

Tiki & Toby

Just look at this stunning pair of siblings! Tiki, the beautiful calico, and Toby, her handsome orange-and-white tabby brother are ready to meet the lucky family who will take them home and love them forever.

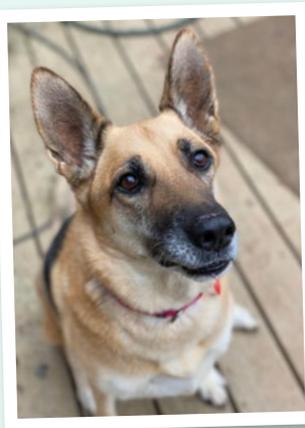
These curious and frisky teenagers are having a blast checking out everything in their foster home—so a home full of precious, fragile objects won't be the right one for them. They love all toys—the trackball, the crinkly tunnel, Da Bird, and every kind of mouse-like object they can hunt, catch, and kill. They are also big fans of Cat TV on YouTube, and have been known to binge watch entire seasons of The Bird Show.

Tiki and Toby are about 8 months old. They lived their first few months on the street with the rest of their tribe, but it didn't take them long to adjust to the comforts of indoor life—warm beds, regular meals, and no dangerous cars, dogs, or scary people to hide



from. Because they had a rough start, Tiki and Toby are still shy around strangers and thrive on routine—they need a little extra patience from experienced cat people who enjoy the process of building a relationship based on trust. And the rewards will be great! They are both very sweet and are learning more every day about the benefits of hanging out on the couch with a large warm body that has the opposable thumbs necessary to open food cans every morning and evening. Tiki is definitely the brains of this outfit—she is the first to investigate and try new things, while Toby watches her carefully for guidance.

Tiki and Toby have been spayed/neutered, microchipped, tested negative for FeLV/FIV, and are current on vaccines. The adoption fee is \$150 for both. To learn more about Tiki and Toby, please email arcf@pdx-petadoption.org or call 503-402-8692.



Lady

Lady is a sweet, gentle, and petite German Shepherd Dog who lost her family through no fault of her own at age 10. She has been shuffled around a bit since then, and My Way Home Dog Rescue is dedicated to finding Lady the loving forever family who will make her remaining years the best of her life.

Beautiful Lady has excellent house manners and is very smart—no surprise to those familiar with this breed! She is leash-, crate-, and house-trained, and knows many commands. Lady loves going for walks and short hikes. She rides well in the car, and is comfortable around older kids. No cats, though—Lady is a bit too interested in them for comfort.

Although Lady has lived peacefully with other dogs in her foster home, she really wants a person (or two) of her very own. Her fondest desire is to be around her people as much as possible. Lady is normally very quiet but will bark to alert when someone's at the door, so will fit best in a house without shared walls.

Lady has been spayed, dewormed, and microchipped. She's had recent bloodwork, a dental cleaning, and is up to date on vaccines and flea control. She is now 11 years old and weighs 55 lbs.

The senior dog adoption fee is \$250. If you are interested in meeting Lady, call 503-974-4944 or email mywayhomedogrescue@gmail.com.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

The short days and long cold nights of winter in the Pacific Northwest are not all bad—there's time to catch up on reading, organize your sock drawer, and set up the big table for the 1000 piece jigsaw puzzle. And for those of us in the business of herding cats, we are able to sit back and breathe for a minute, because even fertile cats are taking a break from making kittens for a month or two. Spring will be here soon enough and we need time to rest and recharge.

Even though our ability to rescue and adopt out cats and kittens has been severely hampered for almost two years, we still managed to go all the way from the "A" kittens in January through **Zebbo** and Zilla in November and it looks like we'll end this year with **Buttons**, Bo, and Banjo.

Sometimes our rescue work is easy: teenage **Adelaide** and her brothers Alonzo and Artemis came to us from our friends at Cat Utopia in Pendleton when their shelter was already too full and we had an open foster home. The three kittens had been well-loved, and are very trusting and social, and we expect they will soon be leaving ARCF for their forever homes.

But most of our projects are more challenging—the ones that no one else will tackle, like a very wary momma cat with seven brand new babies who doesn't want to leave them alone long enough to go into a trap. But our volunteers are intrepid, and we soon had **Velouria**, her siblings and their mom safely tucked away in a foster home. Sadly the tiniest kitten, **Velvet**, was born with a genetic defect that affected her ability to breathe and took her life not long after she was rescued, but she was safe and loved in her time with us and she did not suffer.

