

# Thank you for the Old and the Young

Winter  
Edition  
2016



# Pet Friends, Inc.

A special **Thank YOU** goes to so many of our wonderful donators!

So many of you made donations, in the past two months, designated for our cat fund, because in our last newsletter, we let our readers know our cat fund was in financial difficulty. Because of you, our cat fund is no longer broke and we are slowly being able to help homeless cats again! WOW! Our readers are really a GREAT group of people.

Now our most urgent need is for feline foster homes. People who are willing to share their lives and homes with homeless cats and kittens, while they are in the process of vetting and socialization, until they are ready for adoption. How about you? Would you be willing to help us? The purrs, licks, and playful times will make all your efforts worth it!

Let us show you what you have made possible:



**The Old:** Rosie, a 10-year-old cat was adopted during our Meet Adult Cats event at PetSmart on September 11th! Five senior cats were available at this meet-&-greet in hopes of finding a “forever” home. Rosie was adopted by a wonderful family and is now so very loved and treasured, especially by her favorite human, the young man in this photo.

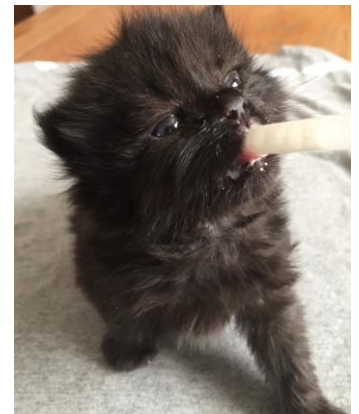
Congratulations Rosie, you deserve it!!!! Made possible by our volunteers and our wonderful donators!

**The Young:** Asher was rescued on September 15<sup>th</sup> by a couple, Greg and Sharon, who found him in their yard. They emailed us and because of their description of him, we immediately took action. His umbilical cord was still attached and his eyes were closed.

He was placed in a foster home that was able to bottle feed him every 4 hours. In his foster home Asher bonded with another orphaned bottle baby, Nala, who was 6 months old. Against all odds, Asher survived and is now a little over 2 months old and is eating canned food along with some moist kitten chow. It’s amazing that not only did he survive, he is thriving at life, now weighing 2 lbs, tested negative, and has received his first set of shots.

Asher was saved because of our volunteers and you, our readers. Thank YOU!

PS: Asher, so named because it means lucky, fortunate, blessed and happy.



*A real hero is someone who chooses to make a difference in our community, our country, our world. You are our Hero's!*

# Three More Special Thank You's

## Pet Friends, Inc. Board of Directors:

Betsy Walter  
- President  
Annie Ghinassi  
- Secretary  
Lisa Cimbala  
- Treasurer  
Vickie Kasa  
- Canine Coordinator  
Pat Lydon  
- Feline Coordinator  
Betsy Walter  
- Volunteer Coordinator  
Lisa Smith  
- Public Relations  
Dina Perri  
- Fundraising Coordinator

### **2016 Adoptions (so far)**

115 Cats  
and  
47 Dogs!!!

Did you know? Pet  
Friends accepts  
donations of cars! Our  
first donation brought  
in over \$665. Call us -  
we'll come get it!



*Did you know that you can  
advertise in our Newsletter?  
Inexpensive rates with a great  
value - Over 1,500 copies  
distributed per issue. Call us  
at 724-863-7722*

A very special thank **YOU** goes to the Blizzard Family Charitable Fund for the donation made to Pet Friends. So very many animals will benefit from your kindness!  
We humbly thank you with all our hearts.

## **Diane's Cans!**

Pet Friends would like to thank the following businesses for having one of our coin donation cans at your business

