



PawsPress

Spring 2020 • Tony [unclear] Animal Rescue Foundation



RESOURCE CENTER CONTINUES HELPING THOSE IN NEED



As more and more pet owners find themselves in uncertain times amidst the worldwide COVID-19 outbreak, ARF has been working full speed to assist those in need. The beating heart of our response efforts is the ARF Resource Center. Our team is happy to offer guidance and share services with members of the public who need help with pet-related issues, including keeping or re-homing a pet, lost and found animals, available low-cost services, what to do if you find kittens, and more.

Visit arflife.org/resource-and-referral-center for more information on this program. Remember, we're all in this together. 🐾

CLASSROOM "PET" BRINGS JOY TO STUDENTS DURING SHELTER IN PLACE

When ARF's Humane Education team visits schools to teach about compassionate animal care, each class gets their very own plush animal. But when school is on hiatus due to the coronavirus outbreak, what happens to their beloved button-nosed pet? One Pittsburg, CA elementary school teacher surprised students by bringing their class' ARF-adopted plush dog, Waffles, along for their shelter-in-place parade! Teachers and staff caravanned past their students' homes with bright signs, fun music, and the special guest, Waffles, peeking out a car window.

The teacher told us, "I knew the kids would be excited to see him, but I didn't realize *how excited*. One of the students even responded with a voice recording to Waffles saying how she missed him. He will also be part of our online class meetings." 🐾



ON THE COVER: INDIGO

Indigo, a 3-month-old pit bull puppy, is one of the many animals ARF has rescued from an uncertain future during the outbreak of COVID-19. ARF continues to assist public shelters by taking in dogs and cats who have advanced veterinary needs or require greater attention.

Read more on pages eight and nine about the dogs and cats saved during this difficult time. 🐾

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



The world has drastically changed due to COVID-19, but ARF's commitment to animals during this unprecedented time is unfaltering.

Deemed an essential business, ARF is continuing its life-saving efforts within the shelter-in-place mandate. Animals are receiving excellent care thanks to a team of dedicated staff and volunteers who graciously opened their homes to provide foster care. To protect the health of our volunteers, staff, and the community, we've adjusted or suspended our public programs until the mandate is lifted.

We continue to work with partner shelters to save lives by rescuing vulnerable dogs and cats while following strict no-contact protocols. With many municipal shelters unable to offer medical care, ARF provides a second chance at life for many sick and injured animals during this pandemic. You can read about some of these heart-warming stories on pages eight and nine.

Once animals are healthy, our new, virtual adoption process is finding forever homes for these dogs

and cats. We are inspired by the number of families stepping forward to adopt. ARF's new protocols ensure both adoption specialists and families stay safe while making matches between adopters and animals in need of loving homes.

We also recognize the increasing need for our Pet Safety Net to help low-income families and seniors. We are delivering pet food and supplies to local crisis centers, providing low-cost medical care through ARF's Emergency Medical Fund®, and ensuring other services to keep at-risk families and their furry companions together. Pets are family.

With many of ARF's usual revenue streams impacted by COVID-19 and fundraising events postponed or cancelled, your partnership is critical now, more than ever, to ensure ARF is there for animals who need us the most.

Animals on Broadway, ARF's annual walk and pet fair, is pivoting to a virtual pet walk this year. Please join us by forming a virtual team and registering online at give.classy.org/aob today! Then ask your friends, co-workers, and family to join you in saving lives and supporting animals in need.

As always, we are extremely grateful for your continuing support during this challenging time. We will get through this together and emerge hopeful and ready to rebuild to save more lives, both animals and people.

