

# THE NEWS

## Online News for all the Friends of Furry Friends May 2021

Furry Friends



*Helping homeless and abused cats*

Dear Friends,

Furry Friends has seen a lot of activity recently. We continue to adopt out cats as soon as they are ready, and we have lots of kittens being born. A few litters of bottle babies are in our care, too. We had a successful Spring auction and now we are preparing for the Garage sale.



Binxy



Cheese



Dave



Sunshine

### Adoptions

We have adopted out 101 cats and kittens during the first quarter of the year. President Jaimie thinks that we may reach 500 adoptions for 2021. Last year we adopted out almost 400, and in previous years we never went over 200 adoptions.

We have adopted out 25 cats and kittens from March 19 to April 16. Congratulations to Amaya, Binxy, Cheese, Chip, Dandelion, Dave, Dude, Fawn, Gary, Glitter, Gracie, Greg, Gus, Kitten, Lulu, Monnie, Rue, Sable, Sage, Shadow, Snowball, Sunshine, Violet, Yu and Zelda



### **Monnie and Dude**

We have exciting news about Monnie and Dude!! They have been adopted together. You will remember that Monnie came to us with serious health issues. He wound up having most of his teeth pulled. We helped him get better physically, but Dude helped him emotionally and the two became close buddies. We really wanted them to be adopted together. Animals are amazing creatures that help each other, no questions asked. Thanks, Dude, for being a good friend to Monnie. Now you both get to live in your own home together!! YAY!!!!



### **Hercules & Starsky Hit the Jackpot**

*By Vickie John*

Hercules (now Henry) and Starsky (now Eddie) hit the “Jackpot of Homes” when they were adopted by Chris & Diane in September 2020. When released from their carriers, the first thing Henry and Eddie did was run about the house. They ran around all night as if to say, “We’re free! We’re safe! We’re home!” Life as strays had taken its toll on these two seniors, each FIV+ and with chronic conditions, but Chris & Diane didn’t hesitate to offer them a loving home. They had sought out FIV+ kitties to adopt, because they knew the FIV stigma would reduce their chances of getting adopted. Seniors and those with chronic conditions have a more difficult time, as well, but to Chris & Diane, it merely made them more loveable.

READ MORE HERE: <https://furryfriendswa.org/hercules-starsky-hit-the-jackpot/>



*By Jenn Hutchman*

Chris Nash has been volunteering in some capacity with Furry friends for the last 10 years! She and her wife, Jean, started out as kitten fosters after being introduced to Furry friends by their neighbor, Kathy Peirce (another FF foster). After three foster fails (adopting their fosters) they realized fostering wasn't their calling. During that time Chris worked as a project manager in the picture framing industry. In 2018 she left her job of 34 years and started her own business as an art installer, hanging artwork in commercial and residential spaces. Her career led to her volunteering to head-up the large yearly auction with Diane Stevens and to pick up a "shift" on Mondays at the Halfway House.

When asked to tell us what she does on her shifts she said, "As well as a shift of deep cleaning on Mondays, I also try to take care of an item or two, when time allows, at the Halfway House. For instance, replacing the wire screens on the doors, adding door latches, springs or door pulls/handles, painting the shelves to the catio windows, installing hand sanitizer dispensers, etc. I'm handy and like to share whatever skills I have to lend."

READ MORE HERE: <https://furryfriendswa.org/volunteer-spotlight-chris-nash/>



Lisa Baxter has handled the procurement for our annual fall auction for at least nine years now. It is a year round job. She often puts in close to 400 hours a year handling this big important job for Furry Friends. Here is a little about Lisa in her own words.

"How I got involved: My son needed a senior project for high school. One of the staff members in the school office, mentioned Furry Friends. That began in May of 2010 and he still volunteers today, when he has time available. That was my introduction to Furry Friends. I was intrigued by the dedication and caring of the volunteers and wanted to help. This is my ninth year on the Dinner Auction Committee.

