



Kitsap Humane Society **MAGAZINE**

Winter 2022 | VOL. 1

**ONE MILLION REASONS
TO BE GRATEFUL:
AN UPDATE ON
OUR CAPITAL
CAMPAIGN**

**A LOOK AHEAD TO
2022 EVENTS**

**THE WILD WEST IS HERE:
AN INSIDE LOOK
AT ANIMAL
CONTROL**



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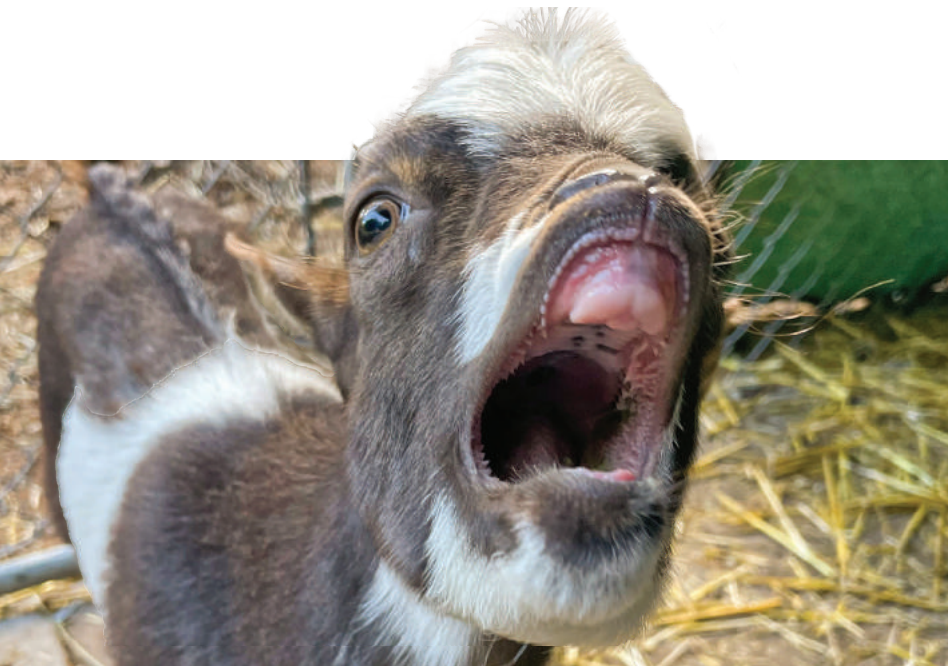
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Cowboy, a baby goat brought in as a stray by Animal Control in September 2021 and reclaimed by his family soon after.

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Kitsap Humane Society

9167 DICKEY ROAD NW
SILVERDALE, WA 98383

kitsap-humane.org

Founded in 1908 and located in Silverdale, Washington, **Kitsap Humane Society (KHS)** serves Kitsap County and beyond as more than a shelter.

Kitsap Humane Society is a 501(c)(3) organization. Tax ID Number: 91-0728353

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We provide positive, lifechanging solutions to people and animals in need.

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kitsap-humane.org


[@kitsaphumanesociety](https://www.instagram.com/kitsaphumanesociety)



ON THE COVER:

Morton
Photo by
Abigail Dominguez



A Letter from Lee

For many of us, we could never hear the word “unprecedented” again and it would be too soon. These last two years have tested all of us in ways we could never have expected. We’ve learned a lot along the way – and as we look to the future – this brand-new year – I’m hopeful for what’s to come at Kitsap Humane Society.

I’m proud to introduce to you our new quarterly Kitsap Humane Society Magazine. Within these pages, you’ll be able to learn more about the work we do every day of the year at the shelter and beyond, meet the pet-loving members of our community like our team of staff and volunteers, Board members, donors, and supporters just like you, and walk away with helpful tips, information on upcoming events and how to get involved, and more!

