



The Companion

Friends Forever Quarterly Newsletter



Friends Forever Humane Society

Freeport IL

September 2011

Indoor dog kennel repairs necessary

By Doug Toepfer
FFHS Board Vice President

The indoor dog kennels are in need of major repair.

Years of use have left the drain systems leaking, which pose a health hazard to the animals. The company that originally installed the kennels has been contracted to make any needed repairs.

The primary concern is the drain system, which carries water and waste material

from each kennel through a trough drain system. The system was originally done in galvanized steel which has corroded over time.

Because each kennel needs to be completely taken apart to access the drains, this opportunity will also be used to repair the back walls of both get acquainted rooms.

Much like the drain system, the back walls of these rooms have been exposed to water and waste

over a period of time making their replacement mandatory.

A special fund has been started for the project which is estimated to cost about \$10,000.00 when complete.

Those wishing to donate to the fund may do so by contacting the shelter.

Please specify that your donation be used toward the drain replacement fund. For more information, contact the shelter at 815-232-6164.

Rummage Sale

Sat., Sept. 24 & Sun., Sept. 25

9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday

9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday

Jane Addams Community Center

430 W. Washington St.

Cedarville IL

FFHS welcomes young helpers

Cliche or not, the children are our future. Friends Forever Humane Society believes educating young people, sharing training tips and exposing them to other avenues of pet care and owner responsibilities is extremely valuable.

To help expose today's youth to the joy and responsibility of pet ownership, Friends Forever Humane Society is now offering a Junior Membership to young people ages 17 and under.

The fee is \$15.00 a year,

however, if an adult in the household is a member of FFHS, the Junior Membership is discounted to \$10.00 a year. The Jr. Member will receive a Jr. Membership card, a subscription to the FFHS Junior Newsletter and various educational opportunities held throughout the year.

To register for Junior Membership, stop in to the shelter and pick up a form or download one from the FFHS website at www.friendsforeverhs.org.

In This Issue

- 3 Donor Girls
- 5 Microchip Reminder
- 7 Dog Allergy Tips
- 9 New Donation Format
- 11 A T-Shirt Contest Winner



Friends Forever Humane Society

966 Rudy Road
Freeport IL 61032
815-232-6164

info@friendsforeverhs.org
www.friendsforeverhs.org
SHELTER HOURS

12 p.m. to 4 p.m. M, TU, TH-SU
12 p.m. to 7 p.m. W

Editor:
Jason Carson Wilson
jcwilsonffhs@gmail.com

Publisher:
Friends Forever Humane Society

Board of Directors:
Brenda Boynton, President
Doug Toepfer, Vice President
Pat Toth, Secretary
Terri Matthews, Treasurer
Amy Jo Beightol
Karen Christen
Judy Gonder
Diane Heeren
Melinda Kluge
Jami Nielsen
Jason Carson Wilson

Staff:
Carol Falconer, Manager
Melody Haeft, Assistant Manager

Printer:
Freeport Press

Interested in receiving The Companion by email? Please contact Jason Carson Wilson, The Companion editor, at jcwilsonffhs@gmail.com

Shelter Manager's Message

Hello to everyone and thank you for your continuing support. The adoption rate at your shelter has been good for the year of 2011. The figures for year to date are,

Jan.	17 dogs
	9 cats
Feb.	15 dogs
	13 cats
Mar.	19 dogs
	7 cats
Apr.	24 dogs
	4 cats
May	22 dogs
	4 cats
June	22 dogs
	10 cats
July	20 dogs
	27 cats

As you can see, there was a sizeable increase in the adoption rate for cats during the month of July due to the 4th of July reduced adoption fee.

Dog adoptions have been stronger than cat adoptions. The sign in sheet for viewers shows the same interest, potential adopters for dogs strongly outweighs potential adopters for cats.

We are all aware of the troubling financial times we have been facing. Every day your shelter receives phone calls from owners no longer able to support their animal. Every day your shelter receives phone calls from people that have found animals they cannot care for. Everyday your shelter greets people bringing animals through the door in hopes of releasing. There are days arriving at the shelter animals are found caged by the door or running loose in or around the property.

The solution? Sorry I don't have one. Please be patient and understanding that it is a necessity for the animals in need to be placed on a waiting list.

We have a commitment to the animals already being housed in our shelter. There is a limited amount of financial support available to our current residences.