Burton's Total Pet, N. Huntingdon  
Cappa's Beer Distributor, Export  
Cassie's Top Dog Grooming, Irwin  
Catalina's Barber Shop, Irwin  
Cheesecake Caffe, Irwin  
Christopher's Gourmet Pizza, Jeannette  
Coen Oil Co (Amoco), Herminie  
Countryside Veterinary Hospital, N. Huntingdon  
C W Meats, Westmoreland City  
Colonial Grille, Irwin  
Donaldson Animal Hospital, Jeannette  
Earls Dairy Whip, N. Huntingdon  
Eccentrix Hair Creations, Irwin  
Fox's Pizza Den, Harrison City  
Galleria Hair and Nail Salon, Irwin  
Hallmark, Norwin Towne Sq, N. Huntingdon  
Irwin Distributing Company, Irwin  
Judy's Grooming & Pet Supplies, Manor  
K-Vay's Restaurant, Irwin  
King Cole Pools Inc, Irwin  
Kisslers Barber Shop, Manor  
Labuda Farm Service, Herminie  
Millers Crossing Fleatique, Irwin  
Meineke, N. Huntingdon  
Nina Vonne's Hair Gallery, Irwin  
Pamela's, Irwin  
Pampered Paws-N-Claws, Claridge  
Penn Beer, Jeannette  
RCS Laundry, Irwin  
Ross Appliance & Sweeper, Now in Monroeville  
Royal Dutch Grooming, N. Huntingdon  
Shooters Pub, N. Huntingdon  
Sunoco A Plus Mini Market, Irwin  
Valero Gas Station and Mini Market, Irwin  
Warrior Pizza, Jeannette  
Z's Beer, N. Huntingdon

As a non-profit organization dedicated to rescuing abused and abandoned animals, we could not operate without the generous contributions from the public. So far in 2016, our coin cans brought in over \$4,800. Our volunteers and our animals sincerely thank you for your support

This is a special time of year. It's a time to gather with family and friends, give thanks, exchange gifts, see people we seldom gather with at any other time, and share our love.

We at Pet Friends give thanks for all our volunteers, the people who send in donations, those who attend our fundraisers, and our adopters. We can't be successful in animal rescue without each and every one of you!

Please let us take this opportunity to say thank YOU for all you have done and will do for us. We wish all of you a special and wonderful Holiday Season filled with joy, peace, and love. Most of all, we ask you to take time to gather with your pets, hold them close, and just enjoy their warmth, softness, and their love. How much less fulfilled would we all be without them!



# Recap of Events



Delany Hillier turned 8 on October 14<sup>th</sup> and in lieu of gifts she asked her birthday party friends to bring donations for Pet Friends. She delivered the donations to our Meet and Greet accompanied by her father and brother. She was excited to meet our “furkids” and would like to volunteer when she gets older.

Thank you, Delany, for your kindness!!! What a generous, and wonderful young lady you are! We know our world will be a better place because of you and we look forward to you being a volunteer with us one day!

Ed Skero held another wonderful benefit on August 21<sup>st</sup>, at Nino's, in Mt. Pleasant, where all proceeds were donated to Pet Friends. He raised \$776. Joining him were Jingles and Shiva Skydriver (entertainers). In addition to the 5.00 cover charge, there was a Chinese Auction, a 50/50 raffle, and they took requests for a donation. The event was held inside this year due to the weather.

Thank you, Ed, for continuing to be a very wonderful friend to Pet Friends and our animals

On September 24<sup>th</sup>, Sam's Club, Greensburg, generously let Pet Friends' volunteers greet people entering and exiting their store to ask for donations. Volunteers Marjorie Boyle, Annie Ghinassi, Pat Lydon, Keirstin Rothamel, Lisa Smith, and Claire Vaill split shifts to collect a total of \$584.40 for our cat fund! Thank you, Sam's Club and our volunteers for all your efforts!

Thank you Boy Scout Troop #208 who held their 2nd Flea Market event of the year in Export on Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>. The troop coordinated the event as a fundraiser and charged a nominal fee for vendors to set up in a 10'x10' area. They also ran a concession stand and had an area where they had items for sale. Michele Albert gathered up items that she no longer needed and decided to set-up a few tables for Pet Friends and raised \$341.50! She would like to thank family, neighbors, and Pet Friend volunteers for also donating items to sale. A special thank you to the boy scouts at the event who helped her unload her two vehicles and set-up her canopy and tables in record time. Please save your items for next flea market event in the Spring!

*Did you know Pet Friends United Way I.D. number for Westmoreland County is 1381068? We'd appreciate your support!*



A Pet Friend Alumni, Tito, is bringing comfort to victims of the fires in Tennessee!

“We live in Pigeon Forge, TN, now and we were evacuated Monday night because of the fires. Tito was amazing and so helpful to those who were crying at the shelter. He kept going up to those who were crying and kissing them until they smiled. He has not only been a God send to us, but to our new community as well!”

