Helping every dog navigate the Shelter system

With more than 1,800 dogs entering the Jackson County Animal Shelter each year, it’s a constant challenge to help each one in the most effective and humane way. Like people, each dog is different and comes to us with their own past experiences, fears, and breed characteristics. That’s where Shelter staff and the Friends of the Animal Shelter canine volunteers step in to help every dog, each in their own special way.

Many dogs are adopted without difficulties or challenges. There are some dogs, however, who struggle when they arrive. You can imagine how confused and frightened they are by this sudden change in their lives. A shelter environment can be scary and stressful. Some dogs need extra help to navigate their way through the system to adoption. We have two programs that help save lives every day, both volunteer-run: the **Holding Crew** and **Play Groups**.

**Holding Crew - Helping those who struggle the most**

Friends of the Animal Shelter Holding Crew volunteers start working with the dogs at the very beginning of their stay at the Shelter. These amazing and well-trained people work with dogs in “holding” that are being evaluated. Dogs are assigned to the Holding Crew team, who help them acclimate to the Shelter environment or find respite in foster care. Some dogs struggle in the Shelter environment and exhibit behaviors associated with fear, stress or lack of training. The Holding Crew’s mission is to help these dogs overcome their individual behavioral obstacles to help them qualify for adoption. Shelter staff and Holding Crew volunteers work together to ensure each dog’s progress is focused on their individual needs.

The goal is to help dogs go from “holding” to “adoptable” status as quickly as possible, and then find their forever home. Our success is due greatly to the loving and heroic efforts of Holding Crew volunteers. Over the past 2 years alone, 150 special-case dogs have been successfully adopted thanks to this dedicated team.

Continued on page 3
Friends of the Animal Shelter supports the programs of the Jackson County Animal Shelter in Phoenix, Oregon.

We provide hundreds of volunteers to help increase pet adoptions and improve the quality of life for Shelter animals while waiting for their new forever homes.

Because preventing unplanned litters is the first step to reducing pet overpopulation, all Shelter animals are spayed/neutered before adoption, and we promote spay/neuter options for non-Shelter pets.

And to ensure animals get a second chance, the Jackson County Animal Shelter and Friends of the Animal Shelter fund preventative and rehabilitative medical treatments.

All of this is in service to our vision that all adoptable animals in Jackson County find a loving home. And you can help!

Jackson County Animal Shelter
ADOPTIONS and LICENSING
5595 S Pacific Hwy, Phoenix
Tuesday–Friday, 11am–4pm
Saturday & Sunday, Noon–4pm
(541) 774-6654

Our Mission
Friends of the Animal Shelter is dedicated to the well-being and adoption of animals at the Jackson County Animal Shelter, the training and recruitment of volunteers, and the promotion of pet health, spay/neuter and education through community outreach.

SHELTER WISH LIST
• Kitten kibble (Science Diet)
• Canned cat food (paté)
• Canned dog food and dry kibble (preferably dye-free)
• Litter (paper or corn)
• Dog collars (medium and large) and strong leashes
• Large towels and LOTS of them!
• Small blankets and bedding (washable)
• Washable beds (all sizes)
• Baby and pet shampoo
• Dog and cat toys
• EXTRA-LARGE Kongs for dogs

Check out our Amazon online wish list at:
www.fotas.org/wish-list

Drop off your donations at the Shelter.

Every little bit helps!

View adoptable animals anytime at:
www.fotas.org

FOTAS Photographers
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Sunny LeGrand
Midge Raymond
Nancy Uravich-Freeman

Newsletter
Issue: 03-19 Friends of the Animal Shelter’s newsletter is published three times a year.
Production: V. Chamberlain
Printer: Pronto Print

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Phoenix, OR 97535
(541) 774-6651
fotas@fotas.org
www.fotas.org
facebook.com/fotas

Jackson County Animal Shelter
Barbara Talbert, Shelter Manager
5595 S Pacific Hwy 99
Phoenix, OR 97535
(541) 774-6654

