

THE NEWS

Online News for all the Friends of Furry Friends January 2023



Helping homeless and abused cats
www.furryfriendswa.org

Dear Friends,

2022 has come to a close, and we look forward to a happy and successful 2023. We overcame many challenges during the year, and we expect a new year of saving even more cats and kittens. Take a look at our end of the year report below to see some highlights. Thank you all for making Furry Friends a vibrant, well run, caring organization.

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 that has put in their times, skills, finances and support to make this happen.

Here is how we have done in previous years

2021 456 adoptions	2020 380 adoptions
2019 198 adoptions	2018 185 adoptions
2017 151 adoptions	2016 169 adoptions



A Look Back on 2022

By Jenn Hutchman, Furry Friends Executive Director

Furry Friends and our supporters are ending a most challenging year as 2022 draws to a close. The aftereffects of Covid on the veterinary profession and on animal welfare overall caused many trials, but we have risen to the challenges and look forward to growing and improving in 2023 with the help of our many dedicated volunteers.

Our goals for 2023:

As 2022 comes to a close we are excited about growing our organization and tackling some new goals for 2023.

- To expand our shelter to include a new medical/isolation room
- To continue to grow our strong family of volunteers & sponsors
- To build more community partnerships and structure new community resources
- To construct a community education program
- To continue to honor our mission and strengthen our foundation

A Busy 2022

We remained at or over-capacity throughout 2022 and are just now getting a small bit of breathing room. We cared for a record-breaking number of cats, in addition to the 100-200 community cats that we provide food/litter for each month. Our donors, supporters, volunteers, and staff made it possible for Furry Friends to care for some 155 cats/kittens at once! We had 30 adult cats at our shelter and 125 adults/kittens in foster homes! WOW! Only a couple years ago we only had resources to care for 40 kittens at one time. Many dedicated people provided the fuel for us to grow! We plan to end 2022 with about 490 adoptions, continuing a steady growth trend over the past two years. This will be a record number of adoptions for us.

READ MORE HERE

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



Furry Friends Volunteer Spotlight : Sandra Hungate

By : Jazmynn Hoffman

When Sandra learned that Furry Friends is a no-kill cat rescue, the animal-lover who has devoted her life to helping animals knew that the organization was the perfect place for her.

A volunteer on the Tuesday evening Halfway House cleaning crew, Sandra joined about 7 months ago and is now the co-shift lead on her team.

Sandra is passionate about animal rights and welfare, and volunteering at Furry Friends is just one of many ways she has put her passion into action. Additionally, she volunteers towards implementing animal friendly laws within our community as well as animal welfare outreach. Her love of animals led her to become a vegetarian who advocates switching to a plant-based diet!

READ MORE HERE

<https://furryfriendswa.org/volunteer-spotlight-sandra-hungate/>



The Thursday morning crew Cindy, Cynthia, Cathy and Briana on Thanksgiving Day.

Thank you Volunteers!

We so appreciate our dedicated volunteers who even show up on all holidays to feed the Halfway House kitties. They also do everything they can to come to the house during winter storms. The kitties still need to eat no matter the circumstances. We are so proud to be a part of this passionate group of people.



Thank you to all our supporters and volunteers for:

Visiting us at our holiday markets
Donating time, money and supplies
Sponsoring our kitties' holiday wish lists
Welcoming new furry family members
Your contributions and support help us achieve our mission!



Fundraiser updates!

We have been doing many small fundraisers this year to keep up with the costs of caring for so many kitties! We spend about \$300,000 a year on the care of the cats and operating expenses. Every little donation helps. The report for some of the recent fundraisers follows. As you can see we have to constantly be working on bringing in funds and goods.

Stats from the fundraisers:

See's fundraiser – \$400

Evergreen High School bazaar – \$350

Heritage High School bazaar – \$228

Liberty middle school bazaar – \$150

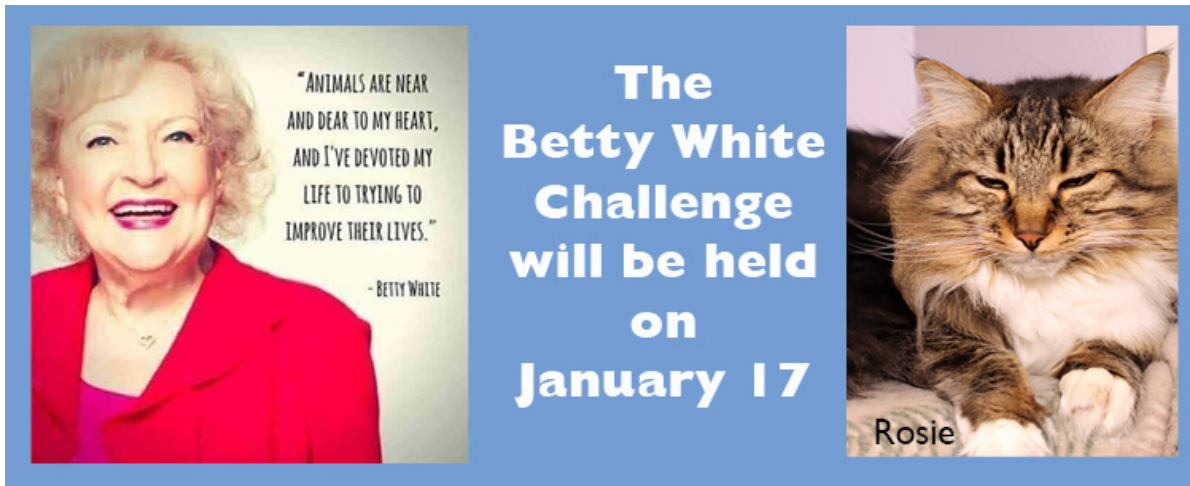
Krispy Kreme – \$121

Furry Friends Calendar sales - \$1,500

Giving Tuesday - \$5,093. This is one of our main fundraisers during the year. The Reflector Newspaper ran a nice story for us about Giving Tuesday. <https://www.thereflector.com/stories/furry-friends-to-take-part-in-giving-tuesday-with-hope-to-raise-10000,303988>

We held wish lists for the kitties at the shelter for beds, medicines, toys, wipes, etc and all items were bought by some amazing people! The last fundraiser of the year was our Twelve Meows of Catmas that ran from December 20th-31st. The focus was bringing in needed supplies.

Giving Trees – These businesses collected supplies for the kitties during the month of December. MudBay, Yard and Garden, Iron Gate Storage at eight of their locations, All Natural Pet Supply at three locations, Claus Paws Animal Hospital, Orchards Feed and Cats Play While You're Away. We so appreciate these businesses for helping us.



What is the Betty White birthday challenge?

January 17th is Betty White's birthday and since her passing a nationwide movement to continue her work helping shelter animals has emerged! She was a big advocate for animal welfare, so many shelters hold fundraisers in her memory and to continue her valuable mission. There will be multiple ways to donate on this date! Paypal can be sent to information@furryfriendswa.org, or you can go to furryfriendswa.org and click donate, or you can mail a check to 6715 NE 63rd Street, Suite 450, Vancouver, WA 98661. Keep an eye out for more information on our Facebook page Furry Friends Washington. And we appreciate all of you for doing what you can for our cats and kittens. Even \$5 helps the kitties that we care for, such as Rosie.

Miss Rosie has had quite the adventure since she came to Furry Friends. She came to us with chronic ear infections and an infected paw. The de-claw that she endured before she came to us was not done in the right way. (No way is right in our opinion; don't de-claw your cat). When they performed the de-claw, they didn't do it completely; so her bone was actually coming out of her skin, causing repeated massive infections. After many rounds of antibiotics to try to control her infections, she went to Pacific NW Pet ER for surgery. She had ear surgery, which removed everything from her ear and sewed up the opening in her ear (in non-medical terms). She also had two of her toes removed due to the botched de-claw job. She is finally on the mend and doing well. If you would like to donate towards Rosie's care, you can use PayPal to information@furryfriendswa.org, click 'donate above', or go to <https://furryfriendswa.org/donate/>.



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.



If you received a new item for Christmas and are not so fond of it, keep our Spring Auction in mind. March will be here before you know it and we are accumulating items for it. If you have something for us you can let Jenn Hutchman know about it at information@furryfriendswa.org or you can drop it off for Furry Friends at Woodin You Pampered Paws, 13305 NE Hwy 99 #102, Vancouver, WA 98686 in the Salmon Creek area or contact us at information@furryfriendswa.org for other drop off locations.



Thank you to Plexsys Interface Products

They awarded a grant of \$2,216 to Furry Friends through their Corporate Giving Fund. Furry Friends was nominated for the grant by one of our previous adopters who works for the company. If you work for a company that participates in charitable grants or matching funds, please remember the kitties and nominate Furry Friends.

To learn more about this generous company, please visit their website <https://www.plexsys.com>



FF received several "In Memory of" and "In Honor of" donations this month.

In Memory of: Paula Niemi from Terry E Rose

Porsche from Carolee + Thomas Hill

In Honor of: Connor Jones and Alexa Jones by Walter Jones

Lonnie & Kay Cooper by Jane Lapcewich

If you're interested in making a tribute or memorial donation, you can do so through Paypal, at 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, and then send a picture to information@furryfriendswa.org if you'd like one to be featured on our social media.

Furry Friends is Looking for

Corporate Sponsors

for 2023



Corporate Sponsorship is a tremendous opportunity for recognition. There are several plans to choose from. Please visit our website for more information furryfriendswa.org/sponsors/



Helping homeless and abused cats

Furry Friends Sponsors

Furry Friends depends on the kindness of others to keep going. Our Corporate Sponsors have been a tremendous support to us, not only financially, but they have given their time and worked on projects with us. They are passionate about helping the kitties.

