

THE MEWS

**Online News for all the
Friends of Furry Friends
December 2023**

**Furry
Friends**



Helping homeless and abused cats

www.furryfriendswa.org

Dear Friends,

The holidays are upon us and the year has gone by so quickly. We hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving. We know that the kitties are very thankful to all of you. You have made a difference in so many lives and we can't thank you enough.



Butch Cassidy



Eden



Fern



Kyle

Adoptions

From January 1 to November 11, we placed 577 cats and kittens. We continue to get busier and busier. We are on track for adopting more than 600 cats and kittens this year.



**International
Volunteer Day**

International Volunteer Day is December 5. Although Furry Friends exists to change the lives of cats and kittens, we would not be able to accomplish our work without such amazing people who volunteer. 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 exist without you. Furry Friends has over 150 volunteers. Last year they spent some 41,000 hours of volunteer service to the kitties.



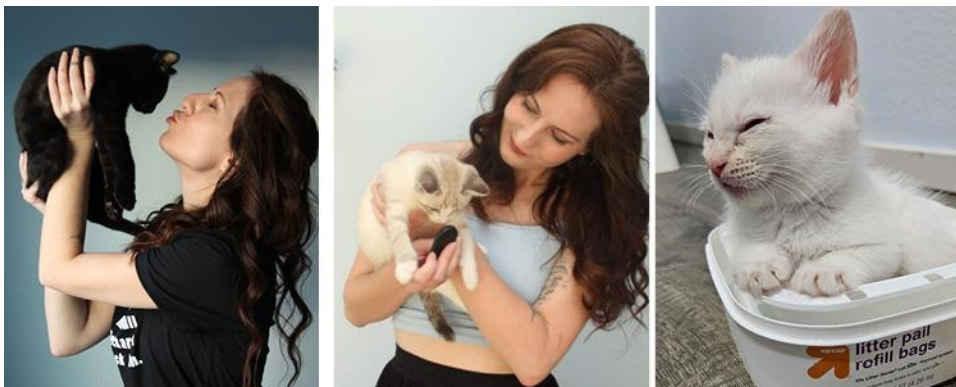
Volunteer Spotlight: James Seward

James, who has volunteered with Furry Friends for a year, became involved when both of his cats sadly passed away within months of each other. Although he was uncertain as to whether or not he was ready for new cats, he missed that special cat energy and became a volunteer.

Most of his chores involve cleaning when he's at the shelter several hours a week, but he combines his work with a satisfying splash of socialization. In the medroom, he enjoys watching the cats come out of their reclusive shells--from start to finish--before they're moved into the big rooms. His biggest challenge during his volunteer day is not adopting the saddest-looking cat under his care, while his proudest moment comes when cats go from hiding to confidently throwing their entire body into his lap!

READ MORE HERE

<https://furryfriendswa.org/volunteer-spotlight-james-seward/>



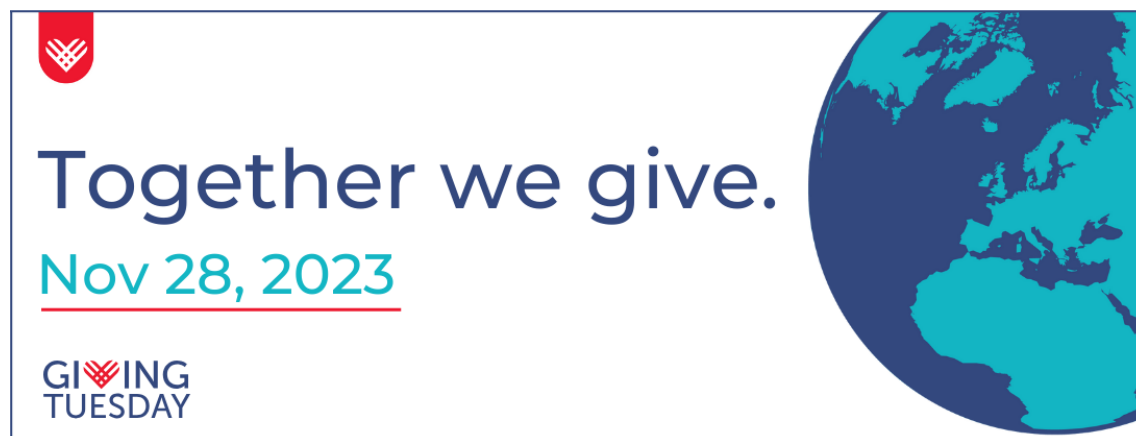
Volunteer Spotlight: Heather Finley

Heather, who has been volunteering with us since December 2022, not only helps at the spay/neuter clinic she fosters countless kitties as well.

