

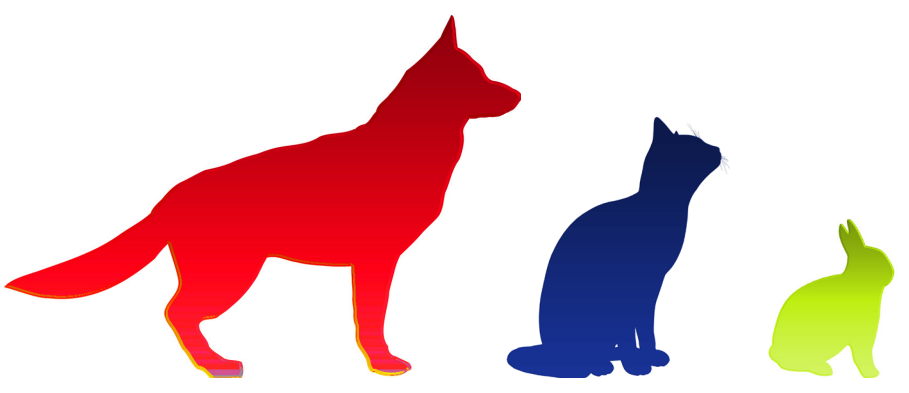
PAW TALK

SPRING 2018

the
Humane
SOCIETY
Tacoma & Pierce County



Victorian attired guests danced the night away at The Society Soirée!



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Great change is afoot!

2017 was a year chock full of strategic planning, and in 2018, grand visions have been realized! In March, Society staff and volunteers with the help of Star Moving Systems moved the entire Cat Receiving, Cattery, and Cat Foster Care area upstairs. This move officially separated dog and cat intake paving the way for healthier short-term living for the tiniest of kittens all the way to the cheekiest of tomcats waiting to be reunited with their families.



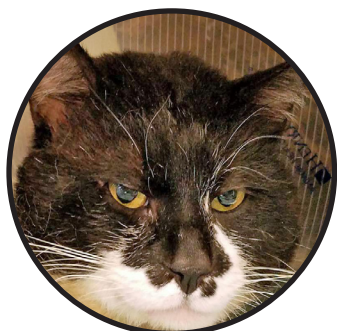
The new Cattery keeps cats away from dogs at Receiving and helps make our felines' stay more comfortable.

New Cattery

By Jessica Emel, Cat Services Lead

The new Cattery is so quiet! For years I have dreamed of a Cattery that was far away from any dogs (or at least their barking). It's not that dogs are bad, many do get along with cats, but the noise level is too much at times for the cats. The noise increases a cat's stress level, and highly stressed cats are more prone to getting sick or biting the hand that feeds.

Since opening the new Cattery, located on the 2nd level of the building, the cats (and staff/volunteers) are enjoying a quieter, less stressful new space. All the natural light that comes in through the many windows is so soothing. You can see the blue sky and feel the sunshine; it's down right relaxing! I can tell the cats are enjoying this too!



"Sure I have a ridiculous cone, but at least I have some peace from those darn barking dogs." -George



The new Cat Foster Care Area allows the Foster team to do their job more efficiently and better serve Foster parents.

New Cat Foster Care Area

By Sarah Anderson, Cat Foster Coordinator

The move in March has resulted in a larger space, big picture windows that provide natural light, a private office, and a closer proximity to Cat Receiving, which allows us to react faster to incoming kittens!

One of our favorite aspects of our new space is the overwhelming support we have from our coworkers in the new Cattery and Cat Receiving area just next door. It is wonderful to be so close to the other Cat Services staff and work as a team!

The new room provides seating space for our foster parents, which was much needed, as many foster appointments can take over an hour; a desk for Jenni Quates, our Administrative Assistant, to more conveniently schedule follow-up appointments; and a second exam table so we can provide more appointment time options for parents. Most of all, our favorite part is the wall-to-wall windows!

We are excited to see what else this season has in store!



"Yo! Mad props to the cool cat Foster team for taking care of me and my sibs wicked fast. This new space rocks!" -Lil Kitt



The new Adoption Cattery has moved adoptable cats from the lobby into a quieter temporary living space.

