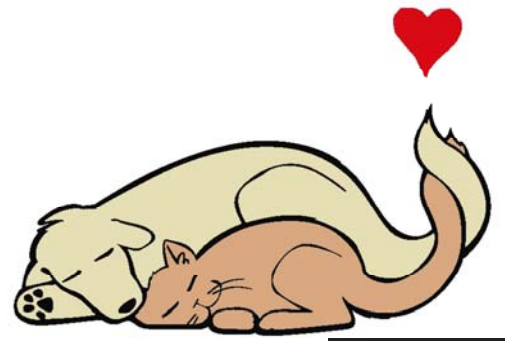


CALAVERAS Humane Society NEWSLETTER



Winter 2013

Paws and Claus Success

Despite the rainy weather, 51 dogs and six cats and their human companions from around Calaveras County waited in line to have their picture taken with Santa Claus at the annual Paw and Claus photo event held Saturday, December 1st in the Bank of Stockton in Angels Camp. The canines, kitties and their



families happily posed for a photograph with Santa in front of three decorated Christmas trees. For many this has become a holiday tradition.

The Vieira family, Victor, Kristin and 4-year-old Caleb, who brought Santa a letter, sat with Santa and Guinness, their chocolate lab. "We have been coming every year since the Humane Society has put this event on," said mom Kristin. Tom and Mary Cole, whose dog Sheba was a CHS rescue dog and has been their companion for more than 10 years, have participated many times. "All the pictures are in my office," said Mary.

In addition to the photos, cookies were sold, and tickets were sold for four raffle prizes.

Capt. Ed Ballard of the Calaveras Sheriff's Department donned the red suit and white beard and once again was transformed into Santa.

The Calaveras Humane Society would like to



thank the Bank of Stockton for generously opening its doors early Saturday morning and admitting animals inside the lobby of the bank for this popular event. Thanks to Starbucks in Angels Camp, everyone had hot beverages.

This event is a holiday tradition and the proceeds benefit the animals of Calaveras County. ♡



Cold Weather Tips

Brrrr—it's cold outside! The following guidelines will help you protect your companion animals when the mercury dips. Keep your cats inside.

Outdoors, felines can freeze, become lost or be stolen, injured or killed. Cats who are allowed to stray are exposed to infectious diseases, including rabies, from other cats, dogs and wildlife.

During the winter, outdoor cats sometimes sleep under the hoods of cars. When the motor is started, the cat can be injured or killed by the fan belt. If there are outdoor cats in your area, bang loudly on the car hood before starting the engine to give the cat a chance to escape.

Never let your dog off the leash on snow or ice, especially during a snowstorm, dogs can lose their scent and easily become lost. More dogs are lost during the winter than during any other season, so make sure yours always wears ID tags.

Thoroughly wipe off your dog's legs and stomach when he comes in out of the sleet, snow

or ice. He can ingest salt, antifreeze or other potentially dangerous chemicals while licking his paws, and his paw pads may also bleed from snow or encrusted ice.

Never shave your dog down to the skin in winter, as a longer coat will provide more warmth. When you bathe your dog in the colder months, be sure to completely dry him before taking him out for a walk. Own a short-haired breed? Consider getting him a coat or sweater with a high collar or turtleneck with coverage from the base of the tail to the belly. For many dogs, this is regulation winter wear.

Never leave your dog or cat alone in a car during cold weather. A car can act as a refrigerator in the winter, holding in the cold and causing the animal to freeze to death.

Puppies do not tolerate the cold as well as adult dogs, and may be difficult to housebreak during the winter. If your puppy appears to be sensitive to the weather, you may opt to paper-train him inside. If your dog is sensitive to the cold due to age, illness or breed type, take him outdoors only to relieve himself.

Does your dog spend a lot of time outdoors? Increase his supply of food, particularly protein, to keep him, and his fur, in tip-top shape. Routinely check your pet's water dish to

Continued middle of page 2

You Can Help Us Save Money

With more than 2,000 members in the Calaveras Humane Society, postage can be a significant factor when trying to balance the budget. The CHS is developing a database containing members' email addresses. If you have an Internet connection and are receiving our newsletter by regular mail, electing to receive the CHS newsletter via email will not only save the CHS money-- it will deliver your copy several days earlier! If you would like to receive your copy by email, please send your request to: chs@calaverashumane.org, type "Email Address" in the subject space and your full name and email address in the message space. Of course, if an email newsletter is not an option for you, we will be happy to send your copy via the postal service. If you are a member and are not receiving the newsletter, please let us know. To receive a printed copy please notify Mary Foye C/O CHS, P.O. Box 1390, San Andreas, CA 95249.

