

WHATCOM HUMANE SOCIETY PAW PRINT

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER - FALL 2025

KINDNESS ♥ COMPASSION ♥ RESPECT



The Good, the Bad & Everything Between A MESSAGE FROM THE WHS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

I hope this newsletter finds you all enjoying the autumn season—the best time of year in my humble opinion. There's nothing better than a fall dog walk or taking a nap with the cats on a rainy afternoon. With the new season in full swing, I reflect on what can only be described as a wild summer at



Whatcom Humane Society. Some parts were good, some were not so good, and every day felt like a constant source of organized chaos, managed by our amazing staff and volunteer teams.

One of the many great memories of this past summer is my trip to San Juan Island as part of the Mabel Transport Team. I was honored to accompany Whatcom County's famous cow to her wonderful new home outside of Friday Harbor. Watching her hop out of the trailer, gallop into a beautiful pasture, and be greeted by two other cows was such a special moment (yes, I cried!). Her rescue and the many people that helped make it possible is certainly among the "top 10 WHS moments" of my career. And if anyone has the opportunity to visit her at her new home at Heaven on Earth Animal Retirement Sanctuary, do it—it's AMAZING!

Lots of people ask me and other longtime WHS staff and volunteers how we keep going when we see far too much sadness in our work. Yes, it's true: There are a lot of sad things our staff and volunteers see, experience, and handle on a day-to-day basis. However, the good outweighs the sad and the bad. You reflect on stories like Mabel's rescue; the hundreds of domestic animals that found forever homes this summer; the hundreds of injured and orphaned wild animals that were rehabilitated **I Continued on pg. 2**



Whatcom Humane Society
CARING FOR ANIMALS SINCE 1902

THE SCOOP:

**Tune in: 2025 Airwaves
for Animals Radiothon**

PAGE 03

**Farm Spotlight: Meet
Emmylou, Loretta & Willie**

PAGE 04

**Mabel's Big Moo-ve:
Sanctuary Island Life**

PAGE 06

**Better Together: Community
Veterinary Wellness Clinics**

PAGE 07

**Volunteer Voice: Finding
New Opportunities to Help**

PAGE 08

**Pop-Up Holiday Thrift Shop:
Give the Gift of Thrift!**

PAGE 09

**Keep Whatcom Wild:
A Word for the Birds**

PAGE 10



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 Hours:
Tuesday-Saturday, 10:00-5:00
Donation Drop-off:
Tuesday-Saturday, 10:00-4:00

Message from ED, continued from pg. 1 | thanks to our wildlife team; the group of neglected animals removed from a hoarding situation that are now living their best lives thanks to our animal control and rescue department; the groups of young kids that spent a week at one of our summer camps or reading programs—the list goes on and on.

Our community, our state, and our nation are most certainly experiencing a massive pet overpopulation problem. “Kitten Season” is no longer a season; we now receive unwanted, orphaned kittens all year long. And it’s not just an issue with kittens, but with dogs and other domestic animals too. The solution? It’s complicated. High-quality, affordable spay/neuter options are an essential component. Stronger laws holding backyard breeders accountable should be a priority for all elected officials in local and state government. And, in my opinion, ensuring that all communities have a shelter like Whatcom Humane Society ready to respond to any animal in need. Sadly, we continue to receive unwanted domestic animals from all over the region. Many have been turned away from their own community shelters (or put on a waiting list that is sometimes several weeks or even months long). While the owners of these animals may have made poor decisions with regard to their ownership or lack of proper care for these animals, they should not be turned away from their local community shelter when needing assistance, even when that assistance means challenging and difficult decisions have to be made for their animal or other animals in the shelter.

Whatcom Humane Society will celebrate our 123rd anniversary this fall: 123 years of being an open-admission shelter (before that was even a thing!), providing for all animals—big and small—that come to our doors needing care, services, a second chance, protection, advocacy, kindness, respect, and compassion. It’s what we do, it’s who we are—on the bad, sad, chaotic, and happy days and everything in between.

