

UPCOMING  
EVENTS

- Tahuya Days Parade, Saturday, July 7th
- Lakeland Village Rummage Sale, Saturday, August 4th
- Muttley Brewfest 3, Saturday, August 25th
- Murder Mystery Dinner, Sept. 28th
- OysterFest in Shelton, October 6 & 7th

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# Waggin' Tails

VOLUME II, ISSUE III



JULY 2018

## Message From The President

With each new season it brings about change and there are changes happening with the Humane Society of Mason County. We just held our election of Officers and I am honored to have been elected as President. Our current board consists of the following volunteers:

Tina Nutt, President; Rhonda Robe, Vice President; Lynn Soderlund, Treasurer; Hazel Bellinger, Secretary; Blanche Valverde, Spay and Neuter Director; Cathy Gatto, Advertising Director; Sally Cull, Office Manager; Brenda Gardner, Auction Chair; Jodene Vaughan, Auction Presenter; and Dr. Nancy Isbell, Veterinarian Advisor

I have had the pleasure of working with these ladies over the last several years and I admire their devotion to our organization. All of our board members spend countless hours donating their time and their own personal resources managing our various programs, our annual Sails n' Tails dinner auction, and our shelter project. I am proud and honored to work with such a great group of volunteers.

Speaking of our shelter project we have been working very hard to get power hooked up to our property, and currently we are in an on-hold status on any further development and getting our well hooked up to power until we can resolve an issue regarding easement. We have been working very hard with PUD3 and neighboring property owners to this resolved. I have faith that this

will get resolved soon.

We have been fairly busy so far this year with our fund raising and participation in local events

We had our second Muttley Brewfest; hosted by Bent Bine Brewery in Belfair, on Feb 9th. During the Brewfest, Bent Bine donates to us \$1 for every pint sold. We also had raffle items and great food provided by Casper's Pizza & BBQ.

Our 9th annual Sails n' Tails dinner auction was held May 12th at the Alderbrook Resort and was very successful and a lot of fun. We had a great selection of silent and live auction items available. More about our auction is covered in this newsletter.

On June 23rd we had a booth at the Shelton's Habitat for Humanity Block Party. This was an opportunity to join other non-profit organizations in Mason County for this community event.

Christmas in July was held July 1st at Bent Bine Brewery. Again, this was a great opportunity to get together with other non-profits and talk about what our organization does and how we can help those in our community.

Looking to make plans for this summer? Mark your calendars and come join us at the following upcoming events:

*Tahuya Days* – July 7th. Many members of our Humane Society with their pets will participate in the Tahuya Days parade.

*Lakeland Village* in Allyn's annual

garage on August 4th starting at 8:00 am. We will be there participating with items for sale and selling hot dogs for lunch so come out and support us!

Our third *Muttley Brewfest* will be held on Saturday, August 25th from 4:00 – 8:00 pm at Bent Bine Brewery in Belfair. Come join us for great beer (\$1 from every pint sold is donated to us), great food provided by Wild and Woodsy Catering, plus chances to win great prizes. Tickets will be available soon through our website.

*Murder Mystery Dinner* – scheduled for Friday, September 28th at Little Creek Casino in Shelton. We are very excited to be hosting a Murder Mystery Dinner! Come join the fun at this fundraising event. More information to follow soon.

October 6 & 7th *OysterFest* in Shelton – stop by our booth at OysterFest plus come enjoy great seafood and watch the oyster shucking competitions.

*2019 Sails n' Tails Auction* – **New Date** – next year's auction will be held on Friday, March 29th at Alderbrook Resort & Spa.

I just want to say thank to all of our supporters, donors, and members of HSMC. We are here to assist our community with low cost spay/neuter, foster cat and kitten program, TNR (trap, neuter, and return), lost and found pet project, and pet food assistance. Our office in Allyn is open Monday – Friday from 9:00 – 1:00. Our phone number is 360-275-9310 and our email is [info@humanesocietyofmasoncounty.com](mailto:info@humanesocietyofmasoncounty.com). Please don't hesitate to contact us!

