

THE MEWS

Online News for all the Friends of Furry Friends May 2022



Helping homeless and abused cats
www.furryfriendswa.org

Dear Friends,

The spring auction is over and we are busy planning for the in person fall auction South Pawcific as well as some other events. Please see below for more details about these upcoming adventures.



Luke and Dante



MooMoo



Cranberry

Adoptions

From March 22 to April 18, we have adopted out 24 cats and kittens, bringing our total for the year to 142 adoptions.



FurryFriends

Cats & Kittens in our care

Furry Friends is now at capacity. We cannot take any cats or kittens at this time, since we take only as many kitties as we can care for and financially support.

As of April 15 we have:

4 bottle kittens in foster. Fosters have to feed these babies every two hours around the clock.

66 kittens who are weaned or with their mom in foster care

12 mom cats in foster care

3 pregnant moms in foster care

7 adults in foster care

19 adult cats at Halfway House

So many kitties are a lot for our small shelter!! And we have a waitlist with approx 20 cats. We are booking out to around May 28th for new intakes. This date of course could be pushed out further depending on adoptions and scheduling. If you are looking to place a cat at Furry Friends, please email information@furryfriendswa.org and it may take 6-8 weeks for your kitty to be placed.

If you have an injured cat please refer them to an emergency vet such as Dove Lewis or the Humane Society. They have vets on staff that can help immediately, but we do not have the resources to help. Already 2022 is another busy year saving kitties! ❤️

Thank you to everyone who has helped Furry friends be able to care for this many kitties! ❤️ Here is our Amazon Wish list if you would like to help with supplies for the kitties.

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/36JHHKND715D6?ref=wl_share&fbclid=IwAR26SGG47XPQg7RtBgapUCbV-sBDCKJd-HVebtOBfqiJ5HbHSbsCDMzLq!



To all of our Volunteers - THANK YOU!

April 17-23 was Volunteer Appreciation Week!

A very special time designated to thank volunteers. There are not enough words to describe how amazed and grateful we are for the dedication, compassion and generosity of the over 150 individuals who have given of themselves to Furry Friends.

Furry Friends would not be possible without the donation of funds, talent and time from you, who have seen the plight of the cats and kittens in our care. You, our dedicated and compassionate volunteers, have decided to not only “talk the talk” but also “walk the walk” and give of yourselves in a most precious way, your time.

We would not exist without your support. Without your help, we would not have been able to save the more than 3,748 cats and kittens that we have taken in since 1999. Without you, none of the work we do would be possible!

Whether you have given 20 hours for the year or 2,000 hours, it is all appreciated. Each person gives what they can manage for their lives. And the kitties are not the only ones to benefit from the time given; the kindness that the volunteers show to one another and those interested in our kitties has been heartwarming. We truly have a loving, compassionate, caring group of volunteers. We will never be able to fully express our gratitude to you, but please know from the bottom of our hearts how much we appreciate and respect each and every one of you.



Debbie Baughman



Jazmyynn Hoffman



Jenn Hutchman



Karen Grafmyre



Lois Bosland



Mary Wakely

Volunteer Spotlight on the Voicemail Team

A big shoutout to our Furry friends Voicemail Team! One of our most important jobs, the task often goes unnoticed as it is not in the forefront for most volunteers or followers. Voicemail is literally a lifeline for some of the cats and kittens we take in. Creating voicemails is neither a small nor an easy task. Some days there are no messages and other days, 20. Our voicemail team takes these messages, returns the calls, and then forwards all the information to the next key people. When veterinarian offices call and need a timely decision to help a cat, it is our responsiveness that saves these lives. Other calls could be about found kittens, injured strays, donations, referral services, etc. All calls are important, and our team ensures that everyone who calls feels heard and gets a prompt response. Our goal is to return calls the same day, and we usually meet our goal.

Our current voicemail team:

Jenn Hutchman – Voicemail Lead, Debbie Baughman, Jazmyynn Hoffman, Lois Bosland, Mary Wakely, Karen Grafmyre

Here are some additional Volunteer Spotlights.

- Cynthia Johnson <https://furryfriendswa.org/volunteer-spotlight-on-cynthia-johnson/>
- Danielle Chauncey <https://furryfriendswa.org/volunteer-spotlight-on-danielle-chauncey/>
- Karen Grafmyre <https://furryfriendswa.org/volunteer-spotlight-on-karen-grafmyre/>
- Mary Jane & Michael Holland <https://furryfriendswa.org/volunteer-spotlight-on-mary-jane-and-michael-holland/>
- Diane Stevens <https://furryfriendswa.org/volunteer-spotlight-on-diane-stevens/>
- Fall Auction Committee <https://furryfriendswa.org/volunteer-spotlight-on-the-auction-committee/>



Thank You to Our Volunteers

A note to our Furry Friends volunteers from our president Jaimie Garver.

