

## NEWS



*friends of the  
animal shelter*

Jackson County

OCTOBER 2021

SUPPORTING THE PROGRAMS OF THE JACKSON COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER

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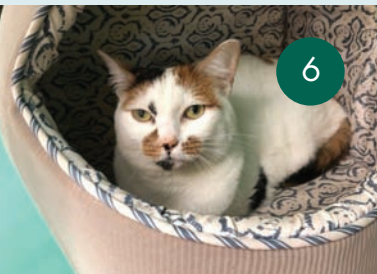
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## SAVING SQUIRT

An Almeda Fire Love Story

by Paul Fattig

Paul Fattig is a member of a highly unusual and very early SW Oregon pioneer family, born and raised in Kerby. He served in the Marines, after which he worked as a reporter for the Rogue River Courier, then the Medford Mail Tribune, and now continues to write and live on a spread on Little Applegate with his wife Maureen and quite a few animals.

Like all great romance stories, we fell in love the moment we met. I was sitting innocently on a bench at Sanctuary One, an animal rescue operation in the Upper Applegate, when she sashayed up and sighed softly in my ear before nuzzling her cheek gently against mine to let me know how much she cared. I was totally smitten. "Wow, you are sure a push over for a beautiful lady," observed my wife Maureen as we were heading home. But she was laughing.

After all, sitting behind her was Squirt, the lady in question. It was the morning of September 30, 2020. We had just adopted this friendly black Labrador/mastiff mix with soft brown eyes and a brindle coat flecked with gold. The sweet 6-year-old had captured both our hearts.

Squirt arrived at Sanctuary One when the horrific Almeda Fire threatened the wonderful Jackson County Animal Shelter in Phoenix, prompting volunteers with Friends of the Animal Shelter (FOTAS) to quickly help find safe places for the Shelter's furry charges. A friend, who is also a FOTAS volunteer, kindly notified us that the pooch we were hoping to find had been evacuated and needed a home.

Indeed, we were seeking a rescue in the form of an adult dog with Squirt's genetic composition. You see, our beloved Harpo, a black Labrador/mastiff mix we had raised as a pup, died of cancer on May 7, 2020. He happily scampered into our lives shortly after his birth in a hollow log in the woods near Butte Falls in May of 2009. He was lovable, funny and smart. He spoke fluent woofish, a language that would be shrugged off by canine-challenged folks as pure doggerel. Yet we knew what every woof meant. James Herriot was right: the problem with dogs is that they don't live long enough.

Continued on page 6

**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 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**  
**BY APPOINTMENT ONLY**  
**(541) 774-6654**

5595 S. Pacific Hwy, Phoenix  
Tuesday–Friday, 11am–4pm  
Saturday & Sunday, Noon–4pm

**BY APPOINTMENT ONLY**

Jackson County is still under COVID restrictions, so the Jackson County Animal Shelter will continue to embrace social distancing and safety measures by being a “by appointment only” facility. Masks are required.

Minimizing the number of people in the Shelter at any given time helps protect the Shelter staff, Friends of the Animal Shelter volunteers, and potential adopters.

**Browse online at** [fotas.org/adopt](https://www.fotas.org/adopt), then make an appointment:  
**(541) 774-6654, Option 7**  
9 AM to 4 PM  
Tuesday - Sunday

We’ll make sure an Adoption Counselor is available to show you around and arrange “meet and greets”.

We realize this process is a little cumbersome, but it seems to be working REALLY well for everyone, including the animals!



Brooke



Elsa

**View adoptable animals anytime at:**  
**[www.fotas.org/adopt](https://www.fotas.org/adopt)**

**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.

**Executive Director**

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**Jackson County Animal Shelter**

Kim Casey

Program Manager

5595 S Pacific Hwy 99

Phoenix, OR 97535

**BY APPOINTMENT ONLY**

**(541) 774-6654**





## Farewell Bonnie Chirrick

### Thanks for your dedication!

Our long-time Volunteer Services Manager, Bonnie Chirrick, has found her way back into the travel industry, something she has always loved. As a vacation planner for BookStayHop, she helps visitors to the Pacific Northwest and Mexico find a home-away-from home to enjoy with friends and family.

On her last day in July, volunteers gathered outside for an ice cream social to celebrate Bonnie and all she has contributed to Friends of the Animal Shelter volunteers. She'll be missed.

