For ANIMALS The ANIMALS



SUMMER 2025



We first met Laika as a sad, hurting pup. Today, she's thriving because of your kindness.

Look at Her Go!

Laika's Come Such a Long Way, Thanks to You

It's hard to believe that this joyful dog, running free on the beach, was first found suffering and alone on the side of the road.

Laika came to us after being hit by a car. She had a multi-fragmented fracture on her left rear femur, and her right leg suffered open wounds from being dragged.

She had every reason not to trust people ever again. But, even through all she's endured, sweet Laika still snuggled into the loving arms of our team. She chose courage and kindness over fear.

"Laika was obviously in a lot of pain," says Dr. Gagneux, SPCA Veterinarian. "But when we changed her bandages, she would give me kisses and try to eat my engagement ring off. I started falling in love with her." Due to the severity and location of her breaks, amputation was Laika's best chance at a happy, healthy life. Dr. Gagneux assisted with the surgery, then took Laika home to keep an eye on her overnight. Laika immediately made herself a part of the family.

"The night I brought her home, she acted like she always had three legs," says Dr. Gagneux. "My other dog, Leuk, can be particular about the dogs he likes, but he snuggled up to her and started licking her ears."

Not surprisingly, Laika never returned to our shelter, finding her forever home with Dr. Gagneux. "I see many shelter pets, but was especially drawn to her sweetness and bravery despite her pain," says Dr. Gagneux. "So many

Continued inside



Without Care: You taught Cheech what it meant to be loved **Learning to Fly Again:** This Great Horned Owl says "thank hoo!"

Laika's Come Such a Long Way, Thanks to You, continued

times I look at her and think I couldn't have chosen better. I'm proud to have a dog from where I work with a mission I believe in."

Today, Laika enjoys running on the beach, playing with Leuk and ricocheting around the house on her three legs. She is living life to the fullest, thanks to your support.

"Our donors truly care about giving these pets a second chance, and they give us the tools and the staff to make everything possible," says Dr. Gagneux.

That's the power of your generosity at work! Thank you for giving Laika a second chance at a great life. **

You're Keeping Pets and Their People Together

At SPCA Monterey County, we strive to keep pets in their loving homes by improving access to vital veterinary care. One way we accomplish this is by preventing unwanted litters through spay and neuter services.

This year, we've greatly expanded our Mobile Spay & Neuter Clinic — a program which brings free and affordable veterinary services where they're needed most. This lifesaving resource, generously supported by the Kinnoull Foundation, complements our low-cost Veterinary Clinic.

"It's staggering to think what animal overpopulation would look like in Monterey County without the SPCA."

Our SPCA Veterinary Clinic has dramatically reduced pet overpopulation by providing affordable, high-quality surgeries to animals across Monterey County. Since the clinic opened in 1976, we've spayed and neutered over 180,000 animals — and our skilled, on-site veterinary team averages 31 sterilizations a day!

We expect to set a new record in 2025 by spaying and neutering over 8,000 local animals,



We're at the forefront of building a more humane community.

including over 1,600 free feral cat surgeries.

"It's staggering to think what animal overpopulation would look like in Monterey County without the SPCA," says Scott Delucchi, SPCA President and CEO. "For 50 years, we've operated our Spay & Neuter Clinic, and we're only improving on this vital work while remaining the only low-cost option available for local residents every weekday."

Donor support makes all our lifesaving services possible — from spaying and neutering to animal and wildlife rescue, disaster response, humane education, emergency surgeries and more. Your love truly changes lives!



We learned that Cheech loves leaning into a good scratch! Sadly, he hadn't felt a compassionate touch in a long time.

Senior kitty Cheech came to us in desperate need of care. This sweet tabby was starving, his small ribs poking through his thin, frail frame. But that was only the beginning. Poor Cheech also suffered from an untreated ulcerated eye, had dirty, infected ears and needed dental surgery.

Thankfully, with your support, we could welcome him into our care without hesitation.

Our veterinary team removed his eye, cleaned his ears and performed dental work to remove three of his teeth. Finally, Cheech no longer felt the constant sting of pain in his body. We provided nourishing food, soft bedding, medications and lots of love during his time in our care.

"The day after his surgery, Cheech was feeling so much better," says Dr. Wernsing, SPCA Veterinarian. "He was so appreciative, pushing his face into us as if to say thank you. We are so thankful to our donors who give us the resources to help a cat in such bad shape.

Thanks to you, we could give him all the veterinary care and time he needed to recover."

As soon as Cheech was back on his paws, he spent time in our Adoption Center lounging on his cat tree and charming visitors to stop in and say hi. With patience and time, this adorable cat eventually found his new, forever home.

"I think he knows he's home."

"Cheech has been purring nonstop," says his adopter, Eli. "He loves catching the toy from the wand, watching TV and relaxing while I play video games or make beats in my room. I think he knows he's home."

Thank you for your love that makes all our rescues possible! **

Belle Found Her Strength — and a New Herd to Call Her Own



Belle endured so much pain. But your generosity showed her a kindness she'd never known.

Belle came to the SPCA after our humane officers responded to a call about a neglected horse. She was malnourished and frail, with poor hooves, arthritis and untreated Cushing's disease — a progressive condition that causes excessive coat length, weight loss, sweating and laminitis.

Worst of all, Belle suffered from a painful, untreated eye injury that left her blind in one eye. There wasn't a moment to waste. Veterinarians performed surgery to remove her worsening eye and bring her the relief she's been missing.

Despite everything she endured, Belle remained as sweet as can be. She loved greeting our visitors and receiving affection from our compassionate barn team.

Recently, a Bay Area equine sanctuary lost one of their horses to old age. Belle's story of resilience — and her ongoing medical needs — inspired them to take this majestic gal under their wing. Now, she has a new herd of friends and a loving family of her very own.

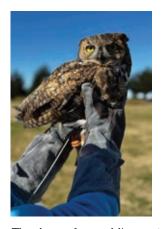
Thank you for making Belle's dream of a better life come true! 💥



If He Could, This Great Horned Owl Would Say: "Thank Hoo!"

When we say we're prepared to help ALL animals who need us ... we mean it! Take this beautiful Great Horned Owl, for example. A kind citizen found him dragging his broken wing on the ground, with discharge oozing from his eye. Our veterinary team jumped into action, fixing his wing with a stabilizing pin, repairing three damaged tail feathers and removing an embedded foxtail from his eye. The following weeks of care included fluids, medication, physical therapy and laser therapy to help his wing heal.

After over a month of care, we released him to fly free once again. This Great Horned Owl is alive and in the wild thanks to your support of our Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation Center, which helps thousands of wild animals every single year. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you for caring! 💥



Thank you for enabling us to operate the only wildlife rehabilitation center in our area!

PLEASE CUT AND DETACH THE REPLY FORM BELOW AND RETURN IT WITH YOUR GIFT.

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