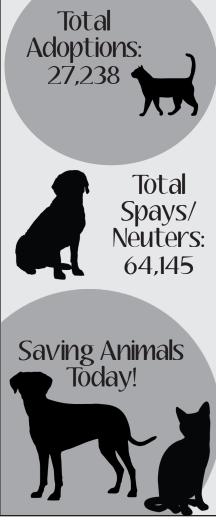
# CARACTER STATE

#### VOLUME 1 NOVEMBER 2019



# Merger News: What's changing and what's staying the same with our programs

vou've Βv now likely heard the big annoucement: Animal House Rescue & Grooming and Fort Collins Cat Rescue & Spay/Neuter Clinic are merging in Januarv 2020 and becoming Animal Friends Alliance! We hope you're as

excited as we are for everything we have in store for the new year (and if you're not looking forward to it yet, be sure to read the article below!), but we know you may have a few questions about our services. Here are a few of the most common questions that we hear:

# Where will you be located after the merger?

We will continue operating out of both locations! The location that has been Animal House, 2200 N Taft Hill Road, will be known as the Taft Hill Campus. The location that has been FCCRSNC will now be called the Mulberry Campus.

# Will your services change location?

No, for at least the year 2020, all our services will remain in their current locations. Dog adoptions and our grooming salon will stay at the Taft Hill Campus. Cat adoptions, our spay/ neuter and vaccine clinics, and our Kibble Supply Pet Food Pantry **SEE SPOTLIGHT, PG. 2** 

Program Spotlight

Your favorite skilled and experienced groomers will continue to serve you and your pet at our Taft Hill Campus.

# Join us in saving even more lives as Animal Friends Alliance

In 2006, both Animal House Rescue & Grooming and Fort Collins Cat Rescue & Spay/Neuter Clinic began with the optimistic belief that passionate, commited people could make a difference for pets in our community.

In the 13 years since these organizations were founded, we've proven that belief to be correct. Together, Animal House and FCCRSNC have found homes for tens of thousands of cats and doas in Northern Colorado. and have potentially prevented hundreds of thousands of unplanned litters of pets being born with no homes. Since 2006. the euthanasia rate for cats and dogs in Larimer County has decreased 70%. nearly by We've made а difference not only for animals, but for the



people who love and care for them as well. Over 3,000 underresourced pet owners have been able to access spay/neuter and vaccine services that they otherwise could not **SEE MISSION, PG. 3** 



This cat and his owner received supplemental food from our Kibble Supply Pet Food Pantry.



Tilly found a loving home, and a comfy couch to snuggle on, thanks to our adoption programs

Animal Friends Alliance is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, adoption guarantee cat and dog shelter and subsidized spay/neuter clinic.



Our Fort Collins walk-in vaccine clinics will still take place at our Mulberry Campus

#### **SPOTLIGHT, CONT. FROM 1**

will continue to operate out of our Mulberry Campus.

In the coming years, we hope to keep expanding at both locations. The merger provides us with a great opportunity to grow—the Taft Hill Campus is located on five acres that will give us ample space to consider all our options for the future. For the time being, however, all services will stay where they currently are.

## How do I contact you to make my pet's next appointment?

You can still call the same numbers to reach all of our services. The only thing that will change is that when we answer the phone, we'll say "Animal Friends Alliance!"

Once we are merged in 2020, we will be adopting a new telephone system that will link all our current phone numbers. You can continue to call our shelters, grooming salon, and clinic at the same numbers you have always used, and you will reach a central automated system that will allow you to select the service that you need.

#### What if I have other questions?

We want all our supporters, clients, and friends to feel as confident and enthusiatic about this merger as we do, so if you have any questions about our merger, please contact us at Development@SavingAnimalsToday.org.



Campuses will offer all the services that are currently available at each location.





Crystal is truly a hidden gem! She has been at Fort Collins Cat Rescue & Spay/Neuter Clinic since early spring and she is still waiting to meet her purrfect family!