~ Tina Nutt,  
HSMC President



# TNR Program



**New kitties looking for homes in July!**

*"Compassion for animals is intimately associated with goodness of character, and it may be confidently asserted that he who is cruel to animals cannot be a good man."*

**Arthur Schopenhauer**

**Ralphie seeks his fur-ever home**



TNR is an ongoing program that is supported by a grant to provide spay and neuter surgery for homeless cats being cared for by different people who don't claim the cats as their own pets. Most of these animals are feral, afraid of humans, and may not allow the caregiver to touch them. Some of them are what is now being called "neighborhood cats", meaning they belonged to someone at one time or another, but have been abandoned, or lost. These are the ones who come up to the door, but for one reason or another, there is no room for them at the house. These are the ones that break hearts; they are homeless through no fault of their own, and need human assistance to survive.

One positive outcome of our TNR Program was the taming of one "neighborhood cat" who has become the faithful companion to an 88 year old lady living on disability. According to her daughter, caring for the cat has made her a lot more active, and subsequently healthier.

Another benefit of this grant has been the ability to help caregivers with large numbers of cats. These people had done what they could with their own funds to get the numbers down, but with our help, they were able to neuter as many as eight cats at a time, making the chance of an unwanted pregnancy while they were accumulating funds for additional surgeries much less likely.

One of the older male cats had an eye infection and an abscessed ear. We were able to treat both injuries while he was anesthetized and return him to his colony. We have been able to spay or neuter, vaccinate, worm, treat fleas and provide some BASIC medical care for 39 cats. We have also provided 60 pounds of food, something we couldn't have done without this grant.

So far, we have spent \$2,834.10 of our grant money, with \$1,650.18 remaining. Please contact us if you would like to donate to this great program.

~ Hazel Bellinger, HSMC Secretary & Foster Program Director

# Ralphie's Rescue

One of our TNR families happened to see Ralph's ejection from the family car in a rural section of Mason County and quickly called him over to their car and gave him a ride to safety. Ralph is an older gentleman, orange in color, friendly and outgoing in nature, and heaven only knows why the family chose to dispose of him in this heartless manner, unless it was his dental issue. Ralph needs some basic

dental care in order to feel his best. Unfortunately for Ralph, his rescuers are on a limited budget and have already committed to providing for a feral colony in their neighborhood in addition to their own family cats, so they asked HSMC for help.

Thanks to an anonymous donor, Ralph's dental work will be taken care of. His visit to the veterinarian's office indicated he was in great shape other than his teeth. He has been posted on our PetFinder log

and his caregiver's have indicated their willingness to continue to host him until a permanent home can be found. If any of our readers need a big, special, mature guy, check out our PetFinder page, or call the office.

~ Hazel Bellinger, HSMC Secretary & Foster Program Director

# Shalimar's Surprise



**Looks like one of Shalimar's babies has a new home already**

breakfast time, or hunting in the afternoon to help decimate the native rodent population. The neighbors were willing to feed her and pet her occasionally, but no one considered going the extra step and making sure she was spayed. A few of them noticed her gaining weight, but no one questioned the unlikelihood of a feral cat getting enough to eat on her house to house travels until it was too late. She wasn't fat, she was pregnant. Six adorable little rascals entered this world on April 21, and

one of the neighbors contacted HSMC to see if we could help.

We are now the proud foster parents to an adorable mom cat and her babies and the kittens will be hospitalized for spay/neuter surgery later in July, and on their way to our partner, PetSmart after that. In the meantime, if anyone is interested in pre-adopting one of these little guys/girls, please call the office on any Monday in July. Mom will also be available for adoption after she has a few weeks to recover and put on a few pounds.

