

THE MEWS

Online News for all the Friends of Furry Friends January 2022

Furry
Friends



Helping homeless and abused cats

www.furryfriendswa.org

Dear Friends,
Happy New Year! And welcome to 2022. We look forward to helping more cats in this coming year. Thank you all for your part in making Furry Friends a success.



Cowboy & Cecilia



Baby



Jolly

Adoptions

We adopted out 36 cats and kittens from November 19 to December 24. As of this date we have adopted out 454 cats for the year--a record--and we still have a week to go. Amazing! we never thought we would be able to handle so many cats in one year. In 2020 we adopted out 380 cats, and the years before that, we never reached 200. Our success is all thanks to our leadership. We have become so much more efficient in everything we do.



In 2021 we adopted out more than 250 kittens! All kittens are kept in foster homes until adopted. A team of dedicated fosters and volunteers helps these babies progress from various stages of kittenhood to adoption day! Many kittens come to us without moms so it takes some serious time for our fosters to raise them. Bottle babies can be a 24/7 job for weeks until they are weaned and on solid food. They require feeding every two hours.

Money, as well as time, is necessary to raise these little ones. Thanks to our generous donors, we were able to spend nearly \$100,000 on medicals for more than 250 kittens this year! Why the high cost of some \$400 for each kitten!? Bottle babies can cost more than \$500 each to get to adoption. Some who come to us cost less since we don't provide food or litter for months for them, and some have had some medical care which also cuts costs. Other kittens make up for those saved costs by needing a couple of thousand-dollar surgeries, such as those required by Prince, Fresca, Olive, and Thea.



Prince had a diaphragmatic hernia which required extensive abdominal surgery, Fresca had a non-functioning kidney, which had to be removed, Olive and Thea had to have eye removals due to traumas incurred before they came to Furry friends. So where one costs less there are others who do cost more. Litter, wet and dry kitten food, kitten replacement formula, parasite medication, flea medication, vaccines, microchips, spay/neuters, blood tests, if needed--they all accumulate costs. We sure have dedicated donors, volunteers, and fosters to help all these Furry friends, and we are grateful beyond measure!



Thank you to the Clark College students who came in and spent all day cleaning our cat trees :)



Furry Friends Spotlight on Chris Kiefer

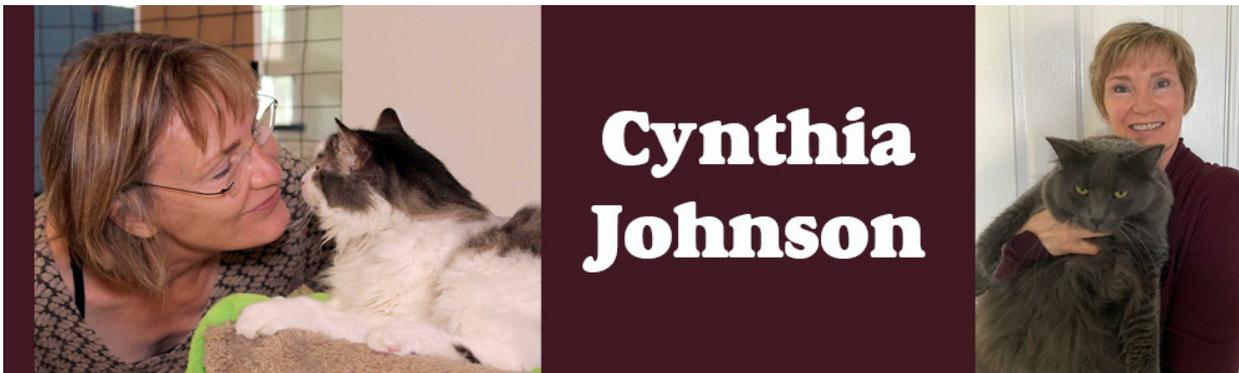
Furry friends could not operate without the help and experience of all our volunteers and fosters. Some have played many vital roles over the years. One of those amazing people is Chris Kiefer. She had this to say about her time with Furry Friends:

"I found a pregnant stray cat hanging outside my Mom's place 12 years ago. I contacted Furry Friends and was recruited to be her foster. I was so taken by watching the birth of the three kittens that night, went to bed, and woke up to a total of seven kittens. After that, I found myself volunteering more and more. There have been several litters after that. Along with being a foster, I had a shift at the Halfway House and at our adoption center that was once in Petsmart, I participated in fundraising events, adoptions, and whatever was needed.

