

# THE MEWS

## Online News for all the Friends of Furry Friends March 2020

Furry  
Friends



*Helping homeless and abused cats*

Hello Friends,

We are so happy that spring is almost here. The kitties are enjoying the warmer weather out on their catios. And as soon as the weather gets dry enough, we will actually start construction on our parking lot that has been in the planning/permitting stage for three years now.



Sabrina



Cappuccino



Fred



Penelope

### Adoptions

We have adopted out 12 cats from February 1 to March 5. Congratulations to Aubree, Bellamy, Cappuccino, Fred, Gizmo, KK, Macie, Penelope, Riley, Sabrina, Tegan and Tigr.



Jennifer Hart



Jaimie Garver



Sandy Bush

### A letter from outgoing President Jennifer Hart

We saw many cats off to their forever homes last year, 198 of them to be exact! We had "kitten season" all year long it felt like. Thanks to our amazing foster team we were able to find homes for almost all of them. Finding our cats forever homes is always a success

for us, and we had many success stories in 2019. Some of those include little Ravenpaw that captured all our hearts with his story of recovery, snuggly Gizmo who overcame so many medical issues, and of course our “kitchen cat” Portland. It is stories like these that encourage us to continue the work we do.

I would like to say thank you to all our dedicated and caring volunteers that make this organization successful! Without the help that all of you provide we would not be able to do it. We have over 150 volunteers from our community that take the time out of their lives to help our mission of helping homeless and abandoned cats.

I would also like to say a big thank you to Sandy Bush, our volunteer vet tech. She makes it possible for us to help so many cats by dedicating countless hours taking care of all the cats that come to us. She helps ensure that we have happy and healthy cats while they enjoy their stay at the Halfway House. I know that she wouldn't be able to do it alone, so another big thank you to the whole medical team!

Lastly, I would like to take this chance to welcome in the new President of Furry Friends, Jaimie Garver. She will be taking over my duties and leading the organization starting February 2020. She brings vital experience and knowledge that will take Furry Friends far into the future. I am proud of what we have accomplished, that we celebrated our 20<sup>th</sup> year and are settled into our permanent home. Thank you for trusting me; now please trust and welcome Jaimie.

*Thank you, Jennifer Hart*



### **Furry Friends 2019 Financial Report**

For 2019 we fell short of our operating budget by almost \$6,000.00. Going into 2020 our focus will be on decreasing expenses without decreasing care as well as increasing our fundraising efforts and grant proposals. It is essential that we build capital to be able to remain sustainable during a down economy and to cover unexpected expenses if they arise.

During the past year, our expenses remained stable, however, our donations declined. Some of the significant increases are shown below:

Expenditure	2019	2018
Medical	\$126,129.07	\$126,078.19
Cat Food	\$21,188.81	\$14,765.21

We remained steady with our medical care expenses throughout 2019 from the expenses in 2018. It is vital that we fundraise within the community and focus on medical costs going into 2020. We also saw a huge increase in our cat food expenses due to the large number of kittens that we helped in the past year; we expect this to continue through the spring of 2020 with the winter being so mild.

To see our full 2019 annual report, please visit

<https://furryfriendswa.org/wp-content/uploads/2019-furry-friends-annual-report.pdf>

 <p><b>12<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL DINNER &amp; AUCTION FUNDRAISER</b></p> <p><b>Thank you Dr. Marci Koski of Feline Behavior Solutions for becoming a Silver Sponsor.</b></p> <p>marci@felinebehaviorsolutions.com, www.FelineBehaviorSolutions.com 503-927-1107</p> <div data-bbox="126 961 527 1123"><p>Hairy Pawter Dinner and Auction September 19, 2020 The Heathman Lodge 7801 NE Greenwood Dr. Vancouver, WA 98662</p></div> <p><a href="http://www.FurryFriendsWA.org">www.FurryFriendsWA.org</a></p>	  <p><i>"Keeping Cats in Homes and Out of Shelters"</i></p>  <p><b>Feline Behavior Solutions</b></p>
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**Thank you Dr. Marci Koski of Feline Behavior Solutions.**

Dr. Marci Koski has just become a Silver Sponsor helping to support our auction and needs of the kitties. Her business is focused on working out your kitty's behavior problem and keeping them in your home. She also has been a Furry Friends board member for a number of years, helping us to overcome some of the issues that our cats have. Contact information: Dr. Marci Koski, [marci@felinebehaviorsolutions.com](mailto:marci@felinebehaviorsolutions.com), [www.FelineBehaviorSolutions.com](http://www.FelineBehaviorSolutions.com), 503-927-1107.

