

THE NEWS

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

JUNE 2023

**Furry
Friends**



Helping homeless and abused cats

www.furryfriendswa.org

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much to everyone for their help and participation in our Give Big fundraiser. It was a great success, because of your efforts. See more about it in the post below. We currently have 55 adult cats and 101 kittens in our care. Many of these were taken in from hoarding situations.



Lemur



Todd



Nibbs



Cheetah

Adoptions

We have adopted out a record number of cats and kittens for 2023. From January 1 to May 15, we placed 214 cats and kittens.



Spotlight on Heather Steinman

Heather Steinmann has a rich history with Furry Friends.

She and her husband Jon joined the cat rescue organization about nine years ago after they adopted a kitten and its Mamma from the non-profit. When the couple learned that Furry Friends had a shelter, Heather said, “Oh there’s somewhere I can volunteer, and I started.” “I love Furry Friends,” she said. “I love the organization.”

Heather now volunteers as a shift lead for three or four hours on alternate Saturday evenings. During her years as a volunteer, she has performed a variety of tasks, including pet transportation and substituting. For about two years, she did voice mail—responding to voice mail.

“I feel good when the cats are adopted,” she said. “It makes me happy when they’re going into a loving home.”

She also enjoys learning about each cat’s personality. “It’s a little challenging to see what makes each cat tick.”

Heather and Jon share their Hockinson home with a large array of animals: Three cats, a dog, eight chickens, a cockatoo, and a dove. In addition, Jon owns a horse that he enjoys riding.

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



Kitten Food Needed

HELP! The kittens are eating us out of house and home. We are caring for 101 kittens now and their food bill is high. The babies also need other supplies. Check out our list at https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1QL2K1QMR2TQ?ref=wl_share

Here is a report from one foster parent who was caring for 28 kittens. How many cans does it take to feed 28 kittens and cats a day?

- Morning feeding- 17 cans (4 cans for our cats + 13 for babies)
- Lunch for growing babies- 6 to 9 cans
- Dinner for growing babies- 6 to 9 cans
- Roughly 30 - 35 cans a day! Plus dry food for free feeding.

We feed the kittens Purina Pro Plan Kitten Chicken & Rice Formula dry food and Purina Pro Plan Focus Kitten Ocean Whitefish & Tuna Entrée canned cat food. If you would like to help the babies, we sure would love some donations of this brand of kitten food. You can drop off donations at Woodin You Pampered Paws, 13305 NE Hwy 99 #102, Vancouver, WA 98686. Most items can be purchased locally at PetSmart & Petco, or you can order online from Chewy.com or Amazon.com and have it shipped direct to our mailing address, 6715 NE 63rd St., Suite 450, Vancouver, WA 98661.

We also appreciate cash donations. Send them to <https://furryfriendswa.org/donate/> For questions or more information contact us at information@furryfriendsWA.org



Thank you to Chandelier Bakery for hosting the art sale for Furry Friends the other day. Our volunteer Bob Sunshine brought much of his art to sell for Furry Friends and \$335 was brought in for the kitties.



Brandi Towner has assumed the lead sponsorship role, replacing Diane Stevens. She is now the primary point of contact for both current and prospective sponsors.

Sponsorship offers individuals an advertising opportunity to demonstrate their support for Furry Friends. The primary focus of their support is our in-person fall auction, where sponsors receive recognition in pre-auction and during-auction publicity. Additionally, sponsors enjoy ongoing recognition throughout the year.

Furry Friends relies on donations, sponsorships, and grants to cover annual expenses amounting to \$350,000. As the largest "cat only" shelter in southwest Washington, we greatly appreciate the support. For more information on sponsorships, please visit our website at <https://furryfriendswa.org/sponsors/>.

If you have any questions, please contact us at information@furryfriendsWA.org or leave a message at (360) 993-1097.



You all showed up for GiveBig! and made it another successful fundraiser for Furry Friends! While we continue to calculate some match donations and mailed-in checks, we did hit our goal of 20K! A huge "thank you" to all our match donors: Front Door Realty, Tanika Campbell, Jaimie Garver, Ed Chapman, and an anonymous donor! We cannot continue to do the work we do without your unwavering support and dedication to our organization and all the past, current, and future kitties in our care. The donations came just in time, since we recently rescued over 40 cats and kittens from a hoarding situation. Cats rescued from hoarders are always expensive because of the neglect that they have faced. Thank you for helping us give these kitties a better life.



