

The Purrfect Pals

PURRR



The Purrfect Pals Newsletter • Because Every Cat Matters... • Summer 2024 Edition

In Loving Memory of Our Founder Kathy Centala

It is with profound sadness that we share the news of the passing of our beloved founder, Kathy Centala, on August 16th, 2024.

Kathy was the heart and soul of Purrfect Pals, and her dedication to our mission has left an indelible mark on the lives of countless cats and cat lovers alike.

Kathy was born on September 11, 1941, in Alpena, Michigan. Her love for animals was evident from a young age, and in 1988, she took a stand against the high euthanasia rates in overcrowded shelters by founding Purrfect Pals.

With a steadfast belief that no cat should be euthanized simply because they were unwanted, Kathy began accepting stray cats into her home in Brier, quickly earning the affectionate title, “The Mother Teresa of Cats.”

Her “no-kill” policy resonated with cat lovers, and what started with dozens of cats soon grew to hundreds. Volunteers joined her cause, helping to care for the cats and raise funds for their needs.

Kathy worked tirelessly, balancing her night shift at the United Airlines Call Center with her daytime commitment to the cats. She took them to veterinary appointments, met with potential adopters, and engaged in numerous fundraising



Kathy Centala's dedication to saving cats from euthanasia earned her the affectionate title: “The Mother Teresa of Cats.”

activities, from selling hot dogs at Mariner’s games to collecting donations at rest stops.

In 1993, Purrfect Pals moved to its current location in Arlington, evolving into one of the nation’s most forward-thinking feline sanctuaries. Under Kathy’s visionary leadership, the organization focused on helping all cats, including those elderly, infirm, or with special needs like FIV.

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PurrfectPals

Because every cat matters

Through placement and prevention programs, Purrfect Pals works to end cat homelessness in the Puget Sound region - Because every cat matters.

Purrfect Pals

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Kelsey Kohlwes, CPB, Finance Director
Kathleen Olson, CAWA, Development Director
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Crystal Chiechi, Outreach Manager
Robyn Ralls, Cat Care Manager
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Kara Spotted Horse, Receptionist
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Amanda Molson, Vet Assistant
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(...In Loving Memory cont. from page 1)

Purrfect Pals became a sanctuary where these cats could receive medical care and live safely until adoption or throughout their lives.

Kathy's dedication never wavered, even as she faced health challenges in recent years. She found joy in the company of cats and the community of volunteers, supporters, and friends who shared her passion. Kathy's life's work was always about the mission, never about personal recognition.

She lived her final days surrounded by love and friendship, knowing her legacy would continue through Purrfect Pals, which is now on the verge of exciting new projects, including an expanded medical clinic. Kathy is survived by several siblings, including her sisters, Maxine, Ginny and Patricia.

As we mourn this tremendous loss, let us also celebrate Kathy's incredible legacy and continue to honor her memory through our work at Purrfect Pals. Her vision and dedication remain our guiding light.

From a very young age, Kathy always found joy in the company of animals and her love for cats is now a legacy that lives on through Purrfect Pals.





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Event Info



Please join us for the 26th Annual

BLACK CAT BALL

Gala Auction & Gourmet Dinner

October 12th, 2024 at Lynnwood Event Center

THANK YOU TO OUR 2024 SPONSORS!



*In Honor
of Sierra
& Aurora*

THE BLACK CAT BALL IS PROUDLY PRESENTED
BY
Jeannie Nordstrom
In Memory of Bruce Nordstrom

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KREBSBACH
and DANELL
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*Purrz for the Prison Program. love
Rumble & Harley*

*Carol & Jason
Lamar*



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BJ HUNNICUTT
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Kathleen & Rick Olson

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*In Honor
of Tock*

Tickets available at: purrfectpals.ejoinme.org/bcb2024

Purrfect Endings: *Eris The Tiny Miracle Kitten*



Tiny black kitten Eris (middle) was the runt of her litter.

By Crystal Chiechi, Outreach Manager

Tiny black kitten Eris was named after a dwarf moon in our solar system because she was the runt of the litter. Eris is also the name of the Greek goddess of strife, which fits her story perfectly.

“Fostering Eris and her siblings through their illness was one of the most rewarding experiences of my life,” states Purrfect Pals Foster Meowmy Raeann Welch.

Eris, her siblings and their mom Lovey came to Purrfect Pals from Everett Animal Services in April 2024 and went home to foster with Raeann and her family.

“At a few days old, I noticed that Eris had a missing limb,” says Raeann. “I was shocked to see that Eris was missing a leg because she never slowed down or showed signs of being negatively affected in any way.”

