



Every Cat Deserves A Home

# The Pet Pride Post

Summer 2022 vol.27:3

## How We're Eliminating Bottlenecks in Order to Save More Kittens



Mocha. Photo by Marie Kraus.

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**M**ocha is one of the lucky ones. The odds are stacked against kittens born outdoors, but Mocha and his siblings, Latte, Chai, and Matcha, were rescued as newborns along with their mom, Java, and placed in a Pet Pride foster home. There they were given the opportunities every kitten should have: to grow up in a safe, warm environment; to fall asleep with a full belly in a multi-kitten heap; to receive the preventive veterinary care that will give them the best start in life; and to find loving, permanent homes.

Our foster homes are essential partners in providing a healthy, safe environment for our pregnant cats, nursing mom cats and their litters, and abandoned kittens. During kitten season, the availability of foster homes is the most important determinant of how many kittens we can help. The long wait for appointments at veterinary clinics has historically been another bottleneck in the process of shepherding these cats *(continued on page 3)*

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Pet Pride of New York saves the lives of homeless cats in our community by providing sanctuary, medical care, and placement into permanent adoptive homes. We are a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and a New York State Registered Shelter/Rescue, and we operate a no-kill feline sanctuary and adoption center in Victor, New York.

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Mendon, NY 14506

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Victor, NY 14564  
585-742-1630

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[www.petprideny.org](http://www.petprideny.org)

## From the President

Dear Friends,

“Arrow’s here!” my wife cries out in what can only be described as a loud whisper. We immediately go into our feral cat mode: no unnecessary noise, minimal movement throughout the house, and absolutely no one in the vicinity of a window. Arrow bravely makes his pilgrimage to our home on a daily basis. However, if frightened in any way, he will quickly leave and not return, going hungry rather than risking another encounter with the human race.

I often watch him approach from a distance. He takes a step and looks to his right, then another step and looks to his left, and lastly a look behind. If all appears okay, he ventures forth a short distance, only to repeat the process: right, left, behind.

When Arrow reaches our home, where my wife has faithfully provided him with a bountiful meal, all is basically the same for this poor cat. He never relaxes. He takes in a portion of food and looks to his right, and the pattern repeats with each mouthful. He eats rapidly and quickly leaves.

There are far too many Arrows in this world searching for their next meal. They live among us, not with us. They will never know the security of a home, the comfort of a couch, or the companionship of a loving owner. This is one of the reasons we are expanding our shelter—to ensure that fewer kittens like Mocha (on our cover) end up like Arrow. By spaying or neutering kittens before they ever have a chance to reproduce, and by socializing them in those critical early weeks so that they become used to human contact, we can interrupt the cycle that produces only tragedy—feline overpopulation, suffering, and early death. With our newly expanded shelter and onsite veterinary care, we will be able to change the trajectory of so many lives, providing more kittens and cats with the homes that every cat deserves.

We are grateful to you, our supporters, because you make this lifesaving work possible. Many of you have already made contributions to our capital campaign for the building expansion, and we thank you for your generosity. Of course, there is so much more to be done! We are excited about the future, but we can’t get there without you. Before this edition of *The Pet Pride Post* makes it to the printer, I will have made a donation to Pet Pride in Arrow’s name, and it is my hope that you will consider making a special gift as well. Every donation, large or small, makes a difference in the life of a homeless cat.

With sincere appreciation,



Stuart Gluckman, DVM



## Saving More Kittens

(continued from page 1) and kittens from admission to adoption, as each one has to be screened, immunized, and spayed or neutered before they can be transferred from foster care to our sanctuary. With our new **Healing Paws Medical Suite** and our **Cat Clinic**, we'll be able to deliver veterinary care right here at Pet Pride, thereby streamlining the process and getting kittens ready for adoption sooner. This, in turn, will free up our foster homes to accept more cats and kittens in need.

