

Molly & Lilah

If you are looking for a couple of rowdy and rambunctious companions, Molly and Lilah are your girls! They are fully grown adults with full-on kitten energy. They love all kinds of toys, especially when somebody is available to fly "da bird" or toss the crinkle ball for them to chase. Fun! When their batteries run down, Molly and Lilah turn into lap girls and expect to join their people on the bed at night. They are truly bonded and are almost always found together when



MOLLY (LEFT) & LILAH

no people are available to hang out with them.

Molly and Lilah are a little shy with strangers, but once proper introductions have been made, they become very affectionate. They have excellent house manners and no special dietary

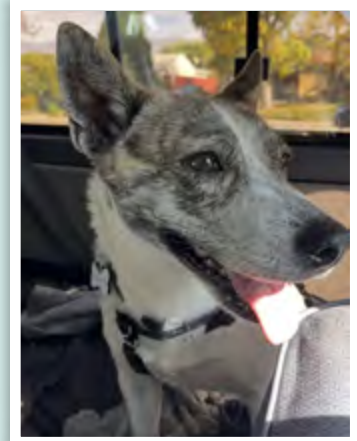
needs, other than the high-quality food we provide for all our rescued cats. Molly has mild seasonal allergies that are easily managed with a short course of meds when she gets sniffly.

Molly and Lilah are about two years old. They have been spayed, microchipped, are up-to-date on vaccines, and have tested negative for FeLV/FIV. The adoption fee is \$150 for the pair. 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.



Jackie

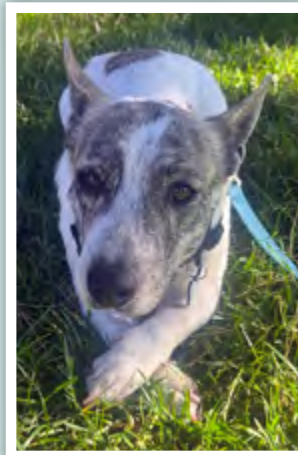
What breed of dog is Jackie? Who knows! Most likely part Corgi with that lowrider body, but in addition to being super cute, Jackie's other superpower is she loves other dogs! She has excellent inter-canine skills – she can read the room and know just when to



approach and when to lay low. Jackie's not as confident relating to humans, but with time to get acquainted, she becomes very affectionate. Treats are very effective in winning her over!

Jackie also loves chewy toys, and although she's well-behaved on a leash, she's a low-to medium-energy girl, happy to spend plenty of time cuddling and napping on the couch with her people and canine pals.

Homebodies for the win! Jackie is crate-trained and has excellent house manners. She also rides well in the car. The perfect home for Jackie will include at least one other dog and a securely fenced backyard.



Jackie is about two years old and weighs 28 pounds. She is spayed, vaccinated, heartworm-negative, microchipped,

dewormed, and is current on flea control. The adoption fee is \$400. If you are interested in knowing more about Jackie, please visit mywayhomedogrescue.org and complete the adoption application online.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Friends, it's way too early for a heat wave but the Weather Channel says we're in for triple-digit temps in the middle of June. This is supposed to be our rainy season! Last week we wore our flannel shirts and fuzzy slippers, now we have to dig out the rubber sandals and straw hats. But the calls for help keep coming, regardless of the weather, and we do our best to respond.

Last fall we told you about a family of 19 cats and kittens dropped on us unexpectedly, with many of them requiring extensive veterinary care and recovery time. We called them the "J-K-L-M-N" families; five momcats and 14 kittens. Jewel and her babies, and Kona and her boy Kinski, have been adopted. You can read more about them in our Success Stories. Lilah and Molly are available for adoption now – see page 1 for details. **Naomi** has also been adopted and we'll share her story soon.

Kona's other kittens **Koala** and **Kiana** are still with us. Kiana required surgery for a dislocated hip, and she recovered well. Koala has more personality than any other 10 kittens combined, but he also has a chronic respiratory infection which is proving very stubborn (and expensive!) to diagnose and resolve. We've just started a new medication and we're hopeful that he and Kiana will soon be ready for their forever family.

The first family to need our help this year was Talia and her babies. A kind person noticed her roaming their neighborhood and wanted the little family to have a safe and healthy life indoors. Her kittens are **Turtle** and four little voids named **Temu**, **Tiki**, **Tater Tot**, and **Tank**. They will all be available for adoption by the time you read this.

