

**From:** [Kaushagen, Taylor](#)  
**To:** [Kaushagen, Taylor](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Proclamation Request - National Therapy Animal Day  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 26, 2024 1:46:01 PM

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**From:** Jennifer Johnson <[jennj21@gmail.com](mailto:jennj21@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 21, 2024 10:28:02 AM  
**To:** Peterson, Chad <[PetersonC@casscountynod.gov](mailto:PetersonC@casscountynod.gov)>  
**Subject:** Proclamation Request - National Therapy Animal Day

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL

Chad Peterson,

I am one of your constituents, an active member of our community, and a Pet Partners therapy animal team volunteer with my Dog, Duck. We volunteer at Essentia Health Hospital, Sanford Children's Hospital, Roger Maris Cancer Center, NDSU, Concordia College, Fargo Public Library, and Moorhead Public Library. It is deeply gratifying volunteer work that we enjoy doing together. I write today to ask you to issue a proclamation deeming April 30 "National Therapy Animal Day."

National Therapy Animal Day is not just about celebrating current therapy animal teams. It is an opportunity to encourage more pet owners to consider becoming volunteers, creating a happier, healthier community through greater access to safe and meaningful therapy animal visits.

After many years of challenges posed by the pandemic and economic instability, the need for therapy animals in our community is greater than ever. Through this proclamation and with your public voice, I hope you'll help build awareness about the amazing impact these animals can have. From decreasing fear, anxiety, and loneliness, to shortening recovery times and lowering perceived levels of pain, to supporting motivation and focus that helps us learn, therapy animals are a scientifically-proven force for good in our community. You can find resources to share at [www.nationaltherapyanimalday.org](http://www.nationaltherapyanimalday.org).

It would be wonderful if you could honor the therapy animal volunteers and their amazing animals as well as encourage others in our community to consider becoming therapy animal teams by supporting a proclamation celebrating April 30 as "National Therapy Animal Day". I have provided some model language below. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Thank you,

Jennifer Johnson  
Fargo, ND  
Email Address: [jennj21@gmail.com](mailto:jennj21@gmail.com)

There are thousands of Pet Partners therapy animal teams serving in communities across the United States; and

WHEREAS, Pet Partners has designated April 30 as National Therapy Animal Day; and

WHEREAS, scientific research shows that interacting with therapy animals can reduce stress, relieve depression, slow heart rate, lower blood pressure and strengthen the immune system; and

WHEREAS, therapy animal teams in the Town of Fargo play an essential role in improving human health and well-being through the human-animal bond; and

WHEREAS, therapy animal teams interact with a variety of people in our community including veterans, seniors, patients, students, and those approaching end of life; and

WHEREAS, these exceptional therapy animals who partner with their human companions bring comfort and healing to those in need; and

WHEREAS, we encourage more pet owners to consider becoming Pet Partners volunteers to help our community by creating greater access to meaningful therapy animal visits.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, \_\_\_\_\_, Mayor of the Town of Fargo, do hereby proclaim April 30, 2024, as:

“National Therapy Animal Day”

in the Town of Fargo, and encourage our citizens to celebrate our therapy animals and their human handlers. Further, I publicly salute the service of therapy animal teams in our community and in communities across the nation.

PROCLAIMED AND APPROVED this 30th day of April, 2024.

PROCLAMATION FOR NATIONAL THERAPY ANIMAL DAY  
RESOLUTION #2024-04

There are thousands of Pet Partners therapy animal teams serving in communities across the United States; and

WHEREAS, Pet Partners has designated April 30 as National Therapy Animal Day; and

WHEREAS, Pet Partners therapy animal teams in the Town of Fargo play an essential role in improving human health and well-being through the human-animal bond; and

WHEREAS, Pet Partners therapy animal teams make millions of visits per year in settings such as hospitals, nursing homes, schools and hospice; and

WHEREAS, Pet Partners therapy animal teams interact with a variety of people in our community including veterans, seniors, patients, students facing literacy challenges, and those approaching end of life; and

WHEREAS, these exceptional therapy animals who partner with their human companions bring comfort and healing to those in need.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Chairman of the Board of Cass County Commissioners, I do hereby proclaim April 30, as National Therapy Animal Day in Cass County, North Dakota. I encourage our citizens to celebrate our therapy animals and their human handlers. Further, I publicly salute the service of therapy animal teams in our community and in communities across the nation.

PROCLAIMED AND APPROVED this 1st day of April, 2024.

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Chad M. Peterson  
Cass County Commission

**SUGGESTED MOTION: Move to adopt Resolution #2024-04, Proclamation for National Therapy Animal Day.**