In 2022, we will continue to rescue, rehabilitate, and find loving homes for thousands of animals. This work supports our mission to provide lifechanging solutions to people and pets in need. Our shelter-wide priorities for this next year are (in no particular order):

- **Support Animals in Need** - At the heart of our work is always the pets we serve – both those who come through our shelter doors and into our care as well as owned animals in our community. We commit to humanely supporting animals through our variety of shelter programs and comprehensive veterinary services – and rescuing, rehabilitating, and finding loving homes for as many animals as we can.
- **Nurture Our Staff & Volunteers** - We commit to supporting, empowering, collaborating with, and equipping our team of staff and volunteers with a rewarding, diverse, and inclusive environment including competitive wages and benefits, access, and encouragement to attend continued training, as well as support and nourishment in a high-emotion field, and opportunities for career growth and cross-training.
- **Commit to Community, Collaboration, and Connection** - Lifting up our community programs and services, including equipping our Animal Control Officers with resources they need to meet our community members where they are at, as well as forming new and strengthening existing rela-

tionships with fellow animal welfare organizations, social services organizations, government partners and representatives, tribal groups, and more is crucial to ensure long-term sustainability and efficacy in our work to continue transforming animal welfare in our community.

- **Increase Support Services for Our Vulnerable Communities** - We strive to reduce unnecessary surrenders to the shelter, break down barriers and provide lifechanging solutions to people and pets in need. Through the expansion of our Pet Food Pantry and low-cost veterinary services, in addition to restoring programs and services – such as our microchip and vaccination clinics – previously paused during the pandemic, we can continue our work to improve the health and wellness of vulnerable pets in Kitsap and Mason counties.
- **Build a Stronger Safety Net for Pets & People** - More than ever, it’s time to provide our shelter and community pets with a veterinary facility that matches the excellence of our work. Thanks to recent legislation, Phase 2 of our Pet Lifesaving Campaign will usher in a new era at Kitsap Humane Society with the breaking ground of our Veterinary Lifesaving Center in 2022, which will include the development of a community clinic and ensure KHS is able to provide a full spectrum of innovative animal welfare programs and facilities.
- **Serve as Good Stewards of Our Financial Resources** - As a fiscally responsible nonprofit organization entrusted with the community’s support and confidence to be good stewards of our various sources of revenue, KHS is committed to sustaining and building upon our financial stability by creating even more diverse revenue streams and expanding our donor base by growing relationships with current and prospective donors.

There are so many good things to come in 2022 – and we are so thankful for your continued support of our work as well as your deep compassion for pets and people in need.

Warmly,

Lee Harper
Executive Director

2021 EVENTS RECAP

The past two years can best be described by one word – “pivot” (or as we prefer to say, pirouette!). Despite the challenges and uncertainty we faced during the global health crisis, our team at Kitsap Humane Society was able to put our heads together to create innovative and exciting events that continued to allow our community to support our lifesaving mission.

One example of this “pirouette” was the debut of our new summertime event, Wine & Whiskers! Wine & Whiskers is a month-long wine tour benefitting animals in need at KHS. Wine lovers from all over Kitsap County sipped delicious local vino while their purchases helped animals in need at the shelter. Plus, Wine & Whiskers allowed us to support and promote local wineries to our enthusiastic supporters. A win-win for local businesses, your tastebuds, and pets in need!

Wine & Whiskers was a huge success, raising over \$10,000 for our shelter! Plus, the “Drinking Wine, Feline Fine” merchandise

we couldn’t resist selling to go along with the event, brought in an additional \$2,000.

Out of the success of Wine & Whiskers and requests from our community, we’re excited to announce that we will be debuting a NEW event for 2022: the Pints for Pets Beer & Cider Tour! Join us this May for a month-long extravaganza showcasing some of Kitsap’s best breweries and cideries.



Be sure to save the date for all of our upcoming 2022 events (listed on the back of this magazine), including our popular PetsWALK 5K and Animal Krackers Gala –scheduled to return as IN-PERSON events this year! We can’t wait to celebrate with you.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN | Winter 2022 Update

Over the last decade, Kitsap Humane Society has made steady strides to transform animal welfare in Kitsap County and beyond. This hard work has culminated in the vision and partial completion of a comprehensive Pet Lifesaving Campus through our ongoing capital campaign.