Because we don't cut corners on veterinary care, our rescued cats and kittens stay with us until all necessary vet work is done, no matter how long that takes. Our basic care plan includes exams, standard vaccines, treatment for parasites and infections (very common, especially in young kittens), spay/neuter surgery, testing for Feline Leukemia (FeLV) and Feline Immunodeficiency (FIV) viruses, and microchip implanted.

Often more extensive care is required; older cats usually come to us with untreated conditions, requiring bloodwork and other diagnostics. They may also need dental cleaning and extractions. Of course, we always provide high quality, appropriate food, including special diets if required.

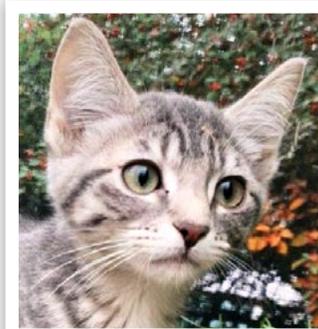
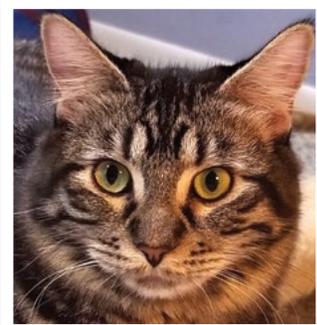
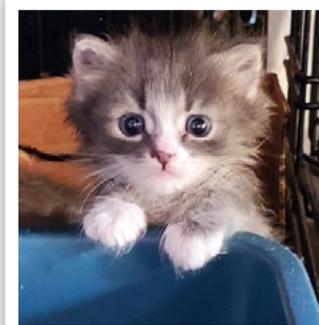
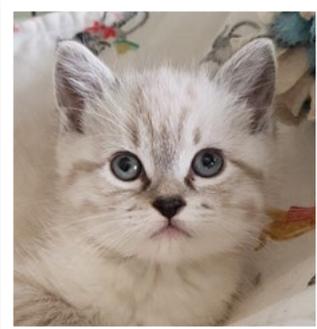
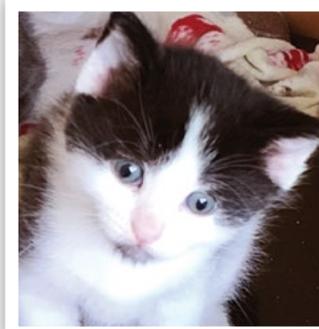
We rely on our vet partners and we remind everyone that all veterinary staff have been considered essential workers since the pandemic started. They are doing their best to keep everyone safe while meeting the needs of the pets in our communities. Demand for their services increased dramatically while they were losing employees to attrition, retirement, and plain old fatigue. Every clinic we know is trying to hire more staff and they are finding it very challenging to recruit and retain skilled candidates. Please understand that everyone on staff is working to maximum capacity to help you and your pets, and be patient with them.

In addition to our rescue work, we share resources with others who are caring for animals in their communities. We assist with TNR (trap-neuter-return) projects for community cats, which may include trapping, transportation to and from spay/neuter clinics, and providing food and shelters for the cats when their caregivers run short. We have also provided financial support to other organizations facing emergency need, including Sister Kitten Animal Rescue and The Belmont Goats. We often receive in-kind donations appropriate to animals other than cats, and we are happy to share with My Way Home Dog Rescue, PAWS Shelter, Avalon Micro

Sanctuary, and other charitable organizations who share our mission and goals.

These are challenging days for everyone, including our animal friends and those of us who care for them. Your generous support makes it possible for us to carry on our mission, and on behalf of all our volunteers and our rescued animals, we thank you.

Best wishes to all for a New Year much better than the one we leave behind!



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:
ZEBBO; BUTTONS; ADELAIDE;
VELOURIA; VELVET

—Carma Crimins

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



**LEFT: RICK & TINK, CAROLINE & JACK ON ADOPTION DAY
ABOVE: THE "TWINS", TINK (LEFT) AND JACK**

Jack & Tink

In addition to widespread troubles of 2020, it was a sad year close to home for Caroline and Rick East when they lost their adored Chihuahua at age 16½, followed shortly thereafter by Caroline's father. Remaining Belle the Pit Bull, Shayna the Shih-Tzu, and Buddy and Gracie the Boston Terriers were all senior citizens, so Caroline felt it was time to welcome a new, young presence to the home. Her search led her to Jack and My Way Home Dog Rescue.