Why I give back: I began volunteering in High School, as a candy striper. If you look around, there is a lack of resources everywhere you turn. The only way to fill those resources is through volunteers. I want to be a part of an organization that makes a difference. Furry Friends is that organization. Furry Friends is an organization that is truly dedicated to the cats and kittens they take in. They have a proven track record of longevity in this community that fills a need for animals and people alike.

READ MORE HERE: <https://furryfriendswa.org/furry-friends-spotlight-on-lisa-baxter/>



As the year anniversary approached for the passing of Lisa Sandstrom, a long time Furry Friends volunteer, her friends & family asked themselves how they could help and honor her memory. They did not stop short of succeeding.

Melinda Lee, Missy Beard, Jill Watson, Sara Johnson, Kat Bocci, Eren Starr, and Carol Gist all got together and assembled adoption day kits for Furry Friends in Lisa's memory, something Lisa would have loved. These kits include: cat carriers, cat food, cat toys, litter scoops & more. These kits will go home with some of our cats on adoption day because Lisa always made sure the cats had everything they needed and her memory still does.

These kits will be given to fosters and adopters. The ladies inserted a note in each which reads, "This package has been donated and assembled by a group of women in loving memory of our dear friend, Lisa Sandstrom. She was a devoted volunteer at Furry Friends and an even better mom, wife and confidant. We thank you for your support of Furry Friends, and for opening your home to a new feline friend."



### **Kensie Joins the Executive Committee**

Kensie Broom Peterson has been with Furry Friends for a month now and is our new Medical Director. She has been doing an amazing job and you can see that with the health and happiness of our cats! She is at the shelter 6 days a week and available by phone for any volunteer and foster questions. Having Kensie as a part of our team is going to bring so many Vet expenses in house and allow us to use the savings to help even more cats. Kensie also has many connections in the Vet community which will enable us to form even more partnerships. On top of her medical duties, she has also joined our Board of Directors to bridge the gap between the Board and the medical team ensuring everyone is on the same page and up to date with the care of our cats.



## **A Cat's Perspective on coming into Furry Friends**

*By Jenn Hutchman*

Hello, my name is George.

It's... George.

No it's not Cheeseball... it's George!

Not sure why humans pick such weird names...

I am a little nervous going to this new place and meeting all these new people. Riding in a carrier has never been one of my favorite things. Am I at the vet's office? Ok, this doesn't look like the vet's office. I see rooms with fun things to climb on and I can smell there are other cats here. I wonder if I will make some new friends. I've been living outside for so long it would be nice to have some company.

A nice lady is taking me out of the carrier, and I don't know what she is looking for but she is looking EVERYWHERE! My ears, eyes, teeth, skin, and even my umm... well you get the picture. She wants me to take this medicine. It's a pill. I think I heard her mention something about worms. That's quite the assumption but I guess if it makes them feel better, I will take it. I did get three needle pokes which I didn't much like but they seemed happy about it. One was a blood test. They sure are careful with making sure I don't have any diseases here! Another was a microchip so I will never get lost again!! I let them listen to my strong heart and lungs and even showed them how loud I could purr. They really liked that and gave me some wet food because they liked my purring so much. They gave me some medicine to prevent fleas, which is good because being outside so much I couldn't help but catch fleas. It is quite nice not being so itchy. I'm eager to see what other things they have in store for me because so far all this love and attention is ok by me! I can see other cats in here and they look happy, so I think this place is ok. I think I can trust these people. I see a feather toy... I've got to go-- feathers are my favorite!

READ MORE HERE: <https://furryfriendswa.org/a-cats-perspective-when-coming-into-furry-friends/>

# GARAGE SALE

MAY 8th 9am-4pm



## Furry Friends Garage Sale May 8

Furry Friends is hosting a garage sale to raise funds for the cats and kittens in their care. The festivities will begin at 9 am on Saturday, May 8, and will end at 4 pm. The American Legion located at 4607 NE St James Road, Vancouver, WA 98663, has graciously donated their facility for the event. (This location is a couple blocks south of the Halfway House)

Questions: Jenny Grass, [jennygrassdesign@gmail.com](mailto:jennygrassdesign@gmail.com), (406) 855-3440

