

Promoting Animal Welfare in Jefferson County

FALL 2011

How One Cat Becomes Sixty

ou've heard the statistics before—a single un-spayed female cat can ultimately result in hundreds of kittens. Cats can have as many as three litters per year, and they can start reproducing well before they are a year old.

Sometimes it's hard to wrap your head around the numbers—they don't seem real. But at Pet Pals, we are constantly reminded of just how real they are. It's the reason we keep doing what we do.

When a homeless cat wandered into a Jefferson County barn last fall, looking for warmth and food, the owner called us. The cat was welcome to stay, she said, but needed to be spayed. We took care of that through our Community Cats program, and Frannie the kitty moved happily into her new cozy barn. It should have been the end of the story.

But it turned out that Frannie wasn't exactly homeless; she had been living next door and had left a litter or two of grown and nearly-grown offspring behind. Several months later, one of them showed up outside of Frannie's barn—with her own litter of kittens in tow. And back at Frannie's old home, there were more litters of kittens—a rapidly growing extended family.

Again, it was Pet Pals to the rescue. Frannie's new caretaker transported the seven adult cats to the vet where we paid for their spay and neuter surgeries. Pet Pals board member and Commu-



nity Cat volunteer Donna Regester acted quickly to get all 21 of the kittens into foster care. Sadly, five kittens were too ill to survive, but the rest—16 lucky rescued kitties—have all been adopted.

Since the majority of kittens in this extended family were female, there is no telling how many grand- and great-grand kittens Frannie would have had by next spring, but it's a safe guess that it would have been upwards of 60. Thanks to the generosity of a concerned neighbor, the Pet Pals foster network, and your continued generous donations to our organization, the story for this large family of cats had a happy ending.

▲ Rescued kittens Madeline, Finn and **Pippi Longstocking** arrive at the shelter to find their forever homes.

Photo by Deja Webster of DejaView Photography

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Olympic Mountain Pet Pals is a 501(c)(3) (nonprofit) organization whose mission is to prevent the birth of unwanted pets and feral cats through our spay and neuter programs. We are funded by donations and grants.

For more information about Olympic Mountain Pet Pals, visit our website at www.ompetpals.org

Tiger: World's Smartest Cat?

iger had clearly been on his own for a while. When found by a kind local citizen, he was severely matted and unneutered, but very friendly. After a quick trip to Hadlock Veterinary Clinic for neutering and a shave, he headed to the Jefferson County Animal Shelter. Even with his funny haircut, Tiger's charm got him adopted quickly. But after just one week in his new home, Tiger took off to explore the area and found himself lost. After wandering for a few days, he parked himself on the front porch of a house about three-quarters of a mile away. It just happened to be the home of Pet Pals board member Phyllis Becker, who recognized the distinctive semi-bald cat immediately. Phyllis is coordinator of Pet Pals' Community Cat program and also volunteers at the shelter, so she knew Tiger well.

Tiger wasn't ready to be rescued again, though, and it took Phyllis and her husband Paul three days—during which they set two humane traps for him—to finally get him to stick around for a meal.



Tiger relaxes in a roomy cage in the Beckers' garage while waiting to head back to the shelter, and ultimately to his home.

Photo by Phyllis Becker

By that time he was hungry and ready to go home. Tiger headed back to the shelter where his new family came to reclaim him.

Now how did Tiger know how to find Phyllis—the person in the absolute best position to help him? Wish he could tell us!

Thank Yous

Olympic Mountain Pet Pals Thanks These Local Businesses for Their In-Kind Contributions:

- Mike Watters of Mike Watters Design for design of our newsletter.
- Steve Gillard for maintenance of our website.
- **OlympusNet,** owned by Kate and Ned Schumann, for hosting our website.
- Olympic Mailing Service, owned by Caroline Stuckey, for handling the mailing of our newsletter.
- SOS Printing, for printing our newsletter.
- The Bishop Hotel, owned by Joe and Cindy Finnie, for providing space for board meetings.

- Uptown Nutrition for carrying our Pet Pals Palate Pleasers cookbook and our new canvas bags.
- The Food Co-op for carrying our Pet Pals Palate Pleasers cookbook and including us in their Beans for Bags program.

