

# Voice for Animals



**Voice For Animals (VFA)** is grass roots, non-profit and no kill organization established in 1987 and headquartered in York, Maine.

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## Presidents Message

Dear Friends,  
When we said we need foster homes and people to help with fundraisers, we meant it! There are many, many animals to help right here, and yet we continue to see the need to help those animals who could come up from the South or be rescued from other parts of the country and even around the world. There are horses and farm animals who will be in grave danger if others do not step in. We say *Never Turn Your Back on an Animal in Need*, and yet we turn our backs all too often, because we don't have

enough people or money at this time to help us realize our vision to change many more lives. You would not be asked to trap animals or do any specific hands on rescue, unless you wanted to, but there is always a place for all types of volunteers. One long time VFA member used to send us her membership annually, now she searches out places in her area where she can put out more donation boxes. The money that she brings to us far exceeds that of her one membership check. Another works many long hours but she finds time to put donation boxes out in her area. She has found something that she can do on her time which makes a difference for many animals in need.

There is a spot you; you can make the difference in their lives here and elsewhere and we will help you get started. Please email us [voiceforanimals.1987@gmail.com](mailto:voiceforanimals.1987@gmail.com) to let us know that you are in it for the long haul so that you can help us positively and powerfully change the lives of many, many more animals. We will help you as you decide what you can do and support you as you get started on it.

For all the animals,  
Caryl McIntire Edwards  
***Until they speak to everyone as clearly as we hear them through our hearts, there is a great and urgent need for you to join with us in becoming a Voice for Animals.***

# I am VEGAN



## Eggplant Rounds

- 1/2 cup cornmeal
- 1/2 teaspoon chili powder
- 1/4 teaspoon dried oregano
- salt to taste
- 1 eggplant, sliced into 1/2 inch rounds
- 1 quart vegetable oil for frying

In a shallow dish, combine corn meal, chili powder, oregano and salt. Dredge each eggplant slice in this mixture until coated on both the sides. Shake off excess. Heat a small layer of oil in a large skillet. When the oil is hot arrange a layer of the the eggplant rounds in the oil and fry uncovered for 2 to 3 minutes. Flip the rounds over fry until golden brown. Continue adding oil and frying the rounds until they are all fried. Serve either hot or cold.

## Spicy Vegan Potato Curry

- 4 potatoes, peeled and cubed
- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 1 yellow onion, diced
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 teaspoons ground cumin
- 1 1/2 teaspoons cayenne pepper
- 4 teaspoons curry powder
- 4 teaspoons garam masala
- 1 (1 inch) piece fresh ginger root, peeled and minced
- 2 teaspoons salt
- 1 (14.5 ounce) can diced tomatoes
- 1 (15 ounce) can garbanzo beans (chickpeas), rinsed and drained
- 1 (15 ounce) can peas, drained
- 1 (14 ounce) can coconut milk

Place potatoes into a large pot and cover with salted water. Bring to a boil over high heat, then reduce heat to medium-low, cover, and simmer until just tender, about 15 minutes. Drain and allow to steam dry for a minute or two.

Meanwhile, heat the vegetable oil in a large skillet over medium heat. Stir in the onion and garlic; cook and stir until the onion has softened and turned translucent, about 5 minutes. Season with cumin, cayenne pepper, curry powder, garam masala, ginger, and salt; cook for 2 minutes more. Add the tomatoes, garbanzo beans, peas, and potatoes. Pour in the coconut milk, and bring to a simmer. Simmer 5 to 10 minutes before serving.



## Black Sabbath's Geezer Butler Urges New York State Legislature to Ban Declawing of Cats

Geezer Butler, founder and bassist of the classic heavy metal band Black Sabbath, has voiced his support for the NYS Declaw Ban. A.1297/2.5084 would make New York the first state in the nation to ban the declawing of cats. Butler issued the following statement:

"New York is one of Black Sabbath's favorite states to perform in because New Yorkers are smart, open-minded, and compassionate. I am particularly delighted to be coming back to the Empire State after learning from my friends at The Humane Society of the United States that there is a bill before lawmakers that, if passed, would ban the practice of declawing cats. Many know me as one of the founding members of Black Sabbath, but fewer likely know that I am what you might call a "crazy cat person." My wife and I have many rescued cats and we have never dreamed of putting them through an elective, convenience surgery such as declawing. Can you imagine having your fingers chopped off at the last bone? That is what the equivalent is for cats who are declawed. It is dreadfully inhumane! A surge of veterinarians throughout New York support legislation to put declawing in the trash bin of history. I urge lawmakers to remain steadfast in those characteristics I admire most about New Yorkers and support the bill to ban the declawing of cats."

