

Winter  
2017

# All Things Pawsible



HUMANE  
SOCIETY  
SILICON  
VALLEY



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Four New Mutual Rescue™  
Films Coming in 2017



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Milpitas, CA 95035-6326

[hssv.org](http://hssv.org)

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408-262-2133 x124	408-262-2133 x110
<b>Dog Park</b>	<b>Pet Surrender/ Euthanasia</b>
408-262-2133 x164	408-262-2133 x110
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<b>Adoptions</b>	
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# From the President

When animals come to Humane Society Silicon Valley, we work tirelessly to transform their lives and fill their futures with love. Families and individuals who adopt will be changed forever, too, for having opened their hearts to new companions.

Humane Society Silicon Valley recently launched our *Paint a Better Future* campaign to ensure this work continues on an increasing scale far into the future. Since July 2011, we have been raising funds for this forward-thinking effort, and the rationale is simple but powerful.

**We believe that when you connect an animal with a person, you enrich two lives. And when you connect thousands of animals with thousands of people, you enrich an entire community.**

Therefore, by supporting Humane Society Silicon Valley, you're not just helping save lives; you're creating a more compassionate Silicon Valley. Though we already help thousands of animals each year, many more need rescuing. *Paint a Better Future* will help us fulfill that purpose now and for years to come, so our impact is always growing.

As you can see, your partnership really does *paint a better future* for countless homeless animals in Silicon Valley!

Thank you,



Carol Novello, President

***"If you'd like to support your local shelter, you can visit [hssv.org/betterfutures](http://hssv.org/betterfutures)."***

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### Humane Society Silicon Valley Animal Community Center

408-262-2133  
901 Ames Avenue  
Milpitas, CA 95035

### Mountain View Neighborhood Adoption Center in PetSmart

408-425-1569  
2440 East Charleston Road  
Mountain View, CA 94043

### Sunnyvale Neighborhood Adoption Center in PETCO

408-720-1419  
160 East El Camino Real  
Sunnyvale, CA 94087

### West San Jose Neighborhood Adoption Center in PETCO

408-370-2732  
500 El Paseo de Saratoga  
San Jose, CA 95130

# Half Pint's Full Recovery

It wasn't going to be a quick fix.

Good Samaritans found the tiny kitten with the badly injured eye and brought him to us. The little feline was in pain and needed surgery immediately. Surgery that would have been difficult enough to perform on a full-sized cat, but this kitten weighed less than a can of beans. Could it even be done safely?

"You could see he wanted to be friendly, but he was hurting so badly," staff veterinarian Dr. Andrea Berger remembers. "He didn't want to put his head near anybody because the eye was painful."

While Dr. Berger had performed this surgery numerous times, she had never done so on such a small, young kitten. "He was the second smallest patient we've ever had," she explained. "Our surgical instruments were literally bigger than the area we needed to use them on."

## Immediate Results

Thanks to the skill and experience of Dr. Berger and her team, the surgery went off without a hitch and results were immediate. Though Half Pint's eye could not be saved and extensive post-op recuperation was required, he's now experiencing the pain-free life he deserves.

"It was one of the most gratifying surgeries I've ever done. Within fifteen minutes of coming out from



anesthesia, he was eating and trying to play and making friends," Dr. Berger said. "You could tell what a huge difference being free of pain had made for him." After a month of fostering and monitoring with vet tech Naadia Wilson, Half Pint was ready for a new home.

Rescue and rehabilitation are key components of our lifesaving work that would be impossible without your support. Thank you for giving Half Pint and so many other animals the chance to live pain-free lives!

**We love animals. Every. Single. Day.**

As someone who cares deeply about animals, you know that food, safe shelter and medical treatment are just some of the basic services we provide — and that they are costly. Knowing a dedicated group of *Faithful Friends* will always be there to support our work every month helps us commit to every animal that needs love and care.

*Faithful Friends* are the heart of what we do at Humane Society Silicon Valley. By setting up an automatic gift each month, you ensure there are resources to help care for every homeless animal who comes through our doors.



