



Kitsap Humane Society  
**MAGAZINE**  
Winter 2026 | VOL. 13

# THE EVERYTHING ISSUE:

**WHAT WE DO &  
HOW WE DO IT**



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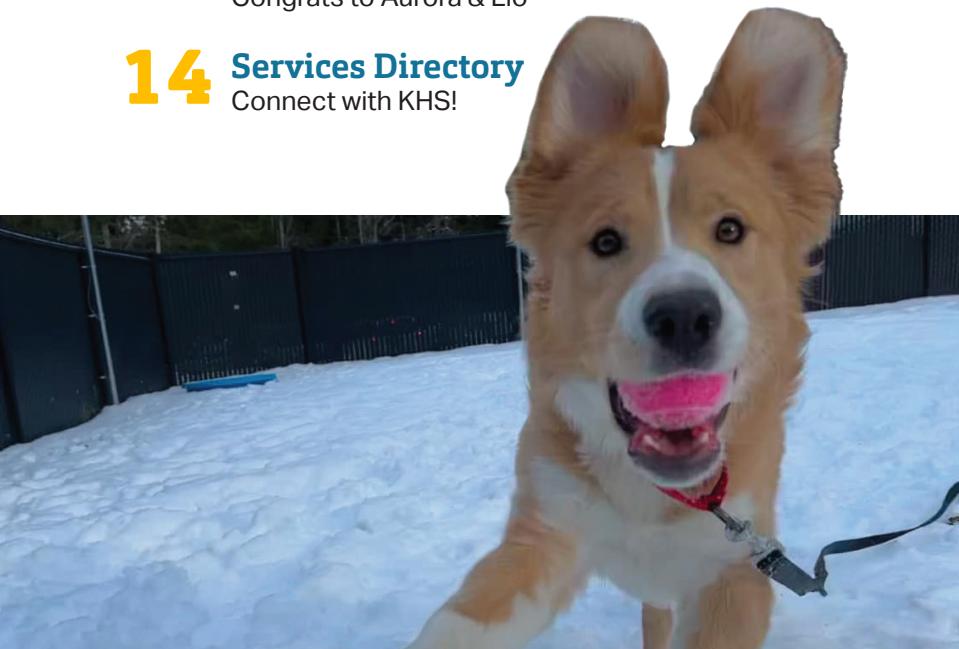
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**Kitsap  
Humane Society**

9167 DICKEY ROAD NW  
SILVERDALE, WA 98383

[kitsap-humane.org](http://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. We work to rescue, rehabilitate, and find loving homes for thousands of animals every year. To achieve our mission, we are committed to an open admissions policy—we don't turn animals in need away—and excellence in all of our services.

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

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[kitsap-humane.org](http://kitsap-humane.org)



**ON THE COVER:**  
Buckwheat the goat meets a kitten for the first time.  
Photo by  
Kitsap Humane Society

# A Letter from Dr. Jen & Jamie

**P**eople are always amazed at the breadth of what we do. It's not just adoptions. It's not just Animal Control.

It's not just veterinary care. Kitsap Humane Society covers the whole swath of what animal welfare entails, from the first moment an animal comes through our door until the moment they find their new home – and often even past that.

But it wasn't always this way. It wasn't that long ago that we were a one-building operation, with extremely limited capabilities. In fact, it was as recent as 2018 when we began to really tackle all of the animal welfare issues that faced Kitsap and started to take the shape of the community safety net that we've since become.

Picture this: Cat kennel after cat kennel, lining every hallway and stacked to the ceiling; dogs leashed to the wall as kennels were being cleaned – just far enough from each other to avert a kerfuffle; veterinarians and vet techs working elbow to elbow in cramped quarters; medicines being distributed out of a repurposed closet, never enough to cover our needs; and anxious barks filling every space.

The work was immense and never ending. We didn't have the kind of equipment we have now. We didn't have a fully staffed behavior and enrichment team. Our animal control and animal care efforts were very different. And we certainly didn't have the kind of support from volunteers, fosters, businesses, and generous individuals that we have now. We were far too limited to do all the things we wanted to do, but we kept marching along – because we cared.

What we did have, however, was a vision. We saw a day when we would be able to provide not just for animals, but for their people as well. We looked forward to not only providing top-flight veterinary care, but providing it for a fraction of the usual cost. We were determined to be a leader in animal welfare, showing shelters across the nation what was possible. We wanted to build a campus that matched the excellence of our work. We knew we could put the team in place and build an organization that would keep families together.