This3-year-oldgirlhasalotgoing for her: she has a funny personality, she likes to chat and play, and she has an adorable "resting cat face" that can charm anyone. Even so, Crystal hasn't found her love connection yet. She's an independent gal, and her feisty attitude isn't for everyone. She enjoys being pet and spending time with her favorite people, but when she's done interacting, she won't hesitate to let you know! Crystal would do great in an adults-only home with a family who understands cat body language and can give her all the playtime she wants—and space to explore or be alone when she needs it. Crystal is not fond of other cats, but she's lived happily with a canine roommate in the past.

Crystal is a charming and gorgeous cat who's ready for a family who will love her for who she is. Crystal's adoption fee is sponsored and you can visit her at our Mulberry Campus or learn more by calling (970) 484-8516. Come meet this funny girl and give her the happy ending she deserves!

Looking

for a Home!



Crystal is a quirky girl, but if you give her a chance, her playful antics and "cattitude" are sure to win your heart!

# The future looks bright for Cricket

Cricket is a charming 2-year-old French Bulldog mix who had a rough start to her life. Before she came to Animal House Rescue & Grooming, we're told that she was running stray in the streets of Arkansas, repeatedly overlooked because of her cleft lip.

Once at Animal House, Cricket was given the medical care she needed: she underwent surgery for her cleft lip and palate, a luxating patella, and a malformed tail that had to be amputated. Despite all that, she still radiates joy, has an absolutely captivating smile, and she will wag her whole body when she's excited.

Cricket has boundless energy and will be great for a family who enjoys lots of outdoor time and playing! Cricket is house trained and crate trained and loves playing with her squeaky ball. This high energy girl



would love another playful, confident dog in her new home. Given her energetic nature, Cricket is suited for an adults-only home with fur-siblings her size (about 40 pounds) or larger.

In her foster home, Cricket has been working on some behavior challenges and will benefit from an experienced owner willing to be patient and to continue working with her. Her foster says she is hysterically funny, quirky, sometimes just a bit stubborn, and completely adorable. You can arrange to meet Cricket by contacting Animal House at (970) 224-3647 or visiting AnimalHouseHelp.org.



Charming Cricket has an unforgettable smile to match her puppy-like personality.

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Tiny and her mom were both spayed thanks to our PAL+ program.

#### **MISSION, CONT. FROM 1**

afford thanks to our Prevent A Litter Plus (PAL+) program. Our Kibble Supply Pet Food Pantry has distributed nearly 300,000 pounds of kibble to families in need.

The same optimism and courage that led to the founding of Animal House and FCCRSNC are guiding us on our next important step. As we begin 2020 as Animal Friends Alliance, we are recommitting ourselves to the goals and values that got us to this point—and we want to express our gratitude to our incredible, steadfast, and visionary supporters who have been instrumental in every milestone we have achieved.

The motto of Animal Friends Alliance is Saving Animals Today. You'll recognize this slogan in our email addresses and, soon, our website. We hope that it evokes a call to action: we are saving animals today so that one day every pet will know the safety and security of a healthy, loving home.

Our motto goes hand-in-hand with our mission and vision. The Animal Friends Alliance vision for the future is: All companion animals experience a healthy home where they are wanted, cared for, and loved. Toward that end, our mission is: To provide comprehensive companion animal resources, services, and education to the community to prevent homelessness and promote the human-animal bond.

While our goals and our committment remain unchanged, Animal Friends Alliance plans to continue to grow and innovate to constantly improve our methods and to meet the needs of our changing community.

One challenge currently facing Animal Friends Alliance is the limited space for our cat shelter on our Mulberry Campus. This merger will allow us to plan ahead for future growth, including adding cat adoption facilities at our Taft Hill Campus. More space means more lives saved, better conditions for the animals in our care, and the freedom to explore cuttingedge sheltering techniques.

Another opportunity for growth made possible by our merger is our plan to accept more local canine surrenders. We have long had the goal of providing second chances to more local dogs in need, but the never-ending competition for space with pups from overcrowded shelters in communities with much higher euthanasia rates has made it extremely difficult. With the expanded staff, space, and resources that come with the merger, we are actively setting the groundwork to prioritize taking in more local dogs.

