

THE SCOOP

Crestwood Animal Shelter's Monthly Newsletter

APRIL 2021

PET OF THE MONTH

WOODY

Woody was found wandering around a local neighborhood and immediately became the talk of social media!

He is a friendly cat who was neither neutered nor microchipped. The kind concerned citizens couldn't believe that a cat so sociable was not someone's pet, so they contacted us.

(If you are familiar with orange tabby personalities, you know that they are easy going and friendly, and are perfect companions.)



By the next morning, Woody was safe and warm at the shelter. He's now neutered and vaccinated, and is anxious to live the cushy life he so deserves.

If you have room in your heart and home for this big ole pussycat, please go to <http://www.crestwoodanimalshelter.com> to fill out an application and schedule a time to meet him.

NO LILIES FOR KITTIES!



Cats and lilies don't mix!

Lilium species ("true lilies") such as Easter, tiger, Asiatic, Oriental, etc., and daylilies (*Hemerocallis*) are highly toxic to cats (not dogs or people). **Ingesting petals, leaves, pollen or even water in the vase can result in kidney failure and death.** If your cat eats any part of lily, call Pet Poison Helpline, your local emergency clinic or your veterinarian immediately.

8 Ways Your Pet Can Help to Relieve Your Stress

1. Just being around an animal decreases your blood pressure, which is one physical measure of stress. In fact, you don't even need to touch them
2. Our pets decrease our reactions to stressful situations. One study showed that subjects asked to do a mental arithmetic task in front of their pets showed smaller increases in blood pressure and heart rate than doing it in front of their spouse, which made it more stressful
3. Pet owners on average get more exercise, especially dog owners. And cats can have some effect as well -- you're not running around the block, but at least you have to get up to get that toy from under that couch.
4. People with pets are less likely to say they feel loneliness, which is one common source of stress. This is both because animals provide companionship and because they encourage friendly interactions with other people
5. Pets help you be in the moment. Stress really is bemoaning the past and worrying about the future so interacting with your pet keeps your focus on the now.
6. Pets lower stress by fulfilling our need for touch, which we find comforting. And what's more, they feel the same way about it.
7. Pets seem to help support feelings that make you more resilient at dealing with stress. This help with long-term stress management may be why some studies have shown that pet owners have lower blood pressure on average than non-owners.
8. Finally, they make us laugh! We find humor watching them, and laughter is another way of mitigating stress.

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STRESS AWARENESS MONTH

APRIL 1

April Fool's Day

APRIL 2

National Ferret Day

APRIL 4

Easter

APRIL 6

National Siamese Cat Day

APRIL 10

National Hug Your Dog Day

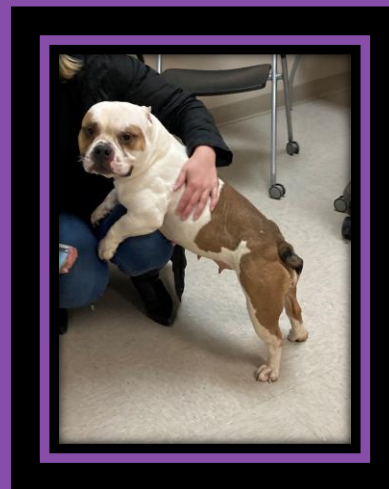
National Farm Animals Day

APRIL 11

National Pet Day

APRIL 21

National Bulldogs are Beautiful Day



APRIL 22

Earth Day

APRIL 25

National Pet Parents Day

APRIL 28

International Guide Dog Day



LOVE STORIES



After a Rocky Start, Two Kittens Settle In to their New, Loving, Forever Home



Our family loves cats. We had been without one for a while, and my kids begged me to start the search for some kitties for everyone to love.

When I saw Jasmine on the Petfinder website, I was touched by her story of being a kitten who was part of a program to spay colonies of feral cats, then release them back. However, someone thought Jasmine was exceptionally sweet and thought she should go to a shelter to try to find a home.

We adopted Jasmine and another kitten, Clove, from Crestwood Animal Shelter. It was a rough start. They both hid under the bed and wouldn't come out. They were so scared of being in a new place that they wouldn't use the litter box. We put food bowls and water under the bed. When we did catch them, we showed them lots of love, hoping for a turnaround. After three days, Clove started coming around, slowly venturing out into the bedroom and exploring. I was worried about Jasmine, however. She still wouldn't come out from under the

bed. We were persistent in trying to make her feel comfortable, and tried everything. We thought with enough love and patience, Jasmine would surely make a breakthrough. After a week and a half, she was still hiding and not using the litter box. We didn't know if it was going to work out.

Then, something amazing happened. I woke up one morning to the sound of a very loud purring. I opened my eyes, and there were Jasmine and Clove, cuddled up next to me. I put them in my arms and held them, telling them that they are home now, and there's nothing to be afraid of.

It's been a couple of months, and Jasmine and Clove are two of the most affectionate, good natured, sweet cats I've ever had. They love to cuddle, be held, lay on my lap by the fire, sleep on my head, and play with the kids. They love to be spoiled. They have not been under the bed since that day, and they both use the litter box faithfully.

I wouldn't give up my girls for the world. Thank you, CAS, for giving us these beautiful gifts. – Michelle P.



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