With so much happening at our shelters and thrift shop, I’m excited about the fall and winter/holiday seasons, and I hope you will find time to stop by and say hello. On behalf of the domestic, farm, and wild animals in our community, 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*

WHS 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN SURVEY



Your feedback is requested! We are working on a 3-5 year strategic plan for Whatcom Humane Society and are seeking input from community members to assist in this process. Please take a few minutes to complete the survey via the QR code or at whatcomhumane.org/news. We greatly appreciate your time and participation!



2025 Airwaves for Animals Radiothon

TUNE IN TO KAFE 104.1 FM ON OCTOBER 17-18

Join KAFE and WHS for a two-day radiothon to support animals in need! On Friday, October 17, and Saturday, October 18, KAFE will be broadcasting from our Division Street shelter with stories about the pets, people, programs, and services at the heart of our mission. With your help, we can meet this year's \$50,000 fundraising goal! **Learn more: whatcomhumane.org/radiothon2025**

Today's Variety
KAFÉ
104.1FM

Whatcom Humane Society
Caring for Animals Since 1902

Airwaves for Animals

A KAFE Radiothon for Whatcom Humane

Friday & Saturday
10/17 & 10/18

- In-Shelter Broadcasting -
- Pet Food Drive -
- Adoption Specials -
- & More! -

whatcomhumane.org/radiothon2025

Sponsored by: Animal Emergency Care, Signs Plus, Esary Roofing & Siding Co. Inc., My Garden Nursery, Hyline Hotel For Dogs, Cascadia Daily News, Radiant Heart Pet Cremation & Memorials

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Janet Hofmann, *President*
 Kim Rice, *Vice President*
 Scott Rice, *Secretary*
 Victoria Savage, *Treasurer*
 Michael Berres, Dan Claffey
 Deborah Dial-Monroe, Jane Talbot
 Kevin Williamson, Stephen Zylstra

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Laura Clark

ADMINISTRATION

Andrea Merrill, Julia Pollock

ANIMAL CARE & SHELTER SERVICES

Mark Henry, *Shelter Services Supervisor*
 Amy Wilkinson, *Animal Care Supervisor*
 Gabby Whitehall, *Animal Care Supervisor*
 Hayley Vanderveen, *Animal Care Supervisor*
 Leila Parnell, *Animal Care Supervisor*
 Sawyer Lanto, *Foster & Rescue Coordinator*
 Emma Bocook, Addy Chamberlain
 Darian Coffin, Ashley Craemer
 Pebble Diehl, Chloe Doucher
 Payten Emerick, Kate Hawley
 Ben Hayes, Drew Mullins
 Kailee Richter, Gwendolyn Stone
 Shyanne Thomas, Katie Thorsell

WILDLIFE REHAB SERVICES

Anna Schwabe, *Supervisor and Licensed Wildlife Rehabilitator*
 Renata Luders, *Volunteer & Intern Coordinator and Licensed Wildlife Rehabilitator*
 Jaclyn Swiderski, LVT
 Ashley Austin, Hanna Cillo,
 Mora Kozleski

ANIMAL CONTROL & RESCUE/FIELD SERVICES

Paul Evans, *Manager*
 Kyle Berger, *Supervisor*
 Claire Chandler, *Dispatcher*
 Carrie Anderson, Victoria Meadowlark
 Shelby Myhre, Elizabeth Robinson*
 *ACO in Training (RCW 16.52.025)

FINANCE/ACCOUNTING

Dana Berger

FUNDRAISING/DEVELOPMENT

Paige España, *Manager*

HUMANE EDUCATION

Alaina Rhodes

VOLUNTEER SERVICES

Auna Carter, *Manager*

VETERINARY SERVICES

Karen Rounds, *DVM*
 Sarah Hansen, *Vet Assistant*

THRIFT SHOP

Dana Browne, *Manager*
 Jo Williams



Farm Spotlight: Meet Emmylou, Loretta & Willie!