Stay well,

Elena Bicker





ANIMALS on BROADWAY

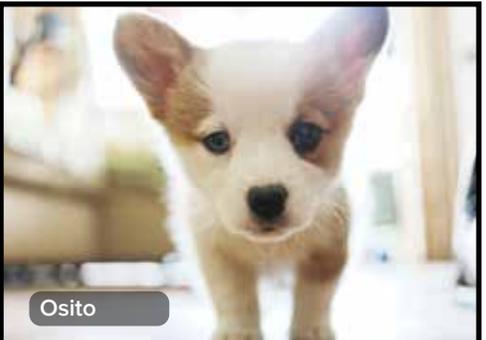
AFTER 20 YEARS, ANIMALS ON BROADWAY GOES VIRTUAL

We're celebrating the 20th anniversary of Animals on Broadway, and while we can't throw the party of the year just yet, the show must go on. *On-line*, that is!

Sign up as an individual or with friends as a team to help ARF reach our goal of \$110,000 raised for animals in need. Then, on Sunday, May 17, gather 'round with your whole family — including your pets — to save lives

during our virtual pet walk! For event updates or to register your team, visit give.classy.org/aob.

Later this year, join us for a festival in downtown Walnut Creek, CA, where we can celebrate the human-animal bond in traditional ARF style — with pet adoptions, demonstrations, giveaways, and all the usual Animals on Broadway fun! 🐾



OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS

arlife.org/events

CATS ON MATS VIRTUAL YOGA



May 7 • May 14 • May 21 • May 28
Virtual Event • arlife.org

Missing your yoga studio? Join us for a virtual session, guided by our volunteer registered yoga instructor.

YAPPY HOUR VIRTUAL TRIVIA



May 5 • May 19
Virtual Event • arlife.org

Pour yourself a cold one and enjoy the online version of our popular Yappy Hour Trivia event!

SHRED DAY



Saturday, July 11
ARF Headquarters • Walnut Creek, CA

Take care of all your shredding needs at only \$5 a box, with drop-off starting at 9:30 am!

ARF PREPARES FOR SPRINGTIME PUPPIES AND KITTENS

Every year as winter subsides, animal shelters across the country are flooded with young puppies and newborn kittens — some of the most vulnerable lives to enter these already crowded facilities. Albeit cute, these delicate lives require constant care, attention, and resources to ensure they grow to be healthy, strong, and well-socialized young cats and dogs. Thus, rescue organizations like ARF are heavily called on to alleviate the strain put on public shelters by this annual boom.

In preparation, ARF's foster team is collecting donations for our Puppy and Kitten Shower to welcome these baby animals into the world! Our foster volunteers are trained and ready to take these infant animals into their homes. But plenty of specialty items, from puppy potty pads to milk replacement powder, are required to provide the loving care they need.

To protect the health of our life-saving team and in accordance with shelter-in-place mandates, we cannot accept drop-off donations until further notice. But we're grateful for your delivery orders from your local pet retailers' online stores or websites, such as Amazon, and any financial contributions. Donations may be



mailed directly to ARF's headquarters at 2890 Mitchell Dr, Walnut Creek, CA 94598.

Visit arflife.org/foster to learn more about fostering for ARF and arflife.org/help/wish-list to view our most up-to-date list of supplies needed! 🐾

“These generous donations are needed now to carry our foster department through the entire year.”

Alex, ARF Foster Supervisor



WHAT OUR PUPPIES AND KITTENS NEED

- Puppy pads
- Nylabones® (assorted flavors and sizes)
- Medicine treat pockets for cats and dogs
- Interactive feeders for cats and dogs
- Puppy snuggle toys
- Kong® classic dog toys
- Processed squeeze cheese
- Training treats
- “Adopt Me” leashes
- Puppy milk replacement
- Kitten milk replacement
- Unscented baby wipes
- Squeaky toys
- Cat toys
- Fleece blankets
- All meat baby food (chicken or turkey)



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: *Joe Kearney*

For more than 30 years, Joe Kearney was the friendly neighborhood UPS man carrying treats to pass out to dogs along his route. "I had about a dozen dogs on my regular route that I always stopped to see. The dogs always looked forward to some loving pets, and of course, their treats," remembers Joe.

Also along Joe's route was the La Russa's household and their animal companions. Knowing Joe's affinity for animals, the La Russas asked if he would help with a new fundraiser to support the budding organization they had just founded. That was 29 years ago, and Joe has been helping with ARF's Stars to the Rescue event ever since!

