



# Tails

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## OF THE HEART

*Animal Rescue Rhode Island Newsletter*

## *Patience and Love*

*All Maya needed was patience, love, and Ann.*

Maya, a shy young golden retriever mix, arrived at ARRI afraid of everyone and everything. She was so shut down that she refused to walk and had to be carried. To help allay her fears, ARRI staff kept her close to the front desk.

Ann, a regular dedicated volunteer, had earlier filled out an adoption application for an elderly small dog. But one day, while Ann was volunteering, she met our timid puppy, Maya. Ann sat with Maya, and she was the first person from whom Maya accepted a gentle touch and even a treat. They had an instant connection. As described by Ann, “I knew that adult small dog I had wanted would instead be a large, shy puppy”.

Ann adopted Maya. She knew it wasn't going to be easy, but Ann was confident that with the

assistance of ARRI's staff and trainers together with her loving patience, Maya would blossom. The first night at home, Ann sat outside Maya's crate and slowly stroked her front legs and quietly spoke to her. To Ann's astonishment, Maya lifted one of her paws and gently placed it on Ann's hand.

From that monumental first step, Maya slowly progressed – at times in tiny increments, but steadily forward. Every day she took a few more steps on her daily walks. She bravely ventured on the stairs and investigated unfamiliar areas. She now loves her toys, and don't you

dare come between her and her favorite tennis ball!

Maya continues to bring endless joy to Ann and her family. What's next? Ann's goal is for Maya to attend ARRI's Bark on the Beach on September 24. They're both looking forward to seeing you there!



# From the Board Chair

Dear Friends,

It's because of you that we can provide a compassionate, loving haven for homeless pets, help families in need through our community pet pantry, and work to build a humane community through our Animal Scholars education programs throughout RI.

Whether you're supporting ARRI through a monthly contribution, funding a veterinary exam, or buying a "Ticket to Ride" to bring a pet from a southern state to RI, every dollar is gratefully received. Together, we ensure that our "best friends" have all the love and comforts they deserve.

Thank you for your support and sharing your love of pets with us!

Douglas J. Rubinstein  
Chair, ARRI Board of Trustees



## Together Again



Finn and Royal, separated at a shelter in South Carolina, were reunited at ARRI and adopted together. Bringing families and best friends together is truly what ARRI does best!

## Pet Pantry

Run by volunteers and stocked with donations, ARRI's Community Pet Food Pantry helps more than 170 financially challenged families by providing food for a total of more than 400 pets each year. Our goal? Keep pets in homes where they are loved!



# Fosters Make The Difference

Scruffy, underweight, and looking older than his 8 years is the only way to describe Pounce, the tuxedo cat whose owner could no longer care for him. When he arrived, Pounce was certainly not living up to his active name. In fact, he was ill, very ill. He was constantly crying and drinking copious amounts of water. ARRI immediately took him to the veterinarian, where he was diagnosed with diabetes and an enlarged liver.

Luckily for Pounce, Carolyn, a longtime volunteer, decided to foster him. In her home and under Carolyn's watchful eye, Pounce thrived - only to have another setback. This time it was congestive heart failure.

This boy was a fighter, and with the right medications and Carolyn's care, Pounce was once more on the road to recovery. His weight doubled, his coat became luxurious, and every day Pounce finds his patch of sunshine for his daily nap.

Whatever time Pounce has left will be spent with Carolyn.

You see, foster care volunteers are invaluable to our pets. They open their hearts and, temporarily, their homes to animals that aren't ready for adoption, some because of behavioral or medical issues and others that need the quiet of a home to prepare for future adoption.

Then there are the tough ones like Pounce that are terminally ill, and we just don't know how much time they have left. ARRI makes sure that every day for the rest of their lives will be spent in comfort. Carolyn is not only a member of our foster teams, but also of our "fospice" (foster/hospice) group. Carolyn's goal is to provide Pounce with that sunny patch every day he has left.

Once again, it is thanks to our



wonderful supporters that ARRI can provide the special care that our animals need. Like Pounce, we never give up without a fight!

## Animal Scholars

ARRI's Animal Scholars humane education programs are reaching children as far away as Woonsocket. We are determined to keep kids safe through our dog bite prevention programs, while teaching the next generation how to be responsible, compassionate pet owners.



# Shelter Partners in Rhode Island

At times, area shelters can find themselves overcrowded and calling on ARRI for help. Whenever possible, we answer that call. That's how we met Dobby.