This August, we welcomed three new residents to our farm facility: Willie the donkey, Loretta the mini horse, and Emmylou the goat. WHS found this bonded trio living on a rural property without access to proper food, shelter, or veterinary care. While a little shy during their first few days on the farm, all three animals have now settled into their new home, Farm Caretaker Kami Steinbach shared.

“They quickly warmed up to the new area and all the dotting volunteers,” she said. “They are very bonded and protective of each other, and there is so much personality between them.”

Willie is a sweet, shy boy who loves to receive hugs once he gets to know you. He has a droopy bottom lip that makes it look like he is always pouting, and he acts like his feelings are hurt if he is ignored for too long.

Loretta is a very sweet girl but more independent than Willie. She likes having her butt scratched, and she lets her new friend, fellow farm resident Pete the horse, know when she would like him to come to the fence to visit with her.

“Loretta really loves to interact with the horses,” Kami said. “She has a particular crush on our most senior horse, Pete. They have been known to whinny to each other in the evening, and Pete has been caught love-nibbling on her neck from over the fence.”

Emmylou is the leader of the trio. Small but mighty, she doesn't allow her limp—the result of a past broken leg that was not fixed—slow her down: She will push her way through the others and jump on their feeding table to get the best treats, and she has claimed one of the hay troughs as her bed.

“She will trot right up to greet you, and she will definitely let you know when she is hungry and ready for more treats,” Kami said. “She started off as the most timid, so it's been really fun to see her open up and to watch her sassy personality emerge.”

Since arriving at the farm, Emmylou, Loretta, and Willie have had wellness visits | [Continued on pg. 5](#)





Farm trio, continued from pg. 4 | from both the veterinarian and the farrier. Once they are placed up for adoption, they will be looking for a home together where they can enjoy a field big enough for them to all stretch their legs and a warm, dry shelter to protect them from the elements.

“They need a place they can feel safe and loved, good quality hay, clean water, and the occasional treat. It’s clear that they have been well-loved in the past, and they like to interact with people, so daily attention is a must,” Kami said. “And what better trio could there be for a small hobby farm?”

Interested in opening your heart and home to this terrific trio? Email farm@whatcomhumane.org to start the conversation!



EMMYLOU



LORETTA



WILLIE

YOU AUTO DONATE!

Donate your car, truck, boat, RV, or trailer to benefit the animals at Whatcom Humane Society! Your donation is tax deductible and will help support all of our daily operations, including our three animal care facilities. **All donated vehicles must have a clean title, be running, and be able to be driven.**

Questions? Please contact us at 360-733-2080 ext. 3014 or development@whatcomhumane.org





Whatcom Humane Society
CAREING FOR ANIMALS SINCE 1902

LICENSED TO
explore.

And your pet license can do so much more! Get your Whatcom Humane Society pet license today at whatcomhumane.docupet.com



DocuPet[®]
A safe and happy home for every pet

WHS has partnered with DocuPet to provide an enhanced pet licensing experience for residents. When you register your pet with WHS, you will receive a unique license tag to attach to their collar. [Learn more at: whatcomhumane.org/services](http://whatcomhumane.org/services)



Mabel's Big Moo-ve to Island Life

HOME SWEET SANCTUARY HOME IS HEAVEN ON EARTH FOR BELLINGHAM'S BELOVED BOVINE

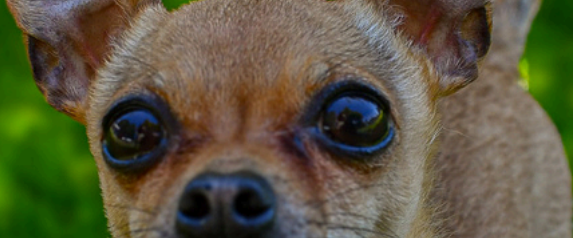


On a warm Saturday this August, our animal control dispatcher received a call from a concerned citizen reporting a WHS truck hauling a livestock trailer down I-5 with a cow inside. The caller wanted to know if the cow was the world-famous Mabel, and if so, was she okay? Our dispatcher was more than happy to pass along that, yes indeed, it was Mabel inside that trailer, being escorted by WHS animal control to Anacortes to catch a ferry. You see, it was Mabel's Big Moo-ving Day!

