



2013 Year-End Update

indigo rescue

Saving Lives Preventing Births
Building our Future

A huge **THANK YOU** to everyone for your **SUPPORT!**

AS WE FINISH OUT 2013, we are filled with pride at how much our little network of dedicated foster homes and volunteers continues to accomplish and how many lives we've been able to save. This year we were able to help several dogs from horrific hoarding cases, along with a host of injured and even pregnant abandoned dogs.

As a reminder, the dogs we take from our county shelters are out of time, and we are quite literally their last chance. Our adoption numbers may not be the same as a high volume shelter, but then, we are known because we take the more challenging cases who can't be adopted out at county shelters, and we focus on quality rather than quantity placements.

We want to offer another gigantic thank you to all of our wonderful fosters, volunteers and donors for your continued recognition and support of our efforts! With your continued support, we look forward to a future of continued growth, saving more lives and preventing more births. 🐾

Thomas

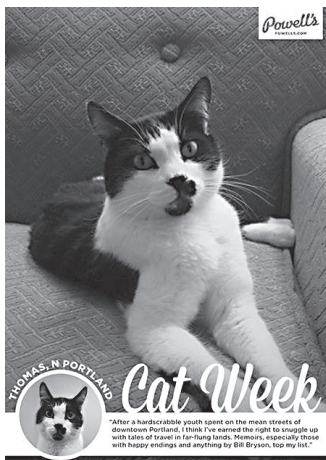


Days Gone By

Thomas was a sweet black and white kitty who was found by one of our volunteers after being hit by a car on a major street in Portland. While our vet was x-raying him to determine how many and which bones were broken, he also discovered that Thomas had a bullet lodged in the back of his head. This poor "tom cat" had been through a lot and somehow survived. So, we had our vet surgically repair Thomas's mangled leg with an external fixator, and remove the bullet from his head.

Thomas was a sweet boy all the way through his rehabilitation. He never growled or resisted care, he was just grateful to have care! Once he was well enough and had the fixator removed from his leg, we found Thomas a great home with a young woman who worked at Powell's Books.

That was about ten years ago and now we've learned that Thomas has become famous! Here's Thomas's poster from Powell's Books. This makes us SOOOOOO happy to see. Yay for Thomas! (But please don't break a leg...) 🐾



14th Annual Fall Jewelry Sale Fundraiser Saturday, November 16

Come shop for a cause! Your money goes further and helps make a difference when you buy our recycled jewelry.

Join us on **Saturday, November 16, from 9AM to 4PM**
at the Cedar Hills Recreation Center at
11640 SW Park Way in Portland.

Year-round, people from all over the country send us their unwanted or unworn jewelry and we sell it to raise money to support our animal rescue efforts! People send us everything from vintage family heirlooms to diamond wedding sets—all to support our cause. AND, all jewelry donations are tax deductible!

We have gold, platinum, silver, gems, fine and fun costume, vintage, holiday and ethnic jewelry at really fantastic prices. Everything you can possibly imagine.

A huge THANK YOU to all of the terrific, generous people from all over the country who have donated jewelry for our sales.

Your donations are beautiful, unique and amazing. Our jewelry shoppers LOVE them, and they help us continue our work!



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Rescue on Highway 26!

On a Friday evening in May, I went to pick up take-and-bake pizza for the volunteers who were coming out to the ranch the next day. I noticed a flyer on the pole outside the pizza place for a little lost Chihuahua who had jumped out of a car at the local Urgent Care. The flyer didn't say the date the dog was lost, but I looked at the picture and felt sad for how scared the little dog must have been.

Flash forward to the following Saturday. I was at Petsmart on our outreach Saturday when Cari called and told me one of our other Indigo friends, Keri, had seen a little dog along the off-ramp of the highway. The dog was terrified and running from her and she wanted to know what to do. I gave Cari my best suggestions for a scared dog that you don't want to chase into traffic while running from you. I told her not to try to go toward the dog, but to get down on the ground and quietly call to the dog while offering the best tasting treats she could find. Cari thanked me and we hung up.

