

THE NEWS

Online News for all the Friends of Furry Friends February 2023



Helping homeless and abused cats

www.furryfriendswa.org

Dear Friends,

Welcome to February, the month of love. Our kitties give us so much love, and we hope that you all have a cat or kitten to share your love. We look forward to a great new year while we are busy planning for the next set of events. Read more about them below.



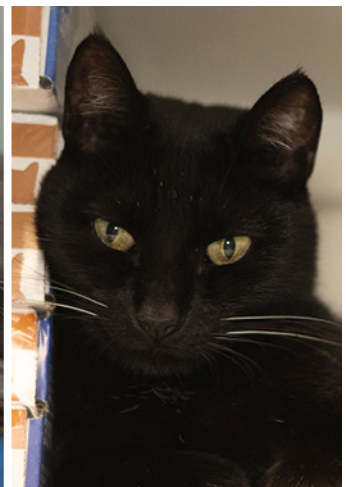
Rosie



Steve



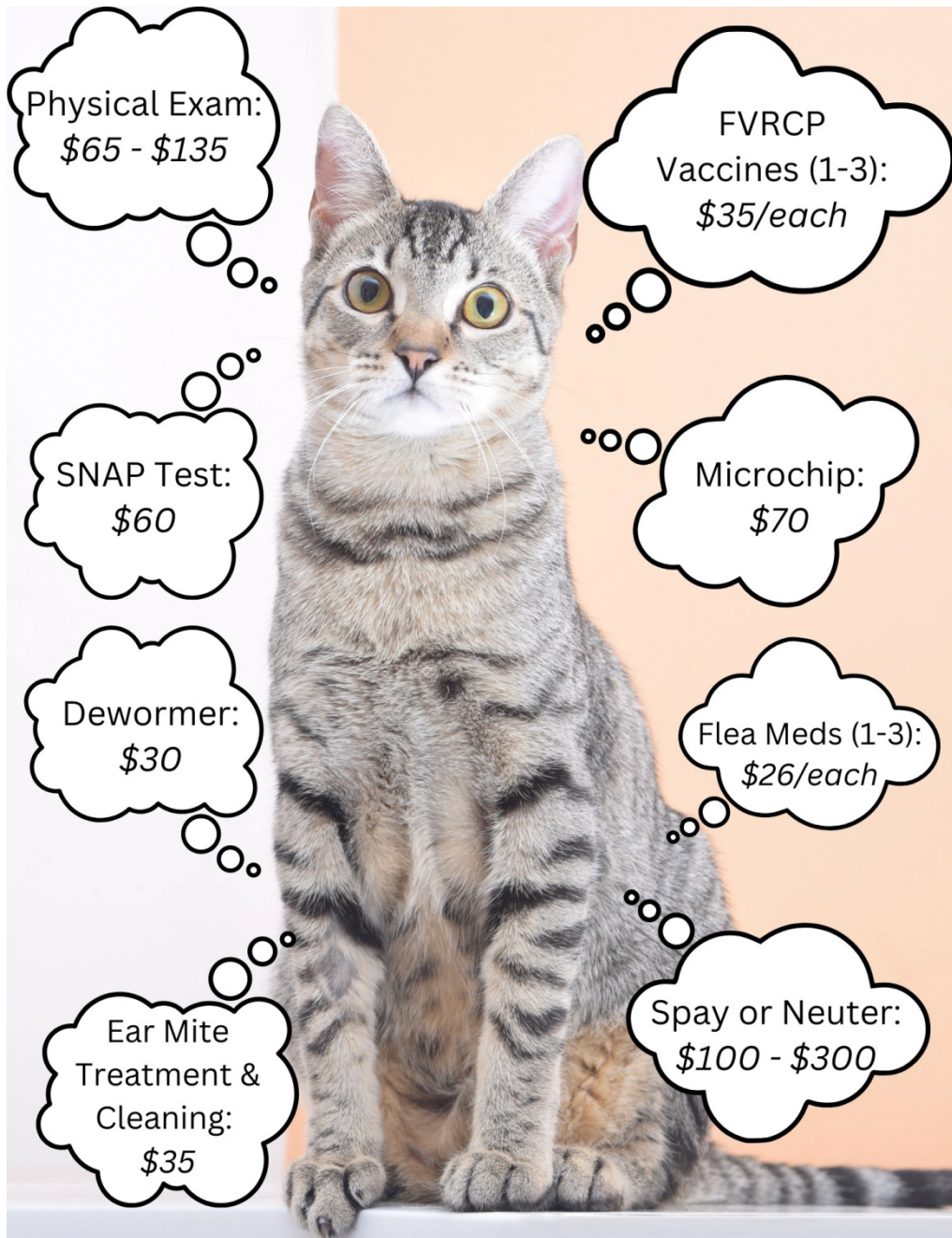
Snookums



Mufasa

Adoptions

We are off to a brisk start for 2023. From January 1 to 17 we have already adopted 37 cats and kittens. Wow! That has kept us busy, for sure. Rosie, who was with us for over a year, was one of those adopted. She came to us in a lot of pain. She had been declawed by her previous owner and it was a botched job with her toe bones breaking through the skin. She also had severe ear issues that required surgeries. Resolving her medical problems and improving her health and well-being took quite a while. She is now a happy kitty living a good life in her new home. Stories like Rosie's mean the world to us. We just wish we could rescue more cats and give them a healthy, happy life. It takes a village to make Furry Friends successful, and we are so appreciative of everyone who puts in their time, talents, and finances to help us and for the adopters that give the kitties a good home.



Here is what you get when you adopt a cat or kitten from Furry Friends.

The medical care given to all our cats costs Furry Friends anywhere from \$421 on the low end to \$813 on the high end, and that's just for the medical basics! This cost does not reflect any of their food or litter expenses, nor the cost for any extra medical treatments received on a case by case basis. When you adopt a cat through Furry Friends you get the peace of mind knowing that you receive the kitty in good health and that they should not need any additional medical attention until their annuals are due.