Now, all these years later, we're enormously proud of what we've created and we want to share it all with you. On the following pages, we're looking to give you a glimpse into what we do across our campus and give some grateful shout-outs to the extraordinary people and organizations that make it possible. This is by no means a complete picture of the incredible work that's done behind our doors; for that, you'll have to experience it for yourself. To understand what we do, you have to see our people in action – the vet techs who save lives, the volunteers to sit in a "relax room" with a scared pup, the animal control officers who rescue animals from danger, and the foster and adoption professionals who find the perfect homes for animals in need of one.

That's why we're inviting you for a visit. If you'd like to see our mission at work first-hand, please email our Development and Outreach Manager Jessi Reynolds at [jreynolds@kitsap-humane.org](mailto:jreynolds@kitsap-humane.org). We'd love to show you around.

Gratefully,

**Jamie Nocula**  
Co-Executive Director  
Operations & Philanthropy

**Dr. Jennifer Stonequist**  
Co-Executive Director  
Programs & Services

# IT'S THEIR PARTY

Nearly 40 percent of Kitsap Humane Society's bills are paid by one department. They raise money from donors, plan and put on fundraising events, apply for grants, and promote third-party fund raisers, from the elementary school kid who sells lemonade on the sidewalk on behalf of the shelter to the local restaurant that donates a portion of their profits.

It's the Development department and its small-but-mighty team is responsible for some of your favorite events. Animal Krackers. PetsWalk. Putting for Pets. Comedy Unleashed. All of them – plus myriad other events – are planned and executed by this group.

But it's the people they work with who make the biggest difference. Donors who give anything from \$5 to thousands upon thousands. Local businesses that hold fundraisers and sponsor our events. Everyone who donates items and services for our auctions. It literally takes a village and we're part of a pretty extraordinary one. To learn more about being a sponsor, scan the code here.



3 | Winter 2020



## THAT'S THE WAY WE LIKE IT, UH-HUH, UH-HUH

**O**n October 4, we gathered with a few hundred of our favorite people (including our presenting sponsor, Brown Bear Car Wash) to celebrate our favorite animals – and what a celebration it was. Following our 70s-era music theme, we started with the ABBA cover band, ABBAGraphs, and a silent auction, then moved on to the main program. We heard about the remarkable work done by our veterinarians, animal welfare advocates, behavioral staff, and – of course – our tremendous troupe of volunteers who make everything possible. We celebrated our long-time volunteers Karen and Mike Mitchell with the Apple of Our Eye award and watched a video of their commitment to our mission. We learned the story of Florence and friends (scan the code below to watch the video), and dashed for desserts. At the end of the evening – after all the paddle-raising and auctioneering was over – we had raised over \$457,000 for the animals in our care... and we owe it all to you. Thank you to everyone who disco'ed the night away with us!



# ADOPTIONS

## HELPING YOU FIND A FRIEND

For all the things we do, we're known primarily as the place to find your new best friend. Wherever our staff or volunteers dare to venture – if they happen to be wearing their KHS gear – they're going to hear a story about an adoption.

"I found my first dog there. I picked him out of a litter of four. We had a moment."

"That's where we met our boy! He was so shy when we first got him, but now he just cuddles right up on your lap."

"I'm so grateful for what you do. I adopted my cat from you. She's the best thing that's ever happened to me."

Everyone has a story, and they're all wonderful. But they all start with our volunteers, Animal Welfare Advocates (AWA) and Customer Service Representatives, who make adoptions happen. Thanks to them, dozens of animals a week find new homes – the right homes. Every potential adopter is asked to fill out a survey and is screened to determine if they are a good match. Then, when they've identified an animal that they're interested in – after a leisurely stroll through our open kennels – a staff member will go over the animal's medical and behavior history with them during a pre-counsel, ascertain whether or not it's a good fit – and if so – finally introduce the pet to the people. If it's a dog, family members, including resident dogs, may meet the potential adoptee. And then we hope for magic. More often than not, it is.

All told, more than 3,100 animals were adopted into new homes in 2024 alone, and 2025 looks to be an incredible year as well.

And the stories keep coming. If you'd like to share your adoption story with us, so we can share it on social media and in our publications, please scan the code below.



