

PAWS FOR *Thought*

WINTER 2021

*Serving
Ventura
County
Since
1932*

*Jerry's
Journey*

*Make a Difference
this Giving Season*

*Holiday
Pet Safety*





Letter from the Director

Help Us Make a Difference this Giving Tuesday

The holidays are a time when we open our hearts and wallets to help others in need. For nonprofits, the most important day during this season is Giving Tuesday - the first Tuesday after Thanksgiving each year. Giving Tuesday is a global movement that encourages people to give back to organizations that do good in their community.

For nearly 90 years, the Humane Society of Ventura County has been providing vital services to help people and animals in need. Many of the services and programs offered at our Shelter are low-cost or free of charge. For example, our Clinic provides low-cost to no-cost spay/neuter surgery, vaccinations, microchipping, and offers emergency medical fund assistance.

We have several pet food bank programs that offer free dog and cat food to feed hungry animals throughout Ventura County. Our staff tends to the animals in our care each day in addition to reuniting lost animals with their owners, facilitating adoptions and promoting Humane Education. Our 4.4-acre property in Ojai becomes an evacuation

center during disasters where we house domestic animals and livestock at no cost to owners. We also have the only Humane Officers in Ventura County who investigate cases of animal cruelty and abuse.

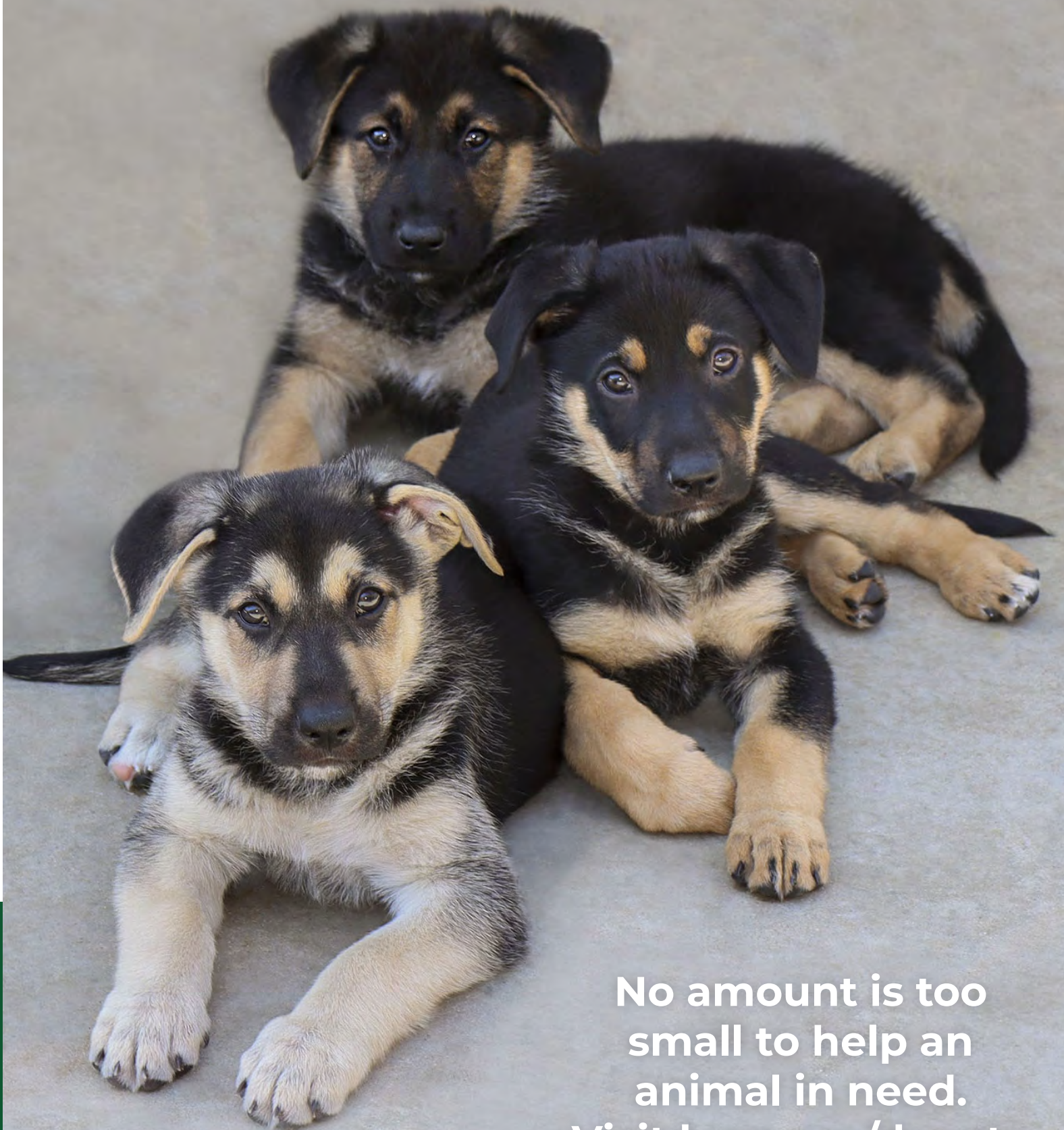
This year, Giving Tuesday falls on November 30th. However, the spirit of giving is not just limited to a single day. We are asking our animal-loving community to show their support all year long by donating to the HSVC. Please consider donating now to help not only the animals in our care but to help animals throughout Ventura County.