This merger will enable us to become more versatile, efficient, and creative in meeting new challenges. We are transforming from two regional animal welfare organizations into a powerhouse voice for animals throughout Colorado and beyond. We are proud of what we have accomplished in the last 13 years and we can't wait to share the next amazing years with you!

## Shop now to support Animal Friends Alliance!

With the holidays coming up, remember to stock up on the fun gift that everyone wants fun swag from Animal Friends Alliance!

We're liquidating our stock of Animal House and FCCRSNC merchandise, so don't miss your last chance at all your old favorites: logo tops from both organizations, Brewfest throwback tees, "Cat & Coffee" totes, "I'm into S&N (Spay & Neuter)" tank tops, plus hoodies, socks, buttons, and more. The best part is, all our "legacy" merchandise is half off!

Of course, we want your help to celebrate our future, too—new Animal Friends Alliance logo merchandise is being printed right now, so visit either of our shelters or our Etsy shop (etsy. com/shop/FCCRSNC) to score a new logo sweatshirt, hoodie, or tee. They will be available later this month, so shop now and ring in the new year Animal Friends Alliance style!

Finally, don't forget that you can support Animal Friends Alliance with your holiday shopping, or your everyday purchases, by designating Fort Collins Cat Rescue & Spay/ Neuter Clinic as your charity of choice on AmazonSmile. Happy shopping!



#### Colorado Gives Day is coming up Dec. 10

This year, Animal House Rescue & Grooming and Fort Collins Cat Rescue & Spay/Neuter Clinic are teaming up for Colorado Gives Day. We are proud to begin the new year as Animal Friends Alliance and we are grateful for the support of committed and passionate community members who share our goals to help people and animals.

Join our alliance on Colorado Gives Day, Tuesday, Dec. 10, by making a donation. Our programs support not only the dogs and cats who we help to find loving homes, but also the pets that depend on our Kibble Supply and PAL+ programs and that benefit from low-cost spay/ neuter and vaccinations. Our goal this year is to raise \$100,000 for our lifesaving programs

Colorado Gives Day, Tuesday,



Dec. 10, is the state's largest one-day online giving event. You can go online anytime before Dec. 10 and schedule your donation for that day! Just visit the secure website ColoradoGives.org and search for Fort Collins Cat Rescue & Spay/Neuter Clinic, then donate!

Colorado Gives Day also features a \$1 Million Incentive Fund. It's important to schedule your gift for Dec. 10 because only donations made on that date will be increased by this fund. It's 24 hours to support the commitment that Animal Friends Alliance will make to every pet we meet.

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#### Leave your mark with our Legacy of Love Society

Your dedication makes our work possible and inspires us to work passionately for every animal and person who needs us. Your support is why we believe so completely in the merger of our two organizations, and it's how we'll be able to help our community even more as Animal Friends Alliance.

One easy way you can help cats and dogs: By joining our Legacy of Love Society with a planned gift. This is simply a gift through your will, trust or insurance policy that can allow you to direct a monetary legacy to us, so we can keep helping animals on your behalf.

If we are already in your will, trust, or other estate

plans, thank you! Please let us know so we can plan for our future and thank you. If you don't have a will, you're not alone; now is a great time to start planning. Our Pet Survivorship program will also help you to make plans to care for your own beloved pets.

For more information on joining the Legacy of Love Society and designating Animal Friends Alliance as a beneficiary, contact Executive Director Sarah Swanty at S a r a h . S w a n t y @ Saving AnimalsToday.org or (970) 281-7496.



Kathy Dalton is an active volunteer and a member of our Legacy of Love Society

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# A new way to sustain our work: Animal Advocate Club

Our Smitten with Kittens and FURIanthropy membership clubs are getting a makeover in anticipation of our merger. We're excited to share that the new membership club for Animal Friends Alliance will be called the Animal Advocate Club!