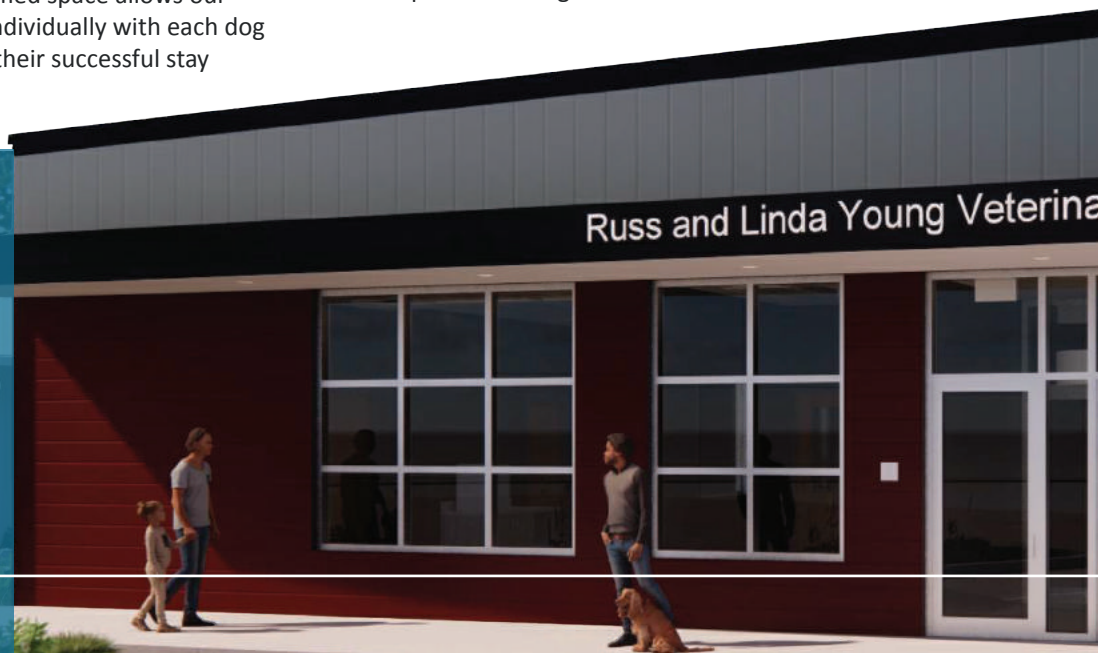
Throughout this project, our focus has always been on creating a campus that matches the excellence of our team members and their lifesaving abilities. And in 2019, we saw the first phase of this dream come true thanks to the support and generosity of so many animal-loving individuals and businesses with the construction of the 9,500 square-foot **Pet Adoption Center**.

This quiet, spacious adoption center was constructed next to the old shelter building, where the next phase of our campaign took place in July 2020, when the old shelter was partially renovated to include the **Heidi Harnett-Wakefield Memorial Behavior & Training Center**. This modified space allows our training staff and volunteers to work individually with each dog that comes into our shelter to ensure their successful stay and outcome.

Now, in 2022, we look to the next exciting phase of our project – the **Russ & Linda Young Veterinary Lifesaving Center**. With plans to break ground this year and fully open for shelter and owned-pet care in 2023, this new veterinary center will include:

1. Triple the size and space of our current medical facilities
2. Reduced-fee veterinary services to low-income families through a new veterinary clinic
3. Expanded and enhanced treatment and surgery areas for critical care patients
4. Separate, quieter, and less stressful recovery rooms for shelter pets to heal after surgery
5. On-demand access to x-rays, ultrasounds, and other diagnostic equipment as well as a specialized dental suite to provide even greater individualized care

If you’d like to learn more about this project, please contact Jamie Nocola, Director of Philanthropy at jnocola@kitsap-humane.org or (360) 692-6977, ext. 1224 or Eric Stevens, Capital Campaign/Project Director at estevens@kitsap-humane.org or (360) 692-6977, ext. 1115.