Most people probably know me from the period when I was fielding incoming phone calls and responding to emails. I maintained the cat wait list, creating personality profiles, and scheduling the relinquishments. I came to know every cat in the shelter and really enjoyed matchmaking cats to owners. That was very rewarding. I have seen a lot of cat situations and had many experiences. I've seen the worst and the best in people. There were tears and there were smiles. I heard a lot of sad cat stories and all I wanted to do is help in any way I can. I couldn't fix everything, but I really tried hard. After many years of this, I thought it was time for something else. More recently, I have been fostering newborn kittens needing bottle feeding."

READ MORE HERE

<https://furryfriendswa.org/ff-spotlight-on-chris-kiefer/>



We welcome Cynthia Johnson as the new Treasurer for Furry Friends. As Treasurer she will be a member of the Executive Committee. She replaces Helen McCann who is newly retired and wishes to pursue some other interests at this time.

Here is what Cynthia has to say about herself:

"I began volunteering with Furry Friends in June 2020 becoming the Thursday morning Halfway House team lead, added socializing and fostering along the way (although I failed at fostering adopting two

adorable ginger girls in my care). Having recently retired from a lengthy career in accounting, I wanted to do something more meaningful with the next phase of my life. Caring for cats and encouraging young woman has always been my heart's passion. I researched a few cat rescues in the area and liked the environment and services Furry Friends provided and jumped in with both paws."

READ MORE HERE

<https://furryfriendswa.org/ff-welcomes-new-treasurer-cynthia-johnson/>



Marion is looking for yard helpers to do some light yard clean-up on their own time - mostly raking. They can pick their own times and their preferred projects. Please call Marion at 209-814-3098 to discuss. P.S. A big THANK YOU to the mysterious elf who recently filled 2 yard bins with debris raked from the backyard.



Executive Committee 2022



Jaimie Garver
President, lead of operations
and Halfway House



Brandi Towner
Vice President and
Adoption/intake team



Linda Rader
Adoption/Foster Coordinator



Diane Stevens, PR, creative,
marketing, social media,
and communications



Danielle Chancey
Secretary, Events and
Fundraising



Marci Koski
Feline behaviorist



Cynthia Johnson
Treasurer

Our Mission Statement

The purpose and objectives of Furry Friends shall be to help homeless, relinquished and abused cats by:

- Spaying or neutering.
- Providing medical care and foster homes until permanent placement of these cats into safe, nurturing homes.
- Educating the public regarding the care and responsibility of cat ownership.
- Collaborating with other pet rescue and companion groups to accomplish a no-kill status in the State of Washington.

Furry Friends Board of Directors also called Executive Committee

The board is comprised of select volunteers who oversee the activities of Furry Friends. The members of the board are responsible for governing the organization, approving budgets, approving an organization's policies and other similar tasks. Board members have an obligation of allegiance, care and duty to Furry Friends. We seek to fulfill our mission statement by providing advice and implementing long-term goals that will assist Furry Friends in planning for the future and creating the vision of what it will become.



Most of the cats and kittens that come to Furry Friends just need routine medical care, which can still cost from \$200 to \$500 per kitty. But then there are the handful of other cats that need a lot more care. For 2021 we had to perform several eye removals, a couple amputations, many dental procedures and more. We have spent about \$126,000 on medical for 2021 alone. Here is a story about one kitty that is currently going through a lot.

Hunter came to us as an injured stray that was most likely dumped on someone's property. He was in very poor shape. He had teeth broken off and the roots exposed, sores and cuts all over his feet, dehydrated, and very scared. After he was healed enough to start his dental care and be neutered, he had an after-neuter complication (which can happen when cats are too active after surgery) and he had to have another surgery to remove some infected tissues called a scrotal ablation. His dental surgery location did not heal as it should; so at the same time, he had to have some sutures added. This poor guy just couldn't seem to catch a break; his body was fighting hard against him and not allowing him to heal properly! He is now with a foster who is making sure he is recovering, and he was scheduled to have have all his stitches out on Christmas day! He is in good spirits and loves to be held and rocked like a big 16lb baby. He will be looking for his forever home after the holidays. If you would like to donate to his care you can go to <https://furryfriendswa.org/donate/> and click donate or send a PayPal to information@furryfriendswa.org.

READ MORE HERE

<https://furryfriendswa.org/hunter-one-lucky-cat/>

Jenn Hutchman wrote a poem based on Hunter's story and a reminder that if you adopt a pet, you make a lifetime commitment. Abandoning an animal is not a solution to rehoming them. Take a look at this moving poem.

