

# Paws Print

SUMMER 2016

WWW.FFCAS.ORG

## Keeping Our Pets Healthy This Summer

Summertime fun can have different meanings for different people. For kids, it often means sleeping in and enjoying long days at the pool. For beachgoers, it means lathering up with sunscreen and heading over to one of the local beaches. For pet owners, summer can mean taking long, evening strolls with your pooch. Regardless of what the season entails for you, it is important to enjoy it safely. We'd like to share a few friendly tips that all responsible pet owners can utilize this summer.

**Look out for heat exhaustion.** It is critical to remember to keep pets hydrated. Ensure there is always a supply of fresh, clean water, especially after your pet has been outside. If your pet shows signs of heat stress such as heavy panting, dry or bright red gums, thick drool, vomiting, lethargy or wobbly legs, don't place him/her in ice cold water. Instead, move your pet to a cool place, drape a damp towel over its body, rewet the cloth frequently, and get him/her to the vet as soon as possible.

**Do not leave your pet in the car!** Each year, hundreds of pets die from heat exhaustion because they are left in parked vehicles. According to the American Veterinary Medical Foundation, if the outside temperature is 95°F, it can feel like 124°F after just 20 minutes. This is enough to cause serious and irreparable damage to an animal left behind.

**Employ water safety measures.** For dog owners that enjoy taking their buddies out to the water, here are some additional tips:

- Use a lifejacket in any body of water.
- Beware of currents and riptides.
- Avoid lakes and ponds with blue-green algae, signified by scummy water and a foul odor.

Remember to have fun! Summer is a fun time for pets and humans alike. As long as we enjoy it safely, it can be an enjoyable season for all.

(Photo credit: Vera Lana Photography)



## FFCAS supporters want to know...

Does my pet need to wear a seat belt when travelling in a car?

See answer on page 3



*Thank you for  
your support!*

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



# FFCAS SUCCESS STORIES

## Media Sponsorship Leads to Forever Family

You may remember reading about a senior dog, named Cucu, who is losing her eyesight. Thanks to sponsorships from Beatin' Feet Dog Walking, Cucu's adoption fee was lowered to \$25 and the Friends were able to boost a post about her on Facebook to advocate for Cucu's adoption.

Thanks to the efforts of all involved, Cucu was able to find a loving forever family to go home with.

Now known as Cocoa, she has two canine siblings—a sister (pictured on the far right) and a brother (not pictured) who is also blind. Her mom says, "Cocoa has settled in and is the perfect addition to our family...And we absolutely adore her. She is so sweet."

Three cheers for Cocoa and her awesome new family!

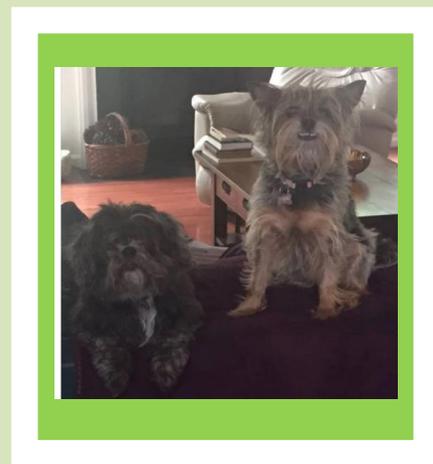
Want to learn how to provide a similar opportunity for a shelter animal? [Visit our website](#) for more information.

## Don't Neglect your Teeth!

For whatever reason, sometimes the best-intentioned pet owners overlook the fact that animals need their teeth taken care of just like humans do.

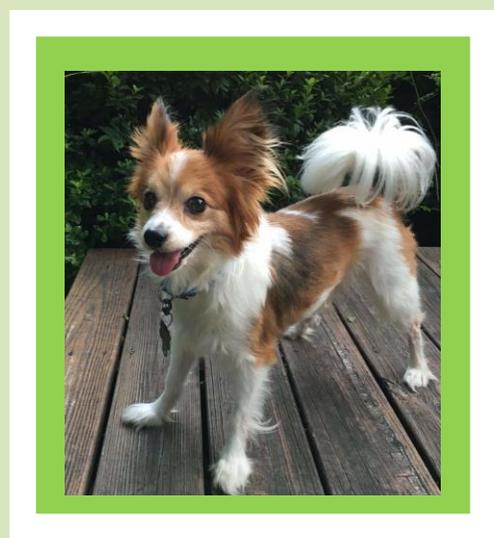
An eight-year old dog named Oso (pictured right) was surrendered to the Fairfax County Animal shelter mid-June. Upon examination, it was determined that he needed a mass removed and six teeth extracted, in addition to a good teeth cleaning. Thanks to your support, the Friends covered the cost of Oso's procedure. The result? Oso came through with flying colors, and despite having all of those teeth pulled, he was as energetic as ever. Oso remains in foster care until he is ready for adoption.