When I got home from Petsmart later that day, I saw that Keri had posted me on Facebook about the little dog, so I called her. She told me the story and described the dog as wearing a pink collar, and that's when it hit me. It was the same dog I had seen on the flyer the prior Friday. That tiny dog had managed to cross two major intersections, and somehow get under the fence and onto the freeway off-ramp! Keri had seen the dog when she was driving by and pulled over on the off-ramp to try to get her but she had bolted into the bramble.

Keri called the shelter and found that the owner had reported the little dog missing, so she got her number and called her. Bella, a six pound Chihuahua, had been missing for ten days! The owner, Angie, had pretty much given up hope that she would be found because they had not had a single call from all of the ads and flyers they had hung. She also knew that Bella was not a brave girl and would run from people. Angie and her daughter came to the location Keri was at and were hoping Bella would come to them, but they had not seen her. I packed up a trap and asked Keri to pick up a cooked chicken from the local grocer and we met there an hour later. I pulled up behind Keri on the off ramp, put on my blinkers and got out to look at where the dog had disappeared. There were thick trees and blackberry bramble where she had last seen Bella run, and that had been at about 12:45pm that day. It was now 5:30pm. She had not seen the dog since then, but she and her young step-daughter, Briley, had sacrificed their plans for the day and spent three hours climbing around the slope looking for her. I cut away a lot of the thorny blackberry with gloves and pruners, then I baited, covered and set the trap and we separated so Keri could watch from the parking lot on the other side of the fence and I could check the trap from the freeway side. I asked Angie and her daughter, Kaleiah, to drive around the industrial area on the other side of the fence in case Bella had gone through the fence and found a place to hide in the bushes or tall grass on the other side. I also left a message for Sophia and talked to Jaye about helping out, but we weren't sure yet whether more people roaming around might make her more afraid to come out of hiding.

We sat out there until 10:30pm Saturday night checking the trap. Then I drove slowly around the Marriott Hotels and Industrial parks, looking for places a little dog might hide or go seeking food. Sophia drove over and joined us and we all drove around calling for her and looking for any sign of movement. Keri went home and got her trailer and came back to set up camp in the parking lot, along with Angie and her friend, Breann, who brought Bella's little Chihuahua brother, Charlie, in case Bella would smell or hear him and come out. I asked Angie and

Breann to take Charlie and walk through the nearby field with flashlights because the grass was so tall that even a large dog could easily lay down and not be seen.

We were able to keep people there round-the-clock. By morning, Jaye and Kelley joined the search and Angie and Keri and the girls went home to get some sleep. Bella had still not been seen since 12:45pm the day before. I drove out to our ranch in Vernonia and picked up two more traps. While I was gone, Sophia, Kelley and Jaye were driving around and noticed a duck who was distressed about something. They thought she was trying to jump a fence, but when they got out of the car to check it out, it turned out her little ducklings had fallen into a storm drain and she was frantically trying to encourage them out. Sadly, four of the eight ducklings had already drowned, but four others were still trying to get out. All three girls pulled the drain cover off and they got the fatigued little ducklings out. One was so fatigued while it tried to follow mama that it had to sit down and rest every few feet. Sophia held the little duckling for about five minutes so it could rest, and then they all jumped into the water with mama. Success!!

I was just about back to our meeting area in the parking lot when Sophia and Jaye called me simultaneously, screaming that they had seen her! Bella had shot through a hole in the fence and Kelley spotted her, but she was flying like a bullet in panic. She was running west, parallel to the freeway. Sophia jumped in her car and drove quickly past the field to the next parking lot and got out of her car and started poking around the trees, and Bella shot out from between two trees and bolted over a small hill so Sophia couldn't tell which direction she was going. We called Angie and Keri and they both came back, along with Breann and the little dog, Charlie. We searched up and down along the freeway again, but nothing. We encouraged Charlie to bark, hoping Bella would recognize the sound. Then, I set two more traps along the route we knew she had been traveling. I baited them with chicken and made a 'hansel and gretyl' trail so she would hopefully follow the scent. After ten days on her own, that little girl had to be VERY hungry!