Very early that morning, a team of WHS staff and volunteers gathered at the farm to convince Whatcom County's most celebrated hooved resident, the Marvelous Miss Mabel, that she really should load up into a spacious livestock trailer that had been specially set up for her road trip. With a bit of coaxing that included apples, bananas, and a bit of good luck, Mabel loaded right up and left our farm facility for her forever home at Heaven on Earth Animal Retirement Sanctuary.

After a long few hours inside the trailer—including a ferry ride from Anacortes to Friday Harbor, during which she was given VIP treatment at the front of the boat where she could enjoy the breeze—Mabel arrived at the sanctuary, jumped out of the trailer, and was immediately greeted by new cow friends and pasture mates Daphne & Pepper, who ran up to say hello to her and lick her face. Every human on site cried lots of happy tears!

If you've ever had a dream, vision, or idea of what a fairytale farm sanctuary would look like, Heaven on Earth is it! Located on San Juan Island on 20 acres of majestic forest land and surrounded by the Salish Sea, the sanctuary is home to rescued farm animals big and small. Mabel now spends her days hanging out in a spacious pasture with Daphne & Pepper, meeting visitors and sharing her miraculous story of survival. Heaven On Earth Animal Retirement Sanctuary is open to the public and offers a variety of programs for adults and kids. We are so grateful to them for opening their hearts and sanctuary to Mabel. To find out more about Mabel's marvelous forever home, visit www.heavenonearthanimalsanctuary.org



Better Together: Whatcom County Veterinary Wellness Clinics

WHS JOINS FELLOW ANIMAL WELFARE ORGS TO PROVIDE PET CARE AID TO THE COMMUNITY

On June 4 and July 2, at the Mackenzie Resident Organization Center (ROC), a few of Whatcom County’s animal welfare organizations banded together to serve the animals and humans of our community in a big way: Animal Emergency Care (AEC), Alternative Humane Society (AHS), Shadow’s Forever Friends, and Whatcom Humane Society (WHS) partnered with the Lummi people (Lhaq’temish) to provide free veterinary wellness clinics.

Started by the incredible team at AEC in 2022, these wellness clinics have been offered in different areas of Whatcom County for several years now. The two clinics held so far in 2025 provided services such as free pet exams, vaccinations, dewormer, wellness checks, pet food, microchipping, spay/neuter vouchers, and other assistance to tribal animals in need. Over the two days that the clinics were offered, a whopping 317 Lummi Nation pets were served, with July 2 holding the record so far for animals helped in one day with a count of 172.

WHS staffers Kailee and Alaina tabled at the July 2 wellness clinic, offering resources, pet supplies, microchips, and free spay/neuter vouchers for Lummi Nation members. In total that day, WHS provided 69 free microchips and 48 applications for free spay/neuter services for dogs and cats.

“It was pretty cool to be a part of something so beneficial for the community,” Kailee said. “Providing much-needed resources was super rewarding, and it was overwhelming the amount of people we were able to help—especially for the animals that may not get that care if it wasn’t for the free clinic. It’s always a privilege getting to provide resources and education to members of the public.”

Kailee also assisted at the wellness clinic on June 4, during which WHS provided 48 free microchips and 79 applications for free spay/neuter services.

“It was really special being able to connect with our community and meet a whole lot of wonderful dogs and cats,” Alaina added. “I felt privileged to be a part of this very direct action to help people and animals in our community by eliminating barriers to access and providing so many different services to help keep pets safe and healthy. This has been a very hard year for everyone, and it feels like offering services like this is more important now than ever before.”

The next two wellness clinics will be for Eastern Whatcom County residents, held in Maple Falls in partnership with Opportunity Council on Wednesday, October 8, and Wednesday, October 29. Learn more at <https://animalemergencycare.net/community-activities/>

WHS MEMBERSHIP

Join us in helping **any and all** animals in need.