Hi everyone, I wanted to take a minute of your time to let you all know how very much I appreciate you and what you do for Furry Friends and our community. I will try to put in to words the impact that you have no matter if you volunteer an hour a week or more, we all add value and support each other to have this amazing community of cat lovers that comes together to do this very rewarding work.

Impacts that volunteers have on Furry Friends and our community:

Because of you shy/scared cats have learned to trust again and get into homes, like Moomoo, Hunter and Popeye

Because of you cats that may have been deemed as "barn cats" elsewhere have been socialized and can sleep in real beds, like Gus, King and Bernie

Because of you FIV cats get into homes that love them, like Ulysses and Bruce

Because of you the community is being educated about FIV and how scary it's NOT

Because of you injured cats are getting the medical care they need and deserve, like Fluffy, Blue and Raggedy Andy

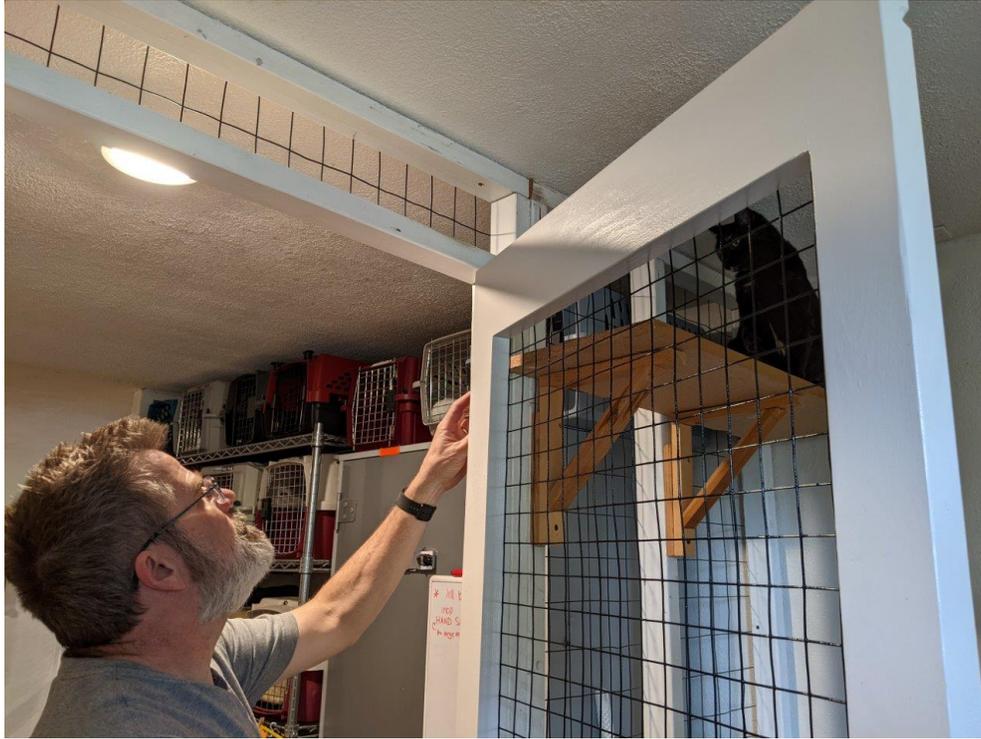
Because of you Furry Friends cats are not only fed, but loved while they are with us

Because of you we have more than doubled the amount of cats we can help within the past two years.

Because of you the community supports our efforts and it shows in donations, shares, likes, and referrals.

Because of you MANY cats no longer have to have litter after litter of kittens, like Oliveoil. No more babies having babies!

READ MORE HERE <https://furryfriendswa.org/thank-you-to-our-volunteers/>



New Doors at the Halfway House

The city has required that our internal doors to the kitty rooms have magnetic latches, so you just push on them to open the door. Jim Grafmyre, who has been doing a lot of the handyman jobs for us, has built some new doors that are much sturdier and contain the word PUSH so you know how to open the door. He has done such a professional job. But it may be because Persnikitty was supervising him.



We are receiving bids to build a wood fence around our backyard at the Halfway House. We believe that a fence will help protect our privacy. All the neighbors have dogs, and the fence will not only help keep the noise down, it will keep the kitties from seeing dogs. A fence will also help keep our shelter more secure.



March & April, much like other months, has been a busy time for adult cat intakes here at Furry Friends Shelter. This month we have taken in many specials needs cases.

A few of these are:

Scrappy came to furry friends after his owner passed away and the family just put him outside the apartment. He then made a home on a neighbor's porch who cared for him until he came to us.

