



MEOW CAT RESCUE & ADOPTION

CELEBRATING 24 YEARS OF RESCUE
& ALMOST 25,000 LIVES SAVED

Summer 2021

GOT THE BABY BLUES



Willow's Pride and Joy

When someone reported on NextDoor that a thin young feral cat was seen eating birdseed, a trapper acted quickly. The hungry cat was easy to trap, but she had to be released immediately. She had recently given birth. The trapper began a project which would be a roller coaster ride over the next few weeks. Apparently, mama was well known, covering quite a large territory, but nobody was feeding her. Now the entire neighborhood became involved, watching for mama, waiting for a glimpse of kittens, monitoring trail cameras and feeding stations, being patient.

The mother cat, now called Willow, was smart and protective. She moved the family at least twice over the next few weeks. Would Willow go in a trap again? She had become quite comfortable eating regular meals in a tied-open trap, returning two, sometimes three times a day.

Then it happened! Someone saw Willow carrying a kitten. Traps were moved to the new location. Three kittens were trapped quickly but Willow snatched up a fourth and fled. Another search. Finally, two determined trappers tracked down mama and the remaining two kittens, only to have her move them yet again! Happily, it didn't take much longer to locate them once more and get them all safely in custody.

No more struggles, no meager meals of birdseed. Willow turned out to be tame and adoptable. She and all five of her lookalike blue kittens will enjoy nutritious food, safe shelter, and the love of their forever families.

ARIES

IN CHARGE OF ACTIVITIES



Aries, So Handsome!

Aries is non-stop entertainment. Whether he's catching airborne crinkle balls, making the best biscuits ever, or pursuing the business end of a wand toy, he's all in. He grew up without the benefit of another kittycat friend to help him learn proper

manners, so at one year old he's working on overcoming some Single Kitten Syndrome behaviors. He can be easily over-stimulated and has a fast, but not aggressive, strike reflex. He has a tendency to play a bit rough, but is learning to recognize behavioral signals from the cats in his foster home. He gets very high marks, however, for his litterbox habits.

While in our care, Aries was treated for a cough, which has resolved with no sign of asthma or other respiratory distress. To prevent itchy skin and soft stool, he may do best on a prescription diet long term. Always game to burn off some energy, Aries had been patiently waiting for a forever home with another pet, and we're happy to report his wishes have been granted!

Our spunky and confident Aries, now known as Punchi, has become best buddies with his new big brother, Beau. When not playing chase, they can be found snuggling. Punchi has stolen the hearts of his new family.



Punchi & Beau, BFFs

SWEET PEA GOES HOME FOR HER BEST NINTH LIFE



Sweet Pea at Home

When she arrived, so long ago, she had nearly given up. Having been relegated to an outdoor life in a hoarding situation, she had birthed a litter of kittens very early in life and shortly thereafter had been hit by a car, causing spinal injuries. On arrival at MEOW, this thin little cat squinted through sticky eyelids, barely able to lift her head. She was extremely dehydrated, anorexic, and lethargic. She had severe infections from cystitis, pyelonephritis, and pyometra. Radiographs revealed a previous tail evulsion injury, which caused both fecal and urinary incontinence. Before the life-saving surgery to remove her infected womb, she was stabilized with high doses of antibiotics and IV fluids. After recovering from those things which could be treated, she remained incontinent. Her bladder must be expressed manually by loving human hands three to four times each day.

It was no secret that Sweet Pea's life would never be a normal one, but instead, for more than six years, she has been our Office Manager, our Resident Comedienne, our Cirque de Soliel level acrobat. She has become a MEOW legend. Now 2,334 days later, Ladies and Gentlemen, Miss Sweet Pea has left the building! Our amazing Ninth Life foster family, Dana and Cody, have offered to meet every one of her needs, to share their lives and their loving home. No doubt we'll all miss her antics at the shelter, but we could not be more thrilled! With tears of happiness, we send all the love to the Sweetest of Peas.



Sweet Pea's Smile

FOSTERING SAVES LIVES ~ YOU CAN HELP

As the post-pandemic world reopens, kitten season is upon us. They're often tiny, fragile, helpless, hungry. Sometimes motherless. They desperately need a safe place to grow, to learn, to become their best selves. We are there for them, thanks to our wonderful foster families who are willing to open their hearts and their homes to a late stage pregnant, a mama cat with newborns, weaned kittens on their own who still need time to grow and thrive, and our most vulnerable, the bottle babies.

During the pandemic we appreciated the added benefit of having foster homes available for adult cats. Whether they need to heal from injury or from neglect, need to get some positive training and guidance to become their best kitty selves, or they're not well suited for a stint in the shelter, a foster home can provide the needed sanctuary.



