

Heavenly Pet Sanctuary -- 2018 Year in Review

From the founder, Laura Conti

Wow, what a year! So many moving rescue stories to share—and wonderful pictures of our pets and adoptions. Hope you enjoy!

Kitten City, that's the best way to describe what it's been like at Heavenly Pet, since June when the first little furballs came to us—and they just kept coming. Mother cats and newborns, bottle babies and even pregnant cats. We're still in the adoption phase now and to tell the truth, it's a little hard letting them go.



Our beautiful kittens!



Our kittens are truly special -- why?

Because we take super good care of them from the food they eat, the environment and the care we give, it's all designed to nurture their development and purrsonalities.



Coming for handouts at a motel was a wasted, emaciated feral cat, injured and barely hanging on, with merely days left to live. Her wounds were so severe that after her rescue, we took her to a Veterinary Specialty Clinic in Cedar Rapids where she underwent intensive treatment with IV's and daily dressings for her bite wounds which were abscessed all over her body. At the end of her stay the prognosis by the head surgeon was amputate two legs or euthanize.



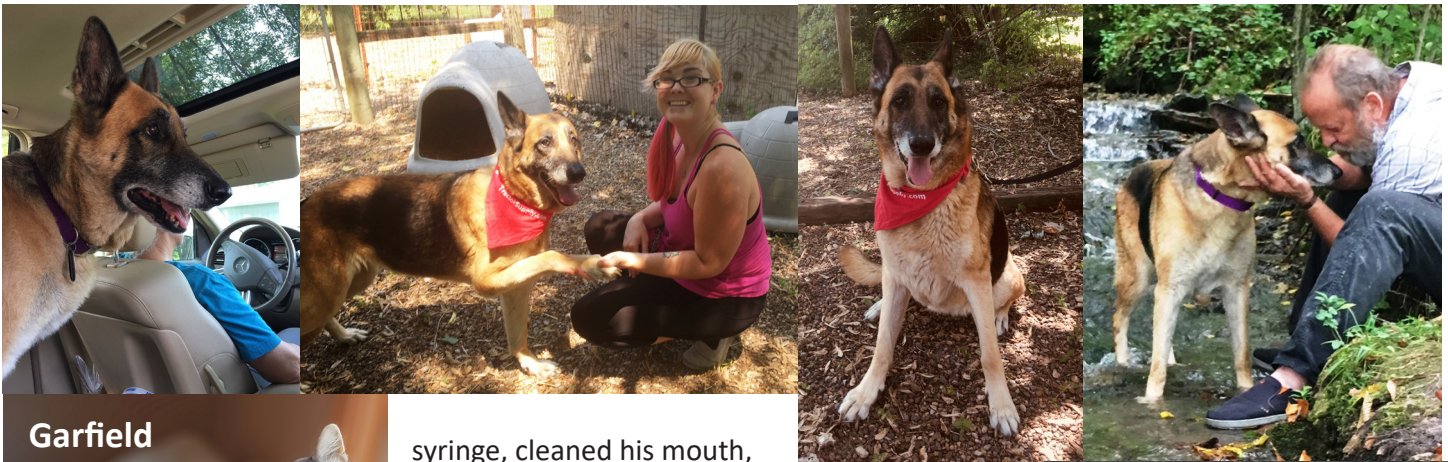
But **Bree had the fighting spirit** and her condition had improved so we took her back to the shelter, cleaned her wounds and changed her bandages daily with weekly visits to our local vet. Fast forward to today 5 months later—Bree made a 90% recovery and is now a gorgeous cat with wide, expressive eyes, fairly tame, loving and ever so grateful to be protected and cared for after her ordeal. Bree's medical care was sponsored by a very compassionate soul who saw her anguish and asked us to rescue her.

Now this same person, Lisa West has adopted Bree into her home—what a miraculous outcome for this little cat, once so lost and decrepit.



A very nice, older German Shepherd was tied up to our gate one morning with a note—***"Tasha is 8 yrs old and I can't keep her anymore, please take care of her."*** We found out that the dog had been living in the young man's car and had served with him in Syria where she had been injured. She definitely had separation anxiety and frequently howled her loneliness. Billy Hunter was taken with her and dutifully visited her several times a week, walked her and even took her out to his farm before he decided to adopt her. Some of these pictures show the kind of life he shares with her, a dog's dream come true. Sadly we heard that only 6 months later Tasha suffered a stroke and was in poor condition. We pray for a healing miracle so that she may enjoy many more years with Billy who loves her so much.