More than ever before, it is time to provide our community's pets in need with a veterinary facility that matches the excellence of our work and sustains our high lifesaving rate.

And thanks to a change in state law in 2019, humane societies, which previously could not care for owned pets beyond low-cost spay/neuters, vaccinations, or microchips, are now able to provide more comprehensive medical attention to pets and keep pets with their loving families – instead of tearing them apart due to inability to afford care.

We are excited to do more to support pets and the people who love them with our community clinic and thanks to the generosity of many donors, including Russ & Linda Young (who you'll read about in the next article!) and their million-dollar gift to this project, we are ready to take the next needed steps to advance animal welfare in our community.

DONOR PROFILE: MEET RUSS & LINDA YOUNG

Twenty-three years ago, Russ & Linda Young moved to Bainbridge Island and quickly sought out Kitsap Humane Society, where Linda was eager for opportunities to give back.

But their desire to improve the lives of our four-legged furry loved ones goes way back.

Forty-three years ago, Russ suffered the loss of a beloved dog, and Linda, his co-worker at the time, noticed. Conversation started – and the two quickly bonded over a love for dogs.

Over the decades, this love has been demonstrated through countless adoptions, fostering, volunteering, and donations to animal welfare causes around the country – and most recently, with a gift of \$1 million to the **Russ & Linda Young Veterinary Lifesaving Center** at KHS.

"Dogs have been at the center of our 41-year marriage," the Youngs shared. "Every dog we've ever had has been a rescue, and the gift we are giving KHS reflects the love these sweet dogs have given us in return."

Currently, Russ & Linda's canine crew consists of Mindy, an older Shih Tzu mix, and "the twins" – Molly and Rosie, a bonded pair of Shih Tzu mixes who came into their care from KHS after being found one day in the shelter's parking lot.



Russ & Linda Young play with their three dogs, Mindy, Rosie, and Molly in their Bainbridge Island home.

The Youngs had heard of Molly and Rosie's arrival at KHS, and to ensure they were able to adopt the two together, Russ left their home on Bainbridge Island at 4 am to be at the shelter and waiting to adopt by 5 am – and the rest is history!

"They make us feel younger, and they make everything better. Mindy and the twins – like so many pets – provide a wonderful comfort to us."

"In addition to helping shelter animals with our vet center gift, we also wanted to give back to the wonderful community we live in by helping to provide low-income families and their pets with critical - even lifesaving - medical care at an affordable cost."

"As people, we have a moral obligation to take care of our animals. Given all that animals do for us, we owe it to them to provide them with proper medical care. It's only the humane thing to do," the Youngs said.

The Youngs' gift to the capital campaign project will help KHS take the crucial next step in providing low-cost care to pets who need it most in our community.

"This is who we are – and supporting KHS in this way felt totally right."



HORSES, PIGS, GOATS, OH MY!

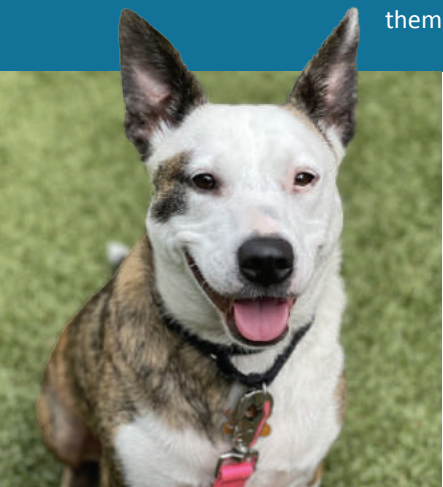
An Inside Look at Animal Control

The last year has been quite the wild ride for our **Animal Control team**, who has helped a diverse range of pets find safe and happy homes. Some of you may remember Katie the horse, a 24-year-old mare that our Animal Control team found extremely underweight and in need of care last March. Or Dr. Strange, the goat, who was brought in by Animal Control in October, suffering from continuous pressure on his left eye, causing it to bulge from an overgrown horn. In both of these cases, our Animal Control team played an integral part in setting Katie and Dr. Strange up with the lifesaving care they needed and ultimately finding each of them a happily ever after.

