




FEBRUARY  
2022

# All Things Pawsible



Bam Bam lost his family in a car accident and had to have his leg amputated. Thanks to you, he got a second chance.

## TOP STORIES:

Ripple Effect of Good

Helping Aria Overcome her Fears—and Thrive  
From Tragedy to New Beginnings

Breaking Ground on our New Cat Garden!

Keeping Pets and Their Families Together—  
Thanks to You!

A Journey Filled With Love

# HUMANE SOCIETY SILICON VALLEY

901 Ames Ave.  
Milpitas, CA 95035-6326

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

408-262-2133

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408-262-2133 x108

## Pet Store

408-262-2133 x164

## Adoptions

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## Behavior & Training

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## Lost & Found

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## Pet Surrender/

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# A Ripple Effect of Good


Saving pets and their families is at the heart of everything we do.

Through your partnership, we provide the care and resources to pets and the people who love them in our community and beyond. We know that when you save the life of an animal, that life creates a ripple effect of good. Animals touch our lives in immeasurable ways, and by connecting an animal with a person, you enhance many lives at once.

By supporting Humane Society Silicon Valley, you're fueling an ecosystem of good. You help save thousands of lives—both pets and people. When you support our work, you make things possible. You do things like create a new garden for community cats, save the life of a dog that suffered a critical injury, or provide extra attention to a dog that was terrified of the world.

Thank you for being a part of the solution. We couldn't do the lifesaving work we do without our amazing village of friends like you who come together to save animals.

Gratefully,

  
Kurt Krukenberg  
President



## Humane Society Silicon Valley

**Peter Detkin and Michelle Oates Detkin 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  
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# Helping Aria Overcome her Fears—and Thrive



Aria went from a shy, fearful dog to a playful pup after working with our Animal Care team.

came to visit, and with a trusted friend by her side, she was open to meeting even more people. Aria was blossoming.

The first time our team met Aria, she was terrified. The young border collie mix had her tail between her legs and made it clear she was not comfortable being handled. She was brought to us as a stray and had very little experience meeting new people.

Aria came to us at the perfect time. Our Animal Care team was expanding their work, and they were now responsible for providing enrichment to shelter animals. This included working with our Behavior team to increase their ability to help our shy and fearful dogs build confidence. Practicing their new skills by working with Aria, they were overjoyed with the results.

**Your support helps meet the individual needs of every animal.**

Because Aria was so fearful, we created a small “circle of friends” for her. These were staff members and volunteers with lots of experience working with scared dogs who had been able to gain some of Aria’s trust. A few members of the Animal Care team were added to her circle of friends and began spending lots of time with her to help her continue to build her confidence.

Gradually, with the help of her friends, Aria started to come out of her shell. As she grew more comfortable, we started seeing the fun, energetic side to her personality. We discovered that she loved being around other dogs and playing with them, and it was incredible watching her thrive as she ran through the park with her dog friends. She began getting excited when a member of her circle

The next step for Aria was meeting potential adopters. She would need a patient home, a family dedicated to continuing her progress and give her ample exercise, as a young herding breed enjoys. After a few weeks of looking for the perfect home, Aria found it. Her new family had experience with border collies and were looking for a dog they could take running. It was a perfect fit.

Thanks to the incredible support of friends like you, Aria received the individualized attention she needed, and our team expanded their skills to be able to help more dogs like her. **We’re grateful for your partnership in helping animals who need extra care to find their confidence.**

**...with a trusted friend by her side, she was open to meeting even more people. Aria was blossoming.**



# From Tragedy to New Beginnings



Over the next few weeks, Bam Bam made an incredible recovery. He was a different dog from the one we had met just weeks earlier, barely clinging to life.

Seeing Bam Bam's sweet, happy personality now, you would hardly know that a few months before, the Pomeranian had been through something horrific. He had been traveling in a car with his loving family, which included humans and two other dogs, when the car was in a severe accident. Bam Bam was the sole survivor of the crash. He had a traumatic partial amputation of

his leg and other painful wounds. But thanks to your generosity, Bam Bam was about to get a second chance.

He was taken to a shelter in the Central Valley, where the staff notified our Rescue team about Bam Bam and his injuries right away. Our team made a special trip the next day just to pick him up.

## Your generosity is life-changing for animals like Bam Bam—thank you!

When Bam Bam arrived in our Medical center, we were shocked at the state of his injuries. He was becoming septic, meaning his body was responding to an infection by damaging its own tissues—a life-threatening condition. His fever was high, and the partially amputated tissues in his leg had started to die. He was rushed into surgery, where his leg was amputated skillfully by Dr. Moore, one of our veterinarians with a specialty in orthopedics.