### Adopt a Pet **shelterplus**



### Your shelter's new support system

Shelter Plus is *more* than a feeding program—we're here to help shelters *and* adopters with resources, so you can better support pets, too.

- ◆ **For shelters:** Support with operations, vet needs, food costs, staff mental health, and more
- ◆ **For adopters:** Post-adoption tips, training, food and treat discounts, vet access, and more



# VETERINARY SERVICES

## THERE'S A DOCTOR IN THE HOUSE

**S**pend any amount of time around the Russ and Linda Young Veterinary Lifesaving Center (VLC) and you're bound to witness something remarkable.

On any given day – usually with a background of bouncy music – there will be a dog getting a life-saving surgery, an endless lineup of cats being readied for spays and neuters, and a sick turtle or vomiting goat. Staff and volunteers scramble from one station to the next, administering medications and vaccines, shaving surgical areas, and calming every animal who needs an extra little bit of attention.



The veterinarians, vet techs, vet assistants, operations manager, customer service representatives, and volunteers all work as one to form a well-oiled – and usually well-soiled – machine to bring animals back to health. In an area where unusual is the norm, nothing surprises anyone. A giant tumor being removed? Just another Tuesday. A kitten's eye that needs an operation? Been

there, done that. A tiny dog who needs open-heart surgery? Okay... that's one of the rare ones, but it happened. Here's the short version:

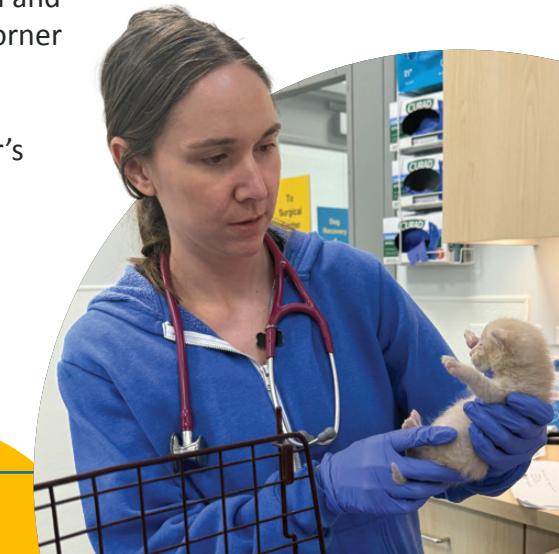
Cooper was a tiny terrier – a third the size of his littermates – who was born with a heart condition called "Patent Ductus Arteriosus" that takes the lives of 50 percent of those diagnosed with it – in the first year. Fortunately, Dr. Jen

Stonequist – KHS' Co-Executive Director – had previously performed the kind of high-risk operation that could save the little dog's life and funding was available through Sam's Fund (which you can read more about at right).

At 12:41 p.m. on a Thursday, Dr. Jen asked the sedated dog "Who are you, friend?" and began her work. In 15 minutes the pup's chest was open and the room became a master class for the other veterinarians who came to watch. Throughout the operation, Dr. Jen would urge her colleagues to look over her shoulder, explaining what she was doing like a football coach detailing a play. By 1:32 p.m., the most delicate parts of the surgery were done Dr. Jen began to close Cooper's chest. At 1:50 the last suture was knotted and by 2:09 the pup was off to recovery.

It's all thanks to the skill and experience of a talented group of professionals who save lives as a regular occurrence. It's not always drama-filled heroics, however. There's a LOT of paperwork to do and every day ends with the team scrubbing and spraying and washing and wiping the surgical and prep areas from corner to corner. And not every day ends in victory like Cooper's did.

There are some very tough days in the VLC when





**At VCA Central Kitsap Animal Hospital,** we've helped pets live long, healthy, and happy lives for more than 30 years. We are located in Silverdale, in the heart of the beautiful Kitsap Peninsula. Our recently remodeled and expanded facility is proud to be accredited by the American Animal Hospital Association and Certified by the American Association of Feline Practitioners as a Cat-Friendly practice. Additionally, all of our doctors and staff are Fear Free Certified Professionals, committed to the emotional well-being of your pet during their visit to our hospital.



**VCA Central Kitsap Animal Hospital**  
2238 NW Bucklin Hill Road, Suite 100  
Silverdale, WA 98383

the results aren't what everyone was hoping for. It's rewarding, but physically and psychologically exhausting. But the Vet Services staff at KHS – along with their volunteer helpers – are completely committed to giving every animal a second chance at life. It's truly remarkable.

