saving wild lives

Spotlight on the Great Blue Heron!

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From The Director

By Lisa Horn, Executive Director

Dear Friends of the Shelter,

The year is going by quickly and I wanted to take the opportunity to update you on the progress being made in our search for the new permanent home for the Shelter. As you are aware, the Shelter has become one of our state's leading wildlife rehabilitation centers. Last year we saw dramatic growth once again, providing care to more than 1560 wildlife patients, entertaining more than 12,000 children and adults with our education programs, and answering nearly 6000 conflict calls from the community. As supporters of the Shelter, each and every one of you played an integral part in making these impressive statistics a reality.

Over the last year, the Board and I have been working hard to identify a future home for the Shelter. The lease on our current property will end on December 31, 2021. We are considering several sites in Kitsap County, but no decisions have been made at this point in time. A total of 15-20 acres will be required to ensure that we can provide the expert care for our increasing patient loads as well provide the needed space to create an interactive education center that will be open to the public. We are looking at various sites ranging from raw, undeveloped land to land with structures and infrastructure already present. The total funding needed to develop the new Shelter campus is $2,500,000 - 3,000,000.

In addition to the property and facilities, our vision for the Shelter’s future includes the creation of a robust “sustainability fund” to ensure our financial stability for many years to come. This fund will be used to fund operations and other organizational priorities, such as education, facility maintenance and capacity building. The goal for this fund is $1,000,000. Our plan is to raise these funds by conducting a major capital campaign that reaches out to our friends and supporters, community philanthropists, charitable foundations and business sector.

Before embarking on a campaign of this magnitude, we engaged a Seattle based fundraising company, Optimus Fundraising, to provide strategic guidance. With their help, we conducted a feasibility study in late 2016 to determine our fundraising potential. The study reached over 250 individuals including staff, board members, volunteers, donors, community leaders and business and foundation representatives. The study recommended that we proceed with a campaign to fund the relocation of the shelter along with developing a new hospital and education center while also developing the sustainability fund I mentioned above. We are now in the early stages of developing a campaign plan and will continue to keep you informed as we move forward.

Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions that you may have. I will do my very best to provide as much information as possible. Please keep in mind that the Shelter’s efforts to find a new home are still very much in process and I may not have answers to all of your questions. Additionally, as you will understand, the nature of real estate transactions requires a certain level of confidentiality that does not permit us to publicly discuss potential future locations. It will be some time before a decision is made on a new location. The timing depends, in large measure, on our success in raising the required funding.

At this early stage, you can help by continuing to serve as a strong advocate and champion of the West Sound Wildlife Shelter in our community. The more we raise our profile and increase the understanding of our important mission, the better positioned we will be for our fundraising success and realization of our exciting mission.

Thank you so much for all that you do to support the Shelter, we truly couldn’t do it without you.

Sincerely,

Lisa Horn
Executive Director
Spotlight on the Great Blue Heron

Great blue herons are found throughout the United States, although there are parts of the northern mid-west where they only migrate through or are only present during the spring and summer seasons. Some great blue herons will travel south to Mexico and Central America whereas others, like those in Washington, stay in their territories year round because of the mild winters.

Great blue herons are frequently seen in western Washington. They prefer to nest in evergreen trees within 2-4 miles of their hunting grounds and a mating pair can have 1-3 chicks. Hunting grounds are highly variable; the herons do well with access to fresh, salt, or brackish water as well as grasslands. While we typically view them as fish eaters, they have varied diet including fish, small rodents, and the occasional amphibian.

Heron are well-known opportunistic feeders, not only are they frequent feeders at hatcheries, they will also visit koi ponds. Several studies done at hatcheries have found that herons cull fish that were sick or injured in some way as these fish spend more time near the surface, making them an easy target.

Want to keep a heron out of your pond? Take advantage of the fact these birds are waders! Create a drop off in your pond that will minimize shallow water and provide overhangs and plenty of cover for your fish, frogs, and or turtles. Extra depth will help maintain water quality, provide enrichment and shade for your pond species, and prevent the herons from grazing on your pond dwellers!