Thank You to the World's Best Veterinarians!

Our spay/neuter programs depend on the generous help of our veterinarians and their staffs:

- Dr Ginny Johnson, Hadlock Veterinary Clinic
- Dr. Jeff Highbarger and Dr. Abbie Doll, Chimacum Valley Veterinary Hospital



Remembering Erica

lympic Mountain Pet Pals lost a valued board member and tireless worker on behalf of animals with the recent death of Erica Springstead. Having been an animal activist in Colorado during the years that she and her husband Ted lived there, Erica continued her advocacy after moving to Port Townsend, working as a volunteer taking care of cats at our Jefferson County Animal Shelter as well as serving on OMPP's Board of Directors for nearly 2 years.

Whether working with board member Kate Schumann to bring the tote bag project to fruition, handling our correspondence or "booth-sitting" at community outreach events, Erica approached each task with energy and enthusiasm.

We recently learned that our organization is the beneficiary of her very generous unrestricted bequest, to be used in whatever way we see fit. Erica's contributions to Port Townsend and beyond were many, and we at Pet Pals consider ourselves extremely fortunate to have been among those causes which she supported. She will be greatly missed but fondly remembered by all whose lives she touched.

From the President

nimal experts believe spaying and neutering has played the biggest role in saving so many lives." This quote from a recent Associated Press article about why the number of unwanted dogs and cats euthanized as been dramatically reduced since 1970 made me realize how important it is for Pet Pals to continue our commitment to spay/neuter and community cat population control in our community.

A "no kill" shelter is generally defined as one where no animals are euthanized simply due

to lack of space. Some "no kill" shelters remain that way by turning away animals when they are full. Our local animal shelter is very small and Jefferson County has nearly 30,000 people. How is our shelter able to accept all surrendered animals without having to euthanize any for lack of space? We believe it is because Olympic Mountain Pet Pals has provided free spay/neuter to 3,500 pets in low income households and, in addition, has spayed and

What would the effect have been if those 6,000 animals had not received our services? You can do the math. In this economic climate it is even more critical that we continue to fund these programs.

neutered nearly 1,800 community cats. I'm still amazed that we have provided this service for nearly 6,000 animals in the last nine years.

What would the effect have been if those 6,000 animals had not received our services? You can do the math. In this economic climate it is even more critical that we continue to fund these programs. We find that more dogs and cats are being abandoned when their owners move and many pets are being surrendered to the shelter because it is too expensive for their owners to care for them, or they are forced to move to

another location where pets aren't allowed. If animals resulting from uncontrolled breeding were added to this mix, our situation would be grim. We are dedicated to continuing this work with your help and believe that someday there will be a loving home for every dog and cat in our community.

We will announce a challenge grant soon so your end of year gift will help even more animals. We are also planning fundraising events starting in 2012, including a new twist on our "Short Tails" program. If we have your e-mail you will hear directly about our events. You can also check our website at www.ompetpals.org to get information on upcoming activities, see photos, download the donation form or donate with PayPal. Thank you for caring about the animals in our community!

For the animals,

Pam Kolacy



Thanks to our supporters, the Gala Benefit performance of BARK! The Musical was a huge success. We sold out the house on August 18 and provided our guests with a wonderful evening that included wine, champagne, and great food from our Pet Pals Palate Pleasers cookbook.

The production, with a stellar cast artfully directed by Denise Winter, was greeted by howls of laughter and those in attendance went out to spread the word to others about this wonderful event. In fact, the show was so popular that several extra performances were added and immediately sold out. The idea for bringing BARK! to Port Townsend was the idea of Pet Pals Vice President Kate Schumann who worked with Key City Public Theatre to make it happen. As Artistic Director Winter stated in the program, "Kate came to me with grrrrreat enthusiasm for the show. She and I began to hatch a plan for collaboration between OMPP and KCPT and she dogged me for months to see it through. Although I was familiar with the show, it was Kate's brainchild that brought the two organizations together in bringing BARK! to Port Townsend."

