

Four Paws



Newsletter of the Auburn Valley Humane Society

WINTER 2014

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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.



ACES AND PIPER
looking for a forever home. Now Aces
a 4 year old shepherd mix and
Piper, a 10 month old cat
were adopted to their
forever homes.



Four Paws
Published by the
Auburn Valley Humane Society
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Veterinary Assistant

Lucinda Bernstein
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Chelsea Hawthorne
Reina Sutton

Amandy Crispin
Animal Care Assistants

Shelter

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

www.AuburnValleyHS.org
AVHS Federal Tax ID # 45-0638467

Hours of Operation:

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



Executive Director's Desk: by Phil Morgan

Auburn Valley Humane Society
Looking forward to our future...

It is hard to believe one year has passed since I first walked through the doors of the Auburn Valley Humane Society.

Upon my arrival, the Board of Directors and I established four goals for AVHS. Those goals were organizational development and growth, to create a realistic budget and additional revenue streams to become self-sufficient financially, to establish a realistic fundraising plan, and to develop progressive and much needed community service and animal related programs.

I am very pleased to say that over the past 12 months, with the help of the Board of Directors, the dedicated staff and volunteers at the shelter, the support given by the City of Auburn and the generous devotion of the supporters of the Auburn Valley Humane Society, and the citizens of King and Pierce Counties, we have successfully accomplished all these goals.

Our Board of Directors has added new members. We have recruited and trained a knowledgeable and dedicated staff; we have established policies and procedures which exceed best practices in the industry; and we have met our projected budget. We have developed a number of progressive and much needed community service and animal related programs for the citizens and animals that live in our area.

Through very hard work, the Auburn Valley Humane Society

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Alisha and Holland McGraw
SomeLikeItShotPhotography.com

has overcome the hurdles of a fledgling organization which plagued us one year ago. Customer service has improved remarkably, adoptions have increased tremendously and volunteer hours topped 23,000 hours. The relationships with the City of Auburn, the local Veterinarian and business community and the citizens of our community have also shown enormous positive growth over last year.

With the beginning of the New Year, it is a time to lay out new goals and projects for 2014. Now that 2013 is over, the Auburn Valley Humane Society is faced with an even larger challenge for this year. We will continue to improve last years' goals as well as set new goals for this coming year. We will again focus on continued organizational development and growth; we will continue to create additional revenue streams on our road to financial self-sufficiency; we will focus on the refinement of our fundraising efforts; and, most importantly we will continue to develop progressive and much needed community service and animal related programs for the citizens and pets of our community.

Our biggest challenge this coming

year are that the organization must generate an additional \$198,550 above the generous stipend received from pet licensing of \$249,649 from the City of Auburn in operational revenue, and raise another \$185,150 in fundraising revenues and spend no more than that to maintain our annual budget. While this is only an 8% increase over last year, it will be quite a test for our young organization to accomplish. Additionally, we must continue to provide an increased level of care of the animals and service to our customers we have established.

I have complete confidence in the Board of Directors, the staff and most importantly you, the dedicated supporters of the Auburn Valley Humane Society, to accomplish and complete these goals.

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!



Phil Morgan with Andrea Kelly receiving animals from an ASPCA grant



Follow us on Facebook & YouTube

What's Up Doc?

FLEA SEASON...ALL SEASONS IN WASHINGTON

by Dr. Emily D. Purvis, DVM

All cats and dogs are susceptible to flea infestations. You can help your pet win the war on fleas by knowing your flea season, which is largely influenced by temperature and humidity. Because Washington is so temperate, we enjoy flea season YEAR-ROUND with peak times from May through October.

Keep your pet protected and PREVENT a problem. Flea control products are aimed at prevention. Female fleas can lay over 5000 eggs! The adult fleas you see represent only 5% of the total population in the environment. The rest are eggs and larvae. This means a few fleas can turn into a disastrous infestation in a very short amount of time.

Fleas are nasty! Their bites cause itching and scratching with hair loss, and even anemia in severe cases. Fleas can also transmit the plague (*Yersinia pestis*), other serious bacteria and even tapeworms!!! Yuck!

What to do... Keep your pet protected. Remember, fleas are smaller than a pencil point and you may see only one or two or may not see any on a dark or densely haired animal. Seeing just a few means there are 100s more in the environment.

When choosing flea prevention, ask your veterinarian for a recommendation. There are many choices out there and not all flea products are created equal. You can save time, money, frustration and ensure your pet's safety by choosing carefully and correctly.