Finn—Recovering Nicely

Fostering is not always an easy job. It requires a time commitment and a secure space, such as a second bathroom or spare bedroom. There is food and

litter to be provided, and extra laundry to do. There are in-shelter appointments for vaccines and health checks. One thing's for sure, you will need extra strength (and a lot of Kleenex) when it's time to bring them back to the shelter for adoption. But fostering provides endless hours of joy and entertainment, playtime and cuddle sessions. And most importantly, there is the knowledge that you will have saved lives and given these precious ones a chance to live and be loved in their forever homes.

If you are interested in becoming one of MEOW's fabulous foster families, or you'd like to learn more, please visit our fostering webpage, or call us at the shelter. Fostering changes lives. Maybe it'll change yours, too.

TONY, NOT JUST SPECIAL NEEDS



Tony, Truly Special

his forehead, the movement would be mirrored with the other front paw simultaneously. Additionally, his right eye is blind. His neurologist suspects he has Myelodysplasia, an abnormal development of the spinal cord.

Shortly after being placed in one of our permanent Ninth Life foster homes, Tony began having seizure episodes and was prescribed anti-seizure medication. Toward the end of 2020, a persistent wound and changes in his behavior led to further diagnostic testing. A CT scan revealed that Tony had a liver defect called portosystemic shunt, which leads to increased levels of ammonia in the bloodstream, causing neurologic abnormalities. The definitive treatment for a PSS is surgical repair. During Tony's procedure on March 1st, his neurosurgeon discovered an atypical shunt, for which an alternative technique had to be used. A second surgery will be needed to complete the repair. Since his first surgery, Tony has had a much more significant seizure, requiring an increase in his medication, but his unusual gait has improved, and he sometimes walks normally now. His foster mom has this to say about him: "Tony really is a doll. He's very dog-like and comes when I call him. He sleeps in the crook of my arm every night. Tony is a purring machine who always wants to be around his people."

Tony's medical file is thick, and his multiple health issues are complicated. What isn't complicated is MEOW's promise of help for today and hope for tomorrow.

all nine lives are precious™

ADOLFO DORTA OUR NEWEST TEAM MEMBER

In early June, MEOW welcomed our new Shelter Manager, Adolfo Dorta. Adolfo has come to us from Safe Harbor Humane Society in Kenosha, Wisconsin, where he served first as Volunteer and Foster Coordinator and more recently as Development Coordinator.

A self-proclaimed "cat guy", Adolfo is excited to be joining us at MEOW. He and his wife Carrie, who works in the veterinary field, have been dreaming of living in the Pacific Northwest for some time, but that had been on hold until the recent passing of their two senior cats. They made the move with their 10 year old Boxer named Ripley, their 12 year old Floridian turtle named Mr. T, and their 1 year old foster-fail kitty, Kathleen Hanna Banana (Banana for short). Adolfo and Carrie enjoy hiking and nature photography and they are big foodies.

We hope you'll all be able to come by and meet Adolfo in person in the not too distant future.

PUSSY CAT PANTRY

As we begin to welcome cats and kittens back into the shelter, we once again have a need for food and supplies to keep their tummies full, their environment clean, and their needs met.

Canned Kitten and Cat Foods
Royal Canin Mother and Baby Cat Kibble
Royal Canin Sensitive Digestion
Unscented Clumping Clay Litter
Liquid Laundry Detergent HE
Kitchen Garbage Bags
Bleach
Postage Stamps
Paper Towels
Hand Sanitizer
Gift Cards (Costco, Target, Fred Meyer)

Other items on our Wish List would be much appreciated as well. If you're an Amazon shopper, you may purchase most of these items at www.amazon.com/gp/registry/wishlist/3LXAT722VXY12.

AS THE WORLD OPENS UP



Back in early March 2020, public health guidance necessitated closing the shelter to the public and moving the majority of our cat population into foster homes. During that time, we focused on implementing changes to protect the safety of staff, volunteers, and the public. Anyone who has been following MEOW's lifesaving work over the years knows that 2020 looked quite different from previous years, especially in terms of our animal population, due to multiple factors related to COVID-19. The persistent pandemic threat has required MEOW, and other shelters, to balance our mission of saving animal lives with our responsibility to provide a safe and healthy workplace for our dedicated staff.

We are so excited now to have begun the process of welcoming cats, volunteers, and the public back into the shelter. In late June we began having in-shelter adoptions by appointment. As we increase our shelter population we'll be hiring and training additional Caregivers and re-training volunteers on new protocols. The pandemic has caused some changes in available spay/neuter services, but we're doing our best to conquer this challenge.

