

Four Paws



Newsletter of Auburn Valley Humane Society

FALL 2020



I hope this newsletter finds you, your loved ones and your faithful furry friends happy and healthy. 2020 has been an interesting year - one that none of us could have predicted. A year that started with great promise but has seen us through many moments of uncertainty and unrest. So much has changed since my last letter to you. With all this going on in the world around us, the animals

didn't seem to take note. Kittens and puppies were still being born, lost dogs and cats were still entering the shelter, and pet owners were still in need of resources to rehome their pets. While there was less staff and very few volunteers, our responsibility to care for these pets did not change. As the wet days of spring transitioned into the long warm days of summer, and now into days of falling leaves and crisp winds, there are still kennels to clean, dogs to walk, cats to socialize and many, many mouths to feed. Our personal pets seemed unaffected through these world changes. In fact, some of our pets appreciated and got used to the extra time we were able to spend with them at home. I know during the past year my furry, feathered, and scaly friends whom I share my daily life with have eased the discomfort of separation, loneliness, and confusion I have felt.

Because of social distance and occupancy requirements, our staff was reduced and many of our volunteers could not come in and spend time with the animals in our care. The

importance of volunteers became very evident when we did not have the capacity to care for as many animals as in pre-pandemic times. More importantly, the staff and I missed the volunteers! Their dedication and smiling faces inspire us on a daily basis to continue the difficult work of saving lives. Some volunteers were able to do projects for us at home, and many had the opportunity to foster animals in need. We are hopeful that soon it will be safe to lift these restrictions and allow life to be back to the way we remembered it.

Auburn Valley Humane Society has persevered, stayed focused and continued the mission of helping animals and people in need. One of the bright spots that stands out over the past nine months during this numbing haze was adoption number 10,000. This event, as little as it may seem in the big picture with all that is going on, was a milestone for our young organization. The fact that we surpassed ten thousand adoptions during these dark times is a testament to our strong will and determination to match lifelong and loving families to the homeless animals in our care. This, and the other triumphs of this year, could not have happened without the efforts of our dedicated staff, the guidance of our Board of Directors, and the loyalty of our hardworking volunteers. I am proud to be part of the great team at Auburn Valley Humane Society. It is my sincere hope that when I write the next newsletter in the spring, the light at the end of this tunnel will be much brighter and we will be more confident and a lot less uncertain about our future in the world and the future of the animals in the community we care about.

Please stay safe, and **THANK YOU** for your continued support and being an important part of helping us changing lives... four paws at a time!

Phil Morgan
President/CEO



Meet Stitch!

AVHS does not know much about Stitch's past, but we hope that he can help shape the future for how we help our community and make a difference. Stitch was found by a good Samaritan and they brought him to AVHS with the hopes of locating his owners.

Stitch came in happy as can be, and the word "stranger" was **NOT** in his vocabulary. Everyone he meets is his new best friend! Stitch had a nice new harness on when he arrived, quickly wiggling his way into everyone's heart.

Shortly after his arrival, our medical team found open wounds underneath his new harness. The vet indicated that Stitch must have been wearing a smaller, different harness, too small for his body frame. It had caused horrific deep wounds over his neck, chest, and armpits.

Stitch is a FAST growing puppy, and there is no way to know how long or how short of a time this took to happen. What we do know is that he was obviously cared for and loved previously. He shows it in his personality, and someone bought him that new harness to help him heal. What we do not know is how he ended up at the shelter and why? Was his family too embarrassed to ask for assistance? Could they not afford

medical care? Did they get overwhelmed and not know what to do? Times can be challenging, especially right now.

Whatever the reason, AVHS will help you, coach you, and provide resources to everyone! Please reach out to AVHS if you need help. We are here to listen, and we are here to help in the best way we can. We are not perfect and may not always have the solution right away, but we can steer you in the right direction and identify potential solutions.

We hope we see fewer animals coming to the shelter like Stitch and more animals getting the help that they need so they do not end up in a similar situation.