Great viewing sites in the Kitsap region include the Theler Wetlands in Belfair, Chico Creek watershed, and Illahee State Park. Herons have also been seen on the shore near Front Street in Poulsbo, Fay Bainbridge Park, and on Jay’s Pond at the Kingston House as well as both ferry docks. There are several large rookeries and an uncountable number of 1-6 nest rookeries scattered throughout the region – keep an eye out in March as this is the peak of courting and nesting season. Hatchlings are born in April and May with fledglings found most often in June.

WSWS By The Numbers

Between Jan 1 and June 30
872 wild animals were received for treatment:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Birds</th>
<th>Mammals</th>
<th>Reptiles</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>32 Birds (46 patients)</td>
<td>14 Mammals</td>
<td>1 Reptile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>16 Birds (269 patients)</td>
<td>8 Mammals</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>20 Birds (171 patients)</td>
<td>50 Mammals</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>104 Birds (105 patients)</td>
<td>115 Mammals</td>
<td>1 Reptile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>134 Birds (54 patients)</td>
<td>89 Mammals</td>
<td>3 Reptiles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>144 Birds (41 patients)</td>
<td>140 Mammals</td>
<td>1 Reptile</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Between January 1 and June 30
64% of treatable patients were released back into the wild:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Release Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information on great blue herons, check out the Cornell Lab of Ornithology’s All About Bird’s page. (https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Great_Blue_Heron/lifehistory)
Our Education Ambassadors Around Town

While the shelter’s main focus is the rehabilitation and release of injured wildlife, we also have significant interest in community education, whether at the level of an Audubon meeting, a civic club gathering, or one of our fondest forms of outreach, young people. It’s a special privilege to bring our education ambassadors to the public, so guests can see the birds of prey and opossums more closely, for better insight and appreciation.

This aspect of our mission at West Sound Wildlife Shelter is also growing, and this year promises to likely outpace last year by the end of summer. By the end of June we’ve met with organizations ranging from the Central Valley Garden Club, Poulsbo Eagles, and Kitsap Kiwanis, Puget Sound Energy’s open house information night at Islandwood, and over fifteen different schools, both public and private. We’ve also been very pleased to be invited again to two multiple-day public school events in King County, the Kent Water Festival, and new this year the Federal Way’s Storm for the Sound. In each case the Shelter spends two days with hundreds of kids learning about environmental stewardship.

Look for our ambassadors this summer at the Stillwaters Eco-Fest, Bloedel Family Day, the Kitsap County Fair, the Art in Nature weekend in West Seattle, as well as several local library programs.

One of the most exciting events for our educational owls was to be invited to a Harry Potter event at the local Barnes and Noble in Silverdale, WA. Over 350 people attended and were treated to a meet-and-greet with our barred owls, Athena and Oakley, and our great-horned owl, Sunny. These same owls will be at a bigger event at Barnes & Noble on July 30th.

The goal of our program is to engage and inspire our community, as well as communicate facts and information about the Shelter and individual ambassadors. Research shows that environmental education can improve up to 70% when people are able to personally appreciate live wildlife. We are extremely grateful to have the opportunity to help in that effort with our current crew of seven raptors and one opossum – and our dedicated education stewards.

If you’re interested in scheduling an event for a school or organization of your own, please contact us at (206) 855-9057 or education@westsoundwildlife.org. Check our calendars and follow us on Facebook to see where we’ll turn up next!

If you would like to adopt an ambassador and help with its care, please return the form below. For a list of ambassadors or to adopt online visit www.westsoundwildlife.org/adopt.html.

We are very grateful for the community’s support, and are looking forward to a very active and enjoyable 2016!

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**Adopt an Ambassador!**

I would like to adopt __________________________ ! *(name of your favorite ambassador)*

Name: ______________________________________ Phone: ______________________

Address: ______________________________________

City: ______________________ State: ______ Zip: ____________

Email: ______________________________________

Payment Method

☐ Enclosed is my check payable to West Sound Wildlife Shelter (or WSWS)

☐ Please bill my ☐ VISA ☐ Mastercard ☐ AMEX ☐ Discover

Card number: ______________________ Exp Date: ____________

Name on card (if different): ______________________

Billing address (if different): ______________________________________

Mail this form to West Sound Wildlife Shelter, 7501 NE Dolphin Drive, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110

Or adopt online at www.westsoundwildlife.org/adopt.html
A gull was rescued from Kitsap Creek in Bremerton. It was floating in a blackberry tangle, and it took the finders three days of trying before they were able to capture it. When they got it out of the water, they noticed that it was unable to fly and that its left wing was drooping significantly. They brought it to West Sound Wildlife on November 15th.

