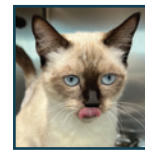




Inside



**p2**  
A community that cares



**p4**  
It takes a team



**p5**  
Young people make a difference

Fall/Winter 2023

# Animal Tales

## Covey's Corner

Gratitude is defined as "the quality of being thankful" and "readiness to show appreciation for and to return kindness." These definitions resonate with me as we reach the end of a year that has been challenging as well as rewarding.

I am proud of our professional staff. With support from a caring community of animal lovers, we were recognized in September with awards from the Oregon Animal Control Council and then again in October with an award from the National Animal Care & Control Association. I'm thankful to work with a team of animal welfare experts who provide award-winning services, and for a county government that supports a strong Animal Services program.



*Getting lost pets back home is an important part of our work. Augie, here with two young members of her family, was reunited with her people at the Bonnie Hays Animal Shelter in November.*



*Our award-winning team is proud to serve the people and pets of Washington County.*

At Washington County Animal Services, we can show appreciation and return kindness for the support we receive by continuing to provide our community with the best services possible in a professional and caring way.

With the help of people like you who support us with kind words and generous financial donations, as well as strong partnerships in the animal rescue and veterinary realms, I'm confident we'll have even more to be grateful for in the coming years!

Warm regards,

Randy Covey, Animal Services Manager

# Shelter staff and agency honored at state and national levels

It's been an exciting few months for us! In September, Washington County Animal Services (WCAS) was named Animal Control/Welfare Agency of the Year by the Oregon Animal Control Council (OACC). WCAS staff also took home three additional individual awards at OACC's annual awards banquet. See page 4 to learn more about long-time shelter staff member Sheila Farrin who was presented with OACC's Shelter Employee of the Year award.

But that's not all. October brought national recognition our way when the National Animal Care & Control Association (NACA) named WCAS as their Animal Control Agency of the Year.

"Washington County Animal Services was selected as the 2023 Agency of the Year because of their dedication and commitment to the well-being of animals and their dedication to building a more compassionate community, exemplifying the very essence of our mission," NACA Executive Director Jerrica Owen said. "Their tireless efforts, innovation and dedication have set a standard of excellence that inspires us all. As they lead the way in animal services not only in Oregon but across the country, they remind us that compassion knows no boundaries."

In response to receiving the NACA award, Animal Services Manager Randy Covey remarked, "We are humbled by this national recognition. More than anything, I'm so proud of our amazing team, all who work diligently every day to provide the best possible care for animals in need – and their humans – in our community."



Staff attending the OACC conference pose with the four awards honoring WCAS staff.

## Working with a community that cares

We provide services for pets and people from all corners of Washington County, but we're not alone in our efforts. There are many individuals and organizations throughout the Portland metro area dedicated to helping animals and the humans who love them. However you help, we are thankful for your efforts.

### Thank you to our volunteers

We are grateful to be part of a supportive community. Shelter volunteers keep the Bonnie Hays Animal Shelter running smoothly by doing laundry, washing dishes, cleaning kennels and providing enrichment for pets staying with us. We also have specially trained volunteer ambassadors who share pet-related information with neighbors and friends both informally and at community events.

continued on page 3



Shelter volunteer Stacie prepares to wash and sanitize dog water bowls during her shift.

# Working with a community that cares continued from page 2

## Thank you to the people who help lost pets get back home

When a stray pet is under our care, either with an Animal Services officer or in our shelter, our staff does everything they can to reunite them with their family. However, we know there are many lost animals that make it back home without a call to us. Thank you to those of you who comb your neighborhoods for the owners of loose animals, run lost and found pet pages on social media, and do so much more to connect those looking for their lost pet with those who have found a stray animal.

## Thank you to our transfer partners

When reunification isn't possible, we find homes for pets in need through transfer partners. These organizations range from small foster-based ones that rely on volunteers to house animals to large shelters with their own medical and behavior teams. We are grateful for every partner we work with. They provide additional care, while ultimately connecting animals with new homes.

## Special care for special pups

This past July, when a Good Samaritan found two severely underweight puppies in the bushes in Hillsboro, we reached out to the public for help. We wanted to know who owned these pups and how they ended up in such poor condition. Although we were not able to find the people responsible, each puppy's condition started to improve once they received medical care and a nutritious diet at the shelter.

However, even the best shelter isn't ideal for puppies long term. We are thankful for our transfer partners at Indigo Rescue who took these puppies in and provided them with care in a foster home until they were ready for adoption.

