



# Pet Friends, Inc.

PO Box 484, Irwin, PA 15642  
724-863-7722

Winter 2018

## Board of Directors:

**Betsy Walter,**  
President

**Annie Ghinassi**  
- Secretary &  
Volunteer  
Coordinator

**Lisa Cimbala**  
- Treasurer

**Vickie Kasa**  
- Canine  
Coordinator

**Christie Yasofsky**  
- Feline  
Coordinator

**Melanie Martin**  
- Public  
Relations

**Carly Toth**  
- Fundraising  
Coordinator

The official registration and financial information of Pet Friends may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.



Pet Friends is always in need of volunteers. Help from people who care about homeless dogs and cats. It seems lately, we are in more need than ever. It's because we've become more active than ever and the need to help is so great.

### How about you?

Have you ever considered volunteering with us?

We have opportunities for people willing share a few hours a week or just help at events, and friendly volunteers ready to welcome you!



Consider one (or more!) these opportunities:

**At our dog kennel:** Get some exercise and socialize our adoptable dogs. Kennel shifts include walking and playing with the dogs, cleaning the kennels, feeding and administering medication.

**In our PetSmart Cat Room:** Volunteers needed to spend time playing with the kittens, scooping litter, feeding, and cleaning cages. This is a great opportunity to cuddle adorable kittens!

**As a Foster Home:** All of our cats and kittens are house in foster homes. All supplies are provided at no cost to you. Fostering is extremely rewarding!

**At our Meet-a Pet Events:** Our cats and dogs are shown most weekends and at various events throughout the year. We need help with transporting and interacting with the community

**At Fundraising Events:** We ALWAYS need help before, during, and after events. Have some fun with fellow volunteers by helping us raise funds so we can help animals in need!

### How to apply:

Visit our website at [www.petfriendsinc.com](http://www.petfriendsinc.com); email us at [contact\\_us@petfriendsinc.com](mailto:contact_us@petfriendsinc.com), fill out & send in the form on page 11, or leave a message on our volunteer line at 724-863-7722.

Age guidelines: Dog Kennel, must be 18. Cat Room, must be 18 or 15-18 with an adult.  
Fundraising, all ages are welcome!

# Pet Friends News



need of 30-gallon storage totes with lids, agriculture grade straw, and large Styrofoam coolers. 1-inch Styrofoam sheets work as well.

If you are in need of Toasty Totes for your feral colony, call us at 724-863-7722 and leave a message on our cat line.

On Saturday November 3 Pet Friends volunteers teamed up with some of the Freshman from The University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg for an outstanding community project building "Toasty Totes" for our feral feline friends. Toasty Totes is a community service initiative Pet Friends developed in winter of 2017 to provide shelters to feral community cats. During this event the students constructed more than 10 winter shelters for the communities of Westmoreland County and surrounding areas. These shelters will provide safety and warmth this coming winter for many of the cats in our area. All supplies were donated to Pet Friends by our wonderful supporters and constructed with love by the amazing volunteers and students that came out on this cold and rainy day.



If you would like to contribute to the Toasty Totes project, we are always in



We appreciate the help, ambition, and kindness of the Freshmen, as well as the donations from our supporters. Without the combined help from many different sources, a bunch of cats would be forced to try to survive this winter without any protection from the cold.



Special thanks to Laura Mahar for the basket of items and cash that she donated to us and to Joe Denski for the buggy of food he recently donated! So very kind of both of you!!!





Update on Sable! Here's a photo of her on a shopping trip with her coupon from Purina for a free case of food (she got Fancy Feast kitten). We went to Pet Supplies Plus in White Oak - she loved the birds!

She was safe in her stroller. She doesn't jump, or run due to her back-



leg issues. She enjoyed getting out, seeing all the sights and smelling all the smells.

She still needs to see a specialist. We are working to obtain funding to help her.

## A Very Successful Mobile Spay/Neuter Clinic – Kudos to Port Vue!

Our September mobile spay/neuter clinic held in Port Vue was a fantastic success!

