



# Indigo Rescue & Adoption

Help End Animal Abandonment!

## Efforts To Deter Animal Abandonment

Indigo Rescue & Adoption launched a new program called the "Indigo Anti-Abandonment Campaign" in April of 2001. We sent 480 copies of a letter out to every property management company and apartment complex manager in Washington County. In the letter, we sympathized with the management of rental properties who have an epidemic problem with irresponsible tenants who move out and leave their cats behind. Usually unaltered, these cats continue to have more litters of homeless cats on the property. The cats struggle to survive, and the only option for the management is hiring an agency to come out and trap the cats. It is costly to them and fatal to the cats.

Of course, we feel that one reason people abandon their pets is because they didn't form a bond with their pet. If they did, how could they just leave them behind to fend for themselves?

Another reason we believe people so frequently abandon their pets is because they are not aware that it is illegal. In our letter, we asked that the management companies include a paragraph in their rental agreements, which

clearly states that the tenant understands that animal abandonment is illegal in the state of Oregon, and what the penalties are for conviction of this crime. This is a signed document.

Currently, even if someone knew of an abandoned animal, it is difficult to prove this crime without being able to identify the owner of an abandoned cat. We suggested that rental property managers require that all tenants show verification that their pets have had a microchip implant, so they can be easily identified if lost or abandoned. This would also increase the likelihood of successfully prosecuting a case of animal abandonment.

We included with the letter, a brightly colored poster that can be hung in offices, clubhouses and laundry rooms, stating the law and providing low cost spay/neuter information.

There are copies of the poster in Spanish and English on our web site. We have also provided legal language in Spanish and English or the property management companies to include in their rental agreements.

*(Continued on page 2)*

## Join Us For "A Cause For Alarm"

Don't forget to join us on our TVCA live call-in Cable Show: "A Cause For Alarm."

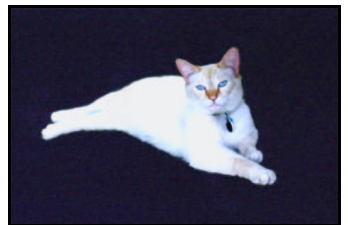
In its tenth month, the show airs the **first and third Wednesday of every month, at 8:00 p.m. on channel 6 or 21**, and is dedicated entirely to animal welfare causes and issues. Please join us, and feel free to call in during the show.

The show is hosted by Heather Hines, and features a variety of guests who represent animal related causes that need our attention and support, as well as vets and trainers who join us to discuss the health and behaviors of our pets.

*If you have an idea or guest to suggest for our show e-mail us at [info@indigo-online.org](mailto:info@indigo-online.org) or call us at 503-640-7979.*

Fall 2001

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### This is Indigo.

He's our heartfelt inspiration who reminds us that we **MUST** help all the abandoned animals.

Look around your neighborhood.

Some cat or dog needs **your** help.

**Don't look away.**

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## P.O.P. Update

Well folks, as you may have already gathered, the projected launch date for the P.O.P. project (Pet Overpopulation Prevention) at Washington County's Bonnie L. Hays Small Animal Shelter has come and gone, and we are still not up and running. We must admit that we had fair warning, by their own admission. Things at the county move "at a snails pace," and now we can agree from our own experience...they weren't kidding!

The good news is that things are definitely progressing over there. The surgery room and the pre/post-operation rooms are slowly being converted. They have received most of the medical equipment and supplies they need, and are just waiting for the

bulk of the build-out to be completed. The final piece of the puzzle will be to hire the vets and vet techs and train the volunteers.



We will be in touch the moment they are ready for that big step, and boy, are we gonna' have a party!

*Hang in there, we are almost there.*

## Saturday Adoptions at Beaverton PetSmart

Try as we do to place as many of the abandoned animals of our community into permanent new homes, there are still countless and endless numbers that need our help.

In an effort to support the independent rescuers of our community, as well as deal with the adoptions that are returned to us (sometimes as much as three years later!), we are conducting adoption clinics at the **Beaverton PetSmart** every **Saturday from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.** We are directly in the front of the store, and always have a number of cats (and occasionally dogs)

in need. So if you know anyone who is able to provide a safe and permanent home for a companion animal, please send them our way. Pictures and biographies of our animals available for adoption, as well as our adoption policies, are posted on our Web site at: [www.indigo-online.org](http://www.indigo-online.org).

Please remember, Indigo places cats in indoor-only homes, (or homes with Cat Fence-In [www.catfencein.com](http://www.catfencein.com)). For more information, e-mail us at [info@indigo-online.org](mailto:info@indigo-online.org) or call us at 503-649-7070.