Jack hitched a ride to Portland from a high-kill public shelter in California, where there are far more dogs than homes available. He was wary of people, but took comfort from being around other dogs. He needed patient, experienced dog parents (and dog siblings!), and got just that with Caroline and Rick. Belle adored him instantly, Shayna pretended to be annoyed for a minute, and the Bostons were just, the Bostons.

A year later Jack has made amazing progress with confidence and trust in people. He'd even had time to fall in love with Belle and Shayna, so after they passed away, Jack grieved with the rest of his family. Caroline went back to MWH and saw Tink—another Chihuahua mix, but quite different from Jack. Tink is joyful, confident, and always the life of the party.

Tink soon joined the family and Jack did not approve! He regularly made a point of sitting next to Rick, while shooting the stink-eye to Caroline and Tink across the room. But Tink is adorable and her social skills are impressive, so it didn't take long to win Jack over. The Bostons' only comment was, "Cool, another playmate."

In just a few weeks, Jack and Tink have become inseparable, and Caroline jokes that she and Rick now have two sets of twins. She recently received results of Jack's DNA test and he is a mix of 17 breeds, including Corgi—which explains that stubby tail! Their family is now complete with four four-legged members, and Caroline and Rick are committed to providing everything their pups need, for life.

"We are so grateful to Cheryl and My Way Home for their understanding of dogs and the quality of vet care provided. We were supported every step of the way through both adoptions, which helped so much, especially with Jack and his special needs. Our beloved little rescued pets have so much to teach us about forgiveness, optimism, and being resilient. Rick and I don't rescue the dogs, they rescue us!"

My Way Home Dog Rescue saves dogs from high-kill shelters, providing all necessary medical care and home-based fostering. These dogs often have long-neglected chronic conditions. Returning them to good health takes a commitment to providing as much care as each one needs. If you'd like to foster, adopt, or donate towards the care of a senior dog, please contact mywayhomedogrescue@gmail.com.

IN MEMORIAM

We share the sad news that Patty Davies passed away on December 1, 2021 at the age of 85 after a long illness. Many of our longtime supporters will remember Patty as President of ARCF for 20 years, from 1985 until her retirement in 2005. It's hard to guess how many cats she helped in her lifetime, but the number must be in the thousands.

Patty came to the US in 1956 from The Netherlands. Fluent in German, French, and English as well as her native Dutch, she found work with a shipping company. Later she worked for many years as a librarian at Oregon Health and Science University. She and her late husband



PATTY DAVIES IN 1988

Gordon lived in the same house for 50 years, where, in addition to an idyllic environment designed for the comfort of Patty's rescued cats, they created and maintained a showplace garden.

Extremely meticulous and thorough in all her pursuits, Patty took her work in animal rescue very seriously. She researched and studied the latest developments in veterinary medicine and animal behavior, and was always willing to share her expertise.

Patty's strong spirit will be missed by many, including her dear friends Monika and Siva, who will continue to care for her beloved cats Daphne and Minette, and for her immaculate garden.



JUDY

Artist Lorraine Bushek's beloved and beautiful tabby cat Judy was the subject of many painted portraits during their 18+ years together. Judy was found as a kitten in a public park, surviving on scraps and handouts. She became a pampered housecat and devoted companion but suffered no fools and never lost her street-smart ways. In addition to Lorraine and husband Jim, Judy will be deeply missed by her feline brother, Alan.

Jody Jameson and Nathan Whitehurst lost the soft and gentle tortoiseshell cat they called Darkness because she seemed to be able to shift her shape and melt into the shadows—except for her beautiful eyes. She was known to get cozy under the covers with her people or to gently wrap her tail around their legs in a hug when walking side-by-side. Physical touch was definitely Darkness' love language! She was also a fierce hunter and often left "gifts" on the porch for other family members to find. Darkness was remembered with a donation by her family members in Oregon, Nancy Kramer and Duane Whitehurst.



