

## Garfield's Rescue

By Ann Bedford

**S**nickers, a beautiful long-haired calico cat, was the sole companion of a senior Northern Neck resident who suddenly passed away. Since Snickers was not comfortable around small children, the family could not keep her. The family considered euthanasia, but one son would not agree to euthanasia because his mother loved Snickers so much as she was a member of the family and provided love and comfort to his mother.

Snickers was rehomed to Garfield's Rescue, Inc. (GRI), one of the larger Northern Neck homeless cat rescue organizations. Snickers went into a deep depression having lost all that was familiar with her. She did not like being with other cats; she spent her time hiding, and did not eat. Her foster mom tried hard to comfort Snickers, but she would hiss and strike out. Her foster mom kept working with Snickers, and in three months with patience, Snickers started to turn around. Snickers became attached to her foster dad!



Eventually Snickers became a member of the foster family! She learned to tolerate other cats. She was her foster dad's constant companion overseeing his work at the computer and even became his *sous chef*! Snickers' foster

mom reported that she once heard a conversation going on in the other room and thought "dad" was on the phone. Nope, he was conversing with Snickers! Snickers' foster parents had almost decided that Snickers was going to become

### Mike, the Match Maker

another one of their several "foster fail" cats, but that suddenly changed.

Garfield's Rescue, Inc. featured Snickers on CBS Richmond affiliate WTVR, Channel 6's Paws for Pets, hosted by Mike Goldberg, on the morning weekend news program. Mike's segment features adoptable pets from local rescues. Snickers was featured Saturday morning August 27, and by noon, her foster mom received a call from a lady who had viewed the Paws for Pets episode featuring Snickers. After talking with her, Snicker's foster mom knew that this was the home for Snickers. Snickers and her new mom met, and a love affair began! Snickers' new mom sent a video of Snickers walking out of her carrier upon arrival home. Snickers was so calm as she knew she was home.

The nurturing role of a foster parent to help an abandoned, surrendered feline adjust, is critical in preparing the cat for adoption into a loving "forever home." Finding homes for surrendered pets is a humane way to reduce the numbers of suffering, homeless felines on Virginia's Northern Neck.

GRI's 100% volunteer work force provides Northern Neck communities with education on the importance of spaying/neutering their pets to reverse the endless cycle of reproduction. Fosters work hard to help the cats adjust to new surroundings and to become flexible in a variety of surroundings.

You can contact Garfield's Rescue Inc. at P.O. Box 257, Kilmarnock, 22482, (804) 480-2066 or [www.garfieldsrescue.org](http://www.garfieldsrescue.org). Photo Credit: Garfield's Rescue, Inc.

Making a difference on Virginia's Northern Neck – one cat at a time!

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