

# “100 Hounds of Kirkland”™

It's a dog help dog world.™

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Catharine Handfelt  
“100 Hounds of Kirkland”  
425.821.5608

## ATTENTION DOG LOVERS, IT'S TIME TO BARK THE VOTE!

### KIRKLAND'S PARK LANE TO PUT ON THE DOG FOR HOMELESS HOUNDS

*Local Photographer Unveils Summer Project, “100 Hounds of Kirkland” on Sept. 10, Public Invited to Vote on 2010 Calendar Dogs to Benefit The Seattle Humane Society*

KIRKLAND, WASH. (AUGUST 23, 2009) -- Catharine Handfelt, Kirkland photographer and creator of “100 Hounds of Kirkland” -- a series of photographs showcasing canines all over Kirkland -- today announced that she will unveil her photos of 170+ Kirkland dogs on Kirkland's Park Lane on Thursday, September 10. The first-ever “Bark the Vote” event will allow the public to vote for their favorite “hounds” for the upcoming “2010 ‘100 Hounds of Kirkland’ Calendar” -- with net proceeds benefitting the Seattle Humane Society.

*“Bark the Vote” will be part of Kirkland's “Second Thursdays on Park Lane” series. Citizens are invited to vote/donate \$1 per vote for their favorite dog with numbered photos of all of the participating dogs on display. The top 12 fundraising dogs will receive a spot in the calendar, while the 2010 “Coverdog” spot will be auctioned off that night at the event.*

“We are so grateful to Catharine and to all the dog-lovers who are supporting the abandoned and orphaned pets at the Seattle Humane Society through this project,” said Brenda Barnette, the CEO of the Seattle Humane Society. “The proceeds will provide food, shelter, medical services and loving care to the dogs, cats and critters in our care. At the Seattle Humane Society, there are no time limits, and the animals have as long as it takes for us to find them homes of their own – regardless of age, breed or beauty.”

The “100 Hounds of Kirkland” series was founded “on a bark” in the spring of 2009 when Handfelt was asked by an employee at Kirkland boutique Liberty 123 to photograph “Boomer”, her husband's Golden Retriever, for a Father's Day gift. After the photo shoot, Handfelt -- who in addition to photography has worked in the nonprofit and communications realms -- thought it would be fun to publish a calendar featuring Kirkland dogs to raise funds for a local shelter. She posted signs around Kirkland, and soon was flooded with calls and emails from dog lovers eager to strut their mutts for the pro bono venture.

- more -

“I wasn’t sure how much interest I would have, so I advertised that I was looking for ‘100 great Kirkland hounds’ for ‘free photo shoots’ to raise funds for my named beneficiary, the Seattle Humane Society,” Handfelt said. “I thought it would take me months to get my subjects, but the response was incredible. Soon I was doing several photo shoots a day all over Kirkland. At one point, so many people were contacting me that I had to put an auto-response on my phone and email to let people know the status of the project.”

Handfelt has given the 150+ participants a handful of photos as a thank you. Her photography project features 173 dogs, including:

- \***Tiny Dogs** -- like Stretch, a five-week-old dachshund puppy;
- \***Old Dogs** -- like Zoe, a Golden Retriever who just had a Sweet Sixteen doggie birthday party;
- \***Purebreds** -- like Nutella, a gorgeous Briard show dog;
- \***Mixes** -- like Gus, a rescued Blue Heeler/Whippet mix;
- \***Celebrities** -- like Hottie, of *Dog Fancy* fame, and Spree, the “mom” dog in the *Air Buddies* movies;
- \***Shop Dogs** -- like Reef, owned by Kirkland’s “Barkz” owner Paula Heddle;
- \***A Wedding Dog** -- like Max, owned by the Heathman Hotel’s General Manager Les Utley;
- \***Dogs on the Move** -- like Cooper, who looked quite comfortable at the wheel of a sleek convertible;
- \***Three-legged Dogs** -- like “100 Hounds Mascot” Chopper, who was abandoned at the door of the Seattle Humane Society with a painful, destroyed leg that had to be amputated by the staff veterinarian. He was adopted by Kirkland resident Marilyn Keyes; *and*
- \***Dogs Who Will Be Dearly Missed** -- those who were photographed for “100 Hounds”, but sadly have passed away in recent weeks, like: Beans, the 18-year-old Cairn Terrier owned by the Dooley’s Dog House owner; nine-year-old C.C. -- sister of Largent (named after the Seahawks player) -- owned by Kirkland resident Bonnie Fletcher; and Daisy, a Black Lab who was photographed with her family on her last day.

In addition to the “100 Hounds”, several shelter dogs (currently up for adoption) will be in attendance at the event in the Seattle Humane Society’s “MaxMobile”, a bright yellow, adoption, education and emergency transport vehicle that allows people to meet dogs and cats who are up for adoption.

“Over the course of the summer ‘100 Hounds’ has gone from an idea to a community project,” said Handfelt, who has two Wheaten Terriers (Roxy and Barkley), who joined her and her kids on several shoots. “Kirkland is a dog-loving town, and with the lake and all the great walking areas, it’s dog heaven. If you’re a hound, there are lots of treats and scratches behind the ears to be found all over town.”

Handfelt would like to thank all of the local Kirkland citizens and businesses who have helped her with this project, including: marketing consultant Karen Thorsen, graphic designer Claudi Wilson, “Houndbites” chef and cookbook author, Carol Frieberg, Liberty 123, Barkz, KOAP Home, Simplicity Decor, Dooley’s Dog House, Michaels of Kirkland/Juanita and Fed Ex, among others.

*Earlier this year, Handfelt launched Little Monarch Studios, an on-location, natural light, child and family portrait business based in Kirkland. See [www.littlemonarchstudios.com](http://www.littlemonarchstudios.com).*

*The Seattle Humane Society was founded in 1897 to bring people and pets together. The Seattle Humane Society does this today through its low-fee spay/neuter surgery program, pet workshops and training, pet food bank, Humane Teen Club, visiting pets program and more. The Seattle Humane Society is located in Bellevue, at 13212 SE Eastgate Way. For more information, visit [www.seattlehumane.org](http://www.seattlehumane.org) or call (425) 641-0080.*