We continue to rely on our network of foster parents to provide temporary homes for many of the cats and kittens in our care. During the pandemic, we realized that some of our cats loved being interviewed by Zoom from their foster homes. Some of our fosters are also enjoying the opportunity to meet and form lasting bonds with the forever families. We anticipate continuing to provide this type of adoption for those cats and fosters who'd prefer it.

We are so grateful for the support and patience of our MEOW community as we continue to navigate these unprecedented times. We know that as we emerge from the pandemic the need for rescue will be even greater and we thank you for being there for MEOW and the animals.



With respect and compassion for all animal life, MEOW promotes lifelong relationships between people and companion animals, providing shelter and care for each precious life until adopted into a forever home.

MEOW Cat Rescue
10600 NE 68th St., Suite F
Kirkland, WA 98033
425-822-MEOW (6369)

info@meowcatrescue.org

Newsletter@meowcatrescue.org

As MEOW begins the process to reopen the shelter, please watch our website for hours of operation.

HOW DO YOU LIKE MEOW?

If you have had a recent experience with MEOW as an adopter, supporter, or volunteer, we'd love for you to submit a review on Great Nonprofits. Each year, they create a list of the highest rated nonprofits and we've been fortunate to be on that list for many years now. But, it's up to you, our supporters, to keep us there. To submit a review, go to Great Nonprofits' website and search Mercer Island Eastside Orphans & Waifs, or use this QR code.

Thank you for helping us earn our 2021 Top-Rated Charities badge!



TO HONOR & REMEMBER

Memories: Winne, loved by Christine Go;
Susan, loved by Sharon Cummings;
Bebe, loved by Abbie and Stefan Kaspers;
and Dolly, a 24 year old grand lady,
loved by Alice Blanchard
City Kitty

In memory of our Kitties
William and Barbara Forrest

In honor of Ellie Shipley - 18 years of "sass"
but lots of love, too!
Stephan and Lynne Shipley

In remembrance of Cali's dear Mom
Margaret Ann Dewit

To Russo, Jack, Phoebe, Otis,
Pudge, and Pumpkin -
May we all meet on the Rainbow Bridge
Christine Zenner

In memory of my first cat, Patches
Carol Matheson

In memory of our MEOW cat Peepers
Bob, Kathy & Cady

In honor of Baby Evers now in the arms of
her mommy on the other side 4-8-21
Thomas Rembiesa

In honor of Chester and Mittens
Nancy Jackson

In honor of Amy deRie and in celebration
of her birthday
Jolie Scheibe

In memory of Dorothy Osborn
Jennifer Philyaw

In honor of "Pippin", mother of "Honeycrisp". . .
and Kim Liu, Pippin's mother.
Happy Mother's Day!
Karl & Kim

In memory of Mister & Haley
Marie Alvarado

To honor the life and memory of
Mr. Scout T. Braverman, my beloved
companion and devoted friend. You are with
me in spirit always and have a forever home
in my heart
Judith Sorensen

For Andrew and Atsuko,
in honor of their birthdays
Mom and Dad P

In honor and memory of Joey, magnificent
creature and beloved pet of Sally
Rebecca McQuade

My mom, Eileen, who loved all animals
but especially cats
Diane Staub

In memory of Willow Brugman
Erin Whitty

In honor of my amazing nephew Jackson
Stalnaker who is turning 20 this month and
just graduated high school cum laude!--
Megan McClellan

Given in loving memory of our beloved cat,
Murphy. You will forever be in our hearts--
Patty and Jim Groves

In honor Bonne VeVea, the most beautiful,
inspiring, brave, kind, thoughtful, caring
"kitten-soft" stepmother any girl could be
blessed enough to land!
Happy birthday to you, Bonne!
Cathy Davis

To honor Momo and Blake Hutchinson. . . .
cat lovers extraordinaire
Barbara Shikar and Tammy Heldridge

In memory of Chantilly Lace & Bebop
Barbara Alban

In honor of Bonne VeVea
Patricia and James Groves

Giving Thanks to Everyone Who GaveBIG!

Earlier this spring, we were awed and inspired by, and ever so grateful to our supporters who donated during giveBIG. Some donated in honor or memory of a special mom or pet. Whether you shared your dedication or not, we are genuinely humbled by the outpouring of generosity which raised over \$40,000 for the animals and programs of MEOW.