President's Message

Dear Friends,

Where did 2012 go? In looking back, there are so many people who contributed to the success of the Calaveras Humane Society this past year. I would be remiss if I didn't acknowledge them.

First, our wonderful cadre of volunteers who help week in and week out at the County Animal Shelter and who are working hard to help the county transition the management of the shelter from the Sheriff's Department to Brian Moss and the Environmental Health Department. The County is adding staff, and a new Shelter Director should be on board after

the first of the year.

Kudos to the Dog and Cat teams and their successful fostering and adopting of our dogs and cats looking for their forever homes. Hooray for the Bird team and their rescue and placement of 20 birds this year.

A big thank you goes to the volunteers who made our fundraising events so successful and lots of fun. Next year, we should charge admission for the sheer pleasure of watching Santa, the pets and their people having their pictures taken at Paws and Claus. Thank you to the Bank of Stockton for the use of their lovely office for that event.

Large bouquets to the staff, volunteers and

donors at our Thrift Stores. You have no idea how much impact you have on our success, and how much support you provide to our programs. We love you all.

I must also offer hugs and thanks to the hard working members of the Board of Directors. While we have our contentious moments, we all work together toward enhancing the programs which save the lives of the animals of Calaveras County.

My wish for the New Year is for your good health, prosperity, and continued support for the Calaveras Humane Society.

Thank you all.

Interim President, Karen Elliott

COLD Weather Tips *Continued from page 1*

make certain the water is fresh and unfrozen. Use plastic food and water bowls rather than metal; when the temperature is low, your pet's tongue can stick and freeze to metal.

Like coolant, antifreeze is a lethal poison for dogs and cats. Be sure to thoroughly clean up any spills from your vehicle, and consider using

products that contain propylene glycol rather than ethylene glycol. Go to the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center at www.asPCA.org/pet-care/poison-control/ for more information.

Make sure your companion animal has a warm place to sleep, off the floor and away from all drafts. A cozy dog or cat bed with a warm blanket or pillow is perfect.

The best tip of all: keep your pets with

you. Probably the best prescription for winter's woes is to keep your dog or cat inside with you and your family. The happiest dogs are those who are taken out frequently for walks and exercise, but kept inside the rest of the time.

Dogs and cats are social animals who crave human companionship. Your animal companions deserve to live indoors with you and your family. (ASPCA – www.asPCA.org) ☺

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If you are interested in becoming a CHS board member, please email your resume to

chs@calaverashumane.org

or mail to

Calaveras Humane Society
P.O. Box 1390
San Andreas, CA 95249

Come - Sit - Stay

Please join us at our monthly board meeting in the CHS office conference room at 576 East St. Charles Street, San Andreas. Our meetings start at 5:30pm on the third Thursday of each month.

CHS - By the Numbers

From the start of the fiscal year of August 30, 2012 through November 30, 2012, the Calaveras Humane Society, thanks to a grant from the Wintercreek Foundation and matching funds from the CHS, gave residents of Calaveras County more than \$52,430 to assist in the spaying and neutering of 897 dogs and cats.

- Through the CHS Foster Cat Program, a total 143 cats found forever homes or were transferred to other cat rescue organizations in need of cats.

- Through the CHS Foster Dog Program, a total of 19 dogs found forever homes or were placed in other rescue organizations.

The CHS is looking for a dedicated person to be the lead and head the Dog Foster Program. If you are interested, please call the CHS or if you would like to join the Cat or Dog Foster Program or apply for a Spay/Neuter voucher, please call the CHS Office at 736-9417. ☺



**"No matter how little money and how few possessions you own, having a dog makes you rich."
- Louis Sabin**

Upcoming Events/Dates to Remember

Our calendar constantly changes with new and exciting opportunities.....so stay tuned and always check for updates at www.calaverashumane.org. If you would like to sponsor a fundraising event, include a CHS information booth at your event or if you would like to volunteer at events, please call 736-9417 or send an email to chs@calaverashumane.org.

MAR-VAL FOOD STORES – NEW!! Scan and Donate

The residents of Valley Springs can now donate to the Calaveras Humane Society at their local MAR-VAL Foods located at 55 Highway 26. Supporting the Calaveras Humane Society just got a lot easier for Valley Springs residents thanks to MAR-VAL Foods and the fundraising program eScrip. Just fill in an application at the store, place an X by "Calaveras Humane Society" and the store will issue you your **MAR-VAL Community Card**. On your next shopping trip, have your card scanned by the clerk and up to 5% of the monthly purchase amount will be donated to the Calaveras Humane Society and at no cost to you! It is free, it is easy. Get your card today! 🐾

CHS Volunteers –



"Neither Rain, Nor Snow..."

