



Rogue Valley Humane Society
P. O. Box 951
Grants Pass, OR 97528
541-479-5154
RVHS-OR.ORG

Paw Prints



Kitten Nursery Wish List

Spring is coming, and with spring time comes kittens! Kitten season lasts from April to October every year and during this time, shelters in our area become overwhelmed with requests for kitten placement.

This year, we are embarking on our first year of having our Neonatal Kitten Nursery active and running!

Thanks to a grant we received from the Orphan Kitten Club, we are now able to house and care for neonatal kittens that are 0-4 weeks old.

These babies are always in need of supplies to keep them going, especially formula to make sure they grow to be big strong cats. If you would like to donate towards our nursery supplies, scan the QR code above with your phone's camera app or QR reader app to go directly to our wish list on our website.

Thank you for helping us save lives—four paws at a time!

RVHS NEWS

BY MARGARET VARNER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear friends of the animals,

As I write this, a slurry of snow and rain just finished falling. It's hard to believe spring and summer are just right around the corner, which you may or may not know means kitten, puppy and wildfire season (oh my!). So I come to you all again in hopes you can help because without you, there is no us!

The last few years have brought a lot of change to the world and this means that nonprofits like RVHS have had to change how we operate. Due to the rising cost of staffing, medical supplies and basic necessities, we often find we have to limit the number of pets we can bring in.

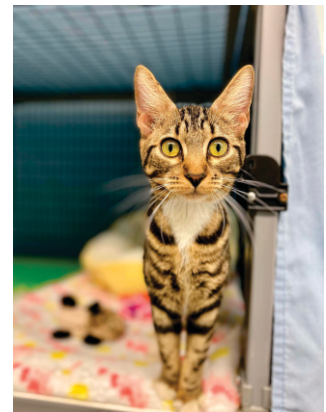
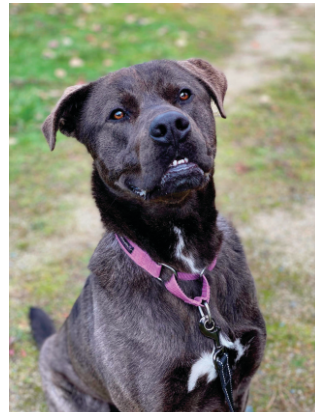
The care that Team RVHS continues to provide each animal in our care with is nothing less than excellent! Because of this high standard, we can take on those hard cases where a special pet comes into our facility that may need extra love, training,

special medical or dietary care, time to grow in our neonatal kitten or puppy suite, or just simply extra time to find their loving forever homes. Luckily because of our wonderful community's generosity and support we're able to provide help to the animals we care for—no matter how long it may take.

Even though we may have changed how we operate a bit, Team RVHS is still committed as we always have been to teaching responsible pet guardianship while maintaining our community food bank, Ani-Meals, low cost spay-neuter vouchers and educational programs.

Speaking of spay/neuter programs: did you know that with the help of private donors and small grants, Team RVHS has been working with people in our community who otherwise couldn't afford spay and neuter services to help trap/neuter/release (TNR) the community cats in our area who are unowned by anyone?

Continued on page 2





Sponsorship Programs

Would you be interested in supporting RVHS through a kennel sponsorship? You can help the animals while also promoting your business or honoring a beloved pet or family member.

As part of your sponsorship, we will order two magnets that include the name of your business, loved one, or a phrase of your choice. One magnet will be displayed on a kennel and the second on our magnetic display board in our front office that is visible to the public. Your magnet will also be displayed on our metal sandwich board at our Saturday Grower's Market booth.

Your sponsorship visually shows your support for RVHS to the community. Sponsorships may be purchased for \$250, \$500, or \$1,000 with the magnets differing in size in relation to the amount of the purchased sponsorship. The magnets will be displayed for one year from the date they are first put up on our kennels.

You can also sponsor our Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) program by providing a donation. This sponsorship would go straight towards helping to sterilize and ear-tip our local community cats who are otherwise unowned cats, but who contribute significantly to the babies we see in our shelter each kitten season.

We could use ALL the help we can get to fund this initiative and alter as many colony cats as we can. A donation of \$500 to sponsor a colony to help us spay/neuter will get your name and/or logo featured in our next print newsletter, as well as a heartfelt thank you on our social media pages.