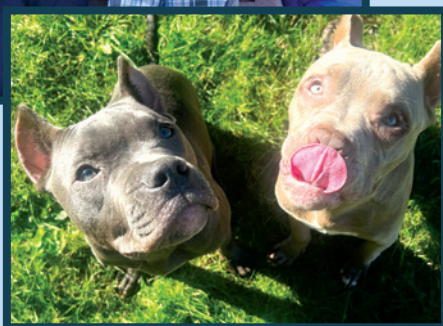
## Caring for kittens through collaboration

By Megan Luckenbach, Shelter Tech II

We work with a lot of spectacular rescue groups, but I want to highlight Cat Adoption Team (CAT). I primarily work with cats in our shelter. One day we received five three-week-old kittens at the shelter from a community member who found them in their crawl space. They were so young they needed to be fed by hand with a syringe multiple times a day. They also needed assistance going potty, a task the kittens' mother normally helps with. We are a caring and compassionate team, but the shelter is a busy place and staff aren't here 24/7. This means we can't care for tiny kittens needing this level of attention. Committed to getting these kittens the best care possible, we reached out to multiple rescues for help. CAT swooped in and found an amazing foster volunteer to take these kittens. The support CAT provides for cats of all ages is invaluable. We are so grateful for their partnership.



*It takes teamwork to help pets in need. Bonnie Hays staff and Indigo Rescue volunteers pose with the puppies that were found in the bushes.*



*Monty and Murphy continue to improve and gain weight while in foster.*



*Megan cuddles up with six-month-old Haku, one of the hundreds of cats she and other shelter technicians care for each year.*

# It takes a team to care for pets with special needs



*Ember was found inside a warm but unlit fire pit. She was underweight, dehydrated and had a serious leg wound. Thanks to the special medical care and attention she received from our skilled staff, Ember recovered and was adopted through one of our partners.*

Sick or injured stray pets are sometimes brought to the shelter by community members or one of our Animal Services officers. A stray pet might get hit by a car while running loose, or an animal may come to us in poor condition because of neglect or abuse. Whether it's a minor concern or a life-threatening emergency, we are grateful to be part of a team that takes each medical situation seriously.

Caring for these animals in need expands beyond our shelter veterinarian and the two certified veterinary technicians (CVTs) she works with. Our animal care staff provide much of the individualized day-to-day care for these pets at the shelter. They do this by following detailed instructions from our medical team, administering medications and feeding special diets, observing and keeping a record of any changes, communicating concerns, and more.

"The team providing daily care for the animals are my eyes and ears. I couldn't do my job without them," says CVT Natasha Hines.

We also want to thank the veterinary hospitals in the community for all they do to help us care for stray pets. Local clinics sometimes provide care or diagnostics for sick or injured stray animals when our medical team is unavailable or until a stray animal can be transferred to our shelter. We are grateful for the excellent communication we have with these busy veterinary practices and for the partnerships we have built.

We hope your pet never gets lost and arrives at our shelter sick or injured, but if they do, you can be assured that a whole team is prepared to care for them.

# Meet OACC's Shelter Employee of the Year: Sheila Farrin

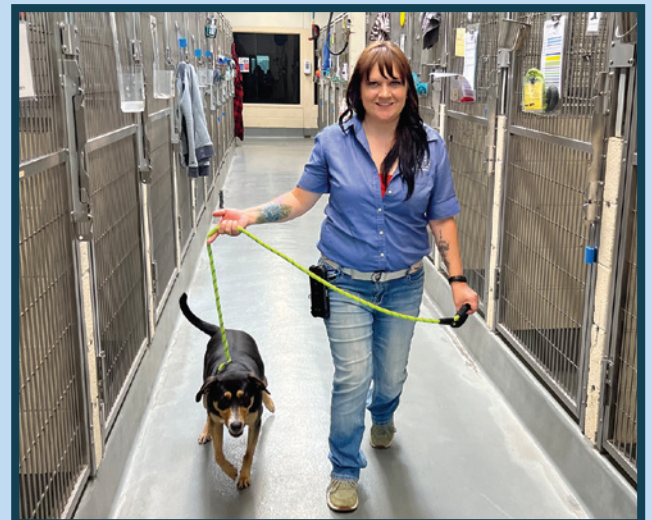
Animal Shelter Technician Sheila Farrin, who has been with us since 2005, was named Shelter Employee of the Year by the Oregon Animal Control Council (OACC) at their annual awards banquet. This award honors her nearly two decades of hard work, care and compassion for animals in need.

