

THE MEWS

Online News for all the Friends of Furry Friends April 2021

Furry
Friends



Helping homeless and abused cats

Dear Friends,

We are so happy that spring has arrived, bringing sunshine and warmth, but bringing kitten season as well. We are getting a record number of calls from people asking us to take in pregnant mom cats. We're trying to get the word out that we need more foster families, as we can only take a mom if we have a family for her to go to while she has her babies. See more about what we are looking for further down in the newsletter.



Beauty



Cheddar



Elijah



Mr Blue Eyes

Adoptions

We continue to adopt out the cats and kittens as soon as they are ready. We have adopted out 36 cats and kittens from February 20 to March 25.



Volunteer Appreciation Week is April 18-24. 2021

Although Furry Friends exists to change the lives of cats and kittens, we wouldn't be able to accomplish our work if we didn't have such amazing people. Every day, our cats rely on the countless numbers of people who devote their time as Furry Friends team members, and we are so grateful for all they do! To each of the volunteers who are involved with Furry Friends in any capacity: **THANK YOU**. We could not function without you.



By Jenn Hutchman

Sylvester (Sal) Alcaraz and his wife Ku'uiipo have been volunteering with Furry friends for over two and a half years together on our Friday night shift at the shelter. While Sal originally started volunteering as a community service project, it turned into a passion, and he really shined quickly becoming the shift leader for his team. He always has wonderful things to say about the people he volunteers alongside.

Sal and Ku'uiipo continually look for new ways to help Furry friends and are up for any challenge. When asked what their favorite part of volunteering is, Sal said, "The love and attention that I get from the cats and the peace and quiet I have when I'm in the house. As a stay-at-home father of a 15, 12, 11 and a 3-year-old, anytime outside my house is a victory. I love my family very much but when I leave home, and I come to the Halfway House, those three hours that I spend with the cats pretty much helps me prepare for the following week to come. The love what I get from the cats helps me spread that same love to my family when I get back home."

READ MORE HERE: <https://furryfriendswa.org/volunteer-spotlight-sal-and-kuuipo-alcaraz/>



Spotlight on Stacie Nakashima

By Tina Starks

Meet Stacie Nakashima, Furry Friends volunteer and a person whose passion in life is to care for others, regardless of whether they have paws or opposable thumbs. Stacie first learned about Furry Friends when she read an article in the *Columbian* showcasing the organization. She was already interested in finding new volunteer opportunities to give back to her community. Pair that with her passion for animals and she thought it would be the perfect fit! She began last September, and since then has been a volunteer fill-in at the Halfway House. If you need someone to cover your shift, she's the gal to call! According to Stacie, her favorite part of volunteering is after all the cleanup is done and you get to spend time with the cats, "giving them pets and attention in return for purrs and nuzzles".

READ MORE HERE: <https://furryfriendswa.org/volunteer-spotlight-stacie-nakashima/>



Welcome Kensie



Welcome Kensie!

Mackenzie Broom-Peterson is our new Medical Director and the first person in Furry Friends history to receive a paycheck from us. She will be working about 25 hours a week and will be at the Halfway House most days, so be sure to say hello to her. This is what she has to say about herself:

"Hello, everyone! I'm Kensie!

I've recently joined the FF team as a lead veterinary assistant for all of you and the kitties we get to help.

I've been a veterinary nurse for the last 8 years and currently work as a veterinary hospital practice manager full time. I'm also in school for my technician license and certification in emergency medicine.

When I'm not working with pets, I'm at home with my own! I have 7 cats (foster fails from work) and one dog who acts like a cat because that's all she's known 🤪.

I also love books, traveling, and kayaking whenever I have the time!

I started volunteering for FF back in early November. I usually helped the more critical kitties, it's been so cool helping this organization!

I'm here for you and your questions and concerns when it comes to all the kitties you're looking after. Please feel free to reach out to me!"



