CONTRA COSTA HUMANE SOCIETY

ADOPT • CONNECT • EDUCATE

HUMANE CONNECTIONS

NEWS FROM THE CONTRA COSTA HUMANE SOCIETY • Winter 2011

COSMO

Looking for a Special Home

If cats indeed have nine lives, Cosmo is running through his at breakneck speed. When Cosmo somehow found himself at Animal Services last year, he was limping on a bum leg that X-rays showed had been pieced together with a metal pin sometime in his past. Chosen for a second chance to be shown for adoption by a large pet food chain, no one took Cosmo home. He spent so many months in a cage that his injured leg atrophied.

CCHS then offered poor Cosmo a third chance to find a permanent home by placing him in the security of our Kitty Corner where he made friends with volunteer Chris Bradley. She took Cosmo home and then straight to a vet for instructions that would help the handsome black and white cat regain use of his injured leg.

On inspection, the concerned vet recommended Cosmo promptly see an eye doctor. The flecks in one of Como's eyes were dangerous melanoma. So much for Cosmo's fourth life. The eye was successfully removed and thankfully Cosmo was pronounced cancer free!

Chris would love to keep the courageous cat but her dog, who also suffers disabilities, is not fond of sharing the limelight with Cosmo. "It's going to be tough for me to give him up," says Chris. "He's a sweetheart, smart and playful with lots of personality, but he needs to go to that forever home."

Cosmo is about five years old now and requires being an indoor cat whose owner is home to assure that he is fed a prescribed diet three times a day. In return you'll receive a lot of love from a very grateful and healthy cat who still has several lives left to live. •

To adopt Cosmo, please contact Chrissy Wilberg, at (925) 279-2247 x 303.

CONNECT WITH US

We're now on Facebook! Connect with us for important animal news in and around Contra Costa County at **www.facebook/ContraCostaHumaneSociety**. You'll get a chance to meet some of the adorable cats we have available for adoption and find out more about the innovative programs we have planned for the county. Every month, we'll randomly choose one person on Facebook to receive a behind the scenes tour of the CCHS headquarters, so please join us now!

Due to popular demand, we will be releasing a monthly electronic newsletter as a companion piece to our printed newsletter. Please click the subscribe link at the bottom of our homepage to sign up. Like the printed edition, this will feature news about upcoming events, happy endings for adopted animals, and ways CCHS is serving Contra Costa County animals and those who care for them. You'll also hear news from other non-profit organizations who share our vision for Contra Costa County as well as stories from people like you.

ABBEY

A Perfect Fit

Debra Ebling's 12 year old daughter Tiffany was looking for a dog. She diligently searched Internet adoption sites and was delighted when she came across Abby, whose picture and description seemed "just perfect." Her mother was a little more skeptical. "You know how descriptions are," says Debra. But when she and her family arranged to meet Abby it took just one look to fall in love with the one year old American Staffordshire terrier mix that was said to be well behaved, gentle and "loved to give kisses."

Abby had been apparently cared for by an owner who had provided a good home but for some reason found it necessary to surrender her to Animal Services. Abby was put up for adoption but no one took her home. Her time was running out when CCHS saved the docile dog and placed her picture on a number of Internet animal adoption sites where she was found by Tiffany.

The Eblings couldn't be happier with Abby. "She's a sweetheart. People stop and pet her all the time," raves Debra. "She just fits right in" with their family who already has two cats.

And who knew that the Eblings would be adding a Giants fan to their family? Debra says that "one of the cutest things that Abby does is go around the house collecting things and taking them to her bed. " Rather than chew her collectables, Abby curls up and cuddles with them instead. One of her favorite items is a Panda hat like the fuzzy one worn by so many Giants' fans. The Giants may have hit the jackpot, but it looks like Abby did too. •

ASK THE VET

Q & A

Q. Can companion animals get colds and flu and what is the best way to protect my dog/cat during winter months?

—

A. In general, "cold" or influenza viruses are very species specific, meaning our dogs and cats are not susceptible to our "flu bugs." Dogs and cats are susceptible to their very own upper respiratory infections. These infections can be caused by viruses or bacteria. Again these infections are normally very species specific, meaning cats and dogs don't usually share their colds with each other, or with us. Bordetella, however, is an exception, as we see this infecting both dogs and cats.

Upper respiratory infections can cause irritation of the nasal sinuses and throat leading to sneezing and coughing. In the winter months, if animals are left outside they need shelter from the wind and rain. Taking your pet out in the cold air won't cause an upper respiratory infection but may aggravate an existing one. Just as we get our annual flu shot, dogs and cats are vaccinated against some of the major causes of upper respiratory infections. (Consult with your veterinarian as to your pet's needs).

In our practice we actually see more cases of infectious bronchitis in the summer months when more pets go to kennels and dog parks and are exposed to other dogs. Finally since we don't have the severe cold weather here in California as in other parts of the country, frostbite and hypothermia are of little concern, so take your dog out for a walk in the rain and the mud and enjoy the freedom from burrs, fox tails and fleas. •

Dr. Budd Arnott practices at Oak Tree Animal Hospital in Danville. He and his wife and two children share their home with three dogs and two cats, all rescued animals.

