

# Happy SPRING 2020 Tales A Publication of Happy Tails Pet Sanctuary

## **INSIDE**

Happy Tails responds to Covid-19 pandemic

2

Happy Tails supports Gov. Newsom's no-kill shelter proposal

3

Kitten gets new lease on life

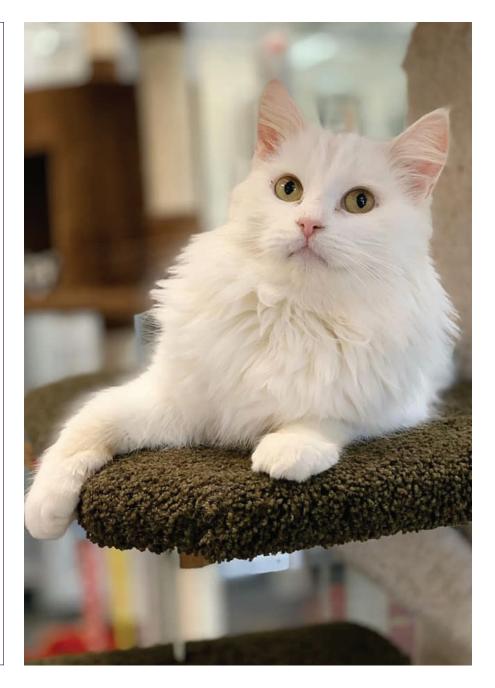
4

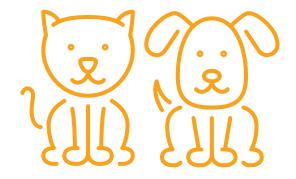
Shepherd mix transforms from skittish to confident

5

Woman continues to volunteer after move to United Kingdom

6





## **Happy Tails responds to** Covid-19 pandemic

COVID-19 has affected almost every aspect of our daily lives, including the work of animal shelters like Happy Tails. We are dedicated to giving care to our furry family members. To protect their safety, the safety of our staff and volunteers and our visitors we closed the center to the public until the shelter-in-place order is lifted. As of this writing, we're operating with minimal staff and volunteers and taking extra cleaning precautions.

As you know, Happy Tails takes great pride in rescuing particularly at-risk dogs from other local shelters. When they were forced to close during this pandemic, we stepped up our efforts to help them out by taking more dogs – more than double the number we usually have. Due to a lack of space at the center, we take care of them in foster homes until they can be adopted. We appreciate those who've stepped up to open their homes. We continued to do dog adoptions using digital tools to keep everyone safe.

Many of you have asked what you can do to help. Not everyone is able to foster cats and dogs. But there are other ways you can support us. Happy Tails needs monetary donations to support the essentials of the center, including food and medical services. You can make those donations securely from our website. You can drop off other items outside the center, including bleach, paper towels, detergent and dish soap. Stop by at 6001 Folsom Blvd. Sacramento, 95819, Monday - Friday 9am - 6pm.

We are thankful for all of our supporters and hope your human and animal family members are well during this health crisis.

Warmest Regards

Happy Tails Board of Directors

# **Happy Tails supports** Gov. Newsom's no-kill shelter proposal

As most of you know, Happy Tails Pet Sanctuary is strictly a "no-kill" organization. That means no healthy or otherwise treatable animal is euthanized when alternatives exist to save them. We are happy about Gov. Gavin Newsom's proposal to make California a "no-kill state", ending the euthanasia of adoptable and treatable animals. His \$5 million proposal for the "California for All Dogs and Cats" initiative is included in the upcoming state budget. The funds would be administered by the U.C. Davis Koret Shelter Medicine Program. According to the budget proposal, the program would give grants to help local communities achieve the state's policy goal that no adoptable or treatable dog or cat should be euthanized. Happy Tails is excited that our goal to



emphasize spay/neuter will get statewide attention and support. However, this is not a done deal and we need you to contact your legislator to support this important budget proposal.



