



Dear Friends,  
 Happy New Year!!! We hope that the holidays were merry and bright for you and your furry friends. We are wrapping up the year on a high note. We have adopted out over 600 cats and kittens--unheard of for us. As we continue to grow, we have had many successful events to help support all these cats.



### Adoptions

From January 1 to December 21, we placed 645 cats and kittens, and we are still counting. The year isn't quite over. We expect to reach 650 adoptions by January 1. Our success is more than how many cats we can move, it is always about the welfare of each cat. They all get the same great medical and emotional care as we have always given, and we carefully match each cat to their adopting family.

Take a look at our adoption totals from previous years.

2022 506 adoptions  
2021 456 adoptions  
2020 380 adoptions  
2019 198 adoptions  
2018 185 adoptions  
2017 151 adoptions  
2016 169 adoptions



*Furry Friends representatives Brandi Towner, Jenn Hutchman and Tanika Campbell were presented with a check for \$4,000 by Wilco store management.*

### **Wilco Boots & Blues Results**

Furry Friends is proud to announce that we received \$4,000 from Wilco's Boots & Blues Bag benefit. We were nominated to participate in this event and chosen to be the Washington State recipient. Thank you so much Wilco for helping out so many kitties with this award!



Wilco's fourth annual Boots & Blues Bag Benefit Sale, which raises funds for local non-profits, took place October 24-26, 2023, in all 25 Wilco Farm Store locations in Oregon, Washington and California. Wilco asked customers to name and vote on the programs that they wanted to benefit from the sale of bags. Over the summer, hundreds of local non-profits were suggested, and customers were able to vote. Based on the social media fan nominations, Furry Friends was one of the three non-profit organizations selected.



### **2023 Year End Review by FF Executive Director Jenn Hutchman**

Wow what a great and challenging year Furry Friends has had! I will share our many amazing accomplishments in 2023 in this letter. First, I would like to send out a very heartfelt THANK YOU to all our supporters, volunteers, sponsors, and donors! Together with our Board of Directors, Leadership, Staff, and YOU, we have made a difference in so many lives and in many cases, we have saved lives! Give yourself the credit you deserve!

### **Medical/Rescue Successes short recap**

Bean is a happy and healthy little dude who was diagnosed with megacolon. Thanks to the quick work of his foster, our staff, and our partner veterinarian we think we caught it in time before he required any surgeries. Now he is on medication to help things move along the way they should.

READ MORE HERE <https://furryfriendswa.org/2023-year-end-review-by-ff-executive-director-jenn-hutchman/>



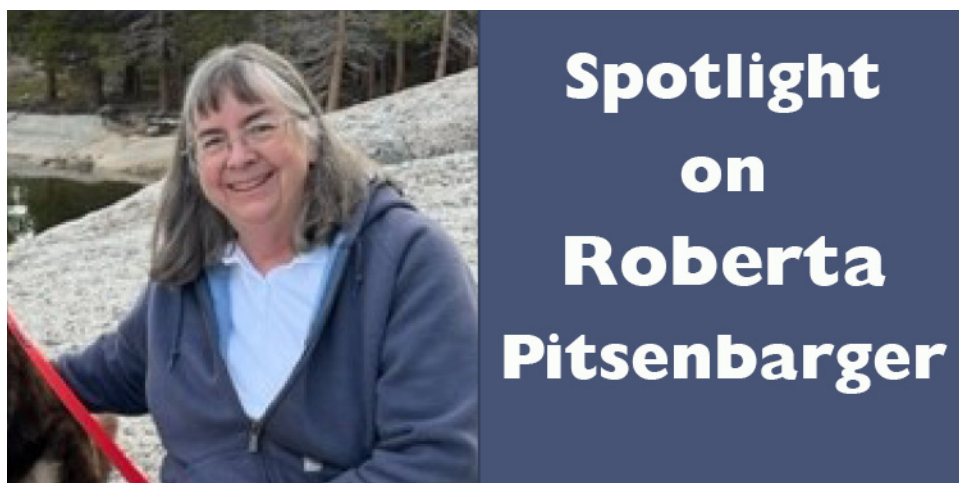
### 2023 Year End FF President's Report

What an amazing year 2023 has been for Furry Friends! We have faced many challenges—and many successes--throughout the year, but the one thing that has always shined through is our commitment to the cats in our care. We started the year with a goal to rescue as many cats as possible, and we are proud to say that we have exceeded our expectations. We have rescued hundreds of cats and kittens from many different situations and found loving homes for them.