Once they are transferred to our newly renovated and expanded sanctuary, kittens will stay in our new **Kitten Kingdom** while they await adoption. There they can thrive in an enriched environment built just for them, and they won't have to be transported to and from the sanctuary to meet with prospective adopters anymore. They'll just take a short trip down **Tabby Lane** to one of our new **Meet-and-Greet Rooms**, where the magic happens! 🐾



Mocha goes home! Photo by Julie Di Iulio



Photos by Marie Kraus

**SHOWERING OUR KITTENS WITH LOVE AND KISSES.** Guests at our June 25 kitten shower who brought gifts of food, toys, and other supplies were given the opportunity to kiss a kitten! We look forward to holding more special events in our newly expanded sanctuary and adoption center. If you'd like to purchase a gift for our kittens and cats, we invite you to visit our website, where you'll find links to several wish lists of needed supplies. [www.petprideny.org/give/donate\\_today/](http://www.petprideny.org/give/donate_today/)

### FOSTER VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

If you have a little bit of room in your house and some time and love to spare, you can help save the lives of mom cats and kittens. Pet Pride is always seeking foster volunteers, but the need is especially great during kitten season. We provide food, litter, veterinary care, and support. Call (585) 742-1630 or visit our website at [petprideny.org](http://petprideny.org).



**CUTEST  
HOUSEGUESTS  
EVER.**

Learn how you can become  
a foster volunteer.

[www.petprideny.org](http://www.petprideny.org)  
(585)742-1630



## Feline-friendly Housing

*Our New Cat Condos Were Designed with Cats in Mind*



Violet. Photo by Julie Di Iulio

The Pet Pride foster home was warm, dry, and comfortable—a big improvement over Violet’s previous home on the city streets. Nonetheless, she was so frightened to be placed in new surroundings that she hid in the bathroom cabinet. After raising her kittens in the foster home, Violet was transferred to our sanctuary for adoption. Again, she sought a place to hide. Luckily for Violet, we had just taken delivery of the first of our brand-new cat condos.

Although Pet Pride is known for its free-roaming environment, many of our cats and kittens retire to enclosures at night or when staff are not present. Newly admitted cats stay in enclosures while awaiting medical screening, as do cats recovering from surgery and any cats who choose to retire to their quarters for a nap or some alone time. But our old cages have many drawbacks. They are time-consuming to clean, they have only one level, and they have cage bars all the way around. Staff hang blankets on the cages to give shyer cats some privacy.

Thanks to a very generous donation from one of our supporters, we will be replacing all of our old cages with brand-new cat condominiums! These new enclosures have been custom-designed according to Pet Pride’s specifications to provide a high level of comfort for our cats and to support their instinctive behaviors. The compartmentalized design gives cats separate spaces for eating, eliminating, and sleeping, while interior ledges allow them to perch on different levels. The sides and back are solid panels, giving them a measure of privacy and a sense of security, while the front is

ventilated glass, providing unobstructed views for the cats to see out and staff and visitors to see in. Nobody likes to be on display all the time, however, and the condos have a more private compartment to which cats can retreat.

Violet, initially stressed and wary, used the private space for several days after arrival to decompress and become acclimated to her new surroundings. She has since ventured out into the sanctuary and has shown her true affectionate and playful nature. We’re confident that, by the time this newsletter goes to press, Violet will have found her forever home. 🐾



One of our new condos. Photo by Marlies Sullivan

### SUPPLIES WISH LIST

- canned cat food
- canned Fancy Feast kitten food
- dry cat food
- cat carriers
- litter, clumping and non-clumping
- new scratching posts
- interactive toys
- AA batteries
- Feliway spray & plug-in diffuser refills
- towels
- blankets
- paper towels
- garbage bags, 13-gallon size
- postage stamps
- gift cards - Target, Pet Supplies Plus, Country Max

## Doubling Our Capacity

### *And Letting Love Take Its Time*

When Aria arrived at Pet Pride last fall, team members immediately noticed that the six-month-old kitten walked with a slight limp. Our veterinarians set to work performing physical exams, taking x-rays, and running blood tests, none of which revealed any apparent cause for Aria's unusual gait. There was no evidence of fracture, deformity, or disease. They concluded that she may just have a congenital defect, one which does not impede her ability to run, jump, play, and live the life of a normal cat.