## SAM'S ANGEL FUND

When people simply can't afford veterinary care for their companion animal, when all other options have been exhausted, where can they turn to? Sam, of course.

Sam's Angel Fund is named for the beloved pet of a family who donated a house to Kitsap Humane Society in 2023. The Kingston house was sold and part of the proceeds went to establish the Fund. Through this account – which is funded completely through donations – KHS is able to cover the costs of reduced-fee surgeries and other veterinary services that families may not be able to afford.

If you'd like to donate to Sam's Angel Fund and help us save lives, please scan the code below.



## OUR PARTNERS

ASPCA – NORTHERN TIER SHELTER INITIATIVE (NTSI)  
BAINBRIDGE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION  
BISSELL PET FOUNDATION  
COMMUNITY CAT COALITION  
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GREY MUZZLE ORGANIZATION  
KITSAP COMMUNITY FOUNDATION  
MUCKLESHOOT CHARITY FUND  
PETCO LOVE  
PETSMART CHARITIES ACCESS TO VETERINARY CARE PROGRAM  
SAM'S ANGEL FUND SUPPORTERS  
TULALIP TRIBES CHARITABLE FUND  
WASHINGTON FEDERATION OF ANIMAL CARE & CONTROL AGENCIES  
LINDA YOUNG

# 2026 Kitsap Humane Society Events & Holidays



January 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
25	26	27	28	29	30	31							

March 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	26	27	28	29	30		
29	30	31											

May 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30				
31													

July 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31												

September 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	6
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31

November 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	27	28	29	30	31		
29	30												

December 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	5	6	5
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
29	30						27	28	29	30	31		

● KHS Events  
● KHS Closed

## J A N U A R Y

January 1 New Year's Day  
*Shelter Closed*  
January 8 My Furry Valentine Begins  
January 19 Martin Luther King Jr. Day  
*Shelter Closed*

## F E B R U A R Y

February 2 Groundhog Day  
February 14 My Furry Valentine Ends  
*Valentine's Day*  
February 16 Presidents' Day  
February 17 Chinese New Year  
February 17 Ramadan Begins  
February 18 Ash Wednesday  
February 24 World Spay Day

## M A R C H

March 2 Purim Begins  
March 3 Purim Ends  
March 8 Daylight Savings Time Begins  
March 10 Kitsap Great Give  
March 17 St. Patrick's Day  
March 18 Ramadan Ends  
March 19 Eid al-Fitr Starts  
March 20 Comedy Unleashed  
*Spring Equinox*  
*Eid al-Fitr Ends*  
March 23 National Puppy Day  
March 29 Palm Sunday

## A P R I L

April 1 April Fool's Day  
*Passover Begins*  
April 3 Good Friday  
April 5 Easter Sunday  
April 9 Passover Ends  
April 12 Animal Care & Control Appreciation Week  
April 14 National Pet Day  
April 15 Tax Day  
April 20 National Volunteer Week  
April 22 Earth Day  
April 23 Take Your Daughters & Sons to Work Day  
April 25 World Veterinary Day  
April 30 National Adopt a Shelter Pet Day

## M A Y

May 1 May Day  
May 3 National Pet Week  
*Be Kind to Animals Week*  
May 5 Cinco De Mayo  
May 8 Military Spouse Appreciation Day  
May 10 Mother's Day  
May 16 Armed Forces Day  
May 24 Pentecost  
May 25 Memorial Day  
*Shelter Closed*

## J U N E

June 4 Hug Your Cat Day  
June 6 PetsWALK  
June 14 Flag Day  
June 19 Juneteenth  
*Shelter Closed*  
June 21 Father's Day  
*Summer Solstice*  
June 26 Take Your Dog to Work Day

## J U L Y

July 4 Independence Day  
*Shelter Closed*

## A U G U S T

August 1 Wine & Whiskers Begins  
*Universal Birthday for Pets Adopted from a Shelter*  
August 7 Putting FORE Pets  
August 15 International Homeless Animal's Day  
August 26 National Dog Day

## S E P T E M B E R

September 7 Labor Day  
*Shelter Closed*  
September 11 Patriot Day  
*Rosh Hashanah Begins*  
September 13 Rosh Hashanah Ends  
September 20 Yom Kippur Begins  
September 21 Yom Kippur Ends  
September 22 Autumn Equinox  
September 25 Sukkot Begins  
September 30 Wine & Whiskers Ends