Learn more and become a member today!



Whatcom Humane Society is committed to being a resource our region can always count on, and WHS members share their investment in our mission and the communities we serve.

HEARTFELT THANKS TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS (JAN. – SEPT. 2025):

- Allen Pemberton, Anne Van de Kamp, Amy Campbell, Anthony & Tina Bon, Barbara Miller, Brigitte Coutu, Crystal & Jason Conway, Darcia Hurst, Dan & Kathy Eiford, Darlene Stach, David & Diane Moon, Douglas Goto, Douglas & Patricia Sterrett, Donna Mason & Paul Rosetter, Edie Grandke, Gary & Vicki Griffiths, Gemma Woodhouse, Heather Wolf, Jack & Wilva Foster, James Wilson, Jan Houser & Scott Carrothers, James & Lucy Wright, Jennifer Eastin, Jill Meadows, Joan Hoffman, Justin Larson-Miller, Kathi Paluch, Karen & Michael Schlemmer, Katie Collins, Kelsey Forbes, Kenneth Casden, Kristi & John Morton, Larry Schankman, Linda Hutcheson, Linda & Thomas Turner, Lynne Henderson, Margaret Fulton, Michael Gillis, Michelle Heimerl, Pam Behee, Patricia & Mike Thomas, Paul & Margo Walter, Robert Lau, Robert & Maya Hartford, Sherry Lehn, Stephan Kyselica & Hannah Burgess, Susan Miracle, Susan Zuck, Tamar Lieb, Terrence & Gaye MacDonald, Thomas & Lisa Hovind, Tom Cochrane



Volunteer Voice: Finding New Opportunities in Familiar Places

GUEST ARTICLE BY WHS VOLUNTEER VICKI LEE

Petting cats. That's what I tell my friends I'm doing when I'm visiting the Whatcom Humane Society's Division Street shelter as a Cat TLC volunteer. It's what I've joyfully done for about seven years, and I have so delighted in it. However, life sometimes intervenes and that happened for me: That intervention provided me with the opportunity to volunteer at the WHS Thrift Store, where I have discovered another enjoyable opportunity to help the animals.

Never having worked in retail, I had not thought the Thrift Store would be a place for me—that is, until I took a shift overseeing birdhouses up for auction that were on display at the Thrift Store. What I discovered there was a group of volunteers with smiles on their faces and joy in their voices as they scurried around helping customers find things; finalize purchases; and collect, clean, and place newly donated items onto shelves. The spirit of the place was palpable and positive. It could be for me!

Getting started was easy. After an orientation, I was teamed with someone who taught me the process of evaluating and cleaning donations and placing them on shelves for purchase. I was encouraged to ask questions, make suggestions, and do what I was able to do. As the weeks progressed, I was taught processes for various volunteer roles at the store and could schedule myself for the shifts available that suited me best.

Throughout it all, I have felt well-supported by the Thrift Store staff, Dana and Jo, as well as my fellow volunteers. It is so much like the support you get as a volunteer at the Division Street shelter. As with most volunteering, I give the best effort I can, and in return I get the knowledge that I am helping the Humane Society care for animals of all kinds, build helpful working relationships with other volunteers, and get in a bit of exercise for my body and brain. It feeds me.

I would recommend volunteering of any kind to people—and if you would like to engage in a little more volunteering, give the Thrift Store a try. After an orientation, you can decide if it is a place for you. I, of course, am still at the shelter petting cats and working at the Thrift Store, because how could I give up one or the other?



READY TO JOIN THE WHS VOLUNTEER CREW?