"This job has changed my life immensely and has given me a bigger purpose," Sheila reflected.

In her role, Sheila provides both direct care to pets at the shelter and situation-specific assistance to community members who need help.

Sheila has worked with a wide variety of animals during her time at the shelter, but it's the shy, scared pets coming from tough situations she connects most deeply with. Neglect cases can be emotionally challenging, but Sheila finds joy in helping scared dogs come out of their shells. She's very interested in animal behavior, and it shows.

"Sheila is an exemplary employee and passionate animal welfare professional who is committed to providing fear-free care to animals in our shelter," said Animal Shelter Supervisor Myndi Peterson. "Sheila strives to continuously improve her own professional skills and knowledge and supports her coworkers in their own professional goals. She is a pleasure to work with, and Washington County Animal Services is a better place because of her."

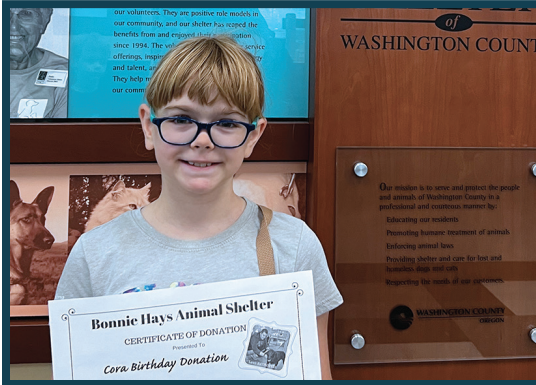


OACC's Shelter Employee of the Year, Sheila Farrin, cares for a stray dog on the Fourth of July.

# Young people making a difference

We are thankful for all our donors. Whether it's a monetary gift in honor of a loved one or a special treat selected from our Amazon Wish List, we are grateful for the care and concern the community shows for the pets staying at our shelter.

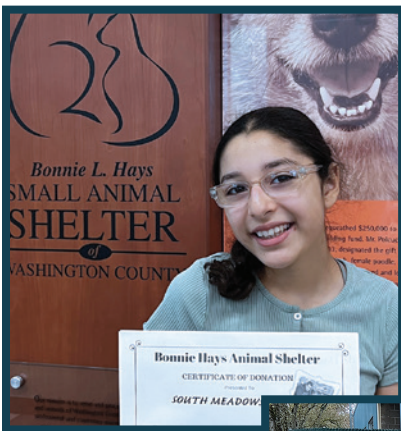
We want to give a special shoutout to the young people of Washington County. Over the past year, we've had visits from Scout Troops, school programs and other young individuals wanting to help shelter animals. It's wonderful to know that the next generation cares so deeply. Thank you!



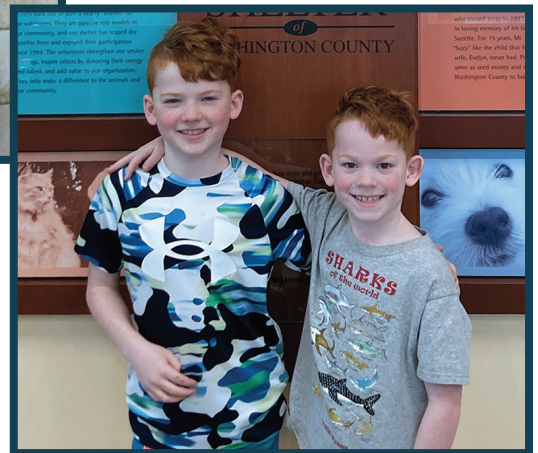
For her birthday, Cora asked for donations to help the animals at the Bonnie Hays Animal Shelter instead of gifts for herself. What a caring gesture!



Katelyn has a big heart for animals and knew she wanted to help pets staying at her local shelter. She did her research and found the Amazon Wish List on our website. After selecting some goodies for the animals and having them delivered to her, she brought them to the shelter.



Valeria, Stephanie and Adelle from the leadership class at South Meadows Middle School in Hillsboro held a bake sale fundraiser to benefit our shelter. Valeria (pictured) stopped by Bonnie Hays in person to drop off over \$140 in donations.



Viggo and Ezra operated a lemonade stand over the summer and donated the \$105 they made to the animals. Their donation helped us continue to provide individualized care for the pets temporarily staying with us.