As for Stitch, don't worry about him! He wiggled his way into everyone's heart, and he is already adopted by someone who will spoil him rotten for the rest of his days.

We need your help in caring for animals like Stitch and supporting animal welfare in our communities. COVID-19 has taught us many things, and teaming together to provide compassionate care and support is more critical now than ever. We face uncharted territory and genuinely rely on **your gift** to sustain so many of our lifesaving programs.

Please consider **donating** to strengthen our community and support animals in need.

Four Paws

Published by
 Auburn Valley Humane Society

AVHS Board
Rick Oliveira, CPA
Board Chairperson
Shelley Coleman
Vice-Chairperson
Marsha Goodwin
Secretary
Robin Hutchison
Treasurer

Directors:
David P. Jones
Jan Speer
Michelle LaBorde
Don Edwards, DVM
Past President
Alexis Singletary, JD
Carol Rogers
Miles Haney
Bob Briggs
Jamie Thomas
Khristina Swanson

AVHS Staff
Phil Morgan
President/CEO
Emily D. Purvis, DVM
Medical Director
Sharon LaVigne
Director of Development & Community Engagement
Candi Kesler
Director of Retail Services
Thrift Store Manager

Shelter
Hours of Operation:
11 am to 6 pm
7 days a week

Check our website for updates

4910 A St SE, Auburn WA 98092
 253-249-7849 FAX: 253-929-8612
www.auburnvalleyhs.org
 AVHS Federal Tax ID # 45-0638467

Thrift Store
Monday-Saturday
10 am - 6 pm
Sunday
11 am - 5 pm
1123 E Main St SE
Auburn WA 98002
 253-545-0314

ONLINE AUCTION & WEEK OF GIVING

Like many organizations in our area, after much careful thought and consideration, AVHS has decided to do our part to help keep our supporters, volunteers, and employees healthy and safe, and change the format of our annual **Gala and Auction** to a secure and **Online Auction and Week of Giving!** Our signature annual fundraiser will run from **Saturday, October 24th through Friday, October 30th, with a 'Kick-Off' on October 24th at 6 PM.** That's right - six full days for you to support the homeless animals in our community and make sure you get the highest bid for your dream getaway, artwork, or fun items for your furry friend!

Will **YOU** help us reach our goal of raising \$130,000, to support our sheltering of the homeless animals and to continue to support our humane education and human services programs.

During our **Week of Giving**, we will be sharing videos highlighting our furry friends, adoption happy tails, and more. Visit our website for details.

Special thanks to our sponsors: Rairdon's Subaru of Auburn, King County Councilmember Pete von Reichbauer, Mud Bay, Marsha Goodwin, Green River Veterinary Hospital, Painting with a Twist, Pebbles, Singletary Law Office, Columbia Bank, Kriss Chiropractic, Span Alaska Transportation, Auburn Veterinary Hospital, Praece Consulting, and Trees Electric.

Thank you to all of our sponsors, donors, and volunteers to get us off to a great start.



Millie purrs
 "Meow You"



Ted and
 Levi bark
 "PawAmazing"



**October is Pet License
 Amnesty Month!**



Late fees are waived in October only!

Did you know? All dogs and cats residing in the city limits of Auburn require a pet license. Licensing your pet provides yet another layer of protection in the event that your pet goes missing. Each pet is given a 5 digit tag number that is unique and associated to them only. Purchasing a pet license will not only quickly reunite a pet with its owner, but funds received from licensing directly benefits the lost and homeless animals in the City's care and continues the Auburn Valley Humane Society's mission of enriching the lives of companion animals through animal sheltering, programs, and community engagement. Failure to obtain a pet license in the City of Auburn results in a civil infraction with a monetary fine of \$50. Pet licensing locations:

- Online at www.auburnvalleyhs.org/petlicensing
- All local Auburn veterinary clinics and hospitals
- Tiki Tails, PetPros, and Reber Ranch
- By mail at Pet Licensing, 4910 A St SE, Auburn 98092

AVHS Thrift Store & More
Treasures Galore!
 every day of the week at
 1123 E. Main St. Auburn



Find your Treasures!
Every day there are new items at the store.
Donations of household goods are being accepted by appointment only.
100% of our proceeds benefit the animals at the AVHS Shelter.