Scarlett, Sylvester, Sadie, Sammy, & Samson all came from the same home. Unfortunately, the care giver was not able to continue keeping up with their care. They came to us with severe flea infestations, malnourished, needing dental work, kidney disease, and hyperthyroidism.

Raggedy Andy came to us from a Vet office where he would have to be euthanized if a rescue could not take him. He is FIV+, he needed multiple teeth extracted, he is anemic, and just a poor raggedy boy. He had lived outside for a long time.

Scruffy came to us after being outside for a year or more and he is in rough shape. He has a huge abscess on this leg and his skin is covered in scabs from fleas. We are still assessing is needs but he has a long road to recovery ahead.

Aries came to Furry Friends after his owners moved and left him behind. He also was hit by a car during his time outside. A good Samaritan took him to the vet and cared for him until he came to us.

Murphy came to us from a vets office set to be euthanized per owners request. He was a healthy boy other than needing a dental and having a harmless lymphoma.

All of these kitties are now getting the care that they need here at Furry Friends.

Compiled by Jenn Hutchman

Furry Friends Teams 2022

Furry friends has been working hard on implementing new systems and procedures! One of these new "features" is having teams in place for certain duties.



Jenn Hutchman
Volunteer Support Team
Adoption Team Lead
Intake & Medical Team
Voicemail Lead



Jaimie Garver
Adoption Team
Intake & Medical Team
FF President



Jazmynn Hoffman
Volunteer Support Team
Adoption Team
Intake Team
Shelter Manager



Mary Wakely
Adoption Team
Voicemail Team



Sylvester 'Sal' Alcaraz
Lead Volunteer
Coordinator



Kuuipo Alcaraz
Lead Volunteer
Coordinator



Gail Bauhs
Lead Socializer
Coordinator



Brandi Towner
Adoption Team
Intake Team
FF Vice President

Furry Friends has been working hard to implement new systems and procedures! One of the new "features" puts teams in place for certain duties. Here are a few changes and the key people on these teams:

Volunteer Coordinating

Sylvester Enrique Alcaraz & Kuuipo Alcaraz Lead Volunteer Coordinators: First point of contact for applications, orientations, trainings, shift assignments, Volunteer support, etc.

Volunteer Support Team is Jazmynn Hoffman & Jenn Hutchman (plus other leadership when needed): Issues at HH, Volunteer support, cat situations, etc.

Socializer Program

Gail Schroeder Bauhs Lead Socializer Coordinator: First point of contact for applications, orientations, trainings, socializer support, etc.

Medical Team

Will assess the socialization needs of each cat and work with Gail on what to implement to best meet the cats needs.

Adoption Team

Jenn Hutchman Adoption Coordinator: Main point of contact for applications, scheduling appointments, showing cats, adoptions.

Adoptions team is Jaimie L Garver, Mary Reese Wakely (Thursdays), Jazmynn Hoffman, Brandi Towner, Sal & Kui (Fridays): Meets with potential adopters for meet & greets, finalizing Adoptions, after adoption support, etc.

Intake Team

Jenn Hutchman Intake Lead: Main point of contact for intakes, scheduling intakes, etc. Jaimie, Brandi and Jazmynn are team members.

Shelter Manager (paid staff)

Jazmynn Hoffman: All things at the Halfway House and keeping an eye on the cats needs.

We have other teams such as the Fosters and Halfway House Shift Leaders. We are all here to support the cats and one another ❤️

Having a team of people benefits us all. Firstly, it gives volunteers more than one point of contact. Overseeing more than 150 people is an overwhelming job for one person. Spreading out the roles and tasks will benefit all. Secondly, if something happens to one team member, someone else would easily be able to cover the role.

If you are interested in helping out more please reach out! information@furryfriendswa.org.



SEEKING A FEW PEOPLE FOR HALFWAY HOUSE ASSISTANT SHIFTS: TWO-HOUR SHIFT ONCE A WEEK MORNING (8-10AM OR 9-11AM) OR EVENING 5PM-7PM); MUST FOLLOW HOUSE PROCEDURES AND PROTOCOLS; MUST BE DEPENDABLE (THE CATS RELY ON YOU); CLEAN LITTER BOXES; WASH/DRY BEDDING; SWEEP/VACUUM/MOP; FEED/WATER; PLAY/SOCIALIZE CATS.

Please go to furryfriendswa.org click volunteer and we will contact you to get you started.



Our event season is in full swing. Save the date for these Furry Friends opportunities below.

May 21: Fred Meyer's event. Furry Friends will have an information table at the Fred Meyer located at 16600 SE McGillivray Blvd., Vancouver, WA 98683 9am-1pm on Saturday, May 21.

Recycled Arts Festival (RAF) is CANCELED. The organizers said, "Canceling the festival was an incredibly difficult call, and many circumstances led to this decision. We faced new challenges created by the uncertainty of the pandemic, which unfortunately left us with a shortened timeline to plan and execute the festival. The existing challenges our community faced over the last two years coupled with supply chain shortages and staffing limitations, ultimately led us to make this difficult decision."



Late summer: Garage Sale. We are thinking of having another garage sale this summer. We don't have any details to share with you yet. But if you have any good quality items that you want to move along, please save them for us. Once we have a place to stash our treasures we will let you know.

September 10: Peace and Justice Fair is held at Esther Short Park, 301 West 8th Street in Vancouver, WA. We will have an information booth and sell Furry Friends merchandise. We have chosen not to bring the cats to the event since it is so stressful for them. We are looking for items to sell at our table. Some handmade items in the past have been pet beds, cat ear head bands, jewelry and more. Our booth will be open Saturday, September 10 from 9am-4pm. If you have something to donate or wish to volunteer at the event, contact Jenn at information@furryfriendswa.org.



Volunteer Tickets to the Auction

In the past we have discounted tickets for the volunteers. This year our expenses have gone way up and we will not be able to subsidize tickets. Tickets are \$70 and will be available in June. Our expenses to put the auction on will be more than \$70 per person.

Save the Date for the Fall Auction

Furry Friends will host its 14th annual dinner and auction fundraiser on Saturday, **September 17** at the Heathman Lodge in Vancouver. Tickets will be \$70 and go on sale at our website in June

<https://auctria.events/SouthPawcific>

If you are interested in helping with items for the fall **South Pawcific Fall Auction** we especially ask for 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 ask that donations be valued at \$40 or more, and we need to receive them by August 1, 2022. We are trying to focus on quality rather than quantity. We only have space for about 100 silent auction items so we want to earn as much as we can for each item. Things do not have to be cat themed; our guests have many interests in addition to cats.

Take a look at our auction wish list

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/GT5MXWN1EOUH?ref_=wl_share

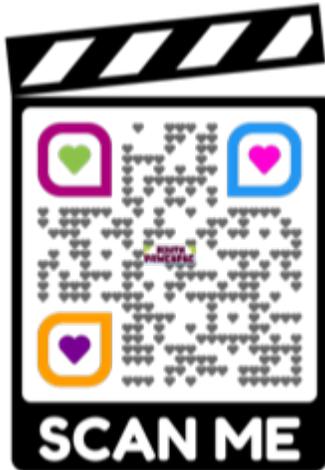
Procurement Questions: Lisa Baxter auction@furryfriendswa.org

Auction Questions: Chris Nash ffauction@icloud.com
Sponsorship Information: Diane Stevens news@furryfriendswa.org



Costume Contest: We will have a fabulous prize for the person that wins the costume contest at the South PAWcific Dinner & Auction. Though costumes are not required, they definitely add to the fun for the evening. So look for your best hula skirt, muumuu, flowered Hawaiian shirt or other tropical themed costume.

The auction will be held on September 17, 2022 from 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm at the The Heathman Lodge, 7801 NE Greenwood Dr, Vancouver, WA 98662.



Auction QR Code

Furry Friends now has a fall auction QR Code that you can scan with your phone and it will take you automatically to our auction page on our website. You will be seeing this on some of our publications. Check out the site to see photos of some of the live and silent auction items. You will also be able to purchase your tickets for the auction beginning in June 2022.

Furry Friends CAT FOOD Pantry



Furry Friends 
Helping homeless and abused cats

Although our pet pantry is small and growing, we have helped over 125 cats this month with dry food, litter, wet food, and other essentials! This program is not a monthly food bank but is here for temporary help when needed. The pantry is entirely run on donations of products and no money is spent to fund this program currently. If you have extra supplies you would like to donate or need temporary assistance please reach out to information@furryfriendswa.org! We also would love to help out any feral colonies that need some additional food support!

****All food has been donated to us and we cannot guarantee specific brands. Hurry while supplies last****

Furry Friends Washington Pet Pantry <https://www.facebook.com/FurryFriendsWashingtonPetPantry/>



FurryFriendsWa.org

Ongoing Resources

- **Adopt A Pet** <https://www.adoptapet.com/shelter71378-pets.html>
- **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. They will accept things for us during the pandemic. (360) 571-0082

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|---|---|---|
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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 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

Chris Nash, Auction Lead

HH Shift Lead Managers

Sylvester '**Sal**' Alcaraz, and **Kuuipo** Alcaraz, Volunteer Coordinators

Sandi Long, Grants, property management

Gail Bauhs, Cat Socializer Lead