Some of the items at the sale will include:

- Collectables
- Small Appliances
- Clothing
- Furniture
- Bikes
- Home decor
- Pet supplies
- Electronics
- Toys
- Tools

Thank you to all the people working on this event: Jenny Grass, Angie Wood, Ellen Schroeder, Brandi Towner, Malinda Goldbeck, Chris Nash, Sara Lugo, SuAnne Anderson, PJ Coleman, Jaimie Garver, Jenn Hutchman and Diane Stevens. And thank you to Glen Aronson for donating the use of two Iron Gate storage units and to Julie Crockett for donating the use of the American Legion for our garage sale.



**Fall Meow Pawpins Auction**

This year’s auction will be online, **September 15 to 18**. For the next several months we will focus on securing big ticket items and smaller items/baskets worth at least \$40. It is never too early to start planning for this event. We would like your help in either providing auction items or soliciting businesses for items. For more information visit our website, <https://furryfriendswa.org/calendar/meow-pawpins/>

We have a wish list on AmazonSmile of items we hope to acquire for the Furry Friends Meow Pawpins online auction September 15 to 18. Please take a look and see if there is anything you would like to donate to the auction. All funds raised go to the care and housing of the cats.

[https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2U8IJMWPk1TJ4?ref\\_=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2U8IJMWPk1TJ4?ref_=wl_share)

**Procurement Questions: Lisa Baxter [auction@furryfriendswa.org](mailto:auction@furryfriendswa.org)**

**Auction Questions: Chris Nash [ffauction@icloud.com](mailto:ffauction@icloud.com)**

**Sponsorship Information: Diane Stevens [news@furryfriendswa.org](mailto:news@furryfriendswa.org)**

**\$8956**  
is the total raised  
from the ‘Not Kitten  
Around’ auction and  
Olives Fundraiser!

*Thank you  
to everyone that  
donated items, funds  
and bid on things.*

**FurryFriends**




\$8,956 is the total brought in from the auction and Olives fundraiser. Wow! Our second annual spring auction was a great success thanks to all our participants. You all weren't KITTEN AROUND this year! The amount we raised will allow us to spay/neuter approximately 132 more cats within the community. Spay/neuter helps protect cats against certain illnesses, prevents unwanted/un-cared for litters, and saves lives by reducing overpopulation. Thanks to you, we are doing our part to help Washington State become a no-kill state by 2025.



Thank you to everyone that participated in the Panera Bread fundraiser on April 15. The event brought in \$231.40 for the kitties. Thank you, Julie Goldbeck, for organizing this event.



**Memorial and In Honor Of Donations**

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 have not passed on. 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 a check may be sent to our mailing address at 6715 Ne 63rd St., Suite 450, Vancouver, WA 98661.

- Margo Roberts, In memory of Katherine Tucker \$75
- Robert & Judy Sandstrom In memory of Lisa \$1000
- Kristy Robinson In memory of Lisa & Sister \$150
- Teresa Pasko, \$200.00 donation In memory of Sophie
- Susan Beacock in honor of Gayle- \$100 donation
- Nancy Bott in honor of Diane \*Rock Star\* Stevens \$100 donation
- Peter Woodman & Susan Moore In memory of Willie Wise \$100 donation.

**Katherine Tucker**

Katherine Tucker was a volunteer with Furry Friends from our beginning in 1999. She recently passed away and her obituary just ran in the Columbian. You can check it out here.

<https://obits.columbian.com/obituaries/columbian/obituary.aspx?n=katherine-nancy-tucker-kathy&pid=198372634>



**HANDY PERSON HELP:** We have a long list of general fix-it jobs to do at the Halfway House. We would love to have a couple more people that could help with these tasks. We also would like to find someone to be the lead handy person. This person would have the master list of jobs that need to be done and would coordinate who is going to do what task. If you are interested in helping, contact Sandi Long at (360) 993-1097 or [information@furryfriendswa.org](mailto:information@furryfriendswa.org).