Furry Friends Adoption Event June 3rd

Save the date for our first adoption event since 2019! Furry Friends will be at All Natural Pet Supply, 3425 SE 192nd Ave., Suite 108, Vancouver 98683.

We will have kittens and cats that are available for adoption from 10am-4pm!

Questions? Contact us at information@furryfriendsWA.org
or leave a message at (360) 993-1097



What: Furry Friends will have a booth at **Big Paddle**

When: **June 3**, 2023 from 9:00am to 2:00pm

Where: Davis Park, Ridgefield WA

Come spend a day out on the river during Ridgefield's Big Paddle Event on June 3! Water not your thing? No problem! Ridgefield's Historic Downtown will be full of the sound of live music to enjoy,

great food trucks to choose from and all the regular First Saturday/Farmers Market vendors (aka... us!). We'll have handmade items for purchase and will collect donations. We will hand out informational pamphlets all day! Big Paddle also has TWO guided Refuge Hikes that you can join, fun outdoor lawn games to play and a beer garden! Want more information on this fun-filled event? Head to:

<https://ridgefieldwa.us/big-paddle/>

For more info about Furry Friends involvement, to volunteer at our booth or to donate items for us to sell, please contact information@furryfriendsWA.org



One of the reasons we've been on hold for owner relinquishments is because we decided to roll up our sleeves and do some hard work... taking care of a hoarding situation that we were alerted to. Over the last several months, we took in over 23 cats and kittens to nurse back to health and get them ALL spayed/neutered. The process is slow and requires a maximum amount of patience while we convince the owner to let us help them with their situation. People often ask, "how does someone become a hoarder?" The truth is that there is no one answer. More often than not, the person who becomes a hoarder started out with a wish to "rescue" a stray cat or two... two becomes four... and if none of them is fixed, that number quickly multiplies. Before the owners know it, they are in over their heads with cats they wanted to help initially but now no longer have the means to care for.

All in all, helping this 23-cat hoarding situation cost Furry Friends around \$7,000. 🐾 But someone must help these people... help these cats... and help control our local cat population. As this effort comes to an end, we are already taking in over 40 cats from another hoarding situation. As you can imagine, we will spend upwards of \$20,000.

If you want to help us with our next hoarding situation, consider a donation--every penny donated goes towards saving more cats and kittens! The hoarded kitties thank you in advance!!!

<https://furryfriendswa.org/donate/>



Responsible Rescuing Versus Rescuing Them to Death

By Jenn Hutchman

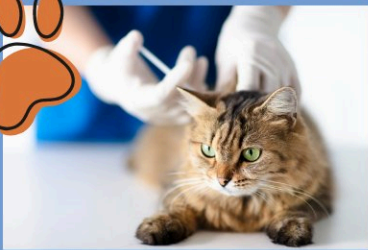
I know it seems really contradictory to say not all rescuing is responsible rescuing. To rescue means “to save,” so how can anyone ‘saving’ an animal not be doing what is right?

Responsible rescuing means you have the resources to be able to provide at least the basic life sustaining and medical care for each animal you save. You must have the means physically, mentally, and financially to provide for the animals you are taking in. You need clean water, fresh wet & dry food, parasite prevention and control, necessary vet visits, enrichment, spaying/neutering/vaccinating, and clean and adequate living environments.

The caretaker must have the proper mental head space to be able to give of yourself to those who cannot help themselves. Another aspect of responsible rescuing is not taking kittens away from their moms too early unless there is absolutely no other way for the kittens to survive. They have the best chance of survival with their mothers. Responsible rescuing means living up to what you are promising these defenseless animals from day 1 all the way through finding them a loving home.