We have focused on injured, ill and stray cats, and on hoarding situations. When we decided to direct our efforts on cats that were most in need, we found amazing improvements in the lives of the cats we saved. Focusing on the neediest not only helped the cats, it also provided valuable education to animal owners and the community about the importance of spay/neuter and reaching out for help. As of December, we have adopted more than 600 cats and kittens, another record-breaking year. However, we are not just focused on the number of cats we help, we strive to provide the best quality of care for each individual cat. Our efforts have brought amazing growth to the adoption numbers.

READ MORE HERE

<https://furryfriendswa.org/2023-year-end-ff-presidents-report/>



### **Volunteer Spotlight: Roberta Pitsenbarger**

Roberta volunteered with the Best Friends Animal Rescue in Utah when her family lived there. When she moved to Washington in March 2020 (just as the pandemic broke), she looked around for a local organization. Since Furry Friends was listed on the Best Friends website as a companion organization, she promptly checked us out -- and here she is!

After starting as a socializer at our Halfway House, she began fostering kittens. Roberta and her husband have fostered seven litters (four mama cats and 22 kittens) in the past two years, and she admits that the biggest challenge is giving them up when it's time to say goodbye. At the same time, her proudest moment is seeing her fosters adopted and settling well into their new homes.

READ MORE HERE

<https://furryfriendswa.org/volunteer-spotlight-roberta-pitsenbarger/>



### **Volunteer Spotlight: Margarita Polishchuk**

Margarita began volunteering with Furry Friends in July 2023. Before then, she supported us through monthly donations for about a year.

She discovered Furry Friends shortly after moving to Vancouver when she brought to the shelter a Bengal cat that she found in a parking lot. She loved how friendly everyone was, how well maintained the shelter was, and decided that she would volunteer there some day.

Now she volunteers on Sunday mornings by deep cleaning the Medical room and continues supporting us with donations. She readily admits that being at the shelter is her favorite part of the week and that she would like to become more involved. She loves the community and loves playing with the cats after she's finished cleaning.

READ MORE HERE

<https://furryfriendswa.org/volunteer-spotlight-margarita-polishchuk/>



**We would like to welcome new premiere sponsor AlwaysOnIT, "World Class IT"**

AlwaysOnIT came to life from the vision of a software engineer, not just to solve IT problems, but to serve as a strategic partner for businesses. Chris Benson, our founder, started his journey in 2003, armed with a passion for helping people and a knack for technology. His goal was simple – to offer exceptional IT services that businesses could truly rely on. We initially catered to residential customers but noticing the burgeoning needs of small businesses, we decided to pivot. By 2007, we had begun to explore the small business market, and thus began our foray into managed services. We are proud to have stayed true to our founding principle, growing from a residential break/fix company to a fully-fledged managed service provider, providing top-notch, tailored IT services for small to mid-sized businesses across several industries. Today, we stand out from the crowd as we've been a cloud-based remote company from the start, honing our remote work culture and systems long before it was a necessity. This allows us to serve clients across the country seamlessly, offering flexible and efficient IT solutions.

For more information about AlwaysOnIT  
[www.AlwaysOnIt.com](http://www.AlwaysOnIt.com) and [benny@alwaysonit.com](mailto:benny@alwaysonit.com)

**Chris Benson | CEO**

Office 503.601.4335 x104 | Cell 503.522.6506 | Direct 360.524.7224  
2895 S Beavercreek Road | Suite 204 | Oregon City, OR | 97045



#### **FOSTER PARENTS NEEDED**

Kittens, kittens and more kittens. They keep coming. Kitten season was once only 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](mailto:information@furryfriendswa.org) (360) 993-1097. Please read the Foster Expectations on our web page. Fostering requires a great deal of work but it is very rewarding.



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](mailto:information@furryfriendswa.org).





**March 20-24:** Save the date for our spring online auction, 'Meow or Never'. We are looking for donated items for our Its Meow or Never Spring Auction! The money raised from this yearly auction goes directly to our spay/neuter costs. Spaying and neutering over 600 kitties a year adds up quick!

