

# Center Valley Animal Rescue

a no-kill animal sanctuary and rescue



www.centervalleyanimalrescue.org

11900 Center Road, Quilcène, WA 98376 (360) 765-0598

Spring / Summer 2012

## Saving Sadie: How One Sheep Survived

By Sara Penhallegon

In mid-November, 17 farm animals came to CVAR for immediate rehab from Kitsap County Animal Control. They had just seized a total of 180 animals from an Olalla farm. The ones we received were suffering from extreme starvation and parasite infestations. The worst was a ewe (female sheep) that we named Sadie.

She was so emaciated she could not stand and appeared to have been down for some time. Her legs were locked in a tucked position under her body. She was dehydrated, had severe diarrhea, and could barely lift her head.

We wrapped her in a blanket so that we could carry her to the trailer

See **SAVING SADIE**, Page 2



Sexy Sadie

**W**ow, 10 years. It's hard to imagine just 10 years ago, I was filling out applications for a business license and non-profit forms. Things sure have changed from a handful of foster animals in my rental and a few other foster homes, to where we are today – a 32-acre ranch with two barns, a nice, 4,000-square-foot building and more than 130 animals!

## Letter from the Director

Sara Penhallegon



I'd like to say I never could have dreamed how CVAR is today ... but that's not true. I knew we would get here. When I sit back and think of how far we've come, it just proves anything is possible if you follow your dreams.

And we have even further to go.

When we got our property eight years ago, we knew we were making a big leap, from a small foster network to an established shelter/rescue/adoption center. At the time, it seemed impossible. But things always worked out.

The property had been logged six months before we got it; ponds had been filled in with stumps so they could be driven over, streams had tire tracks through them, several 100-foot piles of debris littered the property, and one large building, riddled with dry rot, looked ready to collapse. What a project! We cleared stumps, burned debris piles, replanted wetlands and planted pastures. We tore down the rotten building and built a new one. Thanks to the help of my supportive parents believing in my dream and funding the initial land and building work, we were able to take in our first animals at the ranch.

To fund our new non-profit, a few friends and I sold off anything we didn't need to make ends meet. Helping to care for the fledgling rescue were five volunteers who were also our board members. Our team of caring volunteers now numbers more than 35. Our financial support comes through a growing network of individuals like you who support the mission that has been our foundation from the beginning. Since those rugged beginnings, we have built the capacity to take in all types of domestic and farm animals, and now we can even take wildlife.

What a long way we have come. Our dreams are coming true, thanks to so many of you who share our passion.



## Center Valley Animal Rescue Board of Directors

Director: **Sara Penhallegon**

Treasurer: **Stephanie Hawley**

Secretary: **Cheryl Halverson**

Volunteer Coordinator: **Joanne Mackey**

Administration: **Pat Todd**

Board Member: **Jan Richards, DVM**

Board Member: **Mary Olson**

Board Member: **Jean Holtz**

## Special Thanks to Our Veterinarians

Dr. Abbie Doll

Dr. Jeff Highbarger

Dr. Robert Nathan

Dr. Jan Richards

Dr. Maya Bewig

Feline Hyperthyroid Center, Shoreline

## Newsletter Committee

Dave Cunningham

Sara Penhallegon

Pat Todd

## MISSION STATEMENT

Center Valley Animal Rescue is 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Our mission is a commitment to providing safe harbor and rehabilitation for unwanted domesticated animals, thereby decreasing the number of unnecessary euthanasias performed. We believe all creatures have inherent value, a right to life, and are entitled to have their basic needs met in a kind and caring manner. Center Valley Animal Rescue is dedicated to finding loving homes for all adoptable animals in our care and offering permanent sanctuary to the animals that cannot be adopted.

## Saving Sadie ... Continued from Page 1

for transport and then into the building at the ranch. We knew she had a long road to recovery, but we were determined to save her after all she had been through.

The weather was cold, and we had to keep her inside our building. Working with our farm vet, Dr. Jan Richards, we came up with a treatment plan which included giving her daily fluids, vitamin injections and nutrition until we could get her to eat on her own. After a few days, she was eating and looking more content and bright but still had no use of her front legs, although her back legs were starting to move a bit with stretching and massage.

At that point, I came up with an idea. With the help of my partner Robert, we erected a sling, hung from the ceiling from eye bolts. Robert helped me get

All seventeen farm animals and three rabbits we took in from the seizure are now healthy and doing great. Eight have been adopted to new homes. We still have the three rabbits, two alpacas, one llama, four sheep, a Shetland pony and a pig. Sadie is among those still needing a forever home.

her into the sling for the first time, and after making a few adjustments, it was a perfect fit.

