



# NEWS

## FROM HOMEWARD PET

FALL 2016



## A LIFE BEYOND FEAR

**Read how your support helped Jelly Bean find a patient and loving home to call her own.**

Some scars remain unseen. They don't appear on an x-ray. They aren't hidden under fur. They are much deeper. Some scars form on the inside from years of neglect and abuse. But the damage is just as real, the pain just as great, the mental injuries just as debilitating. The road to rehabilitation can be longer and more difficult than any broken bone.

For two years, Jelly Bean had been one of 17 dogs living in a hoarding home in Eastern Washington. When her owner passed away, the dogs were left to fend for themselves. Jelly Bean was found several days later in the backyard with no food or water. Dehydrated, starving and terrified, she somehow survived.

In mid-April, Jelly Bean and 11 of her housemates arrived at Homeward Pet, a group of dogs more petrified than any we had ever seen. Every new experience, every new sound, every new person was completely overwhelming. The most scared was Jelly Bean, a 2-year-old Pit Bull mix. She was so frightened she would flatten herself out in the corner of her kennel so she could hide under her bed. Helping this shy and submissive dog was going to be hard work, but Homeward Pet's team of dedicated staff and volunteers were committed

to granting her a new life full of opportunities. Homeward Pet's behavioral and training teams immediately began to address Jelly Bean's paralyzing fear and anxiety. As part of our Kennel Enrichment Program, staff and volunteers would quietly read to Jelly Bean, teaching her that people are not always scary, or threatening, or demanding anything from her. Though it took a while for her to leave her kennel, eventually she was paired with other dogs for her twice-daily walks, so that she could see what it was like to be a normal dog.

Soon enough, our Dog Behavior Team was working with Jelly Bean. She received daily training sessions to make her more comfortable with handling and to boost her confidence. She began to spend more time out of her kennel and loved playtime with other dogs, whom she still trusted more than people.

Jelly Bean was eventually placed into foster care with Renny, a Homeward Pet staff member she had bonded with. The goal was to get her used to living in a normal home, and learn what it was like to be part of a family. This was her turning point. While in foster, Jelly Bean's behavior greatly improved. And even though she was still nervous, she began truly enjoying life. She went from merely surviving to thriving.

At the end of July, Jelly Bean was officially adopted by Susan and Jeff. We shared with them all that she had been through, and all that staff, volunteers and supporters had done for her. Susan and Jeff understood completely. They had dealt with extremely shy dogs in the past and knew that with a little time, care and compassion, Jelly Bean would reward them with unconditional love.

Jelly Bean is just one success story of more than 1,600 each year that illustrates how far we are able to take an animal's level of care. Your commitment to the animals has given us the resources needed to create programs that ensure homeless cats and dogs find loving homes no matter the cost, specialized care and time it may take. Because of you, Jelly Bean has a new beginning in a patient and loving home.

Want to become part of the Homeward Pet community? Learn how you can make a difference at [homewardpet.org](http://homewardpet.org).

Matches Made. Lives Saved. Communities Served.

As one of Washington State's leading nonprofit, no-kill animal shelters, Homeward Pet Adoption Center's mission is to give homeless animals a second chance through our rescue, shelter and adoption programs.

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Homeward Pet Adoption Center is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.



Dear Homeward Pet Supporter,

It's not often the veterinary staff have the opportunity to thank you for your dedication to the animals and to Homeward Pet. We are very excited to share with you how your support is allowing the Homeward Pet Dunmire Veterinary Clinic to provide high-quality veterinary care, treatments and medications to hundreds of homeless cats and dogs every year.

So far in 2016, we have helped more than 200 special needs animals, exceeding the total number of special needs animals helped in 2015. This includes 112 dental cleanings/surgeries on cats and dogs, many of which require hours of extensive extractions, surgical repairs and cleanings due to severe periodontal disease. We have completed several amputations, removed malignant and benign tumors, managed long term skin infections with antibiotics, performed urine and blood tests, prescribed special veterinary diets and have overseen a variety of outside laboratory testing. All in addition to performing routine care such as intake exams, vaccinations and spay/neuter surgeries!

