

Paws & Print

Friends of the Fairfax County Animal Shelter Newsletter

FALL/WINTER 2015

WWW.FFCAS.ORG

Tis the Season!

The holiday season is upon us and no matter how you celebrate, winter has invited itself to your home. As you and your family prepare, please remember the dangers that certain supplies and conditions bring to your pets.

As the temperatures drop, humans stock up on supplies such as salt, ice melt and antifreeze. While these items help keep you and your family safe, they pose serious risks for your pets. Salt and certain types of ice melt are toxic to dogs and cats (lethal to those with kidney disease), and can cause chemical burns to paws and tracheas. Many stores carry pet-safe ice melt—an option you and your neighbors should consider using. Antifreeze (ethylene glycol) is another substance that is toxic, and can be fatal, when ingested. Cats and dogs are attracted to the smell and like the taste, so ensure that car radiators are not leaking fluid in the garage or driveway. Also ensure antifreeze containers are tightly sealed.

Besides supplies, cold temperatures are also a concern for all pets. Ensure habitat and home temperatures are kept at a safe and comfortable level for all residents, not just the human ones. Time spent outdoors should be shortened on frigid days, especially for small, short-haired or senior pets. When you shovel the driveway and sidewalk for your safe passage, be sure to dig out a path for your pet as well. As a reminder, dogs can lose traction on ice, so be especially watchful of older animals. Boots can be purchased to help with traction and ice sensitivity. And after you and your pet take that abbreviated trip outside, be sure to wash/wipe paws free of any sediment.

Celebrate the holiday season and enjoy the winter weather in all of its splendor and glory. Knowing the associated pet health and safety risks will make you and your family even more prepared. Your pet will thank you for it!

(Middle photo courtesy of mousebreath.com)



FFCAS supporters want to know...

Are holiday plants, such as poinsettias, lethal to cats or dogs?

Answer on page 4



*Thank you for
your support!*

FRIENDS OF THE
FAIRFAX COUNTY
ANIMAL SHELTER
(FFCAS) is a



#88219
Friends of the Fairfax County Animal Shelter

FFCAS SUCCESS STORIES

Meet Mixie

We were very excited to receive a \$5,000 grant from the Community Foundation for Northern Virginia (made possible by funding from the Margery Barkdull Memorial Fund for Animal Welfare), which has allowed us to provide training and rehabilitation for several needy shelter dogs.

Mixie was the first dog who benefited from this grant. Mixie's life started off a bit rough, and she needed some extra training and socialization to help her get ready for a new home. Mixie spent some time with one of the shelter's trainers and in foster care, and has since been adopted by a wonderful family who love her dearly. Our heartfelt thanks to the Community Foundation for NoVA and the Margery Barkdull Memorial Fund for this lifesaving grant!



New Home for Nu Girl

After several months at the Fairfax County Animal Shelter, Nu Girl, now Betty Drapurr, found her forever home in November thanks to an FFCAS media sponsored post! Betty is happily settling in her new home and enjoying testing out all 3 of her new beds. "I'd never have known about her without Facebook," says her new mom, "She's such a love!"



Pesky Parasites, Perish

Thanks to you our generous donors, we are able to provide a new state-of-the-art program at the Shelter; parasite application at intake for kittens and puppies older than 4 weeks, adult cats, dogs and rabbits.

Dr. Suzy Broadhurst, the Animal Shelter Veterinarian from Pender, has put together an excellent protocol program and will be working with Shelter management and staff to implement it. The protocol calls for a number of medications. One medication will help control heartworms, roundworms, hookworms, whipworms, tapeworms, and flea infestations. The Center for Disease Control lists "roundworms" as one of the 5 most neglected parasites, yet it is potentially harmful to humans, especially children. By purging internal and external parasites it will reduce the amount of interventional medical care; saving time, money and unnecessary suffering of animals. We are excited about the benefits this new program will have for the animals at the Shelter.