This collaboration resulted in a unique sponsorship opportunity for Pet Pals as well as a partnership between the two nonprofits that was a first for both. We hope that the team effort—which was a great success and benefited both the arts and animals in our community—will inspire other groups to seek out similar opportunities.

Prior to the production, Pet Pals launched a Poster dog contest. Photographers Deb Hammond and Sheila Lauder spent two days taking photos of over 40 dogs who vied for the honor of appearing as BARK's poster dog. Shelby Gast, a handsome Sheltie, won the coveted spot. You can see a slide show of



Cast of BARK! The Musical Photo by Eligius Wolodkewitsch



Poster dog Shelby Gast and five runners up Photo by Deb Hammond and Sheila Lauder

all the fabulous dogs who participated in the contest on our website, www.ompetpals.org

The event could not have happened without the hard work of all of our Pet Pals Board members who sold tickets, baked, and donated wine. Special thanks to Ginny Messina and Phyllis Becker who coordinated the appetizers and desserts, Kathy Stanger, of Mac's Macaroons, who donated door prizes for each BARK! performance, and Joe Euro of the Wine Seller, who helped with the wine selection. Volunteers Brenda Wagner and Terry Wagner prepared food for the event and our photographers, Deb and Sheila, donated huge amounts of their time and talent for the photo contest. Denise Winter and the talented cast of BARK! The Musical put on an awesome performance. We are also grateful to all of you who came to the Gala and enjoyed the show with us.

Plans are already in the works for future fundraisers (with emphasis on "fun") for 2012. There is nothing better than raising money for our programs and having the opportunity to meet our supporters, and together, celebrate the love of animals.



READ to ROVER

READ to ROVER

s in the past six years, the READ to ROVER program was a great success this summer at our participating libraries — Port Townsend and Jefferson County. The librarians and staff are always wonderfully welcoming and enthusiastic. And it's fun to see many familiar young readers returning each summer. A library patron, who for the last several years has been bringing her Canadian granddaughter to READ to ROVER, says it's one of the highlights of their summer visit together.

Although several READ to ROVER teams retired at the end of last year's school session, we are fortunate to welcome three new teams that started out this fall at Grant Street and Chimacum Creek Elementary Schools. For more information about this popular program, go to www.ompetpals.org.

Pet Pals Goes to the Fair

ugust was a busy month for our organization! Two days after the BARK! Gala, we hit the Uptown Fair with an exhibit highlighting our work and selling wonderful pet-related merchandise. Kathy Stanger, creator of Mac's Macaroons, volunteered along with board members Kate Schumann, Phyllis Becker, Donna Regester, and Pam Kolacy. We had visits from BARK! cast members, too!

As always, our exhibit was a hit with fair-goers who wanted to hear about our efforts to eliminate pet homelessness.





Board members
Donna Regester and
Phyllis Becker staff
the Pet Pals Uptown
Fair exhibit while
BARK! cast members
Sara and James
Wordsworth visit
with Lillie Schumann.

Photo by Ned Schumann

Pet Pals volunteer Kathy Stanger takes a break from staffing the Pet Pals exhibit to give a quick hug to canine volunteer Lillie Schumann.

Photo by Ned Schumann

Do Your Holiday Shopping with Pet Pals

ur animal-related merchandise makes it a breeze to tackle your holiday shopping list. This year our merchandise includes new mouse pads featuring artwork by Max Grover designed just for Pet Pals. Max's fun "Someone to Watch Over Me" creation graces our new note cards, too.

We also have roomy, strong canvas bags sporting the Pet Pals logo, cards with dog and cat artwork by local artists, our popular cookbook, Pet Pals' Palate Pleasers, at a special holiday price, and treats from Mac's Macaroons to stuff into your pet's stocking. Get a sneak peek at these items by visiting our website

www.ompetpals.org.

Come shop with us at the Port Townsend Food Co-op (look for us in the alcove, across from the check-out lines) on December 10th from 2:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. and on December 16th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Many of our items – mouse pads, canvas bags, cards, and cookbooks—are also available at Uptown Nutrition in Port Townsend.





Artwork by Max Grover appears on our new mouse pad and greeting cards.

Save the Date!

