

# The Pawsitive Press!

The Volunteer and Foster Newsletter

for Greenhill Humane Society and 1st Avenue



Volume 3 , Issue 1 2

December 2017

## A Year of Happy Tails!

*Let's celebrate all of the great success stories you all were a part of this year!*

### The Happy Tails of TANK!

Tank is doing wonderful! He is well mannered, well behaved He is spoiled ROTTEN, has two beds, and more toys than most kids get at Christmas. He is joy to have! The vet was very impressed with him, and the vet techs were following him on Facebook so they were very happy to meet him. He is getting all his meds and we have him on the special diet for his allergies. The vet removed his skin tag so now he is even more beautiful. He has had no problems in the house or the yard He does great with other people. We went camping and there were 5 other dogs and he did ok. The other day a neighborhood cat got in the house and I found Tank rubbing noses with it! When I walk him, people often stop me to ask if it is Tank. He has a big back yard and loves it. He loves to soak up the sun. He loves to swim and dives down - we live near a river so we go there. We have a boat in Winchester and he had a sleepover on the boat and loved it! And he likes blackberries- we were picking some the other day, I was eating and threw him some and he ate them right up and came back for more. He needed a place to spend his golden years and we are glad to have him. He is happy and sassy and he is doing GH proud!



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#### Greenhill Humane Society 1st Avenue Shelter

##### Volunteer Department

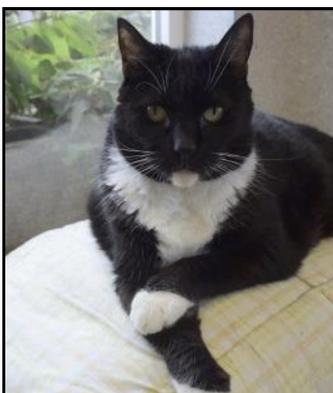
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Dazzle

### Happy Tails!

Dazzle has settled in, she's a lap cat, sleeps in my bed...but she's a cranky old lady and wants to eat or she shreds newspaper...but it's funny and I love her! The vet says she is very well for 15.



Ariana and Monika at A4A!



Synnove A. at A4A!



Katie J. and Vern M. at A4A!

# Volunteer & Foster Anniversaries!

## Volunteers

### 1 year-

Katharine D.,  
Tamasin G.,  
Melissa K., Ka-  
ren L., Sahalie  
L., Ginny M.

### 2 years-

Destiny F.,  
Garth P., Joce-

lyn W.

3 years-  
Vern M.

### 4 years-

Ma'Carry C.

# December

B.

### 3 years-

Stella S., Carly  
T.

### 5 years-

Peggy C., Mari-  
on D., Lisa M.,

Teresa N.

5 years-  
Carol C., Tonya  
M.

7 years-  
Roger C.

## Fosters

### 1 year-

Chris & Adam

# Meet your Team Leaders!

*Did you know each area of the shelter has volunteer Team Leaders in place to support all volunteers? Your Team Leaders have agreed to be available for questions, to do shadow shifts, help make sure each area is running smoothly and address issues.*

**Any pets at home?** At current I have a Jack Russell and 3 Guinea Pigs (meatball and Sgetti adopted there) and all past dogs from Greenhill



**What food would you take with you to a deserted island?** Milk duds

**If you could share dinner with someone, who would it**

**Let's get to know our Team Leaders!**

**Name:** Tonya McPherson

**Area / Shelter:** Greenhill Kennel

**How long have you been volunteering at Greenhill?** 5 yrs this stint I volunteered way back in 1990 as well in the original cattery

**be?** Past- my grandparents to get their family histories present- Tia Torres ( pit bulls and parolees)

**What is your proudest accomplishment?** Masters degree in teaching

## Happy Tails!



**Roo  
(was Kuro)**

"Roo" is doing really well. She is slowly bonding with our cat....she has so much love to give. We're going to start a training course in January. She's a real cuddlebug and loves meeting people and dogs on the street. She is a bit fearful of men, but we're working on that by having male friends come over and hang out. We go on walks in the morning and early evening. She does pull on the leash because she's so excited to smell everything. She's always calmer in the evening. She sure brings new perspective to life. She's always showing me new things that I didn't see before. I'm seeing the world through different eyes. I'm so happy to have her...thank you. Oh and she loves chewing on her bones...that's the best!

## Happy Tails!



**Chip & Dale**

They are doing wonderful. I have 2 girls and each has taken one to care for. They love treats! We have cats and a dog and all get along. Thank you Greenhill.

## Happy Tails!

We love Olive. She is so sweet and cuddly. She likes to blend in with our dark furniture and hide behind our curtains. She is feisty in the mornings but takes long naps in the afternoons. She loves to greet us when we get home with long conversations. She loves her new scratching post and laser pointer, but she is almost too smart for it (She knows we are holding it). She is such a curious explorer and we have enjoyed her as our new family member.



