

# Shelter Animal Resource Alliance (S.A.R.A.) NEWSLETTER



October  
2024

S.A.R.A.'s Treasures Gift, Thrift, & Cat Adoptions | 871 River Rd, Eugene, OR 97404 | (541) 607-8892 | [www.sarastreasures.org](http://www.sarastreasures.org)

## In this issue:

- Important Milestone
- Fundraising Campaign
- Holiday Gift Fair Nov 29th
- Declawing...  
The Frightening Facts



Greetings! First and foremost, we want to extend our gratitude for your continued support and for taking the time to read our latest newsletter. Believe it or not, S.A.R.A. is approaching its 25th anniversary in just over a year! It's hard to imagine how far we've come since our humble beginnings, and yet we continue to evolve and grow, always striving to meet the needs of the community.

Our journey began as a dog rescue, but when the need for cat rescue became overwhelming, we shifted our focus. Today, our mission centers around the animals most in need—those with special needs who require the most care and have the fewest available resources. As we near this important quarter-century milestone, we're reflecting on how we can make an even bigger impact. But before we can grow, we need to strengthen our foundation. Here's what we're focusing on:

1. **Technology Updates:** It's time to bring our operations into the 21st century. Much of our equipment is outdated, and a full overhaul is crucial for maximizing our capacity to fulfill our mission and grow as an organization.
2. **Recruiting Staff and Volunteers:** Expanding our dedicated team is key to advancing our programs and better serving the animals and the community. We are looking to bring in new director-level staff who can help lead us into the future.
3. **Transforming Our Facility:** We envision creating a haven not only for the animals in our care but also for the visitors and supporters who make our work possible. This includes necessary repairs and improvements to make our space more welcoming and functional.

These goals require careful planning, dedication from our entire team, and, of course, a fair amount of capital. That's why we are launching a new fundraising campaign with a goal of raising **\$75,000**. These funds will help us update our office computers and software programs, recruit new leadership to expand our programs, and repair essential elements of our facility, including urgent fixes like our HVAC system so we can stay warm this winter.

Some of these goals are quite urgent, and we need your help to make them happen. Your contribution will play a vital role in S.A.R.A.'s next phase as a lifesaving nonprofit. You'll be directly helping us grow, improve, and make an even greater impact on the animals we serve. Please consider being part of S.A.R.A.'s next chapter. Together, we can ensure that the animals most in need continue to get the love and care they deserve.

## Holiday Fundraising

We are hosting our 15th annual  
**Holiday Gift Fair Nov 29-Dec 8**

Include S.A.R.A. in your Holiday shopping! Find great gifts for your loved ones AND support animals!

**Don't Forget,** Black Friday shoppers receive a free gift with a purchase of \$5 or more

**Can't make it, that's okay!** Participate by donating a new gift item, gift certificate, or gift basket to sell or raffle at the event!



## Meet Rowan!

This gorgeous gal is truly a treasure. She has so much personality and gives us humans some really meaningful companionship. Unfortunately, before being transferred to S.A.R.A., Rowan did not have it so great. She started out by being horribly mutilated, which is essentially what declaw procedures do. Shortly after, her person was no longer able to care for her, so she was placed in a new home. Combined with the stress of missing an essential part of her anatomy, her claws, and a total upheaval of her life, she had difficulty settling in with her new people. Rowan was categorized as being unadoptable and having behavioral problems, she was facing euthanasia before S.A.R.A. found her. With a little patience and TLC, we quickly learned that Rowan was completely misjudged and falsely categorized. She is a delightful cat who has been treated inhumanely. We are so happy that we could save her! She is a snuggle expert looking for a home where she can be spoiled and doted upon full time as an only cat.

## THE FRIGHTENING FACTS OF DECLAWING

You may know that declawing is bad for cats and that you should never declaw a cat. But do you know that cats still endure this horrendous deforming procedure on a regular basis?

### HERE ARE SOME FACTS TO THINK ABOUT:

- Declawing is the equivalent of amputating a person's fingers at the first knuckle, it can be as many as 18+ amputations in a single procedure, severing all nerves, tendons, and ligaments with each bone. This is incredibly painful, and invites massive risk of complications at each surgery site.
- Claws are an incredibly important part of feline anatomy, the long term side affects of amputation are huge and guarantee one or more life-altering ailment, including:  
lifelong pain, arthritis, litter box issues, behavioral issues, stress, lameness, and regrowth (which can open up even more complications years or even a decade after the procedure)
- Declawing is illegal in 42 countries, majority of Canada's Provinces, 3 U.S. States, a handful of U.S. counties and cities, and the list continues to grow.
- Medical professionals agree that declawing is NOT an essential procedure, there are NO benefits, and the awful side-effects grossly outweigh any reason to even consider it.

### WHAT CAN WE DO?

- Go with the alternatives: Nail trimming, scratching posts/surfaces, spray deterrents, nail caps
- Spread the word to friends, family, and people you know that have cats, urge them not to declaw
- Consider switching to a vet clinic that does not offer the procedure
- Stay educated about the issue
- Support declaw bans

For too long, feline declawing has been treated as a routine procedure. Thanks to educational awareness and increased bans worldwide, declawing is becoming widely recognized as inhumane and cruel. By continuing to spread awareness about the horrific facts, you can help make declawing a thing of the past. If you are interested in learning more or joining the cause check out:

[pawproject.org](http://pawproject.org)

[alleycat.org/take-action/ban-declawing-keep-cats-claws](http://alleycat.org/take-action/ban-declawing-keep-cats-claws)

## MEET A FEW OF S.A.R.A.'S ADOPTABLE CATS