Early Learning Matters families and students chose us as the beneficiary of their annual service project. Families donated items from our Amazon Wish List and collected coins to help the animals.



Girl Scout Troop 12348 stopped by the shelter in May to make a donation to the animals and drop off cookies as a thank you to our staff.



# Donations: Friends of the Animals

April 1, 2023 through September 30, 2023

Every effort was made to ensure the accuracy of this donor list. Please accept our sincere apologies for any errors or omissions.

## Animal Patron \$10,000+

Estate of Brian Haight  
Estate of Phyllis Thorne  
The Eugene and Mary E.  
Dooner Foundation, Inc

## Animal Friend \$500-\$9,999

JerreAnn and Dick Bader  
Carla Barone  
Rory Boyeas  
Michael Calhoun  
Eileen and Ken Carner  
Luis Garcia  
Barry and Nancy Graham  
Robert Hale  
William and Gina Jones  
Carol Koenig  
Langer Entertainment  
Center  
Michael and Jessie Moran  
Katherine and Lee Smith

## Animal Advocate \$50-\$499

Jo Ellen Adams  
Shree Aier  
Leslie and Charles Alger  
Aloha High School SRC  
Ruth Amesbury  
Richard and  
Toni Anderson  
Sandy Arbogast  
Robert and  
Melissa Axton  
Sandra Banke  
Michaels Bauer  
Margaret Beckman  
Tim Berg

Robert and  
Emily Bernknopf  
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Theresa and  
Vern Boomer  
Judy and Gary Borrelli  
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William Brown  
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Blake Clodfelter  
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Karen Gandler  
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Github  
Janet Gluck and  
Doyle Nicodemus  
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Patricia and Donald Goff  
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Charlie and  
Elizabeth Holden  
Wenge Hu W.h.  
Natalie Hunter  
Jarod and  
Francesca Hurd  
Bob Husar  
Jan Huston  
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Daniel Lindquist  
Reese Liteplo  
Scott and  
Jean MacTarnahan  
Marki Maizels  
Ron Malahy  
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Beck Martrese  
Kelly Masek  
Julia Mbacke  
Robert McCalop  
Lynn and Steve McCleary  
Gerald and Susan Miller  
Lydia Mitchell  
Martha Moore  
Patricia Moore  
Susan and Brian Morgan  
Amy Moss

Lisa Nelson  
Karen and Terry Newsom  
Peyton Nguyen  
Gail Njos  
North Plains Library  
Toby O'Handley  
Gwen Perry  
MaryKay Petersen  
Lynn Petrey  
Karen Phillis  
Gregory Pitter  
Victoria Pratt  
Paul Quinn  
Edra Quivey  
Dale and Elaine Rank  
Mary Reid  
Chris Richards  
Sharon Richards  
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Peter Romero  
Sigrun and  
Donn Sakamoto  
Kathy and  
James Sampson  
Betty-Lu Sanders  
Donna Schultz  
Gail Scott  
Alice Sheofsky  
Mikhael Shkatov  
Vinod Singh and  
Susan Rourke  
John and Linda Siperek  
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Charlene and Perril Smith  
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Susan and John Swank  
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Stephen Thomas  
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Dorothy Tierney  
Susan and Ermine Todd  
Mari Toshimitsu  
Emily and Bob Tracy  
Maria Vargas  
Tracie Voorhies  
Nancy Walker and  
Terry Foty  
Andrea Wall  
Marilyn Wall  
Terence Walton  
Jennifer Warren  
Jill Warren  
Theresa and  
Richard Warren  
Ronald and Sharon Webb  
Lorie Wigle  
Roger and  
Kathleen Wilding  
Gina and Clair Wilkins  
Helen Wilkins  
David and Vicki Willhite  
Kathleen Williams  
CJ Wilson  
Wendi Wise  
Tim and Anne Yardley  
Dana Zacharda

## Donations made in honor or memory of special people and pets:

Many of our generous donors ask that their donations be made in honor or memory of a special person or pet. We list them all here together in recognition of the human-animal bond and our regard for our loved ones who are with us as well as those who have passed. We so appreciate these gifts and the many ways that people and pets touch our lives.