Seven dogs and their human companions braved the wind and rain to support Calaveras Humane Society by marching in the Valley Springs Christmas Parade.

It was the first time CHS participated in the event. The walkers followed the fabulous CHS truck driven by Stan Kromfols, and were well received by the parade judges and a surprisingly large turnout of spectators. CHS won first place trophy in the animal category. 🐾

Edward and Bree... Meant to Be



When Sherry Mata and her son, Edward, pulled off the highway after seeing a Calaveras Humane Society Adopt-A-Thon sign, they had no idea they were about to meet the next member of their family. Sherry and 11-year-old Edward, traveling from Newark to

Mountain Ranch, had previously talked about adopting an adult cat so it seemed like the right time to stop. The mother and son took their time looking at all the adults and narrowed their choice to two. Before making a final decision, they submitted an application to get the adoption process started and headed home to consult with Dad.

The family was thrilled when they received a call a few days later with news that their application was approved. The family decided to adopt Bree, an orange tabby female, who had

Edward and Bree... Meant to Be

been at the shelter for two months after being abandoned by her caretaker. Sherry and Edward were back at the shelter the following Saturday to complete the adoption application. After the paperwork was completed, Sherry and Edward went to the adoption room to visit Bree. While Edward was speaking softly to Bree, she walked up to him, flopped on her side and began kneading the air. Bree had never done that before! Bree acted like she knew she finally had her forever home. Everyone got chills at the same time. Edward just smiled at his kitty.

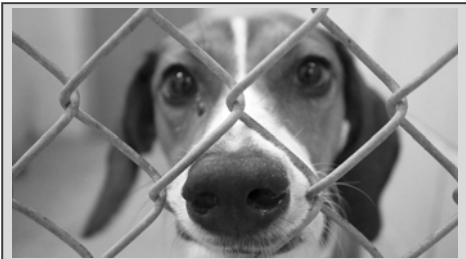
You might call Edward a natural "cat whisperer." Sherry said her son has been a caring animal-person all his life and has always had a way with animals, a gift she recognizes and encourages. When asked what he'd like to be, Edward says he wants to be a veterinarian or a police officer.

Before Bree arrived to her new home, Edward had her new bed ready for her and bought her a new collar with his own money. Dad immediately fell in love with Bree the moment he saw her and said, "We have a golden cat! She really is a golden cat inside and out."

That was a year and a half ago and Sherry and Edward still stay in touch with CHS with occasional emails, visits and donations.

Edward was so inspired by the CHS volunteers, he decided to do something to help. He cleaned out his room and sold his old books at a garage sale to raise money for CHS. On July 7, almost one year to the day that Bree was adopted, Sherry and Edward visited the shelter. This time Edward proudly brought a \$45 donation from his garage sale, along with a note that read: "Last year my family adopted a cat named Bree from the shelter. Bree is a wonderful cat. We love her very much. Over the past year I have sold my books at garage sales. I have raised \$45.00 to help other animals find good homes. Sincerely, Edward Mata."

On Labor Day weekend, Edward and Sherry stopped by the shelter to donate another \$20 Edward raised from his most recent garage sale. 🐾



Please Help, The Animal Shelter Needs Volunteers!

The Calaveras County Animal Shelter is short-handed and needs dedicated volunteers. You have to be 18 years or older, love animals and have a few spare hours a week or month to make a difference in the lives of abandoned cats and dogs.

The shelter needs dog kennel cleaners, cat cage cleaners, and dog walkers.

If you are interested or want more information, please contact Debby, the CHS Animal Services Liaison, at

beadog@goldrush.com or the Calaveras Humane Society at 736-9417 or chs@calaverashumane.org.