Do you have a small business you'd like to highlight by donating an item? Do you have new items you just won't use? Are you crafty and make something one of a kind? Please send an email to [information@furryfriendswa.org](mailto:information@furryfriendswa.org) if you'd like to donate to help raise money for our kitties!

## DONATIONS WANTED

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



April 27th at the  
**American Legion Hall**  
4607 NE St James Road, Vancouver

Please review our donation  
guidelines/restrictions

#### CONTACT

To set up donation dropoff/pickup  
location and time:

Contact us at  
[information@furryfriendswa.org](mailto:information@furryfriendswa.org)

## FURRY FRIENDS GARAGE SALE DONATION GUIDELINES

Thank you for your support!

Questions? [news@furryfriendswa.org](mailto: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 5
- ✓ 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



**April 27, 2024:** Save the date, we are having a garage sale to benefit Furry Friends! Make sure to mark your calendars! The Garage Sale will be held at The American Legion located at 4607 NE St James Road, Vancouver, WA 98663. We will be collecting new/gently used items closer to the date. If you have items you want to donate, contact us at [information@furryfriendswa.org](mailto:information@furryfriendswa.org).



**September 21, 2024:** Save the date for the fall in-person auction, Phantom of the Opurra to take place at the Royal Oaks Country Club.

**Thank you to all the Giving Tree participating businesses and thank you to all that delivered goodies for the kitties to these places.**

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



Did you miss the the "12 Meows of Catmas" event? You can still visit our wish list to see what items we were collecting and need more of.

[https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2K3S2T9UBZCKH?ref=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2K3S2T9UBZCKH?ref=wl_share)



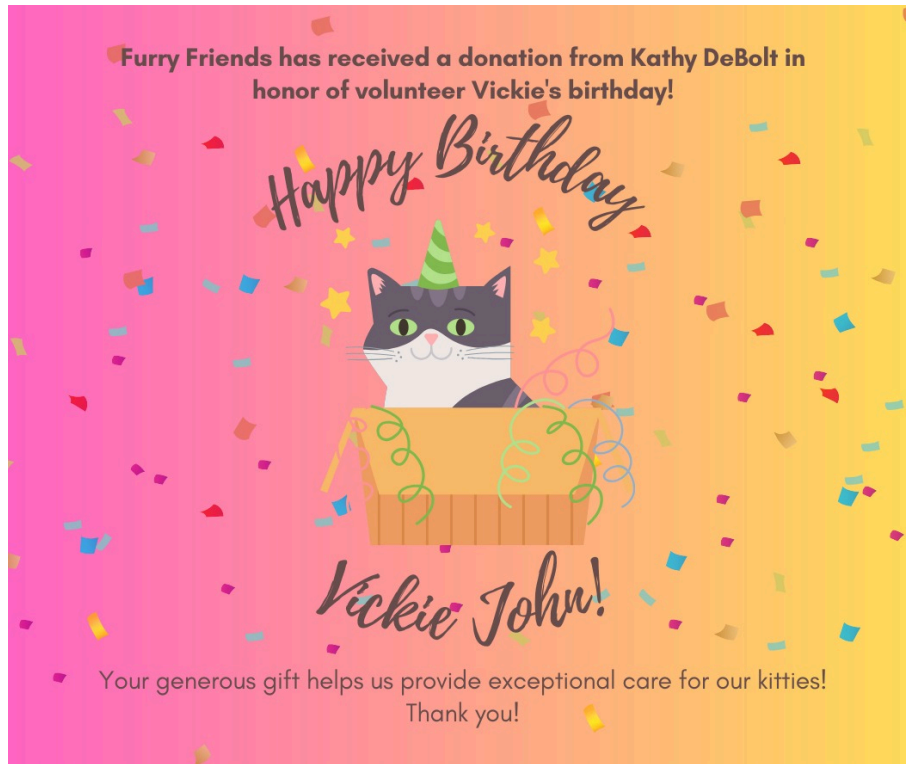


**Furry Friends**  
Helping homeless and abused cats

We can't thank you enough for  
your generosity on  
#GivingTuesday!  
It takes an army of people to  
take care of our kitties!  
Thank you  
for making a difference

[www.furryfriendswa.org/donate/](http://www.furryfriendswa.org/donate/)

**Thank you to all that contributed to Giving Tuesday. We raised \$7,137 for the kitties.**



### **Memorial and In Honor of Donations**

We received a donation from Kathy DeBolt in honor of volunteer Vickie John's Birthday.