April 25<sup>th</sup> was World Vet Day and we are so pleased to be working with the best veterinarians in the area. We currently work with several vets who have a passion for rescue/shelter work.

Although we now have an amazing medical director there are many reasons we need to use Vet offices. Things such as spay/neuter services, rabies vaccines, dental care and any other unknowns that we may need advice or a second opinion on.

The main vet that we use and have used for many years is Claus Paws located off 162<sup>nd</sup> in Vancouver. We have established a great relationship with them over the years from their front line staff to each individual doctor. We know that we can count on them to provide Furry Friends with the best possible service and care for the hundreds of cats we rescue each year. We recommend Claus Paws to all of our adopters.

Due to COVID many vets closed spay/neuter services so we were very fortunate to have established relationships with the West Columbia Gorge Humane Society and Southwest Washington Humane Society to continue being able to work toward our spay/neuter initiatives. We will only adopt out cats that have been altered for health reasons and population control so this is a service that is vital to Furry Friends operations. Both organizations have been an amazing resource for us and continue to be a valued partner.

Lastly, we have newly established a relationship with Banfield who has been amazing in scheduling same day appointments and assisting with emergency cases. They work closely with CRVS to coordinate specialty care, surgeries, etc. To determine who would be the best doctor for each situations, as well as what would be the best cost savings to Furry Friends.

All of these organizations have shown a great passion for what we at Furry Friends do and many have offered to volunteer with us to help even more or have adopted one of our cats. We have many more exciting relationships we are in the process of building to help establish a community in cat rescue and build on the already amazing culture with our area.

We couldn't do what we do without the help of all the amazing vets and vet services that we need to keep saving more cats!

### **2020 Financial Report**

Furry Friends is dedicated to being a transparent organization. Part of that is making our annual report public. Despite dealing with a pandemic for 2020, we took care of about 400 cats and adopted out 380, almost twice as many as any previous year. We developed numerous efficiencies that saved us money, especially for medical care. The kitties continue to receive the same high quality care as they have in the past, but for

2020 we spent \$105,000 on caring for 400 cats, compared to 2019, when we spent \$126,000 on about 200 cats.

Read More Here <https://furryfriendswa.org/leadership/>



### AmazonSmile

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 Amazon Wish List

We have a number of things that you can order off of our wish list.

[https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1LRQ3ZN53UZ7R/ref=nav\\_wishlist\\_lists\\_1?encoding=UTF8&type=wishlist](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1LRQ3ZN53UZ7R/ref=nav_wishlist_lists_1?encoding=UTF8&type=wishlist)

We are also looking for auction items for our fall Meowly Pawpkins auction in September. Check out our list at [https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2U8IJMWPK1TJ4?ref=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2U8IJMWPK1TJ4?ref=wl_share)

There are a number of items that you can purchase online and have shipped directly to Furry Friends at our mailing address: 6715 NE 63<sup>rd</sup> Street, Suite 450, Vancouver, WA 98661. For a full list of wish list and donation information, please visit our website <https://furryfriendswa.org/donate/>

## Ongoing Resources

- **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.
- **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/>
- **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.

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Visit our website to find out more about sponsorships [www.furryfriendswa.org/sponsors/](http://www.furryfriendswa.org/sponsors/)

*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](mailto: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 at [information@furryfriendswa.org](mailto:information@furryfriendswa.org) or leave a message at (360) 993-1097.

**Jaimie Garver**, President, Operations, Community Events, Grants, Financials

**Linda Rader**, Vice President and Adoption/Foster Coordinator

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

**Marci Koski**, Feline behaviorist

**Margie McGhee**, Treasurer

**Brandi Towner**, Secretary and Adoptions

**Julie Goldbeck**, Halfway House Committee Lead person

**MacKenzie 'Kensie' Broom-Peterson**, Medical Lead

**Other Leadership:**

**Sandi Long**, Property management

**Malinda Goldbeck**, Volunteer Coordinator

**Marion Edwards**, Adoption events, lead socializer

**Jenn Hutchman**, Email/Voicemail lead, cat list, medical assistant

**Chris Nash**, Auction Lead