**Media Contact:** Cheylin Parker; 240-599-6848, [cparker@humanesociety.org](mailto:cparker@humanesociety.org)

## Indiana Senate Passes Bill to Address Pet Homelessness and Euthanasia

The Indiana Senate has approved House Bill 1201, which will significantly strengthen the state's efforts to address pet homelessness and euthanasia in shelters. The bill will require that all cats and dogs be spayed or neutered before adoption from a shelter, rescue or animal control agency. The Humane Society of the United States strongly supports the legislation. Erin Huang, Indiana state director for The HSUS, issued the following statement:

"We are encouraged that the Legislature is taking this action to address companion animal issues in Indiana. This is a great opportunity to build unity, bring organizations together and open possibilities for better tracking spay and neuter data."

**Media Contact:** Cheylin Parker; 240-599-6848, [cparker@humanesociety.org](mailto:cparker@humanesociety.org)



## What are hairballs???

If you have a cat, you have probably come across a time when there is a blob of unknown matter found on your carpet. It is long, tubular, and brown. Did your cat miss the litter box? Why is there so much fur? OH! The smell!!! What on earth is this???

This my friends, is a hairball.

Hairballs are the result of a cat completing its normal grooming routine and ingesting hair/fur. Although this is routine and a cats digestive system is made for passing the fur through the body, issues can occur. If there is an excess amount of fur, the hair can either be vomited back up, or can actually cause a foreign matter obstruction which may need to be surgically removed.

The biggest help you can give your cat is frequent brushing with a cat specific grooming brush. Most cats that are troubled by hairballs are long haired felines or obsessive-compulsive groomers.

If your cat struggles often with hairballs, seek veterinary care. There are veterinary grade medications such as Lactulose that assist with safely passing hairballs through the intestinal tract.

There are also a number of diets specifically for hairballs that increase fibre intake and help keep the gastrointestinal tract moving. Another effort to reduce hairballs would be to take your cat to a veterinarian or groomer who can shave your cat!

Again, if you find that your four-legged feline friend is constantly vomiting, make sure to seek veterinary care.





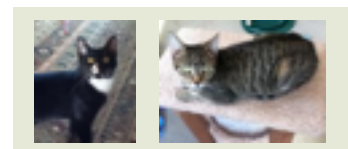
**Buffy is a sweet boy who came to us as a senior kitty. He is neutered and has recently been to the vet for a full dental. He has made friends with Eddie while he's been at the shelter. They hang out together most of the time. They don't have to get adopted together. We would like a quiet retirement home for Buffy to be a companion to a caring guardian. Please let us know if you'd like to me him**

**Joon and Saphira** both arrived at their foster home at about the same time. Saphira with her kittens and Joon with her littermates. All of Joon's littermates and Saphira's kittens have gone to their forever homes. Saphira and Joon are still waiting...and while waiting, have become incredibly attached to each other. They have seen their loved ones leave one, and sometimes two, at a time and have comforted each other through it all. Their bond is now stronger than ever and would love to have a

forever home together. Joon is shy, Saphira more outgoing. They are a good balance for each other. We would really hate to break up this bond. Do you have room in your heart and home for both? Email: [in2catz@gmail.com](mailto:in2catz@gmail.com) for more information on this pair.