Sign up for a volunteer info session at whatcomhumane.org/volunteer or contact our volunteer manager at volunteer@whatcomhumane.org



Whatcom Humane Society
Caring for animals since 1902

PET LOSS SUPPORT

Provided by WHS

Our monthly in-person support group provides a safe place for connecting grieving pet owners with experienced facilitators and other resources. Whether you are currently suffering loss or anticipating loss, we encourage you to join us. Volunteer counselors offer support and resources for those who have been touched by:

- The loss of a pet
- Anticipating the death of a pet
- Dealing with the difficult decision of euthanasia
- Having suffered from a lost or stolen pet
- Wondering when/if they are ready for another pet

WHEN & WHERE:

First Wednesday of every month, 6:00 pm (typically 1-hour sessions)

Whatcom Humane Society
Multipurpose Room
2172 Division Street, Bellingham

FREE to attend
Registration not required

For more info, please email outreach@whatcomhumane.org or call 360-733-2080 ext. 3116

Additional resources available at whatcomhumane.org/resources



WHS HOLIDAY THRIFT SHOP

Give the Gift of Thrift & Support Animals in Need!



OPEN FOR SHOPPING OCTOBER - JANUARY

1534 Birchwood Ave, Bellingham, WA 98225

ATTENTION HOLIDAY SHOPPERS: Our Thrift Shop is temporarily expanding (i.e., taking over the vacant space next door) to include a holiday annex full of festive items! Don't miss out!

BECOME A MONTHLY DONOR TODAY!



*Big or small,
your monthly gift
helps them all!*



Whatcom Humane Society
CARING FOR ANIMALS SINCE 1932

WHS THRIFT SHOP

*Great Finds For
A Great Cause!*

PARK MANOR SHOPPING CENTER

1534B Birchwood Ave
Bellingham, WA 98225



STORE HOURS:

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

DONATIONS ACCEPTED:

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

QUESTIONS? CALL 360-543-6792

Please visit whatcomhumane.org for info on what items we can and cannot accept as donations.

*Donate, Shop, Volunteer
For the Animals!*



Keep Whatcom Wild: A Word for the Birds

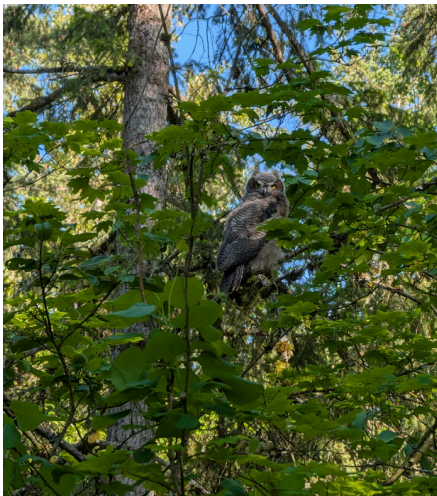
WRITTEN BY ANNA SCHWABE, WHS WRC SUPERVISOR
AND LICENSED WILDLIFE REHABILITATOR

While the species in care at the Wildlife Rehabilitation Center change seasonally, the major shift in caseload each interval comes from the types of treatments different patients need. Over the summer, for instance, the vast majority of patients are young animals who need careful care to develop into independent adults capable of thriving on their own in the wild. The daily volume of patients is high, and their day-to-day care requires dedicated volunteers and interns to help with the many feeds—which for some patients are every 30 minutes!—as well as general wildlife center upkeep and cleanliness. While we had many rewarding releases of our young patients this summer, one of the most memorable came in the form of a heartwarming reunification.

Early in the summer, the wildlife center cared for several young Great Horned Owlets. These owlets had ended up on the ground during a developmental stage called “branching” wherein they hop between branches before they are capable of flight. Normally, branching owlets jump from tree to tree following their parents while their flight feathers grow in and their muscles develop; however, because there are so many trees isolated in developed areas instead of part of a continuous network of overlapping trees, these owlets can fall to the ground trying to jump between trees, often sustaining injuries. And if their parents do not feel safe coming all the way to the ground to feed the young birds, these owlets may not get the nutrition their growing bodies need. This is where our Wildlife Rehabilitation Center comes in.