Thank you,
Carol Falconer, shelter manager



Hope and Harley join Kya Eckert and Rachel Bicksler, both of Freeport. Rachel and Kya headed into the kitchen to help the animals at Friends Forever Humane Society. A bake sale yielded donations, including various items and nearly \$200.

Cooking for cats & canines

On Sunday, August 7, 2011 at St. John UCC, 3 young girls, 11yr old Kya Eckert from Freeport, 13 yr old Rachel Bicksler from Ridott, & also from Freeport, 11 yr old Kate Rabideau held a Bake Sale. They baked for 3 hours on Tuesday & made Brownies, Muffins, Cookies & Cupcakes. Kate even added some paw prints to the Cupcakes.

Congregation Members either purchased the baked treats from the girls or they traded some always needed supplies for the baked treats.

While the girls were here just today for some pictures to be taken with some of the animals, Kya said, "I really like this place & feel it's an organization I wanted to help."

Rachel said, "I love pets & I want to help find them a good home."

From the Church aspect of it all, they said it was great for people to see young people working so hard.

All together these young girls were able to donate, 4 bags of Dog food, 1 bag of Kitten food, 36 rolls of Paper Towels, a bag of Kitty Litter, 12 rolls of Toilet Paper, a box of Trash Bags, 15 2-pocket Folders & \$189.00!!!

We and the animals at Friends Forever Humane Society would like to thank all of you who participated & a very, very special Thank You to Rachel, Kya & Kate for all of your hard work!!



Friends Forever Humane Society

966 Rudy Road, Freeport, IL 61032
815-232-6164

E-mail: info@friendsforeverhs.org

Website: www.friendsforeverhs.org

Facebook: Friends Forever Humane Society

MEMBERSHIPS

All memberships renew one year from the date of inception. Have you renewed yours yet?

Yes! I wish to become a member of Friends Forever Humane Society.

New Membership _____ Renewed Membership _____

- ☐ Lifetime \$1,000 (one-time fee)
☐ Patron \$100 or more
☐ Family \$50

- ☐ Individual \$30
☐ Senior (62 and over) \$25
☐ Person with Disabilities \$25

Membership dues enclosed \$ _____

DONATIONS

I wish to make a donation!

Donation enclosed \$ _____

MEMORIALS & HONORARIUM

I wish to make a gift

In memory of _____ Gift amount \$ _____

In honor of _____ Gift amount \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ 0.00

Please make checks payable to: **Friends Forever Humane Society**
and mail to us at: 966 Rudy Road, Freeport, IL 61032

Your Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail address _____

I want to receive my newsletter via e-mail: _____ Yes _____ No

Friends Forever Humane Society - Helping Pets in Need Since 1953
Thank you for your contribution!



Eager shoppers meander through Jane Addams Community during Friends Forever Humane Society's spring rummage sale.

Insuring your pet is important

When you choose to get pet insurance you are making a responsible decision that will help you to care for your pet no matter what illness or accident occurs. Check out these tips and tricks that can help you to get the most out of your pet insurance.

Compare the different types of pet insurance against your specific needs to see which pet insurance you should go with. You may prefer a lower monthly payment or a higher level of coverage. Shop around until you find the best fit. Remember, don't automatically go for the cheapest monthly payment, or assume that the highest premium offers the best coverage.

Pay attention to all the different elements of the policy and keep it where you can access it easily. Make sure you have a good understanding of what exactly your policy does and does not cover. The last thing you want when your pet is sick or injured is to think that your pet insurance will pay the bills and then discover that you did not understand your coverage.

Some pets that you adopt from a shelter may come with a period of pet insurance for

free. While this is a great service that can help you save money and help you get the needed treatment if your newly adopted pet gets sick, be careful that you are not pressured into sticking with pet insurance that is not right for you.

If you have multiple pets, see if you can get a better deal with a package of pet insurance. Don't just automatically go with a single provider for all your pets, you may find that your needs will be better met by using various different policies for each pet. Bear in mind, though, that it may be easier to deal with a single company for your pet insurance needs than several different ones.

Remember, pet insurance isn't just for dogs and cats. Many pet insurance offer coverage for other furry friends, such as Pets at Home Rabbit Insurance. Rabbits are the third most common pet in the UK, just behind dogs and cats, and their medical care can be even more expensive due to the special training and equipment that your vet may need to treat your bunny.

Pet Article courtesy of <http://pet-articles.blogspot.com>.

Dealing with dog allergies

By Aster Brittan

It is suggested that if you are looking for permanent relief for dog allergies symptoms you need to go see a veterinary dermatologist. Here you can find the cause for sneezing in dogs, general allergies in dogs and most of your dog skin problems.