Next came **Velma** and her six wee ones, apparently left behind when tenants abandoned their apartment under cover of night, owing back rent. Velma is a sweetheart, but in addition to being very hungry, the whole family arrived with goopy eyes and stuffy noses.

Plenty of good food, a clean environment, and prescribed antibiotics helped everybody feel better, but Velma has another condition that will need extensive treatment. You can see in the photo that her nose is very large, caused by infection with *Cryptococcus* fungus. We have seen a nose like this before, in our beloved Bronco Billy (RIP) so we were prepared for the diagnosis and the treatment plan. Unfortunately, it requires a minimum of three months of twice daily doses of a medication that doesn't taste very good. It's compounded with chicken flavor, but still tastes nothing like a treat. It's a powerful anti-fungal medicine so Velma will also need regular lab work to make sure her organs are functioning properly. The babies seem to be unaffected, so six little "V" kittens should be available for adoption by mid-July.

The fireworks around Independence Day celebrations are coming soon and it's the worst day of the year for our animal friends. Terrified wildlife and pets can panic, bolt from their homes, and just keep running. The days following July 4 are the most difficult for already overloaded shelters and rescues, because of the sheer volume of animals running loose, trying to escape the explosions. If your pets suffer anxiety from the fireworks noise, please see your vet immediately about prescribing medications that may help keep them calm. Don't wait until July 3! We ask for kindness and consideration of all humans and animals who suffer through this holiday. Please make it a peaceful one, if you can.

And one more reminder: please leave water out during the summer months for all the passing critters who need it – shallow bowls for bees, baths for birds and squirrels, and

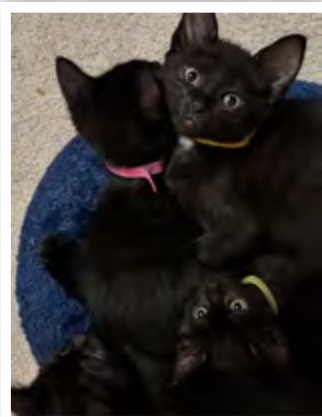
big, deep bowls for all the others. Water is life-saving, and they will be grateful.

As always, thank you for reading our newsletter, and we ask you to adopt, volunteer, and donate if you can.

Be careful, be well, and please be kind to all creatures.

Happy Summer!

—Carma Crimins, President



FROM TOP: TIKI, TANK, TATER TOT, & TEMU; TURTLE; VELMA AND BABY; NAOMI; KOALA

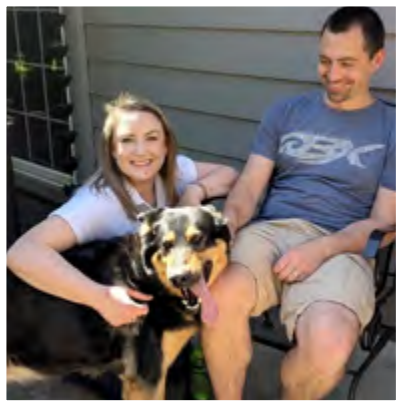
Since ARCF does not currently have a dog adoption program, we are working with other local dog rescue groups who share our goals and philosophies of animal welfare and rescue.

MY WAY HOME DOG RESCUE

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

mywayhomedogrescue.org

503-974-4944



ADOPTION DAY

Elsa

Last summer, Elsa was spotted by residents of a dead-end road in rural Clackamas County. She was too scared to let anyone come near but, as is often the case with lost or abandoned dogs, she stayed very close to the area where she was first seen. Neighbors provided food and water to keep her there while planning for her rescue. Waggin' Tails Search & Rescue volunteers responded to the call for help and trapped Elsa safely and humanely. Her paws were raw from constantly pacing the rough road, waiting and trusting that her people would come back for her.

Other than the sore paws, she was in good shape and safe with her Waggin' Tails foster family, who learned that she has excellent manners and loves people. "We knew that Elsa would be someone's emotional support animal, whether they need one or not," said foster mom Leslie. During the requisite 90-day legal hold, no owner stepped forward to claim this wonderful dog, so My Way Home (MWH) Dog Rescue offered to provide necessary medical care and then find Elsa's forever family.