## O C T O B E R

October 2 Sukkot Ends  
October 3 Animal Krackers  
October 12 Indigenous People's Day  
October 16 National Feral Cat Day  
October 18 National Veterinary Tech Week  
October 22 National Make a Dog's Day  
October 24 National Make a Difference Day  
October 29 National Cat Day  
October 31 Halloween

## N O V E M B E R

November 1 National Animal Shelter Appreciation Week  
*Daylight Savings Time Ends*  
November 4 Holiday Gift Auction Starts  
*Election Day*  
November 11 Veterans Day  
*Shelter Closed*  
November 15 Holiday Gift Auction Ends  
November 26 Thanksgiving  
*Shelter Closed*  
*To be announced* Santa Paws

## D E C E M B E R

*To be announced* Santa Paws  
December 1 Giving Tuesday  
December 4 Hanukkah Begins  
December 7 Pearl Harbor Remembrance day  
December 12 Hanukkah Ends  
December 21 Winter Solstice  
December 24 Christmas Eve  
*Shelter Closed*  
December 25 Christmas Day  
*Shelter Closed*  
December 26 Kwanzaa Begins  
December 31 New Year's Eve



Get more details on events by visiting our KHS Calendar page!

Take this out of the magazine and you can use it as a calendar poster to keep up to date on upcoming KHS Events! Stay updated by following our socials and visiting our website at [kitsap-humane.org](http://kitsap-humane.org).

# COMMUNITY RESOURCES AND BEHAVIOR

## THE HELPERS

**M**r. Rogers once told his audience: "When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, 'Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping.'"

That's the CRaB team – Community Resources and Behavior – and they're here to help.

This squad of behavior specialists and community outreach professionals are often the first point of contact for anyone visiting Kitsap Humane Society. Working out of the Admissions Center, they manage the intake of all animals, including strays and surrenders, conduct intake exams and vaccinations, facilitate reclaims, loan equipment, and sort donations. But their duties don't stop at the Admissions doorstep – they're preparing our animals for life beyond the shelter and ensuring that people have the resources they need to care for their furry family members.

At a time when animal welfare organizations across the country are seeing critters that were undersocialized during the Covid lockdown, the CRaB team is working to alleviate the issue. Their work with animals includes dog and cat assessments, in-kennel enrichment, medical handling for behavior animals, coordinating shelter moves, helping with adoption counsels, and behavior training.

If that weren't enough, they're also responsible for managing the Pet Food Pantry program – through which families in need can get free pet food – as well as the

Barks & Rec program, which allows community members to take a dog out for an hour or day to get some valuable out-of-kennel time.

And most recently, they've added another facet to the diamond that is their department: a Community Resources and Outreach Coordinator. This position – created thanks to a grant from the Gary Milgard Family – provides the community with a hotline for community members to call with questions about their pets. If you need guidance or advice about rehoming a pet, strays, trap-neuter-release, or animal control, the Community Resources and Outreach Coordinator is available for person-to-person calls at 360-692-6977, ext. 1123.

It turns out Mrs. Rogers was right; you can find helpers. They're right here.



## OUR PARTNERS

CHEWY

CROSS CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

GREATER GOOD CHARITIES

MADDIE'S FUND

THE GARY MILGARD FAMILY

PEDIGREE FOUNDATION

PETCO LOVE VACCINES CAMPAIGN

WALMART: BREMERTON,  
PORT ORCHARD, POULSBORO



# ANIMAL CARE

## KEEPING US TICKING



Like the gears behind the face of a clock, our Animal Care and Animal Welfare Associates are the pieces behind the scenes that make the whole operation run smoothly. They're up at the crack of dawn, working with volunteers to take care of all the resident animals, starting with an assessment of how things are going.

They record what each animal has eaten – or expelled – overnight and report their findings to their colleagues in Vet Services, paying particular attention to anything that might be out of the ordinary. As volunteers take each dog for their morning walk, the Techs are following behind, carefully cleaning each holding area – dog, cat, or livestock – for the first of sometimes several times a day. They ensure that each animal is fed and has the proper toys, blankets, and beds and relay any issues to their Behavior counterparts.

They're behind the scenes, but always there and attentive to the animals in their care.

