



# Paws & Print



WINTER 2016

Friends of the Fairfax County Animal Shelter Newsletter

WWW.FFCAS.ORG

## Share the Love!

Don't let that fur fool you! If you have noticed that it is cold outside, chances are your pet has felt the change in temperature as well. Just as our skin is sensitive to the colder, drier air, our pets also suffer during the winter months. The methods you use to help yourself stay warm and healthy may prove valuable to protect your pet from the elements.

Consider using a humidifier in your home, especially if your pet is experiencing itchy or flakey skin. The moisture will help naturally moisturize the skin and nasal passageways of you and your pet. Your pet will love you for it.

You most likely put on hand lotion during the winter months to soothe your "paws," so consider using some form of paw protectant on your pet before outdoor walks. Conduct online research or ask your veterinarian for recommended products for your pet.

Did you put on a jacket before you stepped outside? If so, evaluate your pet's needs. If your pet has short hair, consider purchasing a well-fitting jacket or sweater to help insulate him/her from the cold. If your pet has a naturally long coat, be sure not to trim it too short during winter.

If your pet has gotten wet from the rain or snow while outside, towel him/her off as soon as the pet comes inside. Focus on wiping the belly and legs dry, as well as washing the paws. You should also remember to dry the area between the foot pads and in between the toes. These areas are susceptible to ice and other irritants.

If you believe a pet has been neglected, or left out in the cold for an extended period of time, please either approach the owner if you feel comfortable, or call your local Animal Control.

Hopefully these tips will make winter safer and more fun for you and your pet!



**FFCAS supporters want to know...**

How can I tell if my pet is suffering from hypothermia?

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

## SHELTER ALUMNI: WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

### Tucker

Tucker, a senior cat and beneficiary of the FFCAS Sponsorship Program, was surrendered to the Fairfax County Animal Shelter because his family got a new kitten, and Tucker had some behavioral issues as a result. The surrendering family wanted Tucker to go to a family with dogs, because Tucker was fond of dogs. Tucker's new family witnessed no behavioral issues. Instead, he fit in perfectly. Here's what they have to say:

"He loves everyone in the family! We have a 120-pound black lab, a 65-pound lab mix, a 4-pound mini dachshund, Tucker (our old man) and an orange tabby kitten that's almost a year old. Tucker's favorite thing is to circle around the big dogs' legs while they are walking. He's an old cat, but he's beautiful, friendly and a great part of our family."



### French Fry

When Animal Control officers were called to the side of the road to rescue French Fry, the 68-pound dog was unable to use his rear legs. After receiving veterinary care, French Fry was brought to the shelter. Centreville Animal Hospital donated five therapy sessions to strengthen his rear legs. FFCAS purchased and donated a new harness to help French Fry on walks. A shelter volunteer even made French Fry a wheel chair so he could run just like the other shelter dogs. The culmination of care and devotion was a new forever home for French Fry.



### Molly...Moxie!

Moxie (formerly known as Molly) was surrendered to the Fairfax County Animal Shelter because her family was moving to a place where dogs were not permitted. While at the shelter, a CCL injury was discovered that required surgery in order to repair. The Friends paid for the cost of the surgery, and after she healed, Molly was adopted. Known today as Moxie, she now runs injury free and is able to fully enjoy the love her forever-family shows her each day.



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# HELPING PAWS



## Hospice Care for Misi

After Misi (the little dog in the stroller pictured above) was surrendered to the Fairfax County Animal Shelter, it was determined that she had a terminal heart condition. Since she was not suffering nor in pain, the shelter staff chose to send her to a hospice foster so that she could live out her remaining days in a loving home. Thanks to your generous donations, the Friends provided palliative care for Misi during this time. After Misi's passing, her foster mom sent us this note, which brought tears to our eyes:

"I want to thank the Board for this program. Misi was with us for two months and loved life. She was able to live out her last days with dignity, and died in our arms knowing she was loved. Thank you FFCAS Board. I would love for this program to continue."

## Mitzvah Projects, Teens are Blessings

The Friends of the Fairfax County Animal Shelter received more than \$3,000 in gifts from two community teenagers. They conducted fundraising drives for, and made gifts to FFCAS as a part of their "mitzvah projects". FFCAS was indeed fortunate to have been chosen as the recipient of the proceeds from the projects conducted by these two fantastic teens.

## Whole Foods Fundraiser

We are thankful to Whole Foods Market in Fair Lakes, Reston, Tysons and Vienna for inviting the Friends to benefit from its 5% day on January 13. Our joint efforts raised more than \$18,000, which will be used to care for homeless animals.

## Hooch Makes Progress

Thanks to your donations and support, Hooch (pictured above, right) continues to benefit from behavior training, which will make him more adoptable. Hooch is smart and is responding well to the training. Perhaps in our next newsletter, we will have an even better update to bring you! If you know of someone interested in adopting Hooch, please contact the shelter staff at 703-830-1100 or [animalshelter@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:animalshelter@fairfaxcounty.gov).

## SUPPORT US!

### Good News about Taxes?!

Look for a way to support Fairfax County's homeless animals in your vehicle assessment list from the Fairfax County Department of Tax Administration. An insert is included that provides ways to contribute to the Friends. Assessments are sent out beginning in February through the end of April. If you don't want to wait for the form, visit us at [ffcas.org](http://ffcas.org) and make a difference today!

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

### FFCAS Turns 10!

We are excited that 2016 marks our 10<sup>th</sup> 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  
TBD, Secretary/Treasurer  
Karen Diviney, Ex Officio Member  
Rita Altman, Member  
Kelly Duer, Member  
Debbie Shatz, Member  
Jill Westeyn, Member

## Great Giftwrapping

The Friends Holiday Giftwrapping at Tysons Corner Center was highly successful, raising more than \$1,000 to benefit shelter animals. Thank you to our volunteers for their time, and for all of you who had presents wrapped at one of our stations. It was indeed a happy holiday for all!

### From the cover...

Pets suffering from hypothermia, or below normal body temperatures, may act confused, lethargic, or may shiver. Do NOT put warm water or heated blankets on your pet if hypothermia is suspected. Rather, call your veterinarian immediately.

For additional information, [read the article](#) by the Fairfax County Police Department in the Reston Patch.

## FFCAS Fact!

FFCAS continues to exceed the goal of expending well over 90% of donated dollars to directly support homeless animals at the shelter. View our latest [Annual Report and Audited Financial Statements](#) on our website to check it out.

*Thank You  
from the*



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