DECEMBER 2021



# All Things Pawsible



#### **TOP STORIES:**

Giving Fino a Brighter Future A Place to Find Healing — and a New Home A Forever Family That Was Meant to Be Determined to Make a Difference **Bringing Out Her Sweet Side** 

## HUMANE SOCIETY SILICON VALLEY

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### **Gratitude and Reflection**

This holiday season, we're grateful for the gift of second chances. With the help of friends like you, we were able to provide a brighter future for animals and the people who love them when they needed us the most.

Your belief in making a difference for our community has created these life-changing moments. Whether it was providing lifesaving medical care to a puppy in need or finding a senior cat the perfect home, you stepped up to help.

As we reflect on the past year and the second chances made possible by friends like you, we are so grateful for our compassionate community. By supporting Humane Society Silicon Valley this holiday season, you'll help us continue this lifesaving work. Thank you for partnering with us to make a difference!

Gratefully,

Kurt Krukenberg

Rurt Krukenberg President







Humane Society Silicon Valley Animal Community Center 901 Ames Avenue, Milpitas, CA 95035 408-262-2133

West San Jose Neighborhood Adoption Center in PETCO 500 El Paseo de Saratoga, San Jose, CA 95130 408-370-2732

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### Giving Fino a Brighter Future

Fino couldn't stop spinning in his

kennel. After six months in a shelter in the Central Valley, he was considered a long-term resident, and it was clear that the extended time he'd spent in the shelter environment was getting to him. Fino needed out, and soon. He'd started to jump fences, spin around constantly, and jump off the kennel walls — all signs that he was becoming very, very stressed.

The German Shepherd mix had the typical energy of a young, active breed dog, but the shelter he was in didn't

have the resources to take him on regular outings or give him the exercise he needed. They realized they needed help and reached out to us. With your generous support we could say yes, and brought Fino in soon after.

### Giving Fino the love and care he deserves — thanks to you

Our Behavior team knew we needed a plan — and we needed one quickly. Fino immediately started showing some of the same stressful behaviors once in our care. He would attempt to jump the fences in his outdoor courtyard enclosure, would pace and bark when left alone in his room, and had some difficulty settling down when he met new dogs.



He was started on anti-anxiety medication to help ease some of his stress. He began attending daily playgroups with other playful dogs where he could run and play, using up his abundance of energy. In addition to playgroup, our experienced staff and volunteers took him on daily walks to make sure he was given lots of time outside of his room.

Gradually, Fino started to settle down. He was still an active, high-energy dog, but some of his

anxious behaviors started to subside. We were relieved to see him more at ease. It was now time to find Fino a home, and we placed him up for adoption. His adoption included a free Training Scholarship sponsored by the Pedigree Foundation, which would help his future family understand his behaviors and help him transition into their home. He was adopted a week later, and his new dad says he's settling in beautifully. He gets tons of exercise, has made a few dog friends, and loves to join his new dad for adventures on the beach or hiking.

Thanks to friends like you, Fino received the second chance he needed — and deserved. With your support, he's now thriving in a loving, supportive home. Thank you for giving him a brighter future.



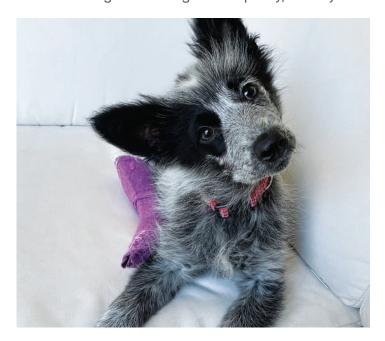


### A Place to Find Healing — and a New Home



Jacki, a four-month-old cattle dog puppy, arrived at a shelter in the Central Valley with a severely injured back leg and wounds on her neck. The shelter didn't have the resources to evaluate and care for her leg injury, so they asked us for help. Thanks to your support, we didn't hesitate.

We traveled to the shelter and brought Jacki back with us. Shortly after we arrived, our Medical team got to work assessing her. Looking at the squirmy, friendly



puppy, you'd never know how much she had been through. Jacki looked content in the arms of our medical staff, happily licking their faces, and wiggling for more attention. But she was dirty, thin, and clearly uncomfortable. We performed X-rays and confirmed what we suspected: her leg was broken.