In the beginning, she was in the sling for five minutes at a time, as she was too weak to hold her head up longer than that. With each session I would massage her legs and shoulders and work on range of motion with her legs. After a few days of this, her back legs began to work and she was pushing herself around the kennel with her front end down and back end up. By the fifth day, she was in her sling three times a day for 20 minutes each session.

And then she stood for the first time! Within another five days, she was walking. Soon Sadie was ready to move out to the barn with the others. She is now running across pastures, getting to be a healthy sheep.





## Kitten Back from the Brink

By Sara Penhallegon

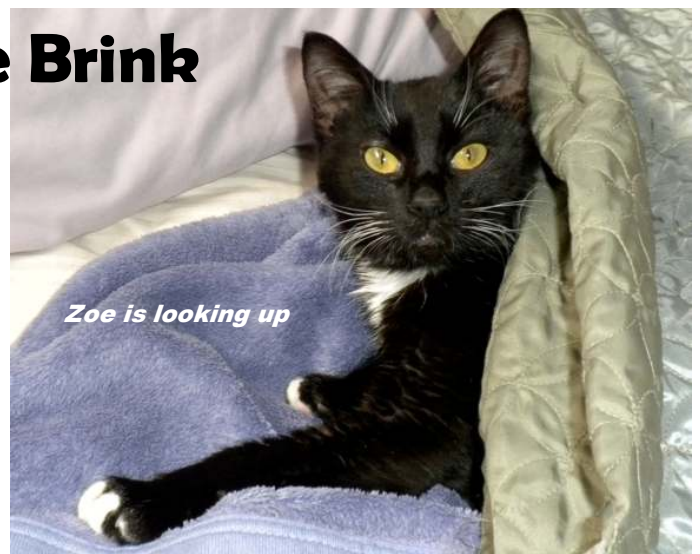
The woman's voice on the phone sounded anguished and helpless. Hearing a kitten crying out in her pasture, the caller had gone to investigate. There she found a little black and white kitten screaming for help. We sent her and the injured kitten straight to Chimacum Valley Veterinary Hospital (CVVH) for an emergency assessment.

The kitten was found to be emaciated, dehydrated, extremely anemic, and had a badly broken and infected leg. The kitten was then brought to CVAR so that we could stabilize her, but the infection kept getting worse. Her leg needed to be amputated, and we couldn't wait until she got healthier. She went back to CVVH for surgery, but her blood counts were dangerously low. We knew we could lose her in surgery due to loss of blood. She needed a transfusion, but who would donate blood?

I ran home and got my cat Timmy, a three-legged cat I had rescued as a kitten seven years earlier. He had been found as a tiny feral kitten with half his rear leg chewed off by another animal, but is now a huge, 16½-pound cat that took little convincing to get in the carrier when I told him an ailing kitten needed his help.

Once at CVVH, Timmy gave his blood so the little black and white kitten could have a better chance at making it through surgery. The kitten did well in surgery, but she wouldn't be out of the woods until her blood count came up to a normal range. What we did know was that at this point, her prognosis was definitely looking better. She continued to get stronger every day until she finally made a full recovery.

The kitten, now known as Zoe, was quickly adopted by a wonderful family. Thanks to a caring woman and another three-legged cat, Zoe has a bright future with her new adoptive family in Port Angeles.



## Dusty the Terrier Regains Health at 'Swim Spaw'

For weeks, our rescued terrier named Dusty had been on strict kennel rest as the pin and plate in his hind leg helped hold together the fractured bone. It was going to be a waiting game to see if the leg would heal or would have to be removed.

Seeing his story on Facebook, Janice Hill of Swim Spaw in Poulsbo offered to help. Through therapeutic swim coupled with massage, Dusty might have a better chance of saving that leg. Volunteers transported Dusty to the pool where he was gently handed over to Janice and her business partner, Kendra Van Norman. Dusty had



five sessions in the pool, receiving various therapies and assisted swim time. Janice and Kendra had set goals for Dusty of providing low-impact exercise, maintaining muscle mass and helping to heal the fracture. They certainly achieved the first two. Only time

and further X-rays would tell if the final goal was reached.