This is where his long saga with us begins. His wing was drooping because he had a fracture of his left ulna near his “wrist”. This was not a good case for surgical repair - but wrapping it and letting the bone heal presented a unique problem of its own. Look at the radiograph and see how very close the pieces of bone come to touching the unbroken bone (the radius).

When a bone heals, a bony callus is formed - that callus is often much larger than the original bone. The issue here is that if the bony callus forms while healing and makes a bridge of bone between the radius and ulna, the gull would not be able to fly properly and would not be able to be released.

We decided the reward outweighed the risk. So the wing was wrapped in a figure-8 bandage to keep it immobile, and the wait began.

Much to his displeasure, he was started on a pain medicine regimen consisting of anti-inflammatory medications. Birds who are in pain do not eat well, and we were sure that this guy was feeling significant pain. He had to be weighed every morning, and we took that opportunity to give his oral medication with a pill popper just like you would use for a dog or cat.

By the end of the first week, the gull had gotten into the routine: He was eating well and was adjusting to being here. He was briefly anesthetized every 4 days to give us a chance to remove the wrap and perform physical therapy with the wing. If you leave a bird's wing wrapped up to it's body, the tendons will contract. Even if the bone were to heal, he wouldn't be able to fly if we allowed that to happen. So we moved the wing for him. The bone fragments remained in place, and he started to form a bony callus.

By the end of the third week, it was time to remove the wrap and allow him to move the wing himself. We kept him in a small enclosure so he wasn't able to fly but could exercise the wing.

By the end of the second month, he moved down to the flight cage to start flying again. He was down there exercising for a month and a half and was released in February!

The fascinating thing about this case is looking at the serial radiographs: you can see the bone healing. While the bony callus came extremely close to bridging the gap between the two bones (read that as millimeters apart), it never did bridge the gap. His wing continued to rotate and have normal function.

This case is also a good illustration of what we often do: make the best choice for the animal based on odds of recovery, do everything we can therapeutically, and then simply wait. It's always gratifying when the waiting is rewarded with a successful medical outcome and after 90 days in care, a successful release.

Nature is an Amazing Healer
I Found a Baby Animal - What Should I Do?

It’s baby season here at the Shelter, in fact we are going into our second baby season due to the early spring. We receive many calls every year about baby birds or mammals found in back yards or local parks, or brought in by cats or dogs. Faced with these vulnerable little creatures, it’s not uncommon to wonder “what do I do with this baby, or does it need my help?”

First and foremost, if the baby is visibly injured in any way, call the Shelter or your closest licensed wildlife rehabilitator.

If you are not sure about injuries, we can help you determine if the baby is in distress, help you look for signs of injury or stress, and give you some instructions on how to handle a baby if it does indeed need to be brought to the Shelter.

If the baby is not injured, determining whether a baby animal is truly orphaned and needs your help depends on age, species and behavior. Babies of some species are left alone all day and rely on camouflage for protection, while others are closely supervised by their parent(s).

So what should you do if you find a seemingly healthy baby animal without its parent(s)? Here are some tips to follow.

First, do NOT remove the wildlife baby from its environment - yet.

Second, are the parents around? In the case of baby birds, if the baby is a hatchling with no feathers and it appears uninjured, see if you can find the nest and gently place the baby back in the nest. Don’t worry, birds can’t smell, so the parents won’t mind if you’ve touched baby.

Fledgling bird being fed by parent
Photo: Stock/Internet

Watch for the parents to return. If the nest cannot be located, or if the parents do not return to care for the baby within 6 hours, please call the Shelter.

If the baby bird is a fledgling (developed feathers but short or non-existent tail feathers), it is an adolescent bird that has likely jumped out of the nest in an attempt to learn to fly. Mom and Dad are probably close by, and will continue to feed their offspring on the ground while they are learning to fly.

