

THE NEWS

Online News for all the Friends of Furry Friends March 2023



Helping homeless and abused cats

www.furryfriendswa.org

Dear Friends,

March is kitten season! This fertile season was once only a few months out of the year, but it has expanded to almost all year long with the most births happening between now and September. We have highlighted several ways you can help in our posts below.



Itty Bitty



Maggie



Precious



Murphy

Adoptions

We are off to a brisk start for 2023. From January 1 to February 20 we have already adopted 106 cats and kittens. Wow! That is a record in such a short amount of time. Keep in mind that more adoptions mean more work for all of our volunteers. They have done a great job of health care, maintenance, sharing love with them and working on socializing them so the kitties can be adopted into good homes.



Volunteer Spotlight: Donne Lankford

Grief over the death of her two elderly kitties brought Donne Lankford to Furry Friends.

When Jack and Rayne, both 14, passed away, Donne was “not in a position to get a new cat”; so she researched volunteer opportunities with cats in Vancouver and found Furry Friends. She has been a member for a year and is a shift lead on Wednesday nights.

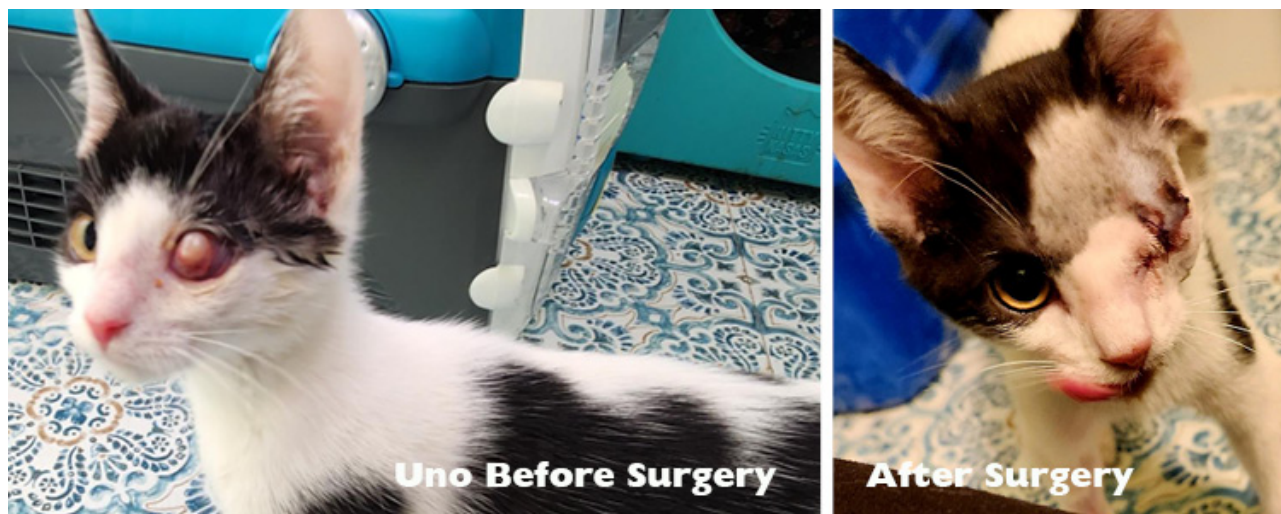
“I wash LOTS of dishes, clean rooms and cages, scoop litter boxes, change bedding, give fresh water and food according to the cat’s feeding schedule, play with kittens and have full-on conversations with my feline friends,” she said.

Donne is a busy worker, indeed. In addition to Wednesday evenings, she volunteers from time to time as a substitute on other shifts. She praises her Wednesday crew.

“My current crew has been together for a good six months now,” she said, “and I look forward to seeing and visiting with each one every Wednesday. We have a great team that works well together and each one is always willing to help and handle some not-so-pleasant tasks.”

READ MORE HERE

<https://furryfriendswa.org/volunteer-spotlight-donne-lankford/>



UNO is one lucky kitten

We know it is a little difficult to see these pictures. Just know that Uno is on his way to a much better, pain free life. He is already feeling better. Uno's surgery is one example of the situations that Furry Friends takes care of all the time.