We received a memorial donation this week from the Davis Family, in memory of Phillip, Lucy, and Joe.

Furry Friends receives memorial donations for cats, pets and people that have passed away. We have also received donations in honor of pets and human loved ones that are still with us. We are honored that our kitties can be the recipients of these gifts of love. If you would like to donate, you can do it securely on our website at <https://furryfriendswa.org/donate/> or [Paypal.me/furryfriendswa](https://www.paypal.me/furryfriendswa) or a check may be sent to our mailing address at 6715 Ne 63rd St., Suite 450, Vancouver, WA 98661.





# SPONSORS WANTED

Learn more about sponsorship  
opportunities at  
[furryfriendswa.org/sponsors/](https://furryfriendswa.org/sponsors/)

### 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 at [news@furryfriendswa.org](mailto:news@furryfriendswa.org).



## Remember Furry Friends

*if you receive a present  
that you don't want  
during this holiday season*

Remember Furry Friends if you receive an item during this holiday season that you do not want or need. We have a couple of online auctions coming up in 2024 and are always looking for new items. 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.org](mailto:information@furryfriendswa.org) 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



**Thank you all for supporting the kitties**

#### **Furry Friends Resources**

- **Amazon Wish List** [https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/WE783999BG1W?ref=wl\\_share](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](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](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](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/UCkfBIX6IOMIEseSxK9f27dw/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](mailto:information@furryfriendswa.org) to arrange another location for drop off



Furry Friends Helping homeless and abused cats	
<b>Premiere Sponsor</b>  <b>IRON GATE STORAGE</b> <b>Glen Aronson</b> Has been a proud mentor and supporter to Furry Friends for over 14 years. Iron Gate Storage has nine locations to serve you in the greater Vancouver and Portland areas. <a href="http://www.irongatestorage.com">www.irongatestorage.com</a>	<b>Premiere Sponsor</b>  <b>AlwaysOn IT</b> "World Class IT" We are a fully-fledged managed service provider, providing top-notch, tailored IT services for small to mid-sized businesses across several industries. <b>Chris Benson</b> <a href="http://www.AlwaysOnIt.com">www.AlwaysOnIt.com</a> and <a href="mailto:benny@alwaysonit.com">benny@alwaysonit.com</a> Office 503.601.4335 x104   Cell 503.522.6506   Direct 360.524.7224 2895 S Beaver Creek Road   Suite 204   Oregon City, OR   97045
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<b>Gold Sponsor</b>  <b>Jared the Cat Groomer</b> Schedule an appointment online <a href="http://JaredtheCatGroomer.com">JaredtheCatGroomer.com</a> Email: <a href="mailto:JaredtheCatGroomer@gmail.com">JaredtheCatGroomer@gmail.com</a> (360) 581-7997	<b>Silver Sponsors</b> <div>   <b>Bee Sam Beauty Salon</b>            2014 St Johns Blvd.            Vancouver, WA 98661            (503) 488-0095  <a href="http://beesambeauty.com">beesambeauty.com</a>  <a href="mailto:beesambeauty@gmail.com">beesambeauty@gmail.com</a> </div> <div>   <b>Jason P. Smith CPA, PS</b>            Accounting            Jason P. Smith, CPA, PS            10000 NE 7th Avenue            Suite 400            Vancouver, WA 98685            360-567-1041  <a href="mailto:jason@mycpajason.com">jason@mycpajason.com</a> </div>

Visit our website to find out more about sponsorships [www.furryfriendswa.org/sponsors/](http://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](mailto:news@furryfriendswa.org) into your contact list and that should solve the problem. This newsletter is compiled by Diane Stevens. For all other questions please contact us at [information@furryfriendswa.org](mailto:information@furryfriendswa.org).

**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  
**Jim Grafmyre**, Facility Maintenance and Information, Technology and Security

### **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