Now retired, Joe still uses his driving and delivery skills to support ARF's FoodShare program. FoodShare volunteers deliver pet food, donated by Purina, to qualifying low-income pet guardians and crisis centers near ARF's headquarters. Especially during the unprecedented time of COVID-19 — this program is keeping pets at home and out of overcrowded public shelters.

"Every person is so grateful," said Joe. "FoodShare is helping people who are really struggling financially."



Additionally, many of them lack access to reliable transportation or the physical strength to pick up their pets' food or litter themselves. But their pets are everything to them, and I'm so glad I can help."

Just like his UPS days, Joe has many regulars along his route. One cat, Elvis, is a particularly enthusiastic client. "When Elvis hears or sees the ARF van pull up, he runs up and demands attention from me," said Joe. "He has this really deep meow, and will lay across my feet, ensuring that the first thing I do is pet him."

Looking to make an impact as a volunteer? Visit arflife.org/volunteer to learn more. 🐾



From food to litter, we're proud to support the pets of Tony La Russa's Animal Rescue Foundation



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"I had about a dozen dogs on my regular route that I always stopped to see."

Joe, ARF Volunteer & former UPS driver

PAWS ACT PASSES IN U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

“Why wait? Why wait in getting these veterans help? ”

Rep. Steve Stivers, Ohio Congressman

Earlier this year, we were thrilled to witness the PAWS for Veterans Therapy Act (HR 4305) pass the U.S. House of Representatives with overwhelming bipartisan support! If passed by the Senate, this inspiring bill will set up a Department of Veterans Affairs pilot to promote nonprofit programs similar to ARF's Pets and Vets, with an emphasis on veterans participating in the training of their own dogs and a positive-reinforcement training curriculum.

Congressman Steve Stivers of Ohio passionately presented the bill to the House of Representatives, saying “Why wait? Why wait in getting these veterans help? There’s a study conducted by Kaiser Permanente and another by Purdue that show significant statistical benefits from this therapy in reducing substance abuse, enhancing and encouraging interpersonal relations, reducing depression-related metrics for our veterans —



The PAWS for Veterans Therapy Act was spearheaded by Rep. Steve Stivers with overwhelming bipartisan support.

including a reduction in suicides.” Learn more at arflife.org about ARF's assistance in crafting this legislation and what it will mean for veterans with PTSD in need of psychiatric service dogs, such as those served by ARF's Pets and Vets program. 🐾

CHESTNUT'S RECOVERY

When 4-month-old Chestnut's daredevil spirit resulted in two broken legs, ARF came to the rescue to provide the urgent care he needed. Our veterinary clinic conducted a series of tests and dispatched him to a volunteer foster home with casts on his front legs and a tail that wouldn't stop wagging.

This challenge to his mobility wasn't able to slow this puppy down! He kept his exuberant personality through his entire recovery, even developing a strong bond with his foster family's Sphinx cats. After more than a month in foster care, his family knew Chestnut was a permanent member of the household and adopted him. 🐾



KITTENS UNDER THE HOOD

Maybe you've heard strange sounds from a car engine from time to time? When a California family heard meowing from under the hood of their car, they didn't know what to do! A litter of four kittens had crawled inside the car engine for warmth. Rescuing them required two hours of assistance from local police and animal control officers.



Once the kittens were freed from the engine's metal labyrinth, they found themselves in another predicament — an overcrowded, public shelter. Thankfully, ARF's rescue team heard of their plight and immediately dispatched to bring them to safety. After receiving medical care, and TLC in a foster home, these four healthy kittens went home with loving families. 🐾

WHILE AMERICA QUARANTINES,

Despite our nation's shutdown due to the COVID-19 outbreak, ARF's life-saving efforts continue within the shelter-in-place order. Deemed an essential business, our team is still working hard assisting partner shelters while meeting social distancing requirements and other safety protocols. We are currently focusing on dogs and cats suffering from complicated medical issues requiring extensive veterinary care and monitoring, which public shelters cannot manage during the current pandemic.