## Volunteering at the Shelter

### An update

Although the COVID restrictions have definitely changed things for Friends of the Animal Shelter volunteers at the Shelter, volunteers are always needed. Please consider becoming a new volunteer.

- Cat room cuddling and clean up
- Cat adoption counselors
- Dog walkers
- Dog adoption counselors
- Fostering
- Event participation, such as Low-Cost Vaccination and Microchip clinics
- Publicity team social media posting

To learn more, check out [www.fotas.org/volunteer](http://www.fotas.org/volunteer) and sign up for an upcoming Volunteer Orientation.

## Chasing Away the Parasites



One of the challenging things about an animal shelter is the nasty stuff that animals bring in. Animals that have been "out in nature," can get into some very nasty stuff!

One of those nasties is called Giardia. The giardia parasite is found in stagnant water and contaminated food. It causes stomach cramps, bloating, nausea and diarrhea, and is highly contagious. Oh, and absolutely no fun for the poor dogs.

Unfortunately, in August, giardia was introduced into the Shelter and spread from dog to dog before we knew what it was. All of the dogs were treated and cured, but it was incredibly important that the areas where the dogs get their exercise – Slim Jim Lane and multiple play yards – were decontaminated.

A crew of dedicated dog volunteers attacked the play yards with bleach over a 4-day period, which allowed us to open them back up to the dogs.

### Many, many thanks to:

- Linda Barnett
- Donna Cook
- Bob Crowley
- Kim De Costa
- Michelle Fox
- Cynde Gragert
- Kimberly Kovacs
- Elaine Ritchey

# Honoring our business partners



Becky Cohn, FOTAS Board member, presents Certificate of Appreciation to staff members at the Southern Oregon Veterinary Specialty Clinic

It's take a village to save as many community animals as possible, so in addition to our generous individual donors, we are grateful to have valuable partnerships with many of our local businesses.

Each year, we present a "Certificate of Appreciation" plaque to those businesses, which is proudly displayed in their locations.

- A Street Animal Clinic, Ashland
- All State Insurance, James Nolan
- Best Friends Animal Shelter, Talent
- Best Friends Animal Shelter, East Medford
- Grange Co-op
- La Tapatia Restaurant, Ashland
- Land of Paws Pet Grooming, Ashland
- Little Caesars Pizza
- Medford Animal Hospital
- Mountain View Veterinary Clinic, Medford
- Music Coop, Ashland
- Nature's Pet Market, Ashland and Medford
- Paddington Station, Ashland
- Petsmart Charities
- Ray's Food Place
- Shop'n Kart
- Siskiyou Veterinary Hospital, Medford
- Spay Neuter Your Pet (SNYP)
- Wellness Pet Supplies, Ashland
- West Main Animal Hospital, Medford

If you own a business and would like to partner with Friends of the Animal Shelter, we'd be thrilled to add you "to our village" of supporters! Please contact Lisa James, Friends of the Animal Shelter Executive Director at [ed@fotas.org](mailto:ed@fotas.org).



Vickie Pagan, co-owner, Medford and Ashland Nature's Pet Markets receives Certificate of Appreciation from Lorna Bolton, FOTAS Board member.



Becky Cohn presents Certificate of Appreciation to Connie Hooper-Leggett, Store Manager, PetSmart Medford.

*Thank you business partners!*



# Volunteer HIGHLIGHT

Jan Spindler



**Jan Spindler** has been volunteering with Friends of the Animal Shelter for more than 9 years. And boy, does she volunteer! Jan helps out in the cat rooms, serves as a cashier at the Shelter's vaccination and microchipping clinics, and enthusiastically jumps in wherever there is a need to help at events, transporting animals ... you name it, she raises her hand.

Most recently, Jan has gotten involved with the Working Cats program, which involves learning about the eligible cats at the Shelter for this program, talking with potential adopters about available cats that can provide rodent control on rural properties, and then assigning transport volunteers to set up the adopted cats at their new properties.

"I enjoy interacting with staff, other volunteers, and the public. I feel a lot of satisfaction when I help to place our Shelter cats with new owners," Jan explains with a smile on her face. She enjoys interacting with all of the staff and is glad to see the new spay/neuter trailer up and running.