Little Uno came to us after being caught on someone's property with a very obvious eye infection or trauma to the eye. Another rescue organization could not take on his medical care so he was referred to Furry Friends. We quickly took him in. On the day he was brought to us, East Padden Animal Hospital could see him and amazingly enough could do his surgery that evening. Thank you to our friends at EPAH! While we are not sure what caused the trauma, it was deemed a ruptured globe (eyeball) and the eyeball had to come out to prevent further infection.

This 10-week-old, friendly little boy had his bad eye removed, and he was neutered, vaccinated, and microchipped all in the same day that he was saved! He will recover with our Executive Director for a few days and then off to finish his journey with our super fosters, Mike & Tanika Campbell. He is already feeling better since his surgery. Uno's bill was \$1,624, if you would like to donate please go to furryfriendswa.org/donate, PayPal to information@furryfriendswa.org, or mail a check to 6715 ne 63rd street suite 450, Vancouver, WA 98661. Just put "Uno" in the notes! To follow Uno's journey, find us on Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/furryfriendswa>

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.



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. You can visit the auction site now, just keep in mind that we will add items until the auction begins on March 30, and you will not be able to bid on the items until then. Auction site <https://auctria.events/furryfriendsspringauction>

We are looking for more new items. 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 the spring 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 400 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 \$50,000 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.



Memorial and In Honor Of Donations

An EXTRA special thank you to **Lyn and Brandon Eggleston** for their very generous donation in memory of their cat Charlie whom they adopted from Furry Friends several years ago.

Charlie had to wear a diaper in his senior years so he got a cute little suspenders outfit!

Your incredibly generous gift will have an incredible impact on our ability to provide exceptional care to all of the cats and kittens in our care. Thank you!

We also thank **Michael Almer** for his memorial donation for Rosalie Sedivy

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, and send a picture to information@furryfriendswa.org if you'd like one to be featured.



Become a Foster for Furry Friends

Love cats and kittens but not ready for your own? Maybe your lifestyle doesn't allow time for you to adopt. Fostering may be a great alternative! Fostering is a fine way to help our cats and kittens on your own time, in the comfort of your own home for a few weeks or months.

You can help make a life-saving difference by becoming a volunteer foster parent today. Furry Friends will provide food, litter, cat supplies and all medical care. Fosters are required to bring their foster cat to all medical appointments. Please visit our fostering page to fill out an application or to see a document about what is expected. <https://furryfriendswa.org/fostering/> or reach out to us at (360) 993-1097 or information@furryfriendswa.org.

Platinum Sponsor

Thank You



Joseph and Michelle Kennedy of Crystal Investment Property have been sponsors for Furry Friends for three years now. They say this about their business, "Our goal remains to serve our diverse client base as the premiere hospitality investment brokerage company in the Pacific Northwest. We maintain the most cutting edge technological, online and social media presence as well as a full range of traditional and web based marketing, CIP provides superior service to local, regional, national and international clientele.



Crystal Investment Property
600 NE 99th Street,
Vancouver, WA 98665
info@crystalip.com
503-530-1316
<https://crystalip.com/>



