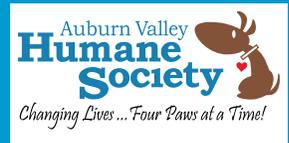


Four Paws



Newsletter of the Auburn Valley Humane Society

FALL 2015

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Our Mission

The Auburn Valley Humane Society is dedicated to providing shelter, quality care and love for all the lost, mistreated and abandoned animals in Auburn. AVHS utilizes all available resources to ensure each animal is placed into a loving and forever home and promotes responsible pet ownership through education and outreach.



LOKI'S life began with AVHS as a lost animal. A two year old Australian Shepherd mix, he was adopted 14 days later to a loving home. He loves people and his favorite ball.



The little things we are thankful for:

Four Paws
 Published by the
 Auburn Valley Humane Society

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- | | |
|---|--|
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AVHS Thrift Store & More

- Mike Kahler**, *Thrift Store Manager*
Julie Domstad, *Customer Service Rep*
Susan Bedwell, *Customer Service Rep*
Dani Blyleven, *Customer Service Rep*

Shelter

4910 A St SE, Auburn, WA 98092
 253-249-7849 FAX: 253-929-8612
www.AuburnValleyHS.org

AVHS Federal Tax ID # 45-0638467

Current Hours of Operation:

Sunday	12 pm - 4 pm
Monday	10 am - 6 pm
Tuesday	10 am - 6 pm
Wednesday	10 am - 6 pm
Thursday	10 am - 6 pm
Friday	10 am - 6 pm
Saturday	12 pm - 6 pm



The fall season is upon us and once again summer seems to have passed us by. This is a special time of year when the temperatures lower, the days get shorter and the need for four legged companionship may be just what one needs for the long winter months ahead. It is also a time we reflect on the things in our lives for which we are thankful.

Usually, one is thankful for good health and the love of family and friends. I have always been thankful for all of those things, but there is also one thing I am sincerely thankful for. It is the love and companionship I receive from the animals in my life. The human animal bond is something I have truly grown to appreciate over the years. The comfort, enjoyment and amusement I receive from the animals in my life truly completes me. I can say I would not be the person I am today if the animals in my life had not influenced me to be the human they expected.

I recently lost a dog who had been in my life for the past 8 years. Her name was Brindle. She was a 100+ pound Fila Mastiff who had been in 6 homes in a period of 5 days before she arrived at the shelter where I worked. Brindle was scared, aggressive to other animals and most people, and she was completely incorrigible with absolutely no manners. She was also on the euthanasia list with less than a day to go. Our family was not looking to add a new dog into our house, but Brindle needed us. Initially we fostered her with the intention of getting Brindle out of the kennel and finding her a forever home. What we soon found out was how much

we needed her and how much she would teach us.

Brindle became part of our family almost instantly. She also learned where she fit in the hierarchy of the other animals in our house. Because Brindle's head was above counter height, any food left out in the kitchen, was fair game. Admittedly throughout the time she spent with us, we did have some issues with her trying to kill the neighbors and any delivery person who would attempt to enter her space (that is why all of our packages are always left at the top of the driveway). But in her pea brained mind, Brindle was protecting us from the bad people in the world. This was my explanation to the sheriff when he would come by to tell me that my dog had scared a neighbor or postman. Because of Brindle, I never felt the need to lock a door in the house or have an uneasy feeling when leaving my family home alone. When we went camping, we didn't need a gun, as Brindle stood guard all night and would with chase off the bears that came into our camp with purpose and excitement.

We stood by Brindle through thick and thin. Many people would have given up on her because of her behavior issues. I see dogs come into the shelter every day for far less. We were committed to her and because of that, Brindle was committed to us. We were thankful to have her in our lives and we lovingly overlooked and adjusted to her misgivings because that is what family does and she was a part of our family.