Thank you, Tito, for being such a great little guy!  
We are so proud of you and thankful for the part we played matching you with your new family.



# Upcoming Events & Fundraisers



## Visit our Cats/Kittens

Every day at the PetSmart in Greensburg during store hours  
*Please call our cat line at 724-863-7722 if you want to volunteer at PetSmart*

*Did you know?*

**PetSmart has saved 7 million pets through the power of adoption.**  
*We thank PetSmart, Greensburg, for their partnership with Pet Friends in helping us to find "forever" homes for our cats!*

## Visit our Dogs

1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays, Carwen's Kennel in Irwin, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays, Burton's Total Pet in Irwin, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
*Please call our dog line at 724-863-7722 if you can help transport or handle our dogs*

## Join us at our Member & Volunteer Meetings

3rd Monday of each month, N. Huntingdon Townhouse Building, 7 pm to 8 pm



## Christmas Lottery Ticket

(Afternoon and evening Pa. lottery numbers) \$2 per ticket. Each ticket has 2 numbers. Call 724-863-7722 and select option 5 (fundraising) to get tickets.

Katie Weaver's Grooming, Rockledge, Pa, is holding her annual food, supply, and toy donation drive during the Holiday season for Pet Friends. Thank you, Katie! You are truly a best friend to both Pet Friends and to animals everywhere.



Burton's Total Pet, North Huntingdon, is also hosting their annual food, supply, and toy donation drive at their store for Pet Friends. Thank you, Burton's Total Pet, for your continued support of our organization.

Please make plans to attend our annual Woofstock event which will be held on May 20<sup>th</sup>.  
*Details and information to be announced closer to the event.*

Please also make plans to attend our annual Calendar Party will be held on April 30<sup>th</sup>.  
*Details and information to be announced closer to the event.*

**Dee Dee's Den** Named in memory of our friend Dee Dee Anderson

Welcome to our sponsorship page. By sponsoring animals, donators help us cover operating costs.

**Amos (1)**



Sponsored by  
Vennie & Terri Krutz

**Amos (2)**



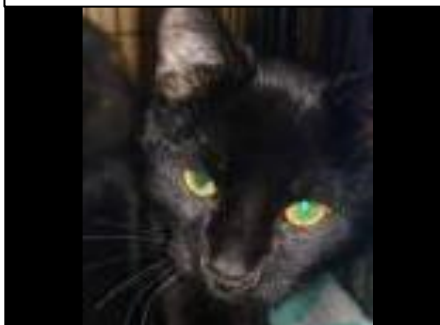
Sponsored by  
Will & Leeann Steel

**Nikko**



Sponsored by  
Laura Diaz

**Zeke**



Sponsored by  
Tony & Virginia Donina

**Muffin**



Sponsored by  
Dolores Walker

**Apollo**



Sponsored by  
Gloria Cipra

**Arrow**



Sponsored by  
Vennie & Terri Krutz

**Asher**



Sponsored by  
Will & Leeann Steel

**Ebony**



Sponsored by  
Gloria Cipra

Please help us to give these and all of our pets the gift of a good home.  
They will thank you a thousand times over!



# Dee Dee's Den (Continued)

If you would like to sponsor an animal, please send your tax-deductible donation, marked "sponsorship" for \$20 (per animal) to Pet Friends, PO Box 484, Irwin, PA 15642. Thank you to all of these sponsors!

**Cheeto (1)**



Sponsored by  
Vennie & Terri Krutz

**Cheeto (2)**



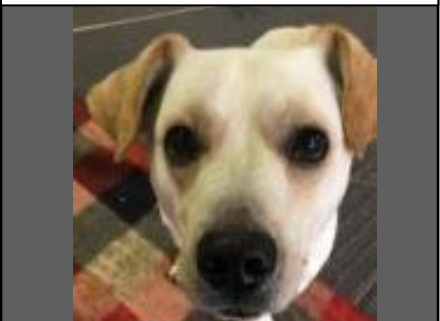
Sponsored by  
Will & Leeann Steel

**Waffle**



Sponsored by  
Tony & Virginia Donina

**Wally**



Sponsored by  
Lisa Cimbala

**Chucky (1)**



Sponsored by  
Tony & Virginia Donina

**Chucky (2)**



Sponsored by  
Gloria Cipra

**Pop Tart**



Sponsored by  
Vennie & Terri Krutz

**Digby (1)**



Sponsored by  
Lisa Cimbala

**Digby (2)**



Sponsored by  
Will & Leeann Steel

Please help us to give these and all of  
pets the gift of a good home.