Many caretakers of cat colonies are desperate for appointments for the cats they help care for to prevent even more cats from being born and causing them more mouths to feed (which is getting increasingly more expensive!). I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to private citizens, business owners, volunteers, and staff for working together to help the community cat overpopulation in our city and county! Together we're making a difference—four paws at a time!

We are also a part of a growing coalition of more than 70 rescues, shelters, pet stores, and veterinarians from across Oregon that are in support of House Bill 2915 which would prohibit future pet stores from selling puppies and kittens in Oregon. This bill would help to drive statewide pet industry towards more humane sources, such as shelters and rescues. We are in support of this bill to help end the puppy mill to pet store pipeline and we hope you join the cause as well!

Please help Team RVHS to continue our mission by telling your friends, family or businesses that you frequent about us, or our adoptable pets and events. Rogue Valley Humane Society is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that depends on your donations, grants, thrift store sales, and events to sustain all of our programming in order for us to help the animals in our community.

Margaret Varner, Executive Director



ROGUE VALLEY HUMANE SOCIETY 2022 STATS



TOTAL INTAKES
404

TOTAL LIVE OUTCOMES
397

LIVE RELEASE RATE
98.7%

2022 VOLUNTEER HOURS: 5142

STRAYS: 71

RELINQUISHED BY OWNER: 264

TRANSFERRED IN: 6

OTHER INTAKE/TNR PROGRAM: 63

ADOPTIONS: 190

RETURNED TO OWNER: 54

TRANSFERRED OUT: 88

FELINE RETURN TO FIELD: 60

PASSED/EUTHANIZED: 5

PRE-ADOPTION SPAY/NEUTER: 311

COMMUNITY CAT SPAY/NEUTER: 247

OTHER RESCUE SPAY/NEUTER: 438

OF SPAY/NEUTER VOUCHERS WRITTEN: 363

AVERAGE # OF PETS HELPED THROUGH OUR COMMUNITY FOOD BANK EVERY MONTH: 630

ANIMALS ASSISTED IN OUR ANIMEALS PROGRAM EVERY MONTH: 45

FOREVER FOSTERS: 5



429 NW SCENIC DR, GRANTS PASS, OR 97526 541-479-5154





Spotlight on Roman's Holistic Dog Training

From the bottom of our hearts, we want to thank Roman Gottfried at Roman's Holistic Dog Training and his wife Barbara Buck for the dedication and time they have put into making Manny be the wonderful dog that he's become. We are eternally grateful for his partnership with us to give this dog the second chance he truly deserved.



We recommend Roman Gottfried and his force-free holistic training methods. If you would like to schedule a session with Roman for your own dog, contact him at www.holisticdogtraining.org.



Paws Up!

A special thank you to Crystal Fresh Bottled Water for donating bottled water to both the Facility and the Thrift Store for many years now! This donation is so generous and allows staff and volunteers to have fresh clean water all year!

Address: 3921 Highland Ave.,
Grants Pass, OR 97526
Phone: (541) 474-0801

Announcing Manny's Adoption!

January 9th, 2020. A day that changed our lives forever. This was the first day that we met Manny, who was at the time a 2 year old Wheaten Terrier that needed our help badly. We are unsure of what had happened to him, or what his life was like prior to entering our doors, but it is safe to say that he was neglected, abandoned, and in need of some tender loving care. Despite what he must have gone through in his past life, Manny had such a shining disposition and love for the people that were helping to make him feel better. The first few months of rehabilitation were rough, but seeing Manny's wounds heal and his fur grow into a soft curly coat were worth all the time, money, and care that we put into this little guy. After getting to know him better, we determined that Manny was best placed as the only pet in the home. This always makes placing pets a bit harder for us, but we knew that the perfect family was out there for him.



A year into caring for Manny, the staff at RVHS determined that due to his past trauma, we had provided him all the specialized care that we could and wanted to seek additional avenues to help us with his continued training. Luckily, we had worked with Roman Gottfried at Roman's Holistic Dog Training in years past to help us out with special dogs that needed extra attention and training to prepare them for adoption. We created a partnership with Roman in honor of Manny and dubbed it the "Manny Cave." We purchased a tiny house and fencing and moved that onto Roman's property to create a residence where Manny could live on-site with Roman full time and receive intensive training. Manny worked with Roman almost daily for over 2 years to work on traditional house manners, learning training cues, and decompressing from the shelter environment that had caused him much stress.

