

PET TIDINGS

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FROM FRIENDS OF ANIMALS

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WELCOME TO OUR FIRST ISSUE!

This is the first of what we expect to be a long string of interesting and challenging quarterly issues dealing with local pet overpopulation problems and solutions. Additionally, we will be giving space to some wonderful potential pets-to-be--- animals who have been rescued from homeless or neglectful situations.

We welcome your suggestions. Please feel free to write us with your ideas or support. Luckily, we live in a community small enough to make a difference in regard to animal overpopulation. There is no reason we can't find a safe and loving environment for virtually every healthy cat and dog in our midst.

WHAT IS FRIENDS OF ANIMALS?

Friends of Animals is a growing group of your Sequim and Port Angeles area friends and neighbors who are dedicated to the idea of protecting animals who can't defend themselves. We are a low profile group of volunteers respectful of all animal life but who formed specifically in order to get a grasp on the local cat and dog overpopulation problem. Our ultimate goal is to build a low cost spay/neuter clinic and "no-kill" shelter in the immediate area.

During the organization's first 13 months of activity (Nov. 22, 1999-Dec. 31, 2000), Friends of Animals rescued 140 animals and provided 53 neuters and 52 spays. Additionally, every animal was tested for disease. Most also received treatment for fleas, worms or mites and were vaccinated as well. Forty-eight are currently being fostered.

If you care to help in our efforts, please call our message center at (360) 681-7393.

DINAH RESCUED BEHIND 101 DINER

Dinah was born last year in the clutter and rubble of some abandoned buildings directly behind the Hi-Way 101 Diner in Sequim. She is an absolutely gorgeous short haired tortoise shell cat who is very sweet but also painfully shy due to the tragic circumstances of her early life. She is desperately in need of a special and quiet home with patient humans who will work with her to help her to socialize and feel at ease.

Three of Dinah's family members have been rescued as well. Two of them have already been adopted to wonderful homes.

Efforts continue to rescue three additional felines still living on the site where the buildings are set to be demolished in the near future.

If you can offer an appropriate indoor home for Dinah or any of the other cats currently being sheltered by Friends of Animals, please call our message center at (360) 681-7393.

LATE BREAKING NEWS!!

As we go to press, Friends of Animals is on the verge of joining forces with the former Clallam County Humane Society Guild. The Guild's association with the Humane Society was recently terminated by Humane Society directors. A talented group of animal lovers who know how to get things done, the Guild has been especially skilled at running an off-site adoption program that has put nearly 300 homeless animals into loving households in just a year's time.

We are excited at the prospect of linking the two organizations. The streamlining of efforts is surely a positive step in achieving our common goals. The animals as well as the community should benefit as a result.

PETS AS GIFTS

As most of us realize, pets are not inanimate presents but rather are members of the family. When birthdays and holidays come around, some people tend to forget that there is a 10-20 year commitment involved in caring for a new pet.

If you are shopping for someone who wants a pet, a gift certificate (to be used after the birthday or holiday) or a book about the type of pet being sought might be an appropriate way to "give a pet". Consider wrapping up a replica stuffed toy along with a gift certificate from a local shelter. Then after the hustle and bustle of the birthday or holiday is over, the recipient can spend the time required to find the "just right" new family member.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS EVENT A

DOGGONE PURRFECT SUCCESS!

Friends of Animals' annual Christmas fundraiser featuring pet photos with Santa was a huge success this past December. A steady line of participants kept the volunteer photo takers and coordinators busy all day. Over 300 photos were snapped of more than 100 canine companions and a handful of feline friends.

Special thanks to Scott and Ellen at Dancing Dog in Sequim for supplying us with the space to carry out this event. Also thanks to the photographers and Friends of Animals volunteers who all donated a lot of time during the busy Christmas season to make this such a successful endeavor.

"If mankind could be crossed with the cat, it would improve mankind but deteriorate the cat."
---Mark Twain

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Make a cash donation. Nearly every animal that comes to us costs a minimum of \$75 in veterinary expenses. We rely solely on private donations. Your assistance can help us to continue to care for those already with us and enable us to care for others still in need.

Sponsor an animal. For \$10 a month you can sponsor a homeless animal. You will receive a picture and history of that animal.

Support our fundraisers. Please attend and support our fund raising activities.

Donate supplies. We are constantly in need of the following items: pet food, both dry and canned; kitty litter; bleach; stamps; envelopes; good quality copy paper. Please call ahead for a pick-up or to drop off.

Volunteer your time. Volunteers are needed for all aspects of our organization. Please call our message center at (360)681-7393 to express your interest. Someone will gladly get back to you!

JOIN FRIENDS OF ANIMALS AND HELP LOCAL HOMELESS ANIMALS OUT OF ABANDONMENT AND NEGLECT AND INTO LOVING HOMES. JUST CHECK THE APPROPRIATE PLACE ON THE FORM AND MAIL TO THE ADDRESS BELOW. THANK YOU FOR CARING!

I am making a donation. \$5. \$25.
\$50. \$100. Other amount (\$)

I am sponsoring a homeless cat dog for \$10 a month and will receive a photo and history of the animal I sponsor.

I would like to donate food or supplies.
Name/phone: _____

I would like to volunteer my time.
Name/phone: _____

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