Gorgeous Elsa was the cover girl for our spring issue and her stunning looks caught Stephanie's eye, who shared the story with her husband, Kyle. They had recently lost their beloved German Shepherd/Lab Maci, and they agreed it was too soon to think about adopting another dog. When they noticed that Greta, the tiny and timid Chi-Weenie they adopted eight years ago from MWH seemed depressed at the loss of her longtime companion, Stephanie contacted Cheryl at MWH to find about more about Elsa. Although both agreed that Elsa might not be the perfect fit for their family – which includes a small human in addition to the small dog – a meeting was arranged.



WITH HER NEW SISTER

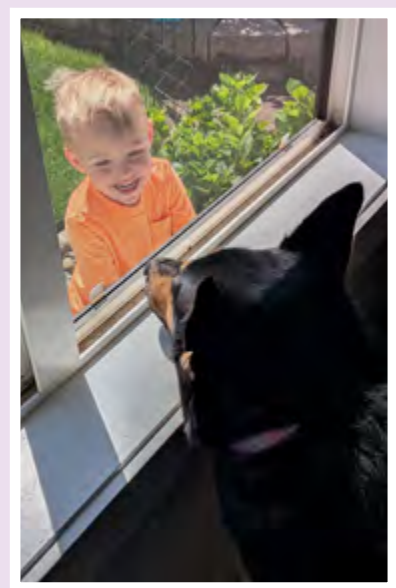
It went very well – Elsa warmed to Stephanie and Kyle immediately, and they loved her open, affectionate nature. It wasn't love at first sight between Greta and Elsa, but there were no red flags. "We felt so comfortable with Elsa immediately," says Stephanie. "She is so loving and snuggly. We knew Greta would learn to love her too."

A second playdate included all family members and Stephanie's toddler fell for Elsa too. It didn't hurt that his favorite movie is *Frozen* – if you know, you know. Elsa is a big girl, and her potential new canine and human siblings are small, but

after thoughtful discussion about careful introductions, Elsa joined her new family. Foster mom Leslie was also delighted with the match. "When Elsa met Stephanie and her family, I could see that she was ready to claim them as her people."

"Elsa loves our toddler, and the feeling is mutual. He rides his bike alongside Elsa on our walks," says Stephanie. "Elsa and Greta have become buddies, too." The family is lucky enough to have a large nature park near their home, perfect for dogs and kids to spend time together outdoors.

"We are so happy with Elsa – she is just the best girl. She doesn't fetch or do tricks, but we don't care. She is so expressive and goofy and we love that she wants to be where we are, all the time. We've always heard that a beloved dog who leaves you will send the next dog your way, and we believe that Maci has sent us Elsa. She is just perfect for us, and we are so grateful to have her."



WITH HER NEW BROTHER

ANIMAL PLACEMENTS

March-April-May: We rescued and cared for 18 cats and kittens, including veterinary exams, hospital care, vaccines, spay/neuter surgery, microchipping and more. We placed 6 cats and kittens in loving, responsible homes.

Major expenses for the quarter were:

Veterinary: \$7,989.14

Food/Supplies: \$2,420.10

Newsletter: \$3,525.09

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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Carma Crimins

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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.

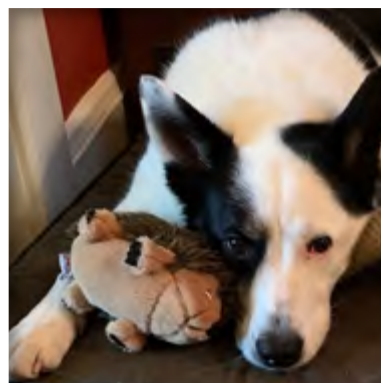


ARKOSE

Arkose came into our lives from ARCF in December 2015 as a sweet little tuxedo fluff. He quickly adjusted to our resident cats (Obsidian and Onyx). He was the sweetest “mom” cat to the kittens who joined our household later: Garnet, Jet, and Topaz. We have many pictures of the kittens burying themselves in his fluff and playing with his magnificent tail. When he wasn't snuggling the kittens, he would sit in the window or in the patio to “talk” with the birds or “help” Melanie with her morning workouts. He was also a frequent attendee of zoom calls where his giant tail would block most of the camera, to everyone's enjoyment. We are so grateful for the time we had together – even though it was too short, he brought us so much joy.