Three of the Great Horned Owlets under our professional care were not successfully returned to their parents after they regained their health, but we had a surprise second chance to reunite one owlet when their parent made an unexpected appearance and started calling for them. Acting quickly, our staff hurried not only the biological offspring to the site, but also the other two owlets whose parents had not been located in an attempt to foster all three owlets to the attending adult. Careful and discrete monitoring confirmed that the adult attended to all three young shortly after the reunification, and several weeks later, one of our interns confirmed that an adult Great Horned Owl was spotted perching with three healthy (and now fully flighted) juvenile owls near the original reunification site. Returning a healthy young wild animal to an attentive parent is always the preferred outcome, as it gives the young animal the best possible chance of succeeding in the wild, and we are thrilled that this parent took in two orphaned owls to boot!

As we shift into autumn, the young owls should be flying and hunting on their own but may still get into trouble as they gain experience: With daylight hours shortening, dawn and dusk coincide with traffic rush hour—a dangerous situation for owls and other birds of prey who prefer to hunt in the dim dawn and dusk hours along open swatches of land bordered by trees. This time of year, we see a disproportionate number of | **Continued on pg. 11**





Wildlife, continued from pg. 10 | crepuscular (i.e., active at dawn and dusk) raptors admitted with injuries sustained from being hit by a vehicle, often while hunting along roadsides. Community members can help keep our raptors safe (and our rodent populations low) by respecting speed limits, driving carefully during dawn and dusk hours, and slowing down if you see a raptor along the road. Call the Wildlife Center if you suspect a raptor has been hit by a vehicle, and remember that because we are a hospital, we rely on you to bring wild animals to us for care! Our professional staff will help you make a plan to safely contain the animal and bring them into care.

The other major reason we see raptors in care in the fall and winter is due to lead poisoning. Raptors such as Bald Eagles dine on the remains of birds, mammals, and fish and may ingest small pieces of lead from hunting pellets or fishing gear and develop severe lead toxicity, even if the original metal shard is removed from the body later. The treatment for lead poisoning is long, stressful for the patients, expensive, and not always successful depending on the progression of the poison. In addition, signs of lead toxicity look startlingly like another disease: highly pathogenic avian influenza (or bird flu), which humans can contract, meaning people may be less willing to step in and bring these birds to the wildlife center. A simple way for community members to help is to ensure that any equipment, tools, or projectiles used on the landscape are constructed with a material other than lead to prevent lead poisoning of raptors, waterfowl such as swans (who accidentally ingest lead pieces that have settled to the bottoms of waterways), fish, and the water itself. We all have a role to play in keeping our wildlife and ecosystems safe!



If you find a wild animal who you believe needs help, please call our Wildlife Center, where staff are available 365 days a year: 360-966-8845.



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



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 the number of cats euthanized.

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 and vet care.
- Adopters will need to allow 2-4 weeks for cats to acclimate to their new space.



Contact Working Cats Coordinator: 360-733-2080 x 0 or workingcats@whatcomhumane.org
Adoption Fee: \$20 per cat



Create a Legacy of Compassion

Plan for the people, pets, and causes you care about with WHS & FreeWill:

freewill.com/whatcomhumane





Whatcom Humane Society
CARING FOR ANIMALS SINCE 1902

2172 DIVISION STREET
BELLINGHAM, WA 98226

Kindness
Compassion
Respect
For All Animals

LOOK INSIDE FOR YOUR LATEST EDITION OF THE WHS PAWPRINT NEWSLETTER!



*Thank you
for lending
a paw to
neighbors
in need!*

**WHS COMMUNITY
PET FOOD BANK**

Our pet food bank provides for homed animals 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 its original bag.) Donations can be dropped off at our Division Street shelter Tues-Sun, 11am-6pm. You can also purchase items off of our Chewy and Amazon wish lists at whatcomhumane.org/donate

**STAY CONNECTED
WITH WHS**   

LEARN MORE ABOUT US:
whatcomhumane.org

GET THE LATEST UPDATES:  
[@whatcomhumanesociety](https://www.instagram.com/whatcomhumanesociety)

SIGN UP FOR WHS E-NEWS:
Visit our website or email
administration@whatcomhumane.org

LEND US A HAND:   Leave a pawsitive review on
Google, Facebook & Yelp