Over the three years we had Manny, he did have a few serious adopters that pursued him, but for different reasons, it never ended up working out. At least, until now. After 1,106 days under the care of RVHS, Manny has finally found a forever family that loves him unconditionally, just like we have for all this time. Here's what Manny's new family has to say about him:

What first drew you to Manny and made you want to adopt him? We lost our Jack Russell Terrier last summer rather unexpectedly, so it took some time to emotionally get through that. We knew we would need another fur baby to make our home complete, it was just a question of when. We had fostered other Jack Russell Terriers in the past and wanted to adopt another one. I checked out Pet Finder for local terriers and found Manny!

What is something that Manny does every day to bring a smile to your face? I love to watch him run; he gets the happiest look on his face and just races like the wind! Something else he does, which I've never seen a dog do before, is when he's given a bone to chew on, he likes to put it up on something to chew it, instead of just laying on the ground chewing it. What a smart dogger!

How has working with a trainer (Roman) helped the transition of bringing a new dog into your home? Roman has given us a ton of information that has helped immensely with transitioning Manny to his new home and family. It's helped a lot in understanding how to communicate with Manny and also to understand what he's "saying" to us by what he does. He has been with us for just over a month, so we are still learning about each other, but overall, Manny is such a love and it's so great to see him playing, relaxing, and learning new things. When we first started, Manny loved to chase the ball but not bring it back. Clicker training to the rescue! Now he brings the ball back-yahoo!



Bottle Drop Program

As many of you may know, in 2020 we started up the RVHS BottleDrop program in hopes of increasing funds for us. The past couple of years has really taken a toll on our ability to put on events—one of the biggest ways we earn money year after year! In 2021, we raised over \$13,200 from just collecting bottles and cans from supporters like you. This has helped fund so many necessary things for us like pet food, medical supplies, and more!



This year, we are continuing this effort to keep collecting redeemable cans and bottles from our supporters. Think of us any time you have a family gathering, Super Bowl party, or holiday get together and save the empties for us! Make sure they display the "OR 10c" inscription that allows them to be redeemed in Oregon. Please be sure that any cans and bottles are not crushed, used as spit cans, or lack the bar code on the label required so we can redeem them. Bottles and cans can be dropped off during our facility or thrift store open hours. Call ahead to drop off at any other time so that we may collect your donation promptly.

BOTTLE DROP MATCHING EVENT APRIL 10th-22nd

Bottles and cans that are redeemed during April 10-22 will receive a 20% match on a first come, first served basis. Hurry to RVHS with any recycling you have laying around, so we can make the most of this generous promotional period and earn more money for the animals!

Neonatal Kitten Ward Now Open 24/7



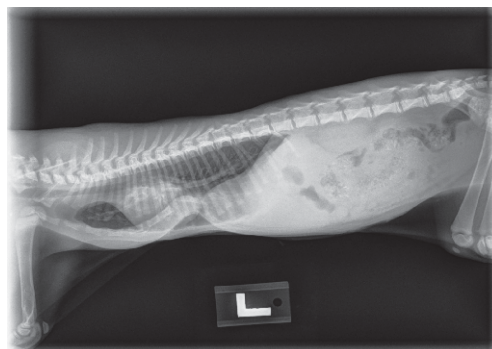
In 2020, we received a programmatic grant from the Orphan Kitten Club to start our very own neonatal kitten nursery at RVHS. As you all may know, that year brought many challenges to not only the world, but heavily impacted small businesses and non-profits such as ours. At the time, we had to put things on pause like everyone else, but we still dreamed of the day we could accomplish our goal of having 24/7 care for neonatal kittens—the most vulnerable population in animal shelters nationwide. After many delays in shipping and acquiring new items, as well as property improvements to make our space suitable for a kitten nursery, we finally are at a point where we are going to open our kitten nursery and have enough staff to keep it open all day and all night. This is such a huge milestone in being able to take in these younger populations who really need our help. We have received many calls over the years of people finding kittens in their yard, or a bush, with mama nowhere in sight and with the people not being able to care for them or know what to do. We are hopeful that this nursery will be a place where we can help our community in these situations and allow for a positive outcome for these precious babies.

Thank you to all of our supporters who support us in new endeavors like these, and believe in our ability to save the lives of more animals. It really takes a village to raise children (even the furry kinds!) and we could use your help. If you are interested in volunteering at our new nursery and be around kittens all day, apply to be a volunteer on our website!