Thank You from **FurryFriends**



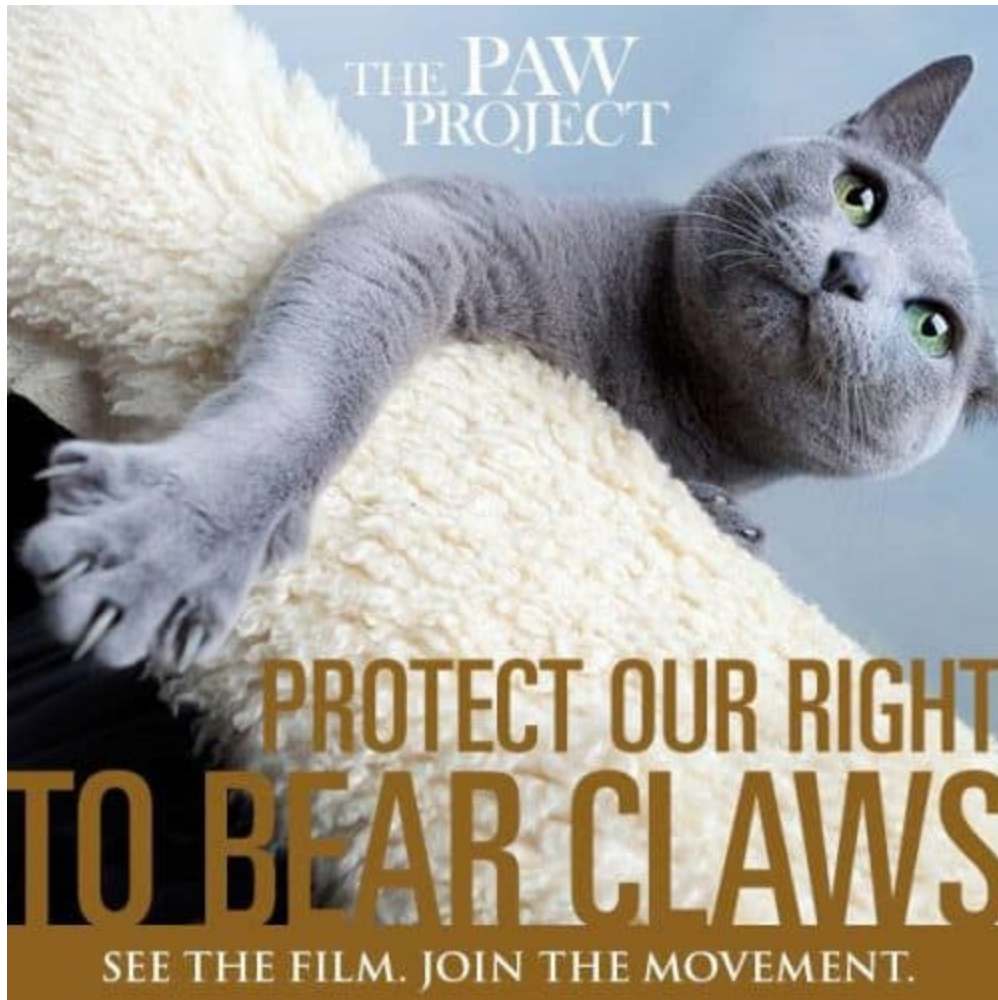
We would like to thank Crystal Investment Property for renewing their sponsorship

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www.crystalip.com

Or contact them at info@crystalip.com or 503-530-1316

If you are interested in finding out more about becoming a sponsor, visit our website <https://furryfriendswa.org/sponsors/> for more information.



Declaw Awareness Day- March 29

National Declaw Awareness Day is March 29. Many people think that declawing is a simple, “quick fix” surgery that removes a cat’s nails—the equivalent of having your fingernails trimmed. Sadly, this is far from the truth. To declaw a cat, the veterinarian cuts off the last knuckles of a cat’s toes – cutting through bone, tendons, skin and nerves. If performed on a human being, it would be like cutting off each finger at the last knuckle.

It is an unnecessary surgery that provides no medical benefit to the cat. Educated pet parents can easily train their cats to use their claws in a manner that allows everyone in the household to live together happily. Pet caregivers should not consider declawing a routine prevention for unwanted scratching. Declawing can actually lead to an entirely different set of behavior problems that may be worse than shredding the couch, such as:

- Litter box avoidance and urinating outside the litterbox
- Increased aggression and biting
- Chronic limping
- Pulling out their own hair

Cats normally walk with their toes bearing the weight of their bodies; each step is cushioned by the pad under the toe. Declawed cats experience extreme pain supporting their body weight when standing or walking, if the tendon attached to the retained segment of the third phalanx pulls that bit of bone under the foot. The displaced bone fragment produces a painful "pebble-in-the-shoe" sensation when they stand or try to walk.