Those interested in supporting our cause can do so in a variety of ways: you may visit our website at hsvc.org/donate, donate by mail, by phone or stop by the Shelter, located at 402 Bryant St. in Ojai, to donate in person. We accept donations via our Amazon or Chewy.com Wishlists. Be sure to use Amazon Smile and select the HSVC as your non-profit beneficiary! No amount is too small to make a difference in the life of an animal in need!

- Jolene Hoffman, Shelter Director



Help us, help them!



No amount is too
small to help an
animal in need.
Visit hsvc.org/donate



Humane Education Service-Learning Opportunities



As students return to classrooms, there have been an influx of requests for service-learning programs. Many parents and schools have requested information about service-learning or how to start Humane Society clubs at school. Those looking to engage with the community and choose service are in luck. The Humane Society of Ventura County (HSVC) is ready to answer the call.

Our organization continues to provide much-needed services to the public which are funded by donations that come from our community and beyond. HSVC needs your help! We want to see empowered youth work together to improve our neighborhoods. Since the start of the pandemic, we have felt a sense of isolation. Our Shelter staff and animals have seen fewer visitors and volunteers on our property. We miss the interactions and look forward to the day when we can welcome you back. Until then, there are plenty of indirect service

opportunities I would love to share with you.

For those interested in learning more about service-learning opportunities, start by talking with youth and engaging their interest. If animals are of interest to a few select students, they can start thinking about what community needs could be addressed. For example, students might consider starting a HSVC club at their school to help raise funding for medical funds, spay and neuter program, Humane Education, or investigations. We have lots of ideas and indirect services that can be led by youth. Now, all we need are some animal loving advocates to help generate the service!

For more information on service-learning, visit our website at hsvc.org/education_programs and click on the presentation button to start a conversation. Or contact me, Angie Chupek Sagliani directly at education@hsvc.org or by phone (805) 364-1350.

