

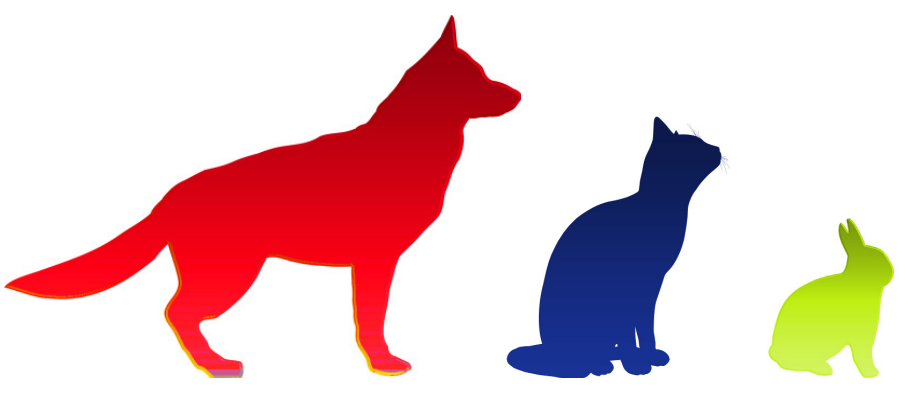
PAW TALK

WINTER 2018

The Humane Society
Tacoma & Pierce County



I always knew I'd be a celebrity



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Here's the Scoop on Me and My Hooman

Fellow cats of the interwebs, have I got a tail for you! I type this on my new hooman's (she's not bad as far as hoomans go) computer, and I shall now bring you, my loyal subjects, err fans, up to speed about the Humane Society for Tacoma & Pierce County.



Avagadro, now Gordo, is a 3-year-old male Domestic Shorthair.

I arrived at the Humane Society on January 12th, and as you can see in this pic snapped by the paparazzi, I was less than enthused. Still, the hooman at the front desk handled me with care and got right down to business, rightfully understanding that my time is valuable. From nose to tail, the staff inspected my beauty. My eyes, ears, nose, mouth, teeth, gums, coat, paws, and tail were all carefully looked over, and I rather did enjoy the crooning over

my dashing good looks. I was then placed in this white hunk of plastic (I still am not sure why), though the next sensations were not my favorite: my neck was coated in a faintly chemical smelling product (Advantage Multi they called it), and there was a slight prickling feeling made by an evil pen. Still it wasn't long before I was set up in a suite of my own. I had my own bathroom, my own curtained space, a perch, good eats. Not bad, not bad.

The days passed fairly quickly, and I got to hand it to the blue gowned staff and volunteers who learned that I melt with a good chin scratch. Purr-fection. Rumor has it that Humane Society staff members are further determined to educate hoomans on best practices when caring for us felines, like how "owners" (really now, who owns whom?) should avoid placing the litter box in the bathroom or laundry room and that introductions between resident pets should only happen after a week minimum, though the thought of sharing makes me queasy.

There was one day I was out of it for a good long while, and I noticed some foreign fibers on my stomach when I came to... Strange, very strange indeed. Best not to think on it.

Anyways, on the 27th after a long, luxurious cat nap, I decided that it was high time I found my hooman. I woke to Linda's adoring gaze and put on a show. I strut my stuff, teasingly rubbing against the glass. A cat's gotta do what a cat's gotta do.

So enamored was she that Linda had me visit with her in a room all to ourselves, and I continued to crank out the charm. With endless petting and chin scratches, I knew that this hooman would do just fine.

In 2017, 3,632 cats were adopted/placed in rescues, and 198 lost cats were returned to their owners.



Peabody is a 2-year-old male Parson Russell Terrier.

January 18, 2018

Dear Diary,
Some nice human found me and took me to this strange place called the Humane Society. I'm not really sure how I feel about everything, but the staff here seem respectful of where I'm at and are allowing me some needed space. It's been quite the day, but the food is pretty good. I'll keep you posted as things progress.

January 23, 2018

Dear Diary,
Apologies for the delay, but I think I've finally adjusted to Society life!

Now that you've heard from that silly cat, let me tell you my tale

I also got properly introduced to a lovely lady by the name of Brandy. When she approached my gate, I gave her a little tail wag, eager to make her acquaintance (the talk of the kennels is that she's pretty swell). We then ran through a series of tests, where Brandy handed me a rawhide (I had no interest whatsoever in that piece o' hide), tossed a tennis ball (oh boy, I can fetch!), and issued a bunch of commands, of which I listened to attentively, but had no idea what it is that she wanted me to do. I did try to please her by gently jumping up and expressing my gratitude at all of the attention!