Our next Short Tails will feature local actors in an old-fashioned radio show format. And due to the popularity of this event, we're offering two performances. So mark the evening of January 28 and afternoon of January 29 on your 2012 calendar. And stay tuned for more details.

DONORS

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Sylvia Bowman

Kris Burns

Ken and Judith Collins

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Roy Hicks

Karen Huguley

Diane Hurd

Carol Hurley

Kathleen Jackson

Priscilla Jensen

Susan Johnson

Sydney Keegan

Gary Kennedy

Iane Kilburn

Sheryl Klock

Pam and Keith Kolacy

Jane Krabill

Vivian LaBonte Lester and Kathy Lee

Abby Leigh

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The Food Co-Op

The Springstead Family Trust

Lois Twelves

Lorraine Vagner

Marsha and Sol Wiener

Celia and Michael Withers

Taylor Worth

IN HONOR OF...

Jim Sherwood

Jim McCarron

Max Grover

Susan Blake

Marsha Wiener

Mari Friend

Phyllis Becker's birthday

Robert and Dolores

Harvey

Dr. Ginny Johnson with gratitude for the loving care she gives to our companion animals

Jamie and Doug Reudink

Barn cat Sheba

Sandi Robison

My corgi, Ruby

Nancy Schneider

IN MEMORY OF...