Jan moved to the Rogue Valley in 2012 with her son, Alex, and her twin brother and his wife. When not volunteering her time with the Animal Shelter, Jan enjoys riding her horse and serves as a mobile notary public. And, she loves visiting her daughter and two grandbabies in southern California. The family lives with a Belgian Tervuren female (dog), three cats, and two horses, one of which is 30 years old.

**We are so very thankful to have Jan involved in so many aspects of Friends of the Animal Shelter. She is an invaluable volunteer!**

## Show Your Love Year-Round

Your love for animals is year-round, so why not support Friends of the Animal Shelter year-round as well? Please consider becoming a Monthly Donor.

**Our Year-end Challenge is to add 21 recurring donors before the end of 2021!**

### Credit Card or Bank Transfers

For credit cards: Go to [www.fotas.org](http://www.fotas.org), click on DONATE, and select MONTHLY.

For checks: Using BILL PAY, direct your financial institution to send the check to Friends of the Animal Shelter, PO Box 1103, Phoenix, OR 97535.

Thank you, in advance, for your support of Friends of the Animal Shelter and showing your love throughout the year!

**\$10/MONTH**

\$120/year

COVERS THE COST OF A MICROCHIP THAT HELPS A BELOVED LOST PET RETURN HOME FASTER

**\$15/MONTH**

\$180/year

HELPS PAY FOR A SPECIAL DIET FOR AN ANIMAL WITH UNIQUE DIETARY NEEDS

**\$25/MONTH**

\$300/year

COVERS THE COST OF PREVENTATIVE VACCINES FOR RABIES, PARASITES AND UPPER RESPIRATORY INFECTIONS

**\$50/MONTH**

\$600/year

PAYS FOR ONE-HALF OF A SPAY OR NEUTER FOR KITTENS AND CATS TO PREVENT UNPLANNED LITTERS



**DONORS SAVE LIVES**

We need your help!

**\$75/MONTH**

\$900/year

ENABLES A FOSTER FAMILY TO CARE FOR YOUNG AND SPECIAL NEEDS ANIMALS UNTIL THEY ARE ADOPTED

**\$100/MONTH**

\$1,200/year

HELPS TO PROVIDE SPECIALIZED CARE FOR SICK AND INJURED ANIMALS



**\$150/MONTH**

\$1,800/year

COVERS THE COST OF ONE SPAY/NEUTER FOR PUPPIES AND DOGS TO PREVENT UNPLANNED LITTERS

# Finding fur-ever homes

## The trail to happy tails can be twisty



### SAVING SQUIRT continued from page 1

After Harpo died, Kerby, a Vizsla mix we adopted in 2018 as a nearly grown pup, was lost without his big buddy. We all longed for a big hairy friend to help fill the void Harpo left. Noting I'm getting a mite long of tooth, I suggested we adopt an adult pooch to increase the likelihood the new pooch would live out his or her life with us.

True, Squirt is not Harpo. Yet she shares so many characteristics, including knowing when we need a furry snuggle. Like Harpo, she tops 100 pounds, perceives herself as our protector and has a baritone bark that would scare the bejabbers out of Bigfoot. And, like Harpo, she is a bottomless well of affectionate compassion who befriended our seven rescued cats, aka "the felonious felines."

The pooch who smells like a puppy has brought us so much joy. Watching Kerby and Squirt romp together in the dog park we built adjacent to the house always leaves us laughing. They play like little kids in the wading pool we bought to help them cope with the hot weather.

Thanks to Friends of the Animal Shelter, Jackson County Animal Shelter, and Sanctuary One, Squirt is a permanent part of our family. Like hers, our love is unconditional and forever.

## Third Time's a Charm

### With time, patience and love



Cali, a beautiful, shy 2-year-old Calico cat, was brought to the Shelter at the end of April. She must have led a quiet life, because she was insecure, hid from visitors to the Shelter, and would become cautiously comfortable with volunteers over time.

Cali was adopted twice with another shy 2-year-old kitty named Jackson. Unfortunately, they were both returned because of being too fearful and hiding in their new home.

The hard decision was made that it was time find separate homes for Cali and Jackson. Although Cali takes a while to warm up to people, once she does, she is affectionate and loves to receive gentle pets and sweet nothings.