DIG THIS

Licensing and Why we Vaccinate?

Auburn residents love their pets. Our furry friends are our companions, confidants, and members of our family. They go on errands with us and settle down on the couch with us for movie night. It only makes sense that we would want them to be safe and protected. The best way to do that is to make sure that they are licensed.

1. If your residential address is in the City of Auburn (whether you live in King or Pierce County), all indoor/outdoor dogs and cats must be licensed with the City of Auburn each year.

2. When you license your dog or cat, you are not only helping your animal, but also others who may need help or assistance. Specifically, pet licensing:

- Helps get your pet home if it gets lost
- Funds animal cruelty investigations
- Assists with pet adoptions
- Funds animal shelter services
- Helps care for injured and lost pets

Pet Licensing is Easy

1. Apply online!
2. Download an application form and mail it in!
3. Apply in person!

- Purchase a pet license in person at the following City of Auburn locations, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. excluding holidays:
Auburn City Hall, 25 W Main Street
Auburn Permitting Center, 1 E Main Street
Auburn Parks, Arts & Recreation, 910 9th Street SE

- Purchase a pet license in person at Auburn Valley Humane Society, 4910 A Street SE, Auburn 98092
Tues & Fri 10am-4pm; Wed & Sat 12-6 pm; Sun 12-4pm
253-249-7849
- Purchase a pet license at local Auburn Veterinarian offices. Call with your vet to see if they sell City of Auburn pet licenses.

Pet owners should vaccinate their pets on a regular basis to ensure their health. The spread of disease is reduced by vaccinating.

Thousands of pets get loose or go missing every year in Auburn. We never expect it will happen to our own, but it can. Make sure your pets are wearing an appropriately



Sammy came in as a stray Schnoodle and left as a star.

fitted collar with clear identification and are microchipped. Make sure the microchip information is kept up-to-date. Make it easy for your pet to find his way home, if ever lost. Auburn Valley Humane Society is here to care for lost, stray and abandoned pets. Our mission is to provide shelter, quality care and love for these furry friends. We utilize all available resources to ensure each healthy animal is reunited with their owner

LOOKING FOR LUV

Happiness found in a new home....



Bumble was adopted by Ranaye and Jim, Subaru employees, after a long meet and greet in the Scarff Subaru dealership lot with her new furr brother. Bumble and the great Dane mix loved each other.

After a few days of separation, Bumble started talking to her furr brother through the baby gate. She rumbled, grumbled and sang at him. She clearly feels at home now and gives her big brother respect. She is my gargoyle princess and I adore my giant bumble bee. Pearl, aka Bumble, is on board! We adore her!

Ranaye....Proud mamma



Tara is a 4 year old Chow/Retriever mix that was adopted on December 24th, 2013. She went home with Austin to live happily with another lab mix and lots of space to run around

Furr Report

AVHS is launching a Working Cat and TNR Programs...

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



The **Born To Be Wild, T-N-R Program (Trap-Neuter-Return)** and is a population-control program in which feral cats are humanely trapped, surgically spayed or neutered, vaccinated and then returned to their outdoor habitat to which they are already accustomed too. The cats that fit this program are always feral and not candidates for adoption in a home. These are cats that have not been socialized with people and are essentially wild animals

that live outdoors in social groups called colonies.

Some benefits of T-N-R is that it improves feral cat health and stabilizes the colony while allowing them to live out their natural lives. Also, behaviors associated with mating, such as yowling or fighting, will end. This contributes to the cat's overall improved health and makes them better wildlife neighbors.

Some other benefits of the program are rodent and snake control, reduced feline spraying and nuisance behavior. The best benefit is that lives are being saved. These cats will also be ear tipped during surgery to help clearly identify them as members of a managed TNR colony. We advocate ear

tipping to avoid needless trapping and surgery in the future.

The **Working Cat Program** is similar in many ways to the T-N-R program. The Working Cats, Second Chance Program is designed to locate safe zones for cats to live out their days, such as barns, stables, garages, sheds, or anything that can give shelter from weather and safety from predators. These cats are feral or very shy, and prefer the company of other cats and animals over humans. Many are found as strays and are already too independent to appreciate living inside a house or the AVHS shelter.

This working cat program allows these cats to have a second chance without

being forced into an unnatural environment or face euthanasia. All cats accepted into the work force will be spayed or neutered, leukemia/FIV tested, and vaccinated with FVRCP/ FELV/ Rabies. All working cats will be examined and treated for fleas and ear mites prior to placement and will also be ear tipped to identify them as altered. Some benefits are that we are humanely preventing free-roaming cats from uncontrolled breeding, organic rodent and snake control without toxic poisons or pesticides.