New Adoption Cattery

By Jessica Emel, Cat Services Lead

Potential cat adopters visiting the Humane Society will notice adoptable cats have left the noisy lobby behind and have moved into a much quieter room. The new Adoption Cattery gives both cats and visitors a quiet space in which to view each other.

The cats' living quarters have a spacious sleeping/eating area in addition to a private loo, which is separated by a portal. Each adoptable cat is given a curtain for quiet time and can be brought to one of our cat visitation rooms in order to greet potential adopters and put their best selves forward.

In this quieter environment, adoptable cats are less stressed out and are therefore much healthier! Our cats are also able to display more natural and relaxed behaviors when not put on edge by barking. It's a win-win all around, as their more relaxed state increases the likelihood of adoption.

If you are thinking of adopting a cat, we invite you to visit soon and check meow't all the positive change that's been happening here at the Humane Society for Tacoma and Pierce County!



"I was ever so relieved that I didn't have to reside in that clamorous lobby while awaiting my fairytale! I was already spooked as it was with loud and unfamiliar noises...I shiver at the thought of not having had such a luxurious living arrangement." -Momma

Reaching Beyond the Society's walls



From left Meg Kennelly, Community Outreach Manager, and Stephene Carrington, Community Services Manager, are ready to canvass for Pets for Life (PFL)! The PFL backpack includes dog treats, cat wet food, toys, collars, leashes, harnesses, grooming supplies, and dental items. The 2018 Ford Transit Connect generously donated by Bruce Titus Automotive group is the Outreach team's go-to vehicle!

By Meg Kennelly, Community Outreach Manager and Stephene Carrington, Community Services Manager

Most people are familiar with the work we do in our facility in finding displaced pets permanent, loving homes, but they are not always aware of the behind-the-scenes efforts to support those in need. Made possible by the generosity of the Milgard Foundation, our Community Outreach Program strives to build the relationships between people and pets by going beyond our walls, identifying the needs in our community, and meeting people in their comfort zone.

Our goal is to keep pets in their own home, which in turn limits

the number of surrendered pets ending up here at the Society. As we have worked closely with community members, our staff and volunteers have learned that most people would do almost anything to keep their pet and often only need short-term support to make that possible.

The Society offers several free and low-cost programs to help keep pets in the homes where they are loved. We have found that the approach of helping these families cover the costs and supplies associated with pet ownership not only benefits the animals, but it can also be a major advantage to people coping with the chronic stresses of poverty. Families who need a helping hand with a pet should check out:



Our Cinderella Program works to keep Spay/Neuter costs low to help curb pet overpopulation in our community.

Cinderella Program

This program offers families low cost spay/neuter vouchers for dogs, cats, and rabbits. The program has been helping reduce pet overpopulation since 1992.

Application forms are available at www.thehumansociety.org under the Services tab.

340 Cinderella vouchers were used in 2017



Our Pet Food Pantry is a staple for those who want to do right by their pets. Generous donors like Danica keep our shelves well stocked.

Pet Food Pantry

This program serves donated pet meals to families who need temporary assistance feeding their pets. People who are homebound can also have pet meals delivered. Our Pet Food Pantry is open from noon to 4:00 pm Monday through Friday and from 9:00 to 11:00 am on Saturday. The Society is closed on Sundays.

The Pet Food Pantry distributes 12,000 lbs of pet food and feeds more than 400 pets a month



The Pets for Life Street Team helped set this man up for success. Thanks to the program, he was able to have his cats altered and receive monthly cat food and litter delivery.

Pets for Life

This program reaches out to Tacoma's underserved neighborhoods to provide free veterinary resources and education through door-to-door outreach. Families living in 98404 and 98418 zip codes will be visited by caring volunteers and staff and are offered pet resources such as free spay/neuter, behavioral training, and pet supplies.

Help us make a difference by becoming a Pets for Life Street Team Volunteer! Applications are available at www.thehumansociety.org/get-involved/volunteer/

270 families were visited in 2017 through Pets for Life



With assistance from the Pet Health Care Fund, Mitzi was able to have 20 teeth removed. Her mom writes, "With your help she is doing great!"