To go along with our program's new name, we have new giving level names that reflect our commitment to saving animals today:

- \$5 monthly: Associate
- \$10 monthly: Companion
- \$25 monthly: Friend
- \$50 monthly: Protector
- \$100 monthly: Ambassador
- \$200 monthly: Champion

If you are a current Smitten with Kittens member, you don't have to make any changes to your monthly donations; they will continue to process exactly as before. FURIanthropy

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Club members through Animal House will be receiving instructions about changing your membership over to Animal Friends Alliance. If you have questions, please contact Ali Eccleston at (970) 682-3727 or Megan Streetman at (970) 305-5796.

If you are considering supporting Animal Friends Alliance with a new monthly recurring donation, now is the perfect opportunity! Please reach out to our Director of Philanthropy Megan Streetman at 970-305-5796 for more information. Signing up is easy, with giving levels starting at just \$5 monthly.



#### **Annual Donor Reception on 8/29**







We had a great time at our donor reception at the Rio Grande Mexican Restaurant with our supporters, puppies, and kittens! If you'd like to join the party next year, contact Development@SavingAnimalsToday.org to learn more.









#### Fall Harvest Brewfest on 9/21

Over 30 breweries and distilleries and nearly 700 attendees joined us at the 11th annual Fall Harvest Brewfest. The event raised almost \$10,000 for animals in our community. Photographs by Compelling Images Photography

animal friends alliance November 2019

# Rescue Tails

Sir Nigel [formerly Fred]. "He is such an amazing addition to our home and menagerie of animals! Thank you for bringing this wonderful little soul into our lives!"



Levi [formerly Pacha]. "I want to thank the staff at the Animal House for all of their patience and help in finding the right one for us. He is fitting in perfectly."

HotRod [formerly Morty] "He is the sweetest character and has made my kiddo the happiest boy."



**Reese.** "He has continued to fill our lives with so much love and laugher for the past 5 years. I never knew a dachshund could be so comical until I walked into his kennel at Animal House and he stole my heart!"

Share your "Rescue Tail" by sending your stories and photos to Development@SavingAnimalsToday.org or sharing to our page, facebook.com/FCCRSNC!

#### Daisy's new



Daisy is an adorable ham with the cutest "shark" smile.

Daisy came to Animal House about a year and a half ago and lived in a foster home where she was loved and given the support she needed.

Dedicated volunteers would meet Daisy every week to help train her and work on her on-leash reactivity. Daisy has a great personality and was nicknamed "Sharky" by her foster mom for her smile and the way she leaps into the air to catch her ball. To know Daisy is to love Daisy, she is always smiling and gives the best greetings when you come beginning

into her home.

Daisy has now found a loving family of her very own and is doing great in her new home. Daisy is goofy and just loves being near her people.

We are all so happy for Daisy and are so grateful to all the staff, fosters, volunteers and trainers who cared for and gave her the time she needed to find her family.



playful personality that won her new family's heart!

## Hagrid's

## Нарру

Ending

Hagrid was originally adopted as a kitten, but he made his way back to FCCRSNC in spring of 2019, when he was about two years old. When he arrived back at our shelter, Hagrid was often easily agitated and his behavior was unpredictable.

As Hagrid got more comfortable, however, his sweetness soon began to shine. He wasn't too happy sharing his space with other cats in the shelter, but for



Hagrid started settling into h new home right away!

several months, he was our beloved office cat, "helping" us to sweep and making himself comfortable on our laps—and our laptops!

One day, a potential adopter stopped by our shelter with another kitty in mind. That cat had already been adopted, so our Adoptions Program Manager suggested Hagrid.

When the adopter met Hagrid, it was an instant love connection! The adopter needed a few weeks to work out a change to his living situation, but he was so committed to Hagrid, he would come by almost daily while he prepared to bring Hagrid home.

Hagrid's new person reports he is doing well. He says Hagrid relaxed on the couch as soon as he got home! We wish them both many happy years of love and companionship!



# **2020 Pet Calendars are coming soon!**

The 2020 Animal Friends Alliance PetCalendaris full of dozens of cat and dog photos from amazing supporters like you! From 184 adorable entrants, 30 finalists were chosen, and the top 11 featured pets were selected by voters on our website. But every cat and dog is a winner in our hearts, so every entrant will be featured somwhere in the calendar. Thank you to all our gorgeous participants, including Pepper Colicchio, our "cover cat", whose people won the cover spot in the live auction at our 2019 gala, and thanks to Monique Renee of Silver Paw Studio for the stunning cover photo.

