



# FIREPAW

THE FOUNDATION FOR INTERDISCIPLINARY  
RESEARCH AND EDUCATION PROMOTING  
ANIMAL WELFARE



**Animals already get it.  
We teach people.**

**Pamela Frank, Ph.D., President**

**Joshua Frank, Ph.D., Executive Director**

**WWW.FIREPAW.ORG**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**



Copyright 2001, U.S. Postal Service

The Foundation for Interdisciplinary Research & Education Promoting Animal Welfare [FIREPAW], Inc. and the Albany Main Branch of the United States Post Office invite you to join them in celebrating the release of the USPS Neuter-Spay Stamps. The event will take place September 20, 2002 at 10:00AM at FIREPAW Headquarters.

US shelters take in an estimated 8-10 million companion animals every year and approximately 4-5 million of these are euthanized because shelters are unable to find them new adoptive homes. Additionally, the stray and feral pet population is estimated to be in the tens of millions!

In keeping with its long-standing tradition of raising awareness of important social issues, the USPS is issuing Neuter or Spay stamps which they hope will raise awareness about the serious problem of homeless and unwanted pets...and a part of its solution that all responsible pet owners possess--spaying or neutering their pets. It has health benefits, can help to address behavioral issues, and it prevents accidental or unwanted litters from being born.

FIREPAW is especially excited about the release of the USPS Neuter-Spay stamp because it compliments their own efforts such as the SCRATCH public education program on feral cats in the Capital Region.

FIREPAW has several programs in place designed to help companion animals, including a national study on companion animals in rental housing, and a study in the Capital Region on animal victims of domestic violence. FIREPAW is also working with Maddie's Fund, the nation's largest philanthropic animal welfare foundation, to evaluate projects nationwide for reducing animal suffering--including spay-neuter efforts.

Additionally, FIREPAW is pleased to be a national member of the American Partnership for Pets (APP). The Partnership is an unprecedented team of more than twenty-five leading and influential animal organizations and associations that have set aside philosophical differences and united for a multi-year program designed to raise awareness about the plight of homeless and unwanted animals. The program kicks off with a spay/neuter educational campaign, using the stamps as a tangible educational and promotional tool. The Partnership has mailed out 8,000 action kits inviting local shelters, veterinarians and animal control agencies to celebrate the stamps in partnership with their local post offices. Hundreds of special events and stamp dedication ceremonies are expected to take place in neighborhoods around the nation.

In our community, in celebration of the stamps' release FIREPAW has partnered with the Main Albany Post Office for a very special dedication ceremony.

On the agenda is an unveiling of the Albany Main Post Office poster of the stamps, a presentation of the stamp to the City of Albany, a reception including refreshments, and an appearance by our Special Guest--a homeless animal in need of adoption to a loving home.

On hand to help celebrate the public education effort of the importance of spaying and neutering will be representatives from the ASPCA and AnimaLovers. Invited guests include the Mayor of Albany, local and state political officials, and Capital Region veterinarians and animal welfare advocates. The event is free and the public is encouraged to attend.

To find veterinarians and spay/neuter resources for low-income families and special neuter/spay stamp event,, visit [www.pets911.org](http://www.pets911.org). For more information about the American Partnership for Pets, the partners, the stamps, and spay neuter, visit: [www.americanpartnershipforpets.org](http://www.americanpartnershipforpets.org).

#####

*FIREPAW, Inc. is a 501 (c)(3) charitable nonprofit research and education foundation dedicated to helping end animal suffering.*

Trademarks and copyrights used herein are properties of the US Postal Service and are used under license to American Partnership for Pets. All Rights Reserved