WISH LIST ITEMS TO HELP CHS HELP THE ANIMALS

- ✓ Postage Stamps – For sending Spay/Neuter Vouchers
 - ✓ Paper Towels – For shelter volunteers
 - ✓ Leather Leashes – For shelter volunteers
 - ✓ Self-sealing #10 business size envelopes – For sending Spay/Neuter Vouchers
 - ✓ Brushes – Whisk broom type to clean cat cages
 - ✓ Frontline or Advantix topical flea prevention for both cats and dogs – For cat and dog fosters
 - ✓ 'Snuggle Safe' heat pads – For new kittens
 - ✓ Livestock squeeze chute
 - ✓ Livestock pens
- For the CHS Adoption Centers -**
- ✓ 'World's Best' cat litter
 - ✓ 13-gallon trash bags for laundry
 - ✓ Washable cat beds

NEW SHELTER NEWS

It's finally here. The New Shelter Committee has selected a final site for the new animal shelter. The brush has been cleared, the paddocks are in place and the members of Calaveras County Board of Supervisors have walked the site. The next step is for the supervisors to cast the final vote. The committee expects to have the board of supervisor's approval and a study session to lay out the plan of action to proceed with the capital campaign in January. The capital campaign cannot start until the land is committed.

The final location waiting for the board of supervisor's approval is located on land behind

the current shelter across from the new jail.

The New Shelter Committee is enjoying working with Brain Moss as the New Shelter Project moves forward. Brian is the Director of the Calaveras County Environmental Health Department. Calaveras County recently moved the county's animal services division from the Sheriff's office to the Environmental Health Department. Under Brian's leadership, the county is adding staff and a new shelter director should be on board after the first of the year.

The committee is asking for everyone's support as it moves forward. The committee will send an email to those interested in appearing on the CHS' behalf to support its request for final approval on the site. 🐾

Dear Doc

My dog has a habit of licking a spot on one of her front legs until all the hair is gone and the skin is red and raw. Why does she do this, especially when there doesn't seem to be anything there for her to lick? Thank you, I am looking forward to your answer.
Sally in Arnold

Dear Sally,

The condition you describe is called Acral Lick Granuloma (ALD) and it is among the top 10 most common dermatological diseases in the dog. ALD is frustrating, painful and miserable to the dog and expensive to treat. It responds poorly to treatment and frequently reoccurs. Treatment success ranges from 20 to 65%.

ALD is characterized by self-traumatizing licking that results in a progressive development of a well-circumscribed, firm, proliferative, erosive/ulcerative, alopecic plaque or nodules on the lower portion of the limb. The carpus (wrist) and less commonly the rear legs are involved. The appearance and size can be quite variable. Any breed can be affected but there is a predisposition to large breed dogs with short hair coats such as Dobermans, Labrador Retrievers, Boxers and Great Danes. Other breeds such as German Shepherds and Golden Retrievers are affected.

The causes of ALD are complex and multi-

factorial. To simplify the understanding, all causes and contributing factors can be divided into three categories: 1) predisposing factors; 2) primary factors; and 3) perpetuating factors.

Predisposing factors are large shorthaired breeds. Primary factors are food allergies, atopic dermatitis, osteoarthritis, trauma, neoplasia, fungal infection, foreign body, neuropathy or behavioral disorders. Perpetuating factors are deep bacterial infections, entrapped hair shafts that cause inflammation and infection, skin gland inflammation, fibrosis and reinforced behavior.

The diagnosis is made from the location and appearance of the lesion, but x-rays, and/or bacterial cultures may be needed especially if there is no response to treatment. X-rays can tell us if there is arthritis or possibly cancer. Culture and sensitivities tell us if we are using the appropriate antibiotic. Biopsy and histopathology may be needed to rule out other causes such as cancer or mange, for example.

Treatment is focused on three components: 1) management of the primary cause; 2) effective antibiotic treatment with correct drug and correct length of treatment; and 3) prevention of ongoing licking. Management of the primary cause is critical to prevent the reoccurrence of the lesions.

The treatment will vary depending on the pet's condition. Long-term antibiotics are usually administered for a minimum of four weeks past clinical signs. Both topical anti-inflammatory and

antibiotic therapy can be used. The use of an anti-inflammatory agent is important because these lesions are very painful.

Occasionally psychoactive drugs may be needed to control licking. Omega-3 fatty acids supplementation has also been recommended. Most pets will benefit from increased aerobic activity and interactions with the owners. Decreasing the amount of food has been shown to be helpful. Since some of the root causes are often related to anxiety or boredom, increasing interaction and stimulation is often strongly recommended. In some severe cases of Acral Lick Granuloma, surgery and/or laser treatment may be needed. While this condition is difficult to treat and can be frustrating to get under control, most cases of Acral Lick Granuloma can be successfully treated with the proper extended testing and treatments.