—Melanie and Matt Klym

Mr. Riley McNab, 2011-2025. Smart, Athletic, Handsome, Loyal. In November 2012, we adopted Riley from Project Pooch, the program at MacLaren Youth Correctional Facility that selects shelter dogs to live at MacLaren. There, incarcerated youth earn the privilege of training and caring for the dogs until they are ready for adoption. It's a win-win for dogs and youth. Riley loved the beach, walks, runs, and his best friend, Bruce. He detested letter carriers and delivery drivers. We adored him and will keep him in our hearts forever. Rest well, sweet boy.



RILEY

—Nena Baker & Patti Ihnat

One of the heartbreaking responsibilities that comes with pet ownership is having to make the difficult choice of when our furry family members leave the world, and us. When the time comes to help your ill or elderly pet 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

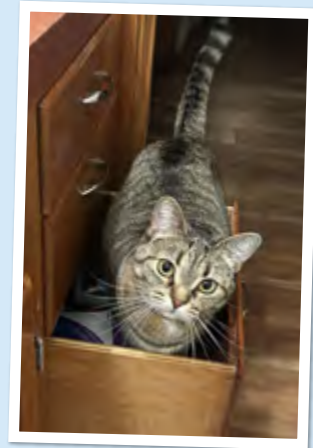
Amelia

Last spring, we heard from a young woman feeling overwhelmed by financial and health challenges, including job loss and a new baby. One of her cats, Ariel, had recently given birth to eight babies, and her other three adult cats also needed vet care, including spay/neuter surgeries. Amelia, Ariel's grown daughter, accompanied mom Ariel and the new babies to ARCF. The kittens and Ariel were soon adopted and then it was Amelia's turn.

Lauren and her housemates, including a little dog named Sadie, were looking for a feline companion to join their household – specifically a “social, brave, and cuddly” cat. We thought that description fit Amelia quite well so a meeting was arranged, and soon Amelia was settling into her new home.

Everyone is getting along very well! Sadie and Amelia do not play together but they are cordial and can be on the couch at the same time. Amelia's personality has really blossomed. She can be very active and talkative and loves watching out the windows. She follows me everywhere.

—Lauren Simms



AMELIA

Marshmallow

Marshmallow and her brother were adopted as kittens in 2022. Three years later, Marshmallow was returned to us for unspecified behavior problems. We always accept ARCF cats back without argument when adopters ask, so Marshmallow moved in and we got to know her again. After several months without issues in a foster home, we set about finding a more suitable home for Marshmallow. She is curious, confident, and athletic, and we suspected she would enjoy a home with a catio and a rambunctious feline companion.

Nancy had previously adopted Eddie and Gilbert from us, hoping they would be pals with her resident cat, Niko. It wasn't a great match, from Niko's point of view, so Eddie and Gilbert moved to Nancy's parents' home, where they are extremely happy and completely adored. After waiting for the dust to settle, Nancy still hoped to find a companion for Niko. We thought he might be more accepting of a female cat, strong enough to hold her own with his blustery personality, and Marshmallow seemed like a good candidate.

Marshmallow joined our little family in January as a foster. I asked specifically for a cat who would be resilient and willing to defend themselves, as my Siamese/tabby cat Niko struggles to understand the difference between playing and fighting. Contrary to her name, Marshmallow is indeed resilient and made of steely stuff. (We now call her Marnie.)

It was a difficult first two months trying to integrate them – I essentially split my house in half with a gate system. Eventually, Marnie figured out the gate lock and made it into Niko's territory. This was for the best however, as she stood her ground and demonstrated that she is no pushover. Niko took a minor beating (no damage done) but learned some hard lessons.

Now, they co-exist well, Marnie is queen of the catio in the back yard, and Niko is my cuddly boy. We still have some spats now and then, but what relationship doesn't?