Thrift Store & More
Sunday 11 am - 5 pm
Monday-Saturday
10 am - 6 pm
1123 E. Main Street, Auburn
253-545-0314

SUPPORT OUR 2020 Events www.auburnvalleyhs.org

Pet Photo Calendar Contest



The AVHS Pet Photo Calendar Contest started with a kickoff on May 1st. We added the element to have your pet drawn by our talented volunteers. You can still reserve a calendar date with your pet's photo. Entering a great photo of your dog, cat, or your favorite pet ends on September 30th. Voting continues through October 13th. More entries and reserved calendar dates means more lives saved and gives the homeless and abandoned animals who come to us scared, frightened, and confused, a second chance. Help us change lives...four paws at a time!

**CHECK OUR
WEBSITE AND
FACEBOOK FOR
UPDATES**

Virtual 2020 Barkfest & Rover Romp



2020 Virtual Barkfest & Rover Romp was different this year. Supporters created teams and volunteers donated to the cause to raise funds for the lost animals in our community. The virtual event lasted the entire month of August with videos, demonstrations, basket drawings, and a Grand Prize Drawing. Our supporters raised over \$27,200 to continue our lifesaving efforts! We thank our sponsors, donors, and participants for helping us through these challenging times.

Photos with Santa Paws

Tentative Date:

Sat & Sun, Dec. 5 - Dec. 6, 2020

Time: 9 am - 4 pm

Location: 4910 A St SE
Auburn WA 98092

Bring your pet to our community fundraising event featuring Santa Paws, photo cards, raffle baskets, holiday outfits, treats and cookies. There will be one photographer, one Santa and two scenes to get your pictures of your pet early in the month. Watch for details to make your appointment for your pet's Photo with Santa Paws! You won't want to miss this event!



In 2020, AVHS reunited 55.87% of lost dogs and 7.09% of lost cats with their pet owners. Special thanks to our social media friends that help us reunite lost pets with their owners.

DONATIONS

At this time, AVHS is accepting donation of supplies at the shelter. We can still use gift cards to Amazon, grocery stores, Costco, Walmart, Lowe's and Home Depot. We encourage you to go to our website and click on the Amazon Wish List. Your generous donations are 100% tax-deductible.

AVHS VOLUNTEERING

- The safety and well-being of our AVHS staff, volunteers, and supporters is of the utmost importance to us. In an effort to support social distancing, AVHS has limited volunteers at the shelter and continues to have volunteers wear masks, and stay home and healthy.
- Limited **On-call emergency foster volunteers are needed** to house pets. AVHS provides veterinary care, crates, supplies, and food to fosters.
- If interested, please go online to complete a foster application at www.auburnvalleyhs.org/fostering.
- The shelter staff contacts fosters when they have animals that match the foster profiles.
- Kitten season is almost over, so we want to encourage new fosters to complete an application online.

Watch our website and social media sites for updates.

When the world returns to normal we will need Volunteers to be:

- Dog Walkers & Kennel Assistants
- Cat Care Cleaners & Cat Enrichment Assistants
- Adoption Events, Outreach Volunteers & Licensing Outreach
- Front Desk Greeters
- Pet Transport Volunteers
- Vet Services Assistants
- Animal Care Assistants
- Laundry/Hospitality
- Foster Cat & Dog Volunteers
- Special Projects and many more positions!

Happy Tails to Share...

Auburn Valley Humane Society strives to find a loving family for every animal in our care. AVHS adopted over 10,000 animals in the past 7 years and has a live release rate of 98%. We love it when our new adopters share heartwarming stories about adopted animals in their new homes. We love to share these success stories with you, so join us on Facebook to enjoy these Happy Tails and feel free to share with your friends, too!