From catching a 200-pound pig with a loaf of bread to being licked by a stray baby goat named Cowboy, it can sometimes feel like the Wild West is right here in Kitsap County for our compassionate crew of officers. Our team frequently receives calls for loose livestock each month. And while some cases may require a wild goose chase, most of the time, our team is able to track down the animal's owner by connecting with the community without ever bringing them into the shelter!

"About 12 times out of the year, we have to bring livestock to KHS," said Chief Chase Connolly, Director of Animal Control. "While it is sometimes a challenge to catch loose livestock, these cases are fun, and you may find out that your teammates can turn into Olympic athletes when containing these animals by jumping, leaping, and running at a split second's notice. But ultimately, livestock animals are just as important as domesticated pets, and we want people to know that our community's livestock has a place to go here at KHS."

Wondering what to do if you see loose livestock? Report it to 911 for Animal Control and then post on lost and found pages.



YUKON'S HAPPY TAIL!

This shy guy thrived thanks to our Canine Behavior & Training team!

When this handsome Australian Cattle Dog first arrived at KHS in August 2021, Yukon was a shell of who we knew he could be. At four years old, Yukon hadn't experienced much life besides the four corners of the

property he had grown up on since being a little puppy and therefore was timid and unsure of new people and situations. At our Admissions department, Yukon was so nervous our staff struggled to check his microchip or even change his collar.

What Yukon had yet to find out was that he was in a safe, caring space with a team dedicated to helping him succeed.

In July 2020, the **Heidi Harnett-Wakefield Memorial Behavior & Training Center** opened at KHS to support dogs at the shelter, ensuring their well-being during their stay and contributing to successful adoptions. The center, which features two separate behavior and training rooms, an office for our Canine Behavior & Training team members, and an outdoor training space, is named in honor of a beloved volunteer leader who passed away in 2017. She was known for dedicating her time to the dogs needing a little extra help.

Since the center opened, our Canine Behavior & Training staff, comprised of our Canine Behavior & Training Coordinator Samantha Zuanich, CPDT-KA, and Jen Dupree, our Canine Behavior & Training Assistant, have helped ensure every dog who comes to KHS is treated as an individual, including Yukon.

For three weeks after Yukon arrived, he received daily behavior and enrichment sessions with staff and volunteers as well as time to decompress in one of the behavior and training rooms – known as the "Relaxation Room" as it includes a couch and home-like amenities – before turning a corner. Our team witnessed Yukon transform into the most lovely and outgoing dog. He was successfully adopted by local animal lovers Michelle and Greg at the end of September.

Michelle shared, "Yukon continues in his development. He has integrated well into our household and, at this moment, is snuggling with us on the couch. He has adjusted to our cats, including Raven, with whom he can be found occasionally. Although they don't speak the same language, they are developing a friendship and spend time sleeping together. He can be fearful but is gradually becoming calmer. Hopefully, someday he will learn the difference between the fake doorbells on TV and real ones! We love Yukon and are VERY thankful for him."

Stories like Yukon's reinforce the importance of giving dogs time and space to settle in. Providing dogs with **enrichment**, which is any activity a dog finds innately satisfying, is so important – especially for fearful dogs like Yukon. **Enrichment activities** such as stuffing a KONG with kibble or peanut butter and freezing it for a long-lasting treat, decompression walks, and playing scent games where you hide treats in a new room for your pet to find can really build confidence and trust.

We wish very Happy Tails to Yukon and his family!

SERVICES DIRECTORY:

KHS is dedicated to serving as more than a shelter to pets and people in need. For more information, please visit kitsap-humane.org or call (360) 692-6977.

ANIMAL ADOPTIONS

Cats, dogs, and critters are available for adoption at kitsap-humane.org/adopt.

ANIMAL CONTROL

Animal Control Officers serve and protect both pets and people in our community. To report an incident or file a complaint involving a domestic animal, please call 911.