People medicines such as Benadryl and Claritin will only provide temporary relief of the signs and your dog will still be uncomfortable.

In some cases the dermatologist may be able to make up allergy shots if they find out the cause of your dogs allergies. You should not make any diet changes or treat your pet with any medication without strict guidance from a veterinarian.

Changing the dog's diet without the guidance from a veterinarian can make it more difficult for them to isolate the cause of the allergies. It's entirely possible that the causes may involve specific foods. This requires an extensive food trial. However it could be environmental agents that are causing your dog allergies symptoms which would require further allergy testing.

You can also try eliminating the normal protein source with another protein like fish or venison. It takes up to 2 to 3

months of a diet change to tell if there is any effect.

Allergic contact dermatitis usually shows up in dogs as a hypersensitivity reaction to particular molecules in your pet's environment.

Irritant contact dermatitis happens when the skin is exposed to noxious substances in the environment. The symptoms and biologic mechanisms in these two disease structures are closely similar and are often discussed together.

Allergic contact dermatitis is a rare disease, which occurs when an animal's skin overreacts to certain small molecules in the environment. Substances, which can cause allergic contact dermatitis in dogs include some antibiotics applied to the skin, metals such as nickel, materials like rubber or wool and chemicals such as dyes and carpet deodorizers.

Irritant contact dermatitis occurs when the dog's skin is exposed to intensely irritating chemicals like the sap in poison ivy or road salt.

What are the symptoms of allergic and irritant contact dermatitis?

Lesions occur on the areas of skin that are sparsely haired and exposed to the offending cause. Areas like the back of the paws, abdomen, muzzle, and lips.

The affected areas are usually

very red, have small bumps or blister-like lesions, and itch like crazy. Also in irritant contact dermatitis may occur.

The key to managing these dog allergies symptoms is the obvious removing or restricting of exposure to any allergen or contact irritant in the pet's environment. If your not able to do this, then using fatty acids, antihistamines, biotin, and topical shampoos can at least control the itching.

As a rule, for any pet suspected of having an allergy problem that could include an allergic contact component, we recommend:

Glass or stainless steel food and water bowls, cleaned and rinsed well daily
Hypoallergenic detergents for the pet's bedding

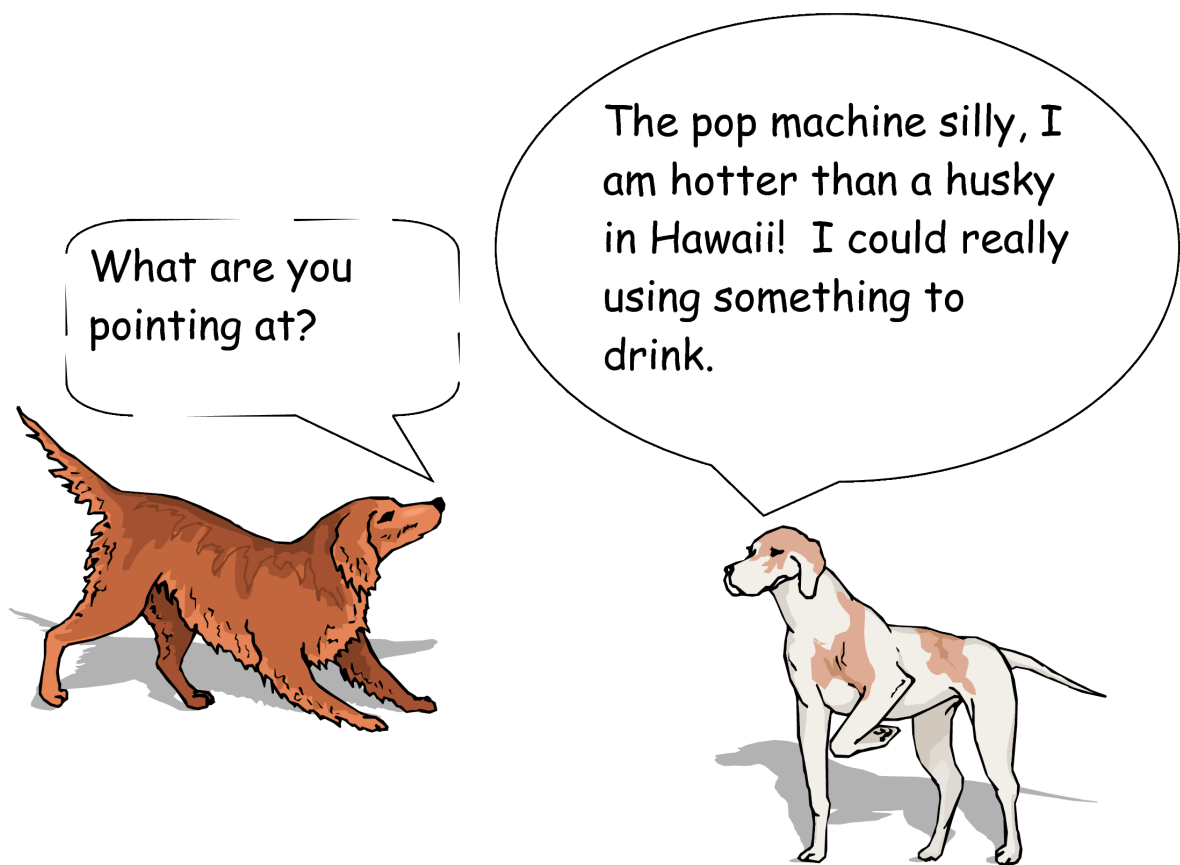
Routine hypoallergenic shampoos for the pet to remove any allergens

Restricting walking to sidewalks or paved surfaces- completely avoiding the grass, if possible.

Be kind to your pooch!

Hopefully in the not to distant future there will be an easier fix for all allergies in dogs.

Visit
<http://www.dogallergies.allergyu.com> to learn more about allergies in dogs. Other pet-related articles can be found at www.articlecity.com.



Enjoy a cold pop or bottled water from the Friends Forever Pop Machine, located in the parking lot by the water spigots.

**All Proceeds benefit us!!!
Don't forget to recycle**



Soothing pet's separation anxiety

By Nicole Wilde

As a Certified Professional Dog Trainer who specializes in behavior issues and has treated many cases of canine separation anxiety, I have seen first-hand how challenging the problem can be. Separation issues not only have behavioral consequences for the dog, but there is an emotional component for both dog and owner, which can make matters even more difficult. Fortunately, there are things you can do to help.

Some dogs are hyper attached to a particular person, while others simply do not like to be left alone. Anxiety levels range from mild to extreme, and may display as pacing, drooling, barking or other vocalizations, inappropriate elimination, and destruction, to name a few. In extreme cases, dogs may injure themselves trying to escape to follow their owners. It can be frustrating to come home to destruction and potty accidents day after day, and truly terrible to watch your dog suffer.

So what can you do?

1. First, set up a video camera to record your dog's actions when you are away. Reviewing the footage will help to you determine whether your dog seems anxious or upset, or is destroying things out of boredom. If it's the latter, providing more exercise and mental stimulation should help.

2. Consider creative management solutions. If your dog remains calm as long as another dog is present, you

could bring him to a doggy daycare center, or arrange for play dates with another dog. If that's not possible, hire a pet sitter, or bring your dog along when you do short errands.

3. Desensitize your dog to departure cues—those things that clue him in that you're leaving. Pick up your keys and put them down immediately; put on your jacket and remove it. Do these things multiple times each day until your dog does not react.

4. To prepare for a departure, choose an area your dog will feel safe, such as his crate or a gated off room; this varies by dog, as some anxious dogs may panic in a crate.

5. Be sure your dog is well exercised before you leave him.

6. Provide a stuffed Kong or other tantalizing chew item that will last for some time.

7. You can also place an item that smells like you (such as a t-shirt or sweatshirt you've been wearing, or a towel you've rubbed on your body) in his safe area to provide comfort.

8. You may have to practice being physically separated but in sight first, then out of your dog's sight but still in your home before you ever actually leave the house. Once your dog is ready for actual departures, leave for very short periods at first, starting with mere seconds. Gradually build to longer absences. Don't push too far too fast, always making sure your dog remains calm.

9. Complementary measures that can help include body wraps, psycho-acoustically

designed music, DAP, flower essences, and more.

10. In severe cases, pharmacological intervention may be indicated. Consult your veterinarian or a veterinary behaviorist.

11. A trained professional can offer guidance and support. The Association of Pet Dog Trainers (www.apdt.com) is a good place to start.

12. Don't Leave Me: Step-by-Step Help for Your Dog's Separation Anxiety (<http://bit.ly/94A8aG>) is an in-depth workbook with step-by-step protocols, tips and techniques that allow you to customize a rehabilitation program for your dog. Cautious Canine (www.patriciamccconnell.com) is a shorter booklet, but has very useful information as well.

Remember that progress will be made gradually. In mild cases improvement may take only a few weeks. In moderate cases, it might take months. In extreme cases, complete recovery could take up to a year or more. The important thing is to stick with the program, seek help when necessary, and do not give up hope. Your dog is worth it!

Nicole Wilde is a Certified Professional Dog Trainer and internationally recognized author and lecturer. More articles can be found at www.articlecity.com.



FRIENDS FOREVER HUMANE SOCIETY

HELP US, HELP THEM



Think of us when cleaning your garage, basement, attic , or forgotten closets. Think of us when deciding what to do with garage sale leftovers.

Bring your items to Friends Forever and donate them for the Fall Rummage Sale.

FFHS Fall Rummage Sale will be held September 24th and 25th at the Cedarville Community Center.

Saturday September 24th from 9-4

Sunday September 25th from 9-1

Items can be dropped off at:

Friends Forever Humane Society

966 W. Rudy Rd.

Freeport, IL 61032



815-232-6164 www.friendsforeverhs.org

Donation format changing

In response to members' requests, how donations are presented in The Companion is being revamped. Logistic problems made properly listing memorials particularly difficult. For example, while donation was noted, its honoree wasn't included.

That's changing. From now on, both donors and honorees will be listed. With that said,

Join The FFHS Board

Moving Friends Forever Humane Society forward takes dedicated volunteers and...board members.

Our organization is searching for a few new people to help us not only sustain, but improve the shelter. Would you ponder being one of them? If so, please free free to contact us.

preparing for the changes takes time. That's why there are no donations listed in this newsletter. So, please don't be alarmed.

A holiday newsletter, which is slated to ct before

Thanks for your time, consideration and support.

Friends Forever Humane Society

966 Rudy Road

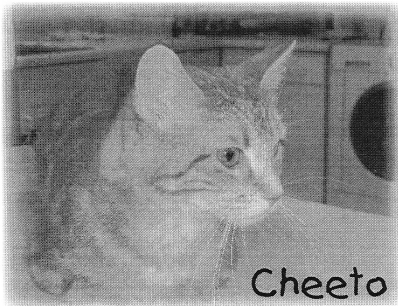
Freeport IL 61032

815-232-6164

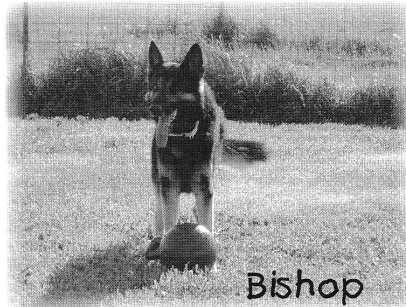
info@friendsforeverhs.org

www.friendsforeverhs.org

We are looking for someone to love and care for us.



Cheeto

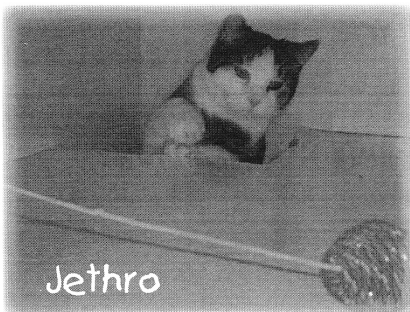


Bishop

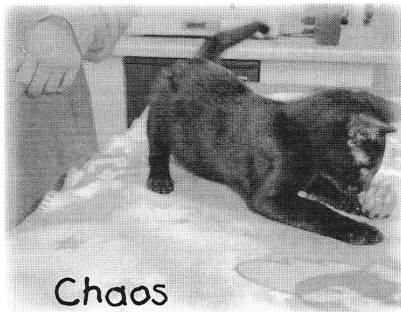


Ruby

Would you come to the shelter so we may meet?



Jethro

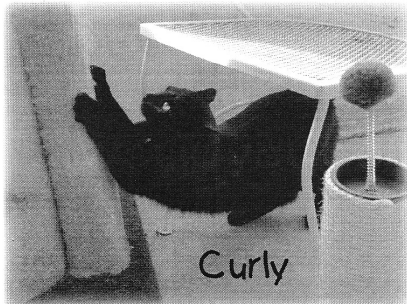


Chaos



Wrangler

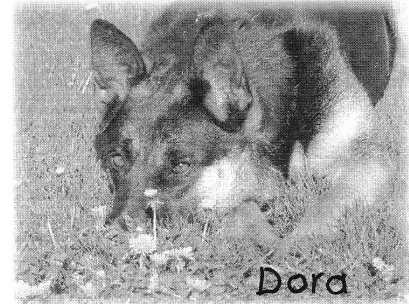
Do you think you may be able to help?



Curly

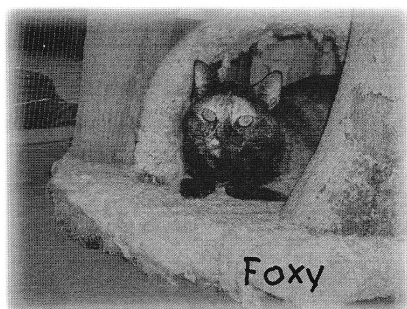


Thumbelina



Dora

Maybe you know others that will help too?



Foxy

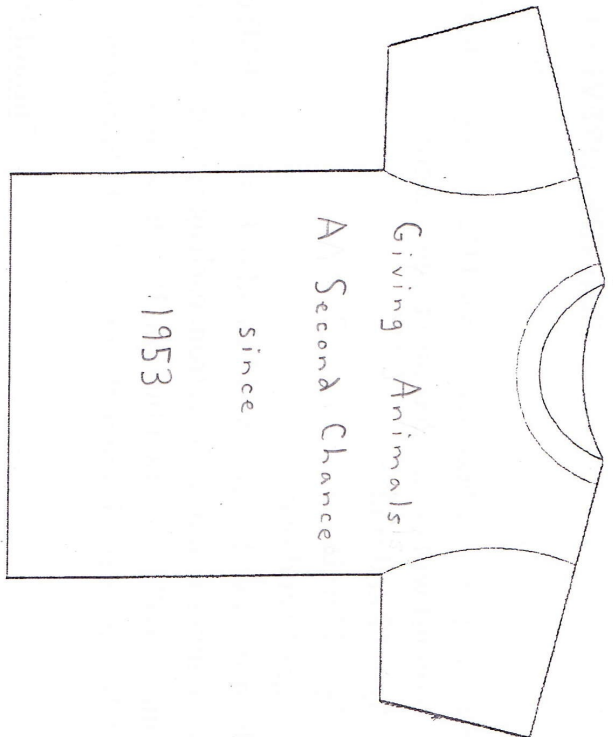
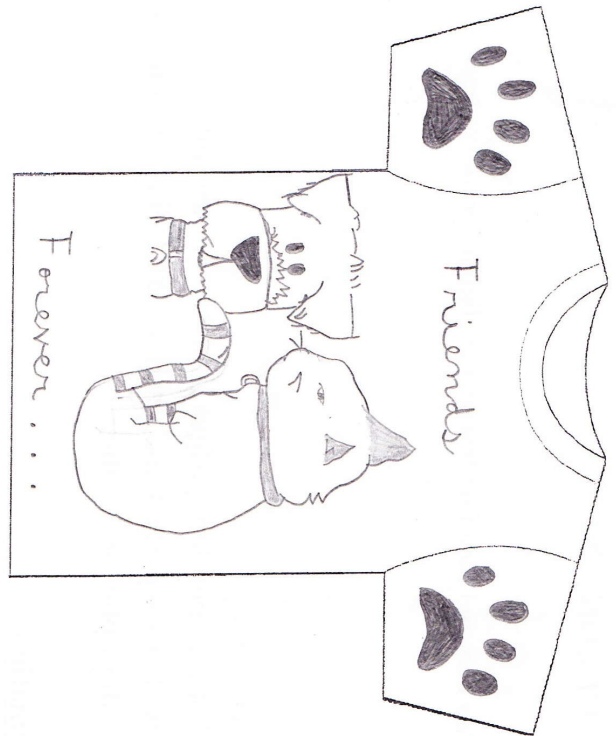


Sprinkle



Maverick

We thank you for what you can do.



04

FRONT OF SHIRT

BACK OF SHIRT

Mail or Drop off your design at: Friends Forever Humane Society

966 W. Rudy Rd

Freeport, IL 61032

PLEASE BE SURE TO COMPLETE BACK SIDE OF FORM



Friends Forever Humane Society
966 Rudy Road
Freeport IL 61032

Snowbirds: Before you fly to your winter destination, please consider giving us your email address. That way you won't miss the Winter and Spring issues of The Companion. We incur an expense when your newsletter is returned to us indicating that you are temporarily away. Thank you.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP: Please notify us when you have a change of address.