Because we continued to give her the opportunity to grow with us, she taught us over the years the meaning of loyalty and how important it is to protect those you love at any cost. Brindle also taught us patience, forgiveness and that we must be accountable for not only our actions but of those around us as well. In addition, she taught me

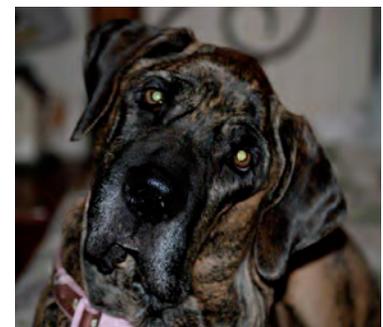
that a short nap in the afternoon is a good thing and that I must chase the deer out of the front yard at every opportunity.

October is **Adopt a Shelter Dog Month**. I think it is a little soon for our family to consider a new shelter dog, but it is the perfect time to find a special friend to curl up next to on those cold winter evenings. Be it a dog or a cat, pets are always 100% faithful and their unconditional love will keep them by your side through the good and bad times.

By adopting a dog or a cat, you will be enhancing your life as well as the life of a shelter animal. Adopting has shown to be beneficial to your health and well-being, and may be one of the best things that you do in your life. I know it was in mine.

When visiting our shelter or viewing our adoptable animals online, our staff is readily available to assist with questions and will work closely with you to find the right companion to fit your lifestyle.

Brindle, even though you have gone, you will always be a part of us...thank you for all the joy you gave us... we will miss you!



Brindle

Phil Morgan
Phil Morgan, Executive Director

On behalf of the Board of Directors, the staff and all the furry four footed friends in our care, we would like to thank you for supporting our mission and your Humane Society!



Follow us on Facebook & YouTube

What's Up Doc?

Five Reasons to be Thankful for your Furry Friend!

by Dr. Emily D. Purvis, DVM



1. **Pets Love Us Unconditionally.** It doesn't matter if we've got morning breath, received bad grades or missed a major benchmark at the office... our pets are always there for us. There is no limit on the love and affection they send our way when greeting us like an A-list celebrity.

2. **Pets Are The BEST Snuggle Buddies.** Winter on the way? No problem, our furry friends are little heaters with four legs and always ready to cozy on the couch. Best of all, they don't judge you when you're binge watching Netflix, again!

3. **They Make Us Laugh.** Think about it! How many times have you laughed out loud at your pet's silly antics? They can do some pretty hilarious things that keep us entertained.

4. **Pets Are Good For Our Health.** Having a pet can lead to lower blood pressure and a healthier heart through their ability to relieve stress and improve mood. Studies show that animal-assisted therapies such as visitation programs for nursing home residents can help decrease anxiety and help overcome loneliness and depression.

5. **They Help Us Exercise.** Walking is one of the best health activities you can do. Getting your dog to the dog park, for a walk around the block, or a jog down a trail is excellent exercise for everyone involved. The Centers for Disease Control list decreased blood pressure, cholesterol and triglyceride levels as additional health benefits of owning pets.

GETTING YOUR NEW PET SETTLED

As you bring your new furry friend home this season, here are some things to keep in mind in making sure everyone settles in successfully...

Expect mistakes & behavior problems. What!?! You've just adopted the most perfect pet, right? Yes, but your pet may have had a different set of rules in their previous home, or even no rules at all. Expect that there will be an adaptation period where everyone settles into the routine.

Be kind. When you first bring your pet home, realize they may have come off the streets, been previously injured, or housed in the nice but noisy shelter and now are in your cozy home. Be patient with them as they acclimate to your loving but unfamiliar place with strangers. Being gentle, considerate, kind and patient go a long way to easing this transition.

Watch out and go extra slow for pets that are scared or anxious. If your new pet appears scared provide them with a small quiet area with food and a litter box (if a cat). Do not allow children to bother a frightened pet; fear can result in bites and scratches from a pet that would not normally act that way. Read your pet's signals and don't pick them up or hold them if it's not on their terms. Respect their space as they settle.

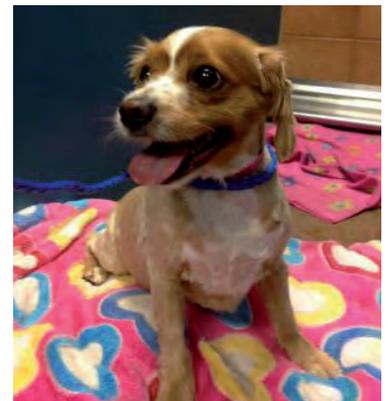
How long should this take? Some outgoing pets may settle in over a few days, while other more shy pets may take several weeks. Adopting a pet is a lifetime commitment. Making a patient and concerted effort to achieve a successful adoption will pay off in the long run for everyone involved.