## Anti-Abandonment Efforts

*(Anti-Abandonment Efforts, Continued from page 1)*

### How can I help?

This program has a lot of potential, yet with every idea that requires change, it takes strong support to make it happen. If you live in a rental property, please ask your managers to participate in this program. Explain to them that trapping and removing the cats is not a solution to the problem because more will be left behind soon enough. Provide reminder copies of the letter and poster, and continue to follow up with them until they have changed their rental agreements. We are happy to provide any additional information necessary.

Contact us at [info@indigo-online.org](mailto:info@indigo-online.org).

### Also in the works:

We are attempting to get approval from Washington County for a

billboard campaign. Our hope is to have Washington County businesses sponsor or fund the billboards. We would have billboards mounted in various widely traveled areas of Washington County, alerting people to the law against animal abandonment, as well as the penalties, and a phone number you can call if you know of someone who has committed this crime.

Terry Travis from KINK FM 102 helped promote our campaign on their "Subject Earth" segment, and The Oregonian Tuesday Pet Page writer Deborah Wood plans to do a story as well.

Meantime, tell everyone you know that it is illegal, irresponsible and inhumane to abandon your pet. A pet is a lifetime commitment...

**THINK AHEAD.  
IF YOU CAN'T COMMIT, DON'T ADOPT!**



## Fundraising Update: Your support helps many!

- Veterinarian bills.
- POP, our spay/neuter program with Bonnie L. Hayes Small Animal Shelter.
- Food and litter for our foster homes, when they need assistance.
- Newsletter costs.
- Mailings for Indigo's Anti-Abandonment campaign.
- Sponsoring "A Cause for Alarm," our cable access program.

That's the basic list of things Indigo Rescue & Adoption spends **YOUR** money on. It's a short list. But it's important to us that you know where your money goes. We are incredibly grateful for every donation we receive: a few coins a child drops in one of our donation jars from their weekly allowance, a check sent in memory of a friend's pet who passed on, a purchase made at one of our fund-raising events, or a donation met with a corporate matching sponsor. All of your kind donations renew our spirits and our ability to continue our work to end animal abandonment.

**Your donations** helped us continue our work with Bonnie L. Hays Small Animal Shelter to continue setting up an onsite spay/neuter surgery room so that ALL adoptable pets are spayed or neutered before they leave the shelter. That has been, and continues to be our primary focus.

**Your donations** helped us test each cat in our care for FIV and Feline Leukemia, spay or neuter, and treat for fleas, worms and other pesky junk.

**Your donations** helped us find homes recently for Pepper,

Simba, Mr. Sunshine, Badger, Baghirra, Miss Melon, Handsome Zack, Spruce Bruce, Tigger, Lewis, and Sebastian, Jasper, and Marmalade, and the hundreds we've placed before them.

**Your donations** helped us to continue seeking homes for BartholoMEW, Duchess, Cary, Henry, Oscar & Peter, Delilah, Solo, Naomi, Silver, several kittens Patty tamed and is fostering, and a litter another kind couple rescued and nursed to health.

(Unfortunately, that list never seems to get shorter, but you help us keep helping them.) Please visit our Web site for more information about the animals we are representing.

[www.indigo-online.org](http://www.indigo-online.org).

**Your donations** paid for ads we placed in the Oregonian for some of our "special needs" kitties and doggies, our fund-raising events, and programs.

**Your donations** helped us produce our newsletter. We distribute it to all of Indigo's e-mail and mailing list recipients, and we make copies for the veterinarians, pet stores, and other public places that support us.

### Corporate match

Be sure to check out your company's policy on charitable contributions. I work for a company that matches my charitable contribution. They match my dollar donation toward any 501(c)3 organization (which qualifies Indigo Rescue & Adoption). Many companies do this. Ask your Human Resources director about it, and if your company doesn't have such a policy, suggest that they start one. Contact us if you have any questions.

### Other ways to donate

Read about our upcoming Holiday Bazaar on **December 1<sup>st</sup>** and **2<sup>nd</sup>** on page 6. Hope to see you there. Check out the article introducing Indigo's Chain of Love on page 4. Create a memory for your pet and help us continue our work to end animal abandonment. And, finally, if you have experience with fund-raising, we are seeking a volunteer to chair a fund-raising committee. Here's your chance to get creative and to help continue helping the animals.

