

CAT DAY

provides purr-fect way to celebrate feline friends



TOP ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT

Owned by Deanna Arbuckle of Irrigon
Gretta, who will be 2 in January, is a calico-tortie that was born with multiple birth defects. She was surrendered for euthanasia, however, the Arbuckle family adopted her. Despite her unusual appearance, cat-mama Deanna Arbuckle said Gretta is quite sweet.

Owned by Sam Thompson of Pendleton
Sam Thompson says Sutter, 3, is a phenomenal cat — but adds he’s not too bright. “He runs into walls, loves smacking paper around and on special occasions he creates the sound of a banshee instead of meowing,” Thompson said. However, cat-dad does point out that Sutter has beautiful eyes — especially in the sunlight.

Owned by Andy Cary and Emily Muller-Cary of Pendleton
Callie, who will turn 20 in May, lives most of her life looking out the front window and passing judgement on everyone who passes by. In addition to watching over Ma and Pa Cary, Callie has a feline sister, two dog brothers and two human siblings.

Owned by Brooke Armstrong of Pendleton
Capri, a nearly 17-month-old Bengal, acts more like a dog than a cat. She sleeps under the covers, has a favorite blanket and jumps in the shower with her cat-mama. Brooke Armstrong said everything is special about Capri, who was a 40th birthday present to herself.

BOTTOM ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT

Owned by Clint and Sara Shoemake of Hermiston
Nacho is a rescue cat who is about 12 years old. He revs up, purring louder than any cat the Shoemakes have ever heard. Nacho enjoys sunbathing and instilling fear into the Shoemake’s German shepherd.

Owned by Jesselee Leachman of Pendleton
Feline (pronounced Feh-leen) is 13 years old. Jesselee Leachman said Feline has helped her deal with depression by showing just enough affection to cheer her up.

Owned by Vicki Post of Athena
Baby, an 11-year-old domestic shorthair, lives on a farm in Athena. “You can catch her out in the field hunting mice — her favorite past time,” said cat-mom Vicki Post. Barn cats, she said, don’t get enough credit for all the work they do. Post said Baby is sweet and always brings a smile to her face.

Owned by Karen Eddy of Umatilla
Lindsay, a tabby named after Lindsay Lohan, and Cali (calico) are 7-year-old sisters. “Lindsay is the queen of the house, with sweet li’l Cali putting up with her sister,” said Karen Eddy. Also, Lindsay is a bit of a “media hound” — having been featured in three different magazines/newspapers.

By TAMMY MALGESINI
East Oregonian

I’m a dog person — but I believe in giving equal time in showcasing people’s pets.

With National Cat Day approaching, many readers submitted photos and shared what makes their feline friends so special. Colleen Paige founded National Cat Day in 2005. According to www.nationalcatday.com, the pet and family lifestyle expert encourages the public to adopt cats from local shelters or cat rescues. In addition, Paige urges cat lovers to celebrate their feline friends.

When sending in photos, people shared about the special attributes of their cats — some more special than others. Deanna Arbuckle of Irrigon has six cats, and identifies four of them as “special needs kitties.”

Arbuckle shared about Gretta, a nearly 2-year-old calico-tortie that was born with multiple birth defects — including no right eye and a twisted jaw. Arbuckle said it results in “an adorable snaggletooth.” She also introduced Millie, a tiger- and ginger-striped kitten that’s blind due to untreated upper respiratory infections, and Tippy, a 2-year-old black and white tuxedo girl who suffered neglect as a kitty, resulting in bouts of vertigo.

Arbuckle advocates daily for special needs kitties on Instagram and Facebook accounts, Sister Tippy Cat. She suggests that people consider rescuing kittens or cats that might be considered less adoptable.

“The shy, the disabled, the perfectly imperfect and even scratch and dent kiddos — we believe every animal deserves the chance to live their best life, and despite any physical differences, they are completely capable of living wonderful lives,” she said.

Contact Community Editor Tammy Malgesini at tmalgesini@eastoregonian.com or 541-564-4539



Owned by Moe Soeum of Pendleton
Mr. Cat is a 6-month-old male shorthair exotic Persian cat that lives with Moe Soeum, owner of Moe Pho — Noodles & Cafe in Pendleton. Mr. Cat enjoys waking everyone up at 6 a.m., hiding things under the couch and watching the fish tank.