**Olive**

## Happy Tails!



**Minnie**

**(was Selena)**

Selena renamed Minnie is a huge cuddler! She likes to eat all the time. She's pottying outside. She is good with our 11 year old chocolate lab and sleeps with our teenage kitten. She is good with our four kids. We are going to Pet Smart for obedience. We're really, really glad we went to Greenhill.

## Happy Tails!



**Charles & Harley**

I saw these two months ago on your website and was worried that they would not get adopted or would be split up. Having two Chihuahuas previously I love the breed...and decided to adopt these two and give them a good home. They are doing very well, super playful and happy. They love going to the dog park, and have regular play days with a neighbor and her two dogs. They have had their vet exams.

## PAW PRINT PERSONALS!



**Chance**

Fun-loving and active guy looking for someone who can keep up with me and help me learn to trust! Come say hi at First Avenue!



**Henry**

Handsome and loving gentleman seeking people who love to play and snuggle! Come meet me at Greenhill!



**Cosmo**

Sweet and sensitive bunny in search of someone to spend my days snuggling with! Come meet me at Greenhill!

## Volunteer of the Month: Rachel & Emma B.

Meet Rachel and Emma - our Volunteer of the Month team for December! Rachel and Emma have been a huge part of our volunteer team at Greenhill since July of 2016 and have contributed **over 400 hours combined!** Both Rachel and Emma are enthusiastic and passionate about helping the cats and small animals at the shelter and treat each and every animal as their own.

Rachel and Emma work as a parent-youth team in the Cattery and Small Animal Room. They also help run small animal adoption events twice a month, where they "raise awareness about the small animals available for adoption at Greenhill" and provide education on caring



for small animals as pets. Rachel loves helping people find the animal that will "fit in perfectly with their families," while Emma loves that she "can change someone's life with something as simple as introducing them to a wonderful cat." Both Rachel and Emma agree that they have learned "so much" volunteering at Greenhill, particularly in terms of basic and small animal care. They also agree that they have learned a lot from working

with the people they meet while volunteering. Emma says that volunteering has taught her how to "interact with a diverse community of people brought together by love for animals," while Rachel says this has taught her "valuable customer service skills" that have helped her in work and other volunteer jobs. This mother-daughter duo's stellar teamwork doesn't stop at Greenhill. Rachel volunteers in the College and Career Center at Emma's high school, while Emma volunteers for the Eugene Comic Con that Rachel helps to organize and run.

## Fosters of the Month: Misaki Kato & Isaac Gaines



Meet Misaki Kato and Isaac Gaines, our December Fosters of the Month! Misaki and Isaac started fostering with us this past April, and they have jumped right in with taking in and training foster dogs who

are stressed out in the shelter environment. They wanted to adopt a dog but didn't have time to care for one long-term, and fostering has been the perfect fit for them!

One of Misaki and Isaac's favorite things about fostering is training the dogs in their care and teaching them tricks. Misaki said, "Some dogs are more challenging than others and each dog presents a new challenge. But it's rewarding to see your dog learn little things,

even if it's just learning to listen to you."

When they aren't busy hanging out with their foster dogs, Misaki and Isaac are very active and love soccer, skiing, and hiking. They both lead busy lives outside of their work with us - Misaki is currently a doctoral student at the University of Oregon and Isaac also volunteers at Food for Lane County.

Misaki and Isaac recommend fostering to anyone who wants to have an animal, but is unable to make a long-term commitment. Fostering has allowed them to learn more about the responsibilities of having a dog, learn what kind of dog best suits their personalities, and get more exercise! Misaki said, "Of course some dogs can be challenging in some aspects, but they are all loving. The staff in the foster department are all supportive and they provide you with lots of help."

## *Holiday Safety Tips for Pets!*

The holiday season is upon us, and many pet parents plan to include their furry companions in the festivities. As you gear up for the holidays, it is important to try to keep your pet's eating and exercise habits as close to their normal routine as possible. Also, please be sure to steer pets clear of the following unhealthy treats, toxic plants and dangerous decorations.