In Honor of

Carleen, Carole Shaffer-Koros, Christina Brugman, Chunk, Diane Villano, Foster Moms, Jahnu, Neelum & Sadira, Janis Newman, Jax & Gracie, Lewie & Lola, Lexie & Sesame Sorensen, Lola our foster fail, Marlene Stevens Wyneken, Moose & T-Bone (best furballs ever), Jonathan & Jobie, Snorky, Sully & Nessie, Vivian, and Xinan

In Memory of

All my cats, Ally & Zane, AngelBoy, Bella, Bijou, Bootsie Patrick, Charlie, Choco, Dan Walters, Diana (our beloved black cat), HC CAT, Herbie, Jack & Roxy, Kala, Maria Silva, Rick Smith (MEOW's best Santa ever), Mia, Patrick, Elliott, Melinda, Chelsea, Crystal, Percy & Bob, Princess, Riker, Riley, Robert Baumgardner, Spencer & Scarlett, Tuxedo, Vita Puff, Winchester, my MEOW dog and Benny & Nelson, my MEOW kitties. Lost during the pandemic, and Zizi

Thank You to:

Alex & Susan S, Althea D, Amy G, Amy S, Andee C, Andrea C, Andrew & Barbara W, Angela K, Ann P, Ann R, Audrey & John S, Autumn T, Barbara B & Rhoda B, Barbara P, Barbara Z & Paul H, Benincasa Family, Betty T, Bev P, Bob S, Brandy R, Bree SI, Bridget D, Carl S, Carole C, Carolyn P, Carolyn S, Cassandra E, Catherine C, Cathie S, Cathy H, Charles B, Chris, Christi R, Christopher T, Cindy, Cindy C, Cindy M, Colleen P, Craig R, Crystal R, Dawn D & John G, Deborah B, Deborah D, Deborah K, Deborah L, Debra C, Debra H, Delia M, Diana T, Diane W, Dianne P, Dilyara N, Dodi B, Dot O, DyAnne P, Elise, Elizabeth K, Ellen B, Emily S, Emma K, Gene B, George A, Glenna B, Gloria L, Grace W, Grace & James S, Gretchen B, Gretchen GG, Holland-Goon family, Ilona S, Irene H, Isao Y, Jackie & Tom P, James G, James Q, James W, James W & Dominique F, Jane S, Janet M, Jannabeth B, Jean B, Jenn W, Jennifer C, Jennifer S-Y, Jodi K, Jodi W, John J, Johnine L, Judi K, Judy E, Julie B, June C, Karen & Rick S, Karen K, Karen L, Kassie K, Kate W, Kathleen, Kathryn K, Kathy H, Katie Mae S, Kelley P, Kimberley F, Kimberly L, Kraig Ns, Kristin I, Kristin P, Laura G, Laura M, Leisl H, Leona A, Linda & Ted D, Linda M, Linda P, Linda Y, Lori Y, Maggie D, Marnie A, Marsha M, Mary Jane K, Mary Wi Meagan B & Elisabeth S, Melissa C, Melody C, Michael G, Michelle C, Michelle N, Nancy C, Natalia V, Niko O, Pam Z, Pat M, Paul L, Rachel C, Rhoda & Thomas L, Richard & Dodi B, Richard M, Rymma, Sam's Mom, Sanghamithra K, Sharon & Nancy B, Shelley L, Sheryl H, Sheryle A, Steve & Sue H, Susan D, Susan O, Susan S, Susan T, The Pickerill Family, Thomas L, Tom W, Tristan & Carrie M, Tsung-hsuan H & Liheng Z, Tyler B, Valerie L & Pam B, Victor B, and Winnie O

FINE WINES & FELINES 2021

AUGUST 7TH – AUGUST 14TH



Please join us (virtually) once again for this year's annual fundraising auction and dinner, Whisker Me Away! MEOW Luau 2.0. Online bidding opens August 7th at 8 am. Funds raised each year are critical to our ability to provide sanctuary as well as emergency and specialized veterinary care to the animals who need us most. Last year, our first virtual event raised \$108,000 for the animals!

We are amazed and so grateful for the generosity of our local businesses, volunteers and supporters who have donated a wide variety of desirable items, dining gift cards, getaway opportunities, fun experiences, hand crafted decor, and of course, must-have pet items for your spoiled furry family members. Register now for free

bidding! Then bid early and bid often to win your favorite things while supporting your favorite cause. Winners will be notified after the close of the auction and scheduled pick up will be at the shelter the following week.

On Saturday August 14th, you are invited to enjoy a delicious catered vegetarian or vegan boxed meal (limited delivery area or available for pick-up at the shelter in Kirkland) to help create the purrfect luau experience. Why not host a table of friends? The livestream fun kicks off at 6 pm with our pre-event Zoom happy hour, or if you prefer, tune in to our pre-event warm up video which will begin at 6:30 pm. The main event, our livestream live auction and program, will begin at 7 pm. Links will be available on our auction website. Learn more, register for free bidding, and plan your perfect luau dinner and beverage at <https://auction.meowcatrescue.org>.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