Prior to joining Furry Friends, Heather had been actively involved for many years with spaying and neutering other adoptable kittens and cats. Her biggest challenge: saying goodbye to her fosters, because it never gets easier. To her, they are all purr-fect. And fostering is pretty much 24/7 since some litters are easy while others require meds and extra attention.

Her favorite part about volunteering for Furry Friends, she readily admits, is how quickly she fit it in – she loved it! And although she's had extensive experience both in fostering and in tending to cats' medical needs, she appreciated those in charge who entrusted her with so much, so soon. She also counts every successful day at the clinic as a proud moment. Imagine how many proud moments she must have!

READ MORE HERE <https://furryfriendswa.org/volunteer-spotlight-heather-finley/>

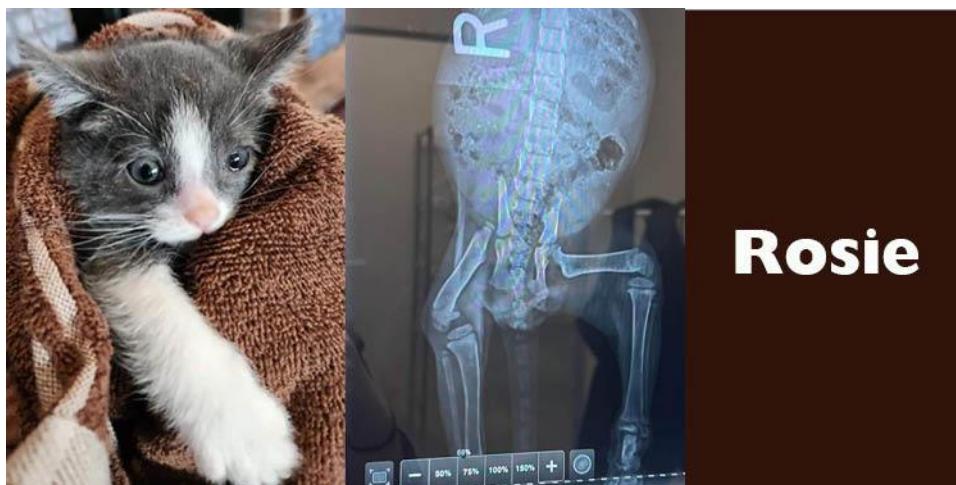


Furry Friends Celebrates #GivingTuesday Pledging to Raise \$10k for Medical Expenses.

Tuesday November 28, Furry Friends hopes to raise at least \$10k for the medical expenses incurred by the many kittens and cats in our care. #GivingTuesday is recognized globally as a day of giving, harnessing the collective power of individuals, communities and organizations with the intent of encouraging philanthropy and celebrating generosity worldwide. Because Furry Friends is a no-kill cat rescue, our medical costs are extraordinarily high. In 2022 we spent more than \$250,000 caring for 506 cats and kittens. This does NOT include the additional 1,200-1,500 cats that our Pet Pantry provides food for each year.

This year marks our 24th anniversary! Please help us celebrate it by making a tax-deductible donation to Furry Friends in honor of all the medically challenged cats that come through our doors! Those interested in contributing to Furry Friends #GivingTuesday initiative can visit www.furryfriendswa.org/donate/. We will also be taking donations through our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/furryfriendswa/. For more details about the #GivingTuesday movement, visit their web site at www.givingtuesday.org.

Donations from Giving Tuesday will go towards our medically needy cats such as Rosie.



Rosie's Medical Story

Rosie came to us as a tiny kitten in early April. Right away we could tell something wasn't right about one of her hips. Her leg just dangled and she dragged it along when she walked. We thought maybe it was dislocated. Upon getting x-rays, we learned she was essentially born without a hip socket on that side. It was recommended we wait to do any medical procedures until she grew since, at that time, she weighed only 1.5 lbs.