<https://furryfriendswa.org/a-lifetime-commitment/>



Did you miss Jaimie's President Report?

You can find it on our website. There have been lots of great accomplishments in 2021

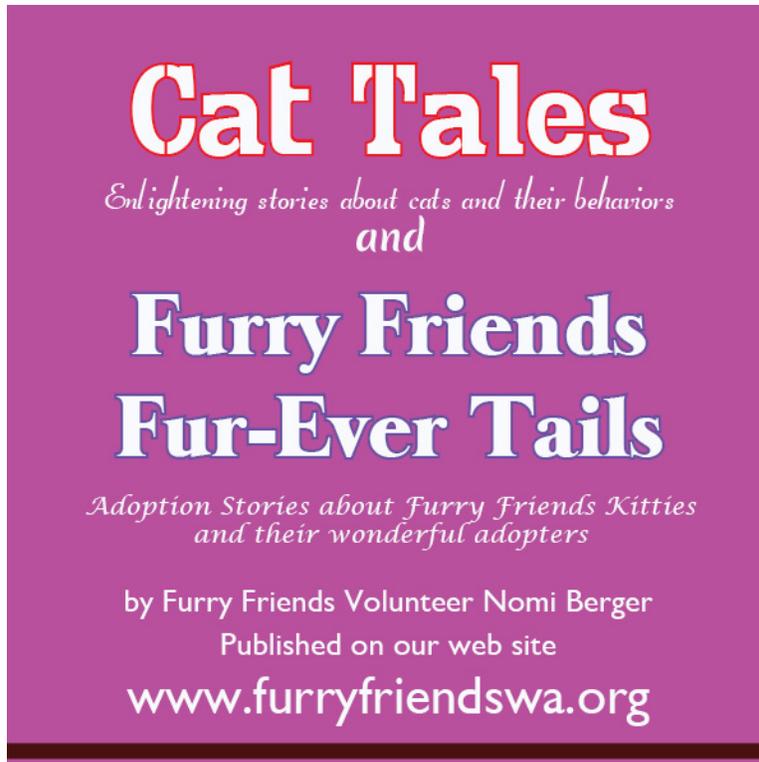
"What a year 2021 has been! Furry Friends has many exciting things that have happened and even more exciting things still to come. Some of our accomplishments include medical saves, amazing adoptions, spay/neuters, new services and the ability to hire paid staff."

READ MORE HERE

<https://furryfriendswa.org/furry-friends-president-report-for-2021/>



Furry Friends is looking for people and businesses to join our elite group of sponsors. When you become a sponsor, your business will be listed on our auction materials, you will receive recognition on our social media, website and newsletter. Sponsorship packages begin at \$500. Now is a good time to become a sponsor, as we are already designing our promotional materials for the September 2022 auction. We will create numerous promos and will send out a "save the date" card and invitation to our mailing list a little later in 2022. To find out more about sponsorships, please visit our website at <https://furryfriendswa.org/sponsors/> or contact us at 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 our Websites and Facebook posts help us reach that goal.

<http://blogs.columbian.com/cat-tales/>

Furry Friends Fur-Ever Adoption Stories

We are so happy when one of our kitties is adopted into their perfect home. We post adoption stories written by Nomi Berger every other Sunday to our Furry Friends website and Facebook page. You can check them out at <http://furryfriendswa.org/category/adoptions/>

Thanks for everything
you do to help make
Furry Friends
a great kitty shelter

YOU'RE
APPRECIATED
MORE THAN YOU KNOW.

THANK YOU, SUPPORTERS!

We are so appreciative of everyone that has helped with their donations of items and finances, and for all those adopting the kitties. We could not have existed without you. Being a volunteer run organization means that we are dependent on all of you to make Furry Friends a success. You are appreciated more than you will ever know.



Helping homeless and abused cats

Please Consider a
Monthly Donation for the kitties
<https://furryfriendswa.org/donate/>

\$11 per month	\$22 per month	\$72 per month	\$110 per month	\$250 per month
Can fund a microchip to help reunite a cat to his new family.	Can fund a Rabies vaccine to promote a healthy start to life.	Can fund a neuter surgery to reduce the overwhelming cat population.	Can fund a spay surgery to reduce the overwhelming cat population.	Can fund a dental cleaning to help prevent worse teeth problems going forward.
				