The biggest reward is Saving Lives that deserve Second Chances!

SUPPORT 2014 & 2015 Events

Day	Event	Purpose
APRIL 5 2014	WINNER'S CIRCLE GALA	The Auburn Valley Humane Society's Winner's Circle Gala will take place on Saturday April 5 at Emerald Downs from 6 - 9 pm. It will include a silent auction, wine bottle ring toss, 50/50 raffle and other fun games as well as feature a special appearance by a race expert. This is AVHS's premiere fundraising event to help the homeless and abandoned animals in our community. Tickets are \$75 or a table of 8 for \$500. Buy tickets now at the shelter or online at www.auburnvalleyhs.org .
MAY 17 2014	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.
MAY- OCT 2014	PET PHOTO CALENDAR CONTEST	Get ready to submit your favorite pet photo starting May 1 st . Photo must be in by September 30 th . Encourage your friends and family to vote for your pet. Thirteen monthly winners will be chosen from the photographs which receive the most votes. The highest vote winner will be the front cover photo by Oct. 22. Calendar sales by November 10 th .
AUG 16 2014	HOGS FOR DOGS	The Hogs for Dogs event will include a motorcycle ride, charity poker run and lunch. Contestants stop at 5 designated spots on the route and the rider with the best hand wins a prize. This is AVHS's first annual fundraising event of this kind. It will take place on Saturday, August 16 from 9 am to 2 pm.
OCT 11 2014	BARKTOBERFEST/ 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 10 am - 2 pm, Roegner Park.
DEC 6 & 13 2014	PHOTOS WITH SANTA PAWS	On Saturdays, Dec. 6 & 13 from 9 am- 1 pm, bring your pets to AVHS to have their picture taken with Santa Paws. A 4"x 6" print in a holiday card is provided along with an option for a digital version of the photo.
FEB 10 2015	BEST IN SHOW	Join us for a live viewing of the Westminster Dog Show and have fun with 50/50 raffle, many pet related games, and raffle baskets.



VOLUNTEER LEND A PAW



In the first year, over 772 AVHS volunteers provided 22,937 hours of service. Come join the volunteers and help us continue to save lives four paws at a time!



Girl Scout volunteers came for the afternoon to clean the windows and door knobs within the shelter.

**THANK YOU
FOR YOUR
DEDICATION!**

"I follow the adoptions on Facebook..."
"I visit each room to see who is in the shelter and ask who was adopted..."

"I love taking the animals to an adoption event and cry when they go to a new forever home..."

...AVHS volunteers

VOLUNTEER PROCESS

- Complete a volunteer application or download one from the website.
- Attend a volunteer orientation to learn the various opportunities available to volunteers.
- Interview with Director of Volunteers and schedule your time commitment.
- Start volunteering!
- Attend additional volunteer trainings for dog walking and cat kennel cleaning.

Without volunteers, we would not be able to provide the quality care for the abandoned and lost animals of Auburn.



Message from the Board President

As we head into our second year of operations and spring into a brand new year, AVHS looks forward to new horizons and opportunities to expand our services to the pets and people of the Auburn Valley. Many fund raising events are scheduled and planning and development is being executed by our dedicated staff. The Best in Show event held at the Spunky Monkey this month was a success and a lot of fun. I expect it will be even bigger next year.

The next event, the Winner's Circle Gala at Emerald Downs April 5th, will be an exciting event also. Be sure and get your tickets early as it is expected to sell out quickly. You can purchase tickets online on our website, www.auburnvalleyhs.org. Won't you join us in the

fun? Participation in our events by the entire community is welcomed and needed to support the growth of current programs as well as the development of new programs to fulfill our mission as a top quality animal shelter and maintain our 96% live release rate.

Funds raised at these events will help us expand our shelter hours open to the public for adoptions and promote and expand our new low income spay and neuter program, SPOT (Stop Pet Overpopulation Today) as well as maintain daily operations. We continue to add new equipment in our veterinary services area to expand the medical treatment of the pets in our care.

Remember, license your pet. All license proceeds in Auburn go directly to Auburn Valley Humane Society for daily care and programs. Licenses save lives in multiple ways.

We look forward to another great year. Thank you for your past and continued support because we can't do it without you. I look forward to meeting each and every one of you at the Winner's Circle Gala, April 5th.