By Marion Edwards

Beautiful Tiger Lily came to Furry Friends as an extremely introverted kitty. This lovely gray kitty with the marmalade dipped tail had a hard time adjusting to her new routine at the house. So, we put her in her own cage and made her off limits to everyone except the feeding/cleaning crew and a couple of socializers. Restricting her care to just a few people seemed to be what she needed.

It was slow at first, but she started to warm up with little meet and greets with potential adopters. Being a young cat, it was then easy for her to start playtime. Play became her favorite thing, and the craziness started to come out in her big time

READ MORE HERE: <https://furryfriendswa.org/tiger-lily-finds-her-perfect-home/>



Furry Friends Needs Fosters

We have many calls asking us to take in mom cats, but we can only take in as many as we have foster homes for. Love cats and kittens but not ready to adopt? If your lifestyle prohibits adoption at this time, fostering may be a great alternative, and it's a great way to help our kittens on your own time, in the comfort of your own home for a few weeks or months.

Kitten Season is here. Between roughly March and November each year, all the unsprayed female cats start having their kittens. A female cat will usually have 4-6 kittens in a litter and can have up to 3 litters during the season. A female can become pregnant as early as 5 months old.

For more information on fostering, visit our website <https://furryfriendswa.org/fostering/>.
Clark County today ran two news stories on fostering for Furry Friends, check them out here.
<https://www.clarkcountytoday.com/people/area-kitten-lovers-encouraged-to-become-a-foster-parent/>
<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=798904491033400>



HELP! The kittens are eating us out of house and home. We are caring for many kittens right now and their food bill is high. We feed them Purina Pro Plan Kitten Chicken & Rice Formula dry food and Purina Pro Plan Focus Kitten Ocean Whitefish & Tuna Entrée canned cat food. If you would like to help the babies out, we would greatly appreciate donations of this brand of kitten food. You can drop off donations at the Halfway House or Woodin You Pampered Paws, 13305 NE Hwy 99 #102, Vancouver, WA 98686. Most items can be purchased locally at PetSmart and Petco, or you can order online from Chewy.com or Amazon.com and have it shipped direct to our mailing address. 6715 NE 63rd St., Suite 450, Vancouver, WA 98661.



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To find out more about GiveSmart <https://www.givesmart.com/>

NEW SPONSOR

We welcome Brandi DeAngelo with GiveSmart as a Silver Sponsor for Furry Friends. GiveSmart provides mobile bidding and event management software for nonprofit and charity organizations. Founded in 2011, GiveSmart is dedicated to helping donor-driven organizations grow stronger and achieve their missions through streamlined fundraising solutions.

SAVE *the* DATE

Furry Friends has a couple more events coming up. For more information about them visit our website at www.FurryFriendsWa.org

Panera Bread Fundraiser Thursday, April 15

There will be a Furry Friends fundraiser at Panera Bread (Hazel Dell location only) on Thursday, April 15, from 4 to 8 pm. FF will receive 20% of the total sales, however you **MUST** present a printed flyer or an electronic version of the flyer on a mobile phone or tablet when ordering. We hope to see you at Panera Bread, 7200 NE Hwy. 99, Vancouver, WA 98665 on April 15.

Questions, contact Julie Goldbeck: information@furryfriendswa.org or (360) 993-1097 (message phone)



**Thank you for participating
in the
'Not Kitten Around'
Online Auction**

The 'Not Kitten Around' Online Auction was held on March 25 to 28. Thank you all for donating items and for bidding on things. We are still crunching the numbers and will get back to you ASAP with how much we were able to bring in for the kitties.

DONATIONS WANTED

for **GARAGE SALE** **FURRY FRIENDS FUNDRAISER**



Glady accepting gently used items for our upcoming May 8th sale benefitting Furry Friends Washington

Please review our donation guidelines/restrictions

CONTACT

To set up donation dropoff/pickup location and time:

Jenny Grass
406-855-3440
jennygrassdesign@gmail.com

Angie Wood
707-407-5851
califp2@gmail.com

FURRY FRIENDS GARAGE SALE DONATION GUIDELINES

Thank you for your support!