Pet Health Care Fund

This fund provides one-time financial assistance towards veterinary medical treatment to ensure that all animals get the best chance at a happy, healthy life. Applications for financial assistance with medical bills are available in the Society lobby.

866 pets were approved for assistance with their medical bills through the Pet Health Care Fund in 2017

If you or someone you know needs assistance, please contact Stephene Carrington, Community Services Manager, at (253) 284-5847 or email her at stepheneec@thehumansociety.org

Community Building through corporate volunteerism

By Alex Ropes, Volunteer Manager

The Humane Society has over 350 active monthly volunteers that provide care for animals and support staff members through continued service. In addition to our dedicated monthly volunteers, the Humane Society has one-time group volunteer opportunities that require the assistance of large groups to come and provide a day of service to help with major projects. Last year, we had groups assist with supply organization, deep cleaning, and grounds beautification.

Coldwell Banker Danforth went above and beyond for our organization, providing a truckload of gravel and all necessary supplies and tools to beautify our outdoor dog play yards and the entire Humane Society grounds! Their team of employees volunteered on a Saturday afternoon pulling weeds, hauling buckets of gravel into our two play yards and dog potty area, trimming shrubs, and pruning trees.

This group service project was done in conjunction with the company providing funds to help cover adoptions, helping to create new families!



On Saturday, September 9, 2017, real estate agent Coldwell Banker Danforth's team transformed Humane Society doggie play yards.



The Comcast crew is hard at work on April 16, 2018, adding bright and cheery flowers to our planter boxes and spreading beauty bark, and all wear smiles even in the pouring rain! Thanks for doing such a stellar job!

On April 16, 2018, the Humane Society partnered with Comcast for "Comcast Cares", where Comcast employees volunteered to help us put our best foot forward by assisting with landscaping and grounds-keeping all around the building. This work was much needed as we jump into spring!

Corporate volunteerism is a powerful tool for companies as it increases team productivity, boosts interdepartmental cooperation, and helps attract and retain employees.

Partnering with corporate groups can help to build strong relationships between companies and organizations, as it involves personal interactions, which create a stronger community.

We are currently looking to partner with more corporate groups on a once monthly basis to help maintain a beautiful animal campus! If you would like to collaborate, please contact our Volunteer Manager via email at alexr@thehumanesociety.org.

In loving memory

In early 2018, we lost two phenomenal women who helped make the Humane Society for Tacoma and Pierce County what it is today. Please join us in remembering the legacy of Phyllis A. Holloway and Shirley Willis Bushnell. Special thanks to former Executive Director Jeanne H. Werner-Spaulling for sharing these incredible women's stories.

Phyllis A. Holloway 1938 - 2018

Phyllis was born in Wichita, KA in 1938. She settled in Lakewood and was the COO and later president for TriArc Electric Supply for many years.

"She was a wonderful volunteer and very generous, especially during the building of our remodeled/renovated Humane Society, providing all electrical

supplies at cost," former Executive Director Jeanne H. Werner-Spaulling said.

Phyllis loved animals, children, and BINGO. She was also a benefactor for St. Jude's Research Hospital. To honor her life, donations may be made to either St. Jude's Research Hospital or the Humane Society for Tacoma and Pierce County.



Shirley Willis Bushnell 1929 - 2018

This year marked Shirley's 30th anniversary as a member of Kiwanis; she joined the Kiwanis Club of Tacoma shortly after women became accepted for membership. Shirley was also the first woman to serve as president of the Tacoma Club and was honored by being chosen as the club's recipient of the Hixon Award. She subsequently had the pleasure of serving two successive years as president of the Vashon Island Club.