Aria was declared ready for adoption. Time went by, however, and this sweet little girl kept being overlooked by adopters in favor of more "normal" kittens. Then along came Art, who was attracted to Aria's affectionate nature.

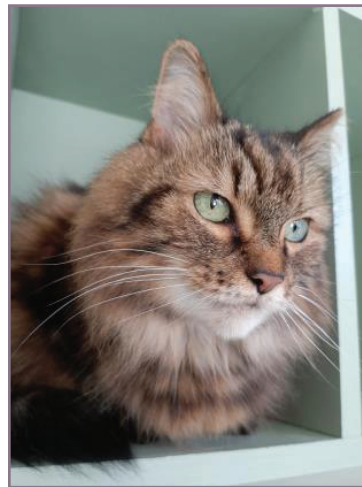


Aria. Photo by Julie Di Iulio

Once a cat is admitted to Pet Pride, they stay with us for as long as it takes to find them a forever home. For some cats, like Aria, it takes a little longer than for others. This has always meant that we've had to restrict new intakes when we are at capacity, and that's one reason we're so excited about our building project. The addition will double our capacity, allowing us to say "yes" to more new admissions while special cats like Aria wait for their perfect matches to come along. Sometimes, love takes time.

Art had such a good experience adopting Aria from Pet Pride that he returned a week later to find a playmate for her. Now Oscar and Aria play together every day and, although Aria makes what Art describes as "an interesting thumping sound" when she moves quickly, her unusual gait doesn't slow her down a bit. What's more, Art loves her just as she is. 🐾

## Keeping Our Seniors Healthy



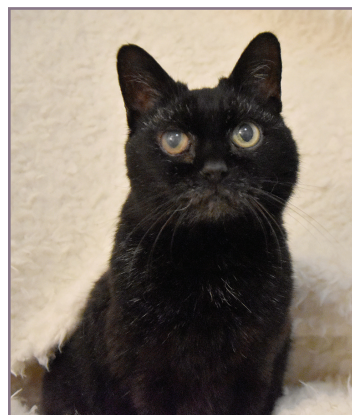
Delilah. Photo by Kari LaBounty

Cats, like people, benefit from regular medical check-ups to stay healthy as they age. Cats, however, tend to be even less enthusiastic than people about making a trip to the doctor. When Delilah came to Pet Pride at the age of fourteen, her lab work indicated a need for further evaluation.

It took multiple visits to the veterinarian's office over a period of several months to get her over what turned out to be a persistent UTI. With our new, onsite **Healing Paws Medical Suite** and our **Cat Clinic**, we'll be able to more quickly and efficiently treat seniors like Delilah right here at Pet Pride without the stressful car rides.

Once she was healthy again, Delilah found her perfect match in Kelly, who had come to Pet Pride looking for a friend for her other senior cat. Kelly says Delilah greets her each morning and "loves everybody." 🐾

### ADOPTABLE SENIOR



Diamond. Photo by Marie Kraus

**Diamond** is a precious gem who's ready to shine! A sweet senior with eight years' experience being a fabulous feline, Diamond is believed to be hearing impaired, but that doesn't slow her down or make her any less loving or lovable. Apply to adopt at [www.petprideny.org](http://www.petprideny.org).

# Building Project Update



Photo by Marie Kraus

Once the renovation was completed, the construction crew moved on to the expansion, and we held a ceremonial groundbreaking. Pictured from left to right are Mike Guinan, Victor Town Councilman; Maureen Mulley, Pet Pride Board Member; Marlies Sullivan, Pet Pride Board Vice President; Mary Delton, donor and volunteer; and Dr. Stu Gluckman, Pet Pride Board President. Mary and her late husband, Bob Boeckman, were honored for their decades of dedicated service to Pet Pride and for their generous lead gift to the building project.