For more information, check out the Paw Project

The Paw Project's mission is to educate the public about the painful and crippling effects of feline declawing, to promote animal welfare through the abolition of the practice of declaw surgery, and to rehabilitate cats that have been declawed.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WVVEtZvfhCY>



Catios

When you adopt a cat/kitten from Furry Friends, we require that they be indoor only. There are several things you can do to enrich their indoor life. One is to provide them with a catio, which is an enclosure that makes it safe for them to enjoy the outside. These can be as small as a window box or as large as an enclosed patio.

One of our adopters built a small catio that works well.

The adoption of Sofi and Sable from Furry Friends prompted Nanis Gilmore and Philip Parshley to build their own, scaled down version of a kitty "catio."

They were inspired to build a catio after they saw the satisfaction the pair of cats derived from sitting on the windowsill or backslider window gazing out at the garden and the myriad visiting birds. As a remote volunteer at Portland Audubon, Nanis is extremely concerned about the loss of birds due to cat predation, and recalling the window boxes at our shelter house, decided that a “deluxe” window box best suited their own kitties.

READ MORE HERE

<https://furryfriendswa.org/a-cheap-and-cheerful-catio/>



Spay-Neuter

Pet overpopulation is a global problem that requires a solution on a global scale. Like every journey that begins with a single step, this journey must begin with every dog and cat owner. Those who do their part act responsibly by spaying and neutering their family pets.

Spaying (ovariohysterectomy) is the surgical removal of a female dog or cat's ovaries and uterus, while neutering (castration) is the removal of a male dog or cat's testicles. To minimize discomfort and pain, both procedures are performed under general anesthesia. Most animals are back to their "normal" selves within a few days, the surgery site usually heals within two weeks, and any skin stitches are removed by one's vet at a follow-up appointment.

According to SPAY USA, an unspayed female dog, her unneutered mate and their offspring (if none are spayed or neutered) result in the births of a staggering 12,288 puppies in just 5 years. An unspayed female and unneutered male cat and their offspring (if none are spayed or neutered) can result in the births of a mind boggling 781,250 kittens in 7 years.

READ MORE HERE

<https://blogs.columbian.com/cat-tales/2023/02/05/february-is-spay-neuter-month-do-your-part/?fbclid=IwAR0I89AmeayAsoWy-dWvT9TUZDPdapblgeUi-xxeBuy9x1bDHi0luYR4gsM>



Helping homeless and abused cats



Cat Resource List

Resources for Cats

The Furry Friends website has lots of good information about cat care. Learning where to start to locate basic help for your pet can be overwhelming, and consequently, we've put together this list that will help you find the right pet resources for your friend.

<https://furryfriendswa.org/pet-resources/>



Furry Friends Executive Committee



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 composed 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 plan for the future and create the vision of what it will become.

The current Board of Directors includes:

Jaimie Garver, President, Operations, Financials

Linda Rader, Adoption/Foster Coordinator

Cynthia Johnson, Treasurer

Diane Stevens, Public Relations and Marketing, newsletters, creative director

Marci Koski, Feline behaviorist

Danielle Chancey, Secretary, Fundraising and Events

Brandi Towner, Vice President & Adoption/intake team

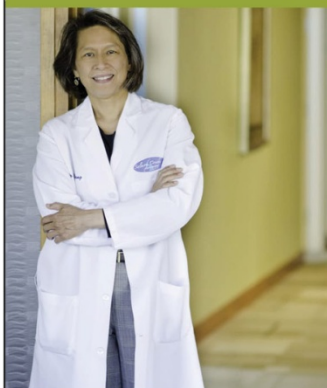


Are you signed up to receive our newsletter?
Sign up to receive email updates on news, upcoming events, and more!
Send an email to news@furryfriendswa.org to be added to the list!



- **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



Dr Virginia Huang
Has been a proud
mentor and supporter
to Furry Friends
for over
14 years.

Thanks




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beesambeauty.com
<https://beesambeauty.com/>



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Visit our website to find out more about sponsorships 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 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

Gail Bauhs, Cat Socializer Lead

Kelli Thompson, Volunteer Coordinator



FurryFriendsWa.org