“At first we thought it was due to a birth injury,” Raeann continues, “but after her siblings started showing other concerning symptoms, we quickly realized that they all had a very serious infection.”

The infection was caused by feline calicivirus that was spread to the kittens either in the womb or shortly after they were born. This illness created the ideal conditions for a bacterial infection to take hold and go septic in Eris’ leg.

“Eris had a hard start to life and the odds were against her when her leg became infected,” Clinic Manager Sierra Wharen explains. “We were all holding our breath in a sense, her prognosis was very poor.”

At just one week old, poor Eris had to undergo surgery on her limb without any anesthesia

Eris (back) and her four siblings survived a severe infection thanks to the care and attentiveness of their foster family.





Eris decompressing after the second surgery to amputate her infected leg. She had to be kept separate so her leg could heal.

because she was too young. After that experience, she understandably went home pretty scared of humans.

“We didn’t want to pressure her or force her to interact with us when she didn’t want to, so, for a few weeks, she was our timid kitten who didn’t socialize with us much,” Raeann explains.

Once Eris was a bit bigger, she was ready to have a second surgery on her limb to remove the remaining bone that could cause complications later down the road.

When Eris woke up from that second surgery, she was so mad and needed everyone to know, so she summoned the angriest meow she could muster with all the passion you can imagine behind it.

After Eris came home from the second surgery on her leg, she had to be kept separated from her mom and litter mates so her leg could heal properly.

“It was during this time that she really bonded with us and her personality started to shine through,” says Raeann. “I made her purr for the

first time and she curled up on my lap to nap.”

Eris recovered better and more quickly than her foster family ever could have imagined. She is no longer scared to interact with people and plays with her siblings more than ever before.

“Her foster parent was absolutely stunning with all the care she provided Eris and her siblings,” Sierra gushes. “Eris was able to fight off everything that was thrown at her and is now a very lively kitten and is absolutely thriving after her amputation surgery.”

“Taking care of kittens with medical needs can be more time consuming, but the reward is worth it a million times over,” Raeann tells us. “We weren’t sure any of the kittens would make it through this illness, but they did because of our close care and attention, and all the support from Purrfect Pals. That is something we will carry with us forever.”

A Purrfect Ending: Eris was adopted in July from our adoption center at Marysville PetSmart!



In Honor and In Memory

In Honor of Alan Waite & Bianca W.

In Honor of Alex & Topaz.

In Honor of all the volunteers at Purrfect Pals.

In Honor of Angus (the kitty I adopted from Purrfect Pals) and I are so happy.

In Honor of Anne Backstrom.

In Honor of Arly.

In Honor of Bella McAndrew's Birthday.

In Honor of Ben Zarlingo & In Memory of Otis.

In Honor of Benny.

In Honor of Beth Schlansky.

In Honor of Binx Sands.

In Honor of Bubbles - the black barn rescue cat.

In Honor of Catherine Hovind.

In Honor of Cecelia.

In Honor of Chowder, Mooshie & Missy.

In Honor of Chris Lute.

In Honor of Cindy.

In Honor of Cleo.

In Honor of Cuddles.

In Honor of Dave & Peggy Tovrea.

In Honor of David & Kathy Powell.

In Honor of Debbie Plotkin's Birthday! Wishing you a purrfect trip around the sun.

In Honor of Delle, Ray, Gryff & Shay.

In Honor of Dona & Walt B.

In Honor of Dona Bubelis.

In Honor of Dr. Dawn Gill, DVM.

In Honor of Dr. Rebecca Birchmeier.

In Honor of Dutin & Rainier.

In Honor of Ellen Levesque.

In Honor of Etta.

In Honor of Evan & Cassie Vandermay.

In Honor of Fernando.

In Honor of Fizzy Wizz Bang.

In Honor of Foster Dad John.

In Honor of Freddy's Birthday!

In Honor of Freya.

In Honor of Gail Daschel's Birthday.

In Honor of Ginger & Evan's birthday.

In Honor of Griffin.

In Honor of Hyun Ja.

In Honor of Isabel.

In Honor of Jacki. Love you Mommy!

In Honor of Jackie Stewart.

In Honor of Jan Cullor.

In Honor of Jean Blackstone. A lover of cats and a rescuer of animals. Her kindness inspires me to give more to those who need it.

In Honor of Jeff Faung's birthday.

In Honor of Jesse & Kelsey Kohlwes.

In Honor of Jesse Kohlwes & Goku.

In Honor of Jimmy Jaeger.

In Honor of Joani Shannon.

In Honor of JoAnn Syron.

In Honor of John Bartlett.

