# THE MEWS

## Online News for all the Friends of Furry Friends

## September 2022

Furry Friends

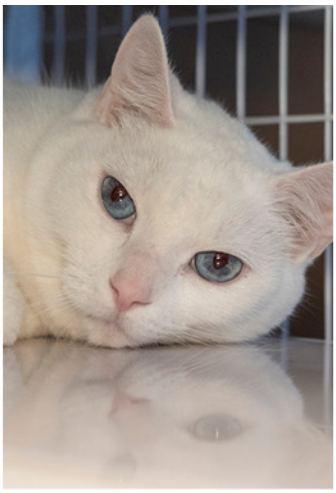
*Helping homeless and abused cats*

www.furryfriendswa.org

Dear Furry Friends Volunteers,

Welcome to September, friends. The South Pawcific Auction is upon us, and if you have not bought your ticket, please do so as soon as you can. Tickets are selling quickly, and we expect to sell out. The auction is sure to be an exciting and fun event, with a delicious dinner, great companionship, and amazing auction items.

Paige



Sawyer

Jaxx

Scruffy

**Adoptions**

We adopted out 26 cats and kittens from July 17 to August 16, 2022, bringing our total for the year to 263 adoptions.

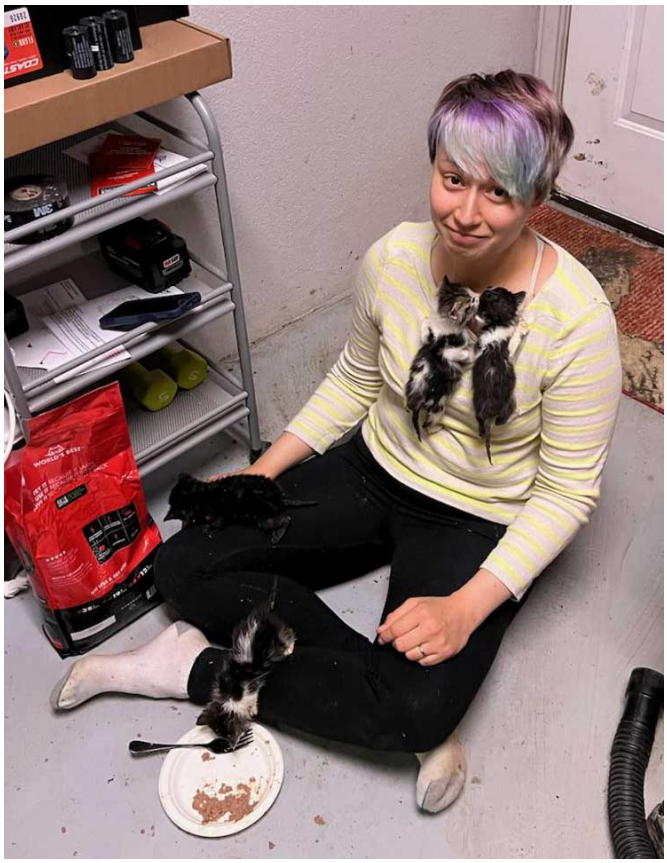
We are building a new Facebook group where all of our adoptable cats and kittens will be posted. Please join or follow https://www.facebook.com/groups/590223832702067/?ref=share_group_link

**Keeping kitties indoors**

At Furry Friends we get a lot of questions on why we adopt out of kitties to indoor only homes. Many people feel guilty thinking they are depriving their cat the pleasures of being outdoors, but many risks for your furry family member come with the freedom of being an outside cat. We will discuss some of those below.

While your cat is outside it more than likely will come across other animals that may carry diseases, some fatal. The most common ones are FIV, FeLV, FIP, FP, and URI's--not to mention fleas, worms, mites, and other parasites. So, what in the world do all these letters mean??

FIV – Feline Immunodeficiency Virus affects up to 4.4% of cats and is spread by deep bite wounds. FIV attacks their immune system leaving the animals susceptible to all other viruses and bacteria. There are no vaccines and no cure for this disease.
READ MORE HERE
https://furryfriendswa.org/keeping-kitties-indoors/



**Volunteer Spotlight on Jay Colgan**

Jay has been a volunteer for Furry Friends for the past year. Starting out as a socializer she quickly took on other roles such as transporting, fostering, and she is our new Friday pm Halfway House shift leader.

She volunteered at a cat rescue in California and after moving to Vancouver she wanted to find another cat rescue to help, which is how she found Furry Friends.