IN HONOR OF AND IN MEMORY OF DONATIONS

IN MEMORY OF

—

Walter Silva
-Carpenters & Joiners of America, #152

Katherine Patarino
-Nancy Rossiter
-Pamela & Philip Henry
-Ali Dirksen

Christopher Gray
-Lucky #771 employees

Suzanne Philipie Grows
-Donna Thomas

Patricia Bland
-John Morrill

"Maxie"
-Jane Oberholzer

"Milo"
-Richard Belfanti

"Aviv"
-The Newburne Family

"Snow White" DeGroot
-Chriss Bradley

"Ranger"
-Shari Kalm

"Crispy"
-Joyce Meyer

"Jake"
-Catherine Norwood

"Wendy" Chu
"Elwood" Burke
"Lilo" Momono
"Pebbles" Wallis
"Lady" Vera
"Blanco" Foster
"Abby" Ashbaugh
"Vago" Dorsey
"Muzzle" Newman
"Tazz" Levy
"Boo" Brock
"Icy 2" Lowery
"Penelope" Gatdula
"Lobo" Dietrich
"Blossom" Taylor
"Lucky Dog" Johnson
"Sammy" Fehr
"Rusty" Gordon
"Penny" Bossi
"Jayke" Wolfe
"Fritz" Elliott
"Chikita" Shepherd
"Pasu" Williams
"Tank" Zwang
"Bonita" Mccullough
"Snickers" Padua
"Itty Bitty" Razo
"Rolex" Leong Roy
"PeeWee" Melgar
"Muffin" Baker
"Lizzie" Midney
"Cookie" Parsons
"Bingo" Johnson
"Ginger" Sondrol
"Gordo" Costa
"Coody Kitty" Machado
"Rose" Cousart
"Indigo" Hayes
"Lydia" KiisKinen
"Guinness" Gutierrez
"Robert" Bradley
"Jule" Freeman
"Angel" Gonzales
"Bogey" Nardi
"Spot" Obiedo
"Oscar" Pugh
"Angie" Szendrey
"Roxie" Yousif
"Smokey" Jennings
"Howler" Kron
"Max" Sanwal
"Markie" Sheridan
"Mr. Splendid" Pretzer
"Tiger" Haley
"Ashe" Browne
"Mocha" Montecino
"Madeline" Hom
"Sampson" Conyers
"Buzz" Souza
"Ice Cream" Soo
"Kitty" Melton
"Hootie" Sneed
"Trixie" Brooks
"Wesson" Saffier
"Alexander" Austin
"Belle" Attiyeh
"Sammi" Pisani
"Lexy" Heathorn
"Rosie" Brock
"Frankie" – Maine Coon Rescue
"Pepper" Baylis
-Animal Care Clinic

ADOPT

Do you know of someone looking to adopt a cat or dog? CCHS offers an adoption gallery at our website. Here you can view pictures and profiles of loving animals waiting for their forever home.

CCHS is looking for dog foster homes to help us save more lives! You can become a foster at no cost to you. CCHS pays for food, supplies and medical expenses. You provide socialization and extend the time we have to find a permanent home for the dog.

CONNECT

Please visit our website to learn about volunteer opportunities. We currently have needs posted for nine volunteer roles. There is sure to be one of interest to you!

Also at our website, learn about upcoming events, become a member or make a donation.

EDUCATE

CCHS endeavors to educate the public to foster compassion, responsibility and respect toward all animals by providing information and resources on a variety of animal and people related topics.

We also closely monitor state and local animal welfare legislation to increase public awareness about these important issues.

CONTRA COSTA
HUMANE SOCIETY

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CCHS strives to improve the quality of life for all animals by preventing cruelty, relieving suffering, and advocating responsible and humane behavior.

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS AND BUSINESS PARTNERS

- Abbey Pet Hospital, El Cerrito
- Alpine Veterinary Hospital, Concord
- Animal Care Clinic, El Sobrante
- Berkeley Honda, Berkeley
- Bring Rover Over, Martinez
- Civic Feline Clinic, Walnut Creek
- Contra Costa County Animal Services Department
- East Bay Nature, Walnut Creek
- Diablo View Veterinary Medical Hospital, Pleasant Hill
- Landes Studios, Diablo
- Karp Property Management, Burlingame
- Lunardi's Market, Walnut Creek
- Oak Tree Animal Hospital, Danville
- Pet Food Express
- Pinole Pet Hospital, Pinole
- Plaza Pet Hospital, Alamo

WISH LIST ITEMS

- A digital camera
- Recent model computers
- Postage stamps (Forever stamps)
- Telephone message forms – 2-part carbonless
- Gift certificates – pet and office supply stores
- Kitten food (unopened) – such as Royal Canin Baby Cat dry, Felidae canned, Nutro Kitten canned
- Kitten KMR formula, nursing bottles
- Dog and cat food for our AniMeals program
- Flea treatment for cats or dogs: such as Advantage or Frontline (purchased from a veterinarian)
- Cat trees and scratching posts
- Clumping cat litter (Smart Litter, Arm & Hammer)
- Unused litter boxes, liners and scoopers
- Clean cat carriers