As Rosie grew, we noticed a few other medical issues. She had an umbilical hernia which was repaired during her spay but needed to be re-done afterwards as the hernia came back a month later. She later had a nasal polyp, also removed, but has grown back, and she has a polyp in her ear. We also found that her other hip socket was not formed properly. Consequently, she will need to have surgery on both hips. Total hip replacements are out of the question. Even if we had the funds, there are no surgeons in this area who do them. The second option is to have bi-lateral FHO (femoral head ostectomy) surgeries.

READ MORE HERE

<https://furryfriendswa.org/rosies-medical-story/>



December Is National Cat Lovers' Month

More than 36 million U.S. households share their homes and hearts with more than 74 million cats, according to the 2012 American Veterinary Medical Association's U.S. Pet Ownership & Demographic Sourcebook.

You can celebrate this month by spending time with your fur babies and meeting their needs. You don't have a cat? Furry Friends will hook you up with one. Visit our website to see what kitties we have available www.furryfriendswa.org.

Can't have a cat where you live? Get your kitty fix by volunteering for Furry Friends or one of the other shelters near you.



Furry Friends
Helping homeless and abused cats

**BEACHES
GIVE BACK
DAY**

Make a reservation today!
360-699-1592

*Thank You
to everyone that participated
in the Beaches Restaurant Give
Back Day on October 12th, we
made \$900 for the kitties.*

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Beaches Give Back Day October 12. The restaurant gave us a percentage of the sales for that day, which amounted to \$900, a nice surprise. The kitties thank all of you for your support.



Furry friends 2024 calendars are now available! To purchase yours for \$25 please send an email to information@furryfriendswa.org or stop by the two bazaars where we will be selling them. The calendars are pick-up only for now.



We are always looking for hand crafted items or things that we can sell at our table at these events. If you have something you would like to contribute, let us know at information@furryfriendswa.org.



December 2: Liberty Middle School Bazaar, 1612 NE Garfield St., Camas, WA 98607. Furry Friends will have a table at this event. If you have any handmade items that we can sell at these bazaars, we would love to hear from you. Information@furryfriendswa.org.



December 7-18: Stay tuned for the "12 Meows of Catmas" event December 7-18. There will be a different giving opportunity for the 12 days of this event. Day 1: cat beds; Day 2: Cat litter; Day 3: medical supplies; Day 4: cleaning supplies; Day 5: Cat toys; Day 6: neonatal supplies; Day 7: blankets; Day 8: Cat treats; Day 9: garbage bags; Day 10: paper towels/tp; Day 11: small items; Day 12: towels https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2K3S2T9UBZCKH?ref=wl_share

March 20-24: Save the date for our spring online auction, 'Meow or Never'. Let us know if you have something you would like to donate. We will be fundraising to support all the kittens that we rescue around that time of the year. Information@furryfriendswa.org

April 27, 2024: Save the date, we are having a garage sale to benefit Furry Friends! Make sure to mark your calendars! We will be collecting new/gently used items closer to the date. If you have items you want to donate please hang on to them for us.

September 21, 2024: Save the date for the fall in person auction, Phantom of the Opurra. It will be held at the Royal Oaks Country Club.



'tis the season
OF GIVING



Would you like to help
FurryFriends
by hosting a Giving Tree?



Giving Tree is a truly worthwhile fundraiser for getting us all stocked up on supplies for the cats and kittens in our care around the holiday season. Hosting a Giving Tree with us is easy! All you need to do is have an entryway where clientele come to your place of business, and put up a small (or large) holiday tree. We provide the signage, donation box, wish lists, and ornaments of adoptable cats and set everything up with your tree!

We will post on our social media accounts and in our Newsletters promoting your business and the fact that you've partnered with us so that both your clientele and our supporters can bring their generous donations to your drop off location all season long!

If you have any questions, or would like to host a Giving Tree this season with us, please email Danielle at: information@furryfriendsWA.org

Giving Trees

The Giving Trees are ready to go up. We have lined up a number of businesses to host one for Furry Friends, but we could use more locations. We have been posting new locations on our Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/furryfriendswa>

If your business, or the company you work for, has a lobby for entering clientele... we want to know! We hope to get our Giving Trees into as MANY business-fronts as possible this year and the only way that'll happen is if YOU help spread the word! Please feel free to SHARE THIS POST, or send out this newsletter to your boss/coworkers/friends/etc. so we can get as many Giving Tree displays up as possible! We are on track to save over 600 cats and kittens this year and we simply cannot do it without the support from each and every one of you; so thank you in advance!! 🐾❤️ So far, we have commitments from: Claus Paws, Mary Janes House of Glass, and Naturally Healthy Pet.