- Angie Chupek Sagliani, Humane Educator



Board of Directors

Cyndy Treutelaar, President
Sheila Kane McCollum, Vice President
Debby Mooney, Secretary
Ron Spaeth, Treasurer
Marianne Carl, Director
Joyce George, Director
Judy Diaz, Director
Jane Akune, Director

Shelter & Adoption Center
402 Bryant St. • Ojai, CA 93023

Mailing Address
PO BOX 297 • Ojai, CA 93024
805-646-6505 or
805-656-5031

Shelter Director
Jolene Hoffman x.109
JoleneH@hsvc.org

Assistant Shelter Director
Arlene MacSween x.101
ArleneM@hsvc.org

Director of Investigations
R.J. Hoffman x.105
JeffH@hsvc.org

Director of Community Outreach
Audra Lucas x.110
Volunteer@hsvc.org

Office Manager
Betty Jo MacCaughtry x.117
BettyJoM@hsvc.org

Media & Marketing Coordinator
Amy King x.119
marketing@hsvc.org

Humane Education
Angie Sagliani • 805-364-1350
education@hsvc.org

Grant Associate
Ralph Saccomano x.115
RalphS@hsvc.org

Oliver's Report

I hope everyone is having fun watching my videos on Facebook and Instagram. I am so talented and waiting to go viral! Can you make me a star please! Just a friendly reminder that winter brings cold to our furry friends. Some of us need a cozy sweater and a nice warm place to sleep inside. There is nothing better than cuddling with your pets by the fireplace! Be sure to check your fences for weak spots and gates to make sure the wind does not blow them open. Please microchip your animals and place a tag with an updated address and phone number on their collar so they don't get lost! I hope all my friends have a safe and happy holiday season! See you all next year!



Holiday Pet Safety

Protecting Your Animals this Holiday Season

The holidays are right around the corner! During this magical time of the year, it is important to watch for hazards that could harm your pet. Check out these holiday safety tips to protect your pets this festive season!

Food: Many holiday foods can be toxic to animals. For dogs, chocolate can cause a variety of health issues and even death. Nuts and candies containing Xylitol are very dangerous for all furry friends and should be avoided. Do not share table scraps with pets, especially items containing yeast or unbaked dough.

Bones: Bones can easily splinter, causing an obstruction or lacerations in the digestive tract of your pet. It's better to keep them away from your animals!

Decorations: Tinsel, icicles, netting, garland, and decorative rope can become entangled in the intestines if ingested and can be fatal if not treated quickly. Keep candles out of reach of pets, as they could burn themselves or start a fire.

Electrical Cords: Biting into an electrical cord can cause shock or even prove to be fatal to pets. Be sure to turn off and unplug all lights when you are not home.

Plants: Plants may add cheer, but a single leaf from any lily variety is lethal to cats. Other plants to avoid include Poinsettias, Holly, pine needles, and Mistletoe.

Community Connections

Working Together Toward a Greater Goal



On September 9th, 2021, Sequoia National Forest erupted in flames in a fire now known as the Windy Fire. Less than one day later another fire popped up, dubbed the KNP Complex Fire. Both fires were located within Tulare County. On September 21st, I contacted Tulare County Animal Services (TCAS) after seeing their plea for help on the CalAnimals email group. After receiving clearance from our Shelter Director, I contacted TCAS Animal Care Specialist, Paula Mendoza, to coordinate a trip to their shelter to offer assistance with relocating some of their adoptable dogs.

Officer Utter and I drove to Visalia the morning of September 22nd and met with Paula. She introduced us to some of her staff and gave us a tour of their shelter. I selected five of their dogs to transfer to the HSVC for adoption, freeing up five of their

kennels for evacuees. Paula expressed how thankful she was for our help as they had been flooded with evacuations from the fires. A TCAS staff member also informed us a new evacuation order had just been issued as we were leaving. It was as though Officer Utter and I had arrived just in time to help.

We would not have been able to help TCAS without the collaboration of CalAnimals. Through them, we can network with shelters across the state. Thank you, CalAnimals, and thank you TCAS for making this successful collaboration happen to help animals in need! As fire season rages on, I want to remind pet owners that our Shelter offers evacuation, transport, and boarding services free of charge to those in need in the event of a disaster. If you are in need of assistance, please call the HSVC at 805-646-6505.