MARSHMALLOW



HAPPY HOUR IN THE CATIO

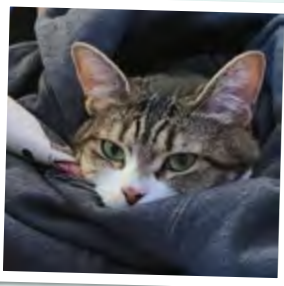
—Nancy Janzig

Jewel & Kodos

Jewel and Kodos came to us from different locations, but both came from very difficult circumstances, in desperate need of proper care. Jewel arrived with three brand new babies, all happy and healthy and quickly adopted, as well as a chronic ear infection that didn't depart so quickly. Our vet discovered that Jewel's ear canal was blocked by a polyp, causing chronic inflammation. Surgery by a specialist was required to remove the polyp, and after many months in our care, Jewel was finally infection- and pain-free. Jewel's personality is as sweet as her adorable little face, and she was very patient with all the pre- and post-op medications and treatments.

Kodos was rescued from a neglectful situation that left her a bit wary of humans and other cats. We took care of her immediate medical needs, and once she was rested and refreshed, we introduced her to Jewel, hoping they would at least become agreeable playmates, if not BFFs.

Jewel was open to having a pal, but Kodos took a bit longer to warm up. Our volunteers did an excellent job introducing them at a pace that helped build a mutually respectful relationship.



KODOS

Kristen and Eric were looking for a pair of playful, cuddly feline companions to join their family of two grown humans and two smaller ones. Kodos was a bit shy at their meeting, but as experienced cat people, they were happy to claim these two girls as their own and allow Kodos to blossom in her own time.

Jewel aka JewelyMon (Jewel Monster) and KodosBrodos are thriving! Kodos is the self-appointed facilities manager. She makes sure that all doors remain open and lets you know about her displeasure if one is closed. Kodos likes to spend her mornings in the home office supervising sunbeams and reminding you to pet her. Jewel is our chief people officer. She makes sure to check in with everyone if they enter the house, a room, or just shift slightly on the couch. Kodos and Jewel both appreciate the value in having small humans to give them treats, love, and attention. Jewel and Kodos take turns supervising our youngest during his bath time. Jewel is our 10-year-old's buddy for cozy reading time. Kodos is also vigilant in keeping the family safe from a particularly impertinent squirrel. We love them!



JEWEL



WITH NEW FRIEND

—Kristen & Eric Earl

Molly & Desmond (formerly Kona & Kinski)

Kona and Kinski came to us as part of the "J-K-L-M-N" group of five momcats with their 14 kittens. Kona was the "K" mom and Kinski one of her three babies. Kinski was a typical orange guy from the beginning: chummy, goofy, and easygoing. Kona was more wary about getting close to humans, but the two of them had a blast playing with every single toy in their foster home, even the ones ignored by every other cat.

Amy was looking for a pair of cats to add to their family, which includes a big dog, alpacas, chickens, a bunny, and two teenagers. The younger human is the crazy cat-girl, who was in need of furry pals to snuggle. We knew Kinski would love to have girl of his own, and Kona would follow his lead. We are happy to report that they understood the assignment.



MOLLY (LEFT) & DEZY

The kitties are great! They've completely bonded with Isla, and her room is their home base/safe space. They like to help me wake her up for school. We've renamed them Desmond (Dezy) and Molly. It took three rounds of treatment to defeat Dezy's giardia, which was a bit of a pain but is luckily over. We've let them have full run of the house, and they are still adjusting to the dog. Each week it gets better and they all settle down.

They have a funny habit of stealing our socks. We find socks throughout the house or find them playing with them despite all their toys. They're a lot of fun and we're so happy they're a part of the family.

Thanks for being the stepping stones to bringing them into our lives!

—Amy Ciekot

SUCCESS STORIES

Nick & Norman

Nick & Norman were also part of the “J-K-L-M-N” group. We don’t know if they are brothers or cousins, but they were definitely bonded. Norman was true to his orange genetic programming, a social butterfly with poor impulse control. He loves everyone and everything and sees life as a grand adventure. Nick is timid and slower to trust, but as long as Norman is nearby, he’s game for most anything.