Photo by Julie Di Iulio

What a difference a few weeks makes! The expansion will more than triple the size of the Pet Pride Sanctuary and Adoption Center and allow us to shelter twice as many cats and kittens at one time.



Photo by Chloe Bliss

Team member Julie Di Iulio is enjoying the new utility room and the new commercial sanitizing dishwasher, which handles litter boxes and cat carriers as well as a seemingly endless supply of dirty dishes!



Photo by Julie Di Iulio

Team member Chloe Bliss can prepare dozens of dinners with greater efficiency in our newly renovated **Pride Pantry**. We were thrilled to receive a donation of chairs in our signature lavender color!



Kate Page. Photo by Marie Kraus

**Meet Kate.** Pet Pride is pleased to welcome Kate Page to our team as a full-time veterinary technician. Kate comes to Pet Pride with eighteen years of experience in her field. After graduating with a degree in veterinary technology, Kate went on to work at Genesee Valley Veterinary Hospital. Although she has a longer commute now, Kate says she’s happy to do it for the cats. “This is my dream job come true,” she explains. “Every cat deserves a chance to be loved, and to help them find that is so fulfilling.” Kate shares her home with her two daughters and six cats. She is pictured here in our newly renovated **Vet Tech Room** taking good care of Smokie, one of our adoptable seniors. 🐾

**Within Our Reach**

**Pet Pride’s Two-Year Capital Campaign**



Photo by Seregraff/Shutterstock

We hope that reading this newsletter leaves you excited about Pet Pride’s building project and informed about some of the many ways our newly renovated and expanded facility and our exceptional staff will enable us to have an even greater impact on the lives of homeless cats and kittens. We also hope that we’ve inspired you to

consider supporting the project with a gift to our capital campaign. With your help, a brighter future for homeless cats is **Within Our Reach!** 🐾

**Give today**

You can visit our website at [www.petprideny.org](http://www.petprideny.org) to make a secure online donation, or complete the form on the back of this newsletter and mail it with your tax-deductible contribution to the address provided.

**Naming opportunities**

Many naming opportunities are available within our building at a range of gift levels. We would be proud to hang a plaque in your honor, or in honor or memory of a loved one, to acknowledge your generosity.

**The Pet Pride Wall of Gratitude**

We will be pleased to publicly recognize donors who make a gift of \$5,000 or more to our capital campaign.

**The Stuart Gluckman Circle**

Pet Pride invites you to become a sustaining member of this premier leadership giving society named for beloved co-founder, board president, and local veterinarian, Stuart Gluckman. Your recurring gift of \$500 or greater annually will support a variety of programs and services at Pet Pride.

**The Jacqueline Russel Society**

Named for Pet Pride’s co-founder and past president, the Jacqueline Russel Society celebrates those individuals who have included Pet Pride in their estate plans. Your generous promise will help ensure the long-term sustainability of our work.

**Gifts of appreciated securities**

Making a gift of appreciated stocks, bonds, or mutual funds is a smart way to help our cats while helping yourself to a charitable tax deduction and avoiding capital gains tax. Please consult your financial advisor about this tax-advantaged giving opportunity.

*As a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, Pet Pride of New York relies on philanthropic support from people like you. Please contact Marlies Sullivan at [philanthropy@petprideny.org](mailto:philanthropy@petprideny.org) or (585) 402-9878 for more information about any of these giving options.*

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## A BRIGHTER FUTURE IS ***WITHIN OUR REACH!***

YES, I want to support Pet Pride's capital campaign and help save more cats!

\$25 \_\_\_\_\_ \$50 \_\_\_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_\_\_ \$200 \_\_\_\_\_ \$500 \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of/In honor of (circle one) \_\_\_\_\_

Please send notification to \_\_\_\_\_

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City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your check payable to **Pet Pride of New York**, and mail it to  
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