To host a Giving Tree for us this year, please email Danielle at: information@furryfriendswa.org.
p.s. The sooner you sign up... the sooner we will start promoting your business! 🐾

A partial list of our participating locations:

Yard and Garden, 1501 NE 102nd St., Vancouver, WA. 98686
 Iron Gate Storage (Corporate Office), 103 E 29th St., suite B, Vancouver, WA. 98663
 Iron Gate Storage (Washougal), 321 C St., Washougal, WA. 98671
 Iron Gate Storage (Beaverton), 4050 SW 160th AVE., Beaverton, OR. 97078
 Dev's Coffee Bar, 316 E Main St., Battle Ground., WA 98604
 Claus Paws Animal Hospital, 5819 NE 162nd AVE. Vancouver, WA. 98682
 East Padden Animal Hospital, 15721 NE Fourth Plain Blvd. Vancouver, WA. 98682
 Horizon Veterinary, 15721 NE Fourth Plain Blvd. Vancouver, WA. 98682
 Les Schwab in Orchards, 11804 NE 78th Way, Vancouver, WA. 98682
 Plogs Landscape Design, 7308 NE 144th AVE. Vancouver, WA. 98682
 Victor 23 Brewing, 2905 St Johns Blvd, #3718, Vancouver, WA. 98661
 Literary Leftovers, 813 W Main ST., #105, Battle Ground, WA. 98682
 Paws Cascadia, 720 W Main ST., #104, Battle Ground, WA. 98604
 Naturally Healthy Pet, 317 NE Cedar ST. Camas, WA. 98607
 Pro Active Physical Therapy Specialists, 3400 SE 196th AVE, #101, Camas, WA. 98607
 Mary Jane House of Glass, 1708 E St. Washougal, WA. 98671





Furry Friends T-Shirts and Merchandise

We have three new Furry Friend t-shirts designed by Jenny Grass. Furry Friends is proud to offer many of our custom designs on T-Shirts, hoodies, coffee cups and other merchandise. When you go to the website you can choose what color and style of shirt you would like. You can have our design printed on many other items, such as tank tops, long sleeve shirts, kids shirts, wall art, phone cases, mugs and more. A portion of your purchase goes to helping abused, abandoned or otherwise homeless cats. Show your support and save the kitties.

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





Become a Sponsor

Furry Friends needs people and businesses to join our elite group of sponsors. When you become a sponsor, your business will be listed on our auction materials, and you will receive recognition on our social media, website and newsletter. Sponsorship packages begin at \$750. To find out more about sponsorships, please visit our website at <https://furryfriendswa.org/sponsors/> or contact us a news@furryfriendswa.org.



Cat Tale stories

Cat educational stories by award winning Furry Friends volunteer Nomi Berger are posted every other Sunday to the Columbian Website, Furry Friends website and Facebook. Part of our mission is to educate people about cats and this is one way that we accomplish it. <http://blogs.columbian.com/cat-tales/>

 <p>Nifty and THRIFTY</p> <p>Charity Resale</p>	<p>Furry Friends has an account with Nifty and Thrifty, 6607 E Mill Plain Blvd, Vancouver, WA 98660. When you donate an item, the store will give us 50% of the selling price.</p> 
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Nifty and Thrifty

If you plan to discard items from your house this holiday season, remember that Furry Friends has an account with Nifty and Thrifty, 6607 E Mill Plain Blvd, Vancouver, WA 98660 (close to Andresen). When you donate an item, the store will give us 50% of the selling price. The store is run entirely by volunteers and is a not for profit; any funds they keep are to cover their overhead costs. They accept donations anytime during business hours. Items must be clean, odor free, in great working condition, and clearly labeled for the charity the donor wants. That charity would be us, Furry Friends. If possible, bring items in a stackable box which makes their lives at Nifty and Thrifty a whole lot easier! If you have a large item, it is best to call them first at (360) 953-8706. Business hours: Monday to Friday 1:00 AM to 6:00 PM, Saturday 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Please visit their website to find out more about what types of items they take: <http://vancouverthrift.com>.



