

Local residents opening their hearts while sheltering at home





When the world outside is full of uncertainty, we take great comfort knowing so many pets like Roxy*(pictured left and above)* are finding the families they've been waiting for. These sweet bubbles of unconditional love give us hope and are too beautiful not to share. We hope this week's stories lift your heart too!

# Happy Adoption Updates!!







#### Mocha - Sweet Sidekick

Mocha has found her match! The adorable pittie mix came to the shelter with a torn cranial cruciate ligament (CCL) in her left knee. Essentially this is the same injury as an ACL tear in humans, so Mocha needed knee surgery and recovery time before she was ready for adoption.

Mocha had been waiting patiently for a couple months when Ayesha and Joseph came in looking for a mid-sized companion to spend their time in quarantine, and beyond, with. They met with Mocha and quickly decided that this little sweetie was the girl for them.

Happy trails, Mocha!

#### Onion - The One

Puppy sisters Onion and Olive came in as strays before the shelter in place order went into effect. We quickly learned that both puppies had ringworm and would have to begin treatment. Meagan, our awesome Adoptions Program Manager was undeterred and took them home to foster.

As soon as they were cleared medically, they were ready to find homes. This sweet family met with both puppies but decided that Onion was the one who stole their hearts. And Olive got scooped up by another family shortly thereafter!

Happy trails Onion!

### Desmond (now Buster) -Water Baby

When Buster was living at the shelter, we noticed he was always knocking over his water bowl and putting his paws in it. We eventually put a shallow tub of water in his room and he seemed to love that too. We knew we had to find a family that let Buster express his inner mermaid.

Alexandria and Ross were looking for a cat with a dog-like personality.They quickly fell for Buster and took him home that day. Recently, they sent us an update:

"Buster makes us laugh every day. He still loves water and would beat me to the bath tub every morning if I didn't close the door. When I'm done, I let him in and he jumps right into the water.

His greatest skill is making us happy with his presence. So, we want to say "thank you" to HSSC for placing this little fellow with us."

To learn more about HSSC Adoptions by Appointment, please click here.

## **Volunteer Appreciation Week**



#### Happy Volunteer Appreciation Week!

Current circumstances have given us all a chance to pause and reflect on what's most important in our lives. At HSSC, not a day goes by when we are not profoundly grateful for our volunteers. Their compassionate dedication for the



animals is crucial to our mission.

Just how crucial? **Last year HSSC volunteers contributed over 51,000 hours of service!** That's 140 hours a day of walking dogs, visiting cats, scooping litterboxes, prepping pet food, washing dishes and water bowls, doing laundry, mopping floors, spreading the word at community outreach events, answering phones, greeting shelter guests, providing admin support, fostering pets – in short, showing up for the animals when they need it most.

So, to our truly amazing volunteers we say **THANK YOU!** We love you and we couldn't do it without you. We look forward to the time when Shelter in Place orders are lifted and we can all be together again!

# News from our Shelter Hospital and Community Vet Clinic





**Calvin,** a gorgeous husky mix, came to us from one of our rescue partners. Several weeks after his arrival, pieces of rope toy and a small pebble were found in his stool. Our veterinary team alerted our staff and volunteers that he was prone to trying to eat non-food items and that we'd need to restrict his access to such objects.

We started monitoring him more closely and it was discovered that he was very sly at picking up and swallowing small rocks while acting like he was just sniffing the ground. While sometimes non-food items can pass through a dog's digestive tract without much issue, While we navigate the ever-changing guidelines of the COVID-19 pandemic, our Community Veterinary Clinic remains a safety net for members of our community needing affordable care for their pets. While the CVC is working limited hours to protect staff and clients and comply with our local shelter-in-place ordinance, we remain available to help animals in need of urgent or critical care.

Buddy was a referral from a local veterinarian. He had severe dental disease and had stopped eating. He was pawing at his mouth and whimpering. His owner works for



there's always the possibility they can get lodged somewhere and cause an obstruction - resulting in a medical emergency and requiring surgery.