- Senior Humane Officer King





Humane Officers

Jerry's Journey to Finding his Furever Home

Humane Officers must make difficult decisions regarding a case if it is considered borderline. After Officers investigate an animal neglect case and find there isn't enough probable cause to remove an animal, they must leave the animal if basic needs are met including shelter, water, and food. Our Officers may not like the conditions the animal is living in, but they will educate the owner on how to make life better for them. This is how Jerry's journey began with the HSVC back in 2017.

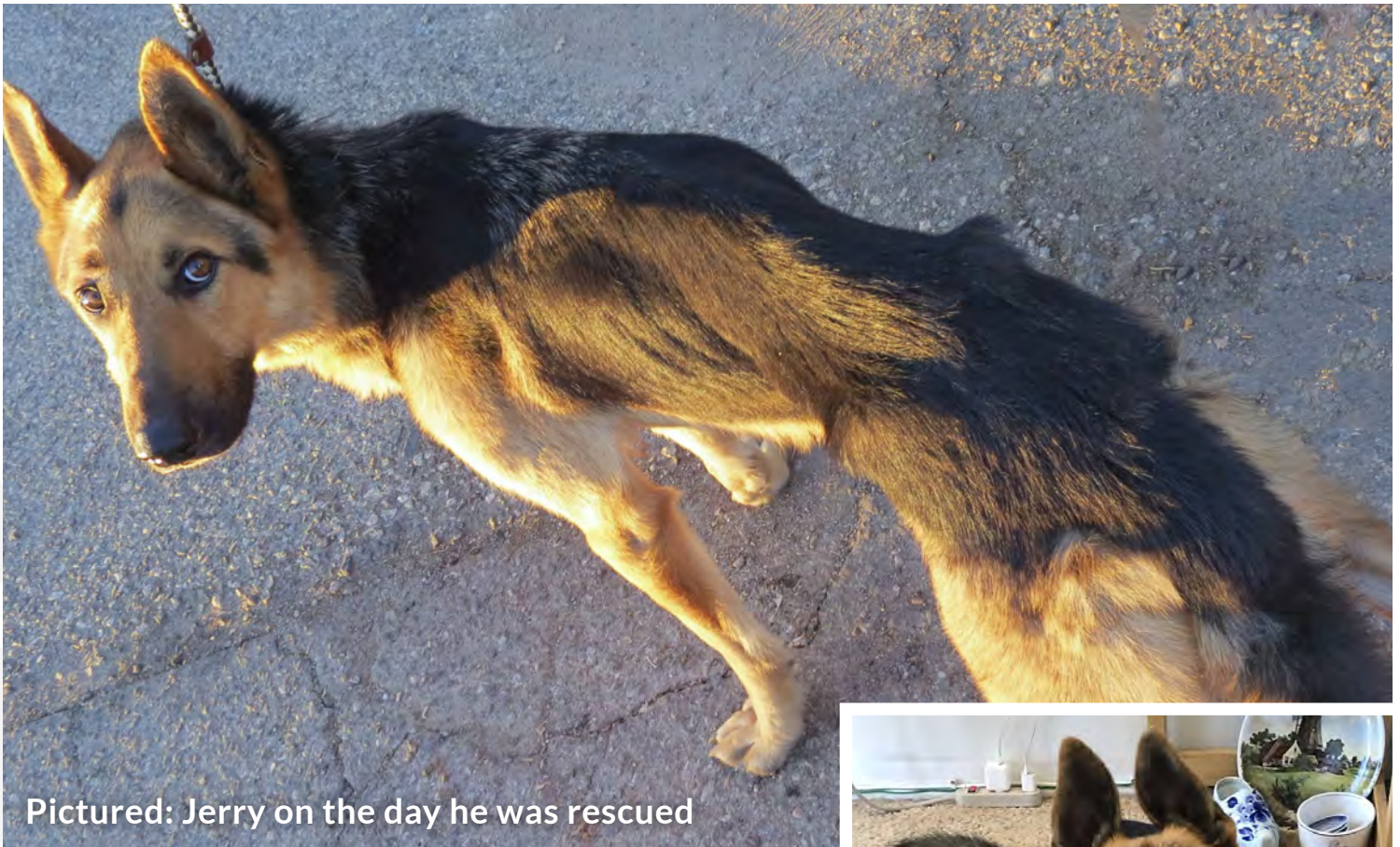
Our Officers would continue to do health and safety checks on Jerry, but they still didn't have the probable cause to remove him from his home.