The outpouring of support we've seen from our community is inspiring. But we still need help navigating this difficult chapter — now more than ever before in ARF's history. With your support, we'll still be here to save lives and connect hearts.

Here is a look at a few of the adorable dogs and cats you have helped us rescue since COVID-19 shelter-in-place mandates began in March:

INDIGO

ARF rescued 14-week-old Indigo after he suffered a prolapsed rectum at one of our partner shelters. While in our foster home, his rectum re-prolapsed, causing ARF's clinic to perform a surgical "colopexy" procedure, preventing him from suffering the same injury for a third time. Now, Indigo's run of antibiotics are keeping him healthy and his foster family is keeping all that puppy energy in check!



MOEY

Moey is a 2-year-old pit bull mix with a thousand-watt smile who loves snuggling up on laps, slobbering up tasty treats, and rolling around in a nice patch of grass. Unfortunately, Moey did all of these activities with a painful limp. A specialist confirmed Moey had a cranial cruciate ligament (CCL) tear, the equivalent of a torn ACL in a human. Even with ARF's discounted rate with veterinary specialists, the tibial plateau leveling osteotomy surgery to repair Moey's knee costs approximately \$3,000. Additionally, ARF's clinic discovered a scar near Moey's back knee, indicating a previous surgery on the other leg. Her x-rays showed a metal plate in that leg from a prior bone break that healed.

Moey is in good hands with our talented veterinary team — her surgery went well and her prognosis looks good. But she's just one of many animals in need at public shelters that are operating with limited resources. Thanks to supporters like you, ARF is here to help.

SAVING LIVES CONTINUES AT arf



ISABELL

Rescued from Stockton, California, 5-year-old Isabell is being treated for a debilitating skin condition that had caused her a lot of pain. As we went to print, she was on the mend and recovering in an ARF foster home.



BLUE

ARF is helping Blue, who we suspect was hit by a car, recover from a broken back leg. This super-sweet boy remains in good spirits, always ready to hobble over to a stranger to show off his favorite toys. Don't you wish you could sign his cast?



PELLY

Pelly is almost completely blind, leaving her a little unsure of how to interact with the world around her. But when she senses a person in the room, she starts purring up a storm and kneading her blanket with her paws, ready to curl up for some petting.



JOHN

Here to casually one-up the aforementioned Pelly, John is blind *and* has trouble hearing. But a little rub behind the ear or on his hip gets his tail moving like you wouldn't believe. He has plenty of love to give and wants the world to know it!



CAMPAIGN FOR PETS AND VETS CROSSES FINISH LINE

Thanks to ARF supporters, the Campaign for Pets and Vets came to a successful close on December 31. The campaign's centerpiece is the new Pets and Vets Center, but also includes an animal care expansion, solar arrays, and a private veterinary clinic to better serve veterans.

Due to COVID-19 shelter-in-place mandates, construction is currently paused for the safety of construction workers and ARF staff. With the project currently 41% complete, we look forward to resuming construction once it is deemed safe.

We remain grateful to our many supporters who made this possible as we expand our Pets and Vets program in Saving Both Ends of the Leash®. 🐾



FOSTERING DOGS AND SAVING BOTH ENDS OF THE LEASH®

Each week, ARF's team carefully selects service dog hopefuls from overcrowded shelters to join ARF's Pets and Vets program. Rescuing dogs to be matched with veterans readjusting to civilian life requires diligent evaluation. These dogs will become trusted battle buddies with their new veteran partners, training together for 10 months to one year to become a

“It was a treat to see the bond between the dog and the veteran; to see the transformation, to see them so loved and so disciplined in their job.”

Karen, ARF foster volunteer



Shelter-turned-service dog, Woody, celebrates graduation alongside his family and former foster volunteers.

psychiatric service dog team. So it's critical to identify dogs with the personality, drive, and steadfast characteristics necessary for service dog work.