DARKNESS



MIMI

Mimi was adopted from ARCF in 2005 and returned to us at age 16 because of allergies in the family. She had many untreated medical conditions, including a severe UTI, high blood pressure, late stage kidney failure, and serious dental disease. She was too fragile to undergo oral surgery, but with the help of her dedicated foster mom, we did everything we could to treat Mimi's other conditions, make her comfortable, and surround her with love. After such neglect, Mimi had sustained too much trauma and illness, and six months later we helped release Mimi's loving spirit from her worn out little body.

Mandi Hood adopted Liam as a kitten in 2018 to be a companion to her older lady cat, Moira. It couldn't have been a better match; they adored each other, and Mandi. It was a shock when Liam was diagnosed with heart disease at the tender age of two. Medication helped him through another year, until sudden heart failure took his life. Mandi and Moira were heartbroken to lose their beloved boy but grateful for the time they had together.



LIAM



MIFFY

When Miffy was surrendered to a public shelter in Bakersfield, California, she was the smallest dog they had ever received. That made her a perfect candidate for Mary Dowless to adopt, after Miffy came to Oregon through My Way Home Dog Rescue in 2019. But a tumor was lurking in her tiny body and no surgery could save her when she was no longer able to eat. Miffy's favorite place in the world was Mary's lap and her petite presence will be missed there for a long time to come.



Dahlia (formerly Yardley)

Just before summer ended, we got a call from a young woman who had found a cat with four newborn kittens in a plastic tote on a street corner in SE Portland. We immediately brought this little family to safety in a foster home. Because the momcat was clean, healthy, and friendly we knew she had been cared for until recently, so we checked all possible sources for a missing cat matching her description. Nothing ever turned up, so Dahlia, as she came to be called, and her four babies stayed with us.

Diane and Gary had recently rescued a neighborhood stray, a feisty young tabby called Hobbes. He needed a feline companion to teach him about respecting boundaries and making good decisions, and we thought Dahlia might be a good auntie/companion for him. Here's a recent update:

Both Dahlia and Hobbes are thriving! They're not exactly to the curl-up-together stage yet, but they're getting awfully close (see photo). They wrestle and chase each other through the house every minute that they're not sleeping or eating. Hobbes can get a little rough but she will whap him a good one



**TOP: DAHLIA & HOBBS
ABOVE: DAHLIA**

and she's also great at giving him the Mom Look of Death, which he instantly respects.

Dahlia has taught Hobbes how to use a scratching post (most of the time) and his issues with scratching/biting hoomans have mostly disappeared. She's thinking about being a lap cat—for now she likes to hang out next to me when I'm reading or watching TV.

So, all is extremely well. We love Dahlia to pieces, and we're so glad to have her as part of our family.

—Diane Wuesthoff

ANIMAL PLACEMENTS

Sept-Oct-Nov: We rescued and cared for 43 cats and kittens, including veterinary exams, hospital care, vaccines, spay/neuter surgery, microchipping and more. We placed 26 cats and kittens in loving, responsible homes.

Major expenses for the quarter were:

Veterinary: \$6,933.68

Food/Supplies: \$4,710.05

Newsletter: \$1,903.14

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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Jarvis (formerly Artemis)

Recently we heard from Erin and Jay, who were interested in volunteering as a foster home. We were delighted with this stroke of luck, since we had an immediate need for a two-week backup foster home for Tippy, while her regular foster parents were out of town. Meanwhile another situation arose with Jarvis, who played too rough for the baby kittens in his foster home. So, we exchanged Tippy and Jarvis, knowing Jarvis would love being the center of attention in his new foster home.

A couple days later we checked in, and were shocked, shocked, I tell you! We were quickly informed that Erin and Jay had fallen in love with Jarvis and his curly ear, kinky tail, and extra toes.



JARVIS (FRONT) & JAY

(Don't worry, they're not done fostering! We think Jarvis will enjoy having temporary adult cat pals.)

When we started fostering we were still grieving the loss of our 20-year-old cat Veronica. We were happy to welcome new cats into our lives, but feeling cautious about protecting our hearts. When Jarvis strode into our lives we were not prepared. We were in a bit of denial about how special he is. He fit right in, and was so full of love that the walls around our hearts quickly melted. He is so outgoing and wants to spend all his time with us, learning our lives and teaching us about himself. He is such a perfect little gentleman and we are so happy to have him in our family!