She has not yet adopted any cats from Furry Friends, but she does have two foster fail cats from her previous volunteer rescue post. And she has two dogs, two guinea pigs, and a crested gecko. One of her proudest moments as a volunteer was when she was successful getting her bottle baby kittens to eat solid food and knew they would survive just fine! She raised them to be big and confident kittens.
READ MORE HERE
https://furryfriendswa.org/volunteer-spotlight-with-jay-colgan/

**Pet Pantry**

Furry Friends Pet Pantry helps over 100 cats each month with donated cat foods from our community! For July and August we have fed over 250 kitties! This is a picture of donated food going to a feral cat colony with more than 30 cats. We help feed three colonies regularly, plus community members' cats when they just can't make ends meet for the month. If you are in need of temporary assistance or if you would like to donate to the cause, please email information@furryfriendswa.org for more information.

Cat food donations can always be dropped off at **Woodin' You Pampered Paws**, 13305 NE Hwy 99, #102, Vancouver, WA 98686.

FurryFriends EVENTS

# The South Pawcific Auction is Almost Here!
# Saturday, September 17, 2022

Auction Website https://auctria.events/SouthPawcific

**Get your auction tickets NOW!!!**
Tickets are now available online for $70 each. We expect this to be a sold-out affair, so get your tickets soon! You must buy your ticket ahead of time; there will be **no tickets available at the door.** When you go to the ticket page you will be able to enter your dinner choice of:

DOUBLE CUT PORK CHOP –Bacon jam, red wine sauce, creamy polenta, braised greens
PAN SEARED CHICKEN BREAST –Root vegetable gratin, grilled zucchini, roasted mushroom, beurreblanc
CHICKPEA CAKES –Charred tomato sauce and grilled vegetables
A spring salad and marionberry cheesecake dessert will also be served.
Complimentary coffee, water and lemonade will be available

You will have the option to purchase raffle tickets with your admission ticket to the dinner auction this year. Another exciting feature: If you capture/save your credit card information, you will have an EXPEDITED check-out process! If you only purchase a "special appeal", you will be free to leave as soon as the event is closed, assuming we have pre-authorized your card at check-in! Be sure to take advantage of this time-saving feature.

Please visit our auction site to purchase tickets and to get a glimpse of some of the live and silent auction items available. We will not have all pictures of items on the site, as we'd like for you to have some surprises when you arrive. https://auctria.events/SouthPawcific

Furry Friends will host its 14th annual dinner and auction fundraiser on Saturday, **September 17,** at the Heathman Lodge in Vancouver. Tickets are $70 and are on sale NOW. We are not accepting any additional donations at this time. If you have something to donate, we can use it either in our spring auction or save it for next year's auction.

We have sent out a special auction newsletter which tells you about all the festivities and details of this, Furry Friends' largest fundraiser of the year.
Auction Newsletter: https://mailchi.mp/a45c7ef97936/south-pawcific-auction-is-almost-here?e=958ed0a347

**Procurement Questions: Lisa Baxter auction@furryfriendswa.org**
**Auction Questions: Chris Nash ffauction@icloud.com**
**Sponsorship Information: Diane Stevens news@furryfriendswa.org**

**September 3 – Chipotle Restaurant Fundraiser**
The Chipotle restaurant at 915 SE 164th Ave, Ste 100 in Vancouver will have a fundraiser for Furry Friends from 4:00 to 8:00 pm. It will be valid only at this location. You will need to either show the flyer to the cashier or order online using their code KNZKQHY
Furry Friends will receive 33% of the event sales.

**September 3 - Ridgefield Multicultural Festival**
Furry Friends will have an information table at this event located at Overlook Park, 113-131 S Main Ave, Ridgefield, WA 98642 The 2022 Multicultural Festival will include performances, crafts and activities, First Saturday and Farmers Market vendors, and more! Questions, contact Danielle at (360) 953-3354 danielle.chancey7@gmail.com

**September 10: Peace and Justice Fair**, 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 us at information@furryfriendswa.org.

# Give More 24! More Than a Day of Giving

# Thursday, September 22nd

"SAVE THE DATE: Furry Friends needs your help in raising $25,000 for the unexpected, extraordinary medical expenses of cats in our care during the one day online fundraising challenge Give More 24! This annual event will be held all day Thursday, September 22. Furry Friends is committed to providing the best possible medical care for the cats we rescue before they are placed in their forever homes. Most of them need shots and spay/neutering, but sometimes they require dental work or expensive surgery. Last year we spent over $136,000 on medical treatments alone!