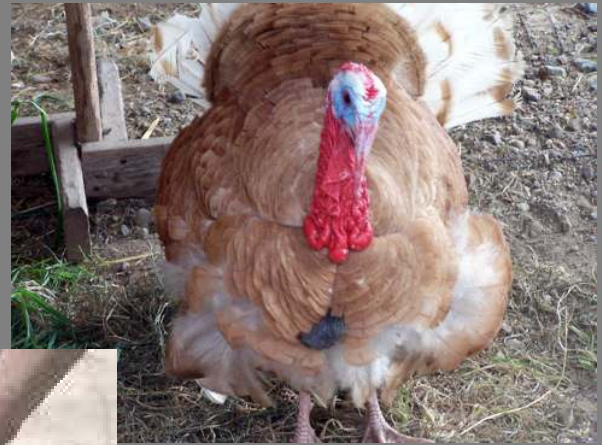
Two weeks after Dusty's final swim session, he went in for another X-ray. This time it was clear that the bone was regenerating. Dusty would keep his leg. Swim Spaw did indeed accomplish that third goal – they played a part in healing Dusty's fractured leg. A big thanks to Swim Spaw and Dr. Jeff Highbarger, who performed Dusty's surgery and follow-up care.



## Adorable Adoptables



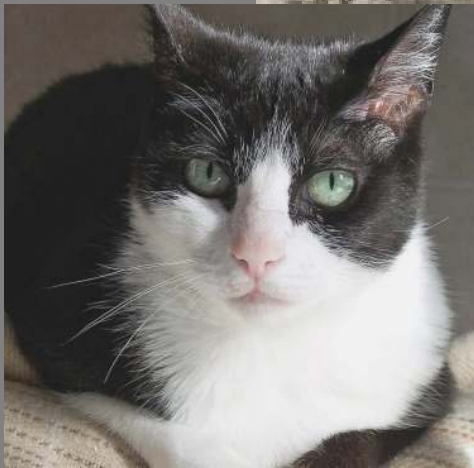
Hank the Guinea pig (above) mugs for the camera.



Turkey Lerkey (above) is a healthy male comedian who likes to follow people and flirt with horses. We have adoptable avian critters of many kinds.



Jasmine, a sweet Australian cattle dog mix (right), loves to play with humans.



Duchess (left) is a sweet example of our many and varied cats awaiting adoption.



Trigger (right) is a beautiful young male Shetland pony.

**Want to take one of us home? Phone CVAR at (360) 765-0598**





Don and Big Kasey

## **Three Happy Stories** **From Our Decade**

**By Pat Todd**

From the very beginning, adoptions have been a prime focus of CVAR. The adoption application and process was developed and honed over the years so we could do the best job possible matching up great animals with terrific, responsible, caring people.

Here are just three stories from our first decade:

**2002:** Sport was a lively, young dog that seemed to have a challenge finding the right people to put up with his hyperactivity. Then along came Anne and Don, who saw beyond his energy to the heart of a wonderful companion. Sport, who was re-named Kasey, found his calling at his new home, which he shared with another dog, Cody, who was paraplegic. As Kasey grew larger than expected, he coupled that size with his energy to take care of Cody. Kasey would wear a harness, get hitched to a wagon and give Cody rides around the property.

Despite his size, Kasey turned out to be a very gentle dog. A tiny kitten now shares his home, and she's the boss. If she wants the dog bed, he'll move off and let her curl up for a nap.

Two years ago, Anne and Don found another dog at CVAR – Ginger, who had been a bait dog for illegal dog fighting. Ka-

### **Adoption Tales**

See **OF MOUSE AND MADDIE, Page 7**

## **THE LIFE OF A VOLUNTEER**

# **It's Very Good Therapy**

**By Nancy Naslund**

Growing up in suburbia, I spent some of my best summers at my cousin's farm. The open spaces, freedom and animals were intoxicating. I begged my cousin to walk with me to the sheep farm to soak in the sights and smells of newborn lambs. Fell in love with a pinto named Cheyenne and a donkey named Jenny. And couldn't understand why my mother firmly said, "No!" when I begged her to let us keep a cow in our backyard.

Fast-forward 50 or so years, following a career of wildlife biology, home educator, and then stay-at-home mom of six teenagers. The yearning for farm animals seeped again to the surface. A flock of chickens helped but was not enough for me. It was a good time to reach beyond the borders of parenting to another fulfilling pursuit. Having seen the life-saving work done on behalf of animals in need at CVAR, I contacted Sara Penhallegon about volunteering.