### Abbey

Pam Edens

### Abby and Sibi

Madhu Jayaprakash

### Andrew W. Canine

Brian Henriksen

### Apollo

Abby Mann

### Asia

Susan and Brian Morgan

### Astro

Richard and Irma Hall

### Bella

Margaret Beckman

### Bella

Tobin Britton

### Bella

Terence Walton

### Benson

Allison George

### Benson

Alex Wang

### Bentley

Sarah Rosenberg

### Bilyeu

Richard Bilyeu

### Blazer

Anthony Newfield

### Blizzard

Mary and  
Wesley McNamara

### Bogart, Kona and Punkdog

Melissa Mothershead

### Brandi

Richard and Erin Davis

### Bucky

Emily and Bob Tracy  
Ed and Ruth Goheen

### Buster

Anton Leneis

### Callie

Vonda and John Myers

### Captain Tykie

Enrique Martinez-Vidal

### Charlie and Diggy

Dorie and Wayne Fimon

### Charlie and Madde

Gerry Carter

### Chester

Luis Garcia

### Cheto

Christine Husak Moreno

### Chloe

Shawn and Jeffrey  
Martin

### Cleo and Jesse

Jim Alexander

### Coco

Jeannette Murray

### Cylla

Lori Keller

### Daisy

Galeen and David Harle

### Daisy Mae

Mary Reid

### Daphne Doodle

Gwen and Don Nomako

### Dawn Raisanen

Gerry Carter

### Delores Matthews

Ken and Lois Snell

### Dennis

Loren and Theresa Wise

### Dodo (Dimitri)

Wenge Hu W.h.

### Don Pollack

Linda and Barry  
Bolewicz

### Dustmopp

Chris and Greg Jeffries

### Elsa

Carol Hendrickson

### Faith and Colt

Bridget Dailey

### Figaro and Brody

Ed and Ruth Goheen

### Friday

Troy Pulsipher

### Froddie

Mary and Paul Greipp

### Gabby

Joyce and Fred Epley

### Gavin

Lynn Petrey

### Ginger

Megan Lightbody

### Ginger and Lady

Larry Carlson

### Ginny

Patti Smith-Schwartz

### Gonzo

Storey Sleezer

### Hershey

Tom Brattain

### Honey and Ruby

Fran Jensen

### Huego

Jessica and Dan Dubach

### Jack and Jill

Connie Debruyne

### Jackson

Dale and Elaine Rank

### Jaeger

Sally Taber

### Janie

Paul Quinn

### Jen Marty

Karey Harrison

### Jessie James

Laura Stephens

### Jewel

Candace Travis

### Jotus and Bink

Sylvia Moseley

# Sharing our expertise here, there and everywhere



*Animal Services Manager Randy Covey shares his knowledge and experience in disaster preparedness and response with Animal Services Academy attendees.*

This past year, our staff has shared their animal welfare expertise with the residents of Washington County, those caring for animals professionally throughout Oregon, and even on the national stage.

Close to home, our Animal Services Academy allows community members to learn about the inner workings of our shelter from the staff who know it best. Topics include the importance of licensing dogs, how veterinary medicine works in an animal shelter, animal care routines, field enforcement, and more. Program Communication and Education Specialist Karrie Johnson created the Academy after looking at humane education programs throughout the country and noticing a gap in education available to adults.

Karrie also saw a need for more training for animal shelter staff who work with volunteers. With the desire to share her knowledge, Karrie applied and was accepted to be a presenter and roundtable leader in the area of volunteer engagement at the Humane Society of the United States' Animal Care Expo this past April. We are thankful for Karrie's efforts to share best practices that can help animal welfare agencies across the country and maybe even around the world!

Statewide, our Animal Services manager led an emergency response training at the Oregon Animal Control Council's conference in September. It was a good opportunity for our shelter's leadership to help other agencies and areas of the state prepare to respond to a disaster.

We appreciate everyone who has shared their knowledge with us over the years and hope to continue to return the favor for a long time to come.