In Honor of JR Myers. You have a soft spot for these kitties, and it shows a loving side of you that means the world to me! Love you!

In Honor of Kathy Centala.

In Honor of Kathy Centala's Birthday.

In Honor of Kati Hoeschen's Birthday. We love you!

In Honor of Kelly Kavanagh.

In Honor of Kelsey Kohlwes.

In Honor of Kevin Allex.

In Honor of Kevin Allex's 70th Birthday!

In Honor of Kim Peterson.

In Honor of Kitty Emma.

In Honor of Kitty.

In Honor of Krieger Cat.

In Honor of Kris and Travis.

In Honor of Laura Beckner and you're loving and caring heart & In Honor and

celebration of the forever home you are giving your Purrfect Pal.

In Honor of Lauren Zarlingo's Birthday.

In Honor of LaVonne & C.C. Schott.

In Honor of LaVonne Schott.

In Honor of Legend.

In Honor of Leo.

In Honor of Lily AKA Gteeb sleeves.

In Honor of Linda Fraser.

In Honor of Linda Fraser. Happy Mother's Day!

In Honor of Linda Fraser's Birthday!

In Honor of Lisa & Marilyn Logan.

In Honor of Lydell Knudson.

In Honor of Malcolm Higa, who had such a big heart.

In Honor of Marianne Gregersen.

In Honor of Marianne Gregersen's 85th birthday.

In Honor of Mark McCallister.

In Honor of Marla Peele.

In Honor of Mary Ellen Reimund.

In Honor of Meg W.

In Honor of Michele Sherwin.

In Honor of Mimi Perrin.

In Honor of Mimi Perrin's retirement!

In Honor of Miss Kitty.

In Honor of Monkey.

In Honor of Mowgli.

In Honor of my sisters Marcia Brand & Shanon Dom.

In Honor of Ninja.

In Honor of Nobu. He completed our family and couldn't possibly be loved more.

In Honor of Onyx.

In Honor of Opal.

In Honor of Oreo.

In Honor of Pakhet & Zappos.

In Honor of Panther & Cleo.

In Honor and In Memory

- In Honor of Pippin J. Shenanigans.
- In Honor of Purrfect Pals Staff & kitties.
- In Honor of Quilla Bella, Fiona Fabulosa and In Memory of Jamaica H. Prowser, Sammo, Poopster, Fancy Jayne, Miss Yahzi Farouche & Scout T. Braverman.
- In Honor of Robert Holof. I love you, Dad.
- In Honor of Rocky of the MASH Kitties.
- In Honor of Rod Keppler.
- In Honor of Rosebud & Jules.
- In Honor of Roswell.
- In Honor of Sacco & Vanzetti.
- In Honor of Sandra Hayes, Vanessa & Bubi.
- In Honor of Sebastian Corrington III.
- In Honor of Shadow.
- In Honor of Shelby. For Daisy- his goofiest thing was that he had to be on the counter getting pets by his mom while she brushed her teeth every morning. We love you!
- In Honor of Starla.
- In Honor of Sue Weavere.
- In Honor of Sugar & Spice.
- In Honor of Sunshine & Calypso.
- In Honor of Susan Bark & Janet Bircher.
- In Honor of Susan Jones Davis.
- In Honor of Sylvia's Birthday.
- In Honor of Taffie.
- In Honor of Tails-a-Wagging.
- In Honor of Tater.
- In Honor of the Orders Family.
- In Honor of The Peanuts and Gail & Chris.
- In Honor of the Purrfect Pals humans.
- In Honor of the Purrfect Pals team.
- In Honor of Thomas Gray.
- In Honor of Thoth.
- In Honor of Tifa.
- In Honor of Toby & Cleo.
- In Honor of Tom Wells. He is a good friend who has been so helpful to me and others.
- In Honor of Tracy Van Woert.
- In Honor of Trey & Kelsey on their Wedding Anniversary.
- In Honor of Ursula and Izzy, our two old lady cats who passed away recently. They are terribly missed.
- In Honor of Vivian Lieb.
- In Honor of Wednesday, our baby girl, adopted from Purrfect Pals in 2007.
- In Honor of Wendy Allex's Birthday!
- In Honor of Zak & Sophie, our two Maine Coons.
- In Honor of Zephyr.
- In Honor of Zissou (Rhino).
- In Honor of Zissou.
- In Memory of Admiral (our adopted kitty).
- In Memory of all my fur babies.
- In Memory of all my kitties who have gone to the bridge.
- In Memory of all the wonderful cats who have called this home.
- In Memory of Allen, Manny, Zillia, Vinnie, Ollie, Izzy, Wally, Wilson, & Lizzy.
- In Memory of Alley. A special companion of 22 years.
- In Memory of Amira.
- In Memory of Anders.
- In Memory of Angie & Maggie who brought so much joy to our lives. We miss them very much.
- In Memory of Ardell Miller.
- In Memory of Ari.
- In Memory of Ashton; he gave years of entertainment to my friends Frances & Thad.
- In Memory of Atisha, Tashi & Senge.
- In Memory of Barbara Madden.
- In Memory of Bella Rena & Eddie.
- In Memory of Bella, who liked her squeaky toys as much as she loved her people.
- In Memory of Betty White.
- In Memory of Bill Cecil.
- In Memory of Boogie Olivas.
- In Memory of Bootz.
- In Memory of Boss the Cat.
- In Memory of Boyd.
- In Memory of Brody & Bentley.
- In Memory of Buddy, one truly fine cat.
- In Memory of Casey.
- In Memory of Cee Cee.
- In Memory of Chev.
- In Memory of Claudine Erlandson & Honor of Kathy Centala.
- In Memory of Cookie aka. Georgina. She was the best cat ever.
- In Memory of Coon Cat, who is sorely missed.
- In Memory of Cynthia Greyerbiehl.
- In Memory of Dana Lee Wilson (11/5/1954-7/31/2023).
- In Memory of Darrel Hart.
- In Memory of Don McIntosh.
- In Memory of Dorothy.
- In Memory of Dree Ritter.
- In Memory of Drommie & Moto.
- In Memory of E. J. Branch.
- In Memory of Elaine Dunbar & In Honor of the kitties she loved throughout her life: from Sylvester to Susie, and all those who came before and in between.
- In Memory of Ella.
- In Memory of Finn.
- In Memory of Floof, our feral kitty.
- In Memory of Gillie.
- In Memory of Greased Lightening.
- In Memory of Honey Pumpkin.
- In Memory of Huicho, Oso, Mango & Buddy.
- In Memory of Icky, Shelby, & Bruce.