Bill and Lynn are retired folks with a sweet old Great Pyrenees dog named Riesling and grandkids who visit now and then. They have always lived with cats and wanted a loving lap cat to complete their family. We convinced them that a pair would be even better, and we happened to have two sweet boys currently living with a big dog in their foster home. Here’s how it’s going:

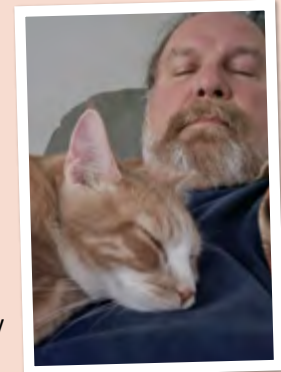


PERFECT ANGELS

They still wrestle and play and go nuts. We usually spend happy hour with them but tonight we’re outside giving Riesling some quality time and a much-needed brushing. Norman is slowly learning not to be as pushy with Riesling and she’s starting to tolerate him more instead of just walking away. They’ve been mostly gentle on the furniture, but they have viciously attacked my guitar case and countless other things. They definitely keep us on our toes.



NORMAN (LEFT) & NICK



BILL & HIS BOSS

—Bill & Lynn Metz

THINGS WE LIKE

The Feline Good Life: Safe Outside with a Catio!

“But all cats need to enjoy the great outdoors! Why should they be stuck indoors looking outside through windows?”

This is a question we often receive from potential adopters. It’s true that some cats live their entire lives outside, but here at ARCF we have seen enough suffering to establish an indoor-only policy for all our adoptions. Once we rescue a cat or kitten, we bring them inside and the door is closed. We’ve already poured our heart and soul (and resources) into rescuing them once – and once is enough.

Why It’s Important to Keep Cats Safe Indoors

While cats are naturally predatory, their hunting and defensive skills are not designed for today’s world:

- Cars and other vehicles pose a risk to suburban and urban cats – we’ve all seen their little bodies by the side of the road, waiting for an owner to find them.
- Cats fall prey to other animals, including dogs, coyotes, hawks, and owls.
- Cats are territorial by nature, so another cat interested in your cat’s space may initiate a duel, resulting in pain, suffering, and an expensive trip to the vet.
- Some cats hunt wildlife, endangering birds in the area. Cats that do hunt

are at risk of ingesting pesticides and poison commonly used in their environment.

- Neighbors rarely welcome having their gardens used as litter boxes, and many cats spray to mark territory, leaving smelly and corroded siding, doors, plants, fences, and furniture.

How to Enhance Your Cat’s Indoor Lifestyle with a Catio

One way to enrich your cat’s indoor life is by creating a “catio,” an enclosed outdoor area where your cat can play outside safely. In addition to providing safe access to the outdoors, many catio owners report that having the extra space and opportunity for stimulation reduce conflicts and

Continued on page 8

THINGS WE LIKE

behavior problems among feline family members. Sometimes all we need is a nice snooze outside in the sun to get along better.

A catio can be as simple as a mesh extension built off of a window; an enclosed deck, balcony, or porch; or as elaborate as a series of walkways and tunnels leading to free-standing enclosures. A quick internet search for catio ideas provides a dazzling array of designs.

Tips From Our Adopters With Catio Experience:

- If you have the space, go big. Include seating areas and access doors so you can comfortably hang out with your cats.
- Plan weather protection for maximum use. In our rainy but mild climate, a covered catio with good drainage will be comfortable almost all year.
- Add multiple levels, ramps, posts, and other climbing structures. You can switch out pieces of décor to entertain your easily-bored cats. Make sure any plants you include are not toxic to cats!
- Don't skimp on the materials. Follow the advice of experts, particularly with screening materials that safely keep cats in and other animals out, including birds and other small critters.
- Make sure there are no gaps in the structure. Check every corner and connection from up on a ladder and



ELLIOTT ENJOYS HIS CATIO PERCH

down on your knees before you turn your cats loose in the catio. If there is an escapable opening, they will find it.

- It doesn't have to be fancy! Just get something built and your cats will thank you. No, they won't, because they're cats. But they will love it.

Any carpenter with basic skills can build a catio, and there are many plans available for DIYers.

If you prefer to hire an expert, here are two local contractors with many excellent references:

- Catio Craftsman, catiocraftsman.com, 206-636-1209
- Steve Archie Construction, 503-318-8086

Feral Cat Coalition of Oregon and Cats Safe at Home™ will present the 14th Annual Catio Tour in the Portland area on September 12, 2026. The tour is an excellent opportunity to see catios designed and built for a variety of spaces and budgets. You can talk to the owners about their projects, and you'll get a guidebook with photos and details about each catio. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit catssafeathome.org.

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.)

☐ I'm interested in being a volunteer. Please contact me at _____ .

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