Sebastian came to the shelter as a lost cat that was ear tipped. Ear tipping is done on feral cats. Sebastian was a sweet cat and was adoptable. He was adopted to a new home within 30 days of being at the shelter.



SCARED, MATTED



GROOMED, HAPPY

Lady came in as a lost dog that was matted, neglected, smelly, and scared. She is a 4 year old spayed Red and White King Charles Spaniel Mix. She received medical treatment, food, sheltering, a haircut, bath and now is a happy dog waiting to be adopted.

LOOKING FOR LUV

Happiness found in a new home...



Austin

Austin is simply perfect. He is adjusting very well to our home and is extremely well behaved. We haven't really had to do much training with him to not chase the cats. He listens so well. The first day we brought him home and showed Austin the backyard, he spent a good 5 minutes just rolling in the grass he was so happy.

He loves being around people so much that he follows everyone around the house. Every time one of us goes to the car, Austin immediately tries to follow and come along.

Austin worked his way into each and every one of our hearts. Even our mother, who adamantly dislikes animals, has fallen for him. Every day we are amazed by

how incredible this dog is. He listens so well, is so sweet, and also serves as a guard dog when needed. He is so well-behaved and loving, we could not have asked for a better dog.

He's always so excited to be with people; he loves to play, to cuddle, and to go places with people. He gets so excited that he runs and jumps up to slobber all over my face. Austin is just always so happy that he brightens up all of our days. He's been an incredible gift for our family and we could not thank the Humane Society enough for providing this service for the wonderful animals and giving us Austin.

Your help makes the difference for the hundreds of homeless and abandoned animals. Your continued support helps us save even more lives.

Furr Report

Hidden Cat Dangers

When it comes to the holidays, there are so many things to be careful about: not gaining 10 pounds; not getting yourself into debt buying presents; and of course keeping your cats healthy, happy and safe.

Homes become pet playgrounds this time of year. Cats delight in un-decking the halls. Here are some tips to help keep them holly, jolly and oh-so-safe!

- Ribbon and tinsel can send your cat to the emergency room when ingested.

- Kitties love the sparkly, light catching "toy" but a nibble on the light can lead to swallowing which can cause severe vomiting

and dehydration and even possibly surgery. Light strands can cause severe burns or electrocution when chewed. Keep dangerous decorations up and away or locked in a room away from your cats.

- Plants like holly, mistletoe and poinsettias can cause nausea, vomiting and diarrhea when ingested. Plants that are silk or plastic can deliver an equally showy statement without the risk of upset stomach.

- Be sure to securely anchor your tree. This can prevent the tree from tipping, falling and avoiding cat injury and chaos. If you have a live tree you want be sure your pets are not drinking the stagnant water.

- Give your cat a safe and quiet place where your cat can get away from all the festivities.

- With proper preparations, the holidays can be enjoyed by the whole family, including the cat!

LOVE

Yoshi is now Charli, and he is settling in great. He and our Labrador, Kodi, love to play together, and cuddle up when they are sleepy. Charli is such a smart dog, picking up on training very well. He is a huge people dog, and definitely doesn't like not having a human in site! He is not a fan of the crate. We tested him in it when we went grocery shopping and he cried a lot. We set up a webcam so we could observe him in the crate and see how he did.

The staff and volunteers were very helpful and friendly. They gave great tips on how to integrate Charli into our home. Thank you so much for choosing us for Charli. We are truly lucky to have another amazing four legged baby to add to our family!



Needs forever home!