# Alumni News



Dear Pet Friends:

It is with great sadness that we write to let you know of our sweet Molly's passing. She was found to have cancer and we did everything possible to make her comfortable in her last days. We loved her very much and will miss her greatly. She was a wonderful addition to our family and life will not be the same without her.

Without Pet friends, we would not have had the joy of having Molly in our lives. We appreciate all the great work that all of you do and the love you provide to all of these animals. We had the privilege of adopting Molly on April 30, 2011 and living with her joyfully until her passing in the early morning hours of November 8, 2016. Please pray that our wonderful memories of her will help us overcome our grief.

Kim & Popovich

Dear Pet Friends:

This is from the Family who adopted Peggy Sue. Her name is now Charlie. She is doing well. We just love her so much. We take her everywhere. We own a boat and she just loves it. We also took her to Atlantic City with us. Just as long as she is with us she is fine. We are planning to bring her for a visit sometime soon.

Love, The Howells

Dear Pet Friends:

It's been a while and we wanted to send a picture and update of Elsa (formerly known as Heidi). She is so happy and is definitely fitting in very well with the family, she's our Baby Girl, we LOVE her so much!! She is still a little skittish with the kids, but is slowly getting used to them!! She is also doing very well with Levi and Sammy!! It has been a GREAT 1 1/2 years and we are soooooo happy to have her as part of our Family!!

Sherry



Dear Pet Friends:

Merry Christmas to you and all the cats and dogs! My cat Jethro, who I adopted from Pet Friend almost 4 years ago, has been such a comfort to me in this time. He was a blessing to my late husband and me. He is such a loving, playful cat and I love it when he sits with me or runs around playing. My wish is all the cats and dogs find loving homes. He is our first rescue animal and I'd never go any other way again. Thank you for all your hard work.

Ellen

Dear Pet Friends:

We just celebrated Cane's one month anniversary with us. Everything is going very well. He and Joey are good friends and he and our older cat, Duke, get along quite well. I have never met a sweeter, more affectionate cat than Cane. We are so happy he is part of our family.

Diana



Dear Pet Friends:

Thank you so much for fostering Sprocket (formerly known as “Cookie”) and taking such good care of him until we could meet him. He has now been with us for about 6 months and we are absolutely in love with him.

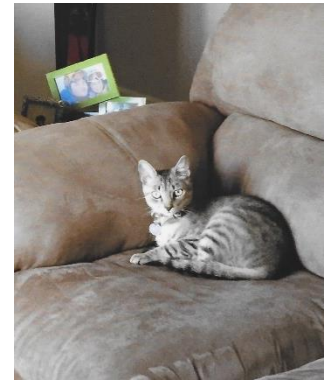


Sprocket has really grown into his personality over the past 6 months. He’s so sweet and affectionate. We love waking up to his head bumps every morning. He also LOVES to play. He loves to play fetch with his tinsel balls and to chase the wand toys.

In the past month, we moved to a new apartment and Sprocket loves the extra space he now has. He loves the cat shelves we built for him and how he now gets to eat his food from a high shelf and look down at us at dinner time. Most importantly, he loves watching the birds out the window. Since our new place is dog friendly (our last one only allowed cats) he really enjoys watching the dogs go on their morning walks.

We look forward to many more years of loving him, playing with him, cuddling with him, and continuing to help him grow up into a mature, adult cat.

Sincerely, Jessie & JR



Dear Pet Friends:

My name is Elsa. I am a brown and gold patched domestic short hair tabby with a pretty tan, white, and orange tummy with black spots. I came to Pet Friends in January where I was living outside in the snow and cold. When I was just around one year old I had kittens. When I was brought to Pet Friends I was about to have my second litter, so they gave me a warm bed and food and I was fostered by a nice lady named Jeannine. After my kittens were weaned I was put up for adoption at PetSmart in Greensburg. I wished and wished for my “furever” home. People passed my cage and looked at me but kept going. I was lonely but just tried to be my best.

One day a man stopped and looked at me. I was so excited when he reached in and scratched my ears. I purred and purred! But he left and I was sad.