FOSTER PARENTS NEEDED

Kittens, kittens and more kittens. They keep on coming. Kitten season used to be select months, but recently it has lasted all year. We have a record number of kittens and need foster parents to take care of them. We turn away people with kittens all the time because we don't have enough fosters or funds to care for them. Furry Friends seeks to provide for as many of these kittens as our limited resources can handle. We also have some older cats that need to be fostered.

If you're interested in becoming a foster, please fill out an application at <http://furryfriendswa.org/fostering/>. Questions? contact us at information@furryfriendswa.org (360) 993-1097. Please read the Foster Expectations on our web page. Fostering requires a lot of work but it is very rewarding.



Remember Furry Friends if you receive an item during this holiday season that you have no use for. We have a couple of online auctions coming up in 2024 and are always looking for new items to auction off. That Christmas sweater may look atrocious to you but another person may think it is the best thing since sliced bread. Contact us at information@furryfriendswa for information on how to get that gem to us. Or you are always free to deliver anything for Furry Friends to Woodin You Pampered Paws, 13305 NE Hwy 99 #102, Vancouver, WA 98686

eat this not that
holiday edition

FOR CATS

<div style="background-color: #333; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">TURKEY BREAST (WHITE MEAT)</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ A good alternative for sensitivity to beef or chicken ✓ Plain, boneless and well-cooked white meat is a great source of lean protein 			<div style="background-color: #333; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">TURKEY SKIN, FAT OR BONES</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Skin and fat can cause pancreatitis ✗ Raw turkey may contain salmonella ✗ Bones can splinter and damage the digestive tract
<div style="background-color: #333; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">PLAIN POTATOES OR SWEET POTATOES</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Excellent source of vitamins, iron, potassium and fiber ✓ Plain, mashed potatoes and sweet potatoes are safe in moderation 			<div style="background-color: #333; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">DRESSED POTATOES</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ May contain garlic, shallots, chives and herbs that can cause anemia ✗ May contain dairy products that can cause diarrhea and digestive issues in lactose-intolerant cats ✗ Gravy is often high in fat and salt
<div style="background-color: #333; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">UNSWEETENED CRANBERRY JUICE</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Rich with antioxidants, vitamin C, fiber and potassium ✓ Effective in reducing occurrence of urinary tract infections and bladder infections 			<div style="background-color: #333; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">CANNED CRANBERRIES OR CRANBERRY SAUCE</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ High in sugar, which can cause gastrointestinal upset ✗ Sugar-free cranberry sauce may contain xylitol, which may be toxic
<div style="background-color: #333; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">PUREED PUMPKIN</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ High in fiber and antioxidants ✓ Beneficial for digestive health and urinary health 			<div style="background-color: #333; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">PIE FILLING</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ High in sugar, which can cause gastrointestinal upset ✗ May contain nutmeg or cinnamon, which can cause toxicity or allergies



Volunteers, Please Keep Track of Hours

We keep track of volunteer hours to use when applying for grants and in other documents. It shows that we are a vibrant, highly functioning organization. There is a book at the Halfway House where you can log your hours. If you have a shift there, or are a socializer, or do yard work or any other type of work, please log your hours in that book. Some of you are not around either location. If you can estimate your hours and send them to Cindy Goodrich cindyspetandhousesitting@gmail.com



