

#### **ADOPTION HIGHLIGHTS**



#### **Agatha**

"She's taking time to get settled and looks more relaxed every day." - Adopter Erica



"She is a very sweet 12-year-old girl, and we are enjoying her very much." - Adopter Jan



#### Ralph

"Ralph the girl dog came home 14 YEARS AGO today. She's the best companion, and I'm grateful for every day we have together." -Adopter Elisabeth



**Inside: In a Fight for Life** 

## **Together We Save Pets**

Berkeley-East Bay Humane Society Impact Newsletter Fall 2018



#### All the Light She Can Now See

Celestia came to Berkeley Humane from an overcrowded shelter during a time of year when shelters everywhere were already overflowing with kittens. To make matters worse, she had agenesis of both eyelids.

What is eyelid agenesis? It's a congenital defect that prevented Celestia's eyelids from forming. Being born without upper eyelids meant that this poor cat had been suffering her whole life, afflicted with severe cornea irritation and recurring eye infections that left her vision severely impaired.

When Berkeley Humane heard about Celestia, we knew our medical team would be able to make a huge improvement in Celestia's quality of life.

But the surgery she needed to save her eyesight was put on hold when we had an unexpected surprise....

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**Executive Director, Jeffrey Zerwekh** 

I am inspired every day by the tremendous dedication of our volunteers and staff and the generosity of our community.

Providing medical care and behavior training to hundreds of animals every year would not be possible without you. You provide the resources that make animals that were once sick healthy again and move homeless shelter animals into new, loving homes. You also help dogs that were once untrained or misunderstood, receive the positive reinforcement they need to be happy, and calm members of their families through our Train the Bay program.

You are doing all of these things and more every single day by supporting Berkeley Humane. Thank you!



#### Fighting for Life

Most people look at puppies and see how cute they are, but when we're pulling puppies from overcrowded shelters such as those in the Central Valley, we know that they soon could be in a fight for their lives. That was the case for sweet, four-month-old Blu. After just a few days in our care, Blu tested positive for the Parvovirus (Parvo). The deadly virus has a 90 percent mortality rate if left untreated.

Parvo is highly contagious and often very expensive to treat, which is why many rescues and shelters avoid taking at-risk puppies altogether. But Berkeley Humane answers the call. While success is never guaranteed, our medical team is determined to give each puppy the best possible chance at life.

When Blue tested positive, we immediately placed her into emergency treatment. We were scared we might lose her. The road to recovery was long, but Blu beat the odds and was nursed back to health with a strict treatment protocol and lots of love. We

all celebrated when she was strong enough to eat on her own – without the assistance of a feeding tube!

Berkeley Humane has saved 15 puppies with Parvo in the last 24 months. Each one feels like a hard-won victory. Thanks to the support of generous donors like you, Blu went from being sick with an uncertain chance at survival to having a new loving family of her own! Blu was adopted by a family with another puppy, which they also adopted from Berkeley Humane.



Vernon had a rough start in life. He came from a hoarding situation where the animals were abused and neglected. He was saved by city authorities and taken to a local animal shelter that reached out to Berkeley Humane for help. When we met Vernon, he broke our hearts. He was badly neglected, and it was clear he was going to need lots of specialized socialization and training to prepare him for adoption.

Knowing he would thrive in a home environment, we matched him with Elizabeth, a volunteer in our foster program. With guidance from our animal care team, Elizabeth provided Vernon with consistent, loving one-on-one attention. Over the next few weeks, Vernon learned about potty training and walking on a leash. Most importantly, he slowly started gaining the confidence that allowed his true personality to emerge.

Thanks to all of Elizabeth's dedication, it was not long before a wonderful family met Veron and knew he would be the perfect addition to their family. A very happy ending for this little dog!



### A Kitten with a Dislocated Hip

Not much was known about Tagalong before he came to Berkeley Humane, and his injury was a mystery.

All we needed to know was that there was a stray kitten with a dislocated hip at an overcrowded shelter. Our friends at Solano County Animal Services hadn't been able to find a rescue that could take on these medical expenses, but Berkeley Humane was determined to get him the care he needed to have a normal kittenhood.

Thanks to donors like you, Berkeley Humane's veterinary clinic and professional medical team made sure Tagalong would be able to live up to his name. Now he loves to 'tag along' around the house with his favorite people.



X-ray taken at Berkeley Humane's hospital, showing Tagalong's dislocated hip.



Tagalong needed surgery to help him run and play free from pain.

#### **Have An Impact**

Your gift will provide life-saving programs for hundreds of cats and dogs each year. Your generosity makes surgeries like Tagalong's possible. Thank you for saving lives!

www.berkeleyhumane.org/donate

#### Free Pet Advice for Life!

We're dedicated to keeping dogs and cats out of shelters by offering free behavioral advice that can vastly improve the relationships between pets and their families. Best of all, it's free!

(510) 845-7735 x 215

#### **Legacy Circle**

A little planning can provide a lot of peace of mind – ensuring the future support of your family, pets, and the causes that are important to you.

Creating a will, living trust, or other legal document outlining your wishes is critical for a smooth process.

Berkeley Humane's partner, FreeWill, provides a fast and free online tool to help you plan your estate:

berkeleyhumane.org/planned-giving

## SPAY THE BAY

To reduce over-population of dogs and cats in the San Francisco Bay Area, Berkeley Humane offers low-cost spay and neuter services.

Because of your support, families can access critical services and resources regardless of their financial abilities.

We believe that when these services are made accessible, pet guardians are more likely to spay and neuter their pets, which prevents unplanned litters and alleviates overcrowding in local shelters.

www.spaythebay.org

# TRAIN THE BAY

#### www.trainthebay.org

Evan and his family rescued Leo, a German Shepherd, after admiring how friendly she was with adults and children. However, they quickly learned she had aggression management issues around animals, which was causing problems with their other dog and cat.

"We were at wit's end trying to manage the integration of Leo into our family," explains Evan. "We had almost given up hope, when the professional trainers at Berkeley Humane came to our rescue."



Leo made so much progress in her first three months, that Evan continued to take nearly every training class offered. Berkeley Humane's Train the Bay program is there to help dogs like Leo stay out of shelters. Berkeley Humane is one of the most trusted dog training program with over 30,000 happy graduates.

#### All the Light She Can Now See (continued from cover)

Celestia's surprise was that she arrived at Berkeley Humane pregnant! She was so far along in fact, that before the medical team could even schedule Celestia's eye surgery, she went into labor.

Celestia gave birth to her kittens right in Berkeley Humane's veterinary clinic, with the whole medical team there to help her through.

Three kittens and three surgeries later, Celestia is a whole new cat. Thanks to your donations, Celestia is no longer living in constant pain.



Without Berkeley Humane, Celestia's future looked very bleak. A pregnant cat who needed multiple surgeries was not a cat most other shelters or rescue groups could help. But Berkeley Humane was able to save Celestia, and her kittens, because of our dedicated in-house veterinary

team and your support!



Even with her vision impairment, Celestia is able to jump up to join you on a bed or chair. "Her main interest is getting petted, and she will show you if she wants it on her ears, back, or belly," explains volunteer Christine, who fostered Celestia. "She is super chatty and so clear about what she needs. Her meow sounds more like a dove or pigeon cooing or trilling. It's very pretty. It would be hard to be lonely with her around!"

#### **Have An Impact**

Volunteer to foster and provide a home where pets can grow, socialize, and get ready for adoption.

www.berkeleyhumane.org/foster