**Sign up to be a Faithful Friend today! Visit [hssv.org/faithfulfriends](https://hssv.org/faithfulfriends)**

# Lorrie's Family Grows . . . Again and Again!

**Lorrie Sprain loves showing off pictures of her grandson and her new adopted dog, Cooper. This beautiful relationship was made possible by our PUP program and loyal friends like you . . .**

Lorrie is not only an employee of Humane Society Silicon Valley, but a huge supporter, too. She's already adopted two dogs and a cat, but when she met Cooper, it was obvious the family needed to get a little bigger. "My heart melted when I met Cooper," Lorrie says. "And I knew he would make a wonderful addition to our family."



**Lorrie was overjoyed to welcome Cooper into her home, where he's been embraced by even the smallest members of her family. Thanks to your support, Cooper's seven siblings and parents have also all been adopted into loving forever homes.**

Shortly after adopting Cooper, Lorrie became the grandmother to a brand new baby boy named Tony. "Cooper loves Tony, and my entire family loves Cooper," Lorrie gushes, displaying a photo of the two youngsters snuggling.

## **PUP Program Grows Families All Over Silicon Valley**

Cooper is one of eight puppies who came to Humane Society Silicon Valley from a local family who could not care for them. At the suggestion of a kindly

neighbor, the owners agreed to relinquish the puppies and their parents to us. Through our Preventing Unwanted Pregnancies, or "PUP" Program, we were able to help the whole family.

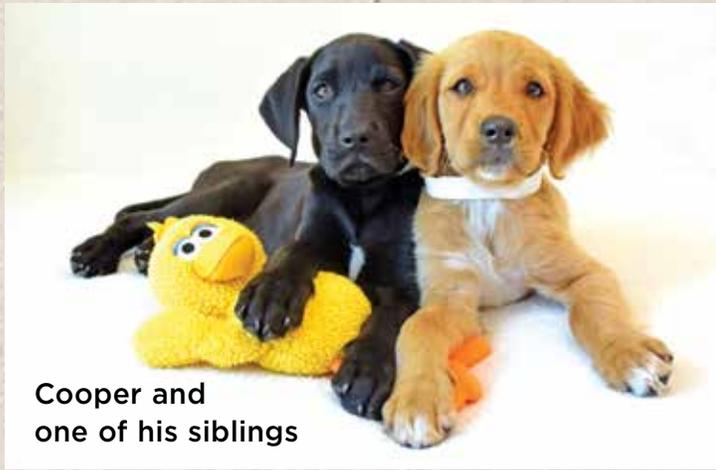
The program exists to help families or individuals who suddenly find themselves with unwanted litters. We find loving homes for each puppy and spay or neuter the parents for free. That way, there are no more accidental litters.

All seven puppies were quickly adopted into loving homes. The parent pooches are also loving life with their new forever families.

# Changing Our Community for Good

While these adoptions are victories for the individual pets and families, it's also a huge step forward in addressing the root causes of homeless and neglected pets. "Sometimes animals need help. Sometimes people need help," Lorrie adds. "By serving both of them together, we're building a better, more compassionate community."

*Thank you for joining with Humane Society Silicon Valley to make life better for pets and people who love them!*



Cooper and one of his siblings



**Spay & Neuter at HSSV**

**26**

**AVERAGE SURGERIES PER DAY**

**2,767**

**TARGETED SPAY/NEUTER PROGRAM**

**5,546**

**OTHER SPAY/NEUTER SURGERIES  
(IN HOUSE & LOW-FEE)**

**8,313**

**TOTAL SURGERIES PERFORMED IN FY16**

The spay and neuter programs at Humane Society Silicon Valley are mission critical, preventing thousands of unwanted companion animals from being born each year. We are meeting our spay/neuter surgeries for FY17 YTD! Thanks for your support.

# HSSV Education Programs: A Student's Perspective

by NOREENA LAU

I first started HSSV education programs when I was around 13 years old. I wanted to get involved in helping animals around me. Caring for my two pet fish was great, but I knew I could do more.

Throughout high school, I was co-chair of the Youth Advisory Board (YAB), which was a group of students representing HSSV mission of service and pursuing animal-related leadership in the local community. I also did Compassion in Action and served as counselor for the "Amazing Animals!" summer camp.