Someone was on the phone begging us to take an injured cat she had in her car, "No one will take him," she said and he's badly injured. I told her to drop him at the veterinary clinic in town and we'd be responsible. After 3 days of hospitalization he was sent home, he had a bad head injury (**hit by a car**), couldn't walk, couldn't eat on his own, but the vet said he was improving. We fed him soup with a



Garfield

syringe, cleaned his mouth, changed his bedding because he couldn't use a litterbox, and gave him daily medication. Each day he got a little better, started to walk a little, tried to eat on his own a little and day by day he strengthened.

Today he is a beautiful longhaired grey cat and he has a friend named Chicken. They came to know each other when they were both housed on our second floor which serves as hospitalization and isolation wards. **Chicken** was a stray at the local college subsisting on cafeteria hand-outs. She has a very loving disposition and is always up for a romp with an agreeable cat. She and **Garfield**, who by that time was almost fully recovered, hit it off famously. Here they are relaxing together on the living room sofa.



Tansy was brought to us this Spring, a homeless cat walking the streets in town, but she definitely looked like a housecat. She spurned our other



cats and had to be housed by herself in our annex location. Her picture ran in the local newspaper several times and on posters, thinking there had to be an owner out there, but no one ever responded for this beautiful, regal cat. This month, Tansy got her wish, she was adopted into a home where she is the only cat and from what we hear, she's the ruling queen and resident lapcat, companion to a senior woman pictured here.



Sitka and Thor just arrived at the shelter, brother and sister,



really nice young dogs with plenty of energy. Fortunately we have lots of space they can run and play in so when it's time to come indoors, they're ready to eat and sack out for the night. Thor was recently adopted to the Martin's and



landed a cushy life in luxury—in stark contrast to his past barn home (before HPS). Sitka (right) is still waiting for her luck.

Todd was a small dog rescue that was adopted by Stephanie Mencil as a companion for her other Beagle, Pepper.



Austin & Figueroa, beautiful Turkish Van brothers were lucky enough to be adopted together too.

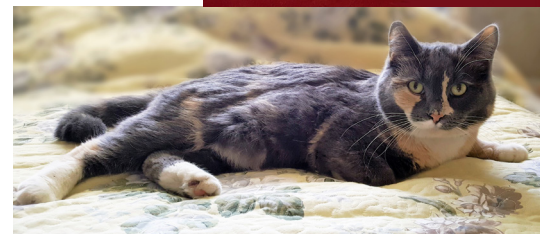


Penelope was the mother to three beautiful kittens last year and she finally found an adoptive family.

Panther went to live with Chris Marlin and Edgar a semi-feral, injured cat was adopted by Tom Hyrianak who has really worked wonders transforming him into a housecat.



On one of the coldest nights this year, a fresh 6 inches of snow lay on the ground and someone called requesting a rescue for a freezing kitten outside of a Casey's store. A frozen piece of pizza lay on the icy sidewalk, but no cat was to be seen. Going around back pawprints led away into deeper snow with dark drifts and a biting wind that was taking the temps down into minus 0. I tramped around for awhile calling but there was nothing. Going back to leave, the doors of the store suddenly flung open and a dazed little cat flew out. Wasting no time I scooped it up into my ready cat carrier and we headed home. Once back at the shelter, this kitty enjoyed a hearty meal and a warm bed, she was safe now, protected from the life threatening cold and hunger she endured only hours ago. She's



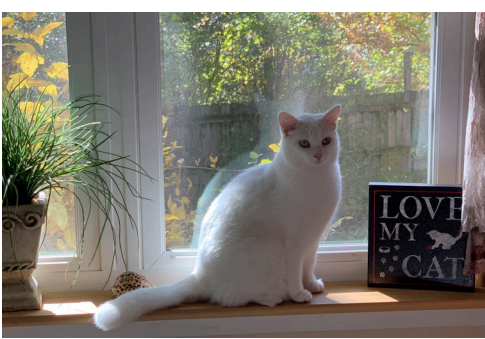
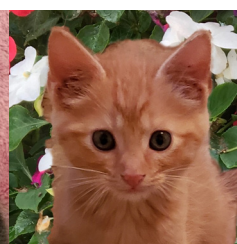


Adoption photo gallery—celebrating our pet's new lives

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