Helping homeless and abused cats

Adoption Fee Increase



Due to the rising costs of care, we are updating our adoption fees to the following:

\$180 for kittens (up to 1yr) with a discount on a 2nd kitten

\$100 for adult cats

\$75 for senior cats (10yrs +)

FurryFriends

WOW! For 2022 Volunteers donated

40,962 Hours

Of service for the kitties

WOW! WOW! WOW! Our volunteers have put in 40,962 hours of service for 2022--a record and an incredible amount of time. We are taking in more cats and adopting more than we ever have, and these hours reflect that. We are still a volunteer-run organization, with only one full-time employee and two part-time employees. It takes a village, we could not exist if it was not for our volunteers.



Volunteer Spotlight: Lorien Kelly

A true animal lover, Lorien Kelly owns five cats and fosters others as needed, and she has a “little back patio sanctuary” where she feeds a family of raccoons and a pair of opossums.

Lorien became involved with Furry Friends in April 2018 while she was caring for an injured stray that showed up one day on her patio.

“I was so impressed with the organization and fell in love with the Halfway House,” she said. “I just knew I needed to start volunteering.”

And what a volunteer! She has been the Saturday morning shift lead for nearly four years; she fosters fragile medical kitties, and she helps with transportation. She averages about 17 hours a week at the Halfway House.

READ MORE HERE

<https://furryfriendswa.org/volunteer-spotlight-lorien-kelly/>



GIVING TREE RESULTS

Our Giving Trees in December were a big success, bringing in donated goods valued at over \$1,500! We could not have done this without all the businesses who hosted our Giving Tree displays, so a special shout out to: Iron Gate Storage, All Natural Pet Supply, Yard N Garden Land and Claus Paws! And to everyone who donated items, THANK YOU! We recognize that we could not do this without the support of our community so we are forever grateful.