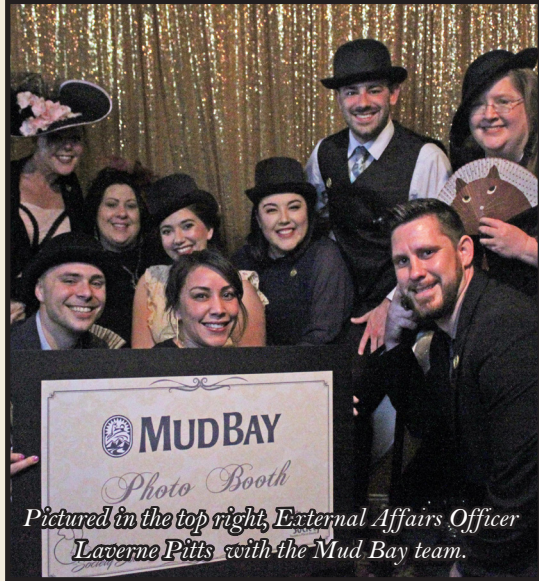
Professionally, Shirley had been in the fundraising business for four decades, first at Stanford University, after a stint as Assistant Dean of Students, and then for 20 years at the University of Puget Sound as Vice President for University Relations, heading up a \$45 million capital campaign. Toward the end of her tenure at UPS, Shirley established a fundraising consulting firm under the name of Bushnell-Baranger and worked with numerous organizations. Two of her major long-term projects in the dual role of consultant and campaign director were the home for the Vashon Community Care Center and our very own Humane Society for Tacoma and Pierce County building.

Shirley was always devoted to her family and is survived by her loving daughters Beckie Krantz, Kim Laderriere, and Poppy Bushnell, six grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.

Thank you for making our first Society Soirée so special!



From left, Honorary Chairs Jeanne H. Werner-Spaulling, Pamela Transue, Interim CEO K C Gauldine, and Stuart Grover.



Pictured in the top right, External Affairs Officer Laverne Pitts with the Mud Bay team.



From left, Chief Program Officer Jocelyn Bouchard and Laurie Cinotto.



KIRO 7's illustrious Tracy Taylor emceed The Society Soirée.



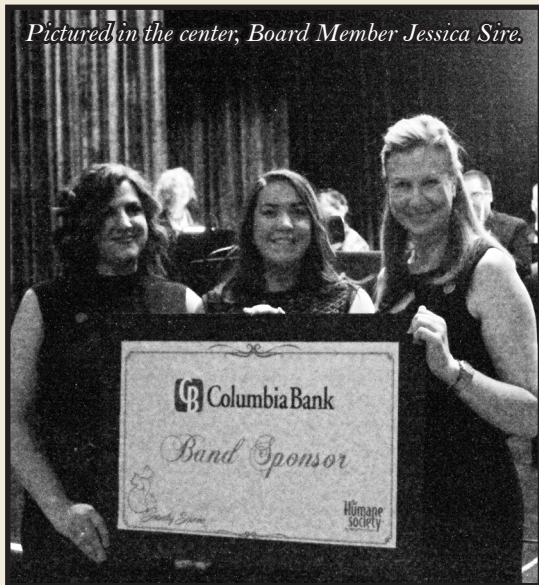
From left, Humane Society volunteer Mieke Hoppin and local artist Christopher Hoppin. Christopher created a seductive otter sculpture for the live auction, which was made exclusively for The Society Soirée!

MUD BAY Photo Booth

The Itty Bitty Kitty Committee Kitten Cuddle Corner



Pictured in the top right, Board Member Tim Boyle from Commencement Bank.



Pictured in the center, Board Member Jessica Sire.



From left, Board Member Jim Taylor, Dan Inman from Positive Approach, and Board Member Don Swanson.



From left, Board Member Rebecca Larson and Chief Operating Officer Leslie Dalzell.

Columbia Bank Band Sponsor

Davies Pearson P.C. ATTORNEYS AT LAW Coat Check Sponsor



POSITIVE APPROACH

Puppy Cuddle Corner



Pictured top center, Board Member Walt Sommers with his sponsored table.



Pictured center right, Chair of The Society Soirée Committee Amy Bettesworth with her sponsored table.

On April 26th, animal lovers came together for a unique experience of stepping back in time to 1888, the year of our founding! Vintage clothing, cocktails, parlour games, dancing, and music paired with fabulous food and an amazing live auction during the first annual Society Soirée. Thank you, thank you, thank you to the above sponsors for helping us put on the premier gala of the South Sound! We also want to extend our sincere gratitude to our table sponsors:

- Archbright
- Amy Bettesworth
- Commencement Bank
- JMS Masonry Restoration
- Port Townsend Victorian Festival
- RL & DL Leese Foundation
- Walt & Grace Sommers
- Bob & Marilyn Zawilski



From right, Board Member Bob Zawilski with his sponsored table.