Nancy Naslund

Who would have thought mucking stalls and filling water bowls and troughs could be so satisfying? Patiently gaining the trust of the shy sheep fulfilled my longing for closeness to them. One afternoon, after sharing carrot and apple treats, the sweet, ancient Clare ran up and put her head in my hands and gazed up with her beautiful eyes into mine. Heaven. Two days later she departed this earth, and I treasure that moment even more.

I've been delighted to realize that my feeling of intimidation around horses is changing, thanks to the beautiful mare, Moonshine, who graced me with her companionship. The gentle giant, Sterling, the pretty and playful young Arab, Sunny, and the noble, wise thoroughbred, Stormy, have helped, too. And, oh, the quiet moments sitting with the rabbits.

My farm animal friends are a necessary part of my well-being. The camaraderie shared with other ranch folks is a wonderful bonus. I don't think I could make it through the week without my ranch "therapy time."

## When Should You Rescue a Baby Wild Animal? Hint: Almost Never

Many wild animals do not need to be “rescued,” and there is almost *NEVER* a time when you should remove a baby wild animal from its natural environment – even if it appears abandoned. More often than not, just leaving a young animal alone affords it the best chance for survival. Needlessly “rescuing” wildlife is extremely detrimental and harmful to the young animal.

Young animals are often left alone for hours while their parents gather food. They are being tended by their parents in ways best for their survival and appropriate for that species, ensuring that they retain natural wild behaviors. It’s normal and typical for a deer fawn to be left alone, hiding in a bed. It is also common for young birds to



leave the nest before they are fully feathered or flight-ready. They will be fed for a day or two by the parents until they are ready to fly.

Unless the animal is showing obvious signs of illness or injury, vomiting, panting, shivering, lethargy, ruffled feathers or fur, or attacked by a cat or dog, leave it there. You can help by keeping your pets away from them and using careful observation from a distance.

Consult a licensed wildlife rehabilitator, such as CVAR director Sara Penhallegon, prior to collecting the animal, thereby

preventing needless handling.

Source: <http://wdfw.wa.gov/conservation/health/rehabilitation>

## Our First Intern Arrives

**E**arlier this year, the new CVAR internship program description and application forms were sent to area colleges and universities that have students studying in the fields of veterinary medicine, animal behavior, zoology, wildlife biology or animal rescue and shelter management. The internship will provide students with field learning experiences that could qualify for credit or be an addition to a resume.

Our first intern, Marian Aline, arrived in mid-May. Her goal is to gain experience working with farm animals, so she will benefit from working with Dr. Jan Richards, our farm animal veterinarian. In addition, she will be assisting with the care of all other animals and working with volunteers as part of the CVAR team.

To learn more about the internships, go to our website [www.centervalleyanimalrescue.org](http://www.centervalleyanimalrescue.org) or call 360-765-0598.

## CVAR Calendar

**Saturday, June 30**, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. CVAR Beautification Day. Come lend a hand, meet new friends.

**Saturday, July 7**: The CVAR ranch will be closed to celebrate Sara and Robert's wedding.

**Saturday, July 14**, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. CVAR Birthday Party and Open House. See story on back page.

**July 27 - 29**: Port Ludlow Festival by the Bay. We'll have a booth there. Come see us.

**August (date to be determined)**: Pet Lover's Weekend at Costco in Sequim.

**Saturday, September 15**: Quilcene Fair.

**Saturday, October 27**, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Fur-ball Pet Costume Contest at the American Legion Hall in Port Townsend.

**Saturday, December 1**, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Holiday Open House at CVAR.

## A Very Special Thank-You ...

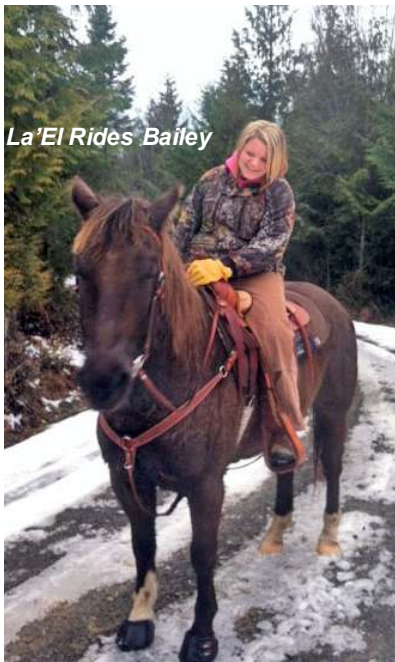
**... to everyone who has made us grow and go for 10 years, especially Stephanie Hawley, who has been with CVAR from the start.**

## Of Mouse and Maddie ... Continued from Page 5

sey saw he had work to do with Ginger – he needed to teach her how to play.

