

The SCRATCHING POST



FURRY FRIENDS Helping homeless and abused cats

June 2016

Memorials

We have many generous donations made to Furry Friends in memory of loved ones big and small...

In memory of Cruella.

—Franki Demerle

In memory of Isis, my sister Michelle White's rescue cat. —Jennifer Bleth

In memory of Reggie, whose mom and dad are Barry & Elaine West of Arizona. —Carole & Anson Robinson

In memory of Ocean, Ebony, and Heeshe. —Dr. Gwen Marsh

In memory of my sister Michelle Nettleingham She loved her fur-babies Letty and Dinah and all the cats she owned or lived with her entire life. She would love the idea of helping to save cats in need.

—Teresa Hamilton

In memory of Buddy O. Bain, Jr.

—Greg Leibrand

In memory of Shelly Nettleingham who loved cats. —Nancy Hoppe

In memory of Prescott Kendall.

—Amy Kendall

In memory of Mary Jane Angelo.

—Dolores Taylor

In memory of Gary Blewett.

—Scott & Karen Norton

In memory of Joe Gelormino.

—Holly Gelormino-Guy & Paul Gelormino

In memory of Wendy L Holbrook. Wendy loved her cats and had a tender heart to any kitties in need. She died unexpectedly in June, 2015. Keep up the good caring work.

—Catherine Boyer

In memory of my sister Darlene Peterson. —Nancy Marsh

President's Letter: Halfway House Update

Furry Friends is approaching a significant milestone in its history.

At the printing of this newsletter we are in escrow to purchase our first permanent halfway house.

This is all very exciting, but there is a lot to be done after closing and before our lease is up September 30, 2016 at our current house. Because the City of Vancouver considers us an animal shelter we have to meet many requirements that the average homeowner does not need to worry about. One requirement is that we purchase a commercial or light industrial zoned property. And being commercial or light industrial brings with it a whole other set of requirements if the property is not already in compliance, such as a certain number of parking spaces, sidewalks and handicap accessibility. Finding a commercial or light industrial property appropriate for cats, located in central Vancouver, at a price we can afford and in good solid condition has not been easy. Our corporate sponsor, Glen Aronson of Iron Gate Storage, has supported us every step of the way with his extensive knowledge and experience of buying and owning commercial properties, obtaining commercial loans, understanding and complying with city rules and codes, and construction. We could not have gotten this far without him.

It is going to be a very busy summer and Furry Friends must carry on with our normal activities and events such as the Recycled Arts Festival, Meow the Night Away, the Peace and Justice Fair, our regular PetSmart cat shows and of course

dinner and auction our biggest event of the year, all, while buying and moving into our first property. When we put out the call for help painting, removing carpet, and moving cats I hope you are the first to respond!

Many of us are waiting on pins and needles for all the paperwork, inspections, permits and other boring stuff to be done so we can get on with the fun of moving in! The last 4 years renting the home of Robert Piekow has been wonderful for our cats and for Furry Friends and it has been a turning point for us as well. Every volunteer working with our cats, knows we could never go back to a cold sterile commercial rental, that being in a home environment helps our cats thrive.

Making this decision to purchase a permanent halfway house is wonderful, but how much more wonderful will it be when we, with your help, pay off this mortgage, making our future in the community that much more solid. We couldn't be making this commitment without you. Thank you for your continued support of our cat's and kitten's daily care. I ask that you renew your commitment to Furry Friends as we continue to love and care for all the cats we have now and all the future cats that will find shelter at our new permanent halfway house.

Jennifer Hart

**President,
Furry Friends Executive Committee**

Griffin

A Little Person in a Cat Body

Griffin is a 2-year-old blue Persian rescued by Furry Friends. His personal motto is “anything dogs can do, I can do better!”