Mulan

The past couple of months have brought us a couple of interesting cases of kittens needing immediate medical attention and we'd like to tell you all about them! Mulan came to us as a 7 week-old kitten that was perky, cute, and healthy (or so we thought!). Upon spaying her, our veterinarian discovered she had an oddly shaped chest and sent Mulan to get x-rays. She had a congenital defect known as *pectus excavatum*, causing her sternum to grow inwards towards her heart and lungs, which is not how the bodies of kitties are supposed to be shaped!

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**Best Little
Thrift Store
in
Grants Pass!**

Have you been to our thrift store lately? If not, you definitely need to head down there right now! There are some amazing treasures to be sought out that you will cherish for years to come.

Do you have items to donate to us? We would greatly appreciate your generous donations. We do have limited space, so calling ahead is appreciated.

Please consider reaching out to us during your estate planning; we would be happy to provide a home for your well-loved furniture and items that need to find their new home.

Not only do we accept donations, but we will also accept your cans and bottles to be redeemed through the RVHS BottleDrop program and we will bring it to RVHS for you!

RVHS Thrift Store

1169 Redwood Ave
Open Tues-Fri 9-4PM, Saturday 9-2PM

541-955-3367

Follow us on social media!

www.facebook.com/rvhsthtrift
www.instagram.com/rvhs_thrift_store

Mulan's case was very severe; without medical intervention, her body and rib cage would have grown bigger and potentially caused so much pressure into her heart and lungs that she was in danger of passing away in a matter of weeks. We knew we had to act fast while she was still small in order to get the reconstructive surgery she would need to straighten out her rib-cage and allow her body to grow normally.

Thanks to our supporters and a generous individual kitten grant from the Orphan Kitten Club, Mulan received this surgery and it was a success! Over 6 weeks, she wore a cast and bandage around her chest to hold her chest splint in place. When her cast was finally off, Mulan felt free and her sternum was now corrected into the position it was supposed to be in. Her heart and lungs are no longer in danger of being punctured by her ribs and she finally has the space to breathe!

Abner

Another kitten we met recently had an entirely preventable condition, but it was so severe, he almost didn't make it. Upon intake, Abner had the beginnings of an upper respiratory infection and because of not having eaten in a couple of days, a terrible body condition. Worst of all, he was suffering from anemia, which is blood loss caused by flea infestation. His anemia was so severe that his gums were white and he could barely lift his head up to acknowledge we were there to help him.

Our qualified and caring team acted fast to get him the care he needed; otherwise, little Abner would likely not have been with us today. They sprung into action right away, and got his body temperature up while giving him Karo syrup and he slowly started to perk up. He received Capstar, a medication to kill fleas immediately so that his little body could start recovering. Our staff fed him small amounts at frequent intervals to keep his blood sugar stable and gave him fluids to help his dehydration.

Two days into caring for him, we had to place a catheter because he needed more intensive care to replenish the fluids he needed to help his little body get better. Abner has since had his catheter removed, he has gained lots of weight, and he was finally neutered and prepared to find his forever family. Without our dedicated staff, our high standard of medical care, and the support of our community, little kittens like Mulan and Abner would have no chance at the happy life that they deserve. They didn't ask to be born with a congenital condition or be brought up in a poor environment, and that is why we make the commitment to the animals in our care—no matter what they may need to thrive.



We couldn't do this without YOUR support. We (and Mulan and Abner!) thank you for sustaining our organization with your monetary and in-kind donations, shopping at our thrift store, volunteering at our facility, or just spreading the word about all the good we do for the animals. All those things make a big difference and allow us to continue to do the things we love to do, which is help the animals who need us the most.



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Grants Pass, OR 97526

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www.roguevalleyhumanesociety.org

www.rvhs-or.org

Nonprofit Tax ID #: 93-0558872

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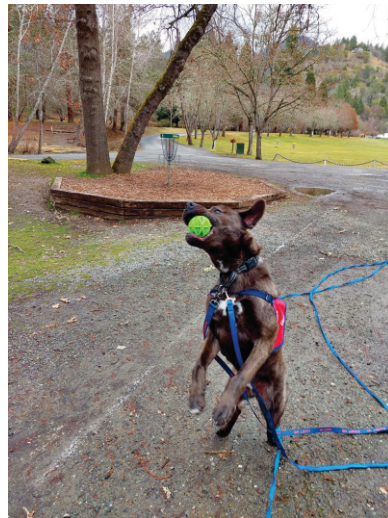
TikTok: [@rvhsadopt](https://www.tiktok.com/@rvhsadopt)