I was also led to a raised rectangular platform, where numbers appeared magically above me. Brandy then ran her hands over me, checking ears, examining my snoot, looking deep into my eyes (I loved that part), opening my mouth and peering in, and tracing my muscles. Things did get a bit weird when she noticed some hair loss

on my right shoulder, and she turned off the lights and ran a glowing wand over me. That aside, I truly feel I'm in good hands.

January 24, 2018

Dear Diary,
I...I am not really sure what has happened. Everything feels foggy. I briefly remember being laid out on a table, but then nothing. Now so very, very tired. Don't think I'll eat tonight...wonder at these stitches on my belly...enough now. Sleep beckons.

January 27, 2018

Dear Diary,
This has got to be one of the best days of my life! It started off with a good, long walk, where a friendly volunteer was patient as I lagged a bit to soak up all the sensations. Some days it just feels good to be a dog.

A bit later I was led into a room, and little did I know that I was

meeting my new forever family! They even discovered my love for all things squeaky, and I got to go home with a bright, green ball to boot. I'm one lucky boy!

While I'll miss the friends I've made here at the Humane Society, canine and human alike, I can't wait to start my next chapter. Peabody, out!

In 2017, 2,545 dogs were adopted/placed in rescues, and 1,531 lost dogs were returned to their owners.





From left, Rosalyn Lueck-Mammen, Glenda Garrett, Lauren Bishop, Denise Runyan, Megan Grady, David Conte, Toni Rice, and Debbie Haase receive our Trail Blazer Awards. Not pictured: Kimberly Ward, Maureen Hagen, Linda Santos, Lori Campbell, Jay Lambert, Melanie Church, and Ellen Watson.

We Love Our Volunteers!



Eileen Stubblefield receives our Rising Star Award.



Rick Siegler receives our Lifesaver Award.



John Doelle receives our Hairball Award.



Cindy Connally receives our Semper Fi-Do Award.

By Alex Ropes, Volunteer Manager

Volunteers are the lifeblood of our organization, giving so much of themselves to ensure our animals receive the best possible care. From the beginning of their shift to the moment they clock out, it is important to each Humane Society staff member that every individual volunteer is appreciated for the lifesaving work they do! In 2017, 786 volunteers completed over 118,000 hours helping pets in need.

This year's annual appreciation party was held on Sunday, December 3rd at the STAR Center to celebrate the amazing work that volunteers do, highlighting individuals that have gone above and beyond in service to the Society. Their day-to-day work transforms and saves lives!

Whether they are a veteran volunteer arriving to help on a busy adoption day or a brand new volunteer ready to roll up

their sleeves and jump into dish washing, the impact of our volunteers' fierce dedication is felt by staff and the dogs, cats, rabbits, and other exotic animals in our care. Everyone is thankful to have the support of such incredibly giving individuals!

The power of volunteerism is life-changing! At the Humane Society, volunteers have not only changed the lives of pets in need, but they have also changed the lives of staff, other volunteers, and people in our community. Their spirit of support is contagious.

Thank you, volunteers, for your continual commitment to advancing the welfare of animals and promoting positive relationships between animals and people. We have said it before, and we will never stop saying it: we simply could not do it without you!

Want to join these awesome heroes and volunteer? Visit www.thehumanesociety.org for our 2018 orientation schedule.



Tara Fitzpatrick (left) receives our Joyce "Gussie" Quinlan Devotional Award.



From left, Amy and Natalie Coy receive our Shirley Lake Foster Award.



Deirdre Ruff (left) receives our Rhonda Pennington Inspirational Award.



Amy Christensen (right) receives our John Gosnell Positive Mental Attitude Award.



Roy Thalman receives our Behind the Scenes Hero Award.



Diane Bowers (left) receives our Honorary Volunteer Award.

Not pictured: Karen Walling receives our Best Binkies Award and Susan Clark receives our Rescue Me Award.