Visit [www.furryfriendswa.org](http://www.furryfriendswa.org) for sponsorship information.



### **Beacock Music Pet Food Drive**

Wow, did we receive a lot of goodies from the Beacock Music and Education Center pet food drive! We are very appreciative for Gayle Beacock's generosity in holding this for us for the 6th year in a row. That is fantastic. We would also like to thank Chris Kiefer and Lynette Jensen for organizing this event for us.



### **HELP FOR FERAL CATS**

Did you know that Furry Friends helps to maintain about five feral cat colonies around Clark County? We are looking for a few volunteers who would be interested in helping feed the feral cats 1-2 times a week. They would work with one of our other volunteers, Tanika Campbell who works with Margaret Holahan. If you would like to find out more about this volunteer job, please contact Tanika at [twelch77@hotmail.com](mailto:twelch77@hotmail.com) or call Margaret at (360) 901-7643.

If you can't help maintain one of the colonies, you can always help by buying some food for the cats.

We have been consistently feeding Costco's Kirkland Signature Maintenance dry cat food, as it has no corn or wheat and may help maintain their urinary health. You can purchase it for \$20 at Costco. If you order it online it is more expensive. We also feed assorted wet food when the volunteers have it. <https://www.costco.com/Kirkland-Signature-Chicken-and-Rice-Cat-Food-25-lbs..product.100334973.html>

You are welcome to drop it off at the Halfway House if you know the location. Otherwise you can bring your donation to:

**Woodin' You Pampered Paws**, 13305 NE Hwy 99, #102, Vancouver, WA 98686, a fabulous pet care store located in Salmon Creek. The store is open Monday thru Friday from 9am-7pm and Saturday from 9am-6pm.

**Front Door Realty** is located downtown at 1815 D St, Vancouver, WA 98663. Please put a note on your donation that says it's for Furry Friends. The number there is (360) 450-4486.



# We need volunteers!

If you are interested in any of the following positions, please contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Malinda Goldbeck, at (360) 993-1097 or at [volunteer@furryfriendswa.org](mailto:volunteer@furryfriendswa.org) or fill out a volunteer app on our website <https://furryfriendswa.org/volunteer/>.

**HALFWAY HOUSE ASSISTANT:** We need people for Wednesday am and Thursday pm shifts. 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.

**VET TECH NEEDED:** We are looking for a person that has at least two years' experience at a vet clinic as a Vet Tech. This person needs to be able to draw blood, vaccinate cats, and give pills. You can work as much or as little as you like.

**GRANT WRITER:** Do you have experience in writing? Then we would like to talk to you. We have been receiving some good grants, but there are still more that can be had. If you are good at writing and research and would like to join our team, please contact us.

**YARDWORK HELP:** Our house is on a little over a half acre and has a good number of trees. We love them, but they are always shedding and the leaves need to be cleaned up. We have many other yard work jobs to be done. Let us know if you would like to help.

**WANTED - CLEANING FANATICS:** The Halfway House is never as clean as it should be. I would like a team of volunteers that likes to clean, that gets satisfaction from scrubbed floors and hairball-free cat trees.

We envision you working in teams or independently, but in an organized manner so that every room gets a deep clean minimally each month.

**HANDY PERSON HELP:** We have a long list of general fix-it jobs to do. Tammie Williams has been heading up and keeping track of all the jobs, but she needs some help in getting these things done. Let us know if you would like to help.