ARF's Pets and Vets team performs initial evaluations of each dog at the public shelter. However, it's our volunteers who are critical to one of the most essential pieces of the evaluation process. “Fostering shows us so much about the dogs' previous socialization and ability to handle real-world scenarios,” explains Amanda, ARF's Pets and Vets program coordinator. “We want to know how the dogs will be in a home environment and out in public with their veterans, faced with every day distractions.”

Karen and her husband, Robert, are two volunteers who foster canine candidates for the Pets and Vets program. “The special thing about this program is the information we receive about each dog we've fostered after they're placed,” said Karen. “I know the dogs are healing at the same time as the veterans. It's so gratifying to hear about their progress and see the outcome at graduation; to see the transformation in such a relatively short time.”

Mike, a veteran in ARF's Pets and Vet program, was matched with Woody, one of the dogs Karen and Robert fostered. “Meeting the foster family at graduation was awesome,” said Mike. “It closed the loop.”

If you are located in the San Francisco Bay Area and are interested in fostering dogs for Pets and Vets, sign up for an online orientation at arflife.org/foster. 🐾

PETS AND VETS: THE GRADUATING CLASS OF 2019

Last winter, 21 military veterans and their dogs received diplomas and congressional commendations for completing ARF's Pets and Vets service dog training. ARF's third class of graduates sets the bar higher than ever as part of this rapidly expanding program.

In addition to basic manners, graduation from the program requires a dog's mastery of at least three tasks that directly address a veteran's challenges, stemming from PTSD, traumatic brain injuries, anxiety, and severe depression.

We celebrate the accomplishments of our largest class to date, but the demand for this assistance among military veterans continues to grow. 🐾



Sergio, with his service dog, Laramie, and his family celebrate after almost a full year of training as part of ARF's Pets and Vets.



Bane



Bella



Diesel

“To me, she’s more than a hero ... Laramie helped me get back what I lost in the service. Little by little, she’s bringing it all back to me.”

Sergio, 2019 Pets and Vets graduate



Hokage



Hudson



Jasper



June



Laramie



Lilah



Max



Miss Molly



Pinto



Quinton



Rebel



Rose



Sasha



Sophie



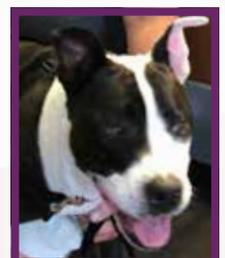
Tux



Wesley



Woody



Zeppelin

TRIBUTE GIFTS

We are pleased to recognize tribute gifts of \$250 or more, which offer a special opportunity to remember a loved one, recognize an accomplishment, celebrate a special occasion, or thank a friend or colleague.

This issue of the Paws Press magazine recognizes gifts received 10/1/19 to 3/31/20. Gift dates may vary due to data entry and press lead time. If you have any questions about our tribute listings, please email giving@arflife.org. To make a tribute gift, please visit arflife.org/honor. 🐾



IN MEMORY OF:

- | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|--|
| Abbie
<i>Elizabeth A. Torio</i> | Cowboy
<i>Jack and Jeanne Roman</i> | Harry and Zaboo
<i>John and Jennifer Spahr</i> | Macy
<i>Jane Bartholic</i> | Piper Whitlow
<i>The ARF Family</i> | Scooter
<i>Varley L. Wrick</i> |
| Alysha
<i>Edward J. Leiter</i> | Daniel A. Rascher
<i>Mr. and Mrs. Michael Whitcomb</i> | Jack Campbell
<i>Ann Thomas</i> | Maddie
<i>Debbie and Denise</i> | Pirate Jenny
<i>Steven and Karin Chase</i> | Sergei Vasilyevich
<i>Edward J. Leiter</i> |
| Art and Bob Maionchi
<i>Donna Maionchi</i> | Dasher
<i>Anthony Young and Marj Hulin</i> | James Townsend
<i>Alexander Bacon Alice Ryan Amer Deeba Craig Gass</i> | Mattie
<i>Dave Zirkle</i> | Pressie
<i>Marsha and Richard Servetnick</i> | Shadow
<i>Eunice Knowles</i> |
| Bailey Liebttag
<i>Holly A. Langford</i> | David Tenberg
<i>Marvin Tenberg</i> | Joan H. Johnson
<i>Lewis and Patricia Titterton</i> | Meow Meow
<i>David Geiger</i> | Puff, Inky, Bunns, Hershe, Kitté, Jr and Bitsy
<i>Vicki and Douglas Hogendorn</i> | Sparkle and Trouble
<i>Elaine H. and Joseph G. Daubert</i> |
| Benjie, Shannon, Heather, Peeper, Momma, Petruchio, Einstein, Mags, Sydney, Eli, Chloe, and Hamilton
<i>Steven and Karin Chase</i> | Dick Dortzbach and Lexie
<i>Linda Dortzbach-Hudlin</i> | Joseph A. Grasso, DDS
<i>Marsha and Richard Servetnick</i> | Missy
<i>Victoria Chergoski</i> | Raider A. Heim
<i>Barbara McCarthy Elena and Bill Bicker James V. and Theresa A. Heim</i> | Spot
<i>Andrew Tucker</i> |
| Beverly Dozier-Jones
<i>Shari L. Santos</i> | Domino
<i>Mary Ann Lloyd</i> | Josephine Menefee
<i>Barbara Newton Joe and Cookie Ragen</i> | Molly
<i>Lawrence and Martha Olin</i> | Richard Dale
<i>Nancy C. Goodman</i> | Star
<i>Janette G. and Steve Farrand</i> |
| Bigelow I
<i>Stanley and Carole Cook</i> | Edna Marie Filizetti
<i>Francis Cook Janice Travis Jennifer Dinapoli Justine Pereira Marc Diana Vasquez Thomas Albanese</i> | Judith Kofman
<i>Edward Kofman</i> | Mom and Dad
<i>Linda Bower</i> | Richard Hall
<i>Lorna L. and Richard Stoll</i> | Steve Bergren
<i>Cristina Morgan</i> |
| Billy Joe Boyer
<i>Carolyn Kindle and Adam Betz Jo Ann Taylor Kindle</i> | Frieda Jones Navel
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<i>Dale J. Walter</i> | Friendly
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<i>Susan and Jim Hannan</i> | Myeka
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<i>Arash Malek</i> | Nicky
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<i>Joel and Shannon Yodowitz</i> |
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<i>Kathleen and Tom Lee</i> | Gerald Allen Bathen
<i>Jillian Uppal</i> | Linda Ann Follette
<i>Marjorie Follette</i> | Paint
<i>The Higginbotham Family</i> | Rosey
<i>Anne and Satoshi Kuritsubo</i> | Tigra
<i>Jeffrey Glassauer</i> |
| Cara Mia
<i>Mary Foss</i> | Gertrude McKenna
<i>Alice Hunter and Mark McKenna</i> | Lorri Steer
<i>Almarinda Kersh</i> | Pandora
<i>Joan Balzarini-Robbins</i> | Rosie
<i>Nick and Karen Razes</i> | Teddy
<i>Edward J. Leiter</i> |
| Cassidy
<i>Joan Balzarini-Robbins</i> | Gunnar Rogers
<i>Pam Overstreet</i> | Lucy-Lu Servetnick
<i>Marsha and Richard Servetnick</i> | Paul Peratis
<i>Tina and Mark Fletcher</i> | Roy and Brewski
<i>Julianna Fawcett</i> | Tobey and Abbey
<i>Jennifer Bowen</i> |
| Charlie
<i>Barbara Jeanne Glenn</i> | | Mabry
<i>Lene McKay and Dave McKay</i> | Penny
<i>David A. and Marydean M. Patterson</i> | Sambucca Staley
<i>Marsha and Richard Servetnick</i> | Violet
<i>Laura P. and Dean Pedersen</i> |
| | | | Perry
<i>Kimberlea M. and John Gray</i> | Sammy
<i>Janis and Brad Levesque</i> | Waldo, Molly, and Shep
<i>Karen Van Voorhis</i> |
| | | | Piper
<i>Steven C. and Diane Parrish</i> | Sandra K. Dodich
<i>Mark Dodich</i> | Winnie
<i>Aaron Hilmer</i> |
| | | | | | Yuri
<i>David Martin</i> |
| | | | | | Yvonne Halloran
<i>Paula Eddy</i> |
| | | | | | Zak
<i>Mildred M. Brennan</i> |