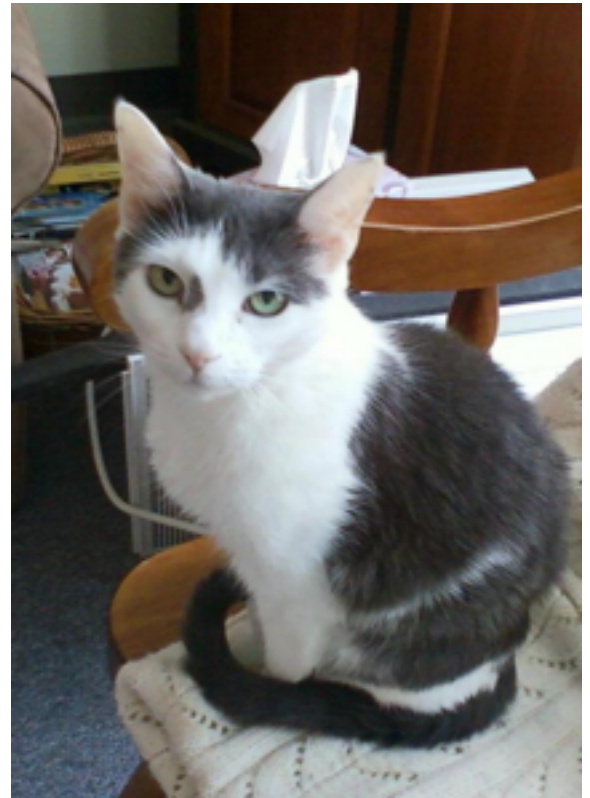
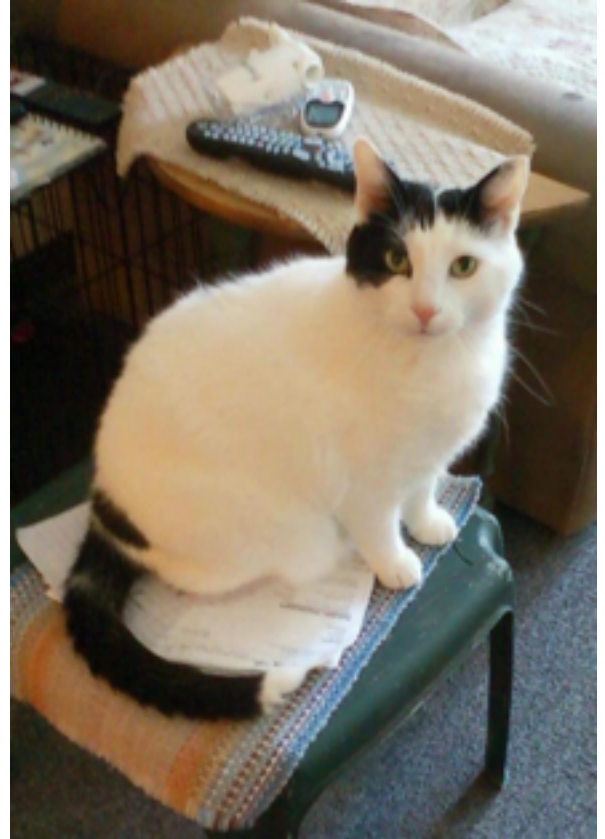
**Ben** is a handsome and affectionate senior kitty. He was given up because his owner lost his job and had to move to a place where he could not take his beloved companion of 10 years. Ben has lived in his

foster home for almost 2 years and has been a gracious guest. His only complaint is he can't get enough attention from his foster mom. Ben would like to live out his senior years with someone who can spend time cuddling with him and giving him the time and attention he deserves. Please email Voice for Animals for more information on this love of a cat: [in2catz@gmail.com](mailto:in2catz@gmail.com)



Nibby and Skylar are both mourning the loss of their longtime special person who loved and cared for them for many years. This kind and loving person, sadly, lost her battle to cancer. It was her hope that Skylar and Nibby be placed together into another home where they would be loved and cared for as they were with her. These two kitties are spayed and neutered and

have always been indoor only. They are quiet cats looking for a quiet home in which they can feel safe again. Please contact Voice for Animals for more information. Email: [in2catz@gmail.com](mailto:in2catz@gmail.com) or call: 207-715-0635







Voice for Animals volunteer, Olivia Chasse, grew up in Saudi Arabia. She always had a passion for helping animals but living in a desolate location

helped her passion flourish.

"I came across many animals in need when I grew up in the Middle East. The climate and harsh environment put many helpless birds, hedgehogs, and cats in my path. Many animals had been stunned by cars, animal abusers, and other predators. I made it my goal to revive and set free each one that I possibly could. Although it was awful when my aid came too late and animals crossed the Rainbow Bridge, I always tried my best and did what I could. My supplies were limited but I had an aviary set up in my backyard, wonderful educators,

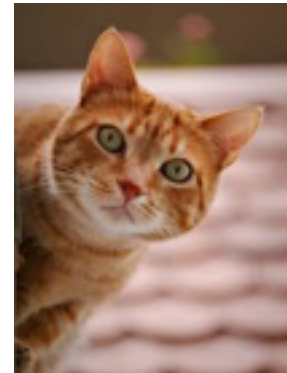


and the will to save lives. Most of the time, the animals needed to be hydrated and have a little bit of time to come out of their shocked state. One of my first rescues was for a sparrow that had literally just hatched and fallen straight out of a very high nest.

No one believed the bird would survive and told me to give up. I named the bird, Alfalfa, and he grew to be strong, healthy and happy. He refused to leave me on the day we set him free but it wasn't long before he joined a nearby flock of sparrows." -Olivia Chasse

**Letter To The Editor:**

"I just wanted to say that you guys were so helpful. I heard about you from my vet because I couldn't afford to pay for my cat's



appointments and medicines with her health condition and I didn't know what to do. As soon as I contacted you I was addressed right away and offered help with buying special foods for her and help with vet costs. It was so simple and easy to get in touch with you all and you helped me so much with getting her to feeling better. I will definitely spread the word about how helpful you all are for anyone needing assistance in taking care of their pets. Thank you so much!"

## *Volunteer! Foster! Fundraise!*

We are always looking for volunteers to enable to continue growing and reaching our goal of having our own shelter / property in the future.

Please contact us if you are interested in helping with setting up:

- Silent auction
- Rabies clinic
- Fundraisers

And as always.....

we need foster families!

The more foster families and approved homes that we have, the more animals we can save!