But then not too long after the man noticed me, two people came and looked at me. I was so happy when I saw it was the same man and he brought his wife along! Then Jeannine opened my cage and the man and woman held me, scratched my ears and chin, and they rubbed my tummy (my favorite thing). And then, guess what? They wanted ME!!!

Now I’m warm and safe in my “furever” home. I have my own bed (although I sneak on my humans’ electric blanket on cold nights), food and toys, which I love.

Thank you Pet Friends for helping me find my ‘furever’ home!

Elsa

PS: Thank you from us also for finding us such a sweet and gentle girl - Ron & Nancy

Dear Pet Friends:

Zoey is great. She came in as if she had lived here all her life! Thanks to all who were very helpful in this adoption.

Frances





# Memorials and Honors

- In honor of Chloe, Chico & Russell, and in memory of Henry, beloved pets of Lori & Rich Hensler, from Patricia Spagnolo
  - In honor of Gunner Laffoon, from Perfect Industrial Cleaning
- In honor of Karen Cunningham, for her birthday, from Kim Middlebaugh
  - In honor of Louie 2 and Fiona, our cats, from Teri & Gary Moidel
- In honor of our pet Brigid, from Gilbert & Loretta Pastor
  - In honor of Pet Friends for your hard work, from Bob & Linda Finlay
- In honor of Rocky & Lucy from Lawrence Lynn
  - In loving memory of Marble, the independent New York City boy, love you always, Charlie
- In memory of Agnes Todd, from Polly & Bill Bray
  - In memory of Buffy, the most lovable cat I ever had, from Helen Varga
- In memory of Carmel Cat, from Tracy Scurci
  - In memory of Isis & Vito, beloved pets of Gloria Hathaway
- In memory of Jake & Ash, part of our family for over 15 years, passed away within days of each other, from Tonia Meenihan
  - In memory of Jasper & Balzac, my beloved dogs who were 2 happy and friendly boys I miss every day, from Tom Meisner
- In memory of Jayne Laffey, from James Laffey
  - In memory of John Carothers, from Lillian Carothers
- In memory of Lorraine McCloskey, sister of Nancy D'Emilio, from Esther Wurzell
  - In memory of Lucy, our beloved dog, thank you for sharing your life with us, we miss you terribly, from Louise Foster
- In memory of Maureen Marinelli, from Mike & Pat Fallon
  - In memory of R. P. Hensler, lover of all animals, from Rich & Lori Hensler
- In memory of Robert (Bob) Passafiume, who loved cats, fostered cats, and sadly passed away September 29th, from Judy & Joe Evans
  - In memory of Robert Whisner II, for his love and caring for all animals, from Zetta Brown
- In memory of Ronald Taborelli, Sr. and Ronald Taborelli, Jr., from Gary Hoffman
  - In memory of Socks, 2000-2015, we miss our beloved Socks everyday; but adopting Pebbles in Jan has helped to fill the void. She's so sweet, Socks would approve, from April Neiderhiser
- In memory of Sonny, from Darlene Macara
  - In memory of Spock & Nits, our 2 beloved cats, from David & Laura Williams
- In memory of Trio, beloved pet of Jackie Herbein, from Clare Vaill & Sue Gillespie
  - With many kind blessings for your life saving, dedicated work, from Carole Hanlin

They say memories are golden. Well maybe that is true. I never wanted memories - I only wanted you.  
A million times I needed you, a million times I cried. If love alone could have saved you, you never would have died.  
In life I loved you dearly. In death I love you still. In my heart you hold a place that no one will ever fill.  
If tears could build a stairway and heartache make a lane, I'd walk the path to heaven and bring you back again.  
Our family chain is broken and nothing seems the same; but as God calls us one by one, the chain will link again.

# Want to Volunteer?

Be appreciated - become a volunteer today!

If you would like more information about how you can help Pet Friends, please call, write, email, or return this form with your contact information. You can help by simply selling or buying raffle tickets, walking a dog once a week or once a month, or fostering a cat or dog.

(Must be at least 18 to volunteer independently - can be less than 18 if accompanied by an adult)

Phone: 724-863-7722

Email: [volunteer@petfriendsinc.com](mailto:volunteer@petfriendsinc.com)

Pet Friends

P.O. Box 484, Irwin, PA 15642

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_



## On-line Business Partners

If you like shopping on-line, please consider the following on-line businesses as they donate a portion of the sales to Pet Friends if you list our name as your charity of choice.