Here's a report from our cat coordinator, Christie Yasofsky:

Wow, what a weekend! We were very successful! We were able to trap 31 cats from the community as well as rescue 7 kittens under 5 weeks old. Out of the 31 cats/kittens trapped we took 19 into rescue therefore only releasing 12 community cats back into the borough. The support from the borough was overwhelming! The mayor was exceptionally supportive, the police department was wonderful in watching over us as we trapped the night before, and the council's support for this project sets a standard I wish all communities would follow. We met many wonderful community members during this project and truly enjoyed our time in Port Vue. WTAE ran a story about this project and hopefully it will pave the way for many communities in the future. We sincerely thank Port Vue for allowing us to come into their community and helping these animals. It speaks volumes of the character of the citizens of Port Vue and how truly supportive your people are.

This is a note from Port Vue:

Dear Christie:

I have heard nothing but positive comments on our Spay/Neuter project. We can't thank you enough and we appreciate everything you and your group did this past weekend. If ever you need to refer anyone to us for questions, we will be happy to tell them about the success. You and your group are special people to do what you do and to be so dedicated to doing this work. Thank you again. Also, The Mayor and Council are sponsoring a pancake breakfast on October 14, 2018, to raise funds to defer the cost of the program and we would love to have you.

Sincerely,  
Malisa Migliori, Manager

## Recent Fundraisers

Our annual Wine Event, at the Greenhouse Winery held in October, was once again a fantastic success and enjoyed by all. We thank all our volunteers for their help. We raised over \$6,200 at this event!

We had fun at our first ever Golf Outing in October! We thank all our volunteers who helped make this event a success! We raised over \$3,300 at this event!

One of our volunteers, Kaleena Rabic, conducted an on-line Photo Contest in September. It was on-line fun, raising over \$70 for our organization. Thank you Kaleena for using your talents to benefit Pet Friends!

A few of our volunteers spent most of the day at Pet Valu in the Penn Crossing Shopping Center in September, greeting customers and just enjoying the visit. We collected over \$600 in donations at this event.

This past summer We had a Shoe Collection Drive where we collect used shoes of all sizes and shapes for an organization will to pay us for them. We raised a little over \$300 from this effort. We thank everyone who gave us their used shoes!

We held another Dine to Donate at Double Wide Grill this past October where we raised over \$200. Thank you to everyone who ate on our night and mentioned our organization!

A few of our volunteers set up a table at their annual visit at Sam's Club, Greensburg, at the beginning of September. They spent the day talking with customers about Pet Friends and all we do to help our community. We raised over \$1,000 at this event!

**2018 YTD  
Adoptions:  
209 Cats!  
39 Dogs!**

### Pet Friends Mission Statement

Pet Friends, Inc. is a non-profit, all volunteer animal rescue organization whose mission is to rescue, rehabilitate, and find permanent homes for lost and unwanted dogs and cats in western Westmoreland County, Pa. It is our goal to provide for the medical and physical needs of these animals; to provide educational activities and programs to help end the suffering caused by pet overpopulation; and to offer educational opportunities that will enhance the lives of people and their pets.



Pet Friends set up Christmas Donation Trees at Busy Beaver (N Huntingdon), Tractor Supply (N Versailles), and Pet Supplies Plus (White Oak)!

Hope our trees are visited often by kind donators in our community.



**We wish all of our readers and all of our fur-friends the best this Holiday Season!**



# Upcoming Fundraisers



## Visit our Cats/Kittens

Every day at the PetSmart in Greensburg during store hours  
*Please call our cat line at 724-863-7722 if you want to volunteer at PetSmart*

## Visit our Dogs

1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays, Carwen's Kennel in Irwin, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
*Please call our dog line at 724-863-7722 if you can help transport or handle our dogs*

## Join us at our Volunteer Meetings

3rd Monday of each month, N. Huntingdon Townhouse Building, 7 to 8pm



**Christmas ticket** (Afternoon and evening Pa. lottery numbers) \$2 per ticket.  
Each ticket has 2 numbers. Call 724-863-7722 and select option 5 (fundraising)  
to get tickets.

We are always putting together fundraisers - dines-to-donate, open houses, etc., - which can be found on our website or on our Facebook page - please check often!!