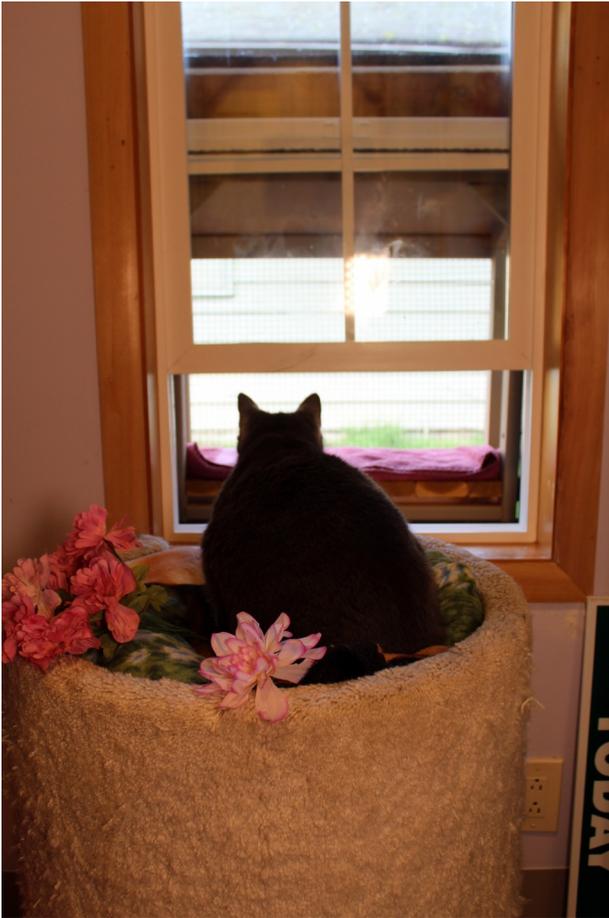


### **Cat Adoption Event for Furry Friends**

Do you lack companionship of the furry, four-legged variety? Fear no more because Cat's Play While You're Away Boarding is hosting a Furry Friends Cat Adoption Weekend on April 25 and 26 from 10 am to 4:30 pm. Come and visit with cats who need fur-ever homes with extra love, and talk to representatives from Furry Friends, who know their kitties well and will get you matched up with just the right one.

Furry Friends is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, no-kill cat rescue serving Clark County, Washington and adjacent counties. Founded in 1999, it is an all-volunteer organization that rescues and adopts out homeless, relinquished, and abused cats. They shelter and care for the cats and kittens as long as it takes to find them forever homes. They provide medical exams, medications, spay/neuter, dental work, food, and litter for up to 230 cats each year. They are supported by sponsorships and donations from the public. For more information about this event, contact (360) 993-1097 or [information@furryfriendswa.org](mailto:information@furryfriendswa.org) or visit [www.furryfriendswa.org](http://www.furryfriendswa.org).

Cats Play While You're Away is located at 2904 NE Burton Road, Suite B, Vancouver, WA 98662, (360) 605-8935, [www.Catsplayboarding.com](http://www.Catsplayboarding.com) or [info@catsplayboarding.com](mailto:info@catsplayboarding.com).



### **New Catio in the Office**

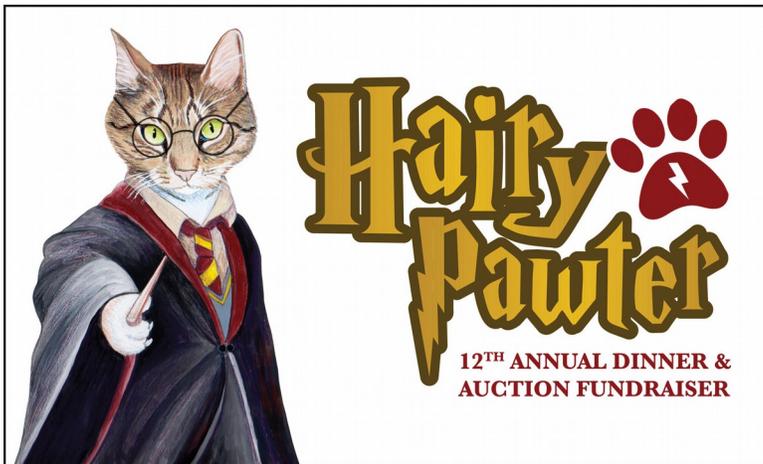
A while back Doug Stroud of Summit Construction donated the effort to knock a hole in our concrete wall and install this window for the kitties. This room was supposed to be our office, but as it goes, the cats take over every square inch of the Halfway House. There was no window in this room, so it was a little more like a dungeon. It was going to cost us \$3000 to have a window put in and Doug did it for free. We have just gotten around to creating a catio for this window so the kitties can sit outside safely. Thank you to Murray Schulz and Tammie Williams for building and installing this.



## Still looking for a foster home for Duchess

We just received blood test results for Duchess and she is hyperthyroid. She will need topical meds every 12 hours in her ears for life. We cannot medicate a thyroid cat on such a strict schedule at our halfway house and she is not a very nice cat so medicating will be a challenge. We are hoping over time with the meds that she will feel better and be more cooperative.

If you can help this girl please call and leave a message for our vet tech, Sandy Bush, on our voicemail 360-993-1097 or email [information@furryfriendswa.org](mailto:information@furryfriendswa.org).



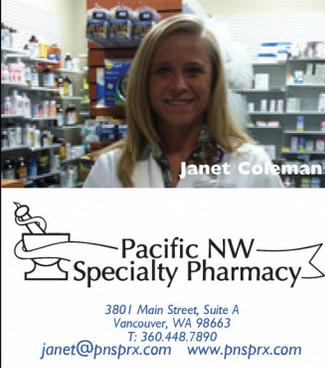
## Save the Date for Hairy Pawter

Save the date, September 19<sup>th</sup>, for our next auction. We are busy collecting items for this annual event. We have a Wish List on AmazonSmile of items we are hoping to acquire for our upcoming Furry Friends Hairy Pawter Silent and Live Auction. Please take a look and see if there is anything you would like to donate to the auction. All funds made at the auction go to the care and housing of the cats. This is our largest fundraiser of the year. [https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2U8IJMWPK1TJ4?ref\\_=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2U8IJMWPK1TJ4?ref_=wl_share)

Make sure you link your Amazon purchases to Furry Friends Amazon Smile account so we will receive a portion of your purchase amount. [https://smile.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/dl/invite/djMZeYO?ref=cm\\_sw\\_em\\_r\\_wl\\_dp\\_JKnt0LpKY042j](https://smile.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/dl/invite/djMZeYO?ref=cm_sw_em_r_wl_dp_JKnt0LpKY042j)

## Online Purchases

When purchasing something online for the cats and kittens, you can always have it shipped directly to our mailing address: 6715 NE 63<sup>rd</sup> Street, Suite 450, Vancouver, WA 98661. Chewy.com and Amazon Smile [smile.amazon.com/](https://smile.amazon.com/) are good online sources for some of these items.

Premiere Sponsors		Platinum Sponsor
 <b>Dr Virginia Huang</b>	 <b>Glen &amp; Leslie Aronson</b>	 <b>Mila Boyd</b>
 <b>SALMON CREEK PLASTIC SURGERY</b> Call 360-823-0860 13712 NE 10th Ave., Vancouver, WA 98685 www.salmoncreekps.com	 <b>IRON GATE STORAGE</b> www.irongatestorage.com	 <b>UPTOWN INJURY LAW</b> MILA BOYD ATTORNEY AT LAW Call (360) 869-0857 2412 Main Street, Vancouver, WA 98660 email: mboyd@vancouverlaw.net
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Visit our website to find out more about sponsorships <a href="http://www.furryfriendswa.org/sponsors/">www.furryfriendswa.org/sponsors/</a>		

### Having trouble receiving the newsletter?

Are you having trouble receiving the monthly newsletter in your inbox? Enter [news@furryfriendswa.org](mailto:news@furryfriendswa.org) into your contact list and that should solve that problem. This newsletter is compiled by Diane Stevens. Let her know if you have any contributions to the next newsletter.

**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

**Jennifer Hart**, Cat intake, Cat list, Medical assistant

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

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

**William Miller**, Treasurer

**Marci Koski**, Feline behaviorist

**Margie McGhee**, Secretary

### Other Leadership:

**Sandi Long**, Grants, property management

**Malinda Goldbeck**, Volunteer Coordinator

**Sandra Bush**, Licensed Vet Tech, Medical lead

**Marion Edwards**, Yard maintenance, adoption events, lead socializer

