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Dear Friends and Supporters,

Please join us for our annual Holiday Open House, Silent Auction and Boutique Fundraiser. This year's event will take place on Sunday, November 13, between 11am and 4pm, and we hope to see many of you there. Renew friendships, listen to speakers, and have a little lunch while you help support PZF for another year by shopping at our Boutique and Silent Auction and buying raffle tickets for a number of special prizes.

This year has been record-breaking in terms of mission impossible rescues. PZF received pleas for help from the city and county shelters for so many. For the first time ever we have needed esophageal feeding tubes to save lives, twice! Brie is a Ragdoll cat who was bright yellow – nose, mouth, and skin – due to liver failure. Volunteer Cynthia Higgins, took a deep breath and said, “I can do this!” She had to get up at 4am to prepare and give the first tube feeding before going to work each morning. After Brie began to eat, the tube was removed and she found a wonderful home. Belle was hit by a car and needed her right foreleg removed at the shoulder. The surgery was a success, but she began having such trouble breathing two days later, she went to VCA WLA for tests and specialist care. She had such a bad respiratory infection she wouldn't eat, and was the second to receive a feeding tube. Shortly after she recovered from this ordeal she developed ringworm, and resided in our Iso unit for over two months until the infection cleared. Patrick led off the year with pelvic and tail fractures. A well-recommended surgeon for this type of injury left him tailless but sound, and his technician fell in love and adopted Patrick. “Orange” Julius had terrible scabies, and after being treated in the Iso unit, he emerged good as new, and found a home almost immediately. Rufus was 3 ½ weeks old when the City rescue team extracted him from a wall, and they called PZF. Annie and Billy were about the same age when they were turned in to the shelter. Billy had a bite wound to the flank, and we took them both. Bijou had her five kittens and April had her four kittens in city shelters. They would be at risk for infections there, so PZF took them. Tom was only one day old, brought to the shelter in a Tom's shoebox. 8-week-old Summer was turned in with every bone in her hind leg as well as her pelvis fractured. PZF could take most of these injured and ill shelter animals only because our volunteers would foster them.

From the streets came Stella – found at 4 weeks old under a car with a tail injury, needing partial amputation. Xena had bite wounds to her head, and was also 4 weeks old. The Brady Bunch – five kittens 6 weeks old and a 4 week old “extra” were found in a dumpster with raging respiratory infections. Our terrific foster, Judi McEachen, took these and many of the other kittens needing medical care. Foster team members, who continue to perform miracles all year

long with the tiny and the sick, initially take in every kitten and mom-kitten family. Steve and Margi have been fostering litters of PZF kittens for several years. One time this year when they came to pick up a carrier of fluffs, they wanted to visit another of our wards. Candy, at 12 years old, was at the other end of the age spectrum, but was quite healthy and fit. It was love at first sight – Candy walked right up to the open door of her enclosure and offered kitty kisses. They left with two carriers that day, and Candy, now Fiona, is in their loving home forever.

So how do we find homes for these cats and kittens? Many of you receiving this letter have at least one on your lap right now. Social media has become a solid source of inquiries for our felines, and we have a very special couple to thank for the vast improvement in quality and coverage PZF has seen in the past year. Christine Lugo and Jeff Kardatzke are improving the outreach daily. Christine joined the PZF family volunteering to do cat care and socializing. With her media skills, she has added many more responsibilities to her volunteer work. In addition to creating a story and photo display for all PZF cats and kittens on our website and several well-recognized ones which are linked, as a courtesy to the community, Christine places companion cats on the websites. She corresponds by email with people asking help from PZF to re-home their cats, coaches them in the presentation, and clearly cares that they have the best opportunity she can provide. Christine also keeps the PZF Facebook current and engaging by taking and posting videos, photo grids and helpful information links. Various days of the week feature cat tips, current promotions, even a “Caturday” video/photo. Please remember to “Like” us on FB – it means a lot. Jeff’s creativity and skill in managing the PZF website have allowed much more flexibility and currency for the site. He has enhanced and optimized the notice of events, off-site adoptions, an adopters’ page, and spay/neuter assistance. You may have signed up to receive this newsletter through a link he built. Community members can now request spay/neuter pledges via an online link. Jeff shows great good humor and patience in translating volunteer website requests into reality, usually much improved from the initial suggestions. This year, we feel so fortunate and happy to name Christine and Jeff as the PZF volunteers of the year.

Spay and Neuter remains a focused budget item. PZF received a grant again this year, and is committed to this service in ending homeless pets. Every dollar PZF receives from designated Ralphs Rewards cards goes to spay/neuter, and we ask that you continue this form of your support. Please renew your designation of PZF if you have not as yet, as all participants are removed every August 31st. Instructions are included in this envelope.

Once again PZF has received a \$10,000.00 matching gift challenge. We need to receive donations totaling this amount by December 31, 2016 in order to “win” the gift. We sincerely thank you for helping us reach this goal for the past eight years, and ask that you help keep the winning streak going.

Thank you for supporting and partnering with PZF to take in the most ill and injured shelter cats to help. We give them the best care we can, and more love than they may have ever known. For the ones we heal, and those to whom we can only say “We gave it our all,” we know that you are right there with PZF, with pride in what we are doing together.

Sincerely,


Dr. Alice Villalobos, Founder


Leslie Neff, President