Bring your pets or kids and have a picture with Santa at Beaverton PetSmart on Sunday, **December 9<sup>th</sup>** from **11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.** We will be doing Santa pictures For \$9.95, You'll receive two Polaroid pictures, one in an framed ornament and the other in a small frame. And PetSmart donates \$5.00 to Indigo for every picture.

### Introducing Two of our Rescues



**Juliet** is a sweet and affectionate cat who is currently looking for a home. She loves to carry balls and stuffed mice around the house. She is young and healthy, but tests positive for FIV. She needs to go to a home without other cats or with other FIV+ cats. Did you notice her cute heart of a nose?



**Kestle** is a sweet-natured girl with pretty green eyes. She is calm, timid, affectionate, and loves to sit in your lap. She didn't grow up around dogs, but might be able to adjust to a calm one. She also didn't grow up around little kids and is having a hard time adjusting to them. Kestle loves to talk and is very playful. She hides when company comes over, but eventually comes out to visit.

*If you can offer a cat a permanent and safe home, please contact us at 503-640-7979 or e-mail at [info@indigo-online.org](mailto:info@indigo-online.org).*



## Indigo's Chain of Love

Indigo Rescue & Adoption has created a unique way to both contribute to our efforts, and memorialize or pay tribute to your cherished and beloved pets.

We call it Indigo's Chain of Love. Created by our own Claudia Wood, and mounted on our Web site by our volunteer Webmaster, Beccy Kirk, the Chain of Love is a way to link all of us together through the love we share for our companion pets.

### Here's how it works:

We have literally created a "Chain" that is displayed at each of our events. The Chain of Love contains an attractive laminated card, hung like a charm, which displays your pet's name, your family name, and a message or tribute from you. We can all

share in the love we feel for our companion animals, and be inspired to continue our efforts to end animal suffering everywhere.

We have additionally created a "Cyber Chain," on our Web site, which displays the same tribute to your pet, forever. If you choose to include a photo of your pet on the cyber-chain, we can mount that too.

We ask a donation of \$15.00 per tribute, which includes both the laminated and Internet chain links.

For more information, or to purchase your link in the Chain of Love, call us at: Indigo Rescue & Adoption 503-640-7979.

## Volunteer Thanks

We just wanted to take this opportunity to say thank you, thank you, thank you, to the people who help us continue our efforts on a day-to-day basis. Without your continued help and support, we would still just be two very frustrated animal rescuers. Much Love, Heather and Claudia.

Beccy Kirk • Byron DeLuca • Barbara Haftorson  
Patty Robeson • The Rasmussen Family • Mary Lou Denton  
Phyllis Johanson • Linda Dlugokecki • Laurie Buchko-Lee  
Claire White • Irene and Tom Wnuk  
Dr. Mark Norman and staff • Dr. Scott Davis and staff

## Volunteers Still Needed

Although people have continued to filter in with offers to help out with our various volunteer opportunities, there is always a need for more help. We understand how difficult it is in our busy day-to-day lives to commit time away from home, but if you can commit to spending a few hours a week making calls from home, we have some very important positions still in need of support.

We think you will find that it is a good opportunity to restore your sense of accomplishment during this uncertain time. Descriptions of the positions are on our Web site at [www.indigo-online.org](http://www.indigo-online.org).

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

## Indigo Rescue & Adoption

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Phone: 503.640.7979  
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Email: [info@indigo-online.org](mailto:info@indigo-online.org)

I have enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to help  
**Indigo Rescue & Adoption** end animal abandonment.

All donations are tax deductible as the law allows.  
**Indigo Rescue & Adoption** is an all-volunteer 501 (c) 3 nonprofit organization that operates on donations and community support.

**THANK YOU!**





## Mookie, the Dane Mix, Rescued At Last

We are happy to report, that on July 15, 2001, the Dane mix dog who had survived on her own for three years at the Tillamook Creamery, was successfully trapped and brought to a foster home in Hillsboro. It was a long journey home.

Since she had just been called "the dog", or "the Dane mix" until the time that we had been made aware of her, Claudia gave her the name "Mookie" after the creamery.

Indigo's involvement in the rescue of Mookie began when a woman who was a former employee of the creamery contacted us. She and another woman had been feeding Mookie for about the past year, but neither woman was able to approach the dog without her bolting in fear. Rumors circulated that some of the employees had thrown rocks at her in the past, and that she had nourished herself late at night from the "raw milk pail" left near the docks at the rear of the creamery. Numerous employees had seen her with a leg injury about a year and a half ago, and she had apparently healed it up on her own.