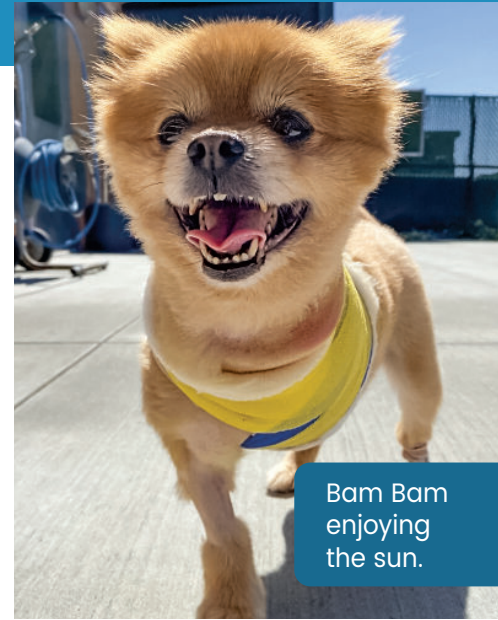


The surgery was a success, and our team breathed easier knowing that the sweet dog would make it. He was started on medications to help with the pain and prevent infection. We sent him to stay with an experienced foster who would help him through recovery and learn to adjust to life on three legs. Over the next few weeks, Bam Bam made an incredible recovery. He was a different dog from the one we had met just weeks earlier, barely clinging to life. He was doing well living life on three legs, and showed off his friendly, outgoing, joyful personality wherever he went.

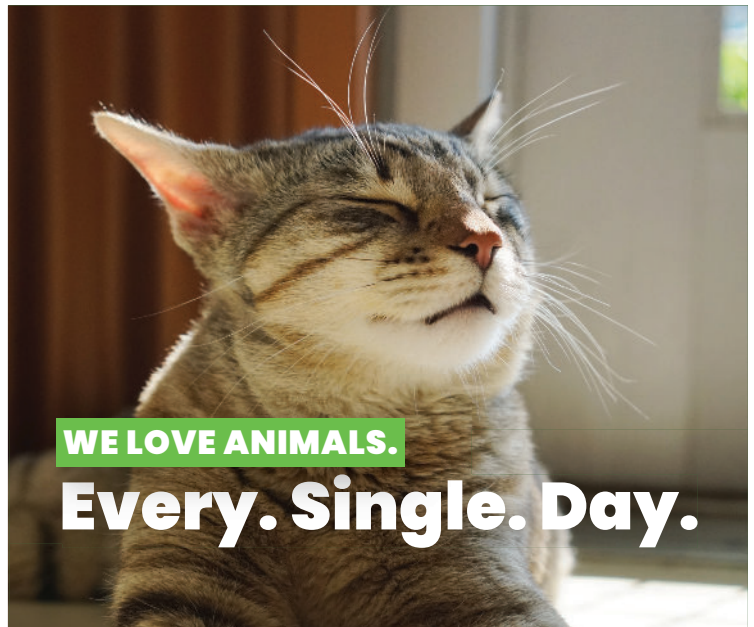
Exactly a month after Bam Bam had gone through the worst possible thing, his life took another turn—this time, for the better. He found a home. His new family fell in love immediately when meeting him. They waited weeks for

Bam Bam to be healthy enough to come home, and when he was finally ready, they were overjoyed.

We are so grateful for friends like you. Your support means that animals like Bam Bam receive the second chance and care they need to make it through the most difficult times. Thank you!



Bam Bam enjoying the sun.



**WE LOVE ANIMALS.**

**Every. Single. Day.**

**Faithful Friends** are at the heart of what we do at Humane Society Silicon Valley. By setting up a recurring monthly donation, you ensure there are resources to care for every homeless animal who comes through our doors.

Sign up to be a **Faithful Friend** today!

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# Breaking Ground on Our New Cat Garden!



Construction for Kona's Spot in the Sun broke ground in September 2021, and is expected to be finished this winter.



At HSSV, we are always asking ourselves two questions: **how can we help more animals in need? And, how can we better serve the animals in our care?** Thanks to your generosity, we could answer both questions at once with the development of our second cat garden.

Years ago, our garden cat adoption program was created to give a pathway to adoption for cats that are not social with people and not suitable for a traditional adoption as indoor pets. The Marilyn and Fred Anderson Community Cat Garden was built to give these cats an outdoor space appropriate for their needs while they waited to find “homes” in barns, wineries, and businesses. The program was a success, and hundreds of garden cats have been adopted since its inception.

Two years ago, we made the decision to expand the program by creating a second garden. The new garden would increase our capacity to help more garden cats and improve some of the features in the first garden. It would give cats in our care enhanced space, providing even more enrichment opportunities to meet their needs.

This garden would be visible to the public and would house our more social garden cats that have some affinity for humans or a history of indoor/outdoor living before they came to us. The Marilyn and Fred Anderson Community Cat Garden would be upgraded to better fit the needs of our cats and used primarily for the less social cats due to its more private and secluded location.

