



About the Award

Kitsap Humane Society's Apple of Our Eye Award is named in honor of former Washington State Representative and KHS Board Member Sherry Appleton and honors individuals or organizations who have made significant contributions to the success or development of Kitsap Humane Society or have made extraordinary contributions to animal welfare in the Pacific Northwest. Honorees are chosen by a specially selected panel of local officials and Kitsap Humane Society friends, volunteers, and staff. Honorees, living or deceased, will be selected based on their contribution in the areas of animal care, leadership, innovation, and commitment to KHS's mission to rescue, rehabilitate, and find loving homes for thousands of animals every year and to serve as a nationally recognized model for animal welfare institutions. Anyone can nominate an influential individual or organization by filling out a nomination form.

To be considered:

Animal Welfare: How has this person or organization contributed to the well-being of animals, either within KHS specifically, or in Kitsap County or Washington State generally?

Leadership: How has this person or organization's leadership benefitted KHS or animal welfare in our community? What initiatives did they spearhead or guide? What are the results of their efforts?

Innovation: What programs or initiatives did this person or organization create or drive that uniquely and positively impacted KHS and the way it serves the community?

Mission: How has this person or organization contributed to furthering KHS' mission? How have they contributed to the betterment of the resident animals, staff, and volunteers? How have they projected a positive public image of KHS?

About Sherry Appleton

Mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, Washington State Representative, animal lover and advocate, and KHS Board Member, Sherry Appleton played an enormous role in making Kitsap Humane Society what it is today. Among her many achievements, Appleton was integral in the passage of State Bill 5004, which allowed nonprofit humane societies to provide veterinary services to households that are low-income and led to the creation of the Russ and Linda Veterinary Lifesaving Center. She was an innovator, a thought leader, and an extraordinary voice for animals – and the very embodiment of what the “Apple of Our Eye Award” represents.



Nomination Form

Please fill out the form below and provide up to two pages of nomination text and up to four attachments. Please include the nominee's name on each page, and return by email to Mike Bush at mbush@kitsap-humane.org, by August 15, 2025. It is suggested that nomination text include references to the nominee's contributions to KHS, their importance to the promotion of animal welfare, their role in relation to KHS, unusual or entrepreneurial elements of their contributions to the community, etc. Nominators may be asked to interview with the award selection committee in addition to completing this application. Honorees will be selected by a specially selected panel of local officials and Kitsap Humane Society friends, volunteers, and staff and the award will be presented at the annual Animal Crackers gala.

Your Name (Nominator): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

Personal or professional affiliation to the nominee, if any:

Apple of Our Eye Nominee: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

Nominee Name: _____

Please use these pages to explain why your nominee deserves to be named Kitsap Humane Society's Apple of Our Eye.

Nominee Name: _____