter soon adjusted to his new environment, and even began to play and seek out affection. Sasha, however, remained anxious, and chose to stay hidden except at night. It also became clear that the pair was not particularly bonded; in fact Peter sometimes bullied Sasha, adding to her anxiety.

Our friend Dave had recently offered to foster a cat in need, so we moved Sasha to his small, peaceful, and cat-friendly apartment. Sasha began to relax as she learned her new space is safe and she isn't expected to share it with anyone except Dave, who is patient and calm. She now



SASHA

shares his pillow and enjoys cuddling and chin rubs.

Peter and Sasha have passed their senior health exams. They have excellent litter box habits and no special dietary needs. We believe both would prefer to be the only cat in their forever home. If you'd like to know more about these sweet senior cats in need, please contact us.

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.

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