### Be Careful with Seasonal Plants and Decorations

- **Oh, Christmas Tree:** Securely anchor your Christmas tree so it doesn't tip and fall, causing possible injury to your pet. This will also prevent the tree water—which may contain fertilizers that can cause stomach upset—from spilling. Stagnant tree water is a breeding ground for bacteria, and your pet could end up with nausea or diarrhea should he imbibe.
- **Avoid Mistletoe & Holly:** Holly, when ingested, can cause pets to suffer nausea, vomiting and diarrhea. Mistletoe can cause gastrointestinal upset and cardiovascular problems. And many varieties of lilies can cause kidney failure in cats if ingested. Opt for just-as-jolly artificial plants made from silk or plastic, or choose a pet-safe bouquet.
- **Tinsel-less Town:** Kitties love this sparkly, light-catching "toy" that's easy to bat around and carry in their mouths. But a nibble can lead to a swallow, which can lead to an obstructed digestive tract, severe vomiting, dehydration and possible surgery. It's best to brighten your boughs with something other than tinsel.
- **That Holiday Glow:** Don't leave lighted candles unattended. Pets may burn themselves or cause a fire if they knock candles over. Be sure to use appropriate candle holders, placed on a stable surface. And if you leave the room, put the candle out!
- **Wired Up:** Keep wires, batteries and glass or plastic ornaments out of paws' reach. A wire can deliver a potentially lethal electrical shock and a punctured battery can cause burns to the mouth and esophagus, while shards of breakable ornaments can damage your pet's mouth and digestive tract.

### Avoid Holiday Food Dangers

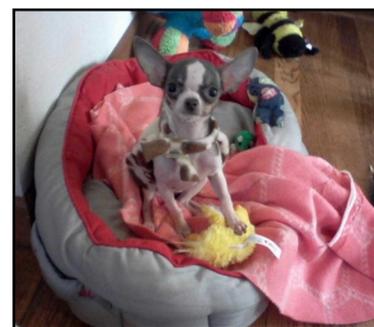
- **Skip the Sweets:** By now you know not to feed your pets chocolate and anything sweetened with xylitol, but do you know the lengths to which an enterprising pet will go to chomp on something yummy? Make sure to keep your pets away from the table and unattended plates of food, and be sure to secure the lids on garbage cans.
- **Leave the Leftovers:** Fatty, spicy and no-no human foods, as well as bones, should not be fed to your furry friends. Pets can join the festivities in other fun ways that won't lead to costly medical bills.
- **Careful with Cocktails:** If your celebration includes adult holiday beverages, be sure to place your unattended alcoholic drinks where pets cannot get to them. If ingested, your pet could become weak, ill and may even go into a coma, possibly resulting in death from respiratory failure.
- **Selecting Special Treats:** Looking to stuff your pet's stockings? Stick with chew toys that are basically indestructible, Kongs that can be stuffed with healthy foods or chew treats that are designed to be safely digestible. Long, stringy things are a feline's dream, but the most risky toys for cats involve ribbon, yarn and loose little parts that can get stuck in the intestines, often necessitating surgery. Surprise kitty with a new ball that's too big to swallow, a stuffed catnip toy or the interactive cat dancer.



Maya by: Misaki K. & Isaac G.



Pumpkin by: Dixie M.



Hershey by: Moira M.

“ It's a wonderful feeling to welcome a creature in need into your home.

Molly Craig -  
Foster Parent

”

## Happy Tails!



### Charleston

Charleston is doing great. I'm so happy to have him and happy that we found each other. I think he's loving his new home. He likes his toys that you sent home with him and my family keeps sending toys over for him. He sleeps in my bed and follows me everywhere. I go to work and come home and he's waiting for me. He is fearful of other dogs when we go on walks.

## Happy Tails!



### Nigiri

We're doing great! He's taken over our hearts and our home. We have 2 birds and have taken measures to train him to stay away. Now they are ignoring each other. He is indoor and we have a cat tree near the window for him. We've taken him to the vet and he's fine, but gained weight too fast. He is a cuddler!

## Happy Tails!

We are loving our new friend... he is awesome. He is very communicative and lets us know when his bowl is empty. He loves to play and he loves to snuggle. He is adorable...sweet...and in three short weeks has become the living soul of our home. He has this cute thing he does when he is snuggling...if I stop petting him or he wants me to wake up...he extends his arm and drags his paw across my face with a little claw extended to get my attention He is ok when I grab his paw and hold it. I think he just wants the connection. The adoption process was great and I was impressed with the love that is present in what could be a sad environment.



### Jax

## Happy Tails!

They both are doing well and I love having them. My boyfriend and I love to cuddle with them in the evenings, when we are home and watching TV. They are so sweet and love the greens I give them fresh from the garden. I also built them a large play pen that they can run around in during the day. Both seem really happy and are warming up to their new home. They are so sweet; everyone who meets them things they are wonderful. Everything is going well so far. Thank you for checking in on us. I will let you guys know if any questions come up.



### Gracie & Hope

## Happy Tails!

One-eyed Willie walked right out of the carrier when we got home. He didn't need any adjustment and we showed him his litter box and food. Vet check went fine. Other cats come up to the screen to visit him. He likes to sit on top of his giant cat tower. Adoption experience was wonderful. We visited Stealth for a month and were always greeted by staff. One eyed Willie met the neighbor's puppy. He sniffed the dog, backed up, and walked away. I have a seven year old son that One Eyed Willie adores. They sleep together.



### One-eyed Willie (was Stealth)