Hours
Tuesday - Friday
11:00 am - 4:00 pm
Saturday and Sunday
Noon - 4:00 pm

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Every little bit helps!
Even the most stable of dogs can eventually be effected by the stress that comes
with living in a shelter environment. As a dog moves through the shelter system and
into adoption, they are introduced to the nationally-recognized socialization and
rehabilitation program, Dogs Playing for Life. Through this volunteer-lead program,
dogs enjoy participating in short-interval Play Groups nearly every day of the week.
By observing a dog’s state of play and social skills off-leash, we gain a better
understanding of each dog’s personality. In addition, Play Groups allows dogs to
Teach each other social skills (sometimes they are more effective teachers than people).
As these dogs improve their dog-to-dog social skills, they become more adoptable.
Staff and volunteers share information, which is used to make better decisions about
any additional support or training a dog might need. And, of course, this is useful
information during the adoption process.

Play Groups is a life-saving program. Stress behaviors, such as jumping,
barking and spinning in the cage, can be addressed quickly and effectively. Some
dogs may shut down, curl up on the bed or ignore visitors. Potential adopters are less
likely to consider them, which is sad because these behaviors don’t represent who the
dog really is, or how they will act at home. Play Groups allow shelter dogs the chance
to burn off energy, have a wonderful time playing, and counteracts the stresses of
shelter life. Ultimately, it means they are relaxed
and better behaved in their kennels, which in
turn makes them more adoptable. Potential
adopters see a happy dog.

The Play Groups program has not only
transformed countless dogs and eased their way
through the Shelter system, but also helps enable
better adoptions. It’s an incredible program, not
only for the dogs, but also for the volunteers.
If you love dogs, this might be the volunteer
opportunity you’ve been looking for.

In the next issue of the Friends of the Animal
Shelter newsletter, we’ll focus on feline volunteer
teams and how they help save lives.

To become a Play Group volunteer
call (541) 774-6651
or email fotas@fotas.org.

Photos by: Richard Jacquot
INTRODUCING Michelle Fox, Friends of the Animal Shelter’s new FOSTER CARE COORDINATOR

We want to welcome Michelle Fox as our new Foster Care Coordinator. Michelle has been involved in animal rescue for most of her life, and started volunteering with Friends of the Animal Shelter shortly after she moved to Ashland with her family in 2013.

In addition to her new position as Foster Care Coordinator, Michelle volunteers as a key Holding Crew Coordinator, Play Groups Yard Handler, and is a member of the Friends of the Animal Shelter board of directors.

Michelle comes to this position with years of hands-on foster care experience. While she is skilled in dog behavior and training Michelle is also an experienced cat foster mom. “Cat and dog foster families are given support by providing knowledge and resources in areas like preparing their home for fostering, dealing with medical or behavioral issues that might develop, making sure animals stay on schedule for vaccinations and spay/neuter surgeries, and promotion to help find a loving home for the animal,” states Michelle. “I am here to ensure both the volunteers and the animals have a smooth and enriching foster experience.”

Michelle lives with her husband, David, her daughter, Rachel, and numerous pets, including horses, dogs, cats, rabbits and a rooster. When Michelle is not spending time with her family and pets, you will find her out on the trail riding her beloved horse, Jack.

We also want to thank Diane Novak, for her many years of service as our Foster Care Coordinator. Her loving efforts have helped us save hundreds of animals over the years.

Contact us today and become a Foster Family!

It’s so easy! After filling out a simple questionnaire where you list your fostering preferences, you are placed on an email list, and you “raise your hand” when the situation is right for you.

We provide kennels, food, litter, vaccinations and, most importantly, guidance and support!

You provide a safe home and lots of love and socialization, to prepare them for adoption!