In October of 2019, another case was called in regarding this German Shepherd dog. When our Officers arrived at the property, Jerry was found emaciated and in horrible living conditions. The decision was made to immediately impound Jerry and place him into protective custody.

Officers then rushed Jerry to a local veterinarian for an examination and immediate care. After blood work was done, it was determined that there was no medical reason for Jerry to be as emaciated as he appeared. The veterinarian concluded that Jerry's condition was purely due to starvation and severe neglect.

*"It is said rescued dogs are appreciative but Jerry seems to go well beyond that! Jerry learned the rules of the home quickly and seemed eager to please. He bonded with me exceptionally fast. Soon he was like my shadow! He's fiercely protective and loyal as a German Shepherd is expected to be."
- Jerry's new owner*



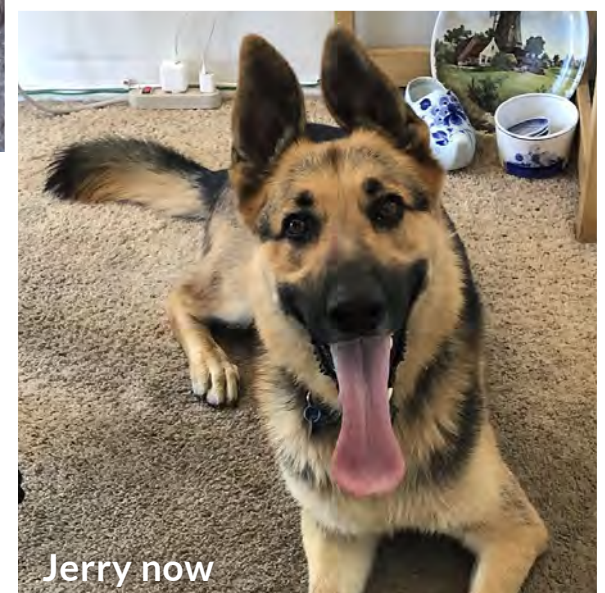


Pictured: Jerry on the day he was rescued

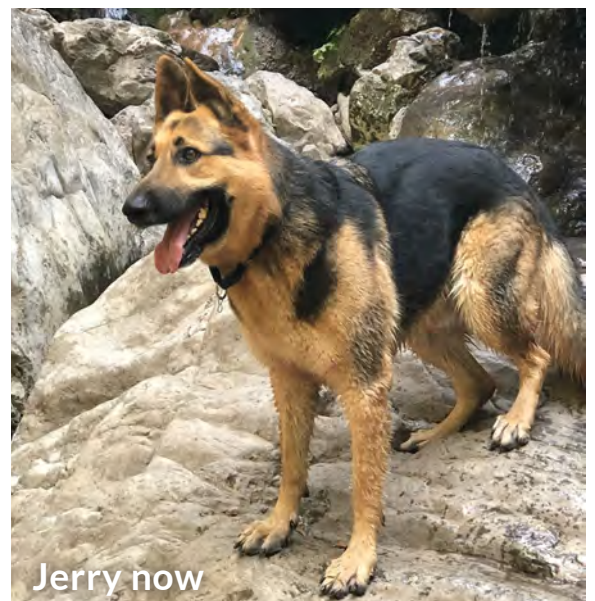
Jerry was brought back to the HSVC where he was given the loving care and attention he desperately deserved. During his recovery, a case of felony animal cruelty and neglect was filed with the District Attorney's office. Unfortunately, due to the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic, his case was postponed for nearly two years. But our Deputy District Attorney continued to pursue justice for Jerry. In August of 2021, the defendant in Jerry's case pleaded nolo-contendere and the court found the defendant guilty. We are happy to report Jerry is now in his forever home where he is healthy, loved, and cared for.