—Erin & Jay Gaskill

Hoa & Essun

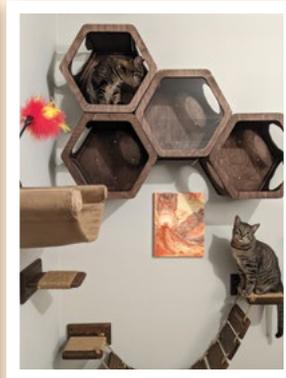
(formerly Gavin & Glynnis)

One of the first calls of 2021 was about Gabrielle and her four kittens, who were found in the parking lot of a big box store. Gabrielle was only about six months old herself and needed help learning how to care for the babies. With the help of her foster mom, Gabrielle did well and her kittens were happy and healthy.

Myka was looking for a bonded pair of kittens to join their family, which includes a sweet older kitty named Gracie. They came to meet Gabrielle's kittens and soon their family gained two more members!

My partner and I decided to name them Hoa and Essun after some characters in a trilogy we both recently read and loved. The characters are "found family" and stick together through everything, which we found fitting for these two cuties.

Gracie was stand-offish and afraid of the kittens at first but now she follows them around the house and demands that she be fed where they are fed.



LEFT: HOA & ESSUN
ABOVE: CAT GYM WALL

Whenever they are distressed (which is usually only when people have been over and then have left) she'll lick their heads with this "there, there" long-suffering demeanor. They've been teaching her how to play, too! She never really learned to play as a kitten because she lived in fear from being grabbed by small children, so she's only ever played with two toys until recently.

Hoa's favorite toy is a plastic spring; he trots around the house with it in

his mouth before flinging it across the floor. I recently installed a cat gym wall for all three of them in my office, and Hoa and Essun LOVE it. It's been a great addition or them when they have a lot of energy and want to play and jump—now they have a scalable wall!

They're so sweet and good, even when they're ornery (which is mostly Hoa). Essun is super sweet. She loves to cuddle, and her burrowing extends to couch blankets and sweaters I'm wearing, which has resulted in her climbing into my sweater while I was in a zoom meeting much to the amusement and joy of everyone I was meeting with. She loves to be cozy!

I adore them oh so much!

—Myka Dubay



Ashes & Ember

(formerly Rosanne & Odessa)

Not long after the extreme heat dome covered Oregon last summer, we were contacted by a Good Samaritan who saw a kitten in her neighborhood with a horribly injured eye. She asked if ARCF could rescue the kitten if the owner agreed to surrender her, since they were not able to provide the care needed. We quickly agreed and upon seeing the kitten, we knew she needed immediate care—we will spare you the graphic photo, but it was the worst we had ever seen, and we've seen a lot.

Our vet agreed to fit us in for an exam, and the staff was equally alarmed to see the condition of the kitten's eye. Because of her general weakened condition, the vet recommended immediately admitting Ashes (as this little girl became named) to an emergency hospital. Over the July 4 holiday weekend, every Portland emergency hospital was completely full and refusing new patients.

With the help of Dr. Sanders at Cat & Dog Hospital of Portland, we were able to get Ashes into an emergency vet in Vancouver. They stabilized her within 24 hours but we still couldn't find any surgeons available in the next few days to remove the injured and severely infected eye. To our huge relief and everlasting gratitude, a pair of guardian

angels and longtime supporters of ARCF stepped forward with a commitment from their own vet to perform the surgery as well as an offer to pay for the procedure. The surgeon's staff was also shocked by the condition of Ashes' eye and she was rushed into surgery the very next day! After the enucleation (eyeball removal) surgery, Ashes recovered quickly.

Her foster home was also caring for three other kittens, and Ashes was so eager to play with them! As soon as she was completely healed, she made friends with Ember and they became inseparable.

Carlee and Jake contacted us about adopting kittens and we told them about our very special one-eyed kitten and her friend. The kittens were soon on the way to their new home, and we recently received this update: Ember warmed up to us immediately, jumping into our laps right away! With everything she had been through, we thought Ashes would take some time to earn her trust, but after a day she began opening up.

Ember is the sweetest, most patient and loving lap kitty, but she also needs her alone time. If she's not playing with her sister, chasing her favorite spring toy, or on one of our laps, we can usually find her in our guest room that we now call "Ember's room," hiding in her makeshift hamper cave or curled up on her favorite fuzzy blanket.