Slightly after Oso came to the Shelter, five dogs (Willy, Shena, Alvin, Martha and Quincy) also needed dental work. The Friends not only covered the \$1,125 bill, but also found a dentist with Helping Hands Affordable Veterinary Surgery and Dental Care in Richmond who did the work at a discounted rate! A special thanks to shelter volunteer Vanessa Saavedra, for transporting the five dogs.



*Your donations help pets like these.*

*Visit [www.ffcas.org](http://www.ffcas.org) to contribute today!*



# HELPING PAWS HIGHLIGHTS

## Wine, Whiskers and Wags

We dodged a bad weather bullet on June 5 at our annual Wine, Whiskers and Wags fundraising event at Paradise Springs Winery in Clifton, Virginia—the Friends could not be happier! Thank you to all of our attendees for IGNORING the weather forecast. The event raised \$15,000 after expenses to support animal care and welfare.



## Hot Dog!

A shout-out to Maggie Needham, participating FCAS volunteers and staff members for throwing a bake sale and National Hot Dog Day fundraiser during the annual NBC Clear the Shelter event. Thanks to everyone who came out to volunteer, and/or buy baked goods, hot dogs and tofu dogs. As a result of your efforts, the Friends received \$704 in donations! We look forward to putting the funds toward our various programs.

## An Event to Wag About!

We are grateful to our supportive friends at Wylie Wagg in Fairfax, who threw a special savings event on August 7 for Fairfax County Animal Shelter volunteers and staff members as a way to thank them for their time spent caring for homeless animals.

## For Those Who Broke a Sweat...

Thanks again to Metro Run and Walk, Olde Town Pet Resort in Alexandria, and all of our supporters who came out to “Break a Sweat for a Homeless Pet.” The event brought in \$2,265 to benefit FCAS shelter pets.

## With Much Thanks

Thank you to the Spirit of Life Foundation for giving us a grant in the amount of \$10,000.

## Missing Links?

The Golf Event has been canceled this year to allow FFCAS to focus on other initiatives to grow the organization to provide even more support to the Animal Shelter.

**From the cover ...** The safest way to transport your pet while driving in a car is by placing the animal in a crash-tested crate. Also remember to bring water for your pet and to stop and take frequent breaks. Safe travels!

## FUN WAYS TO SUPPORT US!

### KARIN'S FLORIST

Need flowers? Karin's Florist in Vienna, Va., is donating five percent of the net proceeds from sales of their Pet Lovers line to benefit the Friends, through the end of 2016. Go buy an arrangement and share the love!



### FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM!



### FROM THE PRESIDENT

### FFCAS Turned 10!

We are in our 10<sup>th</sup> year of helping improve the lives and welfare of animals at the Fairfax County Animal Shelter. Help us make this year the best one yet!

## 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

Jill Westeyn, Secretary

Karen Diviney, Ex Officio Member

Rita Altman, Member

## FFCAS Fact!

FFCAS continues to exceed the goal of expending well over 90% of donated dollars to directly support homeless animals at the shelter. To view our latest Annual Report and Audited Financial Statements, or to make a donation, visit our website at [www.ffcas.org](http://www.ffcas.org).



## Help us do more!

FFCAS is an organization established and maintained by volunteers, and we could use your help!

### Volunteer opportunities include:

- **Event volunteer:** Help setup, run, and clean up after one of our many fundraising events throughout the year.
- **Pre-event volunteer:** Assist the FFCAS with securing donations and sponsors for the event. Help the team with other event logistics, marketing and registrations.
- **Administrative help:** We need help throughout the year with mailings, record keeping, and other clerical tasks,
- **Website content:** Do you have experience writing for the web? Consider volunteering to help maintain [ffcas.org](http://ffcas.org) and our Paws-n-Print newsletter.

**To get started, please complete our online [volunteer application](#).**