**Donald Edwards, DVM
President, AVHS Board of Directors**

LOYAL PAWS PROGRAM



BUY ONLINE OR AT THE AVHS SHELTER STARTING IN JUNE

Auburn Valley Humane Society's supporters purchase a \$35 Loyal Paw Card

- Card entitles the patron to money saving discounts
- Discounts at Loyal Paw participating businesses for one year
- Discounts at participating veterinary clinics, grooming stores, obedience schools, pet specialty stores, boarding kennels, photographers and many more businesses

SAVE the DATE



Winner's Circle Gala



**Saturday, April 5
6:00 - 9:00 pm
Emerald Downs**

2300 Emerald Downs Drive, Auburn

- **Fabulous Buffet Dinner**
- **Door Prizes**
- **50/50 Raffle**
- **Silent Auction**
- **Wine Bottle Ring Toss**
- **Live Auction**
- **Tickets: \$75 per person/Table of 8 \$500**
- **Help raise funds for our homeless animals in Auburn**



for more information, contact 253-249-7849 or visit www.auburnvalleyhs.org

Operating Statistics

ANIMALS RECEIVED IN 2013



Scruffy came to AVHS as a transfer rescue from a high kill shelter. A one year old terrier mix, he was a sweet dog and was adopted to a new loving forever home.

ANIMAL OUTCOMES IN 2013



*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 County for pet adoptions and owners looking to re-home their beloved pets.

No adoptable animals have been euthanized in the first year of operation!

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

Thanks for the support

2014 BEST IN SHOW RAISES FUNDS AND AWARENESS

Auburn Valley Humane Society's first ever Best In Show took place at Spunky Monkey Bar & Grill in Auburn on Tuesday, February 11. The event was a success, with about 40 attendees raising funds for the homeless and abandoned animals at AVHS.

The top attraction of the night was the 50/50 raffle, many pet related raffle baskets and an AVHS experience including ½ day spent with the Executive Director and ½ day with Auburn's Animal Control Officer. Congratulations to Joan for placing the winning bid. Other auction items included a weekend in Leavenworth, tickets to the Seattle Symphony in a wine picnic basket, a year supply from Macrina Bakery, EMP Music Experience, Pt. Defiance Zoo tickets and much more.

Thank you to Auburn Veterinary Hospital and Pet Pros for donating baskets and helping to make this event a success.



Phil with guests at Best in Show



Dressed for adoption at an event in December at Subaru! 12 cars sold, 16 animal adoptions and 200 people in attendance.



Thank you Mike Scarff's Subaru dealership for hosting a "Share the Love" Adoption Event with us

I saved a Human today!



Erin Hash and Boomer

After the death of our beloved Max, there was a void in our life. Even with two other lovable and outgoing labs, the house felt empty.

Chris, my husband, told me a week later that he wanted another dog – another male black lab to be his new little buddy. A puppy he said. I was unconvinced and still grieving the loss of our old man.

Two weeks later Boomer came into the AVHS shelter. As soon as I saw him on one of my scheduled volunteer days, I knew he was ours.

We brought him home and he played with his new sisters until they couldn't run anymore. Our six year old labs are acting like puppies again.

Boomer is such a natural fit in our home and we couldn't have asked for a better dog. While he can never replace Max, Boomer brought the light back into our life after the loss of our family member.



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, 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.

Do Good

When planning your year-end giving, please consider a tax deductible gift to Auburn Valley Humane Society. Looking to make your gift go further? Find out if your employer will match your gift to save pets' lives.

Donate Goods

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

- canned cat food
- dry kitten food
- non-clumping clay cat litter
- paper towels
- bleach
- copier paper

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



The furry critters express their thanks for mailing in your donation envelope.



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 holiday season, and all year long!

Sponsor a Kennel

A personalized plaque will display your generosity and sponsorship for twelve months on a specific kennel at the shelter signifying that the homeless animals will get the best care during their stay.



VEHICLE DONATION PROGRAM



Donate your car, boat or other vehicle and show your support to the Auburn Valley Humane Society

- It is easy to make a contribution to AVHS while earning yourself a valuable tax deduction.
- If you have an unneeded car just gathering dust, but don't want the hassle of having to sell it, consider donating it to AVHS.
- Funds from donated vehicles support the programs and services AVHS provides to our community.

Call 877-721-PETS, visit our website, click on QR code for details and our representative will schedule a pickup time and provide you with confirmation of your donation.

- Once your vehicle is sold, you will be sent a receipt for your tax records.
- The sale proceeds will be donated to AVHS in your name.

