



Tip of the Tail

A Newsletter of the Whitman County Humane Society
FALL 2009



The Cats Want Off the Bus!

Dear Friends,

We are happy to report that the first canine building is almost complete, which is a huge first step toward realizing the dream of AnimalHaven. However, to move all our animals into the new shelter, we must complete the Interim Feline Care Center that will house the cats until the permanent cat building, The Gardner House, is completed. The interim building will then become a training and education facility.

The current housing for cats at the shelter is a retired school bus from the 1970s, which was added to increase the shelter's capacity to keep healthy felines. It is a less-than-ideal living environment. The bus is cramped and lacks insulation. The heaters keep the cats warm during the winter, but they also cause our furry friends skin to dry out. We can do so much better. Don't let the cats spend another winter on the bus!

For more information on AnimalHaven, visit us at

www.whitmanpets.org/animalhaven.



**Yes, I want to help
get the cats off the bus!**

Please accept my donation of
\$___ and keep me informed on
other ways I can support WCHS
and AnimalHaven.

Send your donation to:
Whitman County Humane Society
126 S. Grand Ave.
Pullman, WA 99163



The 101 Club = Strength in Numbers

WCHS has created the 101 Club to allow community members to combine their donations for maximum impact.

Your donation of \$101 will be joined with all others in the club. If 100 people join the club, more than \$10,000 will be raised to support WCHS and AnimalHaven, the new animal shelter of Whitman County. The more people who join, the better! Track the size of the accumulated donations at www.whitmanpets.org and tell your friends and family to join the 101 Club. Become an active supporter of WCHS to help the homeless pets of Whitman County.

As a member of the 101 Club, you will automatically receive a year-long membership to WCHS. If you are already a member, you will receive a one year extension of your existing membership.

Sign up today or call (509) 332-2246 for more information.



Yes, I want to join the 101 Club!

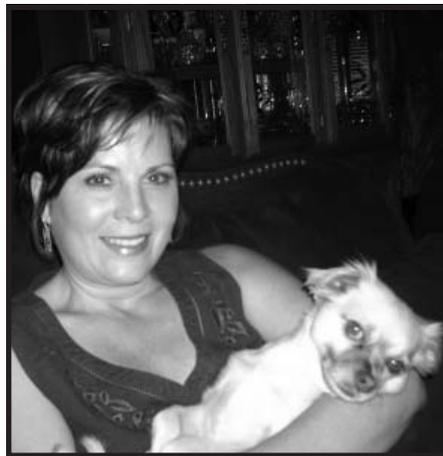
Please accept my donation of \$101, and combine it for maximum impact to support WCHS and AnimalHaven.

Send your donation to:
Whitman County Humane Society
126 S. Grand Ave.
Pullman, WA 99163

Pullman business woman knows the power of word of mouth

“We all have to do our part,” says McKenzie Forestor, “It’s a social responsibility. The problem is not going to just go away.” The 101 Club will make participating in the solution accessible to everyone. “Not everyone has enough money to make a huge donation, but this is a donation people can afford.”

McKenzie, the honorary spokesperson of the 101 Club, has lived in Pullman since 1986. She operates a successful hair salon out of her beautifully appointed home on Military Hill. Her hobby—or, rather, the work that keeps falling in her lap—is rescuing animals, usually cats, who find themselves in bad predicaments—either homeless or sick or living in terrible conditions. She says this “hobby” began when she was a child and brought home a homeless cat. Since then, it’s been a mission she can’t seem to escape. Friends and acquaintances alike call her when they hear of cats in need of rescue. She’s provided medical care, offered shelter, and found loving forever homes for countless cats over the years.



McKenzie Forestor with her dog Paco

McKenzie is looking forward to living in a community that has AnimalHaven, the new pet shelter and adoption facility of the Whitman County Humane Society. She’s especially excited about the new facilities for the cats. The Interim Feline Care Center will be an enormous improvement over the current cat bus—the new accommodations include a large room with big windows and two separate outdoor play yards. There will also

be an isolation room where cats and kittens can be evaluated and treated before they join the healthy cat population in the communal room.

Ironically, McKenzie is allergic to both cats and dogs. Ms. B, the cat who currently resides with McKenzie, is sporting a close shave with a puffball at the tip of her tail. Paco, her Chihuahua, also gets frequent haircuts so that McKenzie’s allergies stay under control. These are small, but important, efforts that enable her to enjoy pets at home. “Animals love you unconditionally,” she says. She cradles Paco in her arms and one gets a sense that her hobby is much more than that—it’s a necessity, a genuine labor of love.