It's a difficult and sometimes icky job – and there's the constant danger of being headbutted in the knees by an angry goat – but like the gears on the clock, they just keep ticking.



MRJ is proud to have partnered with Kitsap Humane Society on the Pet Adoption Center, the Russ and Linda Young Veterinary Lifesaving Center and the Large Animal Barn.



[www.mrjconstructors.com](http://www.mrjconstructors.com)

1400 Airport Way South  
Seattle, WA 98134  
206-621-7437

### OUR PARTNERS

ASPCA NATIONAL SHELTER GRANT

BEN B. CHENEY FOUNDATION

MDU RESOURCES FOUNDATION

THE LENORE HANAUER FOUNDATION

THE HILDERMAN FAMILY FUND

LOU ELLEN AND HOWARD HORWITZ

SUSAN RAUSCH  
AND PAUL  
PRIVATEER



# FOSTER CARE

## OPEN HEARTS & OPEN HOMES

Kitsap Humane Society has housing for 65 dogs (plus a few side areas that can be used in a pinch), room for roughly 125 cats, a barn for livestock, and a smattering of bunny, hamster, and guinea pig kennels, bird cages, and aquariums for reptiles. Yet, last year, KHS brought in 4,171 animals and provided 84,185 total days of care. How is this possible? The math just ain't mathin'.

That's because we lean heavily on our foster families. As of the end of October 2025, KHS had 278 active foster homes and 1,060 animals who had been taken care of by them. And without the generosity of these people who open their hearts and their homes, we simply wouldn't have the capacity to do what we do.

Foster families take care of all kinds of animals in all manner of situations. If a litter of kittens needs to be syringe-fed every two hours, a pet needs a place to recover from surgery and have bandages changed regularly, or the shelter is full and a dog just needs a place to crash for a while – fosters step up to the challenge.

And the Foster office at the KHS campus is where some of the most amazing things happen. Hidden in a back hallway, stuck in the former surgical space, is where kittens are born, the tinies are warmed in incubators, and the littlest critters in our care take their first steps before being sent off to their new temporary homes. The staff and volunteers who tend to their needs are essentially their mothers for the first weeks of their young lives – feeding and bathing and keeping them safe and healthy until they're ready for the world.



### OUR PARTNERS

BAINBRIDGE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

PEDIGREE FOUNDATION



**Join the Unlimited Wash Club!**

**MEMBERSHIPS STARTING  
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Washington's  
**LARGEST**  
Car Wash Network

**Brown Bear Car Wash** [brownbear.com](http://brownbear.com)  
Silverdale • Bremerton • Poulsbo



If you'd like to provide a foster home for KHS animals, please scan the code here.



# ANIMAL CONTROL

## IT'S A WEIRD WORLD OUT THERE

Every day at Kitsap Humane Society is something new – and some days get pretty weird. The weirdest, without question, however, usually begin with Animal Control.

Unlike most humane societies, KHS – in addition to its other duties – is responsible for animal control in the area it serves. In our case, that's everything from Gig Harbor to Bainbridge Island, including unincorporated Kitsap County – which is a lot of ground to cover for our five-officer staff. Together, the ACOs, as they're called, are on call 24/7 for animal-related emergencies that are called in through 911. And as you might imagine, the calls range from scary to sad to just plain... well, weird.

The scary ones are almost always accompanied by law enforcement and usually occur when animals are in danger – like Priscilla and her friends. Five adult cats and 16 newborn kittens, living in squalid conditions, with graffitied walls and garbage strewn from wall to wall. The kittens were malnourished and dirty and it was questionable as to whether any of them would survive. But they were rescued by ACOs, brought to KHS and all but three survived, were pampered back to health, and found new homes.

A lot of them are sad, but among the most heart-wrenching was a hoarding situation in Mason County. Sixty-seven dogs were found on the verge of starvation, living in cramped quarters, and many with their muzzles zip-tied

or duct-taped shut. ACO officers were sent to the scene to assess the health of each animal, document their condition, and send them to safety at KHS or with one of our many partners throughout the state. In time, every dog was able to recover from their ordeal and found a new – and much happier – home.