We are currently looking for a few more individuals or businesses who would like to become Match Donors during this one day of giving. Becoming a Match Donor requires a minimum commitment of $500. In addition to a tax write off, you will get a spotlight on our GM24! page as well as promoted on our social media platforms. If this is something you are interested in, please contact us at information@furryfriendswa.org

A big thank you to our current Match Donors: Jaimie Garver, Ed Chapman, Danielle Chancey Real Estate and Bennett Home Inspections LLC

For more information on Give More 24!, our $25,000 goal, or our generous Match Donors, please head to: https://www.givemore24.org/organizations/furry-friends"

**October 1: BirdFest & Bluegrass** is a joint event planned in a partnership between the City of Ridgefield and the Friends of the Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge that includes vendors, community and birding activities, and a Bluegrass Pickers Festival. Furry Friends will have a booth at this event. To find out more, please see their website [https://ridgefieldfriends.org/birdfest-bluegrass/](https://ridgefieldfriends.org/birdfest-bluegrass/)

**Want to hold a Giving Tree for Furry Friends?**

Giving Trees, scheduled for November and December, are worthwhile fundraisers for providing supplies for the kitties around Christmas time. Furry Friends gives you cat posters and information about our organization. If you have a Christmas tree, we provide pictures of the cats that are available for adoption, and you can hang their pictures on the tree. We have a wish list of supplies for people to purchase and bring to your establishment.

The holidays provide an important opportunity for us to build up our supplies. Every dollar that we don't spend on supplies goes to helping take care of the cats and kittens. If you choose to hold a giving tree for us, we will promote your business in our newsletters and Facebook page. If you would like to host a giving tree, please contact [information@furryfriendswa.org](mailto:information@furryfriendswa.org)

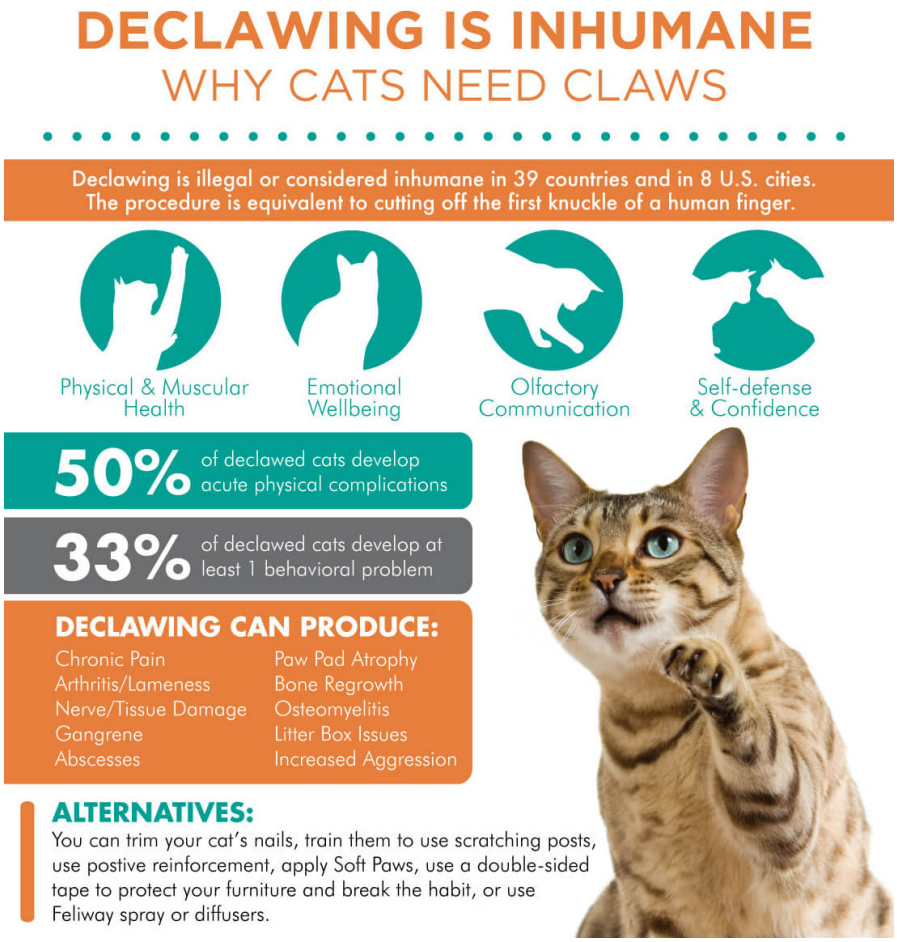
We need people for the Monday morning shift at the Halfway House. Only 2 people volunteer for that shift currently. Volunteers must follow house procedures and protocols, must be dependable (the cats rely on you), clean litter boxes, wash/dry bedding, sweep/vacuum/mop, feed/water, give medications, and play with/socialize cats. Shifts last about two hours. Please contact jazmynnhoffmanff@gmail.com

**Amazon Wish List**

We currently have over 120 kittens and 25 cats in our care 🐱 Cats and kittens need more than just food/litter/medicine. They need enrichment toys, grooming supplies, and bedding.