Happily, in early August, Cali was adopted by a cat-savvy retired veterinarian technician who has experience volunteering at a pet rescue, including working with shy kitties. Her previous cats lived long, healthy lives. When she met Cali, the shy kitty immediately seemed comfortable and cuddled up next to her. It was a purr-fect match.

Her new mom tells us that Cali is doing wonderfully in her home and is quite lovable. It feels as if "Cali was made to order for her." Wonderfully, Cali feels comfortable enough to sleep on her owners bed at night. Although she sometimes hides under the bed, Cali comes out quickly when called. When she is ready, Cali will be able to go safely "outside" in an enclosed catio.

With time, patience, and love, Cali has found her fur-ever, charmed home.



## Zippy, a Cockapoo with Special Needs Finds His Furever Home

Submitted by Becky Cohn, President,  
Friends of the Animal Shelter Board



Three years ago, I had the pleasure of fostering Zippy, a 9-year-old diabetic cockapoo. Because I had another diabetic dog, I was already comfortable with giving insulin injections twice a day. Although I promoted him as available for adoption, sadly, no one stepped forward, which was likely due to him needing treatment for his diabetes.

Then, the Medford Mail Tribune did a story on senior dogs looking for homes and featured Zippy. Happily, a woman named Connie saw the article and contacted the Animal Shelter to let us know that if Zippy got along with her dogs, then she would be happy to adopt him.

So, Zippy took a trip to Connie's home to meet her furry family, which included a menagerie of dogs with special needs. Having no children of their own, this couple has a special place in their hearts for dogs with medical conditions and Zippy found his forever home with them.

Recently, Connie sent a donation to the Friends of the Animal Shelter and included an update on Zippy, who is now 12 years old. I had the pleasure of seeing Zippy again when I visited Connie to deliver leftover diabetic supplies from my dog, who recently passed over the rainbow bridge. Zippy has trouble seeing and is partially deaf, but is otherwise doing well.

It's wonderful to know that there are caring people in this world, like Connie, who take in and nurture special needs dogs.

## Foster help needed

Providing foster care for a few days, weeks, or occasionally months, can be a lifesaving gift for an animal and a rewarding experience for you.

**More kitten and large dog foster families are always needed.**

**TO LEARN MORE ABOUT BECOMING A FOSTER FAMILY, PLEASE VISIT**

[www.fotas.org/volunteer/about-fostering](http://www.fotas.org/volunteer/about-fostering)



**Fostering provides a home between homes.**

**Their stay may be temporary, but your impact will be everlasting.**

### Be a Foster, Save a Life

A life-saving experience for them,  
a life-changing experience for you.

*"I had no idea how much fostering would mean to me until the first animal walked through my door and straight into my heart."*

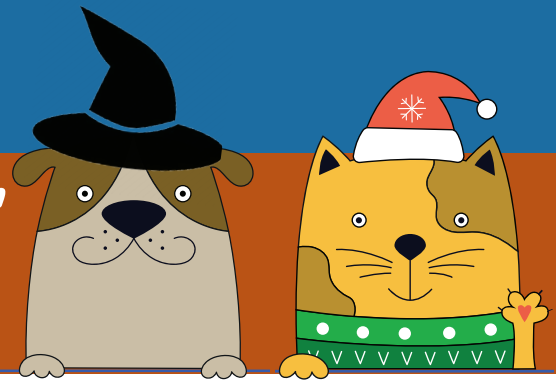


More at: [fotas.org/about-fostering](http://fotas.org/about-fostering)

Fall events...

# Howl-O-Ween & Holidays Fair

Saturday and Sunday, October 30 and 31  
10 AM - 4 PM, Historic Jacksonville Courthouse



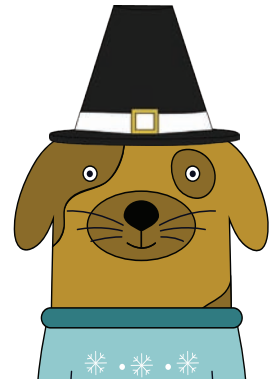
## You don't want to miss this wonderful crafts fair!

Crafty animal lovers have been making the most of staying home during this summer's extreme heat, smoke and COVID precautions by creating an incredibly creative array of hand-crafted items for you and as gifts for your friends and family!