Sophia, Jaye and Kelley went home and Keri and I each parked near two of the traps so we could keep checking them from opposite sides of the field. We were hoping the quiet would cause her to be confident enough to come out again, but nothing. By now, it was 5:30pm on Sunday. I left to meet Sophia and Jaye for dinner, and Kelley was planning on coming back and checking the traps again while we were gone, then we would all head back after dinner to start shifts again. During dinner, my phone rang and it was Angie. She was shrieking and I could barely understand her, but I knew what she was saying – they had found her!! Angie and Kaleiah had driven down to the farthest end of where they thought Bella could have run and there was a little man-made pond with an island. There, on the little island, sat Bella. She heard Kaleiah's voice and got super excited! Kaleiah had to cross through the pond to get to her and then Bella was so excited to see her mom!! The pic above is of Angie and Bella. Bella was super



Foster Homes & **URGENT!** Donations needed

Foster Homes Needed: If you ask us what's the thing we need the very most, we'll tell you, it's definitely foster homes! The work we do is only made possible by having a safe home for our rescues to recover in. And we know it isn't always easy, but sharing your home with a rescued dog (or cat), quite literally saves their life. Without somewhere for the dogs to go when the shelters call us, we're just not able to help them. And, despite our cautious placement process, we still occasionally get dogs returned by their adopters. When it does happen, it seems like it's always several returns at one time, and we have to scramble to figure out where to put them while still saving the lives of dogs at the shelters. It's also important to note that some of our rescued dogs are with us into their retirement. The goal, of course is to find them a home, but some are just not as highly adoptable, either because of their age, or their various physical or behavioral quirks. This does not change our commitment to them, and we will keep them until the end of their lives if necessary, but doing this ties up valuable foster space and is part of why we always need new foster homes! Please think about whether you can foster a dog, or maybe you know someone else who could – we REALLY appreciate it!

Donate: If you absolutely can't foster a rescue for us, please consider making a monthly contribution to Indigo Rescue via Paypal. In this way you can help us not only to sponsor a long term rescue, but to support new rescues. Donating monthly is easy, and much less painful than contributing all at once. AND, it enables us to keep doing our important rescue work as we continue to innovate and work toward our goal of self sufficiency! Go to: www.indigorescue.org, click Donate and follow the prompts to set up your monthly Paypal donation! 🐾

— Rescue on Hwy. 26, cont. —

thin and as anyone could imagine, very, very hungry! By the next day, Angie told me she was back to her old self, just sleeping a lot. I'm betting she was too afraid to sleep much during those eleven long days on her own!!

So, Angie, Kaleiah, and Bella's family want to send a HUGE thank you to Laura, Keri, Marty, Briley, Breann, Sophia, Kelley, Bob and Jaye. I'm sure I'm not alone when I say that we each continue to hope that we are leading by example when we put in the extra effort to find a little lost dog, and we never, never, never give up. 🐾



www.IndigoRanch.org

Look for a special coupon for Indigo Ranch on the back page of this newsletter!

DigMyDog.com Custom Vinyl Decals of YOUR Pet!

We continue to take orders from people all over the world for our fantastic and unique custom vinyl decals of YOUR pet. We use a high resolution jpg you email to our website. We produce the custom vinyl decal and our volunteers hand-cut the image of your pet from the background so you can mount it to your car window and show off your four-legged friend wherever you go. People love our decals and send us glowing emails of enthusiasm! Please visit the gallery on our DigMyDog.com website to see some fun examples of our work.



Our decals make a fantastic gift for your friends or family and we can produce them from photos of any pet; dog, cat, horse, bird, guinea pig...

you get what we're saying? Check it out, and remember, 100% of the profits from DigMyDog.com fund our non-profit rescue work! 🐾



SCRIP

Don't forget your scrip gift card order for the holidays! **Chinook Books** and **Scrip Gift Cards** make fantastic and convenient gifts. Be sure to tell everyone that your holiday gift to them helped us with our animal rescue efforts. Your gift will mean twice as much! The scrip gift card order form is always on our website, www.indigorescue.org. Click Donate/Shop and scroll to Scrip, then download an order form. Easy-Peazie!

Yay! We love our staff at Indigo Ranch! Laura, John, Tia, and Brandon have made Indigo Ranch run like a well-oiled machine. Their hard work and dedication to the success of Indigo Rescue and their love of the dogs, the farm animals, the clients, and the way the ranch looks means the world to us and has made a huge difference—and it really shows when you visit the ranch! We also had a big group of fantastic volunteers come out to work on a pile of fix-it projects this spring. They rocked it and got so much done!