Find out more at: www.fotas.org/about-fostering

Animal Medical Hospital
We love animals and the humans who love them

SCOTT KNOX, D.V.M.
LEANN AHLBRECHT, D.V.M.
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PRE-REGISTER BY SEPT 1st
FOR MORE CHANCES TO WIN BASKETS OF PET GOODIES WORTH UP TO $75

T-SHIRT SIZE’S AVAILABLE
(ONE SHIRT PER DOG)
additional t-shirts available for sale at the dog walk:
- Adult Small
- Adult Medium
- Adult Large
- Adult XL
- Adult XXL (add $3)

MAIL TO: FOTAS PAWS FOR A CAUSE, PO Box 1013, Phoenix, OR 97535

PAYMENT
# OF DOGS _____ x $30/dog + XXL T-shirt surcharge $______ = $__________
CHECK: Make out to FOTAS. Please write DOG WALK on memo line. Check #__________
CREDIT CARD #: ____________________________
Expires: _____/_____  CVV Code: ____________

Friends of the Animal Shelter | FOTAS.org
Funds raised at the Furball help save lives throughout the year.

28th Annual Puss ‘n Boots Howl-O-Ween Furball

Saturday, October 26th
6 - 10 p.m.
Ashland Armory

Join us for a fun-filled evening of Fur, Food, Dancing and Donating!

This Year’s Theme: Halloween Meets Hollywood

Come dressed as your favorite movie star or character, with a Halloween twist! Be the star you were always meant to be!

Cash Prizes for Hollywood-Themed Costumes.

Of course, come in any costume you want … All celebrities need fans!

Funds raised at the Furball help save lives throughout the year.
Party includes:

- Dinner, salad, and a star-studded 3-tiered dessert extravaganza!
- Dancing ... Enjoy the sounds of Blue Lightning.
- Costume Contests ... Cash prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place.
- Photo Booth where you can snap pictures to entertain your friends.
- VIP No-Host Lounge ... a quieter room where you can order a drink away from the Paparazzi.
- Silent Auction ... Bid on amazing items and experiences donated from local businesses.
- Raffle Baskets ... the opportunity to win baskets chock full of fabulous items.
- REAL local celebrities will be making an appearance!
- And Much More!

TICKETS GO ON SALE
SEPTEMBER 1:
- Paddington Station, Ashland
- Friends of the Animal Shelter office
- ONLINE at fotas.org/pnb

$45.00 ticket per person.
Adult only party.

Check fotas.org/pnb for the latest event news and costume contest details.
Saturday, Dec. 7 | Noon - 4PM
Phoenix Civic Center
220 N. Main St., Phoenix OR

- 1000’s of hand-crafted gifts & décor items
  - all your holiday shopping under one roof!
- Family & pet portraits with Santa Paws & Cat-Elf
- Caroling & entertainment
- Yummy lunch & treats

**Bonus bucks**
As an added bonus, when you donate items, you’ll receive Doggy Dollars/Kitty Kash to spend at the Fair.

Drop off your hand-crafted donations at the Jackson County Animal Shelter, 5595 S Pacific Hwy, Phoenix, or at one of the scheduled Drop-Off Days at the Phoenix Library, 510 W 1st St. on Monday, December 2 and Thursday, December 5, 1-5PM.

More event info at www.fotas.org/deck-the-paws.

**Contact fotas@fotas.org with questions or to volunteer.**

---

**Colleen Shanahan, CDBC**
Dog behavior & training
IAABC certified
541.601.7601
doggonefun@gmail.com
doggonefun.biz
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Over 20 years experience

**WILL WORK FOR CHOCOLATE**
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541 601 6196
Excellent References
Just Ask or We’ll probably Say Yes
Volunteering @ the Shelter

We have so many wonderful, fun and rewarding volunteer opportunities, it might be hard to choose! Work directly with the cats and dogs. Help adopters find their perfect new companion. Volunteer at the Shelter, in the community, and even from home!

**DOG CARE**

With more than 1,800 dogs prancing through the Shelter each year, we need lots of strong Dog Walkers, volunteers to work with adopters, Kennel Coordinators and Enrichment volunteers. Dog walkers can even take a dog home overnight!