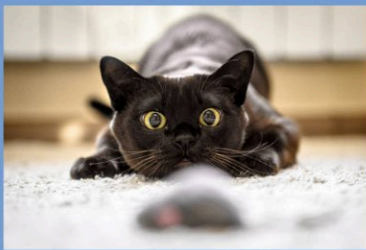
READ MORE HERE

<https://furryfriendswa.org/responsible-rescuing-versus-rescuing-them-to-death/>



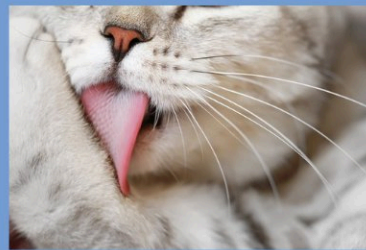
\$20

Rabies shot for one cat



\$100

Cool Cat Starter Pack



\$130

Cutie Cat Starter Pack



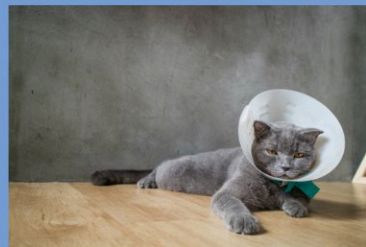
\$250

Standard dental for one cat



\$700

Spay or neuter for 5 cats



\$1,000

Extraordinary medical need



\$2,500

Emergency medical need



\$3,500

One month food supply



\$5,000

Year supply of microchips



Every dollar you donate to us goes directly to our cats and kittens! We care for over 500 cats every year, so EVERY PENNY COUNTS! No amount is too small or too big. The kitties thank you in advance. 🐱🐾

<https://furryfriendswa.org/donate/>

Here is a quick snap shot of how many cats and kittens we currently have in our care.

6 months & older: 55

Under 6 months: 101

Pregnant due soon: 2

Perm fosters: 9

Total of 167 cats and kittens

Every dollar matters and is spent wisely and with thought. We are transparent where our money goes and it all directly saves the lives of cats.



This is Muffin. After being dumped at a feral cat colony by her previous owners, Muffin was trapped and sent to Furry Friends for saving. Her story starts out normally: she gets to the shelter, has her first medical appointment, gets scheduled for a spay and was supposed to be ready for adoption shortly after that! Unfortunately, Muffin started vomiting blood at the shelter soon after she was fixed. Fosters Tanika and Mike took her home for a week while she received meds for what the vet thought was an ulcer.

After that one-week watch period, she was eating and drinking normally, so we proceeded to find her a forever home and she was adopted! But her story doesn't end there... a few weeks after her adoption she started urinating blood and vomiting again! The new adoptive family took her to the vet immediately and that's when they concluded that Muffin was going through kidney failure. ❤️ With this new revelation, and the costs associated with it, the family wasn't able to continue to care for her, and she was returned to Furry Friends.

Even though Muffin is only a year old, she has one kidney no longer functioning and the other is slowly shutting down. For the first few weeks back with fosters Tanika and Mike she barely ate anything, but after about 6 weeks with them she is doing much better! She is eating/drinking great and spends a majority of her time lounging on the couch.

Muffin will remain with Furry Friends until her final days... getting all the love, snuggles and pets by our amazing Fosters... but she won't live a very long life. All we can do is make sure she's comfortable and happy while she's here with us.

To date, we have spent over \$4,000 to help diagnose, save and provide as much comfort to Muffin as possible. Any donation you make to Furry Friends goes directly to the cats and kittens in our care that are just like Muffin. Every penny counts in cat rescue. Thank you in advance for your continued support of our mission. 🐾💙



What is FIP?

Feline Infectious Peritonitis (FIP) is an aberrant reaction to an infection with the Feline Coronavirus.

Feline Coronavirus is quite common; most cats that become infected develop a mild gastrointestinal illness and recover uneventfully.

Unfortunately, the cats that develop FIP do so likely because their particular intestinal virus mutates in a way that allows it to penetrate other bodily tissues. Additionally, their body's response to the viral infection is inappropriate. Since there are currently no tests able to distinguish between the normal (more mild) intestinal form of Feline Coronavirus, and the mutated (more intense) one, it can be very difficult to confirm the diagnosis of FIP.



We want to introduce you to Seymora.

This sweet girl was diagnosed with Feline Infectious Peritonitis (FIP) earlier this year.

FIP is a devastating disease that is unique to cats, sometimes referred to as a 'syndrome' because there are aspects of this disease that are not fully understood.

The disease results from a viral infection called Feline Coronavirus, causing wide-spread and severe inflammation in the body. The resulting inflammation can cause organ failure, fevers that are unresponsive to antibiotics, and in many cases, an accumulation of thick yellow fluid in the chest or abdomen.

FIP can occur at any age but is most common in cats less than one year old because their immune system is not fully developed. The disease was once a death sentence, and many people still believe it is, but it doesn't have to be! Recent studies have shown that there are treatments proven to work in many FIP cases. Unfortunately, the

fact of the matter is the creator of the drug won't release it to be used for FIP treatment yet, so you cannot get it prescribed from a vet. In response, communities have banded together to share this drug with owners who have cats with FIP so that their fur-babies stand a fighting chance!