Shelter Enrichment Spotlight: Field Trips

A shelter environment is always stressful for a dog, no matter how laid back. The shelter is nothing compared to a home, as it can never provide the type of stimuli and experiences a home would give a dog on a daily basis. We started a program to take our resident dogs on field trips outside of the shelter. Why do this? Simply, it helps us to get to know them better, and the dogs experience something else than routine in their kennel. Every dog is an individual with all of their talents, gifts and problems. It can be easy to judge an animal by what you see in a shelter setting, but it is eye-opening to see their personality change in a new environment.



Dogs that display tense and reserved behavior in the kennel, like our Mastiff mix Loki, relax on a hike. It's like he is coiled like a spring in the shelter, but taking him to a park is like unlocking his whole being. He becomes relaxed, his body language lets go of all tension and he turns into an adventurous, amazing, and sometimes mischievous puppy.

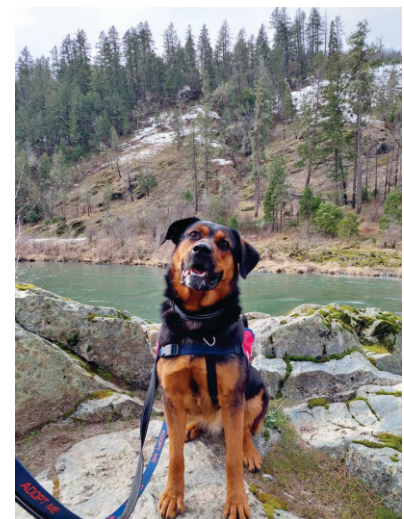


It is amazing to see a tense dog relax and let go of fear behavior. You can observe how their soul is taking a deep breath once they get out of the facility and find themselves in nature. This applies 100% to our two-year-old Border Collie/Labrador mix, Justyce. This girl is mischievous and sometimes over-stimulated in the shelter. All this melts away when we take her to a park, where she loves to sniff, explore and hike. In a park, she becomes curious and her tail comes up and wags like a flag in a hurricane while she takes in her surroundings.

Greta Rae is our Rottweiler/German Shepherd Mix who loves to observe squirrels and ducks when she is outside. For her, there is nothing better than playing in the water, which can lead to wet feet for the handler and an impromptu shower once she shakes the water off. Don't worry:

she has learned not to take the handler with her when she takes a bath in a river. Greta opens up and turns into a relaxed love bug after her day of adventures. Going on field trips has given dogs like Greta exposure to new environments where we can add stimuli, desensitize them to new challenging situations (like a visit to a shop or a stroll along a busy street) and add new training to their repertoire.

We could always use more help to take our dogs on adventures like these and to give them breaks from their kennel. We would invite you to consider volunteering as a short term foster or field trip volunteer today to help make a difference in the lives of our dogs. It is a whole lot of fun for the dog, but for us, it is fulfilling to see them become their best selves.





Need a voucher to help spay and neuter your pet? Let us help!

Send an email to vouchers@roguevalleyhumanesociety.org and you will receive an automatic response with all of our program information to get a voucher issued to you. If you are the caretaker of a colony of community cats, reach out to us here as well and we can help provide you with resources to help. Thank you in advance for being a part of the solution and choosing to spay and neuter to prevent animal overpopulation in our community.

Need food assistance?

RVHS offers a community food bank to assist folks who need help during the month to feed their pets. Our program supplements the food you already purchase for your pets. It is supplied by other generous members of our community who donate these goods to us.

There are no restrictions on who may access this program, although we do ask you to utilize it once per month to allow other families in our area to benefit from this program too! Our pet food bank is available any time during business hours.



Plan for your pet's future!

This beautiful girl is Dumpling. Dumpling came to us with her housemate after their owner passed away. Unfortunately, there was not a plan set in place for the two beautiful cats, and we were contacted about taking them into our facility. We did not know much about Dumpling and her housemate when they first arrived, but over time we got to know their personalities, likes, and dislikes, enough to be able to place them in the best home for them. Dumpling stayed with us for a total of 49 days before she found her forever home.