Happy Endings

## Senior cat has peaceful last days

Tuna came to Happy Tails as a kitten. He was a gentle soul that gravitated toward those who most needed him. Tuna was returned last year because his loving adopter passed away. At 16 pounds and 15-years-old, we were worried it would be hard for our sensitive senior to find "his person". He was nervous with other kittens and the change was hard for him. He was a wonderful kitty - but was frequently overlooked by potential adopters because he was shy. In spite of his so-called quirks, a then, new Happy Tails volunteer, Alicia, met Tuna and instantly fell in love. Their bond remained even when Tuna unexpectedly fell ill. Unfortunately, Tuna passed away. But Alicia was at his side. The love that the two shared is exactly what we hope for with each adoption. Although bittersweet, we couldn't ask for a better home and ending to Tuna's story. He lives on in our hearts and memories.

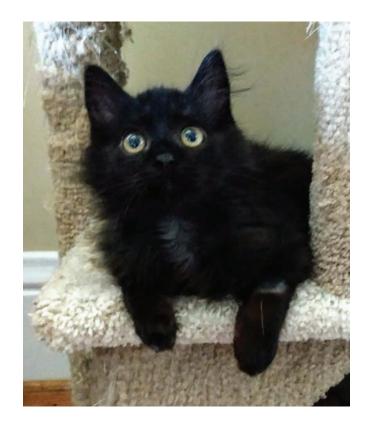


## Adopt or foster a senior pet

An important part of our mission is to take pets deemed "unadoptable" by other shelters due to age or illness. That's because we believe they deserve a chance, too! Older animals are just as loving and often more appreciative of a new home after losing their previous one. There is a special kind of love and satisfaction that comes from knowing you have provided a safe, happy home for a senior animal. If you can't adopt an older animal due to the cost of medical care, you might consider fostering an animal. As a foster, Happy Tails pays the veterinarian bills. As vet expenses rise, we see a greater need in the community for our "older" pet program. More pet owners don't have the resources to care for their elderly animals. We want to continue to take in these pets and help them live long, healthy lives.

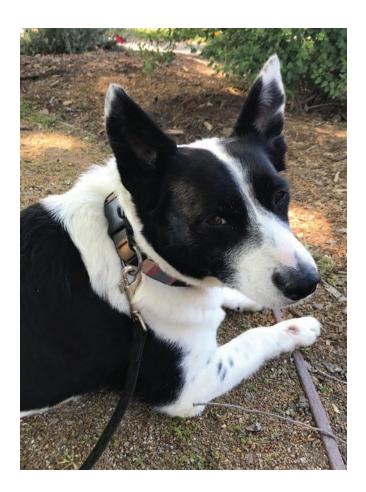
## Kitten gets new lease on life

Little Blitzen is symbolic of what makes Happy Tails different from other shelters. We take animals facing many health challenges – even death. Blitzen came to us shortly after Christmas – thus the name Blitzen after one of Santa's reindeer. Someone brought him in on the edge of life, covered in fleas with no strength at all. Our medical team took him in for a few days before a foster home became available. This tough boy survived through his will to fight. Every day, he gained more strength to eat on his own and learn how to play. After some struggles with a urinary tract infection, he finally started to pounce on his foster siblings with the energy of a normal, healthy kitten. Blitzen loves cuddles, purring and being too "busy" to sit still. He is currently enjoying life in his new adopter's home and showing that cats do have nine lives!



## **Shepherd mix transforms** from skittish to confident

Many of our dogs come from local shelters. They reach out to rescue groups like Happy Tails to see if we can offer some dogs that aren't thriving in those shelters a home environment where they may have a better chance at socialization and eventual adoption. A new foster volunteer, Kaylee, answered such a call from the Sacramento County Shelter. Jake, an 85-pound German Shepherd mix, was stressed in his shelter kennel and ineligible to meet the public. Within days of going home with Kaylee, Jake turned from skittish and shy to confident and playful. Kaylee worked with him on basic commands and took him on trips to meet her friends and other dogs to help him socialize. As a result, Jake is getting better and better. Kaylee enjoyed her first foster experience so much she took another larger dog. Happy Tails needs more Kaylees who are willing to foster and work with dogs and puppies of all ages and sizes, although we particularly need f foster homes for larger dogs. More fosters will allow us to better help our shelter partners with dogs that have fewer options for second chances. Happy Tails provides supplies, medical and other support. As a foster, you supply the love. Email us at htdogfoster@yahoo.com to join the dog foster team.