Homeward Pet could not do this alone. We are fortunate to have a growing list of partner veterinary clinics that offer discounted services for x-rays, ultrasounds, orthopedic surgeries, emergency treatments and specialty consults. Even so, we have still spent over \$12,000 on outside care this year alone. These costs have been covered by Whoopi's Fund for Special Needs Animals, our dedicated fund for providing extraordinary medical care. We are truly grateful for those who have contributed to this program and others so we can continue to go above and beyond for our most fragile cats and dogs.

Most recently, our supporters helped fund new clinic recovery kennels. Once they are installed, we will have 14 kennels for daily operations and recovery care versus our current six. In addition to the much needed extra space, these new kennels will be easier to sanitize and will offer safer, cleaner spaces for the animals.

With all of these essential improvements to the shelter in 2016, we look forward to what we can achieve together in 2017. Thank you for helping us provide the highest level of care to our shelter animals.

Sincerely,

Tina Huang, DVM  
(Texas A&M, 2005)

Jenny Brown, BVMS, MRCVS  
(Glasgow University, 2013)

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## HOMeward PET HAPPENINGS

- October Adopt-A-Shelter-Dog Month
- October 1 Pawsitive Alliance's 4th Annual Statewide Shelter Open House Event
- November Adopt-A-Senior-Pet Month
- November 19 Northwest Cellar's Sip & Shop
- November 25 Homeward Pet Holiday Pet Food Drive Begins
- February 2017 Homeward Pet's 27th Anniversary Month
- April 15 Homeward Pet Fur Ball Auction & Dinner



## LEADING THE WAY TO THE LAST LITTER



The Last Litter Program accepts healthy litters of kittens and puppies. The mothers are spayed to prevent future unplanned litters, and then returned home. Each litter is cared for until they are ready to be placed for adoption.

two cats became pregnant, she wanted to make sure all seven kittens received quality care and found loving homes. Melinda reached out to Homeward Pet and benefitted from the Last Litter Program.

Homeward Pet provided Melinda's kittens with vaccinations, spay/neuter surgeries, microchips and a clean bill of health. The mothers were spayed and safely returned home. We

We have all known someone close to us whose cat or dog unexpectedly became pregnant. And while we all love puppies and kittens, litters can drain time, energy and resources. That was the case for Melinda's family. When Melinda's

have since found loving families for all of the kittens. Melinda wrote to our shelter manager sharing her experience with the Last Litter Program.

"I took the babies in today and just wanted to tell you that everyone was so kind. I was a mess as I am very attached to the kittens, and this was extremely difficult for me. The staff were all gracious and understanding; they explained everything well and gave me comfort. You have an exceptional organization there and I am so glad you are all part of the Woodinville community. Thank you for all you do for the wonderful pets that need loving homes."

*If you or someone you know needs assistance caring for an unplanned litter please contact Homeward Pet or learn more at [homewardpet.org](http://homewardpet.org). You too can make a difference in addressing pet overpopulation and pet homelessness by spreading awareness about the Last Litter Program.*

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# KATHY'S HAPPY TAIL



Last May, Kathy was dropped off at Homeward Pet limping and feeble. When we asked her previous owner why, we were told Kathy was injured six years ago but was doing fine now.

However, Kathy wasn't fine. New medical exams and x-rays revealed she had previously fractured her leg. The fracture had never been fixed and it was clear she had been living in discomfort for quite some time. Homeward Pet's consulting surgeon said, "Realistically, I would be surprised if this cat was ever pain free." The staff of Homeward Pet's Dunmire Veterinary Clinic jumped into action to alleviate Kathy's constant pain. Unfortunately, the injury was too old to repair. The only option for her to live a pain-free life was to

amputate her leg. On June 1, Kathy underwent surgery and had an extremely fast recovery. This sweet senior found her forever home a few weeks later. Her adopter tells us she has been adapting well and "seems really relieved to have the pain in her leg gone."

"Since she's come home, her silky fur has all grown back in from the operation, and she's absolutely gorgeous, and she knows it! I initially put steps and ottomans near all of my furniture so she could climb up, but she's begun to bypass them altogether. She's even able to jump from the floor to the armrest of my sofa, which is almost four feet off the ground! You should see how fast she can chase her catnip toy. I'm so grateful to Homeward Pet for introducing me to my new best pal and for finding homes for so many other adult and senior kitties!"