Then there's the weird. Picture the scene: a Washington State Patrol officer has pulled over a driver near Gorst at around 2 a.m. As the officer writes the driver a ticket, he looks behind him to find a 6-foot-something emu – yes, emu – standing on the freeway. Animal Control is called and a chase ensues – State Patrol, the sheriff, and a sleepy ACO, all scrambling to catch a giant flightless bird in the dead of night. Once Elliot – as he would come to be called – was wrangled into the ACO van, he was transported to KHS where he charmed visitors to our Big Animal Barn. Elliot has since been moved to a sanctuary in Jefferson County, where he'll live out his days with other emus, forever prevented from terrorizing America's highways and byways.

It's all in a day's work for KHS Animal Control. We can't wait to see what tomorrow will bring.

## OUR PARTNERS

NORCLIFFE FOUNDATION

ROTARY CLUB OF BAINBRIDGE ISLAND

SUQUAMISH TRIBE



## HAPPY TAILS AURORA

**A**urora came to KHS in spring 2022 clearly needing help. With chronic allergies, a heart murmur, and a frail frame, her future felt uncertain. But Aurora's joyful spirit never wavered, showing staff every day that she had so much love to give. After months of care and monitoring, she found the perfect home in June 2022.

Today, Aurora is living her golden years wrapped in blankets, curled up on the couch, and soaking up all the affection she can get. She insists on an audience for mealtime, with her all-time favorite being white rice, which she happily flings around the house like confetti.

She has become the sweetest companion, snuggling with anyone who visits and filling her home with warmth. Her family knew their time with her might be short, but three wonderful years have been more than

they ever hoped for. Aurora may have arrived at KHS with challenges, but she has turned her second chance into a life overflowing with love.



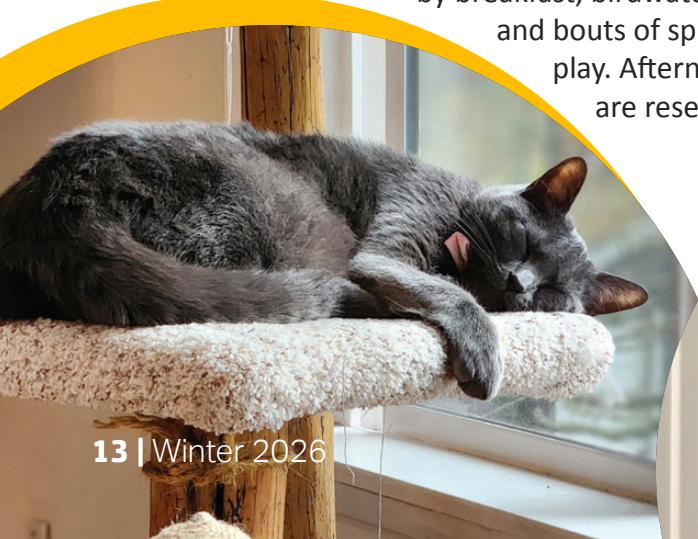
## HAPPY TAILS LIO

**L**io, formerly known as Giovanni, was one of dozens of kittens who arrived at KHS during a large owner surrender in March 2024. He and his siblings quickly settled into a loving foster home, where they spent several weeks getting all the care and confidence they needed before Lio found his forever family in April 2024.

Now, Lio is living his best life as the prince of the house. His days begin with cozy morning cuddles, followed by breakfast, birdwatching, and bouts of spirited play. Afternoons are reserved for

sun-soaked naps, recharging him for more snacks, zoomies, and snuggling under the covers. He proudly parades his favorite fish toy from room to room, attempts daring leaps into the kitchen sink (he loves water!), and never misses a chance to be close to his people.

Friendly, affectionate, and endlessly charming, Lio has become the perfect little shadow. He's brought nothing but joy to his home, and his family couldn't imagine life without him.



## 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](http://kitsap-humane.org) or call (360) 692-6977.

### ANIMAL ADOPTIONS

Cats, dogs, and critters are available for adoption at [kitsap-humane.org/adopt](http://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.

### BEHAVIOR SUPPORT

If you would like information about training or other solutions for supporting your dog, please contact [dogbehavior@kitsaphumane.org](mailto:dogbehavior@kitsaphumane.org), and for cat owners, please contact [catbehavior@kitsaphumane.org](mailto:catbehavior@kitsaphumane.org).