Dumpling's story is a prime example of the importance of making contingency plans for your pets. If a plan is not in place, it is up to the individuals in charge of your property or estate to make the decision about what to do with your furry friends when you're no longer there. Oftentimes they have to contact animal control or local shelters, and whichever one has space is where your pet will end up.

With no plan in place for your pets, those caring for them may not know what kind of cat they are, and what the best home for them would be once you are gone. If you want more say in your pet's future, you can put them in your will and state where you would

like them to go, or who you would like to care for them should something happen to you. It is also essential to keep a folder in a designated location with your pet's medical files and a write up about your pet and the things they love (and don't love!). This way, those that are set to take care of them will know about any medical conditions your pet has and that maybe Fluffy reeeeeeeally doesn't like living with cats.

RVHS encourages our supporters to consider Planned Giving, which allows you to provide a charitable donation to help us continue caring for the animals in our community, and maybe even your own pets should the unthinkable happen. Contact a trusted legal professional to help you set up any charitable bequest or future planning for your pets!



Interested in volunteering to help make a difference?

RVHS is continually in need of volunteers to help us at our facility or thrift store so that we can continue to positively affect the lives of animals in our community. Whether you are a volunteer dog walker or kitty snuggler; kitten foster or thrift store associate; event planner or graphic designer; we need YOU and the skills you bring to the table to help us accomplish our goals. RVHS will provide you with all the training and supplies you need for any volunteer assignment. Want to join our dedicated and animal loving team? Go to our website and fill out a volunteer application here:

<https://roguevalleyhumanesociety.org/volunteers/>

Mission Statement

The Rogue Valley Humane Society provides compassionate care for stray, unwanted, displaced, and abandoned animals and works toward ending pet overpopulation so that there will be no more homeless pets. We are committed to placing every healthy, adoptable animal in a loving lifetime home, teaching responsible pet guardianship, and maintaining our community spay-neuter programs.



**CURRENT
RESIDENT OR**

Non-Profit Organization
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Grants Pass, OR 97528

Vision Statement

The Rogue Valley Humane Society envisions a community where every healthy adoptable companion animal has a lifetime, loving home and all homeless animals receive the care and compassion they deserve until they are adopted by their forever family.

Core Values:

- We believe that every animal's life has value and is worthy of respect and protection.
- We believe that euthanizing healthy, adoptable animals is not acceptable.
- We believe that animals contribute to the health, happiness and quality of human life.
- We believe that we must manage our resources to assure the long-term future of our organization.
- We believe in providing quality medical and shelter care by following evidence-based animal welfare practices.
- We believe that through humane education we can help foster compassion, protection and guardianship for companion animals.
- We believe that we should treat everyone with dignity and respect. Community members, staff, and volunteers are partners in improving the welfare of animals and helping us fulfill our mission.
- We believe that we can end pet overpopulation by adhering to our commitment to spay/neuter all of our animals before adoption and by providing community-assistance spay-neuter programs.
- We believe that we best serve our community by placing healthy companion animals in responsible, loving homes.



🐾 🐾 Upcoming Events 🐾 🐾

BOWLING FOR BOWSER

When: April 15th from 12:30pm-2:30pm

Where: Caveman Bowl, 1230 Rogue River Hwy

Grab your friends, family, or coworkers for an exciting afternoon of bowling! Raffle and 50/50 tickets will be sold and snacks provided to all participants. \$25 per person includes shoe rental and 2 games

MOTHER'S DAY TEA

When: May 13th, 2-5 pm

Where: Newman Methodist Church, 132 NE B St

This event is the day before Mother's Day and is the perfect way to treat mom to something special! Traditional afternoon tea will be served while your loved one is serenaded by a string quartet, all for \$30. Door prizes will be given for the best hat, outfit, duo, and more!

4/20 PET FOOD DRIVE

When: April 20th from 11am-3pm

Where: River City Retail- 115 Galice Rd, and

Budz Cannabis Store- 3600 Merlin Rd

We are partnering up with two local dispensaries on 4/20 to help collect pet food donations for our community food bank. We will have a large food donation box at each location for the month of April. We will also visit each location on April 20th to share information about our organization and share information about our adoptable animals!

Rogue Valley Humane Society Presents
14th Annual
Fur Ball 2023
Saturday June 10th
5PM to 9PM
Grants Pass Golf Course
230 Espey Road
Tickets \$80
Available for purchase at RVHS
(541) 479-5154