(continued on page 8...)

In Honor and In Memory

(...cont. from page 7)

In Memory of Ike, Monty & Gina.

In Memory of Isabella Binne.

In Memory of Jake Weber, who died unexpectedly. He loved all animals and the outdoors.

In Memory of Jane Ferguson.

In Memory of Jean Sonnentag.

In Memory of Jeff Branch.

In Memory of Jez Scott.

In Memory of Jill Pickford.

In Memory of Joey, Chloe & Pearl.

In Memory of John & Rosemary Riddington.

In Memory of Joseph Guarneri.

In Memory of Josie.

In Memory of Judy Driscoll.

In Memory of Judy Ridner.

In Memory of Kaiser & Pompeii.

In Memory of Kaiser.

In Memory of Kam.

In Memory of Kara, whose cat, Jonah, needed a friend.

In Memory of Karla Nail.

In Memory of Karla Nothaft.

In Memory of Khiana, who benefitted greatly from your kindness.

In Memory of Kiara & Misty.

In Memory of Kiara.

In Memory of Kitty Scratches.

In Memory of Kody Allen Jernigan.

In Memory of Kumiko Kurosaka.

In Memory of Lee Ryan, who was dedicated to supporting homeless pet rescues, especially for cats, her beloved companions.

In Memory of Lester, the King Cat.

In Memory of Lester.

In Memory of Lisa's kitties, & In Honor of Lisa Murr. Thank you.

In Memory of Loowit.

In Memory of Lynn K. The many people you've touched will never forget you.

In Memory of Lynn Keel, who loved cats so very much.

In Memory of Macduff & Rafa.

In Memory of Mario Smith Harris.

In Memory of Marjorie Waldheim.

In Memory of Mary Keyt.

In Memory of Mavin Blanchett.

In Memory of Melanie & Sue.

In Memory of Mena.

In Memory of Michelle Cat.

In Memory of Mildred.

In Memory of Millie, the sweetest cat ever.

In Memory of Miss Miss.

In Memory of Mitzi.

In Memory of Momma.

In Memory of Monika.

In Memory of Monkey.

In Memory of Moosey Moose.

In Memory of Mortimer who left us at 16. He had diabetes for six years. We gave him shots 2x daily. He was so good about it, our precious boy. We found him in our yard as a tiny kitten.

In Memory of Mr. Jynx.

In Memory of Mrs. Candy Dickard.

In Memory of my baby boy Nick, who has been gone one-year today. I miss that big fluff ball every day.

In Memory of my furry best friend, Mobie.