Please join the 101 Club, and make your donation to building AnimalHaven count by combining with others!

To make an appointment at McKenzie’s Hair Studio call (509) 334-5656.



Disssmore's IGA announces biannual Pet Supply Drive to benefit the WCHS animal shelter!



Disssmore's Trev McCuaig along with WCHS Staff and Board Members at the Pet Supply Drive in May 09.

September 29th to October 5th, Disssmore's IGA will offer discounts on dry dog and cat food, cat litter, and other supplies like bleach needed by the WCHS animal shelter. Customers can purchase these items to donate to the shelter. Look for a special insert in Disssmore's newspaper advertisement.

Adoption Day will take place Saturday, October 3rd from 9am to 2pm. Come to Disssmore's IGA to meet adoptable cats and dogs and learn more about AnimalHaven. A silent auction will also be held to raise funds for the shelter, along with a barbeque!

Last May, Disssmore's IGA pet supply drive and silent auction raised 2.5 pallets of needed supplies and over \$900. These supplies were essential to shelter operations and lasted all summer!

Meet the new animal care providers at the WCHS shelter



Rachel Reynolds with Eddie



Kari Greenway with Stan



Julie Patterson with Yuki



AnimalHaven's Wall of Honor

to Recognize Legacy of Pullman Residents



The Webbers with portraits of their beloved pets, past and present



The Dodgens with Bobby





Carollee & Bill Webber

In 2005, Carollee and Bill Webber moved to Pullman from Northern California to be near their son and his family. Almost immediately, they got involved with the Whitman County Humane Society, volunteering once a week at the administrative office. Carollee has had a soft spot for animals since she was a little girl and, over the years, she and Bill have added many rescued and adopted cats and dogs to their family. They have also worked to help wild animals. After many years as an elementary school teacher, Carollee became a volunteer bookkeeper for the Marine Mammal Center in their native Marin County and, over the course of 30 years, saw it transform from a one-room organization into the \$30 million marine life sanctuary and rehabilitation center it is today. They also volunteered with the organization Wildcare, another animal sanctuary in California, this one for injured birds, deer, and wild land animals. They helped it grow from an idea into what it is today: a wildlife rehabilitation hospital that treats more than 3,000 sick, injured, and orphaned wild-animal patients every year. Bill knows the meaning of dedication—not only did he support his wife’s commitment to animals, he worked for 35 years for IBM.

“There is a sense of pride with helping to grow an organization,” Carollee says, and she hopes other Pullman residents will support and witness AnimalHaven’s growth and prosperity. “We got in on the ground floor with the ones in California, and it’s been so rewarding to see how far along they’ve come.” As for AnimalHaven, she says, “It’s absolutely amazing what has been done so far.” But Bill is quick to point out that much more is needed. “We need to get the cat building put up so we can move the animals out of the old facilities,” he says.

Today, Carollee and Bill live on Fancy Free Street, and they still enjoy one of their favorite past times, taking long road trips. “We’ve been all over the United States, and now we’re working on Washington State,” Bill says. Still, no matter where they go, their hearts belong to the animals.

“More people are becoming aware of the need to help animals,” Carollee says, and she’s convinced the trend towards treating animal more humanely makes our community a better place to live. “Our generosity with animals is an indication of our kindness to one another.”

The names of these two kind and generous people will be forever displayed on the wall at AnimalHaven so that future generations of Pullman residents will know how much the Webbers have done for the animals.

To find out how you can add your name to the Wall of Honor at AnimalHaven, call WCHS’ administrative office at (509) 332-2246 and speak with Janice.

Harriet & Harold Dodgen

The Dodgens have lived in Pullman since 1948, when Harold started teaching at WSU. In those 60 plus years, they have seen a lot of changes, particularly with how the community handles homeless animals. “Back then, there was no such thing as the Humane Society, there was just the dog pound,” says Harold, “This is the first time that we’ve had a decent facility to care for homeless animals.” Harriet recalls a time when an animal control officer tried to find homes for the strays she picked up. “You know it’s really bad if the animal control officers don’t want to take the animals they find to the shelter.”

Harriet’s love of animals was passed on to her by her mother, who raised canaries. Harriet recalls being sick with the chicken pox as a child and her mother bringing her a little nest to watch over. Her family also rescued a grey kitten, which lived for 21 years, long enough to see Harriet grow up, get married, and have children. Her beloved rescued cat died the day her son, her second child, was born.