Facebook: <http://bit.ly/Facebook-AVHS>
Facebook: www.facebook.com/AVHS Thrift Store & More
Instagram: [Auburnvalleyhs](https://www.instagram.com/auburnvalleyhs)
Twitter: [@auburnhumane](https://twitter.com/auburnhumane)

Mya (now - Daisy)

Mya is a 1 year old tan/white mixed breed. Her name was changed to Daisy.

Daisy's owner says: Daisy is settling in very nicely to her new home and name. We are becoming great companions! I work with her everyday on training her and teaching her to be a good pup. We are going to start obedience and manners training soon with a trainer.

Daisy loves her soft chew toys and going to the dog park where she plays well with the other dogs. Daisy is very curious and intuitive with a ton of energy which we burn off with walks and park days. Daisy finishes off the day by snuggling in bed with me.

Adopted 1.3.2020.



Nana Banana

Nana came to AVHS in late 2018 from a rescue in Texas. She was adopted several times and returned. She went to a great foster who worked on Nana's behavior and meeting new people. From the owner: Nana has been great! She fits right in and made such great accomplishments. We took things slow, but Nana wanted things to move faster. By day three she was out of the crate more and watching TV with us on the couch. She is now best friends with my husband and loves everyone with wet, sloppy kisses. Our dog, Tilly, has been so patient and teaching Nana a lot. Tilly and Nana don't growl or bark, they just wag their tails and go from there. Nana listens to the commands and she is really understanding us when

we talk with her. She still pulls until she realizes we are all together then she relaxes and lets Tilly walk next to her easier. We love her so much and I knew she would be great for us. **ADOPTED 3.13.2020.**

Myrtle

Myrtle's furrevery family says: Adopting 10-year-old senior cat, Myrtle, has been amazing. She is absolutely a wonderful cat and she is now living her best life! Myrtle has adjusted into the home perfectly and she even loves the dog now! I must say Myrtle licks me more than my dog does. Sometimes Myrtle just does a walk by lick, but she purrs so loudly and just starts licking away. Myrtle is delightful, sweet, and well behaved. She is a big fan of the laser pointer and her toys, but only for about 5-10 minutes a day. The rest of the day she follows me around, being a lap cat, in the blinds looking outside, or lounging on the couch. **ADOPTED 8.2.2020.**



Help Support the Animals at Auburn Valley Humane Society

No matter how small or large, your gift makes a big difference to ensure that every animal gets a second chance. You help provide the dogs and cats with food, shelter, medical, and dental care until we find them a furrever home. To continue our quality of care, we rely on generous financial support from our community to provide animal and human services programs. All gifts are tax-deductible.

As you work with your financial planner, tax consultant, or lawyer, please consider including Auburn Valley Humane Society in your **will, trust, or estate plan**. Our **Faithful Friends Legacy Club** honors those who make special arrangements to ensure animals will benefit from our care. This program allows you to ensure that your love and support for animals continues beyond your lifetime. You can make a simple bequest, establish a trust, designate AVHS as a beneficiary of your IRA or your insurance plan or donate stocks. Contact AVHS about our **Pets Without Me** program and for further details on planned giving.

Consider **giving monthly** to AVHS to provide the animals with food, shelter, warm beds, compassionate veterinary care, training, enrichment, playtime, and love. Best of all, by spreading your gifts throughout the year, giving becomes convenient, affordable, and an efficient way to make a real difference in the lives of the animals in our care! Every animal can have a bright and loving future. Your **monthly donation** helps us to continue our life-saving work.

Help us by using your **Rewards Card when shopping at Fred Meyer**. Link AVHS to your Rewards Card - Check to be sure you are linked to **KF808**. Kroger (Fred Meyer) provides AVHS with a quarterly donation check based on your purchases.

Love to shop online at **Amazon??** You can use your same account by shopping at **smile.amazon.com**. Log in and select Auburn Valley Humane Society as your charity. A portion of your purchase will be donated to AVHS.

Give today!

During this time of uncertainty, a donation, big or small, makes a difference in allowing AVHS to continue its lifesaving efforts. On behalf of the AVHS Board of Directors, staff and the animals in our care, we would like to thank you for supporting your local humane society.



KF808