Happy Holidays from Furry Friends

Thank you all for supporting the kitties

Furry Friends Resources

- **Amazon Wish List** https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/WE783999BG1W?ref=wl_share
- **Spay/Neuter Supply Wishlist**
https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1JNX8L8KQN4E1?ref=wl_share&fbclid=IwAR0-GysU-R4uxpKHjT4mub5LP5TaR5Fqu15-q7KnpPD1VUZtu5elQu2Z4L4
- **Fall Auction Amazon Wish List**
https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/DI6I4R46KQ49?ref=wl_share
- **Donations** <https://furryfriendswa.org/donate/> or [Paypal.me/furryfriendswa](https://www.paypal.com/donate/?url=https://furryfriendswa.org/donate/)
- **Adopt A Pet** <https://www.adoptapet.com/shelter71378-pets.html>
- **Cat Tale Stories Blog** <https://blogs.columbian.com/cat-tales/category/cat-tales/>
- **FF Adoptable Cats Facebook Page**
https://www.facebook.com/groups/590223832702067/?ref=share_group_link
- **Volunteer Facebook Page** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/534750527361316/>
This is a different page than our public Facebook page.
- **Foster Facebook Page** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/668989080549946/>
- **Public Facebook Page** <https://www.facebook.com/furryfriendswa> We post daily news to this page.
- **HH Shift leader Facebook Page** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/458843792698182/>
- **FF YouTube Channel** <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UChfBIX6IOMIEseSxK9f27dw/videos>
- **FF T-Shirts & Merchandise** <https://www.teepublic.com/user/furryfriends>
- **FF Twitter account** <https://twitter.com/furryfriendswa>
- **FF Instagram account** <https://www.instagram.com/furryfriendswa/>
- **FF TikTok account** <https://www.tiktok.com/@furryfriendswa>
- **Fundraising Ideas** <https://bit.ly/FFFundraisingSurvey> submit idea you may have.
- **Drop off location for items:**
 - **Woodin' You Pampered Paws**, 13305 NE Hwy 99 #102, Vancouver, WA 98686, is a fabulous pet care store located in Salmon Creek. The store is open Monday-Friday from 9am-7pm and Saturday from 9am-6pm. (360) 571-0082
 - Contact information@furryfriendswa.org to arrange another location for drop off



FurryFriendsWa.org

 Furry Friends Helping homeless and abused cats 			
Premiere Sponsor		Platinum Sponsors	
 <p>Glen Aronson Has been a proud mentor and supporter to Furry Friends for over 13 years.</p> <p>Iron Gate Storage has nine locations to serve you in the greater Vancouver and Portland areas.</p> <p>www.irongatestorage.com</p>	 <p>IRON GATE STORAGE</p>	 <p>Julie Baldino</p> <p>9407 NE Vancouver Mall Drive #102, Vancouver, WA (360) 450-4486 Info@FrontDoorNW.com www.frontdoornw.com</p>	 <p>FRONT DOOR Realty Certified Woman Owned Small Business (WOMB & WOSB)</p>
Platinum Sponsors		Gold Sponsors	
 <p>CRYSTAL INVESTMENT PROPERTY</p>	 <p>Joe & Michelle Kennedy 600 NE 99th Street, Vancouver, WA 98665 info@crystalip.com 503-530-1316 https://crystalip.com/</p>	 <p>"Keeping Cats in Homes and Out of Shelters" Dr. Marci Koski 503-927-1107 marci@felinebehaviorsolutions.com www.FelineBehaviorSolutions.com</p>	 <p>Feline Behavior Solutions</p>
Gold Sponsors		Silver Sponsors	
 <p>Jared the Cat Groomer Schedule an appointment online Jaredthecatgroomer.com Email: Jaredthecatgroomer@gmail.com (360) 581-7997</p> 	 <p>Bee Sam Beauty 2014 St Johns Blvd, Vancouver, WA 98661 (503) 488-0095 beesambeauty.com beesambeauty@gmail.com</p>	 <p>Jason P. Smith CPA, PS Accounting</p> <p>Jason P. Smith, CPA, PS 10000 NE 7th Avenue Suite 400 Vancouver, WA 98685 360-567-1041 jason@mycpajason.com</p>	
Visit our website to find out more about sponsorships www.furryfriendswa.org/sponsors/			

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

Having trouble receiving the newsletter?

If you have trouble receiving the newsletter in your inbox, enter news@furryfriendswa.org into your contact list and that should solve the problem. This newsletter is compiled by Diane Stevens.

Jaimie Garver, President, Operations
Brandi Towner, Vice President & Adoption/intake team, Sponsorships
Linda Rader, Adoption/Foster Coordinator
Cynthia Johnson, Treasurer,
Diane Stevens, Public Relations and Marketing, social media, newsletters
Marci Koski, Feline behaviorist
Danielle Chancey, Secretary, Fundraising and Events

Other Leadership:

Jenn Hutchman, Executive Director, Community Outreach, Adoption/intake Coordinator, Med team/scheduler
Jazmynn Hoffman, House Manager, Volunteer Support/intake team
Tanika Campbell, General Manager/Adoptions Coordinator
Chris Nash, Auction Lead
Gail Bauhs, Cat Socializer Lead
Kelli Thompson, Volunteer Coordinator