2021 in Review: Three Special Needs Cats that got Second Chances because of YOU!

by Crystal Chiechi, Outreach Manager

**Bebop:** Eight-year-old Bebop was transferred to Purrfect Pals in May of 2021 from a shelter partner in Eastern Washington with a unique condition: Bebop was born with an anatomical quirk that caused him to urinate upward. This became more pronounced after he was neutered, causing frequent UTIs and litter box misses...despite Bebop’s best efforts!

Bebop also gobbled his food too quickly, which resulted in what we in the pet world refer to as “the ole scarf and barf.” This second issue was easy to remedy by giving Bebop a slow feeder cat bowl; the first would take some medical intervention and thanks to generous supporters like you, we had the resources to send Bebop to a surgery specialist to alter his...

*continued on page 5*

Bebop (below) was born with an anatomical quirk causing chronic urinary issues.
From the Desk of Executive Director Kathleen Olson:

Numbers don’t always tell the whole story. Education, Collaboration & Prioritization does.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>LIVE INTAKE</th>
<th>LIVE OUTCOME</th>
<th>Euthanasia</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>1599</td>
<td>1007</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>925</td>
<td>911</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>1204</td>
<td>1178</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>541</td>
<td>624</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020*</td>
<td>389</td>
<td>413</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021*</td>
<td>386</td>
<td>377</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Pandemic limited services

The Purrfect Pals mission established in 1988 to end cat homelessness in the Puget Sound Region through prevention, placement and pet owner assistance programs has saved the lives of thousands of cats. Our mission hasn’t changed over 34 years, but our program focus has.

Thanks to making spay neuter surgeries available and affordable, less unwanted cats and kittens are now entering shelters. Alternatives to Intake and Managed Admissions now help keep cats out of shelters and safe within the community.

Our free Pet Food Bank (below) helps community members keep costs down & their pets’ bellies full!

Capacity for Care allows shelters to ensure the welfare of all cats in their care, while Return to Field and Removing Barriers to Adoption has smoothed the pathway for cats to leave shelters alive. Feral cats that used to be trapped and euthanized are now altered, vaccinated and returned to their outdoor homes.

(continued on page 3)
By the numbers, it looks like Purrfect Pals is helping fewer cats. What the statistics don’t show is how many phone calls and emails helped cat owners find resources to keep their cats or find the most suitable placement when they can’t.

Purrfect Pals assists low-income cat owners in our community by providing vouchers for free spay and neuter and a community food bank at our Arlington Sanctuary. To help keep cats in homes, we also provide resources for cat owners who are struggling with behavioral challenges.

Reinforcing the belief that every cat matters, today Purrfect Pals prioritizes helping special needs, medically fragile, under-aged and geriatric cats that other shelter partners and community members don’t have the resources to help.

In 2021, 149 cats were transferred from partner shelters. 173 were surrendered by owners. 64 came back to Purrfect Pals when their adoptive homes could no longer keep them. Some 125 cats already present are living in cage-free sanctuary settings or receiving long term foster care.

Thousands of cats in Washington still need second chances. Purrfect Pals takes the cats for whom a sanctuary setting or foster care is the best option. All cats are adoptable, but some take longer than others. They have a home at Purrfect Pals as long as needed.

The COVID-19 protocols have changed customer service practices. Adoptions have been by appointment only since early 2020. The positive results of this change is that it provides personalized attention to each potential adopter to ensure the best possible match for them and for the cats.

Western Washington currently provides positive outcomes for more than 90% of cats entering shelters because we work together.

Purrfect Pals is a member of the Pet Alliance of Washington, a group of shelters, spay neuter clinics and animal rescues working together, dedicated to helping
communities build programs to keep families and their pets together, improve outcomes for all shelter pets, and assure that pets who already have families will receive the care they need. Purrfect Pals is also a member of the Washington Federation of Animal Care & Control Agencies that advocates for animal welfare statewide and provides funding for spay neuter services across the state.

We actively partner with national welfare groups including ASPCA, the Association for Animal Welfare Advancement (AAWA), Best Friends Network, Human Animal Support Services (HASS), Humane Society of the United States (HSUS), Jackson Galaxy Cat Pawsitive Project and Shelter Animals Count. The collaborative goal is saving more pet lives and strengthening the bond between people and pets.

You help us envision a world in which every single cat at risk is provided with the Right Care in the Right Place at the Right Time to the Right Outcome – because like us, you believe that every cat matters!

Kathleen Olson, CAWA
Executive Director
the
PURR

(...2021 in Review continued from page 1)

anatomy to help him use the litter box with ease.

As fate would have it, the anesthesiologist assisting with Bebop’s surgery took one look at his snaggle-toothed grin and said: “This is the cat for me!” Once he was all healed up after surgery, Bebop was adopted and is now living out his purrfect ending.

**Roo:** Little black and brown tabby Roo had an unfortunate fall last October when he was about 2.5 months old and broke his femur. Due to the cost of his orthopedic surgery, which required pins to fuse the bone back together, the difficult decision was made to surrender Roo to his vet in the hopes they could find a solution.

The vet clinic contacted us to see if we had the resources for the surgery and post-op care Roo needed. We knew this was something we were well-equipped for and welcomed Roo into the Purrfect Pals family with open arms.

Post-surgery, Roo spent a few months on cage rest in the homes of Foster & Intake Manager, Susan Bark, and Executive Director, Kathleen Olson. Roo was soon all healed up and ready for his second chance at a forever home and his new meowmy adopted him in mid-January.

**Twister:** Twister was brought to a local vet office by a good samaritan who thought she was deceased. Twister was clinging to life, but carrying three dead fetuses and her uterus was badly infected. The vet reached out to us to ask if we could take her in after they performed the hysterectomy and we did not hesitate to step in to help save Twister’s life.

After the surgery, Twister spent a few weeks at the shelter healing up. With so much trauma in her short life, it was obvious - from her frightened demeanor and constant hiding under beds like a turtle - that one-year-old Twister was under-socialized with humans and needed extra one-on-one attention to heal her emotional wounds and gain enough confidence to be ready for adoption.

Twister is now being fostered through our Cat and Kitten Connection Program at the Monroe Correctional Complex (aka “Charm School”) where she is being cared for by loving foster daddies.

We hope in a few short months, Twister will be transformed into a well-adjusted, healthy, happy cat ready for a loving family to take her home and help her write a new chapter in her happy tail.

One-year-old mini panther Twister (below) needs a little extra one-on-one socialization at “Charm School” before she’ll be ready for adoption.
In Honor and In Memory

In Memory of Midnight (above).
In Honor of Diane Thompson-McCullugh’s Birthday.
In Honor of QuillaBella my furry conversation partner who kept me company all through the pandemic and quarantine. She’s a real lifesaver and the very best snuggle-bug.
In Memory of Abby.
In Honor of Hatch, Penelope, Spence, & Slack.
In Memory of Zena.
In Memory of my mom, Connie Wahlgren.
In Memory of Fwooper, the tabby polydactyl from the Critter Room.
In Honor of Keeley.
In Honor of the Huntley family.
In Memory of Avery.
In Memory of Rainbow.
In Memory of Frankie.
In Honor of John Bartlett & the Critter Room.
In Memory of Susan McKeever.
In Memory of Midnight.
In Honor of my beloved Mr. Fancy Pants.
In Memory of Billy Bob & EC.
In Memory of Biscuit & Prancer.
In Memory of Sherry Hansford.
In Memory of Cleocatra.
In Memory of Zoey.
In Memory of Jane Ferguson.
In Memory of Zoey Rebecca (formally Doodlebug).
In Memory of Joy Gulmon-Huri. My dear friend of fifty years. She loved kitties as much as I do and I miss her every day.
In Memory of Pinky.
In Honor of Sunflower, Thelma our sixteen-year-old.
In Memory of Simba; a shy orange boy.
In Honor of Debbie Plotkin & her birthday.
In Memory of Tiger Lily.
In Memory of Roland our Norwegian Forest cat.
In Memory of Elaine.
In Memory of Mark Holland.
In Honor of Bill & Trudi Trueit.
In Honor of Mary Ellen Reimund.
In Honor of Ruth Erickson.
In Honor of Judy Hill and all the kitties she has shared with me.
In Honor of Toni & Bob Cunningham who are devoted cat lovers.
In Memory of Lisa’s kitties.
In Memory of Lady and in the happiness for their new adopted kitties.
In Honor of Karil Klingbeil & Rebecca K.
In Memory of my husband, George, who loved all animals.
In Memory of Annie & Maggie who brought so much joy to our lives. We miss them very much.
In Honor of Jennifer Cummings.
In Memory of Lupin Dunn, a “terrific good bad best boy.” Rest in Peace, Lupin. We’ll always remember you now via Breaking Cat News.
In Honor of Georgia Dunn; we are so sorry for your loss.
In Honor of Cher our rescued cat.
In Memory of Piekatt, Snowshow, The Dink, Buster, & Tazzy.
In Memory of Tasha.
In Honor of my friends from the Cat Planet.
In Honor of Zuzu Peepers.
In Memory of Thelonious Monk Parris.
In Honor of Phanny Peters.
In Honor of Miss Nosy.
In Memory of Sugarpuss (best cat ever), Snoops, & Booful.
In Memory of Peewee and Missee.
In Honor and In Memory

with love from James & Joy N.

In Memory of our dog Skye, who patiently endured introductions to our foster kittens. She was a very good dog.

In Memory of Black Kitty, Princess, Trent, and Betty White.

In Memory of Betty White; a friend and inspiration to all.

In Honor of Kathy Centala’s Birthday.

In Memory of Lucky, who has joined her sisters Maya Papaya and Nutmeg over the Bridge. She will be sorely missed.

In Loving Memory of Jill Pickford.

In Honor of Julia T. Happy birthday, Julia! We hope you have a wonderful day and a fantastic year! Love, Aunt Mara and Uncle Harry.

In Memory of Beebee; you were one lucky cat to find someone so special to take good care of you in your last days. We are sending love to your family from the DeBoers.

In Honor of Kristina Chilcote; Happy birthday to a wonderful cat mom! Love, Heather, Goose & Maverick.

In Honor & Memory of Lissa Nelson; Wishing every cat had an amazing family and was loved as my much as Ollie

In Honor of Erich Brown and your love for kitty cats.

In Honor of DJ Burgess for taking care of and loving all the cats you have had in the last few years.

In Memory of Mark Holland. Mark’s caring and support lives on. from everyone at Genco.

In Honor of Gail Dasmel; Happy Birthday from Miss Gray & Karen.

In Honor of Jo Dee Pederson; Thank you Jo Dee for being such an inspiration in your volunteer work with the kitties who need love. You have adopted so many.

In Memory of Luna who filled your life with joy and fun for so many years, the “person” you grew up with. Love, Aunt Kathy.

In Honor of Susan Bark & Janet Bircher. We appreciate you and your hard work so much! Looking forward to working together again soon! From Karen & Vern.


In Honor of Diana. Thank you for raising me with compassion for those beings that need our help.

In Honor of Karen Stone. Happy Birthday Karen! Thanks for all the work you do for our feline friends. Much love from Robbyn.

In Honor of my brother Bill Stoelt & Purrfect Pals alum Lupin (below) crossed the rainbow bridge in January & will live on through his meowmy Georgia Dunn’s cat comic “Breaking Cat News.”

(continued on page 8)
(...continued from page 7)

his 18-year-old rescue Kitty Anna.

In Memory of Shirley Matherly. Andrea, we dedicate this to your mom. “To the world you may be one person...But to one person you may be the world” Love the Moores.

In Honor of Rachel Beesley; Happiest of Birthday Wishes Rachel. I know this is the purrfect gift for you. Love Michael.

In Memory of Chuba. We are so sorry you lost your little girl, Chuba. She will be forever in our hearts. She was such a sweet girl. With love: Mom and Dad.

In Honor of Cecelia. Happy birthday, we love you and hope you have a great day! Love, Alisha, Jeremy and JJ.

In Memory of Gertrude Carlson. Pam, I know Gertie loved cats, so I am making this donation in her memory. She passed this love of cats on to you. Hugs to you, Tom, and your four cats.

In Memory of Sandy Jones.
In Memory of Dave.
In Memory of Leo & Oscar.
In Honor of Ethel Greyerbiehl; Happy Birthday Mom!
In Honor of Catherine.
In Memory of Leon Trotskitty.
In Honor of Sweetpea’s Birthday.
In Memory of Cindy Fuzzbucket.
In Honor of Lindsay Butler.
In Honor of Margie Phillips.
In Honor of Max & Slate.
In Honor of Jane & Sean Buck.

In Honor of Dawn Gill, DVM.
In Honor of Oliver & Penny.
In Honor of Lauren Zarlingo.
In Honor of Dick West.
In Honor of Mikey Valentine.
In Honor of Sadie.
In Honor of Lilly Fuentes’s Birthday.
In Honor of our 2021 Foster Kittens.
In Honor of Jade.
In Honor of Mary Whaley.
In Honor of Cholena Brown.
In Honor of Knox.
In Honor of Bella & Weena.
In Honor of Tracy Van Woert.
In Honor of Skittle.
In Honor of Beth Schlansky.
In Honor of the Sherrys.
In Honor of Vivian Lieb.
In Honor of Misty & Buddy.
In Honor of Kumiko Kurosaka.
In Honor of all Purrfect Pals Volunteers.
In Honor of Susan Jones Davis.
In Honor of Marla Hamilton Peele.
In Honor of Linda Fraser.
In Honor of Sonja.
In Honor of the Orders family.
In Honor of Karen Stone.
In Honor of Joani Shannon.

In Honor of Cianna Monego.
In Honor of Julie Echols.
In Honor of Holly & Tim R.
In Honor of Lindy & Lorrie Lippert.
In Honor of Kati Hoeschen.
In Honor of my parents wedding Anniversary.
In Honor of Stacy Estes.
In Honor of Rachel Beesley & Rylie.
In Honor of Mary Ellen Reimund.
In Honor of Snowie.
In Honor of Jack & Ditta.
In Honor of Amy Sullivan.
In Honor of My grandkitties Sugar & Spice Smith.
In Honor of Sunny & Sebastian.
In Honor of Ari Choquette.
In Honor of Joseph.
In Memory of Gizmo, Sinatra, and Groucho.
In Memory of Carline McIntyre.
In Memory of Notorious.
In Memory of My Grandcat Kipsey.
In Memory of Woodrow.
In Memory of RosieMontyDocMissKittyStan.
In Memory of Isabel & Deb Jusak.
In Memory of Kody Jernigan.
In Memory of Pam Marshall.
In Memory of Margie.
In Honor and In Memory

Thank you to all of Jill Pickford’s family, friends and fans who gave in her honor and memory. A self-proclaimed “Kitten Cam addict”, Jill (pictured left circa 1975 with her beloved childhood cat Sheba) published a book of short stories and poems in 2017 titled Sing to the Moon. Her writings were inspired by the cats and kittens Foster Dad John raised and documented on his YouTube channel - The Critter Room. Jill generously donated all proceeds from her book back to Purrfect Pals and will be remembered as a champion for improving the lives of all shelter animals. We are grateful that so many chose to pay the love forward in Jill’s memory to continue her incredible legacy of helping the animals who need it most.

In Memory of Phyllis Stroh.
In Memory of Michelle.
In Memory of Kody Allen Jernigan.
In Memory of Jules.
In Memory of Moo Shoo Max.
In Memory of Spooky.
In Memory of Col. & Mrs. EH Greer.
In Memory of Cooper.
In Memory of Charlie.
In Memory of Cleo & Lucy.
In Memory of Pixie’s babies.
In Memory of Ruth Prins aka Wunda Wunda.
In Memory of Blackie & Fatty.
In Memory of Mack.
In Memory of Toby-cat.
In Memory of Mischka & Harry.
In Memory of My Millie girl.
In Memory of Sydney.
In Memory of Willow.
In Memory of Scarsdale.
In Memory of Echo.
In Memory of Our cat Arlo.
In Memory of Capone.
In Memory of Susan Hammersley.
In Memory of Marjorie M. Bigelow.
In Memory of Stacey King.
In Memory of Hemingway.
In Memory of Kumiko Kurosaka.
In Memory of Rosalie George.
In Memory of Red.
In Memory of Ruena.
In Memory of Corona.
In Memory of Ashley.
In Memory of Terra & Skyler.
In Memory of Lilly.
In Memory of John & Rosemary Riddington.
In Memory of Dee.
In Memory of Sam.
In Memory of Ann Burns.
In Memory of Ella.
In Memory of Jill Chick.
In Memory of Rosalie Chriest.
In Memory of Pinto Bean.
In Memory of Gracie.
In Memory of Robert L. Hill.
In Memory of Kitty Kitty.
Purrfect Endings

more than 100 cute and adoptable kitties, but there was this funny little one I just could not get out of my head.

Tall and skinny with a winky eye, she was kind of a derpy looking kitten, but there was just something about her that was special.

After talking with the Adoption Coordinator, I learned she wasn’t a kitten at all, but a petite 9-year-old who had been transferred from another small local rescue and was recovering from malnourishment and an infection. That sealed it; this sweet girl needed us.

This was our first time adopting an older kitty, and the experience of watching “Mochi” open up and get comfortable in our home has been magical. At first she was completely silent, but after a while we noticed she was starting to make little cheeps and chirps at us, and little My husband made me promise not to bring home a new cat on my first day, but he never said I couldn’t fall in love with one!

The Sanctuary is home to

Hello to all my fellow ‘crazy cat people!’

I’ve recently had the privilege of joining the Purrfect Pals Board of Directors after years of admiring the work this organization does for cats in need.

One of the things that drew me to Purrfect Pals is how each cat is seen as unique with their own personality and is given individualized loving care. This was made apparent while I was touring the Purrfect Pals Sanctuary.

Seeing rooms for FIV+, renal care, and other special needs cats, I was really struck how the slogan “Every Cat Matters” had been put into action.

(continued on page 11)
murmurs and huffs when she was really in the zone playing with her toys.

She has gone from napping in the hidden rag bag in the closet, to out in the open next to her furry sister every afternoon. Mochi follows us from room to room, a little social butterfly who always wants to be part of the action.

She was the star of the show at Thanksgiving, going from chair to chair getting head rubs from everyone. It’s already hard to believe there was a time when she wasn’t part of our family.

I’m so thankful to the wonderful staff and volunteers who took such good care of our girl and allowed us to add her sweet spirit to our family. I am excited to be a part of this organization, and help other kittens like Mochi find their Purrfect Ending, and other families like ours find their missing piece.

Are YOU interested in opening your heart and home to a kitty with special needs? We’re looking for special placement adopters for our cats with on-going medical or behavioral needs. Email adopt@purrfectpals.org or call (360) 572-4880 to learn more!

*9-year-old Mochi (left) lounging with her new sister, Fiona (right), a Manx Heather adopted from another rescue 12 years ago.*

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](http://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: $ _______
Virtual Kitten Shower!

Help us put our best paw forward for the 2022 Kitten Season by ordering food & supplies off our AmazonSmile & Chewy Wishlists:

purrfectpals.org/amazon
purrfectpals.org/chewy

March 13th-14th, 2021
Online Event:
purrfectpals.org/events/