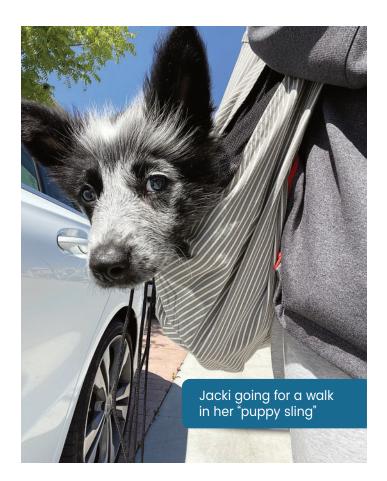
Luckily, the break wasn't severe and wouldn't require surgery. A splint was applied to the leg to keep it in place and allow her to place some weight on it without further injuring herself. We decided it was best for Jacki to be placed into a foster home, so she could be monitored frequently and receive lots of individualized attention while she healed. Clara, a first-time foster, stepped up to take her.

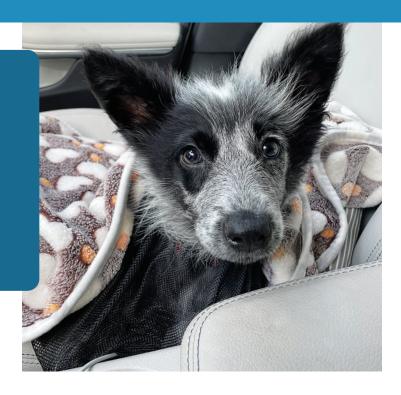
#### Your generosity helped change Jacki's life

Jacki was on strict instructions to keep exercise to a minimum. It was easier said than done with an active breed puppy. She was playful, energetic, and super smart. Clara played with her as much as she could and gave her long-lasting treats to enjoy in her crate to safely help with her energy level, and Jacki began to adapt. Clara took her for walks in her "puppy sling" so she could get fresh air and see the world.

"She definitely had a feisty personality. She was also very curious and fearless, despite her broken leg. Jacki was a joy to foster." - Clara, Jacki's foster mom

"Jacki was our first foster, and she opened our eyes to what it means to foster a puppy," says Clara. "She definitely had a feisty personality. She was also very curious and fearless, despite her broken leg. Jacki was a joy to foster." Because she was so smart, Jacki learned new things quickly, which delighted her foster mom. It was clear that this bouncy puppy wasn't going to let anything stop her.





Thanks to your generosity, Jacki could receive the care she needed to fully heal. She came to our medical center weekly to have her splint changed — especially since the spirited puppy frequently chewed it when her foster mom wasn't looking. Despite her silly antics in her foster home, our medical staff deemed her their favorite patient. She was so sweet, stayed still and happy for her exams, and they were even able to change the splint while she was still awake by feeding her tasty treats. She was a star patient, and the whole staff looked forward to seeing her every week. They also loved seeing her progress.

Finally, after two months in our care, it was time for the next step in Jacki's journey. Her leg had fully healed, and the splint was removed for good. She was placed up for adoption, where she caught the eye of her future family, and finally made her way home.

Thanks to friends like you, Jacki is now one of many animals in the arms of a loving family this holiday season. With your generosity, we're able to transport nearly four thousand animals from under-resourced shelters all over the state and provide them the medical care they need before finding them their forever families. We couldn't do this lifesaving work without you. Thank you for saving the lives of deserving animals like Jacki every year.

### A Forever Family That Was Meant to Be

A sweet senior cat had been hanging around Christina's apartment complex for months. She saw the cat wandering

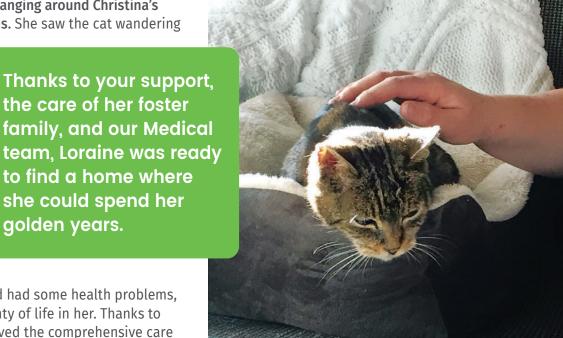
around often, and wished she could take her in, but Christina knew her cat wouldn't accept a feline friend. Then, one day, she stopped seeing the elderly tabby in the apartment complex.