If you would like to help care for these kitties please check out our Amazon wish list! Anything helps! Thank you ❤️

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/WE783999BG1W?ref_=wl_share




**Declawing is a Bad Idea**

One of the cats in our care, Rosie, is the victim of a bad declaw job. We feel so bad for her and the pain that she has had to endure over the years. We are spending the time and money on her to get this horrible situation fixed as best we can. FF Executive Director Jenn Hutchman writes about declawing.

"Let's talk about Onychectomy! What in the world does this word mean? Declawing. This is an operation to remove an animal's claws surgically by means of amputation of the end bones on an animal's toes. A popular misconception is that only the nail is removed since the name means "nail excision" but since the phalanges are removed a better term would be a phalangectomy or surgical removal of the phalanges. Would this deter people from declawing their cats if they knew it was similar to cutting off your own finger up to the first knuckle and not just removing your nail?
Declawing is not only physically cruel, it can pay a huge mental toll on your animal. Recent studies have shown that litter box issues, aggression, and overgrooming were significantly higher in cats that had been declawed than ones who had not, from three to seven times higher! Chronic back pain may also be caused through declawing because their natural gait has been altered. Many cats will favor sore paws which can throw off their hips and back. They can have paw pain forever!

READ MORE HERE
https://furryfriendswa.org/declawing-is-a-bad-idea/

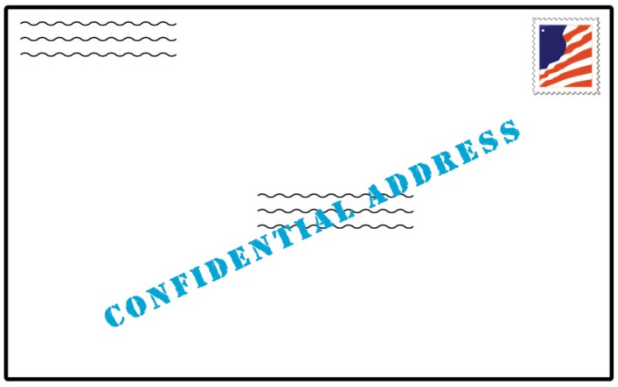
**Our Mission Statement**

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.

We are a no-kill, volunteer run cat rescue that is funded by both individual and corporate donations; and as a 501(c)(3) non-profit, donations are tax deductable. Since we are a no-kill operation, that means we spend a large amount on medical procedures and medications for the cats in our care.

The bottom line is YOU are the ones that make it possible for us to keep our doors open to these kitties. Won't you consider making a donation to help continue our work, or even better, become a monthly donor. It is easy when you donate through PayPal on our website. You can just check the box that you would like to have a recurring donation.
http://furryfriendswa.org/donate/




**Halfway House Location**

The address for our Halfway House is confidential; we are not open to the public. Since we are a volunteer run organization, we don't have the staff to keep regular hours. Our house is small and is not suited for public access. Also, once a shelter makes its address known, people dump their unwanted cats, dogs, guinea pigs and other animals. We cannot accommodate any unplanned animals. However you are always free to make an appointment with us to come and see the cats.

**Adopt a Pet**

We have used Petfinder as our cat adoption site for many years. Recently they have made changes and it has become harder for people to find our Furry Friends cats and to see what they are all about. We are switching to a new provider called Adopt a Pet. You can find our Furry Friends page here https://www.adoptapet.com/shelter71378-pets.html

FurryFriendsWa.org

## Ongoing Resources

- **Amazon Wish List** https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/WE783999BG1W?ref_=wl_share
- **Donations** https://furryfriendswa.org/donate/ **or** Paypal.me/furryfriendswa
- **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/UChfBIX6lOMIEseSxK9f27dw/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

*Furry Friends depends upon the kindness of our friends and sponsors to keep us going. Thank you all for supporting the kitties.*

**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
**Sandi Long,** Grants, property management
**Gail Bauhs,** Cat Socializer Lead