Last year I unexpectedly lost my kitty of 18 years—Fluffy—to an unknown cause. Heartbroken and lonely, I quickly began searching for a new cat to adopt. I met Griffin (then Jango) and knew it was meant to be! He was barely 7 lbs., was covered in fleas, had horrible ear mites, had sores on his head from scratching himself so much, and his fur was so horribly matted

that when he tried to walk it would pull his skin causing it to bleed. Today he has filled out to a healthy 11 lbs. 7oz. and sports a lion cut in the summer to keep his dense fur coat, which measures up to 7 inches in the winter, under control. Griffin turns heads everywhere he goes whether he is walking on his leash or riding in his stroller or car seat. He walks around the pet stores, attends pet shows and expos in his stroller, and loves to go “bye-bye” anywhere in the car, especially if he gets to drive. People always ask “What kind of dog is that?!” because he looks different from your typical cat and because they can’t believe a cat would be so calm on a leash in public, especially around big dogs. Griffin has no fear—big dogs don’t scare him, he is extremely friendly, and he will often approach dogs and people for a sniff! He loves to play hide-and-seek and enjoys jumping out



from behind doors to scare everyone, including our dog, who doesn’t find it funny! He also likes to fetch pine cones in the yard, munch on tortilla chips, lie in his window hammock, and he doesn’t mind (too much) me putting him in a funny t-shirt.

With Griffin’s outgoing and fearless personality he was just meant to be a therapy animal, so once a month he (we) visit a local retirement community. His unique look and sweetness lights up the faces of the elderly residents. Furry Friends rescued Griffin, and Griffin rescued me. He was exactly what I needed, he has been a priceless addition to our family, and he brings so much joy to us and everyone he meets!

– Tess E.

Special Events

Recycled Arts Festival

June 25, 9:00 to 5:00pm

June 26, 10:00 to 4:00pm

Esther Short Park

Visit our booth to meet the kitties and look at the crafts made by our volunteers from recycled materials.

www.recycledartsfestival.com

CAT SHOWS

Hazel Dell PetSmart

316 NE 78th St, Vancouver WA 98665

• 1st Saturday of each month, 11am-2pm

• 2nd, 3rd & 4th Sunday

of each month, 12-3pm



Amazing Acro-Cats

June 25 & 26, 3:00 and 7:00pm

Aladdin Theater in Portland

We will have volunteers there and will receive a portion of every ticket sold. www.circuscats.com

Pet Pros Adoption Event

July 16, 12:00 to 3:00pm

13215 SE Mill Plain Blvd.

Kitties, samples, raffles and more.

Meow the Night Away

July 23, 5:00 to 10:00pm

Vancouver Eagles Lodge

107 E 7th Street, Vancouver

Dinner, dancing and entertainment.

Peace & Justice Fair

September 10, 9:00am to 4:00pm

Esther Short Park

Visit some of our kitties at our booth.

vancouverpeaceandjusticefair.org

My Fair Kitty, our 8th Annual Dinner/Auction Fundraiser

September 17, 5:00 to 9:00pm

Firstenburg Community Center



Tickets for sale in late June. Presented by Salmon Creek Plastic Surgery and Iron Gate Storage.

Cat Sponsorship Drive

The purpose of our cat sponsorship drive is to find donors to contribute to the major or long-term medical needs of our permanent foster cats. We have five cats with special medical needs who either required extensive treatment in the beginning or require ongoing special care. A sponsor, if they like, can choose to be champion for one specific cat. Meet these special cats...

CASANOVA

2-year-old neutered male

Foster Parent: Vickie John

Where Casanova came from: Casanova came from a trailer park where his owner moved out and left him behind.

What Casanova has to say: "My name is Casanova. I am aptly named as everyone loves me, and I demand my share of attention. I am so grateful to be rescued, as I was malnourished with an infected incisor, burnt pads, and fleas. Furry Friends gave me food, medical care, and a safe place to rest, and I was about to be adopted when I was diagnosed with diabetes and feline herpes. I was a bit of a mess for a while, but Furry Friends' loving care got me through that."