Every gift saves lives. Please make a onetime gift if you are not able to make a monthly commitment.

Automatic Monthly Donations

Furry Friends works tirelessly to put an end to cat homelessness and neglect. You can help us with our fight to take in cats and kittens and give them a second chance at life. Your automatic monthly gift is an easy way to make a difference for cats all year long.

Furry Friends provides for cat housing and medical care, and helps up to 400 cats find loving homes every year. Your regular monthly gift allows us to spend less time fundraising—and more time saving lives. Any amount helps. You can choose to give as low as \$5 a month, it is up to you.

Every gift saves lives. Please make a onetime gift if you are not able to make a monthly commitment. Visit our website to make your one time gift our choose to have a reoccurring monthly gift <https://furryfriendswa.org/donate/>



There will be two auctions again for 2022

Jaimie will have a Spring Online Auction again this year. We don't have any of the details yet, but it may be March or April. She will be looking for items for that event. Traditionally we have had lesser expensive items for the spring auction and the more high-end items for our September South Pawcific Auction.

If you have something that would be good for the **Spring Auction**, contact Jaimie Garver at 360-993-1097 or information@furryfriendswa.org.

If you are interested in helping with items for the South Pawcific Fall Auction we especially ask for items such as trips, vacation places, experiences and expensive items. We can always use more items that would appeal to men such as hunting, fishing, BBQ, camping, sports memorabilia, smart TVs, car items and services, tools and electronics. We ask that donations be valued at \$40 or more, and we need to receive them by August 1, 2022. We are trying to focus on quality rather than quantity. We only have space for about 100 silent auction items so we want to earn as much as we can for each item. Things do not have to be cat themed; our guests have many interests in addition to cats.

Take a look at our auction wish list https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/GT5MXWN1EOUH?ref=wl_share

Procurement Questions: Lisa Baxter auction@furryfriendswa.org

Auction Questions: Chris Nash ffauction@icloud.com

Sponsorship Information: Diane Stevens dgelhockey@yahoo.com

Ongoing Resources

- **Adopt A Pet** <https://www.adoptapet.com/shelter71378-pets.html>
- **Public Facebook Page** <https://www.facebook.com/furryfriendswa> We post daily news to this page.
- **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. They will accept things for us during the pandemic.

Premiere Sponsors			
 <p>Dr. Virginia Huang</p> <p>Salmon Creek Plastic Surgery is committed to excellence, compassion, and caring in the practice of plastic surgery.</p> <p>13712 NE 10TH Avenue, Vancouver, WA 98685 Phone: 360.823.0860 Hours: M-F 8AM - 5PM www.salmoncreekps.com</p>	 <p>SALMON CREEK PLASTIC SURGERY</p>	 <p>Glen & Leslie Aronson</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>
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Silver Sponsor	Silver Sponsor	Silver Sponsor	<p>Visit our website to find out more about sponsorships</p> <p>www.furryfriendswa.org/sponsors/</p>
 <p>PORTLAND LOCAL 8 FEDERAL CREDIT UNION</p> <p>UNION MADE</p> <p>Portland Local 8 Federal Credit Union 2435 NW Front Ave, Suite A Portland, Oregon 97209 cu@pd8fcu.com 503-223-9306 www.pd8fcu.com</p>	 <p>Feline Behavior Solutions</p> <p>"Keeping Cats in Homes and Out of Shelters"</p> <p>Dr. Marci Koski 503-927-1107 marci@felinebehaviorsolutions.com www.FelineBehaviorSolutions.com</p>	 <p>Jared Cook the Cat Groomer</p> <p>Call/Text to make an appointment (360) 581-7997 Jaredthecatgroomer@gmail.com Jaredthecatgroomer.com</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?

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

Linda Rader, Adoption/Foster Coordinator

Cynthia Johnson, Treasurer, (503) 422-8148 shoppers2@comcast.net

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

Marci Koski, Feline behaviorist

Danielle Chancey, Secretary, Fundraising and Events

Brandi Towner, Vice President & Adoption/intake team

Other Leadership:

Sandi Long, Grants, property management

Jazmynn Hoffman, House Manager, Volunteer Coordinator & Adoption/intake team
Marion Edwards, Adoption events and lead socializer
Jenn Hutchman, Community Outreach, Adoption/intake Coordinator, Med team/scheduler
Chris Nash, Auction Lead
MacKenzie 'Kensie' Broom-Peterson, Medical Intakes