A big thank you goes out to our Humane Officers and Shelter staff who cared for Jerry throughout his recovery. From investigation and response to frequent medical care, the entire Shelter came together to ensure Jerry was able to get his happily ever after. As a private nonprofit, we do not receive any funding from other national animal welfare agencies or the government. Our services are funded entirely by the generosity of our community supporters and donors. If you would like to join us in helping animals like Jerry, please consider donating to us at hsvc.org/donate.

-Jeff Hoffman, Director of Investigations



Jerry now

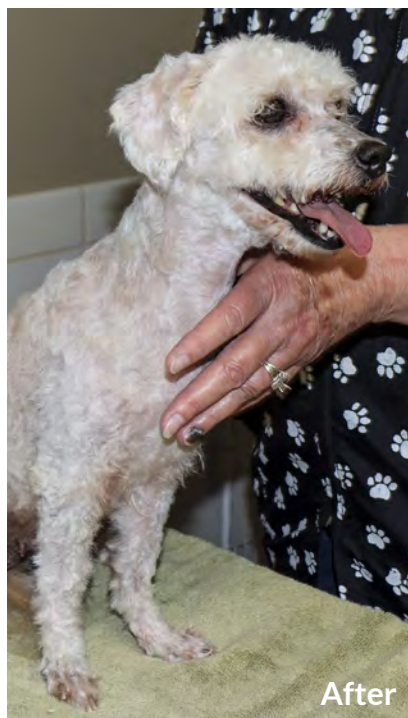


Jerry now

Success Story:

Jojo's Transformation

Eight-year-old Jojo came to HSVC in early September after she was rescued by our Humane Officers in the field. She was severely matted when she first arrived and in need of some major TLC. Despite her unkempt appearance, Jojo seemed to be in good spirits and relieved to be in our care.



Upon arrival at the Shelter, the miniature poodle mix was immediately taken to our grooming room for a much-needed makeover. After hours of diligent grooming, our staff had shaved nearly five pounds of matted fur off of the sweet pup. Jojo was then given a bath and finally a blowout to fluff her new hairdo. She was also examined by Director of Veterinary Services, Dr. Sisk, to further evaluate her health. The senior pup was then spayed and received dental work, including multiple teeth extractions.

Fast forward to one month later, Ed and Karen were visiting the Shelter in search of a sweet, loving small dog. The couple was introduced to Jojo and immediately fell in love with her adorable face and quiet personality. Jojo's adoption was finalized in mid-October and was celebrated as part of Subaru Loves Pets Month. From all of us at the Shelter, thank you Ed and Karen for giving Jojo a second chance and the loving home she deserves!





Volunteer Highlight

Support the HSVC online!

As we prepare for the holidays, I want to give a special shoutout to our many Youth Volunteers. A focus of the Volunteer Program this season was to generate more engagement with our community online in hopes of growing our digital following and increasing donations. HSVC's Youth Volunteers were quick to join us in our efforts by liking, commenting, and sharing our content via Instagram, Facebook, and TikTok. This small gesture has gone a long way in helping raise awareness for the Shelter, and we want our Youth Volunteers to know it has not gone unnoticed!

Thanks to our supporters, particularly our younger animal lovers, our popularity online has grown immensely over the past year. But we are not done! The HSVC currently has just over 9700 followers on Instagram, and we need your help to get to our goal of 10,000. We also

have just entered into the TikTok scene, and our Shelter currently has about 4200 followers. Similar to Instagram, we have a goal of reaching 10,000 TikTok followers so we can start raising money using the video-sharing app. That's right! You can help us raise money for animals in need just by following us!