We're also still working steadily on our Memory and Tribute Garden! Another terrific group of volunteers from Intel Involved came out and helped us measure, dig and plant beautiful plants donated by Portland Nursery last month. It is going to be soooo beautiful when it's all done and we can't wait! This spring we'll be adding more new plants, and getting ready to start a path through the garden. Please let us know if you'd like to join us for some fun outdoor volunteer projects in the fresh air at Indigo Ranch.



VOLUNTEER KNITTERS NEEDED: If you're a knitting nut, we have lots of alpaca yarn from our five boys at the ranch and we're always looking for someone to knit it up into scarves, hats, or super warm dog sweaters! We will then sell those items to raise money for our rescue work.

Email us for more info: info@indigorescue.org.



indigo rescue

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Never, never, never give up.



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Indigo Rescue / Indigo Ranch

Zero and Uno: NEVER GIVE UP!

If you didn't hear it when we screamed it from the rooftops, Zero and Uno found a home!! It rates among the top most gratifying accomplishments we've ever had. These two super sweet, blind brothers had been with us for 4 years and 10 months. We had all but given up hope of finding a home for two 80lb, blind brothers who are pretty good shedders – of long, white hair. It was okay, though, we all loved them and were committed to keeping them as long as it took – it just wasn't a perfect situation for them, or for us.



They deserved their own home, with lots of attention and activities – and that's just what they got! Caron and Quentin had recently lost their senior dogs and were just saying how they wanted to decompress for a while before considering another dog, when they saw Zero and Uno online. They were both immediately struck by how much these two boys needed them. They made the call and I brought the boys over for a visit. White hair floated all around us and in the sun it looked just like a fluff filled snow globe.

The boys wrestled and showed off, but also, they gave Caron and Quentin lots of kisses and showed them how well they could navigate. They were hooked. These four became a happy family a short time later. Since then they have been camping, hiking, exploring Portland, and to the beach together for the first time in the boys lives. SO HAPPY!! Thank you so much to Caron and Quentin for giving our boys the happy, adventure filled life they always deserved. 🐾

The Biggest Loser – Doggie Style!

Since sending your chubby dog off to Doggie Fat Camp in Vernonia can be difficult for many people, we decided to bring the effort into town. In 2014, we'll be offering classes at Bethany Family Pet Clinic, teaching people how to get the weight off their pooch and then how to keep it off!

Is your dog overweight? Sometimes it's hard to tell. If you stand over your dog and look down. You should be able to see a waistline behind the ribs. If your dog's sides are equal from chest to hips, your dog is overweight! If you put your hands on your dog's sides, you should be able to feel its ribs. If all you can feel is a soft, thick padding, your dog is overweight!



Just as with humans, being overweight is not healthy for your dog and puts them at risk for joint damage, heart and liver disease, diabetes and cancer. Join our fun classes and your dog can be **THE BIGGEST LOSER – DOGGIE STYLE!**

Learning to walk again

Dachshunds, especially if they are overweight, are prone to ruptured discs in their long backs. With their short legs, they are healthiest if they maintain a low weight, and can be kept from leaping off high pieces of furniture.



Mitzy

Unfortunately, our adorable, sweet little Mitzy could not be kept from thinking she was able to fly. When she ruptured her disc, the family who adopted her was unable to afford the surgery. So, Mitzy was returned and Indigo had surgery done to fix her back. Mitzy gave us a bit of a scare, though, when she still wasn't able to get to her feet several weeks after surgery. Something wasn't right. After Dr. Mark and Mitzy's foster, Angela, spent long hours providing her with laser treatments and water therapy, a few months into her recovery, Mitzy finally gradually was able to walk again. Mitzy's surgery and rehab cost \$5,000, but seeing her run again is worth it! You can watch a video of Mitzy's amazing recovery on our website under Rescue Stories. 🐾



Gift Certificate

**1 FREE Night Stay
at the Ranch for 1 Dog. \$35 value!!**

Indigo Ranch
503.429.0806
www.indigoranch.org
15640 Airport Way
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Offer Valid for New Clients Only
EXPIRES: July 1st, 2014
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