Zen And The Importance Of Microchipping

Sweet little Zen showed up at our Healdsburg Shelter as a stray last month. He probably knew he didn’t belong there, he just didn’t have a way to tell us. Luckily, his microchip could do the talking for him! Our team was able to scan his chip and contact his owner to let her know that he was safe with us. As you can imagine, both pup and person were incredibly happy and relieved to be reunited!

Zen represents a minority. As Karrie Stewart, HSSC’s Senior Manager of Santa Rosa Adoptions and our Healdsburg Campus says, “28% of the animals who’ve arrived at our shelter in 2023 have had microchips. The remaining 70%+ were not microchipped when they arrived. Unless owners are actively calling and searching for their pet, we have no way to reach them.”

According to Cornell University Shelter Medicine, only 2% of cats and 30% of dogs are returned to their owners when they are lost. With a microchip, that number can increase to 40% for cats and 60% for dogs. About the size of a grain of rice, a microchip is a device that is typically implanted between the animal’s shoulder blades. The chip is not a GPS tracker but contains a registration number and the phone number of the registry for the particular brand of chip, which is scanned by
The shelter when an animal is found.

**But microchipping is just the first step. Keeping your pet’s microchip registry updated with your contact information is the most reliable way to make sure your pet can find their way home.** As Karrie Stewart shares, “it can be really hard to re-unite them with their owner if the information is not up to date. If you move or re-home your pet with a friend or family member and the pet gets lost.”

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**May is National Chip Your Pet Month!**

It only takes a minute for your pet to slip out of an open door or gate and into a dangerous and potentially heartbreaking situation. Thankfully, it only takes a minute to make sure your pet is chipped and that your contact info is current!

**Unsure of your pet’s microchip number?** Call your vet’s office as they may have it in their records OR bring your pet into the vet’s office, animal control, or an animal shelter to be scanned. (Pro Tip: make a note of the microchip number on your phone for easy retrieval should your pet ever become lost.)

**Does your pet need a microchip?** We offer them at no charge at our free vaccine clinics! Please call for more info – Santa Rosa (707) 542-0882 or Healdsburg (707) 431-3386.

**Update your contact info!** Look up your pet’s microchip number on the AAHA Universal Pet Microchip Lookup site, or check with my24pet.com. If your pet is registered, it will tell you where the chip is registered and how to update your contact information if necessary.

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**HEALDSBURG HAPPENINGS**

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**Clowder Power in Kitty City!**

Did you know that a group of cats is called a Clowder? Well, we have a large group of cats who made their way to our
Healdsburg shelter - and we’re not Clowdin’ around!

Last month, 19 cats were found in crates outside Solano County Animal Care and Control. Once these cats completed their stray holds, the Solano shelter reached out to our Healdsburg shelter to see if we could assist. Luckily, the timing was perfect. The previous group of cats who were living in our large communal cat room, Kitty City, had all recently been adopted! We had plenty of space to take 14 spayed and neutered cats who were ready for transfer.

After the cats arrived, our team went straight to work with intake exams, and one by one got them settled into their new space. Each cat was cautious at first, but they were all very friendly and over time they became more confident and playful! Click here to watch a video of these kitties patiently waiting for their dinner!

Of the original 14 cats, only 5 have been adopted. Since they’re all used to cohousing and friendly with one another, we're adopting them out in pairs of two for one adoption fee! If you’ve been thinking about adopting a cat or two, we definitely recommend checking out Buck, Baldwin, Barbie Girl, Beau Bridges, Bentley, Bernie Sanders, Betty Boop, Blake Shelton and Bradley Cooper!

We are so happy that we can support our partner shelter in Solano County and look forward to the next transfer of cats and dogs from them soon! ❤️

❤️ Ready to bring home your new fuzzy family member? Click here to see how!! ❤️

Not ready to adopt? You can still help so much with your gift today!

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NEWS FROM THE CVC & SHELTER MEDICINE

Megan Thee Chihuahua ❤️

Megan is a cute little senior Chihuahua who was brought to our Community Veterinary Clinic last year for a mast cell
tumor removal, a dental cleaning and a few tooth extractions. Her family recently called the CVC and described some medical issues Megan was having and our team knew these were signs of heart failure. We scheduled her for an appointment right away. Our team performed an exam and prescribed her heart medication. After starting her meds, we asked for Megan to come back in for a recheck, and we're happy to say that she's doing well!

Lots of Love for Ludo!!!