In 2007, Harriet was struck by a drunk driver while walking her beloved collie, Laddie. Laddie was killed instantly, and Harriet was airlifted to a hospital in Spokane. After a month in Spokane and a slow rehabilitation in Pullman, she adopted Bobby, another border collie, from the WCHS shelter. About the time of Harriet’s accident, Bobby had been found badly injured and neglected, and was taken in as a Hope Fund dog. Like Harriet, he faced multiple surgeries and months of rehabilitation. Together, they have gotten stronger and more confident about going out for walks again.

When she talks about Bobby, her eyes light up. Bobby is shy with strangers but, with her and Harold, Bobby is “so good—gentle and sweet.” She says, “I’ve told all of my children that I don’t need presents. There’s nothing I need. I just want them to send checks to the Whitman County Humane Society. They’ve all been doing that.”

Harriet and Harold hope other long-time Pullman residents will support AnimalHaven. “This community got behind the new hospital,” Harriet says, “Look at the great facility we built.” Now, she recognizes that it’s time Pullman improved the facilities for its homeless pet population. “How we treat animals is insightful into the character of people.”

The Dodgens will be listed on AnimalHaven’s Wall of Honor so that future generations of Pullman residents will know their legacy of devotion to animals.



The winner of the RadioShack flat screen television raffle is Becky Thorgaard! Congratulations, Becky!

Thanks to the Pullman RadioShack, WCHS raised over \$500 to help build AnimalHaven. A Big THANK YOU to RadioShack and everyone who participated in this special raffle.



Henry Johnston, general manager of RadioShack, and Becky Thorgaard celebrate her new flat screen television.



Lentil Festival Beer Garden is a huge success!

Thanks to everyone who bought a beer at this year's Lentil Festival Beer Garden, WCHS raised \$2,078.90 to care for the homeless pets of Whitman County. Thank you Pullman Chamber of Commerce!



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Star Pets



Carla

Hi! My name is Carla. I've been at the shelter for over a year, and I'd really like a nice home where I can enjoy the good life. Things haven't always been so cushy for me—I lost a rear foot and even a little bit of my ear earlier in life. I get around okay now, but it would be great to have a very safe, indoor home to live in. I still love fresh air and lounging in the sun, so maybe we could work out something with a screened-in porch or sunroom. Perhaps a comfy window perch? I'm not too picky, just solar-powered. Even with my war wounds, I'm a pretty typical cat: laidback, lap-friendly, and taking life on my own terms. I get along with other well-mannered cats, but I'd be more comfortable in a home without dogs or young children. If I sound like someone you'd like to know better, please call or visit the shelter to find out more!



Stan

Hey, everyone! My name is Stan. Although I have a very grown-up name, I'm only 2 years old and still have a lot of puppy in me. I can get a bit mouthy when excited, or when left unattended with shoes and such, so I need someone who can teach me the difference between acceptable youthful exuberance and behavior that others might find a bit rude. I'm very friendly with people, though, and I'm already good on a leash, so I think I'd be a great companion to someone who will be consistent with my training. If that's you, rest assured that you'll fall instantly in love with me. For a muscular guy, I am almost indescribably cute, with expressive eyes and a big, meaty head that probably makes up a third of my body weight. And yet I'm still small enough to snuggle up on the couch with you, if you're fairly permissive with regard to furniture access. Some quick facts about me: I've been at the shelter over six months, I shouldn't be around cats, and my ideal canine companion, if I am to have one, would probably be a laidback female. Let's also avoid small children, as playful meatheads and little ones are a bad combo. If your household matches up with my personality, please come down to meet me!

Tell us your story!

Did you adopt your pet from the Whitman County Humane Society?

We want to include heartwarming tales of your fuzzy family member in our winter newsletter, so e-mail us at admin@whitmanpets.org and tell us your story. We can't wait to hear it.



Whitman County Humane Society, Inc.

126 S. Grand Avenue
Pullman, Washington 99163

Administration: 509-332-2246
Shelter: 509-332-3422

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Please cut and return to 126 S. Grand Avenue, Pullman, WA 99163. Please make checks payable to the Whitman County Humane Society.

**I would like to continue to support the
Whitman County Humane Society**

Please accept my donation of \$25 \$50 \$100 \$500 \$1,000 \$ _____

for the building of AnimalHaven.

Please contact me about naming opportunities.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____ E-MAIL: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

Donations can also be made online at whitmanpets.org/give