COMMUNITY CATS

KHS offers support to community and feral cat colonies, including spay/neuter surgeries, ear-tipping, rabies vaccinations, and humane traps for rent.

EUTHANASIA & CREMATION

We offer low-cost humane euthanasia services in a caring environment by appointment-only. Low-cost cremation services are also available.

FINDING A HOME FOR YOUR PET

We realize the decision to surrender or re-home your pet can be difficult, and we are here to serve as a resource with options at the shelter and private alternatives.

LOST & FOUND PETS

KHS accepts lost and found animals daily from 11 am – 4 pm. Lost pets are regularly listed on our website.

PET FOOD PANTRY

We believe the best place for pets are with their loving families and we are committed to keeping families together whenever possible with our Pet Food Pantry. The pantry is open every day from 12-4 pm. Information on how to qualify can be found at kitsap-humane.org/resources.

PET LICENSING

Pet licenses are required by law in unincorporated Kitsap County and all municipalities for pets 6 months or older. It is much easier to reunite lost pets with their families when they are licensed and wearing their tags.

PET PROTECTION PROGRAM

KHS offers temporary safe-haven to cats belonging to victims of domestic violence, people experiencing job loss, homelessness or other unexpected life changes. To learn more about this program, please visit kitsap-humane.org/resources.

PET SUPPLIES

Our retail store inside the shelter offers a variety of pet supplies.

PET SUPPORT

KHS is proud to offer post-adoption and behavioral support for dog and cat owners. For help with your dog, please email dogbehavior@kitsap-humane.org and for your cat, please email catbehavior@kitsap-humane.org.

SPAY & NEUTER

KHS offers low-cost spay/neuter services to Kitsap County and Mason County pet owners who meet our annual income guidelines. Learn more at kitsap-humane.org/resources.

WAYS TO HELP:

To learn more about how to support our lifesaving work, please visit kitsap-humane.org.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

We are building a stronger safety net for pets and people with our Pet Lifesaving Capital Campaign. To learn more, please email jnacula@kitsap-humane.org.

CORPORATE SUPPORT

For information on corporate support opportunities, please contact agraham@kitsap-humane.org.

DONATE ITEMS

KHS is always in need of supplies to keep our shelter animals clean, happy, and comfortable. Donations can be dropped off any time in the donation bins at the shelter's front doors.

FOSTER CARE

KHS depends on its network of lifesaving foster volunteers to care for our most in-need animals. To get started, please visit kitsap-humane.org/get-involved.

FUNDRAISE FOR THE ANIMALS

We could not care for animals in need without our pet-loving community! Interested in hosting a fundraiser for KHS? Please contact agraham@kitsap-humane.org.

MONETARY DONATIONS

Donate to KHS and transform the lives of vulnerable pets by helping us provide lifesaving veterinary care, low-cost spay/neuter and vaccinations, rehabilitative behavior and foster support, and loving forever homes by visiting kitsap-humane.org/donate.

PLANNED GIVING

Make a big impact with a future gift as a member of our Friends Forever Society! Ready to start? Please contact jnacula@kitsap-humane.org.

PUPPUCCINO PALS

Coffee shops, this one is for you! Become a month-long Puppuccino Pal sponsor and your coffee shop or stand will be featured across our massive social media platforms. For more info, please contact adominguez@kitsap-humane.org.

VEHICLE DONATION

Honk if you love shelter pets! Turn your clunker into cash for pets in need. For assistance, please email lshaw@kitsap-humane.org.

VOLUNTEER

Kitsap Humane Society needs you! Volunteers are needed for a variety of positions and help with all kinds of duties at the shelter. To get started, please visit kitsap-humane.org/get-involved.



Scan the QR code to learn how to create a winter shelter for outdoor cats!





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Save the Dates 2022

MY FURRY
Valentine
Feb. 1-14, 2022

PINTS
FOR PETS
Beer & Cider Tour
May 2022

PETS 5K
WALK
June 25, 2022

Wine &
Whiskers
August 2022

Animal Crackers
October 1, 2022

Learn more at kitsap-humane.org & mark your calendars!