LEFT TO RIGHT: CARLEE & ASHES, JAKE & EMBER; ASHES, POST-SURGERY; EMBER

Ashes is the silliest, most curious kitty who will always be up for playtime! She loves when we create puzzles for her to figure out, she loves to hunt and catch her toys. But her favorite game is hide and seek with her sister.

These two kitties bring out the best in each other. Ember teaches Ashes to be kind and gentle, while Ashes helps Ember with her playful side. They are patient while their humans are out of the house and warm and welcoming when they return. We have had the best couple of months watching them learn and grow, and can't wait to see the cats they turn into!

—Carlee Moser & Jake Olsen

OUR GRATITUDE JOURNAL

It's time to take stock of the members of our little village who do the work of Animal Rescue & Care Fund.

First, we recognize the dedication of our foster volunteers, who are on duty literally every day and night, including weekends and holidays! Because we have no shelter facility, we rely on our foster homes. They also serve as adoption venues and we deeply appreciate their willingness to be generous and flexible with their personal time and space.

Lauren Magnee and John Miskey have taken on some challenging cases—older cats who have been abandoned or returned (sometimes after many years), and those transitions can be challenging. Foster kittens come and go quickly, but the seniors tend to stay awhile and we are grateful for their patience.

Janet and Eric Blackstone also care for long-term fosters with special needs. Janet is an excellent personal trainer for obese cats, helping them lose weight safely by measuring and monitoring food intake, and encouraging daily workouts in the kitty gym.

Lori and Paul Sharp are the reason we are able to rescue feral momcats and their babies. Not many people are willing or able to take on kitties fresh off the streets, but Lori is a miracle worker who is always up for the challenge of calming spiky little ones.

Bonnie Williams and Drew Flowers had a busy year, but still managed to foster a few litters of kittens for us, including our very special medical case Rosanne

and her pals, the “O” kittens. Bonnie also wrangled cats for a few TNR projects that were long overdue.

Anne Malinowski has shared her home with more kittens than we can count—and somehow always finds room to fit in a few more, even when the house is full. We rely on her expertise in caring for inexperienced young mommas and their tiny, fragile babies. It's not an easy job—sometimes our best efforts are not enough to save them and the losses hit hard.

Jennifer Hansen and Roger Anderson have also welcomed many kittens and adopters to their home, helping us make lifetime-lasting matches. We also thank the ever-patient Iris, their sweet old dog who has tolerated every kind of abuse the kittens could dish out.

Hillevi Johnson took on a very special hospice case for us. It's not easy to fall in love with a sweet old cat and take on the job of meeting her extraordinary medical needs, knowing your time together will be far too short. We are grateful that Mimi's last months were peaceful and pain-free.

Val Walker has been a long-term foster for older cats in crisis. Pepper was a very elderly cat who came to us when his very elderly person passed away. To the amazement of all, Pepper lived two more years with Val. Recently, two shy senior cats came to us when their person moved to a care center. With no foster homes available, Val made extra space to welcome Lulu and Mitzi.

Carrie Fagerstrom came out of foster semi-retirement to help us with another

pair of senior cats suddenly returned to us eight years after being adopted. The poor cats were shell-shocked from their sudden change in circumstances and needed a soft place to land.

Gina Chirillo donates her time to do our bookkeeping every month and **Leah Goodman** provides professional editing and proofreading for this newsletter.

Veterinary practices continue to face extraordinary challenges to keep clinics staffed and patients safely treated. We are very grateful to **Cat & Dog Hospital of Portland, The Pixie Project, Willamette Valley Animal Hospital-Gladstone,** and **Feral Cat Coalition of Oregon** for providing top quality care under such difficult conditions. **Cornell Center Animal Hospital** provided emergency surgery when desperately needed. **Gabriel Park Veterinary Clinic** has been a placement partner for some of our kittens.

Pets on Broadway, Happy Tails Pet Center, Healthy Pets NW (Woodstock location), and **Sellwood Pet Supply** support us with donated supplies. We encourage everyone to shop at locally-owned pet supply stores who can offer expert guidance in choosing appropriate products for your pets.

And finally, we extend our deepest gratitude to our generous and compassionate donors and all the wonderful people who provide the loving homes that make it all worthwhile.

—ARCF Board of Directors

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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