Maddie's Fund

Tony La Russa's Animal Rescue Foundation is a proud recipient of funding from Maddie's Fund®, a national family foundation established by Dave and Cheryl Duffield to

revolutionize the status and well-being of companion animals.

#ThanksToMaddie



WHAT LEGACY WILL YOU LEAVE?

Thanks to the enduring commitment of friends like you, ARF continues to enhance its programs to bring animals and people together. Legacy gifts provide meaningful support, while fulfilling your wishes and financial goals. Gifts may include bequests, life insurance, retirement plans, IRAs, and more. Your legacy offers a lasting promise of hope for so many animals and people in need.

We invite you to join ARF's legacy society, Circle of Compassion, by letting us know that you have included ARF in your estate planning so we may express our appreciation. We would be happy to speak to you personally about how you can provide a lifeline to animals in need for generations to come.

For more information or a free estate planning guide, visit arflegacy.org. 🐾



IN HONOR OF:

Alice and Preston Ward

John and Deborah McKinnon

Angie

Marion and Ron Kenyon

Anne Strickland

Joseph Farris

Backster Burmese

Josephine Chavez-Backster

Barry Tabel

Bobbe Bartlett and Mike Teskey

Baxter, Monty, Posey, and Max

Janet G. Welter

Beth and Roger Hill

Jan Richardson

Beth Fryer, Angie & John Fryer, Matthew Fryer, and Jenni Smith

Margaret Fryer

Callie and Bailey Gilbert

Dianne Gilbert

Cattacheeno, Cuddles, Anastacia and Natasha

Claire Stames

Claudia Welss

Edward C. and Janet B. Halbach

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Ellis and Yvette Landau

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Leslie and Kayla Siegel

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Joan Balzarini-Robbins

Emma Wenger

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Our First Republic Investment Management clients

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David Andel

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Joan Balzarini-Robbins

Jodi Wilson

Mark and Mary Stevens

Joseph Tarkoff's Bar Mitzvah

Jill and Thomas Tarkoff

Kate Thomas and Joshua Chan

Tyler Chan

Keira Krausz

Cindy Velsor

Kovelman Family

Paul Kovelman

Lawrence Tabas

Thomas Estilow

Lola Stickney

Lori Steere

Marcia Cho

Greg Hansen and Marsha Roberts

The Marriage of Hoda Alinasabbaboli and Erik Kvist

Terracon Concord

Matthew Bloom

David Douglas

Mr. and Mrs. Barry Clark

Caro Lou Rodda

Murph aka Peanut

Thomas Hamrick

"My Many Friends"

Steven A. Hurd

Myles

Anonymous

Rebecca O'Brien

O'Brien Charitable Fund

Sid Meyers

Carollynn McQueen

Skylar and McLean and Sully

William X. Minor, CPA

Shelley Bever

Dan Bora Scott Bever

Stephanie Cunningham

Eugene and Cynthia Cunningham

Steve Shulak

Virginia Jacobs

The Tabor Family

Garry and Trish Tabor

Ted Moore, Tim Sasan, and Charles Del Monte

The Society for Protective Coatings

Therese

James Asbra

ROBIN'S GREAT RECOVERY

For those of us who are passionate about animals, there are few things as horrifying as the idea of a pet being shot with a gun. Unfortunately, that's what Robin experienced at less than a year old. When this German Shepherd arrived at her local shelter, the first thing staff noticed were several recent wounds in her back. It was immediately apparent that something unthinkable had happened to her — she had been shot.