2017 VOLUNTEER STATS

We are truly blessed! In 2017, volunteers completed 33,916 hours in-house. They fostered for an additional 84,258 hours, bringing us to a grand total of 118,174 hours! On average, 372 volunteers help out each month doing so much for the animals in our care including:

- * 178 Canine-Ality™ assessments (dog personality tests) conducted
- * 867 cats pet, visited during Purr Time
- * 1,515 animals bathed
- * 10,066 dogs walked

Celebrating "Adopt a Rescued Rabbit Month"

By Aubrey Clement,
Animal Placement
Supervisor

Did you know that February is "Adopt a Rescued Rabbit Month?" In this spirit, we wanted to share ways in which you can spoil your beloved, adopted lagomorph with affection, treats, and goodies.

First, interact with your rabbit regularly and often! Rabbits love to spend time with you and the members of your family. Create a bond that lasts a lifetime by providing hop time, grooming, petting, and hand-feeding greens.

Rabbits also appreciate toys! They don't need to be expensive or fancy – a simple toilet paper roll filled with

hay, a phone book, cardboard boxes, or brown paper bags filled with hay and a few secret dried strawberries can keep your rabbit busy for hours. They will love to search for the treat inside!

Speaking of strawberries, rabbits love treats and sweets! Just be aware – what candy and cookies do to children, fruits can do to rabbits.

We recommend limiting the amount of fruits or treats you give to your rabbit to a few times a week, in small quantities. This will allow your rabbit a sweet treat, but will keep them from becoming overweight or "hopped" up on sugar.



Not only does Valentine's Day fall in February, but the second month of the year is also devoted to adopting out this common house pet! To learn more about adopting a lagomorph, please visit www.thehumaneociety.org or reach out to Aubrey at aubrey@thehumaneociety.org.

While there are many treats marketed specifically for rabbits, many are not good for them. Treats made with yogurt or seeds can be very unhealthy for your rabbit. A good rule of thumb is that before you try anything new, consult with your rabbit's veterinarian.

That being said, good options for treats include: small pieces of dried papaya and pineapple (these can

also help digestion) and other pieces of fruit (banana, strawberry, blueberry, apple, etc.). All of these items are higher in sugar, so please give them sparingly.

Other options that can be used more frequently are cucumber, tomato, and celery.

Whatever method you choose, remember that your love is the best treat around!

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14

This Valentine's Day, visit the Humane Society for some heart-shaped dog or cat treats! We are open from 11:00 am to 6:00 pm and would love to help you treat your pet! After all, no one quite melts our hearts like our feline and canine companions do.



Decah
Adopted January 2018



Aster
Adopted January 2018



Callie
Adopted December 2017



Sneakers
Adopted
January 2018



Sydney
Adopted December 2017



Sharp Cheddar
Adopted January 2018

TACOMA SUBARU

A BRUCE TITUS DEALERSHIP



Confidence in Motion

Fill the Little Red Wagon Pet Food Drive, a Howling Success!

The “Fill the Little Red Wagon Pet Food Drive” kicked off January 19th at Tacoma Subaru and culminated at Miranda Lambert’s February 1st concert, benefiting Humane Society animals and the pets we serve through the Pet Food Pantry.

Tremendous amounts of dog, cat, and rabbit food and treats poured in during the first portion of the food drive held at Tacoma Subaru, and 50 lucky donors received tickets to Miranda Lambert’s concert.

Bruce Titus Automotive Group then took it one step further and donated a brand new 2018 Ford® Transit Connect, which our animals, volunteers, and staff will utilize for the Pet Food Pantry, the Community Cat program, Spay/Neuter services, and Veterinary Care in addition to transporting animals in from small or overcrowded shelters.

Thank you Bruce Titus Automotive Group!!!

BRUCE TITUS

AUTOMOTIVE GROUP



A long-time friend of animals, the Bruce Titus Automotive Group continues their generosity to pets in our community with a donation of a new 2018 Ford® Transit Connect! From left, Bruce Titus hands the keys to Interim CEO K C Gaudine.



Even more pet food and gift cards from local pet food suppliers came in during Miranda Lambert’s “Livin’ Like Hippies” Concert at the Tacoma Dome, where one lucky donor upgraded their tickets and got to meet Miranda Lambert herself!

It was truly a magical night, where many gave generously to our community’s pets.

Thanks for making this possible
Miranda Lambert
and Live Nation!!!



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

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*Step Back
in Time*

*Thursday, April 26
Temple Theatre*

Join fellow animal lovers for an evening of giving at the first annual Society Soirée dinner and auction.

5:30 pm VIP Vintage Cocktail Party
6:30 pm Step Back In Time Guest Arrival

For more information visit
thehumanesociety.org

THE Society Soirée 2018

the Humane Society
Tacoma & Pierce County