### COMMUNITY CATS

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

[kitsaphumane.org/resources/community-cats/](http://kitsaphumane.org/resources/community-cats/)

### EUTHANASIA & CREMATION

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

[kitsaphumane.org/vet-services/euthanasia-cremation/](http://kitsaphumane.org/vet-services/euthanasia-cremation/)

### 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.

[kitsaphumane.org/resources/surrendering-your-pet/](http://kitsaphumane.org/resources/surrendering-your-pet/)

### LOST & FOUND PETS

KHS accepts lost and found animals daily from 11 am to 5 pm. Lost pets are regularly listed on our website. [kitsaphumane.org/resources/lostfound-pets/](http://kitsaphumane.org/resources/lostfound-pets/)

### PET FOOD PANTRY

We believe the best place for pets is 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 11 am to 4 pm. Information on how to qualify can be found at [kitsaphumane.org/resources](http://kitsaphumane.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. [kitsaphumane.org/resources/licensing/](http://kitsaphumane.org/resources/licensing/)

### PET PROTECTION PROGRAM

KHS offers temporary safe-haven to cats belonging to victims of domestic violence and people experiencing job loss, homelessness, or other unexpected life changes. To learn more about this program, please visit [kitsaphumane.org/resources](http://kitsaphumane.org/resources).

### PET SUPPLIES

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

### PET TRAINING & SUPPORT

KHS is proud to offer post-adoption and behavioral support for dog and cat owners. For help with your dog, please email [dogbehavior@kitsaphumane.org](mailto:dogbehavior@kitsaphumane.org) and for your cat, please email [catbehavior@kitsaphumane.org](mailto:catbehavior@kitsaphumane.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 [kitsaphumane.org/resources](http://kitsaphumane.org/resources).

### WAYS TO HELP:

To learn more about how to support our lifesaving work, please visit [kitsaphumane.org](http://kitsaphumane.org).

### SAM'S ANGEL FUND

We're building a stronger safety net for pets and their people with Sam's Angel Fund. To learn more or help us continue to offer reduced-cost care by making a donation, please contact [jnocola@kitsaphumane.org](mailto:jnocola@kitsaphumane.org).

### SPONSORSHIPS

For information about sponsorship opportunities, please contact [jreynolds@kitsaphumane.org](mailto:jreynolds@kitsaphumane.org).

### DONATE ITEMS

KHS is always in need of supplies to keep our shelter animals clean, happy, and comfortable. Donations can be dropped off every day, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. 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 [kitsaphumane.org/foster-care](http://kitsaphumane.org/foster-care).

### 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 [jhorton@kitsaphumane.org](mailto:jhorton@kitsaphumane.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 [kitsaphumane.org/donate](http://kitsaphumane.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 [jnocola@kitsaphumane.org](mailto:jnocola@kitsaphumane.org).

### PUPPUCCINO PALS/PURR-UCINO PALS

Coffee shops, this one is for you! Become a month-long Puppuccino Pals Sponsor and your coffee shop or stand will be featured across our massive social media platforms. For more info, please contact [jhorton@kitsaphumane.org](mailto:jhorton@kitsaphumane.org).

### VEHICLE DONATION

Honk if you love shelter pets! Turn your clunker into cash for pets in need. For assistance, please email [info@kitsaphumane.org](mailto:info@kitsaphumane.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 [kitsaphumane.org/get-involved](http://kitsaphumane.org/get-involved).



Scan the QR code to see our available pets!





Kitsap  
Humane Society

9167 DICKEY ROAD NW  
SILVERDALE, WA 98383

[kitsap-humane.org](http://kitsap-humane.org)

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## SAVE THE DATE 2026

MY FURRY  
*Valentine*

*Comedy* UNLEASHED

PETS WALK<sup>5K</sup>

PUTTING FIRE PETS

Wine & Whiskers

*Animal Krackers*

**HOLIDAY**  
GIFT AUCTION

*Santa*  
PAWS

ONLINE EVENT  
**JANUARY 8 - FEBRUARY 14, 2026**

COMEDY SHOW  
**MARCH 20, 2026**

5K WALK/RUN & FESTIVAL  
**JUNE 6, 2026**

GOLF TOURNAMENT  
**AUGUST 7, 2026**

WINE TOUR  
**AUGUST - SEPTEMBER, 2026**

GALA & AUCTION  
**OCTOBER 3, 2026**

ONLINE AUCTION  
**NOVEMBER 4-15, 2026**

SANTA PET PHOTOS  
**NOVEMBER - DECEMBER, 2026**