As a private nonprofit, we rely entirely on support of our community and beyond to help us continue providing services to those in need. Our hope is that growing our audience online will expand outreach and support for the HSVC not only in Ventura County but all over the country too! We are asking all of our volunteers to join us in our efforts by engaging with us on social media and telling your friends and family to follow us too! Please follow us on Instagram and TikTok @hsvc_ojai to show your support!

- Audra Lucas, Director of Community Outreach



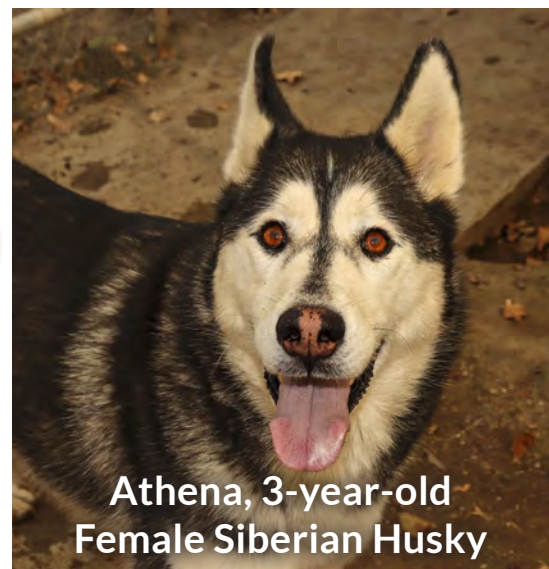
**Malli, 10-months-old
Female Border Collie Mix**



Mac, 1-year-old, Male Domestic Shorthair



**Marguerita, 1-year-old
Female Domestic Shorthair**



**Athena, 3-year-old
Female Siberian Husky**



**Wendy Nova, 14-years-old
Female Quarterhorse & Arabian**



**Rose, 9-months-old
Female Domestic Shorthair**

Oliver Bird Sends Care Package to His Biggest Fan Get Well Soon, Xander!

Meet Xander, a sweet 6-year-old boy who recently had spinal surgery, his 3rd surgery in his life so far. According to Xander's mom, Corrin, Xander's last surgery put him into a full pin halo and will limit his movement for the next three to four months. Corrin reached out to the HSVC via social media shortly after Xander's surgery in hopes of getting some videos to show her son as he recovered.

A long time animal lover, Xander's favorite videos to watch are of our very own Oliver Bird! After hearing about his biggest fan, Oliver Bird recruited some of his friends at the Shelter to help him put together an HSVC care package to send to his friend Xander while he recovers in the hospital.

The swag bag was filled with all sorts of HSVC goodies including HSVC t-shirts, stickers, an animal coloring book, an HSVC piggy bank, and an HSVC lunchbox filled with Oliver Bird's favorite snacks. Our entire staff signed a card with get well wishes to Xander and promises of meeting him in person in the future. Senior Officer King also included a special Humane Officer sticker with a note to Xander that said the HSVC will make him an honorary junior Humane Officer as soon as he is well enough to visit.

To top it off, Oliver reached out to our good friend MrsCopyCat, who donated a custom plush Oliver Bird pillow for Xander to cuddle until he is able to meet Oliver Bird in person! Thank you MrsCopyCat! Oliver Bird and the staff of the HSVC are looking forward to meeting you in person, Xander! Get well soon and keep being a friend to the animals!

"The love and thought that went into the personalization of the gifts, down to the engraved tags on the bag, was so sweet! Xander's favorite has to be the most snuggly soft Oliver Bird stuffie that was hand made specially for him! To the staff of the Humane Society of Ventura County, thank you for brightening my little one's day, the super thoughtful gifts, and giving Xander something really exciting to look forward too!"
- Xander's Mom, Corrin



Xander pictured in the hospital with his Oliver Bird care package, complete with all kinds of HSVC swag and an Oliver look-a-like stuffed animal! Get well soon Xander!