For baby mammals, what to do is sometimes species specific since some mammals nest on the ground, some in trees, or in the case of opossums, babies stay in their mother’s pouch. Here are some tips on the more common mammal babies you may come across.

Deer fawns: Mother deer often leave their babies for up to 12 hours at a time to forage for food and draw predators away from their offspring. If you see a lone fawn, please leave it where it is. The mother will return. If the mother does not return within 24 hours, the fawn is most likely an orphan and you should call the Shelter for advice on how to help.

Baby Bunnies: If you find an intact nest, you can tell if the mother is returning if you place some string or yarn over the nest and check later to see if the yarn has been moved aside. If the yarn is undisturbed after 12 hours, the mother has not returned and the babies are most likely orphans.

Squirrels: If the baby and/or his nest fell from the tree today and is uninjured, leave it where it is and give the mother squirrel a chance to reclaim her young and relocate it to a new nest. If the baby is not retrieved by dusk, call the Shelter.

Opossums: Once baby opossums leave their mother’s pouch they start riding around on her back. Sometimes one (or more) may fall off and the mother not notice. As a general rule, if an opossum is less than 7 inches long (not including the tail), he is an orphan, and you should contact the Shelter.

Wild animals are excellent parents by instinct, and we cannot take their place in raising wildlife young. Unless you are sure the baby is an orphan, the first rule is to leave the baby in place and follow the tips previously mentioned. Taking babies increases the danger of imprinting and habitation, which can cause them to become a nuisance.

Help us to keep healthy babies with their parents! However, if you or someone you know has unintentionally taken a baby, we can help by taking the baby and providing the correct diet and life-saving care it needs. And no doubt, if you find a baby animal that is injured and obviously in need of our help, please contact us.

Fawn lying in the grass waiting for its mother
Photo: Stock/Internet

Squirrels: The nest or nest tree has fallen and the
parents do not return

Deer fawns: The nest or nest tree has fallen and the
parents do not return

• A dead parent nearby
• Shivering
• The nest or nest tree has fallen and the parents do not return
• Shivering
• A dead parent nearby
• Crying and wandering for more than 12 hours

(206) 855.9057

For more species-specific information on what to do if you find baby wildlife you suspect may be orphaned, please visit http://www.humanesociety.org/animals/resources/tips/injured_orphaned_wildlife.html.
The “Buzz” on Hummingbirds

Here in the Pacific Northwest, our summers are blessed with mostly moderate temperatures, beautiful blue skies and those living jewels, the hummingbirds. Often referred to as “flying jewelry”, these thumb-sized dervishes are the masters of the aerial maneuver, hovering while feeding at flowers, rapidly flying forwards, backwards and even upside down, zipping and buzzing through your yard and garden. Weighing in at 4-6 grams, these tiny creatures are one of the toughest creatures in the animal kingdom. They thrive in the some of the most brutal environments - from the cold of Alaska to the heat of the desert, from sea level to 15,000+ foot peaks.

The most common hummingbird species in the region are the Anna's and Rufous hummingbirds. Anna’s hummingbirds are actually year-around residents of the Pacific Northwest - they do not migrate, and are quite happy when the more aggressive Rufous hummingbirds leave for the winter and take the fight over food with them. They are also the largest hummingbird in the Pacific Northwest region, and the most vocal of ALL hummingbirds in the United States. Most hummingbird species are silent, except for the sound their wings make while beating.

The Anna's Hummingbird is 3.5 - 4 inches long with a wingspan of 4.75 inches. The male has a scarlet red crown and a red iridescent throat, called a gorget. Upper parts and sides are an iridescent green, while the belly is gray. Females also have a gorget, but only a small one in the form of a small red patch on her throat, surrounded by red flecks. They love to snack on nectar at bird feeders, but when it comes to flowers, they are a little bit picky, preferring flowers with tube or bell-shaped blossoms. They also eat small insects caught in flight and aren't above making an easy meal of insects caught in spider webs.