Bosko, an 8 year old cat, came to AVHS in October 2014 with bad diarrhea. Bosko says, "I've been eating a RAW diet lately and I love the animal staff. My coat is shiny. I've gained weight and best of all, no more diarrhea!" I will need a special diet and can't have access to other animal's food. I like other calm cats and calm dogs but I need my space. I like to give hugs and kisses too! **Consider adopting Bosko!**



SUPPORT 2015-2016 Events

Day	Event	Purpose
DEC 12-13 2015	PHOTOS WITH SANTA PAWS	On Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 12-13 from 9 am - 2 pm, bring your pets to AVHS to have their holiday picture taken with Santa Paws. A 4"x 6" print in a holiday card is \$10. By purchasing the digital version option you receive a print and a digital version of the photo for \$15.
APRIL 2 2016	WINNER'S CIRCLE GALA	The Auburn Valley Humane Society's Winner's Circle Gala will take place on a Saturday, April 2nd, at Emerald Downs from 5:30-9:30 pm. It will include a silent and live auction, wine bottle ring toss, raffle and other fun games. Tickets will be available in January, 2016 at the shelter or online at www.AuburnValleyHS.org .
MAY 14 2016	PETPALOOZA	Join us at the City of Auburn's Petpalooza event at Game Farm Park from 10 am to 5 pm. Our AVHS booth will feature prize drawing baskets, toys, sportswear and fun contests.
JUNE-OCT 2016	PET PHOTO CALENDAR CONTEST	Get ready to submit your favorite pet photo starting June 1 st . Photo must be in by September 30 th . Encourage your friends and family to vote for your pet. \$1 per vote. Fourteen monthly winners will be chosen from the photographs which receive the most votes. The pet with highest votes will be featured on the front cover photo. Calendars will be on sale by November 15 th .
JUN 25 2016	TOUR DE PAWS	The Tour De Paws event includes 4 bicycle rides, 15, 30, 65 and 100 mile distances along Green Valley Road, Black Diamond, Ravensdale Enumclaw Plateau and back to Auburn for lunch. The event will take place on Saturday, June 25 from 7 am to 4 pm.
AUG 27 2016	BARKFEST/ ROVER ROMP	Community fundraising event featuring dog demonstrations, rescue organizations, adoptable pets, kids zone, specialty vendors and a 3K/5K walk/run Rover Romp from 9 am - 1 pm, Roegner Park.



VOLUNTEER LEND A PAW



For the last three years, over 2,000 AVHS volunteers provided over 71,000 hours of service at the AVHS shelter and thrift store. Come join the volunteers and help us continue to change lives... four paws at a time!



Microsoft Day of Caring at AVHS

Thanks for completing our major projects of building a shed, building a french drain, building a parking area, assembling adoption packets, painting and helping with our eTapestry database. A lot was accomplished!

**JOIN THE TEAM!
VOLUNTEER**

Volunteers Needed:

Dog Walkers & Kennel Assistants
Cat Care Cleaners
Adoption Events & Outreach Volunteers
Front Desk Greeters & Office Assistants
Pet Pantry Food Bank
Laundry/Hospitality
Foster Cat & Dog Volunteers
and many more positions!

VOLUNTEER PROCESS

- Complete a volunteer application.
- Attend a volunteer orientation to learn about the organization and also learn about the various opportunities available to volunteers.
- Interview with the Director of Volunteer/ Outreach Services and schedule your training and volunteer experience.
- Take the appropriate training classes or hands-on training.
- Start volunteering! You can enter hours online when volunteering using AVHS Volgistics Information Center portal.

Without volunteers, we would not be able to provide the quality care for the abandoned and lost animals in our community.

Support homeless pets by donating today at www.auburnvalleyhs.org 5

SPECIAL PROGRAMS



Special Programs has many programs in the works right now.

Pet of Violence

We have partnered with DAWN (Domestic Abuse Women's Network) to foster pets of domestic violence victims that enter DAWN's programs and help promote responsible pet ownership.

Humane Education

Our current focus is on:

- A scout patch program
- Classroom presentations with lesson plans that meet

Washington State Education standards

- Creating public service announcement videos, and
- Reading with Animals program

AVHS Pet Pantry

The AVHS Pet Pantry has been active since January 2015 and doing well! With a partnership with Seattle Humane Society, AVHS has been able to distribute pet food to over 25 low-income senior citizens each month at the AVHS Thrift Store & More. Each recipient is eligible to apply for food for 3 pets. We are providing cat and dog food for approximately 75 pets per month on top of our own shelter animals!