**DOG PLAY GROUPS**

Sounds fun, right? Play groups provide exercise, mental stimulation and socialization for the dogs, and is an important part of our evaluation process as we assess their adoptability. Volunteers have a very active role in getting dogs to and from the kennels, where an experienced yard handler takes charge. If handling a dog is too much, perhaps you can become a note taker. It’s fun for the dogs and the volunteers!

**CAT CARE**

Cat volunteers help with maintaining a healthy and happy cat room environment, while helping our feline friends feel comfortable and loved, which helps them get adopted. Spend time petting, grooming, keeping kennels clean, socializing and feeding our kitties. Volunteers are very hands-on with our cats, help promote them on social media, and love helping them find their fur-ever homes.

**SUPPORT SERVICES**

We have several opportunities for volunteers in invaluable support roles. At the Shelter’s front desk you can greet visitors, answer questions, and help with projects. The Shelter has very little staff, so your contribution is immeasurable.

**FOSTERING**

One of our most essential volunteer opportunities, which is both fun and rewarding, is providing a foster “home between homes” for dogs/puppies and cats/kittens prior to adoption. With our support, you help socialize animal(s), making them highly adoptable. This is a wonderful and personal way to help save pets in your loving home.

**STREET DOGS PROJECT**

This project reaches out to homeless with companion animals to get them spayed/neutered and provide medical care. Help is needed at outreach events, and behind the scenes answering phone calls, bagging food, and scheduling vet appointments. Food, collars, harnesses, leashes and jackets are needed.

NEW VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

There are many more ways you can help save deserving pets. For a complete list of volunteer opportunities, please sign up for a New Volunteer Orientation meeting by contacting the office at (541) 774-6651 or fotas@fotas.org

Find the volunteer activity that works best for you!

---

West Main Animal Hospital is not your everyday veterinary practice and you’ll recognize the difference the moment you step through our front door!

DEBORAH TEGARDEN, D.V.M.

2428 West Main Street #100
Medford

(541) 282-9811
info@wmainah.com

www.WMAINAH.com

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Friends of the Animal Shelter | FOTAS.org
Friends of the Animal Shelter Legacy Society

Your personal legacy will help us save more lives, and advocate on behalf of Shelter animals, now and in to the future.

Options include naming us as a beneficiary in your Will or Trust, life insurance or retirement savings plan. And, if you have a charitable fund, or are considering establishing a fund, let your representative know that you intend to leave Friends of the Animal Shelter a legacy gift.

Over the years, Legacy gifts have helped us build Puppy Place and Kitty Korner, greatly improved the exercise yard, and helped pay for medical treatment for adoptable animals. Big or small, remembering Friends of the Animal Shelter means your generosity will keep on giving.

Including Friends of the Animal Shelter as part of your legacy, will help create solutions that celebrate animals and help end suffering of those who cannot speak for themselves.

Please visit fotas.org/legacy, contact Tilly Gibbs at (541) 601-2642 or call our office at (541) 774-6651 for a Friends of the Animal Shelter Planned Giving brochure.

Name of beneficiary: Friends of the Animal Shelter (FOTAS)
Tax ID: 94-3153463
Address: PO Box 1013, Phoenix, Oregon, 97535

Join the list of those who support our vision for the future.
• Sunny Anderson & Mike Letourneau
• Gail Calhoun
• Jean Conger
• Peggy Moore
• TJ Papas
• Sharon Powell
• Amy Shuman
• Dianne Sims
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thru July 31, 2019

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Friends of the Animal Shelter | FOTAS.org
PAWS FOR A CAUSE
DOG WALK & FAIR

This event was created to celebrate the joy of companion pooches. It’s all about you and your pet!

Join us for 1 and 2 mile walk options, costume contests, and lots of vendor booths. Come celebrate with us and help raise funds for Friends of the Animal Shelters’ many programs.

Sunday, September 15
9:00 AM – 2:00 PM
NATURE’S PET MARKET
IN THE MEDFORD CENTER

Registration form on page 5 or online at fotas.org/dog-walk.