Loraine, as the cat would be called, had been taken to HSSV. We estimated she was

around thirteen years old, and had some health problems, but we knew she still had plenty of life in her. Thanks to your generosity, Loraine received the comprehensive care she needed. She was given a full dental cleaning, placed on medication for hyperthyroidism, and started on a special diet to help with some kidney issues she was experiencing. She was placed in a foster home for a few weeks to give her time to adjust to her new medications and recover from her time in the world.

golden years.





#### Your generosity helps so many animals in need like Loraine

After a month, Loraine was looking and feeling better. She was eating well and had put on some much-needed weight. Her teeth were looking great after her dental surgery, and the medications seemed to be keeping her stable and alert. Thanks to your support, the care of her foster family, and our Medical team, Loraine was ready to find a home where she could spend her golden years.

Loraine was placed up for adoption, and her photo was posted to our website. That's when she caught the eye of someone special: Christina. Christina's elderly cat had passed away recently, and she was ready to start looking for a new cat to keep her company. She was browsing our website when a familiar face popped up. It was the sweet, older cat she used to see at her apartment complex! Christina knew it was meant to be. She brought her home, where Loraine settled into life as an indoor cat right away. It was a perfect reunion.

Thank you for helping us give Loraine the care she needed and reuniting her with the person who had loved her all along. We are so grateful for your incredible support.

Want to see more Happy Tails of our adopted animals? Follow us on Facebook and Instagram!

### **Determined to Make a Difference**

When Emma, a third grader from Hacienda Elementary, was assigned to come up with a "Good Citizen" project

in her social studies class, she knew she wanted to do something to help animals. "She has such a big heart and really enjoys helping animals," says her mom.

The project only required Emma to research a problem and come up with

an idea for a solution. But Emma didn't understand why she would make a plan without implementing it. She wanted to make a difference.

Emma researched animal shelters in her area and found out

about HSSV and our Pet Pantry, which provides free food to pet owners facing financial hardship. Her plan was then put into action. She reached out to her community and asked for donations of food and other pet items to help these families in need. The response was huge. Emma brought the donations to us, which ended up filling an entire donation bin and included over 200 pounds of dog food, 100 pounds of cat food, and over 150 cans of wet food.

small can end up

Emma dropping off donations



We're so grateful to Emma and her huge heart. At only nine years old, she's an inspiration and proof that something small can end up making a big impact. She's showing that together, we can build a compassionate community and future for animals and the people who care for them.

Interested in donating supplies to pet pantry? Visit hssv.org/PetPantryWishlist to see what's currently needed most.



### **Bringing Out Her Sweet Side**

Fierce. Spicy. Sassy.

These were all words used to describe Nefertiti, a beautiful long-haired cat with a ton of attitude. She came to us

through our Regional Rescue program after a shelter reached out to us for help. When she arrived, our Medical team quickly learned that she was not open to being handled, and even needed to be sedated to be examined and given necessary treatments.

Thanks to your generous support, we could ensure she was medically healthy, then our Behavior team took over.

They performed an assessment and noted that while Nefertiti was a very sassy girl, she could also be sweet. She accepted head petting and would rub against the legs of our staff. But that affectionate personality could also turn in an instant, and if she wasn't given breaks from attention, she was perfectly fine with making her opinions known.

The team placed her under a behavior modification plan to see if they could reduce her stress and work on some of those feisty behaviors. The plan included play therapy, which helped get some of her energy out and gave her an outlet for her spiciness. It also included specific instructions for how staff and volunteers should handle her. While she would often solicit attention, people were to keep petting sessions to a minimum and give her frequent breaks to play whenever possible.

Just three days after graduating from her behavior modification program, Nefertiti found the perfect home.



#### Finding a perfect family — thanks to you

After a few weeks, Nefertiti was a different cat. She was friendly to new people, able to be pet without attempting to swat, and loved the play therapy she was receiving. Thanks to your generosity and the time and effort of our Behavior team, the once spicy cat that couldn't be touched was now ready to find a home. It didn't take long. Just three days after graduating from her behavior modification program, Nefertiti found the perfect home.

Thanks to supporters like The Steve Hughes and His Little Cat Posse Endowment, we were able to take in Nefertiti through our Regional Rescue Program and provide her with the individualized care she needed. We are so grateful to those who partner with us to help animals like Nefertiti thrive

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