The other species you will see is the Rufous hummingbird, which is a little smaller than an Anna’s, about 3 - 3.75 inches long with a wing span of 4 inches. The males can be easily distinguished by their bright red-brown backs and orange gorgets; the females are green, but rufous on the sides, breast and base of the tail. Cute as they are, the territorial little Rufous hummingbirds seem to be natural bullies, aggressively chasing away Anna’s hummers from feeders when they return to the area, much to the chagrin of the Anna’s.

So how do we go about attracting them and keeping them happy? As we know, the primary food for hummingbirds is nectar, whether from a feeder or flowers. They especially love any flowers that are red, and there are a number of species we can plant for them, available at local garden stores. Otherwise, hummingbirds are quite content to dine at a feeder. These pugnacious little birds will jostle each other out of the way for the privilege of getting to the food you provide, providing hours of enjoyment watching their antics and acrobatics.

Some things to keep in mind:

- Most feeders have either a reservoir or flower ports colored red as an attractant. Although nectar is commercially available, there is some concern that the dyes they contain may in fact be harmful to them. It's easy to make your own hummingbird food using white table sugar and water. Never use honey or brown sugar. Check online for recipes.

- Hang the feeder in a shady spot, out of the wind. The liquid food can spoil easily so don't allow it to remain for more than 2 days without changing it. If you see that it becomes cloudy, change it more often.

- Keep the feeder clean. A hummingbird feeder should be scrupulously washed every few days to keep mold from forming. Use very hot water and a bottle brush or old toothbrush to scrub all the surfaces.

Because the Anna's hummingbird is a year-round resident to our decks and gardens, food can be provided all year. Anna’s will visit your feeder if its 84 or 34 degrees. But even in cooler weather, care should be taken to keep the feeders clean.

If the birds don’t come to your feeder right away, don’t lose heart. It sometimes takes a while for them to see it, but once they do, you might find yourself refilling the feeder several times a day!

Hummingbirds are seductive little creatures, providing hours of enjoyment for people who love to watch birds. You can’t learn about hummingbirds without getting sucked in!

Fun Hummingbird Facts!

- The hummingbird heart beats more than 1200 times a minute. However, at night or in cold weather, their heartbeat can drop to a mere 50 beats a minute to conserve energy.

- Hummingbirds flutter their wings at an amazing 80 beats per second, producing that humming sound we all know. They do not flap their wings, rather they rotate their wings in a figure 8, which enables them to hover in one spot, and even move backwards. This wing ‘rotation’ provides them with precision maneuverability!

- Hummingbirds use their tails as a paddles to help them steer in three dimensions, or remain stationary as they eat.
Partnering for Success

In early January, the Shelter’s executive director was driving back from a day full of meetings when she received a phone call from a staff member.

“I just wanted to let you know that the two dryers, both fridges, the furnace and both washers all quit today.”

These words strike a bit of anxiety into the heart of a nonprofit director and staff. Financial resources at the Shelter are stretched thin each and every year as we push forward to rehabilitate the increasing number of wildlife patients that come through our front door. In 2015 alone the Shelter staff and volunteers treated over 1560 wildlife patients! This is exactly the scenario that struck the West Sound Wildlife Shelter back in November of 2015.

We quickly posted our story and need on our Facebook page. Immediately, generous donors came forward offering up their gently used appliances!

One such donor was none other than Puget Sound Energy! PSE had seen our Facebook post and immediately jumped into action donating not only a brand new dryer but also a GORGEOUS hand painted fridge for the hospital as part of their Appliance Recycling Program! They have stayed actively involved with the Shelter and even became the top sponsor for our annual Call To The Wild Gala Dinner & Auction.

We were completely surprised and every time we use all of these appliances from PSE and donors throughout Kitsap County, we remember how truly fortunate we are to have so much support in our amazing community! Thank you PSE and all of our donors, we could never do what we do to rescue and rehabilitate the wildlife in our region without your continued generosity.

A few WSWS staff members and stewards, and PSE representatives gather during the delivery of our new appliances. Educational ambassador Ranger is in the foreground.

Special Thanks

A special thank you to all of the wonderful people and businesses whose donations year after year allow this wildlife hospital and education center to exist and carry on our important mission. The following supporters deserve recognition:

Organizations, Foundations & Corporations


In-Kind Veterinary Services & Partnerships

All Creatures Animal Hospital  Dr. James Little, DVM  Dr. Kathryn Krueger, DVM  Poulsbo Animal Emergency  Trauma Center  Day Road Animal Clinic  Winslow Animal Clinic

Organized Volunteer Groups

Apple  Wells Fargo Bank  Washington Youth Corps

In-Kind Donations

Bloedel Reserve  Dottie Tison Photography  Grover Creek Hatchery Jay Wiggs Photography  Kacie Hsu  Kitsap Sun/Bainbridge Review  Suquamish Tribe  US Fish and Wildlife Service, Pacific Region, Quilcene Hatchery

West Sound Wildlife Shelter is a proud participant in Bainbridge Island’s One Call For All, the “red envelope campaign”, and the Kitsap Community Foundation’s Kitsap Great Give, both annual giving events. Please help us save the lives of wild animals by donating to the Shelter through one or both of these campaigns.
A Diamond in the Rough

On April 30 a call came in about an infant Douglas’ squirrel that was found in a driveway. We asked the finder several questions about the general health of the baby and helped her assess any injuries to the precious baby, and whether she could spot the nest or any parents around. They said the cat had noticed it but had not harmed it. Since there were no trees close by and it was found in such a strange spot, Shelter staff suspected that the mother squirrel was probably moving her babies and may have been spooked during the move, leaving this baby behind.

After it was determined that this helpless little squirrel was in fact orphaned, the finder offered to bring the baby squirrel up to the Shelter, quite a ways from their home, about an hour away.

When the baby arrived Shelter staff got to work very quickly. The little baby was almost hairless, with the eyes still closed meaning it just over a couple weeks old. Weighing in at just 12 grams (just under 1/2 ounce - about the weight of 4 dimes), this little female Douglas squirrel had a long road ahead of her and a major challenge to her survival. It’s very difficult under the best circumstances to raise infant animals in a captive environment. Wildlife parents obviously provide the best care, but when we have to intervene we do our best to give babies a second chance at life.

She had to be fed every hour for the first few days, so one of the Shelter’s dedicated staff would take her home at night to make sure she was fed. Even the slightest weight loss could cause a quick decline. After a couple days she started gaining weight and then more and more as time went on. Finally, after about 3 weeks she started eating semi-solid food like applesauce, crushed pine nuts, and berries. After she was here for 4 weeks, she was almost on totally solid food including whole nuts and berries, and a variety of vegetables!

One of the challenges for this little female is that she was being raised by herself. She needed at least one companion so she would know how to be a squirrel. It’s not uncommon for rehabilitation centers to ‘borrow’ patients so a single will have an age and species mate to grow up with. At first we couldn’t find any centers that had Douglas’ squirrels. While that’s good news that there weren’t many squirrels in rehabilitation, it was bad news for us. Finally, we got a call that another regional center had a companion squirrel. We were so excited about that!

We put the two together and moved them outside to acclimate to the nighttime temps. On June 18th, both squirrels were released at the home of one of the Shelter’s long-time supporters. We don’t name our patients, but the person at the release home named her “Diamond” because she was such a tough little one. It was quite a journey for both her and us!

WISH LIST

The care we provide injured wild animals like in the story above would not be possible without the generous donations from our supporters. Listed below are just some of the items we need: for a complete list, please visit our website. Thank you!

Meat, poultry, seafood and game
Vegetables and greens
Seasonal fruits
Straw or hay (call before bringing)
Disposable dust and paint masks
Cotton balls
Frozen berries
Flat sheets
Pillow cases
Liquid dish soap
Toilet paper
Large trash bags (45 gal)
Non-Latex exam gloves (Nitrile - MEDIUM)
Liquid laundry detergent (unscented)
Liquid hand soap
Bleach
Gift Cards (hardware, pets, gas, retail)
Nolvasan (Chlorhexidine) disinfectant
Heating pads (non automatic shut-off)
Terrariums/aquariums with screen lids (cannot be cracked)
Small plastic pet holders with intact lids
Ziploc bags - quart and gallon

~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Photo: Dottie Tison

“Diamond” was spotted at her new home in this photo, taken by the home-owner.
Your Donations at Work

All of the animals below, plus hundreds more, were treated at the Shelter and released!