The Itty Bitty Kitty Committee Cat Colony Room is meowificent!

By Jessica Emel, Cat Services Lead

In July of 2016, The Itty Bitty Kitty Committee cat centric blog rallied its followers to raise funds for a cat colony room. Now their dream is a reality, and our cats are simply in heaven in their new extra large free range room!

The Itty Bitty Kitty Committee Cat Colony Room holds up to eight cats comfortably with lots of leg room! This room also has cool furniture by Crijio, and our cats

can choose to burrow in or climb on top of the equipment. The cats also have beds and hiding cubes aplenty where they can sleep or roam around for playing, stretching, or relaxing. The key is to give as many options as possible so that every cat has the chance to best express themselves.

Take, for instance, Armand and Melo pictured on the right. Beautiful Melo was owner surrendered and is thus a little

hesitant, feeling safest when only partially visible. Yet the cutout lets her get used to seeing new potential family members and allows her time to get more comfortable. Armand on the other hand is a showboat, demonstrated by his climbing to the tippy top of the furniture; he owns The Itty Bitty Kitty Committee Cat Colony Room. Both cats were able to find the ideal homes just days after taking up temporary residence in the space!



Archibald opts to fully stretch out on a blanketed bench.

By encouraging cats to display natural feline behaviors, we're reducing stress, which decreases aggression, improves appetite, and curbs urine spraying. Moreover, cats enjoying their freedom makes for ideal matchmaking, as the space gives people insight about how a cat may act in their new home. So if you're looking to adopt a cat, be sure to swing by The Itty Bitty Kitty Committee Cat Colony Room and visit with the many cats in their element!



Perro is a big fan of all the extra space the new Dog Behavior Room affords.

With the Cat Foster Care area now upstairs, the space has been repurposed for Dog Services, and the team is loving the new digs! Cecily Joque, Dog Services Lead, describes the new Dog Behavior Room as "much quieter and out of the way. Everything about the room will really benefit a lot of dogs."

Thanks to the dedicated space, Cecily and her team can more comfortably and safely facilitate dog foster visitations. The larger room is also better for processing intake especially when it comes to a litter of puppies. An exam table, fridge for vaccines, and space for large crates complete the Dog Behavior Room.

Big changes for big dogs

What's more, the Dog Services team can have multiple dogs in at once if needed with space enough for each pooch to spread out and relax. The assessment process has further expanded to better help staff evaluate how a potentially adoptable dog would possibly react to another dog. From a distance, Cecily's large stuffed animal dog looks like a bonafide canine, and the real dog's initial reactions can be very telling. As demonstrated in the photo to the right, Lahi's straight on contact shows he isn't afraid of the stuffed dog and may very well be interested in social interaction with other large dogs.

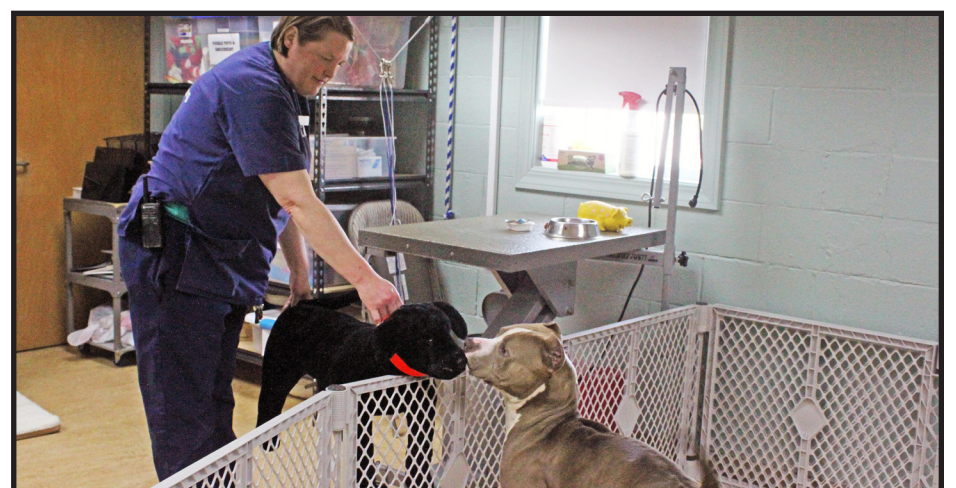
More opportunities for enrichment are possible, too! Cecily shared how she's looking forward to more volunteer-led Clicker training (a science-based method to help with communication) fun days and buddy play dates.