Anne said she has come to CVAR for her adoptions because she “wanted an animal that presented special challenges, because those are the animals that present special gifts.”

**2010:** Mouse – that was the name given to a small, starved “mouse” of a horse that was rescued along with 15 other horses. When La’El came to see the rescued horses, Mouse caught her attention. She saw a spirit in Mouse that was giving and kind. After visiting Mouse several times, she knew she needed to adopt her. Soon the name was changed to



Bailey, and with great care and attention and continued good feeding, the horse began to grow. Bailey, who will be 5 in June, stands a beautiful 16.2 hands. In a voice filled with love and admiration, La’El loves to talk about Bailey. “She’s the sweetest ever! She’s smart and willing to learn. She loves kids, she’s great with people, and she’s so affectionate.”



*Ferret pals Yoshi Pogo and Minnie Maddie share a laugh*

I think it is Bailey who is reflecting the very same things that she is seeing in her new, loving family.

**2012:** Minnie Maddie is a petite ferret with a big sense of adventure. When she first came to CVAR, she was always ready to climb out of her cage and explore her world. When Sid and Alissa were looking for a friend for their own ferret, Yoshi Pogo, they thought Maddie was perfect.

### Adoption Tales

But their own ferret’s bigger size worried Alissa. “Yoshi would tackle Maddie, and I thought he was going to hurt her. But then he’d roll over on his back, and she would jump all over him. He’s really very gentle with her.”

Little Maddie was soon giving Sid kisses. Alissa said that Maddie actually started out by biting Sid gently on the nose, twice. Now she gives him little licks on the nose.

Yoshi and Maddie have their own bedroom but love the opportunity to run around the house, playing with each other, snooping into whatever they can find and enjoying their wonderful new friendship.

### ***Pet Partnership Offers Hope***

## **All Not Lost When Your Pet Goes Missing**

We see them often: the flyers with the big picture of a beloved but missing pet, asking for anyone who has seen it to please call. It’s a heartache, a knot in the stomach, when a pet goes missing. If you’ve ever experienced that feeling, you know how greatly you want to spread the word and find your pet safe and happy to be re-united with its family.

Missing Pet Partnership has that exact goal as its mission. This nationwide non-profit with a chapter in Seattle has a website full of information and tips to help people get the word out effectively, search practically and get their pet home safely. To learn more see their website: [www.missingpetpartnership.org](http://www.missingpetpartnership.org)





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## Adoption Counts

During 2011, we were able to place 109 animals in new homes; that's nearly one adoption every three days! Our critter adoption totals for last year:

20 cats	4 Guinea pigs
15 dogs	4 pigs
13 horses	4 rats
13 chickens	3 roosters
10 rabbits	2 ducks
9 birds	1 hermit crab
5 gerbils	1 ferret
5 goats	

Between Jan. 1 and April 30, 2012, Center Valley Animal Rescue was able to grant the following 49 adoptions:

15 cats	2 horses
8 goats	2 chinchillas
6 Guinea pigs	2 fish
5 dogs	1 rabbit
5 birds	1 ferret
2 sheep	

## Check Your Inbox

CVAR has launched a new service for our supporters: E-Mail Alerts. Give us your e-mail address, and we'll send you periodic notices about events, happenings and special needs of CVAR.

Send your e-mail address to:  
[sara@centervalleyanimalrescue.org](mailto:sara@centervalleyanimalrescue.org) E-mail addresses will not be given out to anyone or any group. Thanks for supporting CVAR.

## Donor Privacy Policy

We are committed to the rights of our donors. To that end, we will not sell, trade or share our donors' personal or contact information with anyone else, nor will we send mailings on behalf of other organizations. Center Valley Animal Rescue is pleased to report that out of every dollar donated, 93 cents goes directly to our work with the animals.

## Happy Birthday to Us!

It's a birthday party, and you're invited! Join us on Saturday, July 14, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. to help us celebrate our 10th birthday. Our special guest will be Steve Duno, pet behaviorist and author of "Last Dog On The Hill." Duno has trained thousands of dogs and cats (and their owners) and has authored 18 pet care books. The celebration will include animal mask-making for kids, musical fun with local musicians, three sumptuous raffle baskets, lots of food and, of course, cupcakes.

## Our Summer Hours

The ranch will be open from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. the first Friday of each month and also during those same hours every Saturday.