Be a catalyst for change: Please donate to help save wildlife!

- Baby Robin
- Baby Mice
- Baby Wood Duck
- Baby Opossum
- Baby Eastern Gray Squirrel
- Baby Bald Eagle
- Juvenile Raccoons
- Belted Kingfisher
- Female Anna’s Hummingbird
- Juvenile Short-tailed Weasel
- Canada Gosling
- Red-eared Slider

Saving one animal won’t change the world, but it will change the world for that one animal.

Please consider the Shelter for your charitable giving.
WSWS Fundraising and Outreach Events

West Sound Wildlife Shelter’s fundraising events continue to be a must attend for many of our supporters and always sell out.

**Call To The Wild 2016 - UPDATE:** Our flagship event, the 2016 Call to the Wild gala auction, was a record breaking success. The gala sold out three weeks prior to the event with a record breaking crowd of 260 people! We raised more than $150,000, a 30% increase over the 2015 auction! Thank you to everyone who donated items for the auction, to the attendees who bid hardily and gave generously, and to the volunteers, who gave countless hours of their time helping to prepare, set up, and help wrap up the auction for 2016. We could not do any of this without everyone’s help and support.

**Wild For Wine** a bucket list item for foodies, as well as wine and chocolate lovers. The menu is an exquisite 4-course meal with scrumptious foods that are paired with delicious regional wines from both small and larger Washington State vineyards. An epic wine and chocolate tasting follows the dinner. Guests are treated to hand-made chocolates from local chocolatier ChocMo, paired with a wide variety of small vineyard Washington State wines. The evening also includes a silent auction where attendees can bid on extravagant wine and chocolate themed baskets. Registration opens August 1, 2016 online, or you can return the portion below.

Our other two fundraising events are wonderful family events that provide an opportunity for adults and kids to get up close and personal with the Shelter’s wildlife ambassadors from our live animal education program.

In June the Shelter hosted the **Summer Solstice Walk**. Unfortunately, the event was canceled due to storms - the first time ever. Please keep the date for the 2017 Solstice Walk on your calendar - Saturday, June 17, 2017. Check our website and Facebook for more information as the date gets closer.

The **Spooky Creatures Walk** is by far the Shelter’s most popular family event and sells out early every year! In 2015, the Spooky Creatures Walk attracted more than 400 people and raising more than $3,500, making it one of our best outreach events! Taking place at the beautiful Bloedel Reserve, adults and kids are led on guided tours that follow a winding path through open and forested areas to meet the wildlife ambassadors. Afraid of the dark? Come early! Like to be spooked? Choose a later tour! The spook factor is even better in the dark! Get your tickets after August 1.

Along with these major events, keep an eye out for periodic open houses at the Shelter and our presence at many local events such as Whaling Days (July 30-31), Bloedel Family Days (August 22), the Kitsap County Fair (August 24-28), Harvest Fair (TBA September), and more!

**WSWS-Hosted Event dates for 2016 - 2017**

- **Wild For Wine**
  - Saturday, October 22, 2016 | 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm
  - Clearwater Casino Resort, Suquamish, WA

- **Spooky Creatures Walk**
  - Saturday, October 29, 2016 | 3:30 pm - 8:30 pm
  - Bloedel Reserve, Bainbridge Island, WA

- **13th Call To The Wild Gala Auction & Dinner**
  - Saturday, April 8, 2017 | 5:00 pm - 9:30 pm
  - Kiana Lodge, Poulsbo, WA

- **Summer Solstice Walk**
  - Saturday, June 17, 2017 | 4:00 pm - 8:30 pm
  - Fish Park, Poulsbo, WA

For information about all WSWS events, and local events where we’ll be appearing with our wildlife education ambassadors, please visit the website at www.westsoundwildlife.org/events, or like our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/westsoundwildlife).

We hope to see you at all our events!
Spotlight on the Great Blue Heron!

From the Director:
Update on the Future of the Shelter

Nature is an Amazing Healer:
How we fixed a gull’s broken wing

Also in this issue:
I Found a Baby Animal - What Now?
The "Buzz" on Hummingbirds
A Diamond in the Rough

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