- 1) **My Sister and Me**: \$10 from the sale of each necklace is donated to the shelter or rescue of the buyer's choice. [www.facebook.com/michellebullington.ga](http://www.facebook.com/michellebullington.ga) or [www.etsy.com/shop/chellebullington](http://www.etsy.com/shop/chellebullington)
- 2) **iGive**: Shop online at your favorite stores and select Pet Friends to be your charity of choice to get free money! [www.iGive.com](http://www.iGive.com)
- 3) **U.S. Bones**: Shop online for your pet products and Pet Friends will earn 25% of the value of your order! [www.usbones.com](http://www.usbones.com)
- 4) **Mr. Chewy's Shelter and Rescue Network**: Every visitor to Mr. Chewy's using this link automatically lands on a special page set for Pet Friends. Once you've made a purchase and qualify (1st time customer, 1 per household) Pet Friends Inc. gets a \$20 donation. <http://www.chewy.com/rp/1206>
- 5) **Bullington Baby**: Looking for a way to help shelter animals in your area? \$10 from the sale of each Paw Print necklace will be donated to the animal shelter or rescue of the buyer's choice! Show your love and support for shelter dogs and cats with a beautiful 15mm sterling silver paw prints charm on an 18" silver filled chain with lobster claw closure. Please leave a note at check-out with the name and location of your area shelter or rescue. (Please go to our web site @ <http://www.petfriendsinc.com> for Bullington Baby's web address)
- 6) **AmazonSmile**: Shop at AmazonSmile and they will make a donation to Pet Friends. Visit them at <https://smile.amazon.com/>



# Contribution Information

I'd like to make a contribution for:

☐ General ☐ Cat Fund ☐ Dog Fund

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Please include an address if you wish for a card to be  
sent to your gift recipient.  
Send information and check to:

Pet Friends,  
P.O. Box 484, Irwin, PA 15642



In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

Pet or Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Gift Recipient:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please include an address if you wish for a card  
to be sent to your gift recipient.



## 2017 Memberships are now Welcome!

Want to be a member? The annual fee to become a member is **\$20**. Our members elect the people to sit on our Board and vote on key issues.

☐ I want to become a Member ☐ I want to renew my Membership for 2017

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Pet Friends, P.O. Box 484, Irwin, PA 15642

### Pet Friends Mission Statement

Pet Friends, Inc. is a non-profit, all volunteer animal rescue organization whose mission is to rescue, rehabilitate, and find permanent homes for lost and unwanted dogs and cats in western Westmoreland County, Pa. It is our goal to provide for the medical and physical needs of these animals; to provide educational activities and programs to help end the suffering caused by pet overpopulation; and to offer educational opportunities that will enhance the lives of people and their pets.



**Pet Friends**  
**P.O. Box 484**  
**Irwin, PA 15642**

**724-863-7722**

Email: [contact\\_us@petfriendsinc.com](mailto:contact_us@petfriendsinc.com)

Web site: [www.petfriendsinc.com](http://www.petfriendsinc.com)  
[www.petfriends.petfinder.com](http://www.petfriends.petfinder.com)



Search for us on Facebook too!

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
GREENSBURG, PA  
PERMIT NO. 130

Change Service Requested

## Our Wish List

\* Tax deductible cash donations to help with Veterinarian bills \*

### Animals

Treats (Cat & Dog - no Rawhides)  
Food (Dry or Canned - dog, cat,  
especially kitten)  
Jars of Peanut Butter  
Scoopable & non-scoopable Cat Litter  
Grocery Store Gift Cards  
Canned Pumpkin-not spiced  
Pill Pockets  
Durable Toys, Balls, Kong Toys  
Cat Beds & Kuranda Dog Beds

### Miscellaneous

Bleach, Clorox, Pine Sol  
Laundry Soap  
Simple Green Cleaner  
Pillowcases  
Large Garbage Bags for Cans  
Brooms  
Paper Towels  
Copy Paper  
Postage Stamps

\*\*\* Safety, health, and LOVE for all animals in 2017 and every year after! \*\*\*

The official registration and financial information of Pet Friends may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement