

WHATCOM HUMANE SOCIETY PAW PRINT

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER - WINTER 2025

KINDNESS ♥ COMPASSION ♥ RESPECT

What It Means—And What It Takes— To Work Together As A Community

A MESSAGE FROM THE WHS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

Happy new year, and I hope that 2025 is treating you well so far. Winter is always an interesting time for us at Whatcom Humane Society. I love a good snow event, but of course with it comes all of the challenges of operating three shelters, a thrift shop, and caring for animals big and small 24/7. Our staff and volunteer teams live all over Whatcom and Skagit counties, and I'm always amazed and inspired by their dedication to the animals and their work when snow, ice, wind, rain, and super cold temperatures settle into our region. It's that dedication and commitment to our mission—along with continued community support—that is hopefully going to carry us through what will be a busy year ahead.

Before we look forward, I want to reflect for a moment on what was at times a very difficult 2024. Our Division Street shelter received over 3,600 domestic animals as compared to 3,000 the year prior. The biggest reason for this substantial increase was the number of owner-surrendered animals: 400 more in 2024 than 2023. These increases put such an incredible strain on our already limited resources, and I'm sad to report that the trend looks to be continuing this year. So many animals in need and only so many realistic resources available to help them all.

Our region is lucky in many ways. We have a strong foundation of community leaders, animal welfare advocates, and supporters that want to invest in helping animals in need. It's because of **I Continued on pg. 2**



Whatcom Humane Society
CARING FOR ANIMALS SINCE 1902

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STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLE

WHS believes that all animals, as sentient beings, have value beyond economic measurements and are entitled to legal, moral, and ethical consideration and protection.

OUR MISSION

WHS advocates for animals; educates the community to promote humane treatment and respect for animals; and provides for abandoned, injured, abused, or neglected animals.

OUR VISION

A community in which all animals are treated with kindness, respect, and compassion.

SHELTER LOCATION

2172 Division Street
Bellingham, WA 98226
Phone: 360-733-2080
Fax: 360-733-4746

SHELTER SERVICES

360-733-2080 ext. 0
Tuesday-Sunday, 11:00-6:00
Adoption Counsels Stop at 5:00
Closed Mondays & Major Holidays

ANIMAL CONTROL DISPATCH

360-733-2080 ext. 3017
Tuesday-Sunday, 10:00-6:00
Monday: Please Call 911
for Emergency Dispatch

FARM FACILITY

By Appointment Only

WILDLIFE REHAB CENTER

Seven Days a Week, 9:00-5:00
Phone: 360-966-8845
Not Open to the Public;
Please Call for Assistance.

WHS THRIFT SHOP

1534B Birchwood Ave
Bellingham, WA 98225
Phone: 360-543-6792
Shopping:
Tuesday-Saturday, 10:00-5:00
Donation Drop-off:
Tuesday-Saturday, 10:00-4:00

Message from ED, continued from pg. 1 | this support that WHS has been able to grow and expand many of our programs, operate our wildlife rehabilitation center, care for farm animals, provide quality animal control services, and so much more. Many of my colleagues around the region and country are not as fortunate, and as such, the animals pay the price. That being said, the success of operating a true open-admission animal shelter while working tirelessly to reduce euthanasia for healthy animals in the community is and will continue to be a collaborative effort. We can't do it alone.

Later this spring, WHS will be hosting a Whatcom County Rescue Roundtable, bringing together established rescue groups, spay neuter organizations, and animal welfare groups from our local community to gather, share information, engage in meaningful discussion, and collaborate on how best to work together when possible to serve the animals in our community. I'm super excited for this opportunity and hope that it will have a positive impact.

As spring arrives, with it will begin "baby season" at our wildlife rehabilitation center. Hundreds of orphaned and injured wild animals will arrive needing care from our small but mighty wildlife crew. Wildlife rehabilitation is essential work, and it's also expensive work. Funding operations for the wildlife center have always been an uphill battle, and this year the hill is getting higher. With nowhere else to go if not for WHS, where would all the wildlife in need turn for help? This thought weighs heavy on my mind daily—especially when I walk outside my house in rural Whatcom County each morning to see and hear the amazing wild animals around me, living a peaceful existence, and think about how lucky we all are to live among them and the responsibility we have to protect them and advocate on their behalf.

I'm looking forward to what this year will bring for our organization. We have some fantastic events scheduled, including my favorite Woof & Whiskers Awards Luncheon, our online birdhouse auction, and some really cool humane education programs. I hope to see many of you at a community event, meeting a new best friend at the shelter, shopping at the WHS Thrift Shop, or maybe at a monthly new volunteer orientation. On behalf of the domestic, wild, and farm animals in our community, I thank you for continuing to provide us with the resources to remain ready to respond to animals in need. Your support means everything to us all.

*With gratitude and appreciation,
Laura Clark, Executive Director*

P.S. Visit whatcomhumane.org/about to review our 2024 animal statistics

Whatcom Humane Society
Create a Legacy of Compassion
 Plan for the people, pets & causes you care about with WHS & FreeWill:
freewill.com/whatcomhumane



2025 Woof & Whiskers Awards Luncheon

GIVING THANKS TO THE HELPERS ON FRIDAY, MARCH 7

You are kindly invited to join us for a beautiful day in the neighborhood at our annual community awards luncheon, where we'll be recognizing & celebrating our 2025 honorees who have shown an outstanding commitment to improving the lives of domestic, farm, and wild animals throughout our region!

See full details & RSVP at: whatcomhumane.org/woof-whiskers-2025

It's a beautiful day

in the neighborhood

2025 Honorees:

PENNY WISE

WHATCOM MILLION TREES PROJECT

GEAR HEADS OF WHATCOM COUNTY

Whatcom Humane Society

WOOF & WHISKERS WHS COMMUNITY AWARDS LUNCHEON

Friday, March 7, 2025 | 12:00 – 1:30 PM

Bellingham Golf & Country Club | 3729 Meridian St.

No cost to attend | Lunch provided | RSVP required

RSVP by February 28 at whatcomhumane.org/woof-whiskers-2025

or by contacting Paige at development@whatcomhumane.org



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Licensed Wildlife Rehabilitator

Renata Luders,

Volunteer & Intern Coordinator and

Licensed Wildlife Rehabilitator

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Hanna Cillo

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THRIFT SHOP

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Jo Williams



What Is Humane Education And Why Is It Important?

WRITTEN BY ALAINA RHODES, WHS HUMANE EDUCATION COORDINATOR

Humane education is a method of teaching that promotes kindness, compassion, and respect for all living things. We have a number of different programs that focus on humane education at the Whatcom Humane Society, including classroom visits to local elementary schools; Critter Camp, our week-long summer day camp; our Dog Day Afternoons program at local libraries that allows kids to practice their reading skills in a judgement-free space with our spectacular volunteer dog teams; kid’s workshops; and tabling at local events.

Through a variety of different topics and activities, my fearless humane education volunteers and I strive to teach kids that animals are sentient beings deserving of love and respect. Teaching these values can lead to better social and emotional development and increased empathy for all living things, humans included. It’s also an incredible way to get kids more engaged with their writing and critical thinking—when I visit classrooms I will sometimes ask students to describe the animal guest that I’ve brought them: “What color are they?”, “What do you think they like to eat?”, or “What is your favorite thing about them?”

I’ve had teachers create writing assignments for their students to write persuasive essays about our shelter animals with the goal of convincing potential adopters to take them home, which is a pretty amazing way to teach kids basic writing and research skills while also helping the community. Humane education is something we can all do in our everyday lives, and I feel very fortunate to be in a community where kindness, respect, and compassion for animals is so widespread.

One of my favorite experiences with humane education happened last year following Critter Camp: I had given a presentation on hamster care and had a really great discussion with the kids about doing your research before getting a pet to ensure that your pet is responsibly cared for. Unfortunately, hamsters are very often mistreated simply because **I Continued on pg. 5**





Humane Ed., continued from pg. 4 | the person taking care of them hasn't done enough research, and oftentimes their primary caretaker is a young child that isn't necessarily equipped to take the best care of their pet. We see it all too often: Once a new pet loses its novelty, many young children become bored of taking care of them, and as a result, the animals end up in shelters. I always make sure to emphasize the "lifetime commitment" aspect of any pet, and I encourage kids to make plans for their pet's future before getting them.

After Critter Camp, a camper's grandmother informed me that her granddaughter really wanted to adopt Archibald, a Syrian Hamster that was in our care at the shelter, and she was creating a PowerPoint for her parents to show them that she had the knowledge and expertise to give Archibald everything he needs. Her parents weren't looking to adopt a new pet at the time, but her excitement and commitment was enough to convince them otherwise. I now receive regular updates about Archibald the hamster, who is truly living his best life!



That kiddo having the passion and taking the initiative to give little Archibald a forever home where he is loved and pampered is the kind of story that reinforces how humane education can make an impact. I always encourage the kids to pass along what they've learned, and I hope that one day we will all share kindness, respect, and compassion for all living things, big and small.



Whatcom Humane Society
CARING FOR ANIMALS SINCE 1902

COMMUNITY PET FOOD BANK

Thank you so much for lending a paw to neighbors in need!



CAN YOU SHARE SOME KIBBLE WITH COMMUNITY PETS & THEIR PEOPLE IN NEED?

Our pet food bank provides for the animals of community members in need and operates entirely by donation. We accept almost all kinds of pet food, even open bags! (Sorry, we can't take prescription diets, expired food, or food not in the original bag.)

Donations can be dropped off at our Division Street shelter Tues-Sun, 11am-6pm. You can also purchase items off of our Amazon and Chewy wish lists at whatcomhumane.org/donate



Whatcom Humane Society
Wildlife Rehabilitation Services

BIRDHOUSE AUCTION

AUCTION OPENS:

Monday, March 17

@ 8:00 AM



AUCTION CLOSES:

Monday, March 24

@ 8:00 PM



What's the chatter all about?

Our online birdhouse auction, of course! Be sure to join in on this year's biddings: We'll be showcasing a fantastic selection of handcrafted works of art from generous community members, all lovingly made to fundraise for the WHS Wildlife Rehabilitation Center! In addition to birdhouses, the auction includes a variety of other bird and wildlife-related items such as yard art and supplies, wall art, and more.

LEARN MORE AND SIGN UP AT:

whsbirdhouseauction2025.maxgiving.bid



Wildlife Field Notes: What To Watch For During The Changing Seasons

WRITTEN BY ANNA SCHWABE, WHS WILDLIFE REHABILITATION CENTER SUPERVISOR & LICENSED WILDLIFE REHABILITATOR

As the seasons change and the days get steadily longer, the wildlife we see around us will start to shift. We will see birds migrating north, and our much missed summer residents will begin to return. The spring is often a season of plenty for wildlife, but it comes with its own challenges as well. While the rainstorms create seasonal pools for wildlife to gather and thrive around, the volatile temperatures can cause some species to be caught in the cold. Hummingbirds in particular are common spring patients, often arriving at the WHS Wildlife Rehabilitation Center in a state called torpor: Their metabolism slows down so much due to the cold that they fall asleep and often appear to be dead.

Overnight freezes can also cause hummingbirds' tiny feet to freeze to feeders—and when feeders are not emptied and cleaned out regularly, deadly bacteria and fungi can grow in the sugary nectar, causing the hummingbirds to fall ill. You can help keep hummingbirds safe this season by cleaning feeders at least once per week and providing hummingbird-safe heat sources to prevent the nectar from freezing to the feeder's perches.

This time of year we also look back on the retreating winter and forward to the coming summer. The WHS Wildlife Rehabilitation Center saw a sharp increase in northern saw-whet owl admissions this winter compared to years past. We don't have data for what caused this trend, but we are glad to know there is a thriving population of these tiny owls in our own backyards! The owls admitted to our center came for a variety of reasons: window strikes, car strikes, and cat and dog attacks are among the common culprits. Remember to drive slowly on forested roads at dawn and dusk, use window clings or UV anti-reflection liquid on windows, and keep dogs on a leash and cats contained or on a harness to keep these important birds safe.

Supervising outdoor dogs and cats can also help keep baby mammals and birds safe! Squirrels, rabbits, and opossums will start having babies soon, and these young animals are extremely vulnerable to even well-meaning domestic animals and rely on their mothers coming home safely from gathering food.

Keep an eye out for squirrel nests in trees and rabbit nests on the ground while doing yard work, and always call the WHS Wildlife Rehabilitation Center before picking up any babies that look like they might be orphaned. If you have found a sick, injured, or orphaned animal, please give us a call at 360-966-8845 and do not attempt to keep or care for wildlife. We appreciate your concern for wildlife in need, and we're here to help you both!



SAVE THE DATES!

WHS annual events

Woof & Whiskers Awards Luncheon
FRIDAY, MARCH 7 | BELLINGHAM GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

Online Birdhouse Auction
MONDAY, MARCH 17 - MONDAY, MARCH 24

23rd Annual Gala & Auction
SATURDAY, MAY 17 | FOUR POINTS BY SHERATON

Putts Fore Pets Golf Tournament
THURSDAY, JULY 17 | BELLINGHAM GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

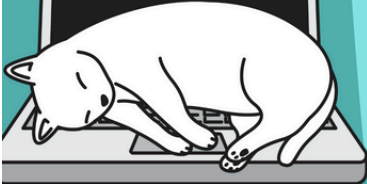
Dog Days of Summer Festival
SUNDAY, AUGUST 24 | WHS DIVISION STREET SHELTER

Airwaves For Animals Radiothon
FALL 2025 | WHS DIVISION STREET SHELTER

Mark your calendars!

And stay tuned for more information & tickets at:

WHATCOMHUMANE.ORG/EVENTS



*Donate, Shop, Volunteer
For the Animals!*



WHS THRIFT SHOP

Great Finds For a Great Cause.



PARK MANOR SHOPPING CENTER

1534B Birchwood Ave | Bellingham, WA

STORE HOURS:

Tuesday-Saturday, 10:00am - 5:00pm

DONATIONS ACCEPTED:

Tuesday-Saturday, 10:00am - 4:00pm

Questions? Call 360-543-6792



THANK YOU FOR BEING A WHATCOM HUMANE SOCIETY MEMBER!

Please join us in sharing gratitude for our new & renewed WHS Members between October-December 2024:

Christine Genuit, Peter Denooyer, Doug Bestle & Alyson Batchelder-Bestle, Rose Ann & Richard Kehoe, Nancy Foulke, Laurie and Ken Heck, Susie Greig, Paul Bruning & Jennifer Bruning-Curnow, Janice Bamford, Roberta Vollendorff, Edward & Patricia Kingshott, Luther & Alice Beaty, Jan Williamson, George & Phyllis Petronella, Janet Francis, George & J Lachman, Stacey Harris, Gerard & Jody McNamara, Kathryn Patrick, Ronald & Kathy Moreno, Katherine Balmat, Mary Jo & Michael Lewis, Marilyn Burke, Celia & Ruth Clarke, Patricia Banasky, R.J. Kolin & Helene Berg-Kolin, Gregory & Eugenia Koenker, Robert Christy, Margo & John Ferdon, Linda Alexander, Suzanne & Gerald Heaney, Denise Howard, Rick & Freya Rensink, Tammara Johnson, Pamela Bartling Byers, Linda Racine, Alison & Natalie Frank, Amy & Dirk Nielsen, Geoffrey Vogel, Paige & Marco España, Kristen Hansen & Diana Hershberger, Margaret & David Shull, Linda Peterson, Michelle Carabini, Maria Simmons, Melissa Miller, Ellen Kuhlmann

**LEARN MORE ABOUT
WHS MEMBERSHIP AT:
WHATCOMHUMANE.ORG/
DONATE**





Care Beyond The Shelter: WHS Cat Foster Program

OPENING HEARTS & HOMES TO FELINES IN NEED

When you think of the work of the Whatcom Humane Society, it's natural to think of WHS's physical shelter locations—our domestic animal shelter, farm facility, and wildlife rehabilitation center—yet there are also many critical efforts taking place that reach beyond the doors of our animal care facilities. One such initiative is the WHS Cat Foster Care Program.

In its current iteration, the foster care program focuses primarily on cats (dog fostering occurs on a case-by-case basis, thanks to the support of WHS's animal behaviorist, who also serves as a full-time in-shelter animal care supervisor). For cat fostering in 2024, WHS had a total of 462 felines cared for by 54 foster homes.

"I started this role at the beginning of kitten season, when kittens rapidly pour into the building all day long. A lot of them aren't in great shape when they come to us and need immediate care," Foster & Rescue Coordinator Sawyer Lanto said. "Our foster volunteers understand that kittens who are less than 8 weeks old have very weak immune systems and need to be taken out of the shelter as soon as possible, so they are willing to juggle work, everyday tasks, housework, taking kids to school, their own pets, etc."

Sawyer went on to highlight that based on the ratio of cats in foster care to the number of active foster homes last year, many volunteers "were incredibly generous with their time and labor" and took on back-to-back foster cases.

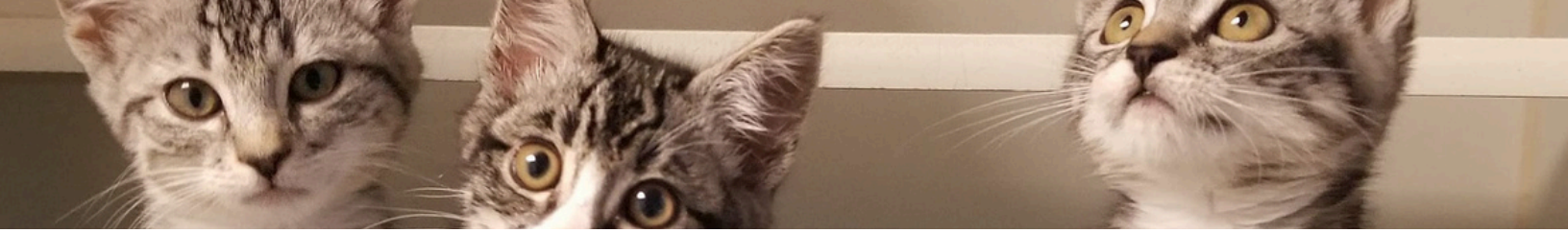
For foster parent Connie H., who has been volunteering since July 2023 and assisted over 21 kittens so far, the benefits of fostering go both ways, enhancing the lives of the animals and people alike.

"It's being able to watch them grow and thrive and become sweet well adjusted kitties for their forever homes. The ones that stand out to me are the ones that have needed TLC—their first day compared to their last day when they go back are always the most rewarding," she said. "My daughters love having kittens to play with, and it keeps our resident cats young at heart."

Foster parent Katlyn M. echoed similar sentiments, saying, "Fostering cats has opened my eyes to the small ways I can make really great impacts. I only started fostering in May, and I believe the number is 22 kittens and cats that we've had the privilege to foster. I remember all of their names and have learned so much from every single one. It's what drives me to continue to learn new skills like SubQ fluids." **I Continued on pg. 9**



"One of favorite moments was when we had a group of stray kittens and there was one outcast kitten the finders believed wasn't a part of the litter. She was skinny, fearful, and covered in feces that had matted into her fur. You could tell she'd been in this condition for a long time, it was amazing that she had survived this, so we named her Wonder," Sawyer said. "My coworker got to work on her straight away, bathing and brushing her, and I was shocked that the little cat actually started purring and enjoying the attention when normally a cat would hate being bathed. I've never met a more grateful kitty!"



Cat Foster, continued from pg. 8 | As of the start of 2025, there are about 50 cats in foster care, with upward of 80-plus active foster homes during peak points of the year. Providing support for all of the foster families is a big job.

“Ringworm is especially challenging because it’s difficult to detect before kittens go into their foster home, it contaminates the environment, and sometimes it takes a long time to treat. This is usually way more than a foster expected to take on, and sometimes understandably the kittens have to be returned,” Sawyer shared. “We have a couple superheroes involved in the foster program who will take ringworm kittens and are committed to treating them. I want to find the best way to tackle ringworm in foster care and inspire more foster parents to sign up to be a lifeline for these kittens.”

Another aspect of the program focused on bolstering support for both cat foster families and the foster care coordinator is WHS’s cat foster mentor team. Composed of a group of longtime volunteers with specialized cat caregiving skills and experiences, foster mentors are assigned as case managers for each foster family, providing an invaluable point of contact to discuss everything from health and behavior notes to sharing cute photos and stories.

“They provide guidance to the foster family about kitten health, tips and tricks they’ve learned, and supporting them through the unfortunate times when kittens get sick and the foster must follow a treatment plan, or even a kitten passing away in some rare cases,” Sawyer explained. “They work tirelessly to support the fosters, and this support provides our fosters with a sense of community.”

Being a support system often extends beyond the typical work day for Sawyer, too.

“I have had a lot of people have troubles with after-hours emergencies. It can cause so much chaos and confusion, and I realized part of the reason why is because fosters felt guilty about calling me on the emergency phone in the middle of the night,” she said. “I started to be more encouraging of them reaching out to me and have been more reassuring if an emergency comes up. It’s always top priority to help someone if their kitten is still critically ill, and I’ll do whatever it takes to get them through it.”

For Sawyer, witnessing the transformation that each animal undergoes from intake through the foster care process provides encouragement during the long, hard days that are an inherent part of animal care.

“I’ve seen the foster care program bring out the best in people and bring a niche community together,” she said. “People who were previously strangers will bond over their kittens’ stories and may end up comforted through grieving a loss or celebrating the kittens’ return to the shelter and adoption. It’s super inspiring to see that every little life truly matters, and that there are so many people willing to give a helpless animal a chance.”

As foster parent Katlyn M. also shared, “Not to sound too cliché, but I truly feel like I have felt more love through this fostering program with the Whatcom Humane Society and helping these tiny kittens than I ever have in my life. Fostering can be tough at times—though I find that the harder it is, the larger my heart becomes.”



*Blue's Before & After
Foster Trans-fur-mation*



READY TO JOIN THE CAT FOSTER CREW?

Meowvelous news! Be sure to review the foster volunteer guidelines available at whatcomhumane.org/volunteer and sign up for an upcoming volunteer information session for more details and next steps!





Life on the Farm: The Marvelous Miss Mabel

THE COW WHO RAN AWAY WITH A COUNTY'S HEART

By now, the Marvelous Miss Mabel likely needs little introduction. Capturing headlines and hearts across Whatcom County and beyond while she evaded being caught for a number of months, Mabel's story has become one of local legend and trivia—not to mention an upcoming children's book and documentary.

It all started on a hot Saturday morning last August when WHS Animal Control received a call from 911 requesting assistance to help an owner catch two loose cows on Hannegan Road near Bakerview Road in North Bellingham. Two young cows had escaped from a livestock trailer enroute to the auction barn. After a couple of hours running in and out of traffic, one cow was safely contained by its owner, but the other eluded capture and disappeared into a greenbelt behind the movie theater in Barkley Village.

For several weeks, the cow named Mabel was spotted around the Barkley Village neighborhood. Her original owner and a group of his friends attempted—using a variety of unsuccessful and at times dangerous methods—to contain her with no luck. As summer turned to fall, it became obvious that Mabel needed to be safely contained before she caused an accident and injured herself or others. Mabel's original owner said he “washed his hands” of the situation and surrendered ownership to WHS.

Consulting a diverse group of livestock experts, veterinarians, cow owners, and working with a small group of kindhearted neighbors in the area, WHS staff and volunteers constructed an enclosure, set up a feeding station, and secured a horse trailer to the enclosure. For several days, game cameras captured the elusive bovine visiting the enclosure and eating. A trip wire was then installed inside the enclosure, and on a very rainy night in October, Miss Mabel entered it to eat, tripped the wire, and as if she knew she was safe, walked right into the dry trailer filled with hay and sweet grain. WHS staff and volunteers were hiding just feet away and able to close the trailer door, securing Mabel safely inside. She arrived at the WHS Farm late in the evening, and a collective sigh of relief was had by human and cow alike!

Understandably, and in keeping with the personality that kept her roaming Barkley Village for weeks on end, Mabel was extremely wary of people at first and is still in the process of learning to trust.

“She didn't let anyone near her for the first couple of days,” WHS Farm Caretaker Kami Steinbach said, “but I started giving her grain and molasses with apples in an attempt to win her over. Within 3 days, she was eating out of the bucket I was holding.”

As Kami highlighted, it's important to remember that Mabel is still under a year old and was only 5 or 6 months old when she first got loose. Overcoming her mistrust of humans after those earlier life experiences will take time. That said, Kami has seen significant improvements from Mabel these past few months—from allowing Kami to touch her nose while she is eating to taking food from Kami's hand and letting her face be petted. **I Continued on pg. 11**





Mabel, continued from pg. 10 | “She is still wary of strangers and groups of more than three people, but she lets me pet her, brush her, halter her, and she will take food from people,” Kami said. “She’s very curious and smart, but still cautious and can be quite sassy. She gives the best side eye I’ve ever seen.”

“After her vet appointment, she gave me the cold shoulder for a day and a half,” Kami went on to share with a laugh. “She’s not at all mean, but she is great at ignoring or avoiding you if she doesn’t feel like socializing.”

While Mabel is the only cow at the WHS Farm right now, she’s made fast friends with her fellow barn residents.

“Mabel loves her goat companions and regularly hangs out with them. She seems to like to watch them when they are playing and being silly,” Kami said. “And she prefers to eat her breakfast in a place where she can see the horses from over the fence.”

Mabel’s legendary rescue sparked a lot of conversation, inspiring songs, Halloween costumes, and a whole neighborhood of folks to come together in service of helping one lost calf find her way to safety. Above all else, WHS hopes Mabel’s story inspires greater kindness, compassion, and respect for all animals, big and small.

“A lot of people see cows as just that: Cows. Cattle. One of a herd who are all the same. But Mabel’s story is one of survival, endurance, and adaptability,” Kami said. “I can only imagine how scary it was for her to be loose, all alone, literally in the middle of a city! She found food and water, she evaded capture, she crossed roads, she found shelter, she avoided other animal attacks—all at an age where she should have probably still been with her mama. To come through all of that and still be as trusting and sweet as she is, it’s pretty amazing. I hope people will realize how individual each animal is and how the need for survival kicks in during stressful times. Cows want to live their best life, too.”



WHATCOM HUMANE SOCIETY'S WORKING CATS PROGRAM

The Whatcom Humane Society’s Working Cats Program places healthy semi-feral and non-socialized adult cats with adopters looking for cats not suited for indoor-only living environments. Working cats will receive:

- Spay/neuter
- Ear tip
- Microchip
- Dewormer
- Initial FVRCP Vaccination
- 1-Year Rabies Vaccination
- Flea Treatment (30 Day)
- FIV/FelV Testing

WHS will also provide the adopters with instructions on how to transition working cats into their new environment.

BENEFITS

- Provides natural pest population control.
- Ideal for barns, stables, warehouses, ranches, wineries, churches, etc.
- Provides previously homeless animals with a safe place to live and reduces number of cats euthanized in shelters.

REQUIREMENTS

- Approved WHS adoption application.
- Cats must be adopted in pairs if there are no resident cats on the property
- Adopters must provide food, water, & shelter year-round, as well as vet care.
- Adopters will need to allow 2-4 weeks for cats to acclimate to their new space.



Contact our Working Cats Coordinator: 360-733-2080 x 0
or workingcats@whatcomhumane.org
Adoption Fee: \$25 for 1 cat; \$40 for pair; \$20 for 3+ cats



YOU AUTO DONATE!

Donate your old car, truck, boat, RV, or trailer to benefit the animals at Whatcom Humane Society! **All donated vehicles must have a clean title, be running, and be able to be driven.** Your donation is tax deductible and will help support all of our daily operations, including our three animal care facilities. Questions? Please contact us at 360-733-2080 ext. 3014 or development@whatcomhumane.org



Whatcom Humane Society
CARING FOR ANIMALS SINCE 1902

2172 DIVISION STREET
BELLINGHAM, WA 98226

Kindness
Compassion
Respect
For All Animals

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DINNER & DRINKS 🐾 ANIMAL RUNWAY SHOW 🐾 AUCTION & RAFFLES



Whatcom Humane Society's 23rd Annual Gala
PAWJECT RUNWAY
Compassion is the Fashion

Saturday, May 17
5:00-9:00 PM

Four Points by Sheraton
714 Lakeway Drive
Bellingham, WA

PRESENTED BY:
Mountain Veterinary Hospital
AEC
ANIMAL EMERGENCY CARE

Details & Tickets Available Soon!

STAY TUNED @
whatcomhumane.org/
Gala2025



xoxo Bronx,
2025 Gala Mascot

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