

## EVENTS

### Calendar

Friday, August 9th, Saturday, August 10th and Sunday, August 11th –  
Beneficiary of the Vancouver Brewfest @ Esther Short Park

Thursday, August 22nd – Paws on the Green Golf Tournament

Saturday, September 28th – 7th Annual Doggy Dive

Saturday, October 5th – Dogs + Cats + People (Oh my!)  
Dinner and Auction @ Hilton Vancouver

### Contact:

**HUMANE SOCIETY FOR SOUTHWEST WASHINGTON**  
1100 NE 192nd Avenue, Vancouver, WA 98684  
360.693.4746 | [southwesthumane.org](http://southwesthumane.org)

**F** [facebook.com/humanesocietyforsouthwestwashington](https://www.facebook.com/humanesocietyforsouthwestwashington)

**U** [youtube@humanesocietyforsouthwestwashington](mailto:youtube@humanesocietyforsouthwestwashington)

**T** [@peopledogscats](https://twitter.com/peopledogscats)

### Hours:

**ANIMAL ADOPTION HOURS | ANIMAL RECEIVING | LOST & FOUND VIEWING**

Tuesday – Sunday, 12 noon – 6:00 p.m.

Closed Mondays



# WAG



## Humane Society FOR SOUTHWEST WASHINGTON

PEOPLE + DOGS + CATS

ISSUE 1 | Summer 2013

[southwesthumane.org](http://southwesthumane.org)



I was chatting with a woman in the cattery a while back who had brought us a mother cat and her two kittens. She found the mother wandering the neighborhood and took her in until she had her kittens. With her own dog and cat, three more animals were too many to care for so she brought them to the Humane Society. Not knowing that I worked at the shelter, she shared her concern that these three might be euthanized if they weren't adopted soon enough. I promised her that would not happen. Why? Because at our shelter, and at all the other shelters in the metro

region, we have made a commitment to never euthanize healthy, adoptable animals. In fact, we formed a coalition, ASAP (Animal

Shelter Alliance of Portland), that recently received a \$1 million award from Maddie's Fund® because of our coordinated effort to significantly reduce euthanasia and increase our rate of animals being adopted, returned to their owners or sent to another shelter (live release rate). At the same time over the past several years, we have increased our spay and neuter work which has helped decrease the number of strays coming into the shelter annually.

This summer, we will see more than 2,000 kittens enter the shelter for kitten season. We need "foster" parents... I'm one; how about you?

*Stacey*

Stacey A. Graham  
President/Executive Director



INSIDE

**OUR MOST ELIGIBLE SINGLES**  
Loveable four-legged friends waiting for a home

MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Volunteer: [volunteer@southwesthumane.org](mailto:volunteer@southwesthumane.org)  
Donate: [southwesthumane.org/donate](http://southwesthumane.org/donate)

## TEENS GO ABOVE AND BEYOND FOR HSSW



With only 30 spots available, the teen volunteer program at the HSSW is a highly-competitive program. Each volunteer term is three months with the possibility of teens being asked back for the following term. It's been two years for teen volunteers McKenna Smith and Jennifer Ruthruff.

"They've always gone above and beyond what they were asked," said Michelle Borum, the volunteer program manager for HSSW. "They've been wonderful."

On top of their normal duties of walking and socializing dogs, McKenna and Jennifer are teen mentors. They help welcome new teens into the program and teach them how to properly work with dogs. They help select teen-approved dogs; dogs that are well-behaved and safe for teens to work with. McKenna and Jennifer also help with numerous outreach events including the Annual Auction and the Walk/Run for the Animals.

As part of her senior project at Camas High School, McKenna helped coordinate a transfer of dogs from a California shelter. She contacted the shelter, arranged transport and assisted in finding homes for the dogs. To help cover the medical costs for the new arrivals, McKenna, with Jennifer's help, arranged fundraising days with local restaurants Qdoba, Menchies and 5 Guys. Michelle nominated McKenna for the WSU-Vancouver Women of Distinction award. This was the first year there was a high school category, and McKenna won.

Soon, McKenna and Jennifer will be leaving the volunteer program for college. We hope to see them back one day as adult volunteers.



## JOURNEY OF A TEDDY BEAR

Shop. Donate.

Summer is finally here. The sun is out and the kids are done with school, so maybe it's time to finish cleaning out for spring. Ever wonder what happens to items you donate to ReTails? Imagine that you are a teddy bear and you are dropped off at a donation trailer. When the trailer fills up, a small ReTails truck clears out the trailer and takes donated items to the stores. Items are then sorted into bins according to their department, which includes items like kitchen, home décor or clothing. Don't worry, all of the stuffed animals stick together in the toy bin so they won't be lonely. Volunteers and ReTails employees then spend some time sorting through the donations and picking out the best ones. The items that are a little too worn are bagged and sold to other outlets by weight.

Items for sale are handed off to the pricing team, who give them the once over again and price them to go out on the floor. Items that are "special" or considered "desirable" will be posted on e-Bay or sold through other networking sites. The teddy bears are put into the toy section or placed throughout the store to give them their best chance to find their new home. And then they wait for that special someone to come scoop them up.

How can you help the animals at the shelter? Keep donating. Keep purchasing. Remember ReTails for household items, clothing, DIY projects, college dorm items and everything else on your shopping list. Go to [southwesthumane.org](http://southwesthumane.org) to locate shopping and donation sites.