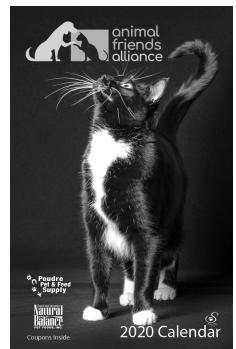
You can soon purchase our 2020 calendar at any Poudre Pet & Feed Supply store. There are six locations, including four in Fort Collins, one in Loveland, and one in Windsor.

Those who have already preordered will be notified that their calendars are available to be picked up at the Mulberry Campus.

This year's calendar was generously sponsored by both Poudre Pet & Feed Supply and Natural Balance Pet Foods and contains coupons with savings valued at much more than the calendar's \$20 purchase price!

If you don't live nearby but still want a calendar, they will be available soon for online purchase and shipping nationwide by ordering through our Etsy shop: Etsy.com/shop/FCCRSNC.

Treat yourself, or your loved ones, to a year full of cute pet photos and coupons-calendars make excellent holiday gifts. Get one before they're gone-available later this month!



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THE PAW PRINT Animal Science November 2019

# Will you go to prom with us on March 28?

Dig out the ruffles, tease your hair, and get a shine on those white loafers... it's time for 80's Prom! We're flashing back to the age of Pac Man and Miami Vice for a totally rad evening to benefit the animals! Join Animal Friends Alliance for our first event as a unified organization on Saturday, March 28, 2020, at the Hilton Fort Collins.

Shop the silent auction and participate in the photo booth, which is again being hosted by Silver Paw Studio. Indulge in a



gourmet plated meal before playing Heads or Tails and bidding on several exciting auction packages. live You'll also want to bid on the Magnificent Beasts art pieces, which will include wooden forms of both cats and dogs, transformed by local artists.

This full night of festivities will be \$100 per person, with tables of 10 for \$900. Registration opens early 2020, so keep an eye out for more informationwe anticipate that this event will sell out!

There are several ways you can give to the event in advance, such as by donating auction items. We also have a special opportunity for you to promote your business or to honor a loved one or pet by sponsoring. You'll receive a number of benefits from sponsoring while at the same time helping Animal Friends Alliance.

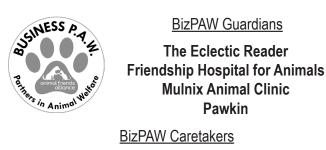
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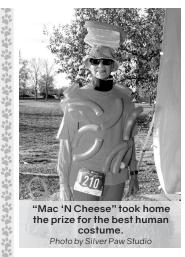
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For more information, email Megan.Streetman@ SavingAnimalsToday.org.





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"Mac 'N Cheese" took home the prize for the best human costume. Photo by Silver Paw Studio



Here are just a few photos of our fun, festive race on Oct. 26. For more photos, visit our Facebook page at Facebook.com/FCCRSNC



Racers line up at the starting line.



This "foxy" pup won best canine costume.



This "incredible" duo was all smiles after the race.



The Swashbuckling Doctors kept our toes tapping!



"Aladdin" and company won the award for best team costume. Photo by Silver Paw Studio

November 2019



onimal friends alliance



2321 E. Mulberry St. #1 Fort Collins, CO 80524 FCCRSNC.org (970) 484-8516



**Cricket needs** a home! **SEE PAGE 2** 

# HELP YOUR COMMUNITY CATS & DOGS BY GIVING Here are just a few examples of what your donation can provide: \$35



Vaccinate Eight Shelter Pets

\$65 🔲 \$100

Spay or Neuter One Shelter Pets

- Help an At-Risk Dog in Our PAL+ Program
- □ \$250 Provide All Pre-Adoption Care for One Cat or Dog
- □ \$500 Replace Important Medical Equipment



*How Much Hope Can You Gift?* Enclosed is my donation of \$\_\_\_\_\_

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