**“My love for animals was always there, but HSSV educational programs taught me how to apply it in working with people in a real-world setting.” — Noreena Lau**

I gained so much. It was fun to get hands-on experience working with shelter animals. Later, as a camp counselor, it was rewarding to teach enthusiastic, animal-loving children how to make positive impacts. Above all, I treasured the opportunity for my peers and me to be a part of something bigger, and help provide our perspective as young people to such a successful organization.



Since I first learned what animals were, I've wanted to be a veterinarian, but it is HSSV that opened my eyes to the practical, human aspects critical to the profession. HSSV's youth programs are unlike any other. These programs gave me responsibility, involvement in making decisions, practice collaborating in a team and opportunities to share my passion with the public. All of these are skills and experiences that veterinarians constantly need to hone, and for me, it first came from HSSV. My love for animals was always there, but HSSV's educational programs taught me how to apply it in working with people in a real-world setting.

I recently graduated from Cornell University with a degree in animal science and just started at the Royal Veterinary College in London. In five years, I'll finally be a veterinarian! Shelter medicine is one thing I'm considering. Could this be HSSV's doing? Maybe!

# Abandoned County Puppies Rescued — Thanks to You!

“Stray left at the gate,” said each of the pieces of paperwork. “Name Unknown. 4 Weeks Old.”

Three pieces of paperwork, three quivering little puppies. All had big eyes and apple-shaped heads. They huddled in a pile in the crate.

It had been a long twenty-four hours for the siblings. Left outside a rural county shelter in the chill of an April night, they survived the cold despite their thin coats. When shelter staff found them, they rushed to get them warm and fed. Then, lacking the resources for a foster program, they called us.

## Reaching Out to Save Animals

These calls for help aren't unusual. Every year our Regional Rescue program brings in more than 1,900 animals from eighteen shelters in our area. Sometimes the shelters are overwhelmed or unprepared for an animal's unique needs. Other times, a more specialized medical or behavioral care is required.

Whatever the case, our resources and expertise can literally mean the difference between life and death. So we never turn down an animal in need.



## From Quivering to Confident — Pups Grow Up!

Greyson, Snowball and Stormy — as the three puppies came to be known — were immediately given a medical checkover.

Then, they were fostered by Humane Society Silicon Valley's staff and volunteers. The little siblings made multiple return trips to our Milpitas Animal Community Center for vaccines and checkups, growing stronger, more confident, healthier and happier with every visit. It wasn't long before they were all adopted into loving homes.

**Every year our Regional Rescue program brings in more than 1,900 animals from eighteen shelters in our area.**

Today, our transfer van continues to go out to other shelters, answering daily calls for help from around the region. Acting as a safety net for the most vulnerable animals and overwhelmed shelters in our area is such a crucial part of what we do. Thank you for helping rescue so many cats and dogs from all over Northern California.

# Four New Mutual Rescue™ Films Coming in 2017

Last year, Humane Society Silicon Valley released our first Mutual Rescue film starring Eric and Peety. Our second one, featuring Kylie and Liza, comes out shortly. You can watch them at [mutualrescue.org](http://mutualrescue.org).

When we released our first Mutual Rescue film last year, our goal was to clarify and elevate the cause of animal welfare.

Too often human and animal non-profit needs are pitted against each other. There's a damaging misconception that donations to animal charities come at the expense of human charities. **Our goal was to change the conversation from choosing between supporting animals *or* people to really supporting animals *and* people when you donate to an animal charity.** This, we hoped, would encourage people to support their local shelters in addition to other causes that capture their hearts.

While our goal was admittedly lofty, the impact of our first Mutual Rescue film — about Eric and Peety — exceeded our highest expectations. It was viewed more than *sixty million times* and featured on television programs, film festivals and websites around the world.

Because of that extraordinary success, we're thrilled to announce that we will be launching four more Mutual Rescue films in the coming year. The next one, featuring Kylie and Liza, comes out this month!

It's the story of a very sick young girl, a heartbroken family and the rescued kitten that appeared right when they needed her.



**Both films are viewable at [mutualrescue.org](http://mutualrescue.org).**

We encourage you to watch, because we think you'll be inspired by the human/animal bond exemplified in these beautiful pieces.

We are so proud to be the founding organization of the Mutual Rescue initiative, and so grateful for your support. Together we're creating a better world, both for animals and people.

*If you'd like to support your local shelter you can visit [hssv.org/betterfutures](http://hssv.org/betterfutures).*

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