~ Hazel Bellinger, HSMC Secretary & Foster Program Director

Moral of this story is:

**DO NOT LET THAT CUTE NEIGHBORHOOD CAT GET PREGNANT- CALL HSMC (360) 275-9310!**

Shalimar was a friendly, attractive, slim female cat who made the rounds of the neighborhood at

**"Animals are such agreeable friends — they ask no questions, they pass no criticisms."**

**George Eliot**

## Thanks To You ~ Sails 'n Tails 2018

It was another great Sails 'n Tails auction for HSMC at Alderbrook Resort & Spa on Saturday, May 12th. The weather and scenery were second to none at this beautiful Hood Canal resort, and with the wonderful music provided by Union River Band, it made for a great and generous mood for all our guests. With the help of our auctioneer Stephen Kilbreath, and key note speakers, new HSMC President Tina Nutt and Mason County Commissioner Randy Neatherlin, our 9th annual event proved to be our best yet, raising over \$54,000!! All proceeds from Sails 'n Tails goes towards our shelter building campaign for our future home in Belfair. We were joined by over 100 guests and the feedback was unanimous, it was a lot of fun and great time for all!

Thanks to the numerous donations from our auction guests, our Fund A Need special appeal for power

connection on our property received \$13,445! And our Fix A Friend received \$1,565 for our Spay & Neuter program.

The evening started off lucky for our golden ticket winner who chose the Holland America Cruise. And not to be left out, our 50/50 raffle winner received over \$500 cash, and donated half back to HSMC, thank you for your generosity! Additional congratulations go to Board Member Hazel Bellinger who received the highest bid on her donated dessert, and special thanks to Board Member Cathy Gatto for sharing her heart warming story of rescuing her Make Your Pet A Star winner from last year's auction before our Fund A Need bidding began. It's stories like Cathy's that help us realize why it is so important to have a shelter in our county.

After past trip takers shared their photos and experiences, it was no surprise we sold two African Photo

Safari's. And trips were the hot item this year, as we sold two trips to Charleston and two to Tuscany. Congratulations to all our lucky bid winners!

But we know this event would not be a success year after year if it wasn't for the amazing and continued support of our sponsors (Local Wrench, The Shopper, Edward Jones' Shawna Hawley, Tractor Supply Shelton, and Windermere Allyn), volunteers, auction guests, local businesses, friends of HSMC and generous bidders!

Please save the date for our 10th annual Sails 'n Tails auction on March 29th at Alderbrook, see you there!



# My Nimble Nubian Neighbors



I call them my boys, thou they're neither mine nor boys.

Not soft, warm and fluffy like a kitten.

Not roly, polly and nippy like a pup.

Always playful, inquisitive and full of joy.

They spy me through the dense firs if I come over the knoll;

Or the floppy ears alert to the

crunch of my shoes if I come by the gravel road.

With stubby tails waving and big mouths bleating, they run to greet me; they know I come with treats.

I buy carrots in bulk now, but all produce is chewed and devoured.

There once was a wall of blackberries dividing the yards.

Now just the fence remains,

good for me, I don't need to trim anymore.

So, yeah, they're "my boys", in my mind.

If they think I'm their Mom, that's even better.

~ Lynn Soderlund, HSMC Treasurer

*"Some people talk to animals. Not many listen though. That's the problem."*

A.A. Milne

# Almost Home Foster Cats & Kittens

Our Cat Foster Program is zooming along, but we sure could use some additional caregivers for the kittens.

Right now, we have 23 kittens in foster care and one person simply cannot provide the amount of attention and play-time that these babies need in order to be properly socialized. If you're interested in a short term "kitten fix", please

call Hazel at the office on Monday's. (360) 275-9310 Food, litter, kennels provided by HSMC.

We have placed 35 cats & kittens in permanent, loving homes since January 2018.

Our next litter went to PetSmart in Lakewood on June 26 and the next group(s) of kittens should be following in July. We also have several

healthy adult cats looking for permanent homes, and several adults with medical issues who need special accommodations. Two of these have feline immune deficiency virus (FIV) which necessitates them being "only" cats who stay inside always. These two FIV cats are incredibly loving and affectionate with people.