### Items include:

- Unique, hand-made holiday gifts
- Home décor
- One-of-a-kind attire
- Animal blankets and toys
- Fresh-baked treats

Everything has been made with love and donated to Friends of the Animal Shelter. Thanks to the generous support of the City of Jacksonville and Pronto Print, all proceeds will be used to benefit the animals in our care.



### Do you have things to donate?

We are still accepting donations, so if you're feeling a little crafty, drop off your creations at the Friends of the Animal Shelter office at the Jackson County Animal Shelter, 5595 S. Pacific Hwy in Phoenix, Monday-Saturday, Noon - 4 PM, or contact Laura at (458)226-0600 to make other arrangements. For more information, see [fotas.org/holidays-fair](https://fotas.org/holidays-fair)



## Low-Cost Vaccination and Licensing Clinic Schedule

Jackson County Animal Shelter Low-Cost Vaccination and Licensing Clinics are held on the third Saturday of every month by appointment only.

**UPCOMING DATES:** Oct. 16, Nov. 20 and Dec. 18.

Vaccinations available: (Cash only)

- Rabies (\$10) for dogs and cats
- Distemper/Parvo booster (\$15) for dogs
- Distemper/Rhino/Calici booster (\$15) for cats

### Schedule your appointment online:

[calendly.com/jcas](https://calendly.com/jcas) or call 541-774-6654.

Friends of the Animal Shelter's Low-Cost

## Microchip Clinic

**December 4**

at the Jackson County Animal Shelter

### Schedule your appointment online:

[calendly.com/jcas](https://calendly.com/jcas)  
or call 541-774-6654.

**Details at [fotas.org/microchips](https://fotas.org/microchips)**



**\$20**  
per chip



1 in 3 pets will get lost in their lifetime.

**Don't let your pet be one of them.**



# THANK YOU GENEROUS DONORS

We are still in the midst of challenging times where few of us can gather in kinship and comfort. At least we get to spend more time with our pets!

Through it all, Friends of the Animal Shelter volunteers continue to care for the animals and find new loving homes. And all because you, our generous donors, continue to support our efforts. Thank you!

Donations: June 16 – September 15, 2021  
(We apologize for any errors or omissions.)



## BEQUEST

William Holcomb

## RECURRING DONORS

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 Lisa Michelbrink and Rickey King  
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 Janell Martinez  
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 Katie and Gerald McCormick,  
 in memory of "Bud" Mahanay  
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 Sue and Rob McGrath  
 Karen McKenzie  
 Adele McVeigh  
 Sandra Dufault and  
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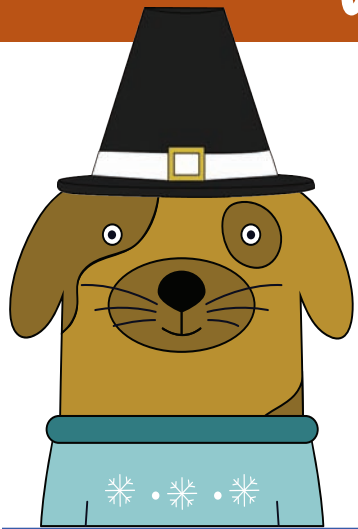
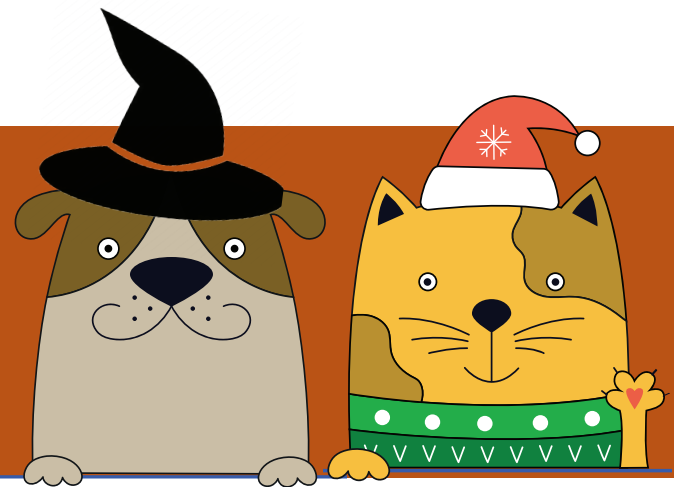
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