Dobby, removed from a hoarder's home, was the only surviving kitten from his litter. Upon his arrival, we found an emaciated, 11-week-old Siamese kitten suffering from an upper respiratory infection, but we were not deterred. Dobby arrived with his mother and spent the first few days hiding behind her in their cage. We knew he needed an extra special touch.



We reached out to Kasey, a supporter who has a special love for Siamese cats, and it was a match. When Kasey and Dobby met, it was magic!

Kasey took Dobby home, but he wasn't out of the woods yet. The little guy stopped eating and was soon down to 1.6 lbs.— half of what he should have been. Dobby was whisked to the veterinary hospital where he had days of extensive testing and care. Slowly he started to eat, regaining much-needed weight. Now there was no holding him back!

With his new impish energy and behavior, a new name was in order and Dobby was aptly renamed Loki, for the god of mischief!

In no time, Loki found his place in his new family. Small but mighty, he made his presence known. He bonded with his new



big brother Mo and other feline siblings. Now, he can often be found sleeping on top of them or curled up with Mo's arm protectively around him.

Although Loki started in rough circumstances, he proved to be a fighter and has lived up to his new name. ARRI's connection to the state's shelter community was truly lifesaving. Now Loki enjoys the best medicine every day: the love and affection of both Kasey and his kitty siblings!



## Bark & Ride

Each \$160 Ticket to Ride brings a pet from the south to the safety of ARRI. This vital program not only saves the lives of pets transported to us, it also makes space in a southern shelter to save another animal there.

# Bo's Journey

Bo, a tiny chihuahua with oversized ears, came to ARRI when his owner could no longer keep him. At 13, he acted half his age and in no time captured the hearts of ARRI staff.

Bo loves being around people and made himself right at home: hanging out with staff, lapping up all the attention, and just being generally adorable. However, we suspected that there might be medical issues hiding behind his loving demeanor. Little did we know that his journey was just beginning.

A veterinary exam showed that Bo suffered from extensive dental disease impacting his ability to eat. To complicate matters, Bo had a heart murmur that made it dangerous for him to be under anesthesia. While waiting for treatment, Bo reveled in love in a foster home.

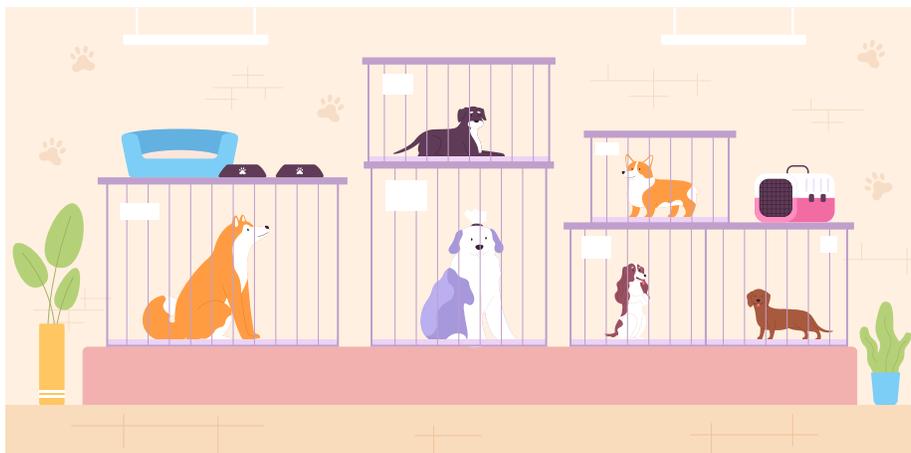
When an echocardiogram provided a diagnosis of degenerative valvular disease, Bo started his lifesaving medication, and we proceeded with his critical dental care. As Bo recovered, his outgoing, people-loving personality was back and even bigger! The best part? Bo's foster family offered him a permanent home!



## On the Horizon... Construction news

Thanks to several Rhode Island foundations and generous support from individuals during our recent FurBall gala, ARRI's kennel renovation project will soon be scheduled.

The ARRI shelter is designed to accommodate 15 dogs in its main kennels and 5 dogs in its isolation kennels (animals from other states have a mandatory 5-day isolation period on arrival in RI). Creating



additional isolation kennels will enable ARRI to provide a safe and comfortable area for dogs completing their isolation period and provide

additional room should our new four-legged friends need a place to recover from an illness or injury. Thank you to all who made this project possible!



Animal Rescue Rhode Island  
506B Curtis Corner Road  
Peace Dale, RI 02879

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much more...*



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