Seymora needed a blood transfusion to survive. She has slowly gotten better over the last 3 months during her daily treatments. Her bloodwork is on track to being normal, she uses the litterbox successfully now, she's eating and gaining weight. She was only 2.99 pounds at the time of diagnosis and is now over 6 pounds!

To Furry Friends, Seymora is a medical miracle. And will continue to do what needs to be done in order to help treat this new scary disease.



Save the Date for the “HISS” Auction September 16, 2023



This in person auction
will be held at
**The Heathman Lodge,
7801 NE Greenwood Drive,
Vancouver, WA. 98662.**
**Questions? (360) 993-1097
auction@furryfriendswa.org**

Presented By:
Premiere Sponsors
Dr Virginia Huang and Iron Gate Storage
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Gold Sponsors: Front Door Realty and
Feline Behavior Solutions
Silver Sponsors: Bee Sam Beauty and
Jason Smith, CPA

Furry Friends is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, no-kill,
volunteer run, cat adoption organization that helps
homeless, relinquished and abused cats.
Visit www.furryfriendswa.org
information@furryfriendswa.org



FALL Auction - Save the Date

Furry Friends is gearing up for the 2023 fall auction which will be a rock and roll theme titled ‘HISS’. We will have an in-person auction at the Heathman Lodge in Vancouver on Saturday, September 16, 2023.

We need your help in either providing auction items or soliciting business for items. We are especially looking for large ticket 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 need to receive items by August 1, 2023. Things do not have to be cat themed; our guests have many interests in addition to cats.

If you would like to be a sponsor for 2023, sponsorships start as low as \$750 for the calendar year. If you are interested in finding out more about becoming a sponsor, visit our website <https://furryfriendswa.org/sponsors/> for more information.

Procurement Questions: Lisa Baxter auction@furryfriendswa.org

Auction Questions: Chris Nash ffauction@icloud.com

Sponsorship Information: Diane Stevens news@furryfriendswa.org

Fall Auction Amazon Wish List https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/DI6I4R46KQ49?ref=wl_share



Costume Contest: Be thinking about a costume for the 'HISS' auction. We will have a fabulous prize for the person that wins the costume contest at the 'HISS' Dinner & Auction. The auction has a rock and roll theme and though costumes are not required, they sure add to the fun for the evening. So be looking for your best rock band attire. We can't wait to see what you come up with.

Upcoming Events

Save the date for the following events. We will share more information as the dates get closer.

Furry Friends will have info tables and merchandise at these events. If you have any handmade items that we can sell at these event, please contact us at information@furryfriendswa.org

Big Paddle	June 3	Ridgefield
Adoption Event	June 3	All Natural Pet Supply, 192 Ave, Vancouver
Recycled Arts Fair in June has been canceled		
Juneteenth	June 19	Esther Short Park
Dt Market/Street Fair	July 1	Ridgefield
City Days	Aug. 5	Ridgefield
Multi Cultural Fest	Sept. 2	Ridgefield
Peace & Justice	Sept. 9	Esther Short Park
HISS Fall Auction	Sept. 16	Heathman Lodge
FM for your pets		Fred Meyer Battle Ground
Birdfest	Oct. 7	Ridgefield

*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!*

Furry Friends Resources

- **Amazon Wish List** https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/WE783999BG1W?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 Helping homeless and abused cats 			
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>		
Platinum Sponsors		Platinum 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>Joe & Michelle Kennedy 600 NE 99th Street, Vancouver, WA 98665 info@crystalip.com 503-530-1316 https://crystalip.com/</p>	 <p>Julie Baldino 501 E McLoughlin Blvd, Vancouver, WA 98663 (360) 450-4486 Info@FrontDoorNW.com www.frontdoornw.com</p>	 <p>FRONT DOOR Realty Certified Woman Owned Small Business (WOSB & WOSBE)</p>
Gold Sponsors		Silver Sponsors	
 <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>	 <p>Bee Sam Beauty Salon 2014 St Johns Blvd, Vancouver, WA 98661 (503) 488-0095 beesambeauty.com beesambeauty@gmail.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>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.

Jaimie Garver, President, Operations, Financials
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, 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, General Manager/Adoptions Coordinator
Chris Nash, Auction Lead
Gail Bauhs, Cat Socializer Lead
Kelli Thompson, Volunteer Coordinator

