



News from the Heart

Improving the lives of homeless pets in West Richland and the surrounding Tri-Cities

January/February 2014

Happy Tails!

Here are some of our happy tails for the last two months. These make us so happy!



Pepper the big ol' mastiff found her happy forever home and is fitting right in!



We love Emma LaViolette! For her birthday this year, Emma asked not for toys or cool electronics -- instead, she asked for her friends to donate to ASAP! Emma's birthday wish brought in lots of toys, treats, food and money for our pets in need. We couldn't ask for a better supporter. Emma, thank you -- you are a great example of caring and generosity!



The Chapin's are one happy family after adopting our little friend, the terrier.

Our Wish List—Can You Help?

ASAP-West Richland needs your help. The shelter could use items such as Diamond brand dog food (available at 3 Rivers Feed and Irrigation); leashes; collars; harnesses – all sizes; Adopt Me vests; Kong-type chew toys; dog coats, all sizes, and storage. If you can donate any items, please contact us through our Facebook page or at asapinfo@frontier.com.

Santa, Friends Deliver for Christmas

On Dec 6 and 7, we held our Pet Photos with Santa event at 3 Rivers Feed and Irrigation. We were happily surprised at the support and turnout -- we ended up making nearly \$1000 that will be used to care for our homeless and abandoned pets. We'd like to thank our Santas, our photographers (Andi Aldrich and Debi Bishop), our volunteers who helped process pets, and 3 Rivers Feed and Irrigation for letting us use their facility.

Santa wasn't the only one who thought our doggies and kitties were good this year. ASAP-West Richland was adopted by the Benton County Auditor's Office -- and the load of wish list items they brought to us just before Christmas really showed the generosity of their staff! We also were gifted some wonderful rug toys from Rug Empire; we are certain that these toys will bring lots of playtime and pleasure to our furry friends. Thanks to all for your caring and generosity!

Photos with Santa



A Little Help from Our Friends



Our Future



NEEDS FOR ASAP'S FUTURE

We are still looking for good people to fill key positions in our organization, including the following positions:

- Animal Care Coordinator – helps to coordinate veterinarian appointments for shelter animals.
- Outreach Event Coordinator - helps to coordinate adoption outreach events.
- Fundraising/Special Events Coordinator – Helps to coordinate and execute fundraisers and special events (Santa Paws, etc.)
- Board members - ASAP is growing and we need more members to help us keep pace. If you are interested in helping, contact us at asapinfo@frontier.com.

PAWCASSO -- Benefiting Homeless Pets in Our Community

ASAP's first annual Pawcasso event will be held Saturday, May 17 at the Red Lion in Richland. The event will include live and silent auctions (along with a few surprises!) of donated art from students and independent artists, all depicting animals in a positive way. Proceeds will help ASAP kick off our Shelter Improvements "Pause for a Cause" campaign. Here's how you can make a difference:

- Become a Sponsor! Have your business and become known for being an animal advocate. See our website (www.asapwestrichland.com) for details.
- Donate! Do you have an item, service, time share, or frequent flyers miles you can donate? All items will go to help our four legged friends! Are you crafty? Can you make something we can use in the silent auction? Another way to help is to donate online at www.asapwestrichland.com/donate.
- Buy tickets! Bring your friends and enjoy an evening for and about the animals! Tickets can be purchased at 4 Paws Dog Works, 3 Rivers Feed & Irrigation, and Blylee's Animal Health Oasis.
- Donate Art! Do you have a child, grandchild, or are you an artist that would like to help? Contact Tanya Olson at 629-3038.

Adopt Shelter Animal Pets (ASAP) – West Richland

PO Box 4286, West Richland, WA 99353

Email: asapinfo@frontier.com

Web: www.asapwestrichland.com

Facebook: [AdoptShelterAnimalPets](https://www.facebook.com/AdoptShelterAnimalPets)

Volunteer Spotlight: Meet Wendy Erikson



Wendy Erikson is the Secretary for ASAP-West Richland. She is also a specialist at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, and she lives in Richland with her beloved dog, Maddy. Wendy says, “My happiest day was when I adopted my sweet, sweet dog Maddy!” Wendy joined ASAP in August 2013, we’ve appreciated her ever since!

What do you enjoy the most about volunteering for ASAP?

I enjoy working with the great Board of Directors team and the people who volunteer for ASAP. I enjoy participating in and planning our fundraising and outreach events and watching our successes grow. I enjoy meeting the pets that are up for adoption through our program, and seeing the happiness on a family’s face when they adopt a pet.

What are you most proud of during your time volunteering for ASAP?

Everything about ASAP! I feel a great sense of pride when I see our pets get adopted. I’m very proud that we have raised funds for vet care, and the opportunity to foster. I’m proud that the rescued pets in West Richland now have a voice through the ASAP team. I’m always so proud to tell people about ASAP and how far we’ve come since ASAP started. This is the best organization and I am proud to be a part of it.

What is your biggest hope/dream for ASAP?

For the short-term, to find a temporary facility to house our rescued pets and get them into a shelter away from the outside elements. For the long-term, a permanent facility for our pets and raising lots of funds to always keep them safe.

What other volunteer activities are you involved with?

I do not volunteer for any other organizations, but I have always dreamed of volunteering for an animal organization and ASAP virtually fell in my lap when I saw a picture of a dog named Bear on Facebook. His sad, vacant eyes said it all, which got me to call ASAP and ask about him. Meeting President Kelly Merrick changed everything after that!!! What I thought was going to be a meeting for Kelly to tell me about ASAP turned into Kelly asking me to become a Board Member. Becoming a member really opened up a tremendous amount of passion for pets that I never knew I had and I thank ASAP for that.

WE NEED STORAGE!

ASAP is in need of storage that we can easily access. Do you have a storage unit you are not using? Space in your home we can access when needed? If you can help, please contact us at asapinfo@frontier.com. Thank you!