Over the course of several months, one of the two women, Patti B. made endless phone calls trying to get a "professional" or someone with experience rescuing large dogs, to get involved. Unfortunately, while all expressed genuine concern for the dog, everyone was either busy with their own rescued animals, or geographically unable to participate in the rescue. Our own involvement included coaching and consulting in the form of about 250 e-mail exchanges. We all felt helpless and frustrated, but we continued to offer suggestions and encouragement to Patti, so that she would feel less nervous about the inevitable task before her.

We tracked down a large trap in Clatsop County, but before she was able to do the trapping, Patti needed a scheduled surgery, and time for recuperation. During that time, I went out to the creamery and met with the manager Eric. He told me that they couldn't allow the women to feed the dog any longer because the food was attracting rats to the property. I asked him if he could assign someone to help Patti with the trapping of Mookie, and told him he needed to help get this dog to safety. He said that he would try.

Ultimately, Patti rented the trap. They chose an appropriate place to set it up, and Patti spent a week putting hamburger in the trap without setting it, moving it further and further back, until she was confident that Mookie was not afraid of the trap. She and her husband Jay chose a night, and sat out waiting the entire night for Mookie to come for food. By 7am the following morning, when they were about to give up, Mookie finally

showed up. Another minute and she was in the trap, remarkably, acting quite calm. They packed her in the shell of their truck (Patti sat in back with her), and brought her to my house in Beaverton.

Over the prior week, I had been nosing around, and found a woman named Eileen who used to breed Danes, and since retiring, had a large empty kennel area. The kennels were indoor-outdoor, and she has a large fenced exercise area. We brought Mookie straight to Eileen's, and released her in one of the runs. She was a little nervous, but allowed all of us to pet her, and marvel over her beauty and strength in surviving as she had, alone out there for three years. We asked Barbara Tuler the dog trainer to come out and evaluate her temperament, and Mookie immediately responded to commands such as sit, come, and shake, showing us that she had belonged to someone who had trained her.

The mystery of how a dog like Mookie ended up abandoned continues to baffle us. Had she been left out there intentionally when someone moved away? Had she escaped someone while visiting the creamery, and if so, why hadn't they tried to find her?

Over the next several days, Mookie improved steadily, mingling with Eileen's other dogs, and sleeping in the house. She bonded immediately with Eileen, and we have a sneaking suspicion she may end up staying with her for good (she's quite a charmer). Her injured leg had been broken in four places, one of the breaks healed incorrectly, causing her leg to be an inch and a half shorter than the other. The other, lower fracture healed with the bone exposed, eventually growing a protective callous over it. Dr. Munjar, who is a surgical specialist, will determine later this week whether surgery will correct the damaged leg.

Mookie's story has a very happy ending. It took a long time, and a lot of individual effort to make it happen. Most important, it took tenacity and an unwillingness to give up on another poor beast, left to survive out on her own. We hope that this story gives both encouragement, and meaning to our readers, as they face the endless numbers of homeless animals that surround us. As difficult as it may seem, you can make an amazing difference, just by making up your mind, and putting forth the effort. And believe us when we tell you, the gratification of seeing Mookie safe and happy, is a gift that cannot be purchased for any price.

Again we must quote:

*"Become the change you want to see in others."* - Mahatma Gandhi

# Indigo Rescue & Adoption



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Beaverton, OR 97554  
Phone: 503.640.7979  
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Email: [info@indigo-online.org](mailto:info@indigo-online.org)

## Address Service Requested

## Help End Animal Abandonment!



## Holiday Bazaar With Jewelry Sale Fund Raiser Coming Soon

Thanks to the generosity of all of our Indigo supporters and the hard work of many volunteers, our Jewelry Sale last June was a great success. We have planned our second sale for December. This time our sale will be in conjunction with a festive and timely Holiday Bazaar!

Visitors will be able to browse through a huge room filled with all sorts of holiday crafters and their hand-made wares, and then cross the hall and visit our Jewelry Room featuring our fabulous collection of donated jewelry pieces that include: fine gold and gems, sterling silver, vintage, fine costume, fun costume and everything in between.

**It's a holiday shopper's dream come true, filled with lots of variety and good will.**

*\*We continue to collect tax-deductible jewelry donations year round, so there is still time to donate to the sale.*

### Please join us:

#### **When:**

Saturday **December 1st** from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.  
Sunday **December 2nd** from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

#### **Where:**

**Cedar Hills Recreation Center**, at the of corner Cedar Hills Blvd. and Park Way, in Beaverton.

Call **503-640-7979** for more information.