Questions? news@furryfriendswa.org

YES

Clean, unusual, working, collectibles, newer appliances and gadgets, and items in a "gently used" condition.

- ✓ clothing okay if in good shape and free of holes/stains
- ✓ furniture okay if in good shape and larger pieces **only accepted if it can be dropped off at the American Legion on Friday May 7th between the hours of 9 and 6**
- ✓ Books okay if they are newer and/or coffee table style

NO

Rusty, moldy, odiferous, torn, chipped, missing any pieces, stained, obsolete, unusable, dirty, broken, holes, expired, dusty, extremely heavy and unwieldy, worn out items

- × puzzles that are open and possibly incomplete
- × open/old cosmetics or toiletries
- × cassette tapes or 8 track tapes or VHS tapes
- × CDs/ classical music
- × extremely fragile items
- × big heavy items
- × Tupperware type products
- × Dollar Store merchandise
- × Harlequin romance books
- × Windows 95 books or software
- × burned candles
- × mattresses
- × undergarments/socks

May 8 Garage Sale

The garage sale will be held May 8 from 9 am to 4 pm at the American Legion Hall in the Minnehaha area of Vancouver, WA. We are asking for donations of good quality items for the sale. To donate items for the garage sale, please contact Jenny Grass 406-855-3440 jennygrassdesign@gmail.com or Angie Wood at 707-407-5851 califp2@gmail.com. Please visit our website for more information about donations. <https://furryfriendswa.org/garage-sale/>.

Save The Date
Furry Friends
13th Annual Auction
ONLINE
September
15 to 18, 2021

Fall Meoww Pawpins Auction

This will be an online auction to be held **September 15 to 18**. For the next several months we will focus on securing big ticket items and smaller items/baskets worth at least \$40. It is never too early to start planning for this event. We would like your help in either providing auction items or soliciting business for items. For more information visit our website <https://furryfriendswa.org/calendar/meoww-pawpins/>

We have a wish list on AmazonSmile of items we are hoping to acquire for our upcoming Furry Friends Meoww Pawpins auction that will be held online from September 15 to 18. Please take a look and see if there is anything you would like to donate to the auction. All funds made at the auction go to the care and housing of the cats.

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2U8IJMWPk1TJ4?ref=wl_share

Procurement Questions: Lisa Baxter auction@furryfriendswa.org

Auction Questions: Chris Nash ffauction@icloud.com

Sponsorship Information: Diane Stevens news@furryfriendswa.org



Jenny Grass has just designed two new ADOPT T-Shirts for Furry Friends. When you go to the website you can choose what color and style of shirt you would like. There are many items that you can have our design printed on, such as tank tops, long sleeve shirts, kid shirts, wall art, phone cases, mugs and more. A portion of your purchase goes to help Furry Friends take care of abused, abandoned or otherwise homeless cats. Show your support and save the kitties. Occasionally these go on sale, watch for notices on our Facebook page.

Visit <https://www.teepublic.com/user/furryfriends>



2020 Financial Report

Furry Friends is dedicated to being a transparent organization. Part of that is making our annual report public. In spite of dealing with a pandemic for 2020 we took care of around 400 cats and adopted out 380. Almost twice as much as any previous year. We developed a lot of efficiencies that saved us money, especially when it came to medical care. The kitties still received the same high quality care as they have in previous years but for 2020 we spent \$105,000 on caring for 400 cats, the previous year 2019 we spent \$126,000 on about 200 cats.

Read More Here <https://furryfriendswa.org/leadership/>



A winning combination. Help Furry Friends earn donations by shopping with your Fred Meyer Rewards Card while continuing to earn all of your Rewards Points, fuel points, and rebates.
www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards

Fred Meyer Community Rewards Program

Help Furry Friends earn cash when you shop using your Fred Meyer Rewards Card. This takes nothing away from your Rewards Points, fuel points or rebates.