Thrift Store & More Open House

3rd Tuesday each month
5-8 pm at the Thrift Store
1123 E Main Street, Auburn



50% off sales

on donated non-vendor items.
Vendor specials too.
Find your new treasures!

Nov. 17 Dec. 15

Thrift Store & More Hours:

Sunday	11 am - 5 pm
Monday-Friday	10 am - 6 pm
Saturday	10 am - 6 pm



Please come and join us at the Pictures with Santa Paws
Sat.-Sun. Dec. 12-13
9 am - 2 pm
AVHS Shelter
4910 A St SE, Auburn



Sammy & Cinnamon are favorites that entered the contest

BUY your 2016 AVHS Calendar

The 2016 AVHS Calendar Contest had over 93 entries and the top 14 ranked pet photos voted on by viewers were selected. Each of the winners will be featured on a monthly page with the winner receiving a spot on the front cover. The fourteen month calendar supports shelter programs, so please purchase your calendar starting Nov. 17th.

- Purchase your calendar for \$15 at the Shelter or Thrift Store & More
- Purchase your calendar online by going to www.AuburnValleyHS.org.
- Spread the word and have your friends and family buy a calendar.
- Help us raise funds to help the lost, abandoned and homeless animals in our community.

Winner's Circle Gala



Saturday, April 2
5:30 - 9:30 pm
Emerald Downs
3200 Emerald Downs Drive
Auburn

- Fabulous Buffet Dinner
- Animal Champion Awards
- Exciting Silent and Live Auction
- 50/50 Raffle and Door Prizes
- Fun Wine Bottle Ring Toss featuring Washington Wines
- Help us raise funds for the lost, homeless, and abandoned animals

BUY YOUR TICKETS
ONLINE OR
AT THE AVHS SHELTER



253-249-7849
www.auburnvalleyhs.org

Register
Soon!



Tour de Paws



Saturday, June 25
7:00 am - 4:00 pm
Game Farm Park
3030 R St SE, Auburn

- Full van support & pitstops
- Gift bag for first 150 registered bikers
- Lunch at Game Farm Park after the ride
- Register at www.active.com

Help raise funds for our homeless, lost and abandoned animals

253-249-7849
www.auburnvalleyhs.org



Operating Statistics



Phoenix, a 3 year old miniature poodle mix, came to the AVHS shelter as rescue. His new family renamed him Winston. He is a fun addition to our family. He is as sweet as he looks and is enjoying lots of attention. It has been a special summer for us all.



*The remaining animals are in foster care or at the shelter.

The Auburn Valley Humane Society is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization who partners with the City of Auburn for the housing of the lost and stray animals within the city limits of Auburn. The AVHS shelter opened on January 1, 2013. AVHS serves King and Pierce Counties for pet adoptions and owners looking to re-home their beloved pets.

No adoptable animals have been euthanized in the first two and half years of operation!

Thank you for helping us save lives. . . four paws at a time!

Thanks for the support

BARKTOBERFEST & ROVER ROMP:

Tugg the Pug here...on Saturday October 10th, I got to hop in the car with my humans and head over to Roegner Park for a day of fun. This is the 3rd year I've been involved with Barktoberfest and the Rover Romp. *The main reason I do it?* Well, in honor of my fellow canine and feline friends of course! While at Barktoberfest, I played the Muttsical Chairs game, and got to meet Officer Winner with the Auburn Police Department. I met a whole bunch of greyhounds from the Greyhound Pets of America - Greater Northwest.

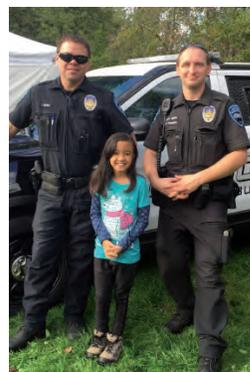


Wizard of Oz



Rover Romp in the Park

We also visited all of the vendors and got lots of free samples and information from the awesome community groups and businesses that were there. I got my picture taken at the Mud Bay booth and my human got her picture taken at the Positive Pooches booth with a couple of cute little corgi's. It was a blast walking in the Rover Romp 3K, exploring the trail and rolling in the fall leaves. *My favorite part of the day?* Watching a demo of Nosework and another of a Barn Hunt. Those dogs sure were talented! All in all, it was a super fun day that raised \$17,900 for my lost, mistreated and abandoned friends at the Auburn Valley Humane Society. I'm glad I could do my part to help them out. AVHS is now, and always will be, committed to providing a safe haven for homeless and abandoned animals until they can be placed into permanent, loving homes. Thank you for supporting the Auburn Valley Humane Society and the work that they do.