If you're a small business who would like to host a Giving Tree in 2023, please send an email to: information@furryfriendswa.org

We are SO grateful for the generous donations we received this holiday season between our Giving Tree and **Twelve Meows of Catmas** Fundraisers! These are just some of those donations. Thank you, thank you, THANK YOU! We rely on these fundraisers to build up our supplies.





A donation has been made to Furry Friends by Carolee and Thomas Hill, in loving memory of Porsche.
A donation from Lyn and Brandon Eggleston was made in memory of their cat Charlie who they adopted from Furry Friends several years ago.

Your generous gifts will enable us to continue to provide essential care, food, and shelter to our furry friends.
Thank you!

If you're interested in making a tribute or memorial donation, you can do so through Paypal, at [Paypal.me/furryfriendswa](https://www.paypal.me/furryfriendswa), or by mailing a check to 6715 Ne 63rd St., Suite 450, Vancouver, WA 98661.

Include the honoree's name in the payment memo, then send a picture to information@furryfriendswa.org if you'd like one to be featured.



- Please do not disassemble the "Clean Ready for next cat" kennels in the med room/various rooms throughout the house as they are set up purposefully
- URI protocols need to be followed to stop the spread. Make sure you sanitize your hands between rooms at the Halfway House.
- Please ensure each cat/room does not have an exorbitant amount of blankets, towels and beds
- We are looking for a new shift lead for an AM shift. If anyone is interested, please reach out to Kelli for more information. information@furryfriendswa.org

FurryFriends



Blossom Blast Bazaar

Saturday, March 25, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm, Firstenburg Center Community Room
700 NE 136th AVE. Vancouver, WA. 98684

Jenn Hutchman will be present at the Blossom Blast Bazaar on March 25 and will have Furry Friends information and merchandise there. If you have any hand-made things or other bazaar type items she could sell for Furry Friends, please let her know. information@furryfriendswa.org.

We are also looking for new items to put into our spring **We Can Move Meow-Tains ONLINE auction** which will go live March 30. If you have something for either event, you can drop it off at Woodin You Pampered Paws in the Salmon Creek area, 13305 NE Hwy 99 #102, Vancouver, WA 98686. Or contact Jenn at information@furryfriendswa.org for other options to get your item to us.



Save the Date for the Furry Friends **SPRING "We can move Meow-tains"** ONLINE Auction, **March 30 to April 2**; three full days of online fun. We are looking for items and if you have something to donate, please contact Jenn at information@furryfriendswa.org. Or visit our auction wish list at https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/Q4W7V1CACJ3K?ref=wl_share

The purpose of this auction is to bring attention to Kitten Season. Springtime is when love is in the air, and we start to see "kitten season" kick into full swing. We anticipate performing over 350 spay/neuters this year to help control the cat population in our community. The funds from this online auction will go toward the more than \$25,000 cost of spay/neuter services Furry Friends projects and will help to cover extraordinary medical expenses for cats that need that extra TLC to get them into a loving home.

Thank you for all your help supporting the kitties. Every little bit helps. We spend about \$350,000 a year to take care of the kitties and we need to constantly fundraise to pay for their needs.



Furry Friends adopted out 506 cats and kittens for 2022, a record number for the shelter. Pictured is the 500th adoption, which was to Dr. Reading and her family, Craig and Anna. Dr. Reading is with Horizon Veterinary Care, a new practice that just opened in east Vancouver at 1900 NE 162nd Ave Suite D110, Vancouver WA 98684,

They adopted Carlos (the kitty) who was dumped out in the country and brought to Furry Friends for help. After he was medically ready he captured the hearts of the entire family. He sure is a lucky kitty! Furry Friends is excited to have the opportunity to work with Horizon Veterinary Care in addition to our other very valuable Vet Care relationships.

FurryFriends

506

ADOPTIONS
of Cats and Kittens
2022

WOW! Another record number of adoptions! We were able to adopt out **506 cats and kittens for 2022** bringing our total number of adoptions up to 4,254 since we began in 1999. We are so appreciative of everyone who has put in their times, skills, finances and support to make this happen.



Giving cats and kittens away can lead to sad consequences

If you find yourself with a cat or kittens that you don't want, please do not put an ad in Craig's List or other publication to give them away for free. In many cases these felines are used as dog fighting bait, or lab animals, or people will take them and not care for them. Or maybe you do give them to a

responsible person for free and then they find out they will be spending over \$500 to take care of their spay/neuter operation, vaccinations and other basic medical care.

It is better to see if a shelter can take them. Furry Friends is not a large shelter but we will take in as many cats and kittens as we can responsibly care for.

We are dealing with two hoarding situations right now. In the first case, the people never bothered to get their cats fixed, and soon 30 cats were living in their home. We have taken 18 of those cats so far. The second situation involved a person who took in any free cat or kitten they found on Craig's list or from other publications. We have taken on 11 cats and kittens from that situation. They were being starved to death and a couple of them had their eyes crusted shut, plus they had many other medical problems. A couple of the kittens may not make it. We will do all that we can to get these babies healthy and then find good homes for them.

Here is an article that talks a little more about why you should not offer cats and kittens for free.

<https://www.treehugger.com/dont-give-pets-away-free-127759>



Our volunteer handyman and craftsman Jim Grafmyre has done it again. He remodeled a space that we call the 'Green Room'. It now has two enclosures that have been very professionally built. Grafmyre recently built a room for us called 'Whisker's Lounge' which is a place where we can have private meet-and-greets for people coming in to adopt a cat or kitten. We didn't have that luxury in the past. Next up will be the remodel of the 'Purple Room'. Thank you Jim for all you do.

WHAT INDOOR CATS MISS...

- BEING HIT BY A CAR
- BEING STOLEN
- BEING ABUSED/TORTURED BY STRANGERS
- RAIN, SNOW, VERY HOT or COLD WEATHER
- FIGHTS WITH CATS, DOGS, SKUNKS, FOXES
COYOTES, BEARS & RACCOONS.
- BEING SOLD TO LABS FOR TESTING
- BEING USED AS BAIT IN DOG FIGHTING
- DISEASE, SICKNESS & INFECTIONS
- UNWANTED PREGNANCY
- ANTIFREEZE POISONING
- FLEAS, TICKS & WORMS
- ROCK SALT BURNS
- RAT POISONING
- ANIMAL TRAPS
- GETTING LOST
- FIREWORKS

Cole & Marmalade



At Furry Friends we get a lot of questions about why we adopt out kitties to indoor only homes. Many people feel guilty thinking they are depriving their cat the pleasures of being outdoors. Along with the freedom of being an outside cat come many risks for your furry family member. We will discuss some of those below:

While your cat is outside it more than likely will come across other animals that might carry diseases, some fatal. The most common are FIV, FeLV, FIP, FP, and URI's. Not to mention they can pick up fleas, worms, mites, and other parasites. So, what in the world do all these letters mean??

FIV – [Feline Immunodeficiency Virus](#) affects up to 4.4% of cats and is spread by deep bite wounds. FIV attacks their immune system leaving them susceptible to all other viruses and bacteria. There are no vaccines and no cure for this disease.

FelV – [Feline Leukemia Virus](#) is spread through infected saliva or nasal secretions. In the past this was a death sentence but now we are learning more about it cats can live a fairly normal life with the disease as long as they have proper care.

READ MORE HERE

<https://furryfriendswa.org/keeping-kitties-indoors/>

Good Bye amazon smile Last Day February 20th

Amazon has given charities a portion of sales through their Amazon Smile program for the last 10 years. Due to cost cutting they will not be doing that for us anymore. You can still purchase things off of our wish lists, we just won't get a portion of the \$\$.