Our Corporate Sponsors for 2022 are Dr Virginia Huang and Iron Gate Storage, Premiere Sponsors. Other sponsors include Front Door Realty, Feline Behavior Solutions, Crystal Investment Property (Gold Sponsors), Jason Smith, CPA and Bee Sam Beauty (Silver Sponsors). If you would like to be a sponsor for Furry Friends please visit <https://furryfriendswa.org/sponsors/>. There are several packages to choose from and your business will be promoted all year long, not just at the fall auction. Sign up now to get the most coverage for 2023. Contact us at news@furryfriendswa.org if you have questions.



Upper Respiratory Infection

URI is a common infection that cats can get, especially if there are several cats at the same location. Nomi Berger writes about it in a recent Furry Friends Cat Tale article. To see more of our stories on educating ourselves about cats, please visit the Cat Tale Blog at <https://blogs.columbian.com/cat-tales/>

A common illness in cats, it's similar to a cold but can be far more serious. Caused by either viruses or bacteria, it targets the upper airway — the throat, nose and sinuses — rather than the lungs.

Although symptoms may differ depending on the cause and location of the infection, some of the most common ones include: sneezing, runny nose, cough, hoarseness, congestion, fever, drooling, gagging, clear to colored nasal and eye discharge, decreased appetite, oral and nasal ulcers, squinting or rubbing eyes, depression and lethargy.

Between 80 and 90 percent of upper respiratory infections are viral and the rest are usually caused by bacteria. Found in the tears, nasal secretions and saliva of infected cats, these viruses spread rapidly through direct contact such as touching and grooming or when ailing cats cough and sneeze on one another. The viruses can also live on the surfaces cats share — food and water bowls and litter boxes — while humans can spread the virus from cat to cat when their hands and/or clothing are contaminated.

READ MORE HERE

https://blogs.columbian.com/cat-tales/2022/12/11/upper-respiratory-infections-in-cats/?fbclid=IwAR0MvWkj-00FIz48SfGqTSUTbWE26jh6ObLk9T2WbSpwivg1_kD_Aum7qTc

Online Wish Lists

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

We are always looking for supplies. You can purchase a number of items online and have them shipped directly to Furry Friends at our mailing address: 6715 NE 63rd Street, Suite 450, Vancouver, WA 98661. Or you can always make a donation our website <https://furryfriendswa.org/donate/> and we will purchase needed items.

Be sure to Link your Amazon account to Amazon Smile. When you shop AmazonSmile, Furry Friends will receive 0.5% of your eligible purchases. Just click on the following link <http://smile.amazon.com/gp/charity/homepage.html>. Sign into your account and choose Furry Friends from the list of charities.

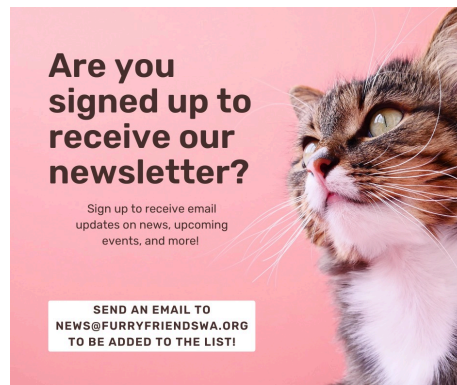
Furry Friends to go Vegetarian

After doing extensive research into the animal welfare industry, Furry Friends has made the decision to recognize and acknowledge that animal welfare organizations need to take a stand and come together for the benefit of all animals. We cannot justify the killing of one animal in order to raise funds to save another. We, as a board, have decided that our organization's stance is to serve only vegan/vegetarian options at all events going forward. Members within our community come to our events to support Furry Friends and Animal Welfare; this is another step in the right direction to continue living our mission.

		<h2>Furry Friends Executive Committee</h2>	
			
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
			Our Mission Statement The purpose and objectives of Furry Friends shall be to help homeless, relinquished and abused cats by: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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.
Danielle Chancey Secretary, Events and Fundraising	Marci Koski Feline behaviorist	Cynthia Johnson Treasurer	



If you go to the Halfway House, make sure you take a look at the bulletin board. A great deal of good information is posted there. It is one more way that we try to communicate what's going on to the volunteers.



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
 - **Link your Amazon account to Amazon Smile.** When you shop AmazonSmile, Furry Friends will receive 0.5% of your eligible purchases. Just click on the following link <http://smile.amazon.com/gp/charity/homepage.html>. Sign into your account and choose Furry Friends from the list of charities.
- **Donations** <https://furryfriendswa.org/donate/> or [Paypal.me/furryfriendswa](https://www.paypal.com/paytogether/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
 - You can drop items off on the porch of 809 NE 160th Ave, Vancouver WA 98684

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>	
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</p> <p>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> <hr/> <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