# **Singer Miranda Lambert** and the Golden 1 Center support Happy Tails

In partnership with the Golden 1 Center, Happy Tails was chosen to receive pet food donations on behalf of singer Miranda Lambert's MuttNation Foundation Fill the Little Red Wagon Campaign. This was the second year Lambert chose us! With each donation, fans were entered to win a meet and greet with Miranda at her February 29 concert in Sacramento. Congratulations to our winner and her guest! And thank you to those who donated.





Volunteer Spotlight

## Woman continues to volunteer after move to United Kingdom

Kayla Hicks' story with Happy Tails is unique. She began her service answering our voicemail in 2018 before taking the initiative to become more involved in other areas. She became a "feeder" at the shelter and then helped coordinate new volunteers. Her life then took a turn and she moved to the United Kingdom where she lives with her new husband. However, that move didn't stop her from volunteering for Happy Tails! Thanks to technology, she coordinates the daily schedule for those who clean the shelter.

Asked why she continues to volunteer after her move, Kayla said, "I think Happy Tails is one of the most friendly, caring and dedicated animal rescues and I enjoy working here. It has been an amazing experience navigating through the different positions I've held." Kayla's love for animals goes back to her childhood. At five-years-old she discovered she was destined to help them and advocate for their welfare.

As a teen she helped rehabilitate the family dog, Teddy, who endured a serious injury to his hind legs. She worked with Teddy every day, providing support and guidance until he walked again. Kayla's dedication to her own dog as well as her devotion to Happy Tails (even from afar) are truly inspirational! Thanks, Kayla, for your help from across the globe!

Fun facts about Kayla: her favorite TV show is "Mom", favorite dessert is pumpkin cheesecake and the places she would most like to visit are Australia and Africa.

# We find loving homes for more cats and dogs each year!

Happy Tails found loving homes for more than 600 cats and dogs in 2019. As you can see from that figure, each year we have increased our adoption numbers. Our goal is to continue on this same path in the years to come! You can help us meet this goal by donating your time and/or money. Better yet, consider adopting a Happy Tails animal when you are looking for a new furry friend. Our adoption fees help us cover (some but not all) medical care. For the first time we offer a 20 percent senior discount for those 65 and older and to veterans with a valid ID.

## **Adoption Rates**

- Kittens (less than one year) \$100
- Two kittens (less than one year) \$150
- Adult cats (one year plus) \$80
- Two adult cats (one year plus) \$140

Cost includes spay/neuter, FIV/FELV Test, microchip, veterinarian exam, FRVCP vaccine, rabies (adults), de-worm, de-flea.

Adoption rates for dogs: \$150 (all ages, sizes and breeds) Cost includes spay/neuter, heartworm test, microchip, veterinarian exam, current vaccines, rabies (adults), de-work, de-flea



## Save the Date

As of this writing we hope to move forward with our Open House in the Fall. However, it will obviously depend on what is happening with the Coronavirus pandemic. We may hold a virtual event.

Happy Tails Open House and Halloween celebration

Saturday October 3 12:00 - 3:00 The Center, 6001 Folsom Blvd. Sacramento Please visit our partner Purrs AND Whiskers

purrsandwhiskers.com 10% of your purchase goes back to Happy Tails (use code %10HappyTails)



# **Happy Tales**

Spring 2020

A Publication of Happy Tails Pet Sanctuary

"Helping Those Who Can't Help Themselves."

Mission: To create a safe haven for abandoned and abused animals.

- No Kill
- Cage Free

#### **Board of Directors**

Acting President: Sarah Farias Treasurer: Kim DeVincenzi Acting Secretary: Jordan Miller

#### **Members**

Brittany Baade

Paul Concannon

Becky Maclay, Past President

Pat McConahay

#### **Adoption Locations**

Patricia L. Holmes

#### **Adoption Center**

6001 Folsom Blvd.
Sacramento, CA 95819-4613
Wed – Sun, noon – 6 p.m.
(closed Mon & Tues)

#### **PetSmart**

1738 Watt Ave. (at Arden Way) Sacramento, CA 95825

## **On-Site Adoptions:**

Saturday & Sunday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

## **Happy Tails**

Pet Sanctuary 501(c)(3) Nonprofit EIN 68-0317260 Phone: 916.556.1155

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Website: happytails.org

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Please donate at happytails.org