My foster mom says I bring joy to her life. I am a reliable 'rise-n-shine' alarm clock, always remind her of meal times, point



out any bugs that may enter the house, and from the window ledge, and

alert her of any birds or squirrels foraging in the yard. Life is now good, thanks to care from Furry Friends."

SEBASTIAN

16-year-old neutered male

Foster Parents: Matt and Rachel Clark

Where Sebastian came from: Sebastian came as a stray into Furry Friends.

What Sebastian has to say: "I came to live with my foster parents and they say I fit right into their home with their three other cats. They call me the ambassador, because I provide the calm that is needed in a feisty cat household."



I was a stray cat and found my way to the loving people at Furry Friends. I was very weak and they took pity on me and said I had such kind eyes. Since coming into my guardians'

home as a foster, I have become a healthy weight, with soft, thick fur and I love to be petted. They say I am a sweet, elderly boy who has been a great addition to their household as a foster. I take daily medication and also eat a prescription diet so I can stay as healthy as possible."

TINKER

16-year-old neutered male

Foster Parent: Ellen Schroeder

Where Tinker came from: His owner, who passed away, was a friend of an employee at Claus Paws, which does much of the Furry Friends medical.

What Tinker has to say: "I'm an older gentleman and they say I have the start of renal failure. I have to eat KD food, which helps remove waste substances from my blood and maintain the normal balance of fluid and minerals within my body. They say once kidney damage occurs, the consequences are usually irreversible. I

like to sit on my foster mom's lap, especially if she is at the computer. I don't get along well with other kitties; they tend to push me around. My mom says that I am a very sweet kitty. I am shy around people I don't know."

RED

16-year-old neutered male

Foster Parent: Marilee Ross

Where Red came from: Red and Reggie came from an asphalt parking lot where they were living under some semi trailers.

What Red has to say: "I was having a tough time living on the streets. I am missing part of my tail, but I carry it proudly. I love having my body stroked and my chin scratched; and enjoy playing with fuzzy toys and soaking up as much love and attention as I can get. I have a couple of serious health issues—autoimmune



hemolytic anemia and pancreatitis, but my foster mom said I maintain the best attitude

and tolerate all my treatments and frequent vet visits with grace. She gets all choked up every time she talks about me. I am definitely her little furry friend."

REGGIE

16-year-old neutered male

Foster

Parent:

Tami Saur

Where

Reggie

came from:



Red and Reggie came from an asphalt parking lot where they were living under some semi trailers.

What Reggie has to say: "In the beginning I wasn't feeling so well—my mouth really hurt and it had lots of sores in it. It was a tough decision, but we all thought I would do better without any teeth so I underwent a pretty big surgery to have all of them pulled. Wow, do I feel better now. I'm feeling really good these days—my sores are almost all gone. I do have to take medicine to keep the swelling down, but that's no problem as I get it in some 'extra' food, above and beyond my dinner! I'm a very happy kitty thanks to everyone who made my surgery possible." 

LOOKING FOR A FUREVER HOME



Izzy is curious, yet shy; she will scoot back to her sleeping spot, only to be brought out again at the sound of a sweet talking voice. Like a butterfly, she alights next to you, resting and purring contentedly. Spayed Female, DOB: Jan 2014

Jo Jo has a striking black & white panda-like coloring. Curled in a comfy basket, he is an irresistible sight. He is sweet to pet and loves affection. Neutered Male, DOB: 2012

Eclipse is quiet and he definitely has opinions and preferences about his personal space and who might want to pet him. Get to know him and you may have just found your best friend. Neutered Male, DOB: 2014

Little Britches is cute and playful and likes chin scratches. She would do best as the only pet in the house and in a quieter house. Spayed Female, DOB: 2013

adoption@furryfriendswa.org

Browse more available cats at furryfriendswa.org

[@furryfriendswa](https://twitter.com/furryfriendswa)

facebook.com/furryfriendswa

instagram.com/furryfriendswa

www.furryfriendswa.org

**PLEASE
DONATE**

Helping homeless and abused cats

6715 NE 63rd Street, Suite 450
Vancouver, Washington 98661