*Remember that all your donated items and purchases help the animals back at the shelter!*



## OUR MOST ELIGIBLE SINGLES

Matchmaking opportunities await you!

**Cosmo** Hi! My name is Cosmo! I came to the shelter in April and I was so scared. Thankfully my foster dad took me home for some TLC, and I've turned into a whole new pooch. I'm a 3-year-old Chihuahua mix with a shiny brindle coat and the cutest fluffy tail. My foster dad says I look like a little fox! At my foster home, I've gotten the chance to play with some kids over the age of 6, but I can still be a little nervous so I prefer slow introductions to new children. In my spare time when I'm not learning new tricks, I like to lounge on my foster dad's lap and go for walks. I think I'm ready to settle down with that special person...could that be you? #57480



**Tessa** Hello there, my name is Tessa and I have been waiting a long time to meet you! I've been here at the shelter since January waiting for that special someone to scoop me up. I'm a 7-year-old tuxedo and I get along with everyone. I'm okay with other cats, dogs and even kids. I'm pretty laid back, but that doesn't mean I'm shy when it comes to attention. I'm not afraid to get into the middle of things when I need some love; some of the volunteers here at the shelter call me Tessa Underfoot. Do I sound like the perfect cat for you? Great! You can find me roaming the lobby of the shelter making new friends every day. Come and get me! #55864



**Band-Aid** Hi, my name is Band-Aid. I'm a 5-year-old tabby and let me just tell you, it's what's on the inside that counts. I'm a prime example of that! Underneath all this scruff, I'm a lover, not a fighter. I love children, dogs and have no problem sharing space with other cats. What do I have to be jealous of? I know I'm amazing. Am I the perfect cat for you? Did your heart just skip a beat hearing about me? Mine sure did, but that's because of my minor heart murmur. Don't worry, I don't let that get me down. I'm still a young feline looking for love, are you ready for me? #56351

For more photos and information on current adoptable companions, visit [www.southwesthumane.org](http://www.southwesthumane.org)



“He's the best cat ever,” Liz said. “I can't imagine not having him.”

## ISAAC THE LOBBY CAT

Where are they now?

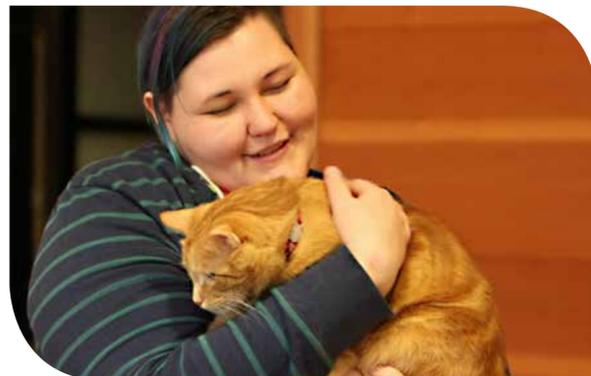
Last July, two orange tabbies, Isaac (son) and Sarah (mother), came to the Humane Society when their previous owner could no longer care for them. The shelter staff was worried about finding a home for Isaac because he was elderly and had diabetes.

Eventually, the pair became lobby cats and were allowed to roam freely through the shelter to greet visitors. Sarah found a home leaving Isaac with us, but no one seemed to mind. He was somewhat of a staff favorite because of his laid back personality. He didn't mind strangers, other cats or even big dogs. Isaac was a great cat, and after almost a year at the shelter, he was adopted by Liz Ryan.

Liz's cat had just passed away and she felt ready to bring another cat into her life, so she agreed to meet Isaac. Liz was very glad she did.

A veterinarian assistant, Liz has no problem giving Isaac his insulin shots twice a day. She loves Isaac's personality and how relaxed he is around the other animals. He paid no mind to her cockatoo when the bird visited the shelter and now often lets the bird walk on him as he lounges on the couch.

Liz owns two birds, a blue and gold macaw and a 37-year-old cockatoo. Both work as therapy animals and she takes them to Jemtegaard Middle School in Washougal to work with the special needs children. After getting to know Isaac, she thinks he'd be a great therapy animal as well. All he needs is to be approved by the school's administration.



## OUR FURRY LITTLE MONEY PITS

Low-income services available through the shelter

Animals have had a special place in our hearts all through history, and it hasn't changed today. Millions of families share their homes with dogs, cats, birds, lizards, all types of animals and wouldn't have it any other way. Caring for pets can be expensive. Add up the cost of toys, food, shelter and vet bills. Thankfully, there are plenty of community resources to help cut the cost of owning a pet.

As part of the Animal Shelter Alliance of Portland (ASAP), the Humane Society for Southwest Washington offers a Spay & Save Program for low-income cat owners. This program helps reduce the stray and homeless cat populations by offering spay and neuter surgeries for a fraction of the cost. “I think the program is working, the numbers look good,” said Russ McGraw, animal care operations manager. “We're not seeing as many strays as we used to.”

HSSW is also helping the community with Lend-a-Paw, a program that provides low-income households with food for their animals. This program is open to families in Clark County who receive government assistance. They receive one bag of either dog or cat food a month. If you are interested in supporting this program, you can drop off bags of cat or dog food Tuesdays through Sundays, 12 noon to 6 p.m.