Sign up for the Community Rewards program by linking your Fred Meyer Rewards Card to Furry Friends at www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards. Check the animal category and search for “Furry Friends” or by our nonprofit number SX434. If you do not have a Rewards Card, they are available at the Customer Service desk of any Fred Meyer store. For more information, please visit www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards

Every year in August Fred Meyer requires you to choose your favorite non-profit. Furry Friends appreciates you choosing them each year.

Ongoing Resources

- **FF T-Shirts & Merchandise** <https://www.teepublic.com/user/furryfriends>
- **Email:** information@furryfriendswa.org
- **Message Phone:** [360-993-1097](tel:360-993-1097)
- **Website:** furryfriendswa.org
- **Facebook:** facebook.com/furryfriendswa We post daily news to this site
- **Twitter:** twitter.com/furryfriendswa
- **Instagram:** instagram.com/furryfriendswa/
- **FF YouTube Channel** <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UChfBIX6IOMIEseSxK9f27dw/videos>
- **Amazon Wish List:**
https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1LRQ3ZN53UZ7R/ref=nav_wishlist_lists_1?encoding=UTF8&type=wishlist&pldnSite=1
- **Amazon Auction Wish List:** https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2U8IJMWPK1TJ4?ref=wl_share
- **Petfinder adoptable FF cats:** https://www.petfinder.com/search/pets-for-adoption/?shelter_id%5B0%5D=WA12&sort%5B0%5D=recently_added.
- **Mailing Address:** 6715 NE 63rd St, Suite 450, Vancouver, WA 98661
- *(Our shelter address is not published; it is open by appointment only)*
- **Drop-off location for items:**
 - **Woodin’ You Pampered Paws**, 13305 NE Hwy 99 #102, Vancouver, WA 98686, a fabulous pet care store located in Salmon Creek. The store is open Monday thru Friday from 9am-7pm and Saturday from 9am-6pm.
 - When purchasing something online for the cats and kittens, you can always have it shipped direct to our mailing address: 6715 NE 63rd Street, Suite 450, Vancouver, WA 98661.

Premiere Sponsors		Platinum Sponsor
 <p>Dr. Virginia Huang</p> <p>SALMON CREEK PLASTIC SURGERY</p> <p>Call 360-823-0860 13712 NE 10th Ave., Vancouver, WA 98685 www.salmoncreekps.com</p>	 <p>Glen & Leslie Aronson</p> <p>IRON GATE STORAGE</p> <p>www.irongatestorage.com</p>	 <p>Mila Boyd</p> <p>UPTOWN INJURY LAW MILA BOYD ATTORNEY AT LAW</p> <p>Call (360) 869-0857 2412 Main Street, Vancouver, WA 98660 email: mboyd@vancouverlaw.net</p>
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<p>Visit our website to find out more about sponsorships www.furryfriendswa.org/sponsors/</p>		

Furry Friends is dependent upon the kindness of our friends and sponsors to keep us going. Thank you all for supporting the kitties.

Having trouble receiving the newsletter?

Are you having trouble receiving the monthly newsletter in your inbox? Enter news@furryfriendswa.org into your contact list and that should solve that problem. This newsletter is compiled by Diane Stevens.

The Executive Committee: This board is the governing body responsible for the operation of Furry Friends. Members are all volunteers and meet once a month. Feel free to contact any member of the committee if you have questions, comments or suggestions at information@furryfriendswa.org or leave a message at (360) 993-1097.

Jaimie Garver, President, Operations, Community Events, Grants, Financials

Linda Rader, Vice President and Adoption/Foster Coordinator

Diane Stevens, Public Relations and Marketing, auction, social media, newsletters, photography, creative director

Marci Koski, Feline behaviorist

Margie McGhee, Treasurer

Brandi Towner, Secretary and Adoptions
Julie Goldbeck, Halfway House Committee Lead person

Other Leadership:

Sandi Long, Property management
Malinda Goldbeck, Volunteer Coordinator
Marion Edwards, Adoption events, lead socializer
Jenn Hutchman, Email/Voicemail lead, cat list, medical assistant
Chris Nash, Auction Lead