



Furry Tail Tidings August 2025



Hello!

August is bringing a little bit of everything at OFOSA—hope, healing, heartbreak, and plenty of reasons to celebrate.

In this month's **Furry Tail Tidings**, we'll share an update on Mindy following her long-awaited surgery, introduce you to Bilbo, a sweet dog starting a brand-new chapter after spending four years living in a garage, and tell you about Gretel, a precious kitty recently diagnosed with a heart murmur. And yes—there's a Hansel! The two are a bonded pair, because some stories really are meant to be shared.

We'll also get you ready for **Purr Palooza this Saturday at Zesti Carts**, where plenty of OFOSA cats and kittens will be hoping to meet their forever families.

As always, every story is made possible by the foster families, adopters, donors, volunteers, and friends who help us create **miracles** for animals who need us most.

Join Us: Purr Palooza Cat Fest



We can't wait for this special cat adoption and celebration event at Zesti Carts in Forest Grove! They really know how to throw a celebration, so you don't want to miss this.

We'll have LOTS of kittens and cats there for you to adopt!
Come enjoy vendors with cat themed items, kittens for adoption, entertainment, a full bar and food carts!

Mindy Came Through Like a Champ



After months of planning, fundraising, and cheering her on, **Mindy had her much-needed surgery this week at BluePearl Pet Surgery—and our sweet girl came through like a champ!**

It was a long and complicated surgery, but Mindy handled it beautifully. Even more exciting, she is already standing with noticeably straighter legs—a wonderful first glimpse of what we hope this surgery will mean for her comfort and mobility.

Now comes the hard part: recovery. Mindy has a long road ahead of her in the care of her devoted foster mom, complete with plenty of rest, follow-up care, rehabilitation...and, for now, the unavoidable **cone of shame!**

We are incredibly grateful to everyone who rallied around Mindy. Together, you helped us raise an amazing **\$12,232.98 toward her medical expenses and recovery care**. Every donation, share, word of encouragement, and gift toward the matching challenge helped make this possible.

Thank you to Courtesy Ford, Nectar Markets, and an anonymous donor for the awesome \$5,000 match!

Rescue Spotlight: Bilbo



Bilbo's story is a reminder of just how much a second chance can change a life.

This absolutely adorable Maltese mix was recently surrendered to OFOSA after spending the last **four years living in a garage** because his owner felt he shed more than they wanted. Now, Bilbo is finally getting the care, comfort, and companionship every dog deserves—and his transformation after a much-needed grooming is pretty incredible!

Bilbo is also facing a medical challenge. He was diagnosed with a heart murmur that has progressed from a grade 1 to a grade 4 in just a few months. Thankfully, he is now on medication, is being closely monitored, and is doing well.

For Bilbo, life looks very different today: a soft place to sleep, people who adore him, proper medical care, and the chance to simply be a beloved dog. His journey is just beginning, and we're so grateful to our foster team and supporters who make it possible for OFOSA to say **yes** to animals like Bilbo when they need us most.

Foster of the Month: Linda & Les Ruh

Linda & Les Ruh



August Foster of the Month

Thank you!



Put your paws together for our Foster of the Month for August!

OFOSA is delighted to recognize Linda and Les Ruh as our August Foster of the Month!

Their fostering journey began after the loss of their beloved dog, Simba, who had been part of their family for 17 years. After spending about a year without a pet in their home, Linda and Les missed the love and companionship an animal brings—but they weren't sure adopting another pet was the responsible choice for them.

"As senior citizens, we did not feel that we could responsibly adopt another pet who might live 15 or more years," Linda shared. "So we began to look into fostering."

They discovered OFOSA, submitted a foster application and, within weeks, welcomed their first foster animal—a 9-year-old Pomeranian. That was the

beginning of a rewarding new chapter.

“What a joy it has been being a foster,” Linda said. “The hardest part, of course, is saying goodbye when we find their forever home. But the upside is that we feel confident they have been adopted by people who will love them 100% for the rest of their life.”

Through fostering, Linda and Les provide animals with a safe and loving place to land while they wait for their permanent families. During those weeks or months, the animals receive care, stability and affection—and Linda and Les once again experience the happiness of sharing their home with a pet.

“We receive them as a dog or cat that no longer has a home, and within two or three months—maybe less—we place them in their forever home with a family that will love them unconditionally. What a great feeling that is!”

Linda and Les believe fostering can be an especially meaningful option for senior citizens who miss having a pet but may hesitate to make a long-term adoption commitment.

“We get the best of both worlds. While we are fostering, our house is once again filled with the love and joy that a pet brings. Being a foster is a win-win for both the person doing the fostering and the pet being fostered.”

We are deeply grateful to Linda and Les for opening their home, sharing their love and helping OFOSA animals take the next step toward their forever families. Their compassion and commitment are creating Everyday Miracles for animals in need.

Could Fostering Be Right for You?

OFOSA provides support, supplies and veterinary care while our foster families provide the safe and loving homes our animals need. Whether you foster once or welcome animals throughout the year, every foster home helps save lives.

Learn more about becoming an OFOSA foster [HERE](#).

Rescue Spotlight: Gretel

Gretel came to OFOSA after being abandoned with several other cats in a colony in Oregon City. Thankfully, she wasn't alone. She is closely bonded with her sweet companion, Hansel, and these two will be adopted together when the right family comes along.



Recently, however, Gretel was diagnosed with a **heart murmur**. She is receiving treatment and being carefully monitored while she remains in OFOSA's care. For now, she's doing well—and, of course, she has Hansel right by her side.

Their story is another example of why foster-based rescue matters so

much. Animals like Gretel and Hansel often arrive with unknown histories and unexpected medical needs, but thanks to our foster families, veterinary partners, and generous supporters, they receive the time and care they need before heading to their forever home.



We're so glad these two found their way to OFOSA—and even happier that whatever comes next, **Hansel and Gretel will face it together.**

If you'd like to help with **ongoing medical care for Bilbo and Gretel—and other animals like them—please click below to make a gift to OFOSA's Medical Care Fund.**





[OFOSA's 2027 Pet Photo Calendar Contest](#) opens on August 17th for OFOSA Alumni Pets! Submit your pet's photo by 10/4/26 and get your friends and family to vote!

This year's calendar also includes Rainbow Bridge Memorials for sweet OFOSA pets that have passed on!

Click on the graphic above to learn more! We are so grateful to Courtesy Ford for sponsoring this year's calendar again!

Thank you for being part of our rescue family!

Your support means the world to us!



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