ARF's team rescued Robin, knowing our resources and expertise would go a long way in nursing her back to health and happiness. But upon bringing her to our Walnut Creek headquarters, the team was extremely surprised with her reaction.

Judging by her attitude, one would think Robin's tragedy had never happened. As a member of ARF's team put it, "You'd expect a dog suffering from gunshot wounds to be instinctively wary of people, but Robin waltzes right up to strangers with a cheerfulness and sincerity that will melt your heart." ARF veterinarians examined her wounds and ensured they were healing properly. After x-rays showed she didn't have any residual metal in her back, Robin was placed on



antibiotics and a non-steroidal, anti-inflammatory medication to help aid in her recovery. Our animal care team set her up on a socialization plan, just in case she regressed into fear, but it never happened. An inspiration to us all, no matter what life threw at her, Robin never let it break her stride. 🐾

FELV+ KITTENS NEED LOVE TOO!

They're cute as a button! They're as social as can be! But four scary letters are keeping them from finding the loving homes they deserve: F-e-l-v.

Feline Leukemia Virus (FeLV) is an infectious disease that affects about 2-3% of cats. While not contagious for dogs, humans, or other non-feline animals, cats that have tested positive for FeLV are contagious to other cats who have not had protective vaccinations. Due to its effects on the immune system, cats with progressive FeLV have a shorter life expectancy. But at heart, they are just like any other kitties.

ARF recently rescued and found homes for an adorable litter of FeLV+ kittens, Dawn, Eve, Twilight, and Star.

While all of these precious kittens eventually found loving families, they were in ARF's care for a full three months before being adopted — significantly longer than your average kitten.

Until just a few years ago, it was common practice at public shelters to euthanize cats and kittens who tested positive for Feline Leukemia Virus. Even now, the additional medical care and special procedures to prevent spread of the virus can be too costly for overcrowded shelters to consider. But here at ARF, we believe every animal deserves a second chance. Thanks to supporters like you, adorable cats like Dawn, Eve, Twilight, and Star get the happy lives they deserve. 🐾



ADOPTION UPDATES



“Spritz completely stole my heart! She still loves to jump up on everyone’s shoulders. Special thank you to the ARF clinic, who did an amazing job helping Spritz and her brothers.”

Candace, ARF Adopter



“My partner was on the fence about me adopting, but now he is in love with Molly and thanks me for bringing her into our home. He says that he never knew he could love a creature so much!”

Shantha, ARF Adopter

“[Zoey] sleeps all night, wakes up early, and then comes and snuggles with us. She melts our hearts. ”

Robyn, ARF Adopter



“Kona was a foster fail! We were only supposed to have her for about 1-2 weeks, and the moment I saw her, I knew I was going to want to keep her.”

Caitlin, ARF Foster Adopter



Did you recently adopt an ARF animal?
Share your story at arflife.org/new-beginning-stories

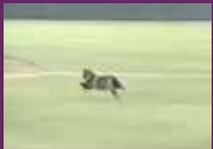


Tony La Russa's
Animal
Rescue
Foundation

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Walnut Creek, CA 94598

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THIRTY YEARS AFTER EVIE

On May 7, 1990, a stray tortoiseshell cat found herself on the field at the Oakland Coliseum. Amidst cheers from spectators, she darted all the way to the home team's dugout, where A's manager Tony La Russa gently coaxed her to safety. Tony and his wife, Elaine, took her under their wing and were able to place Evie — named after Oakland A's team owner, Evie Haas — in a permanent, loving home where she could live out her natural life.

Inspired by their experience and new knowledge of the desperate circumstances besieging public animal shelters, Elaine and Tony La Russa co-founded ARF with the goal of rescuing dogs and cats facing euthanasia. Now, 30 years later, ARF has established itself as both a local leader and national model in the animal welfare community. 🐾