Amazon Smile has given Furry Friends a portion of the money that you have spent through Amazon for the last 10 years. Sadly, they will be closing down that part of their operation. The program will surely be missed because over the years it has brought in several thousands of dollars for the kitties. February 20 will be the last day.

If you purchase anything up until that date we will still receive some funds. We have several wish lists going right now. We still need lots of cat food and supplies. We recently took in about 30 kittens from hoarding situations. These babies need a lot more care and supplies than cats and kittens coming from a healthy environment.

General wish list: https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/WE783999BG1W?ref=wl_share

Spring Auction wish list: https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/Q4W7V1CACJ3K?ref=wl_share



A Look Back on 2022

If you haven't seen this yet, it is worth the read. We have accomplished much in the last year.

READ MORE HERE

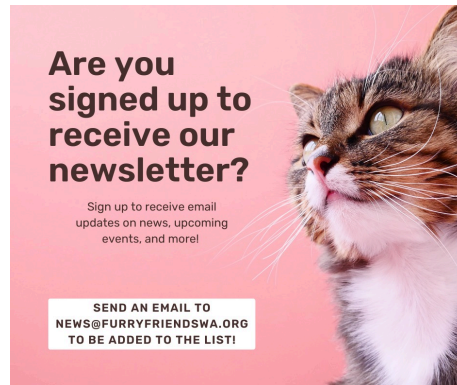
<https://mailchi.mp/6ba425ec8901/furry-friends-looks-back-on-2022?e=958ed0a347>



HAPPY
—♥—
VALENTINE'S
♥♥♥♥♥
DAY

From the volunteers and kitties at

Furry Friends



Are you signed up to receive our newsletter?
Sign up to receive email updates on news, upcoming events, and more!
Send an email to news@furryfriendswa.org to be added to the list!



- Amazon Wish List https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/WE783999BG1W?ref=wl_share

- **Spring Auction Amazon Wish List**
https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/Q4W7V1CACJ3K?ref=wl_share
- **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.me/furryfriendswa)
- **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

Furry Friends Premiere Sponsors		
 <p>Dr Virginia Huang Has been a proud mentor and supporter to Furry Friends for over 14 years.</p> <p>Thanks</p> 	 <p>Glen Aronson Has been a proud mentor and supporter to Furry Friends for over 12 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>
Gold Sponsors		
 <p>FRONT DOOR Realty</p> <p>501 E Mcloughlin Blvd, Vancouver, WA 98663 (360) 450-4486 Info@FrontDoorNW.com www.frontdoornw.com</p>	 <p>Feline Behavior Solutions "Keeping Cats in Homes and Out of Shelters" Dr. Marci Koski 503-927-1107 marci@felinebehaviorsolutions.com www.FelineBehaviorSolutions.com</p>	 <p>CRYSTAL INVESTMENT PROPERTY</p> <p>600 NE 99th Street, Vancouver, WA 98665 info@crystalip.com 503-530-1316 https://crystalip.com/</p>
Silver Sponsors		
 <p>Bee Sam Beauty Salon 2014 St Johns Blvd, Vancouver, WA 98661 (503) 488-0095 beesambeauty.com https://beesambeauty.com/</p>	 <p>Jason P. Smith CPA, PS Accounting Jason P. Smith, CPA, PS 10000 NE 7th Avenue Suite 400 Vancouver, WA 98685 360-567-1041 jason@mycpajason.com</p>	<p><i>Thank You</i></p> <p>TO OUR SPONSORS</p> <p>Furry Friends </p> <p>Visit our website to find out more about sponsorships www.furryfriendswa.org/sponsors/</p>

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.

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.

Jaimie Garver, President, Operations, Financials

Brandi Towner, Vice President & Adoption/intake team

Linda Rader, Adoption/Foster Coordinator

Cynthia Johnson, Treasurer,

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

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, Night House Manager

Chris Nash, Auction Lead
Sandi Long, Grants, property management
Gail Bauhs, Cat Socializer Lead
Kelly Thompson, Volunteer Coordinator