



Betty Kaiser

Betty Kaiser: Chatterbox

Good people still exist in this crazy world

contained a school ID of a young teen, Keaton S., in the 7th grade in North Hollywood, Calif.

The distance didn't discourage Kaila. She was determined to find him and return the wallet and its contents.

She began at the Creswell Police Dept. but they are closed on weekends. She then left a note at the coffee shop and took the wallet home, where she and her mom, Tracy, brainstormed.

So many questions. North Hollywood is a long ways away and it was spring break. How did the wallet end up in a Creswell parking lot?

Perhaps he and his family were passing through the area on vacation? They called the Creswell hotels with no success.

The following Monday, Tracy called the student's school and inquired if he still attended there. Eventually, someone said yes and they would contact his family. Within minutes, she received a call from Keaton's dad.

He couldn't believe that the wallet had been found and that everything was intact. He called Kaila their "Angel" and filled in the blanks on how the wallet got there.

Keaton's grandparents live in Creswell and he had come to visit during spring break. He had been staying there and doing chores to earn

money to open his first bank account. Ironically, he had gone on a bike ride with his now missing wallet and lost all his hard earned money.

When he discovered it was gone and told his grandmother, she said (as all good grandmothers do), "That is why I told you to put your money in your suitcase until you get home so you won't lose it."

A lesson learned like most of us do: the hard way.

After Keaton's dad told him that his wallet had been found, his parents said he was on Cloud 9.

"He spent the night singing the praises of Kaila and the entire state of Oregon. He even talked of attending the University of Oregon!"

Now that's joy and gratitude!

The wallet was soon sent from Oregon to a grateful Keaton in Calif. In the meantime, both families had discussions about the wallet's journey and life's learning experiences of character building, including responsibility, ethics and treating people as you want to be treated.

But the story continues.

A sum of money had been offered to Kaila as a finder's fee but she declined. Keaton wrote Kaila thanking her for being so kind and awesome. He was so grateful to have the money and items returned.

He wanted to repay her in some way, so he purchased a gift card at the coffee shop for her and her friends to go for

breakfast. He specifically recommended his favorite, the Florentine Crepe.

Kaila thought that was very cool but her real reward was his joy in the returned wallet.

After many exchanges of emails, pictures and notes, the families had become friends. They made a date to meet. Keaton's family came to Oregon over the July Fourth where they met for lunch. They seem to have bonded over more than a lost wallet and a good Samaritan named Kaila.

The knowledge that good people still exist in this crazy world warmed all of their hearts.

In closing, I'm quoting a note from Keaton's aunt that speaks from her heart for most of us:

"My heart filled with joy when I got this news. I'm relieved my nephew will be reunited with his belongings. But I'm more relieved to know that in a society full of hostility and self-entitlement there are still people (a teenager no less) who will do the right thing and prioritize kindness above personal gain."

"She restored some of my ever decreasing faith in humanity and taught my nephew a valuable lesson."

FYI: Kaila graduated from CGHS this summer and is attending Lane Community College to become a pediatric nurse. And I believe that Keaton must be in high school now.

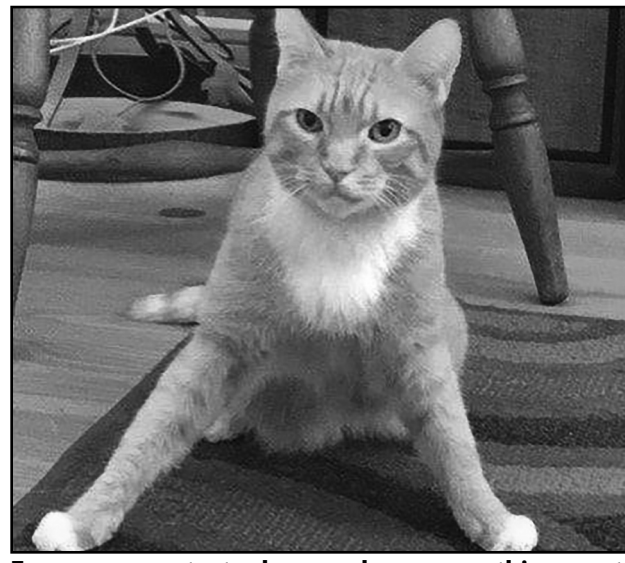
*Note: Creswell Coffee's new name is "Blue Valley Bistro."