Below is a preliminary schedule of our 2019 fundraisers:

Woofstock - February 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Larimer Volunteer Fire Department - Larimer

Comedy Show - March 9<sup>th</sup> at The Rose Bar and Grille Restaurant in White Oak

Calendar Party - April 7<sup>th</sup> at The Hall at Robbins Station, N. Huntingdon

Carol Obley Readings - May 2<sup>nd</sup> at The Rose Bar and Grille Restaurant in White Oak

**Volunteers needed for all these events!**

**Not fundraisers, but:**

We scheduled 4 Spay/Neuter Clinics at Cassie's Top Dog Grooming, N. Huntingdon:



April 14<sup>th</sup>  
May 19<sup>th</sup>  
July 21<sup>st</sup>  
September 15<sup>th</sup>



## Dee Dee's Den

Named in memory of our friend Dee Dee Anderson

Welcome to our sponsorship page.

By sponsoring animals, donators help us cover operating costs.

**Klondike**



Sponsored by  
Will & Leeann Steel

**Bebe**



Sponsored by  
Will & Leeann Steel

**Trouble**



Sponsored by  
Will & Leeann Steel

**Hammock**



Sponsored by  
Tony & Virginia Donina

**Nosey**



Sponsored by  
Tony & Virginia Donina

**Cagney**



Sponsored by  
*I need a sponsor*

**Barron**



Sponsored by  
Gerry Lyons

**Mary Jane**



Sponsored by  
Gloria Cira

**Delilah**



Sponsored by  
Gloria Cira

Please help us to give these and all of our pets the gift of a good home.  
They will thank you a thousand times over!

## Dee Dee's Den (Continued)

Welcome to our sponsorship page. If you would like to sponsor an animal, please send your tax-deductible donation, marked "sponsorship" for \$20 (per animal) to Pet Friends, PO Box 484, Irwin, PA 15642. Thank you to all of these sponsors!  
By sponsoring an animal, donators help us cover operating costs.

**Halsey**



Sponsored by  
Diane Paulson

**Munchkin**



Sponsored by  
Diane Paulson

**Baxter**



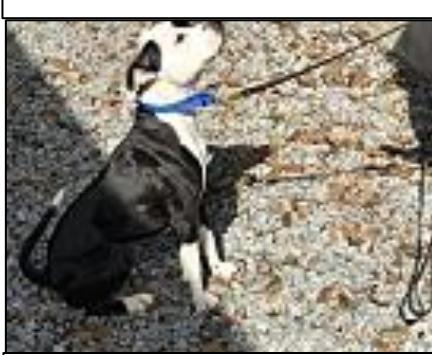
Sponsored by  
Eileen Palikowski

**Ritter**



Sponsored by  
Doris Cipra

**Rosie**



Sponsored by  
Doris Cipra

**Lany**



Sponsored by  
*I need a sponsor*

**Colbie**



Sponsored by  
Will & Leeann Steel

**James**



Sponsored by  
Will & Leeann Steel

**Cinnamon**



Sponsored by  
Laura Diaz

Please help us to give these and all of our pets the gift of a good home.  
They will thank you a thousand times over!

## Memorials and Honors

In honor of Jax (Gunner Lafoon), from Perfect Industrial Cleaning

In honor of Pet Friends, from Bob & Linda Finlay

In honor of the marriage of Patti Gamble & Geoff Andrison, from Rick Gaudino and Chad & Rachel Good

In loving memory of Libby, who I adopted Oct 2007 from Pet Friends and sadly had to say good bye to on July 30th 2018. She was my faithful companion. I miss her so much and will never forget her, Anne Fagan

In loving memory of Maria Arguelles who passed away on August 27, 2018. Maria was passionate about her kitties. Sending love and healing thoughts now and in the days to come, from Karla & Barry Terney, Skip & Suzie Paul, Lise Wadkins, Victoria Waller, Beverly Bartholomew, Cheryl Wood, and Janet & Tony Zidansek

In memory of Aria Aruelles, from Curt & Darlene Ciocca

In memory of Beverly R. Smithley, from an anonymous donor

In memory of Billi, beloved Brittany of Carrie Wippich, from Jerry & Joy Laukus

In memory of Charles Bouma, from Carol Koches & Jackie Face, Diana Haden, Joseph & Suzanne Barna, Joshua Brooks, Michael Pangonis, Michelle Minjock, Stephanie George, and Tom & Melissa LiVorio

In memory of Clifford, beloved canine of Mr. & Mrs. Armand Sarti, who spread joy & laughter to all, from Mary Jane & Gregory Clark

In memory of Elizabeth, Sylvester, & Brigid, beloved cats of Loretta & Gil Pastor

In memory of Frankie, beloved pet of Paul, Owen, & Lily Javor, from Zora Javor

In memory of Joan P Kren, from her son, Michael Kren

In memory of Leroy, beloved kitty of Lillian Carothers, from Lillian Carothers

In memory of Lucy Liu, beloved dog of Louise M Foster, who holds a special place in her heart and always will, from Louise Foster

In memory of Peggy Osborne, from Cynthia L Snyder

In memory of Samuel Mazzei, from Becky Valentine

In memory of Sassy, beloved pet, adopted from Pet Friends approximately 15 years ago, by Al and Marge Hobby, from Deborah Kelly

In memory of Stanly, beloved Beagle of Megan Nicholson, from Bob & Margaret Nicholson

In memory of Thomas Arendas from Dave Duncan, Esther Wurzell, Joyce Ann Garritano, Denise, Harvey & Michele Ruffin, Sandra Valkanas, John & Judy Lesnick, and Ronald & Martha Hallowell

In memory of Zeldabelle, beloved pet of Pamela Ward, from Pamela Ward

They say memories are golden; well maybe that is true.  
I never wanted memories - I only wanted you.  
A million times I needed you, a million times I cried.  
If love alone could have saved you, you never would have died.  
In life, I loved you dearly. In death, I love you still.  
In my heart you hold a place that no one will ever fill.  
If tears could build a stairway and heartache make a lane,  
I'd walk the path to heaven and bring you back again.  
Our family chain is broken and nothing seems the same;  
but as God calls us one by one, the chain will link again.



## Alumni News

Dear Pet Friends,

The enclosed donation is made on behalf of Zach, our yellow lab. He's been gone for 1 ½ years now. We had him for 11 years (got hi from you when he was three). Keep up the good work!

Marie Woods

Dear Pet Friends,

I am enclosing a check to sponsor a cat or kitten. Three years ago, I was blessed to receive my Rylie from you. She has been a joy. Bless you for all you do. This is crazy world. We need to protect and love all creatures.

Eileen Pavlikowski

Dear Pet Friends,

I receive your newsletter and love reading about the animals, especially the kitties, that you have rescued and have taken care of. Thanks to all the individuals at Pet Friends who volunteer and do such wonderful work helping these innocent animals who end up to be our precious lovable pets! ❤️

Patti DeStefano & Rocco (once but no longer a Pet Friends' kitty)

Dear Pet Friends & especially Carli,

I just wanted to tell you what a wonderful cat (your Tiny Tim – I named him Petey) is. He is sweet, gentle, loving, smart, loyal, playful, and noisy when I go into the kitchen. He makes me laugh every day. When I adopted him March 2018, he was a very sad and scared cat with some health issues that you helped me provide to him the care he needed through Dr. Hill. You should see him now – the picture of health, joy, and sweetness. I love him so much. Thank you for bringing us together.

Norita Zamosky

Dear Pet Friends,

Thank you for my Reuder. Thank you for your work saving dogs and cats. Wish I could do more.

Thank you, Frances Stitley

Dear Pet Friends,

I recently sent you a memorial donation for my cat, Libby. I wanted to send you a picture of her. She was a beautiful calico who loved to curl up in small boxes, as you can see in this picture. She came from your shelter and I adopted her in 2007. She was a great companion and friend and I miss her so much. She had a very good home and was loved so much. I am so glad to have had her in my life.

Anne Fagan



## Contribution Information

I'd like to contribute for:

General    Cat Fund    Dog Fund

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please include an address if you wish for a card to be sent to your gift recipient.

Send information and check to:

Pet Friends,  
P.O. Box 484, Irwin, PA 15642



In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

Pet or Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Gift Recipient:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please include an address if you wish for a card to be sent to your gift recipient.

## 2019 Memberships Welcome!

Want to be a member? The annual fee to become a member is \$20. Our members elect the people to sit on our Board and vote on key issues.

I want to become a Member    I want to renew my Membership

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Pet Friends, P.O. Box 484, Irwin, PA 15642

# Here's your chance: Want to Volunteer?

If you would like more information about how you can help Pet Friends, please call, write, email, or return this form with your contact information. You can help by simply selling or buying raffle tickets, walking a dog once a week or once a month, fostering a cat or dog, or help clean & socialize our cats at PetSmart.

(Must be at least 18 to volunteer independently - can be less than 18 if accompanied by an adult.)

Phone: 724-863-7722

Pet Friends

Email: [volunteer@petfriendsinc.com](mailto:volunteer@petfriendsinc.com)

P.O. Box 484, Irwin, PA 15642

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_



## On-line Business Partners

If you like shopping on-line, please consider the following on-line businesses as they donate a portion of the sales to Pet Friends if you list our name as your charity of choice.

- 1) **My Sister and Me:** \$10 from the sale of each necklace is donated to the shelter or rescue of the buyer's choice. [www.facebook.com/michellebullington.ga](http://www.facebook.com/michellebullington.ga) or [www.etsy.com/shop/chellebullington](http://www.etsy.com/shop/chellebullington)
- 2) **iGive:** Shop online at your favorite stores and select Pet Friends to be your charity of choice to get free money! [www.igive.com](http://www.igive.com)
- 3) **U.S. Bones:** Shop online for your pet products and Pet Friends will earn 25% of the value of your order! [www.usbones.com](http://www.usbones.com)
- 4) **Mr. Chewy's Shelter and Rescue Network:** Every visitor to Mr. Chewy's using this link automatically lands on a special page set for Pet Friends. Once you've made a purchase and qualify (1st time customer, 1 per household) Pet Friends Inc. gets a \$20 donation. <http://www.chewy.com/rp/1206>
- 5) **Bullington Baby:** Looking for a way to help shelter animals in your area? \$10 from the sale of each Paw Print necklace will be donated to the animal shelter or rescue of the buyer's choice! Show your love and support for shelter dogs and cats with a beautiful 15mm sterling silver paw prints charm on an 18" silver filled chain with lobster claw closure. Please leave a note at check-out with the name and location of your area shelter or rescue. (Please go to our web site @ <http://www.petfriendsinc.com> for Bullington Baby's web address)
- 6) **AmazonSmile:** Shop at AmazonSmile and they will make a donation to Pet Friends. Visit them at <https://smile.amazon.com/>

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E-mail:  
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Web Site: [www.petfriendsinc.com](http://www.petfriendsinc.com)



Search for us on Facebook

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION  
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PERMIT NO. 130

Change Service Requested

## Our Wish List

\* Tax deductible cash donations to help with Veterinarian bills \*

|   |                                 |                         |
|---|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Treats (Cat & Dog - no Rawhides)        | Puppy Pads                      | Bleach                  |
| Food (Dry or Canned - dog, cat, kitten) | Kitten Chow                     | Simple Green Cleaner    |
| Jars of Peanut Butter                   | Pillowcases                     | Brooms                  |
| Fresh Step Clumping Cat Litter          | Paper Towels                    | Postage Stamps          |
| Grocery Store Gift Cards                | Pill Pockets                    | Laundry Soap            |
| Canned Pumpkin-not spiced               | Pine Sol                        | <b>More Volunteers!</b> |
| Large Garbage Bags for Cans             | Clorox                          |                         |
| Durable Toys, Balls, Kong Toys          | Advantage Flea Meds for Cats    |                         |
| Cat Beds & Kuranda Dog Beds             | Royal Canin Mom & Baby Cat food |                         |

\* \* \* Safety, health, and LOVE for all animals in 2018 and every year after! \* \* \*