While all dog stand to benefit from the Dog Behavior Room, our larger often long-term canines are getting the most out of the space.

Perro, for one, is a shining testament of how well the room is working. Whereas the Pit Bull would shut down in nervousness and shyness in the kennel environment, the Dog Behavior Room has become his happy place. He now has the room to relax and plenty of chewies to completely decompress. And kennel lead Brandy Boston, was able to crate train him in just three days! Staff has additionally been able to capture Perro's more affectionate and loving side on camera, and he is now a strong candidate for world-famous Best Friends Animal Society's adoption program!

Want to give BIG to BIG dogs like Perro? Please mail in your donation with the provided envelope, and your gift will make a BIG difference for the BIG dogs we care for every day! We are raising funds for our BIG hunks o' love throughout the entire month of May, so feel free to contribute at www.thehumansociety.org, if that's easiest for you. Questions? Please call Annual Fund Manager Ashley Taulbee at (253) 284-5833.

Thank you for becoming a champion for our BIG dogs!



Lahi has proved he isn't dog reactive at all and has passed his assessment with flying colors!



Our signature fundraising event is just around the corner!

By Claudia Tanis, Director of Development

Bark your calendars! Everyone's favorite dog walk returns Saturday, July 28th with a whole new look: **all** pets are welcome at Paws in the Park featuring the Dog-A-Thon! Join fellow pet lovers at Fort Steilacoom Park in Lakewood for a walk in the park with 100% of proceeds going back to our community programs and Society pets in need.

For humans, there will be a multitude of interactive vendor booths, food trucks, craft stations, a canine costume contest, a dog agility course, opportunity drawings, and summer fun during our 28th annual event! Paws in the Park is free to attend with a suggested donation of \$30 to directly benefit the pets in our care. All well-behaved, leashed pets are welcome! Don't have a pet? The Society will have adoptable pets on-site that are

looking for forever homes.

K C Gaudine, Interim CEO, sums up the event as "by far our biggest fundraiser for the year, raising more than \$300,000 in donations. All the money we raise from the generosity of the attendees goes straight back into the feeding and caring for the animals we save. It's a chance for pet-loving people and businesses to get together for a fun-filled day in celebration of the joys of pet ownership. This year, we're delighted to include all pets and their owners for a day of fun."

Founded in 1888, the Society is a non-profit organization with a live-release rate over 92%. Fundraisers like Paws in the Park are especially important for providing pets in transition with food, shelter, and medical care until they are adopted.



This year's Paws in the Park featuring the Dog-A-Thon promises more rabbits, more kittens, and more fun for the whole family!



Both of these pooches found their people during last year's Dog-A-Thon!

Want to get involved? Form a team with your friends now and start fundraising! It's just three easy steps:

1. Start your fundraising page by visiting www.thehumanesociety.org
2. Invite your family, friends, and coworkers to support you with a donation
3. Participate in the Dog-A-Thon dog walk on July 28th and help represent #Lovefor253Pets

Teams who raise the most are

eligible for fun prizes and cool swag. It's a can't miss event for animal lovers in Peirce County!

The Society is grateful to KIRO 7 for being the official media sponsor and emcee for the day and to Mud Bay for generously sponsoring the photo booth this year.

Fort Steilacoom Park is located at 8714 87th Avenue Southwest, Lakewood, WA 98498. For more information, please call (253) 284-5849 or visit our website.



THANK YOU

Bailey and Isabell are exemplary young ladies who dedicated their birthdays to the Humane Society! Both brought in cart after cart of pet food and other essentials such as blankets. Thank you for your giant hearts for animals, Bailey and Isabell!

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*Read on for humane happenings
at your local Society!*

the Humane Society
Tacoma & Pierce County

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