Bonita Flagg

Phyllis and Paul Becker Ginny Messina

Inka Macklin

Ingrid Musson

Bobbi Gould, who loved all things furry, feathered and finned

Donna Regester

Kathleen Jepson

Kathleen Jackson

Gerry Hyatt Bergstrom

Sydney Keegan

Shadow, beloved dog of Deb Hammond

Pam and Keith Kolacy Ginny and Mark Messina

Catherine McNabb Kate and Ned Schumann

Harrison, beloved kitty of **Donna Regester**

Donna Regester

Ginny and Mark Messina Phyllis and Paul Becker

Sadie, beloved dog and constant companion of Donna Regester

Donna Regester Phyllis and Paul Becker

Our beautiful yellow lab, Mondo

Jamie and Doug Reudink

Delilah, beloved dog of Heather Scott-Goddard

Kris Burns

Allie, beloved dog of Andrew Glass and Jen LeTourneau

Ken and Judith Collins

Shadow, Misty, and Sheba Penelope Cross

Maggie, beloved dog of Ann **Fangman**

Madelyn Curll

Skip, beloved dog of Henrietta **Davies**

Madelyn Curll

Max, beloved dog of the Williams Family

Madelyn Curll

Taffy, beloved dog of Glee Hubbard

Madelyn Curll

Jamie and Doug Reudink's darling dog Mondo

Mazzie Hale

Bam Bam, beloved dog of Sasha O'Meara

George Hanson

Billy

Karen Huguley

The black feral cat, who lived in my backyard for nine years

Priscilla Jensen

Ruby, beloved and much missed dog of Suzanne Cunliffe

Priscilla Jensen

Bella, beloved and much missed dog of Mollie and Jim **Tulley**

Sam, beloved dog of Terry

Wagner Sheryl Klock

Priscilla Jensen

Marigold, beloved kitty of Linnea Patric

Pam and Keith Kolacy

Shasta, beloved, sweet dog of Jan Schroeder

Jan Schroeder Pam and Keith Kolacy

Sarah, beloved dog of Erin Lundgren and family Pam and Keith Kolacy

Shane, beloved dog of Nan **Toby Tyrrell**

Pam and Keith Kolacy Kate and Ned Schumann

Beloved dog Buddy

Vivian LaBonte

Bootsie

Bernice Martell

Bella, beloved dog of Bob and Charlene Engel

Keith and Jean Marzan

Our beloved cat Snorkel

Ginny and Mark Messina

Buddha, beloved little budgie of Joan Petrokofsky

Ginny and Mark Messina

Mina, beloved dog of the Jason Lynch family

Pam Rogge and Donna Benson

Keith and Jean Marzan's beloved Eddie

Marvin and Kathie Miller Sol and Marsha Wiener

Tiger, beloved cat of Mark and Laura Burn

Carrie Muellner

My beloved dog Nelson

Carolynn Moody

Max, beloved dog of Kathy and Todd Knoblock

Pam Rogge

Ginger, beloved dog of Sue and Miles Vokurka

Pam Rogge

Petey

Barbara MacLean

Emma, beloved dog of Mike and Susie Andrews

Carrie Muellner

Beloved dog Lilah

Ron Nemec

Liza, beloved dog of Doris Battye

Kim Pratt

Bear, beloved dog of Aletia Alverez

Sally Rodgers

Buddy, beloved dog of Vivian La Bonte

Dixie Romadka

Beloved cats Meggie, Beaver, and Karma

Erica and Ted Springstead

Sandor, beloved dog, and loyal friend and protector of the Akins Family

Marcy Stewart

Best Kitty Cleo

Nancy Stickney

Our departed animal companions Peaches, Ginger, Partner, and Bonnie

Marsha and Sol Wiener

Meggie, beloved cat of Erica and Ted Springstead

Marsha and Sol Wiener

Amelia, beloved cat of Lisa Enarson and Randy Kraxberger

Marsha and Sol Wiener

Captain Hastings, beloved dog of Ray and Nancy Steinburg

Pam and Keith Kolacy

Nora, beloved cat of Siu and Russell Johnson

Madelyn Curll

Sam, beloved dog of A. Kay Thoreson

Madelyn Curll

Annie, beloved dog of Paige Pettit and Alan Curtis

Ginny and Mark Messina

Our beloved kitties, Huckleberry and Harry

Ginny and Mark Messina

Max, wonderful dog of Shirley and George Williams Taylor Worth

Pinks, beloved dog of Bob Podrat

Araya Sol Pam and Keith Kolacy Sol and Marsha Wiener Ginny Messina Kate and Ned Schumann



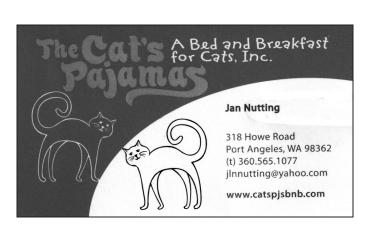
IN MEMORY OF ERICA SPRINGSTEAD

Phyllis and Paul Becker G. M. Dumenil Elsie Grooms Philip Hallin Margaret Height Ron and Ann Hein and family Linda Jeannotte Jane Kilburn Sheryl Klock Lester and Kathy Lee

Jan and Britt Lindelow

Bob and Linda Maguire Keith and Jean Marzan Ginny and Mark Messina Janet and Mike Mortenson Dwight Oberholtzer and Ellen Ostern

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Community Cats in the Garden

ats who are helped through our Community Cats program sometimes need new homes. But if they aren't social enough to be indoor pets, that new home is often a barn—or sometimes a garden, as in the case of Kitty. The shy tabby is one of two cats who were placed at Secret Gardens nursery in Port Townsend through Pet Pals' "barn home" program.

Kitty spent several days in a roomy cage as she became acclimated to her new environment and learned to appreciate it as a place to find regular meals. Now, she wanders the gardens by day and sleeps in a cozy shelter at night. She and the other garden cat are earning their keep, too, according to Sheila Piccini, owner of Secret Gardens, "They have been catching rodents throughout the summer at the garden center," Sheila told us. "I love cats, and am happy to be able to provide a home for these guys."



Sheila Piccini, owner of Secret Gardens, welcomes new cat Kitty

Photo by Phyllis Becker

Stay in Touch with Pet Pals

o we have your email address? We contact our members just two or three times a year to let you know about upcoming events that don't make it into our newsletter. We're also obligated by state law to contact each member in advance of our annual membership meeting. Postage and postcards are ever-rising expenses, and whenever we can be in touch by email, the savings go directly to help animals. If you'd like to be added to our email list, please send your address to Donna Regester, dregester@gmail.com.

There are other ways to stay in the Pet Pals loop, too! Follow us on twitter (we're @ompetpals) or give us a "like" on facebook by searching for Olympic Mountain Pet Pals. Finally, don't forget to bookmark our website www.ompetpals.org, which is a great place to see our merchandise and find out about the latest Pet Pals events.

P.O. Box 1466 Port Hadlock, WA 98339