Get Social! Visit us on  Facebook and  Twitter

HELPING PAWS



Supervisor Frey

We want to thank Supervisor Michael Frey as he retires at the end of his term. Supervisor Frey has been a strong supporter of both FFCAS and the Fairfax County Animal Shelter. His love of animals is evident to anyone who has visited his office. Supervisor Frey's ongoing commitment to improving the quality of life for animals at the Shelter, in addition to the devotion of his time, has been unprecedented. We look forward to continuing to collaborate with him as he enters the next chapter of his life journey.

Thank You, Karen and Jami!

As 2015 comes to a close, we are sad to report that two of our long-term members will be leaving their roles on the FFCAS Board: Karen Diviney, one of our founding board members and the former Fairfax County Animal Shelter director, and Jami Ojala, longtime, dedicated shelter volunteer and the FFCAS Board's Secretary and Acting Treasurer. These ladies are two of the most extraordinary people we have had the pleasure to serve with, and to call our friends. Their love of animals and their commitment to the Shelter has never wavered. They helped make the Friends the successful organization it is today. We are grateful for their contributions. Although they are leaving the Board, they will continue to lend their time and support to the Friends on a less formal basis. We look forward to working with them as their time permits.

Twin Lakes Golf Fundraiser

Thanks to the wonderful folks at Twin Lakes Golf Course in Clifton, the beautiful fall weather and the fabulous turnout of supporters and sponsors, the Friends raised more than \$15,000 (after expenses) as a result of our September 17 event. Thank you all for making the welfare of the animals at the Fairfax County Animal Shelter a priority.

Stone's Cove Kitbar Does Good for FFCAS

On every Sunday in November, Stone's Cove Kitbar in Herndon donated 10-percent of the day's receipts to the Friends as part of their Do Good Things Sundays program. Thanks to the restaurant staff for their generosity and assistance.

COME JOIN US!

Kendra Gives Back Fundraiser

Shop for stunning jewelry at [Kendra Scott](#) on Friday December 18, 2015, from 6-9 p.m., and 20 percent of sales will be donated to FFCAS as part of the [Kendra Gives Back](#) campaign. The event will be held at the Mosaic District Store, located at 2920 District Ave, Suite 125, Fairfax, Va. Champagne and light snacks will be served. By shopping at the event, you can help homeless animals while purchasing gorgeous new statement pieces to jazz up your wardrobe.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

FFCAS Turns 10!

We are excited that 2016 marks our 10th year of helping improve the lives and welfare of animals at the Fairfax County Animal Shelter. Stay tuned for ways in which you can help us celebrate!

Save Pennies for Pets

Help FFCAS reduce costs! Two stamps is the cost of an animal identification tag. [Opt for an e-version of our newsletter and other mailings.](#)

About FFCAS

The Friends of the Fairfax County Animal Shelter (FFCAS) is an all-volunteer, 501(c)(3) organization that was founded in 2006 to support the Fairfax County Animal Shelter, and to help improve the quality of life of companion animals in our community. FFCAS funds professional veterinary care for shelter animals suffering from illness, injury or abuse. FFCAS also offers other programs, such as funding for behavioral intervention training, to help make pets more adoptable.

FFCAS Board Members

Evelyn Grieve, President
Mary O'Malley, Vice President
Jami Ojala, Secretary/Acting Treasurer
Karen Diviney, Ex Officio Member
Rita Altman, Member
Kelly Duer, Member
Jill Westeyn, Member

Suds of Success

The Haunted Car Wash held October 22-24 in Springfield, Va., was a success thanks to your participation and generosity totaling \$1,200. The owner of the [Wash Fair](#), Eric Williams, was so inspired that he contributed an additional \$800, making the grand total for the three-day event \$2,000!

From the cover...

Poinsettias are NOT lethal if ingested by pets. The sap of the plant may cause diarrhea or vomiting. Holly and Christmas cactus, along with Christmas tree preservative may cause similar symptoms.

The holiday plant you should be concerned about...is [mistletoe!](#)

For more information, [read ASPCA's article on holiday plants.](#)

FFCAS Fact!

In 2014, 92% of FFCAS dollars directly supported the homeless animals at the Fairfax County Animal Shelter. We are continuing our great track record through 2015. [View our 2014 Annual Report and Audited Financial Statements](#) to check it out!

*Happy Holidays
from the*



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