~ Hazel Bellinger, HSMC Secretary & Foster Program Director

# Spay & Neuter Program

Our Spay & Neuter Program continues to provide a much needed and valuable offering for our county. This spring, we paid for 39 spay/neuters, for a total cost of \$ 2,372.

Year to date, we have helped to pay for 73 spay/neuters, for a total cost of \$ 4,358! This program is funded only by

donations, and has done much to help us reduce the number of unwanted kittens and puppies in our county.

If you or a family you know could use our assistance to spay/neuter their pet, please contact our office. Forms are also available on our website.

One of our new moms catching a little 'cat nap'



## Good Adoption Management Found At Our Sister Shelter



**Sadie, one of the great dogs at Adopt A Pet of Shelton**

dog may react to all sorts of family members. For example observing how the dog reacts to a cat or pocket pet in the safety of a carrier may tell a lot about future relationships. If time is needed for these

kinds of tests Adopt A Pet welcomes that.

No dog is adopted out without first being spayed or neutered unless it is too young for the procedure. In that case, arrangements are made to reimburse the family once the procedure can be safely done. At the time of the spay or neuter a microchip is inserted. Then, when the animal is adopted the chip is registered to the family right at the facility using an online website. If medication or vaccines are needed they are given at the vet's office and go home with the dog.

There is a lot of attention given to each dog's individual personality and needs. If the dog is an owner surrender, favorite toys or articles that belonged to that dog are given to the new owners. If the dog is not doing well in a shelter environment, a foster home may be chosen

instead. For those dogs that can thrive in a kennel environment, stimulation and comfort is provided. Dog walkers, and other human companionship are provided daily by caring staff. Kennel cleanliness is a must. Special needs dogs are no problem. If a new mother with pups arrives, a special quiet area is provided. The same is true for extraordinarily shy dogs. For active dogs, extra walks or interactive dog to dog contact may be provided.

The public must understand that certain rules must apply when considering adoption of a dog. Just as the comfort of the dog is important, the needs of human members of the family should be evaluated closely. An overly exuberant dog may be too much for a child under 12, or the dog's history may indicate problems pairing the dog to any number of new situations. Fenced yards are a must for most dogs. For the safety, health and happiness of all involved it must be left to the experienced personnel to make the final decisions.

~ Sally Cull, HSMC Board Member & Office Manager

*"Petting, scratching, and cuddling a dog could be as soothing to the mind and heart as deep meditation and almost as good for the soul as prayer."*

**Dean Koontz**

Recently I had the pleasure of working with some experienced volunteers at Adopt A Pet in Shelton. I wanted to learn what makes their adoption program successful, so we can apply similar techniques to our "Almost Home" shelter in the future. I found that consistency and organization is key. Prospective adopters must schedule an appointment to get the best opportunity to check out a potential adoptee. Adopt A Pet has special areas set up for maximum interaction with the dog of choice both indoors and out. I observed that adoption families did not appear rushed or restrained while being allowed to play with their dog of choice. This seemed to allow freedom for the dog to react with all family members whether human or canine in a neutral setting. Staff make suggestions regarding how the adopted

## Fugs' Facts ~ Yes, There's A Day For That Too

Walt Disney once said, "if you can dream it, you can do it". Well, when it comes to national recognition days, 'if you can dream it, it can be a national recognition day!' What once used to be limited to days to recognize specific causes or groups, or raise aware for illnesses, has become a plethora of you name it days from national bobblehead day to national buffet day, and even whipped cream day, and that's just

in the first week of January! But thankfully, amongst all those recognitions days, there are some dedicated to our furry friends. Here are some of them remaining for 2018:

- \* July 11, All American Pet Photo Day
- \* July 15, I Love Horses & Pet Fire Safety
- \* August 17, Black Cat Appreciation Day
- \* August 26, National Dog Day
- \* Sept. 9, National Pet Memorial & Hug Your Hound Day

\* Sept. 15, Puppy Mill Awareness & Responsible Dog Ownership Day

Want to find more days? Visit [nationalday-calendar.com](http://nationalday-calendar.com)





## Humane Society of Mason County

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**Providing a second chance for our  
animal companions**

The Humane Society of Mason County (HSMC) is a non-profit, all-volunteer organization founded in 1986. We provide assistance and care to displaced, abandoned, and abused animals. We are committed to offering alternatives to euthanizing adoptable pets. We provide education about animal care and treatment to promote responsible animal ownership and the prevention of cruel, neglectful, or inhumane treatment of animals.