**November is Adopt a Senior Pet Month! You can make a difference in a senior pet's life by participating in Homeward Pet's Oldies But Goodies campaign this November where you can Pay It Forward for one of our older residents! Learn more at [homewardpet.org](http://homewardpet.org).**

## BE THERE FOR THEM EVERY DAY OF THE YEAR!

Thank you to our Guardian Angel Kennel Sponsors!



Pat Maguire

Diane Bode and John Hinson

Eric Vernon and Karen Kesler

The Nichols Family

Richard Bryant

Bradley Wells and Jeff Buckelew

Jen Rose and Hidetake Jo

Nicole and Rascal G.

Koda's Arc

Gene and Donna Rowe

Todd Hadley

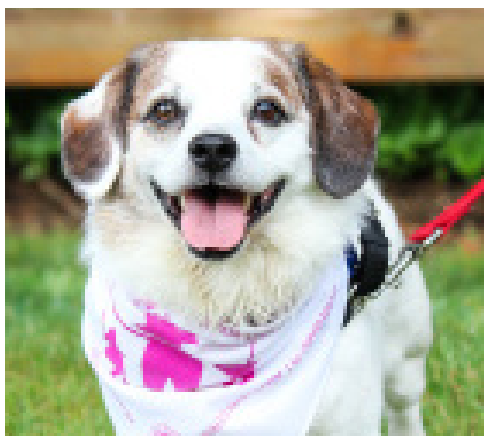
Szakatis family, In Memory of David G. Orbits

Waggy Maggie Shine

Jackie and Rem Husted

Bella's Voice Thrift Store

VCA Sno-Wood



## A DOG WALK LIKE NO OTHER!

The 2016 Happy Tails Wine Walk was made possible by all of our incredible sponsors. Thank you to our sponsors, attendees and volunteers for making this year's walk the best one yet! Some of our sponsors include:



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## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



as a donor, as a participant in the many events put on each year, and by sharing Homeward Pet with family and friends. A tour of the facilities, and seeing all the sweet dogs and cats available for adoption, is truly inspiring!”

Char has a 13-year-old rescue Husky Shepherd mix named Koko and two 12-year-old black and white cats, Dinah and Charlie. Her 96-year-old mother also lives with them and “greatly benefits from the attention of the pack!”

Thank you Char for dedicating so many hours to improving the lives of our homeless animals. You are an inspiration to the entire Homeward Pet team.

One year ago, Char Coulbert walked through our doors wanting to have a greater impact in the lives of animals. With her compassion and dedication, Char has been an incredible volunteer and asset to the team.

In one year, Char has logged more than 800 hours volunteering, and that’s not all! She has helped at numerous events, sponsored our first ever Fur Baby Shower in May, is an active donor and most recently joined Homeward Pet’s Board of Directors.

Char demonstrates an awe-inspiring commitment to the animals and to the people at Homeward Pet. Each morning, she warmly greets everyone in the office and then tackles anything that is thrown at her with a “can do” attitude. We recently asked Char to share a few words about her experience with Homeward Pet.

“After unexpectedly losing my job and not being quite ready for retirement last summer, I contacted Executive Director, Terri Inglis to inquire about volunteer opportunities. I felt I still had a lot to offer in administration and was fortunate to be able to support the Development team.

I thought the best part of volunteering with Homeward Pet would be hanging out with the dogs and cats, but it is actually getting to know the many dedicated and delightful staff and volunteers who make this place hum. Visiting in the cat room during breaks is also wonderful, of course! I am a huge admirer of every facet of Homeward Pet and look forward to joining the Board this month.

I encourage everyone to get involved with Homeward Pet in some way – either as an occasional or regular volunteer,



# Join Us!

## FOR THE HOLIDAY GIVING TREE DONATION DRIVE

Homeward Pet’s Holiday Giving Tree donation drive is fast approaching! Host a Holiday Giving Tree at your business, holiday party or collect from people you know to help provide food and supplies for the homeless dogs and cats that come through our doors. It’s a simple, thoughtful way to help care for the animals at Homeward Pet.

Learn more at [homewardpet.org](http://homewardpet.org).

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# Save the Date!

**FUR BALL AUCTION & DINNER 2017**

**Saturday, April 15, 2017 at the Meydenbauer Center**

[www.homewardpet.org/auction](http://www.homewardpet.org/auction) or call 425.488.4444

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