Suzanne Maas, a dedicated and longtime donor with a passion for cats, generously funded the new garden, named Kona's Spot in the Sun. The garden will be located in front of our building to bring visibility to the garden cat program, as well as educational opportunities through plaques and signage for visitors wanting to learn more about garden cats.

Other features include: an escape-proof enclosure, protection from the elements, access to both sun and shade, plenty of hiding places, cat-friendly vegetation, and easy solutions for our team to safely catch cats when they have been adopted. We broke ground on the new garden in September 2021 and will be celebrating its completion in the winter.

Thanks to the generous donation from Suzanne and the support from our extraordinary community, Kona's Spot in the Sun will help us care for more cats with unique needs, as well as provide the right kind of environment to help them succeed. **We're so grateful for the opportunity your support gives us to save and care for so many deserving animals. Come visit us to see our new garden in action!**



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# Keeping Pets and Their Families Together—Thanks to You!

Since the pandemic began, our Pet Pantry program has grown to meet the needs of our community thanks to our supporters like you. This program, which provides pet food and supplies to pet owners struggling to meet the needs of their furry family members, now serves hundreds of families in our county and has helped prevent many pet owners from being forced to surrender their cherished pets to a shelter.

As a part of the expansion of this program, we realized there were people and pets in need that we couldn't reach. This included clients who were homebound and unable to make a trip to our Peter Detkin and Michelle Oates Detkin Animal Community Center every month to pick up the necessary supplies.

Earlier last summer, we were grateful to find a solution to this issue. We partnered with The Health Trust, which had been providing pet food delivery services to their Meals on Wheels clients. We took over this portion of their services, enabling us to meet the needs of pet owners allowing The Health Trust focus on what they do best—providing food to humans.



Your support helped make it possible to deliver pet food directly to Claudia for her three cats.



## Filled with gratitude

On one of our deliveries to bring food and supplies to recipients of our Pet Pantry program, our new Director of Major Gifts, Krista Coutts, was able to ride along. She joined our Community Programs Manager, Katie, to drop off deliveries all over the county. One client they visited was Claudia, who has three beloved cats and needed help providing food for them. Krista was blown away by Claudia's gratitude. Claudia loved her cats so dearly, and Krista was able to see firsthand the importance of keeping families like Claudia, Lily, Milo, and Mignon together.

Thanks to the support of our community and amazing partnerships with organizations like The Health Trust, we can be there for pets and their people when they need us the most. Thank you for helping us be a safety net for bonded families!

# A Journey Filled with Love

The skinny kitten had just made the long trek from the Central Valley in our rescue vehicle when one of our veterinarians first met her. Her appearance was startling—both eyes were enlarged and appeared to have ruptured. Our Medical team didn't want the kitten to spend any more time in pain. We could provide the urgent care she needed because of donors like you.

The kitten was rushed into surgery right away. Once under anesthesia, her eyes were examined in greater detail and we determined she had an ocular condition that was too severe for treatment. Dr. Campbell, one of our incredible veterinarians, removed both of the kitten's eyes. She also placed the kitten on antibiotics to prevent a postoperative infection and pain reliever to help her through recovery. Medical staff and volunteers stayed with her through the next few hours as she slowly woke up to ensure everything had gone well. The surgery was successful, and she was already showing some of her loving personality.

By the next day, Love, as she was named, was doing so much better. She was eating well, starting to play, and her surgery sites were looking good. A couple days later, our Medical team was confident enough in the way she was healing that she was sent to a foster home with one of our veterinary technicians, Naadia, to finish recovering.

## Your support is life-changing for animals in need

Naadia was overjoyed to see the small kitten took no time



Ewan, now Dante, was adopted with Love, now Zelda, and is helping her in their new home.



Love, or Zelda as she is now known, had to have both eyes removed. Thanks to your support, she received the care she needed and is thriving.

at all to get used to life without eyes. Over the next few weeks she started running, chasing toys, and climbing cat trees to her heart's content. Naadia brought home another foster kitten, Ewan, to give Love a buddy. They hit it off right away. Ewan, a shy, reserved kitten, boosted his confidence by spending time with the friendly, outgoing Love. In return, Ewan acted as a sort of "seeing eye" kitten for his new friend, helping her navigate new spaces with ease.

When it came time for Love to be placed up for adoption, we couldn't stand the thought of separating her from her new pal. Love and Ewan were a bonded pair and would only be available to go home if they were together. It didn't take long for the adorable duo to find their perfect home. Love and Ewan were renamed Zelda and Dante, and are doing amazing in their new home. Their adopter says they're adored by everyone who meets them, and with her friend by her side, Zelda is learning her way around her new home. **We're so grateful you helped us be there for Zelda when she needed us most. Thank you for giving her a second chance!**

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