**Get involved! Volunteer and become a member today**

You can support us year round by shopping at **AmazonSmile** ([www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com)) or taking your **Walk For A Dog** ([www.wooftrax.com](http://www.wooftrax.com))

## What happens to a dog in a hot car?

### Cooling Mechanisms Kick In:

- Panting and drooling starts
- Blood vessels dilate

### Blood Pressure Is Affected:

- The heart works harder to supply blood to the dilated vessels
- Blood starts to pool in organs
- Blood pressure starts to drop

### Organs Start to Become Damaged:

- Kidney cells suffer thermal damage
- Small blood clots form, causing more kidney damage
- The cells lining the intestine and stomach suffer thermal damage, leading to severe bloody diarrhea and vomiting
- Liver cells die due to severe thermal damage
- Tiny blood clots form in the brain and the brain axons

### After the body reaches 109F

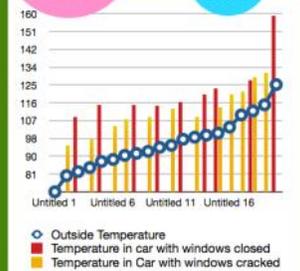
- Irreversible brain damage
- Seizures
- Coma
- Death

Increasing Temp.

## Interesting facts about the temperature inside of a car:

One study showed that even on a cool day (70F), the temperature inside a car can be 40 degrees higher than outside.<sup>2</sup>

Cracking a window makes little difference!



\*Data taken from a study done by the Animal Protection Institute<sup>1</sup>

While any dog is at risk for heat exhaustion, some are even MORE at risk:  
- Obese dogs  
- Dogs with respiratory problems  
- Brachycephalic (short nosed) breeds

### Treatment of Heat Exhaustion:

#### Call Your Veterinarian:

If your dog is in distress, or seems uncomfortable, he's likely going to need veterinary care.

#### Cool Your Dog:

- Don't use ice water! It will cause your dog's blood vessels to constrict and will make the problem worse.
- Immerse in a cool tub.
- Place a fan in front of the dog.

#### What the Vet May Do:

- Administer intravenous fluids.
- Treatment with heparin or plasma to counteract shock.
- Treatment with mannitol in case of brain swelling.
- Treatment with furosemide to help produce urine (if the kidneys have shut down).
- Treatment with drugs to protect the intestines from further damage.
- Monitoring of temperature and continued tests to determine how much progress or organ damage there is.

What to do if you see a dog locked in a hot car:

- If the car is parked outside of a store or mall, tell the store manager, or mall office and see if they can track down the car owner.

- If you can't track down the car's owner, call the local police, the SPCA, or if necessary 911.

### References:

- <sup>1</sup> Much of the information found in this infographic was adapted from information on Veterinary Information Network. ([www.vin.com](http://www.vin.com))
- <sup>2</sup> Animal Protection Institute Study on how hot a car can get. Information published at [http://mydogmatters.com/car\\_study.php](http://mydogmatters.com/car_study.php)
- <sup>3</sup> PARKED CARS GET DANGEROUSLY HOT, EVEN ON COOL DAYS, STANFORD STUDY FINDS - [http://med.stanford.edu/news/releases/2005/july/hot\\_cars.htm](http://med.stanford.edu/news/releases/2005/july/hot_cars.htm)

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Created by Dr. Marie Haynes of AskAVetQuestion.com