Radiographs revealed that Calvin had three rocks in his stomach, so our veterinary team proceeded with surgery to remove them. He is recovering well and we're now training him to wear a basket muzzle while out on walks to keep him safe. His future adopter will need to keep a close eye on him so that he doesn't eat anything he shouldn't! an essential business, but his hours had been cut due to shelter-in-place. He could not afford the cost of a dental procedure at their family vet. His family was sadly considering euthanasia because they did not want to see Buddy in pain.

Luckily, their veterinarian contacted our CVC to see if we could help! We were able to get Buddy in to assess and treat his dental disease, as well as prescribe treatment for glaucoma in his eye. We were able to subsidize much of Buddy's treatment thanks to generous donor support!

HSSC Shelter Medicine and our CVC are still performing life saving procedures and surgeries during the shelter in place. We are so grateful to have such dedicated medical professionals caring for the animals who need it most.

Any gift you can spare right now will do a world of good for our shelter animals and allow our medical and animal care teams to continue saving these precious lives.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Donate Now!

# Join Us



### #GivingTuesdayNow is May 5 – your gift will go twice as far thanks to special challenge grant!

The COVID-19 crisis is impacting us all in so many ways. Here at HSSC, the cancellation of important Spring fundraising and outreach events means that our resources are stretched to the limit. Thankfully, one of our beloved donors has stepped up with a \$15,000 challenge grant to coincide with #GivingTuesdayNow - an online global day of giving and unity, is taking place on May 5, 2020 as an emergency response to the unprecedented need caused by COVID-19.



Your gift doubled thanks to a special challenge grant! **Give online May 5th!**  We hope that you'll join us and our generous benefactors for this special online event. Your gift will go twice as far to provide ongoing shelter, food and medical care for animals in need – helping us to ensure that homeless animals have uninterrupted care during the coronavirus emergency.

Please stay tuned for more information!



### Furry Friends Summer Day Camp

We at HSSC would like to let you know that we are reducing the number of registrations for campers to minimize any risks surrounding Covid-19. Our aim in doing this is to provide peace of mind to parents while continuing to provide a fun and enriching experience to campers. We have also eliminated all off-site field trips to minimize exposure and keep our campers safe.

Registration is still open for our summer camps! For more information and to register, please visit: <u>https://humanesocietysoco.org/youth-programs</u> /humane-education/

💙 Forward this email to friends! 💙

Do you know a fellow animal-lover who would like to read all about the amazing animals, dedicated staff, and general shelter comings and goings? Well, the more the merrier we say!

### Kibbles 'N Bits





Thank you to our compassionate community for opening your homes to four-legged family members during this time!



Stephanie with her new buddy, Jude.

And thank you to **Sonoma Magazine** for featuring HSSC in their article about shelter in place adoptions!

We are grateful to all our local rescue partners and the ongoing support of our community that results in silver linings for shelter animals!  $\heartsuit$ 

Click to see the full article **here** and read more about the recent upticks in adoptions in Sonoma County.



# There are so many ways to help the animals. •

We receive lots of questions about estate planning including HSSC in your will or trust is a wonderful way to ensure our lifesaving work continues into the future.

To learn more about this planned giving option, please visit <u>https://humanesocietysoco.org/give/</u> and click on the Leave a Legacy tab. Or contact Priscilla Locke, HSSC Director of Development & Marketing, at (707) 577-1911 or by email at plocke@humanesocietysoco.org.

First and foremost, we want you all to stay safe and healthy. We will be posting updates about our programs and services on our website <u>here</u> and on our <u>Facebook page</u> as things continue to evolve.

Your ongoing support enables us to continue our lifesaving work for the animals during this challenging time.

Together we are providing protection, compassion, love and care. We are so grateful for this connection which inspires so

much hope.

Donate Now!

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