In Memory of my grandcat Sookietron who passed peacefully. She is missed by her human Mom & Dad, Elsa & Gregory Thompson.

In Memory of my mom, the original cat lover.

In Memory of my sweet boy Pilgrim.

In Memory of my sweet boy, Teddy Ruxpin.

In Memory of my sweet cat Midnight Blue.

In Memory of Navi.

In Memory of Nia Baze.

In Memory of Nikki.

In Memory of Olive.

In Memory of Oliver.

In Memory of Opie.

In Memory of Oscar Williams.

In Memory of Oscar.

In Memory of Osito & In Honor of Seiko Sato.

In Memory of our beloved feline tuxedo girl, Delilah Rose.

In Memory of our beloved Rascal, adopted from Purrfect Pals in 2013 at age 12 & crossed the Rainbow Bridge in 2020 at age 19. He was such a gentle, loving boy who brought joy every single day.

In Memory of our Purrfect Pals, Solitaire & Domino.

In Memory of our sweet Kevin.

In Memory of Owen.

In Memory of Paloma. She will be missed by all her followers on Facebook, but mostly by you.

In Memory of Panther & Cleo.

In Memory of Pearl.

In Memory of Peewee & Missee.

In Memory of Pippin J. Shenanigans Esq.

In Memory of Pippin, Bill & Trudi Trueit's fur baby.

In Memory of Punkin.

In Memory of Purrsepolis the Tortoiseshell.

In Memory of Pusspuss.

In Memory of Rebecca Howard.

In Memory of Rhoda.

In Memory of Robert Garrison Brown.

In Memory of Robert Woltzen.

In Memory of Ronni the Bog Princess.

In Memory of Rupert Nitroy. We celebrate

In Honor and In Memory

the 16 years of a life well lived. Best cat ever in all the universe.

In Memory of Sabrina & Mindy.

In Memory of Sebastian & Camilla.

In Memory of Shadow and Aladdin. They were my friends.

In Memory of Shadow.

In Memory of Sharkie & Sugar (fka Wilma) Purrfect Pals alum 2008.

In Memory of Shelby Weaver.

In Memory of Sherb.

In Memory of Shiva who lived to be 20 years old and was worshiped by the Kruse family.

In Memory of Simbu.

In Memory of Sister Kitty, Nicky, Lydia & Indy.

In Memory of Slick.

In Memory of Smokey.

In Memory of Smokey. Since Cora was four, Smokey was her faithful companion and confidante for the past 11 years.

In Memory of Socrates, Monte & Peebers.

In Memory of Sondra Nelson.

In Memory of Spike.

In Memory of Starlight & Simba.

In Memory of Stephen Young who took such lifelong good care of his many cats & dogs.

In Memory of Stirling.

In Memory of Sydney.

In Memory of Sydney.

In Memory of Tater Tot.

In Memory of Tatertot.

In Memory of Teddy Kitty.

In Memory of Teddy.

In Memory of the passing of our 21-year cat Scarlet who had a long and happy life.

In Memory of Tinker.

In Memory of Tinkerbelle bell- llamo.

In Memory of Tsarina Green Eyes Wildcat.

In Memory of Tutu.

In Memory of Victor Galindo.

In Memory of Violet.

In Memory of Waffle.

In Memory of WeeCat.

In Memory of WeenaCat and in honor of Bella aka Millie Mio.

In Memory of Whispurr.

In Memory of Wild String.

In Memory of Winx.

In Memory of Zack, and the love he shared with all of us.

*In Loving Memory of
Purrfect Pals Founder
Kathy Centala ♥*



Yes! I Want to Help Purrfect Pals End Cat Homelessness!

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

E-Mail _____

My Check is Enclosed Charge My Credit Card:

Credit Card # _____ CVV# _____

Exp. Date: _____ Billing Zip Code: _____

You can mail your gift to:

Purrfect Pals, 230 McRae Road NE, Arlington, WA 98223

Prefer to donate online? Please visit www.purrfectpals.org/give

Here is my tax-deductible charitable gift of:

\$50 (can provide KMR milk replacement formula for a litter of kittens)

\$100 (can provide for ten days of care for a sanctuary kitty)

\$250 (can provide a dental cleaning and extractions for an older cat)

\$500 (can help us spay/neuter two litters of kittens and their moms)

Other Amount: \$ _____

Endless Summer Tails Challenge

HELP PURRFECT PALS
WIN UP TO
\$5,000 CASH &
\$3,000 IN SUPPLIES!

Vote EVERY day
until October 9th:



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[TINYURL.COM/PPSHELTERCHALLENGEVOTE](https://tinyurl.com/ppshelterchallengevote)

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