Each October, the HSVC partners with Kirby Subaru of Ventura to promote Subaru Loves Pets Month, a month long event to bring awareness to the number of pets in shelters in need of homes. As part of the celebration, Subaru donated \$100 to the HSVC for every pet adopted during the month of October. Our pet-loving friends at Kirby Subaru also provided our Shelter with “New Pet Parent Kits” to give to new adopters. Each kit was full of all kinds of Subaru swag and pet goodies for deserving pups.

Kirby Subaru is not only a long-time supporter and donor of the HSVC, but they are also one of our newest DoorDash host locations. The HSVC has recently partnered with DoorDash, Interface Children & Family Services Ventura County 2.1.1., and the United Way to deliver free dog and cat food to underserved communities across Ventura County. With this pilot program, pet owners in need can order free pet food through DoorDash within a ten-mile radius of one of our host locations. Kirby Subaru has already helped us provide over 5000



pounds of FREE pet food to animals in need. What a great way to celebrate Subaru Loves Pets Month! Bruce, from Kirby Subaru (pictured above) recently stopped by the Shelter to pick up a load of free dog food for the program. Thank you to Bruce and the entire Kirby Subaru team for helping us make a difference in the lives of so many animals in need!



Kirby Subaru Helps Deliver Over 5000 Pounds of Pet Food to Animals in Need!

Pet Sponsorship

Help an Animal in Need

Here's my/our gift to sponsor an animal for adoption

☐ Pet Friend - \$30

Name(s) _____

Address

Email _____ Phone _____

We would like to sponsor

This is a gift for

Address _____

☐ Check OR Please charge my ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ Discover

In the amount of \$ _____ Card # _____ Exp. _____

Name on card

Signature _____



Thank You Pet Sponsors! Eleanor Fishburn & Marion Lapan

Paver Stone Donations

Jerry & Loretta Scott

Karen Papcke

Joyce George

George Vestal

Allyn Wilkinson

Dan Wilkinson

Give a gift of love to the animals of the Humane Society with a timeless paver stone in the HSVC Memory Garden. Fill out the form below and bring it in or mail it to us with your payment. We will send a card to the recipient acknowledging your gift in their honor. Thank you to everyone who has purchased a paver stone in the past. We appreciate your continual support and look forward to when we can welcome you back to the Shelter again. For more information, please contact BettyJo MacCaughtry via email at BettyJoM@hsvc.org or call 805-646-6505.

YOUR NAME HERE
Order Your Paver
NOW!

To have your paver stone
engraved, please
complete and mail to:

I would like to reserve a paver:
natural stone pavers may vary slightly in size

☐ Small (65 sq. inch) \$200

☐ Medium (95 sq. inch) \$350

☐ Large (120 sq. inch) \$500

(*includes an extra line of text)

☐ MY CHECK IS ENCLOSED

PLEASE CHARGE MY

☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ Discover

ACCOUNT NUMBER

EXPIRATION

NAME (PLEASE PRINT) _____

SIGNATURE

ADDRESS

EMAIL ADDRESS OR PHONE NUMBER

Humane Society of Ventura County
PO Box 297 Ojai, CA 93024

SMALL & MEDIUM PAVERS - you may use up to two lines

[illegible]

*LARGE PAVERS - you may use a third line

[illegible]



PO Box 297
Ojai, CA 93024

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Oxnard, CA 93030
PERMIT # 817



COVID-19 Hours
Monday-Saturday 10-5

Mailing Address
PO Box 297
Ojai, CA 93024



Shelter & Adoption Center
402 Bryant St. • Ojai, CA 93023
805-646-6505 • 805-656-5031