An urgent plea came down the pipeline from our partner shelter in Stanislaus, they were frantically searching for another shelter to rescue Ludo. He was scheduled for a 4:30pm euthanasia that very day, and HSSC was his last resort. The subject line in their email wrote “Last Call 🐾 LUDO perfect boy! ❤️”, when our Admissions team responded with an enthusiastic “Yes we will take him!”, the email thread filled with tears and gratitude.

Ludo is a special dog with a deformed right hind leg. When he arrived at HSSC, our shelter medicine team worked to determine exactly what was going on with it. They noted that his tibia and fibula were abnormally short and that he either had a very well developed double dew claw or perhaps an additional toe! They also found that he had a fractured tooth, so when Ludo was getting his neuter surgery, they extracted his broken tooth and took radiographs of his leg.

Our team spent some time assessing his mobility and decided that he should keep his limb since he does occasionally use it to help with balance, and it isn't getting in his way. We're very happy this sweet dog could avoid such a daunting surgery. Ludo's leg doesn't slow him down one bit, he's always very happy and active. He zooms around our play yards and has made a ton of friends with staff and volunteers! We're so excited to help this happy dude find the loving home he so deserves. Read more about him here, then call our adoption team at (707) 542-0882 to set up a meet ’n greet!
WE'RE ALMOST THERE!!!

Double Your Donation Today! 😍

Right now, during our Spring Match campaign, your gift goes twice as far!! HSSC’s medical programs are supported through our Angels Fund. Thanks to longtime donors and beloved friends of HSSC, every gift to our Angels Fund, until June 1st, will be matched, dollar for dollar up to $100,000!!

Our Spring Match Campaign is more ambitious than ever because the need is greater than ever. We are able to rescue animals at the highest risk, in their most desperate time of need, because you support the extraordinary life-saving efforts of our veterinary teams. Your gifts to our Angels Fund support the medical programs that make these urgent rescues possible – and now you can help save twice as many lives!!

There are only a few days left...

DOUBLE YOUR DONATION NOW!

WAGS, WHISKERS & WINE!
Save The Date!

Join us for a festive night of fun benefiting our fuzzy friends on **Friday, August 4th at Kendall-Jackson Wine Estate & Gardens!**

Kendall - Jackson Wines & Local Brews  Fabulous Silent Auction  The World Famous Cake Frenzy

- HSSC's Tail Waggin'  Online Auction and Raffles
- Save a Life Paddle Raise Hosted by California State Senate Majority Leader, Mike McGuire

...and so much MORE!

**Become a Sponsor - Donate an Auction Item**

Support our life-saving work by becoming a gala sponsor or auction donor by clicking the button below!

JOIN US FOR WAGS, WHISKERS & WINE!

VOTE FOR US!

**Vote HSSC!**

We are SO EXCITED to announce that we have been nominated for **Best Summer Camp** in the Press Democrat's Best of Sonoma County Reader's Choice Awards!!

**We would LOVE to have your VOTE!!**

Our Animal Adventure Summer Camps not only educate children and teens about compassion, responsibility, respect, animal related careers, and safety and care of animals, but also foster a spirit of cooperative team building, a commitment to community and the human animal bond!

Cast your vote for HSSC's Summer Camps by clicking the button below!
Calling all Animal Loving Baseball Fans!!!

Mark your calendars for a fun opportunity to catch a San Francisco Giants game and support the animals on Monday, July 3rd at 6:45pm!

Watch SF Giants play the Seattle Mariners at Oracle Park for $10 bleacher seats and HSSC will receive $5 for every ticket sold through this link: https://fevogm.com/

It’s also Fireworks night!! What a magically fun evening that helps the animals! 😊❤️

PAWSOME EVENTS!

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Murphy Goode Cause Campaign!

Enter to win $10,000 for yourself and $25,000 for HSSC by creating a video explaining why you love HSSC, why you’re passionate about our work and how you’re involved!

Get creative, have fun and tell Murphy-Goode Winery why you love HSSC! Find more information about this amazing opportunity by visiting: murphygoodewinery.com/

Deadline is June 30th, 2023
Thank you to our loving community!

❤️ Was our eAnimail forwarded to you by a friend? ❤️

Did a fellow animal-lover send our newsletter your way? Sign up here to make sure you get HSSC's amazing animal stories and shelter news delivered directly to your inbox!

Your ongoing support enables us to continue our lifesaving work for the animals during changing times.

Together we are providing every animal protection, compassion, love and care. We are so grateful for this connection that inspires so much hope.