**Juli**  
Mary Lafler

**Julia**  
Maria Vargas

**Karen Wilson**  
Pam Gentz  
Steve Halverson

**Keiko and Holly**  
Karen and  
Kevin Allen-Culp

**Ketu**  
Danehl and  
Blake Clodfelter

**Konu**  
Thomas Deloughery

**Lilly**  
JerrieAnn and  
Dick Bader

**Lily**  
Mikhael Shkatov

**Lita**  
Britney Ann and  
Scott Orlebeke-Reyes

**Lucy**  
Charlie and  
Elizabeth Holden

**Luna**  
Nancy Walker and  
Terry Foty

**Maggie**  
Jill and Kord Schull

**Maggie Doodle**  
Barry and  
Nancy Graham

**Marley**  
Michael Kruger

**Marylana Luepnitz**  
Nancy Grove

**Mattie**  
Mary Borts

**Max**  
Greg Schmick

**Maycee**  
Gail Njos

**Mazie**  
Marie Conte

**Miles**  
Dawn Knippel

**Milo**  
Thomas Cook

**Mitzi**  
Mary Reid

**Molly and Joey**  
Caroline Jurdi

**Mom, Dad and  
Kenny Rosenzweig**  
Karen Phillis

**Monty**  
Jean and  
Thomas Butcher

**Moo Moo**  
Sarah and  
Michael Hackbart

**Mutti**  
Farrah Chaichi

**Myla**  
Swanna Mallory

**Navaii**  
Pam and Ted Hansen

**Nike**  
North Plains Library

**Odie, Jemma, Balue,  
Mimi, Jasmine,  
Snoopy,  
and Coley**  
Danielle and  
Anthony Carley

**Oscar**  
Linus and  
Tracy Niedermeyer Jr.

**Owen**  
Margaret McClish

**Peluche and Pollen**  
Maria Buamscha

**Pepper**  
Anna Catibayan

**Peter Grach**  
Kelsey Pavlosky

**Pierre and Amelia**  
Sandra Banke

**Purrissa**  
Judi Oki

**Rio**  
Stevie and  
Hugh Baumgartner

**Rosco**  
Connie Kling

**Roscoe**  
Carol Moore

**Ruger**  
Karen and Jason Christie

**Ryder**  
Lori and Marcus Neal

**Sadie**  
Cole and Melissa  
Linehan

**Sadie, Bindi, and Luke**  
Arlene Kruger

**Sammy**  
Chelsie Kreklaue

**Samson**  
Helen Wilkins

**Sasha**  
Dana Zacharda

**Scout**  
Teresa Montalvo

**Sophie**  
Lisa and Paul Grabarek

**Sophie**  
**The Wonder Dog**  
Dean and Jayne Koehler

**Springer**  
Tom Shedd

**Sugar**  
Leslie Hanson

**Tam Baby**  
Linda and Dick Taylor

**Tashi**  
Barbara Christopherson

**Tater**  
Laurie Laverdiere

**Tazi**  
Vinod Singh and  
Susan Rourke

**Teddy Bear**  
James and  
Kathleen Walseth

**Teo**  
Julia Mbacke

**Tessie**  
JerreAnn and  
Dick Bader

**Tim Arbogast**  
Sandy Arbogast

**Toby Broyles**  
Allison Broyles

**Tommy and Tina**  
Evan Bryan

**Tonka**  
Kelly Leavitt

**Trigger**  
Janet and  
Jack Whitehead

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**Wilbur Whited**  
Margaret Colenberg

**Wiley**  
Scott and  
Jean MacTarnahan

**Wren**  
Shawna and Michael  
Gager

**Zoe**  
Chase and  
Chase Davis

## Thank you!

We would like to extend a special thank you to everyone who donated toys, treats and other goodies to our shelter animals through our Amazon Wish List! You make it possible for our staff to continue to provide individualized care and enrichment for pets staying with us.





Bonnie L. Hays

SMALL ANIMAL SHELTER

WASHINGTON COUNTY

1901 SE 24th Avenue, MS 53  
Hillsboro, OR 97123

## Searching for the purr-fect gift this holiday season?

Honor the special pet or animal lover in your life with a donation to the Bonnie Hays Animal Shelter!

Donations help us continue to reunite lost pets with their people, rescue stray and injured animals, investigate animal abuse and neglect, and provide specialized veterinary care for animals temporarily staying with us.

You can donate online, in person, over the phone or using the enclosed envelope.

A general donation allows us the flexibility to use your gift where the need is greatest. However, if you would like your donation used for a specific service, please contact us at [Animal\\_Services@washingtoncountyor.gov](mailto:Animal_Services@washingtoncountyor.gov) to discuss donation options.

Thank you for helping us care for the pets of Washington County. We are so grateful to be part of such a generous community!

Ladybug was brought to our shelter with an urgent condition that required our veterinary team to perform an emergency surgery. Donations from the community allow us to provide veterinary care to stray pets in need, like Ladybug.



**Animal Tales** is a publication of Washington County Animal Services & the Bonnie L. Hays Small Animal Shelter

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**Department of Health and Human Services Director:** Mjere Simantel • **Animal Services Manager:** Randy Covey • **Newsletter Editor:** Stacy Beckley  
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[washingtoncountypets.com](http://washingtoncountypets.com)