Auburn Police



Pet Costume Contest

I saved a human today!



By Ji-young and Colette

My mother, Youngsoon Park, brought Firefox over and she lives with me. I call her Colette. I recently lost a 14 year old chihuahua and was going thru the most difficult time of my life. Fourteen years is a long time and I dare say it is not any different from losing your own child. I couldn't go anywhere other than my work because every place in town reminded me of her. Colette has that special something in her eyes that I've been searching for. The first couple days she was very quiet and limited her movement to a corner by the front door. She did not bark and didn't know how to jump or climb. Now, she's a totally different puppy. She runs like a roadrunner. She fiercely chases after birds and deer. She also chews on parts of house and furniture which we are working on. Initially she was slightly over weight due to inactivity, but now her weight is perfect. We have our nightly ritual of brushing teeth and brushing her beautiful red hair while singing 'Baby Mine' (from Dumbo). She backs up when she sees the tooth brush but when I start singing 'Baby Mine' her eyes start to become mellow and sleepy. It is really cute when she does that.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE WAYS TO HELP



Use the QR code or visit our website for different options to donate to AVHS.

Consider making a donation to the Auburn Valley Humane Society. Your support is the cornerstone of the dream we share to protect animals in our community. Your ongoing generosity will help ensure the future well-being of countless animals at your animal shelter. The Auburn Valley Humane Society will be able to fulfill our mission of sheltering, rescuing and adopting animals, and educating people of all ages to the needs of companion animals with those in our community who need their comfort. We will also be able to fund spay/neuter programs for animals at the shelter, ensure efficient shelter operations, and continue in our goal of creating a more compassionate world. All donations made to AVHS are tax deductible.

Donate Goods

AVHS relies on donations from the public and we are always in need of supplies. We need:

- canned pate cat food
- dry kitten food
- paper towels
- copier paper

We also love gift cards to Costco, Lowe's, Walmart, Home Depot, and Office Depot or requests from our Amazon.com wish list. All in-kind donations are 100% tax-deductible.



Emmett was adopted recently and barks: "please help us today by giving!"

The furry critters express their thanks for mailing your donation envelope to us today!

Feel Good

You can be confident that AVHS will steward your donation thoughtfully and wisely. Please know how much your gift means to our Board of Directors, staff and dedicated volunteers, and the abandoned and homeless animals we care for. Your support helps us to save over 1,500 animals every year. Feel good knowing you are helping to save lives this season and all year long!



Fritz was adopted recently.

Please help us with medical needs!

Medical Needs

From time to time, AVHS has an animal that requires significant medical needs that require an out-of-the ordinary surgery or procedure and long-term care and/or recovery. In that situation, we want to count on your support to helps us to save that animal. Feel good knowing you are helping to change lives . . . four paws at a time all year long!

Muffin Update



Special thanks to the hundreds of community supporters who gave funds for Muffin's Surgery and Care (from August through October). The campaign raised over \$3,340 to help Muffin with her orthopedic surgery.

Muffin, a 7 month old Pit Bull Terrier Mix, who was

lost and roaming the streets, was brought to the Auburn Valley Humane Society by a good Samaritan. Muffin said: My knee cap would dislocate when I walked and played too much. An orthopedic specialty surgeon recommended surgery. They said it was going to cost \$2,634 plus a little extra for meds and supplies. I had my surgery and I couldn't wait to be able to play without pain and live a full and happy life!

Muffin was adopted in mid-October to a wonderful loving home. Muffin thanks everyone with lots of slobbery kisses for their

kindness. The animals which come through our doors are depending on your goodwill. Giving in itself is an act of unconditional love. Giving to animal welfare is one of the purest acts of charity, as you provide for the most vulnerable members of our community. Will you please join us today?

Give today!

See more at the "support us" tab at our website,

www.auburnvalleyhs.org or click on QR code for details.