Pet Tips 'n' Tales

By Mary Ellen "Angel Scribe"

A sweet 'Lemon'



Everyone wants to hug and squeeze this sweet "Lemon".

Eleven years ago, Lemon, a handsome orange-tabby cat was born to a rescued pregnant and starving cat suffering from distemper. Of his five siblings, only two survived. He arrived into the world with the kitty-disability cerebellar hypoplasia.

His mother's illness prevented his brain from developing normally, so the portion that controls fine motor skills, balance and coordination is out of whack. Sure, it makes him a little diff-FUR-ent but it's never slowed him down — in fact, he's become a world traveler!

How many people, let alone cats, do you know that have traveled and lived across the U.S. and Canada, and Malawi in Africa? He often accompanies his pet parents, Merrienne and Paul, wherever they live or are purr-forming humanitarian work.

Like us, the world-wide pandemic has also affected this loving cat with 'Lemon' colored eyes by sep-PURR-ating him from his loved ones. He is currently being kitty-sat by a cat whisperer in Montreal who spoils him while his "mother" is locked down in Toronto, and his father in Grand Cayman awaits their arrival to their new home.

If you meet this furry traveler note that he is not bilingual, but he does understand all languages spoken kindly.

"We never, for a second, considered this sweet cat to be anything other than completely his quirky self," says Merrienne. "We have doted on him from the time he was born. He is never reprimanded for anything. Ever. His walking is not very stable, he falls a lot, does not climb any stairs, and does not litter without assistance. But none of that makes him any less lovable — just a tad high maintenance."

"When he wants something, he'll let you know. He will sit by his food bowl or lean into you. His meow is an abrupt sounding 'MAAAAAH'. His purring is to die for, but you have to work for it. He is on a fairly rigid toiletting schedule and hasn't had an accident in a long time."

Lemon's a good traveler who's taken many road trips, has been to three countries and lived in 12 apartments. Once travel restrictions are un-PAWS-ed, it will become four countries.

After one long drive, the family stopped at a truck stop. Lemon was resting outside their vehicle leaning against Merrienne, when another traveler asked, "Has your cat's legs fallen asleep?"

"A few people looked at us sideways, thinking that Lemon would run away, not knowing that he can barely scoot," says Merrienne. "His disability makes him especially portable, so he's come on picnics and to the beach with us, no problem. He likes his blankets and favorite toys that he snuggles with. At bedtime, he curls up and stays with us all night long. In the morning, he greets me with a little paw for his breakfast. He is just so cute!"

Over the years, the family has developed an amazing network of friends, neighbors and family who love their "quirky" cat and help when his parents are traveling for work.

Dawn, one of his cat sitters said, "Lemon's very muscular. He looks like he works out constantly and, with his cerebellar dysplasia wobbles, he *does*. His cute walk consists of him swinging his back legs wide and using his tail for balance — like a fifth leg. I've never met another feline with a tail that muscular — and I once met a full-grown cougar boarded at the SPCA."

Lemon has made his mark in the world. Wherever he is, people fall in love with his purrs-onality. He is a great ambassador who advocates for adopting special needs animals.

"Lemon is not a 'lemon' cat," said Merrienne. "He has been a wonderful gift whose life continues to be a powerful study of perseverance and determination."

TIPS:

Lemon indicates with a certain "Meow" or tries to jump down from where he is when he needs to use his litter box. He is on a strict schedule of visiting the litter box first and last thing every day, and one time in between. (**Note:** pet diapers are an option for dogs and cats who have a disability.)

Pets with cerebellar hypoplasia sway while eating. Using a heavy dish helps keep it in place. Also, there are Facebook pet CH health pages for pet parents to better care for their cats and dogs.

Join Lemon's Twitter account along with his 12,000 other readers. <http://www.twitter.com/lemonthecat>.

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LORANE NEWS

CONTRIBUTED BY
LIL THOMPSON
 FOR THE SENTINEL

• Once again, the sun came out during drive-in church last Sunday at Lorane Christian Church, until the rain sprinkled down at the end of the service. It was only drive-in service on Sunday.

All are welcome.

• Just a reminder to all Lorane Grangers, the next meeting is July 16 at 7 p.m. with potluck

snacks.

They are still practicing all the distancing, masks and sanitizing guidelines.

• As many of you have seen, work is happening on Stoney Point. They are currently working below the road.

Please: *Slow Down* and be alert.

• Wishing everyone a Happy and safe July Fourth. Enjoy your weekend following the guidelines.

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