Dr. Ray Sunseri

Angels Camp Veterinary Hospital, Inc.
PO Box 1273 - 1997 Deer Creek Rd.
Angels Camp, CA 95222
(209) 736-0488
angelscampvet.com

This column is for advice only and is not intended to take the place of consulting with your own veterinarian concerning medical issues. Please email your question to chs@calaverashumane.org, type Dear Doc in the subject line or mail your question to The Calaveras Humane Society/Dear Doc, P.O. Box 1390, San Andreas, CA 95249.

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Two Great Stores - One Great Cause

Arnold Thrift Store Celebrates

The Calaveras Humane Society Thrift Store recently celebrated three years at its Arnold location.

"We are so grateful to our dear friends, our loyal customers, and the big-hearted, animal-loving community for all of their generous donations and continued support," said Jenni Cantrell. "Our staff and volunteers are the heart and soul of our phenomenal success."

Congratulations to Chris Cassidy of Avery. Chris was the winner of the store's Second

Annual Snow Blower Raffle.

Shoppers are invited to check out the bargains at the CHS Thrift Store, Arnold. The store features a wide selection of name-brand men's, women's, and children's snow and ski wear at just a fraction of the price found anywhere else. If you're looking for an unusual little gift for Valentine's Day or a birthday, the store has an extraordinary selection of jewelry, vintage and antique collectibles, original art, and much more. ☺



A Great New Year and Wonderful Used Items

The Calaveras Humane Society's Thrift Store in San Andreas is looking forward to another year of great merchandise at fantastic prices. The store will be running two seasonal specials to kick off the New Year. Shoppers are invited to enjoy a Sweetheart Special in February and a Lucky Leprechaun Special in March.

The store shelves are stocked daily with new and gently used items and, with an expanded sales floor, the store also carries furniture. As always, shoppers will find the store's staff is more than happy to help find the perfect item to start your new year.

The Thrift Store in San Andreas is open 10 am to 5 pm Tuesday through Saturday. You can find it located at 576 E. St. Charles Street,



on Highway 49 across from Mountain Ranch Road. Donations are accepted during normal business hours. Call (209) 753-4659 if you have larger donations to be picked up. Volunteers can make arrangements for the CHS

truck. The CHS Thrift Store in San Andreas is part of the Calaveras Humane Society, a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization and your donations may be tax deductible.

Watch for specials and drawings on Facebook and on the Calaveras Humane Society website, www.calaverashumane.org. Also look for ads in The Local Scoop News and on www.thepinetree.net. Congratulations to Bobbie Powell who won a \$30.00 gift certificate in September. ☺

Overweight Pets More than half of U.S. dogs and cats are overweight. These pets are at a higher risk for developing serious medical problems, including arthritis, diabetes, breathing problems, and some forms of cancer. So how can you slim down your supersized pet and reduce the risk of these diseases? The answer is easier than you think.

1. **SIZE UP YOUR PET** Ask your veterinarian about your pet's body condition score (or BCS). Using the BCS scale, your veterinarian can easily determine whether your pet is underweight, overweight, or right on track. As a rule, you should be able to feel (but not see) your pet's ribs through a thin layer of fat and see a defined "waist" between the ribs and hips.

2. **MEASURE MEALS** Too many pet owners simply fill the bowl or estimate how much they're feeding. But did you know that once a cat has received the calories he needs (typically less than 300 per day), adding just one extra teaspoon of dry food each day can add up to a pound of weight gain in a year? Keep in mind that for the average 10-pound cat, this is a 10 percent weight gain!

3. **EXERCISE** Exercise and good nutrition are powerful partners to help your pet live a long and healthy life. For dogs, as little as 20 to 30 minutes of daily brisk walking is all it takes to boost immune function, improve cardiovascular health, and reduce many behavioral problems. For cats, try playing chase (using a laser pointer [avoid the eyes], remote-controlled toy, or ball of paper) for five to 15 minutes each day. ☺

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Save Mart Supermarkets, President Steve Junqueiro ♦ Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Schaefer
Sierra Hills Market, Mike Croshaw ♦ Robert Stepp Jr. ♦ Wintercreek Foundation



Gold

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Silver

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Thank You Calaveras Humane Society

The following Thank You notes were written by the students of Ms. Schlegelmilch's 3rd Grade class at Jenny Lind Elementary School. The students are thanking the CHS for their subscription to Kind News, an eight-page magazine filled with colorful articles, short features, and fun activities with an emphasis on treating animals with kindness and respect.

Dear Calaveras Humane Society, Thank you for the Kind News magazine. My favorite is the comics of all the Kind News magazines. I remember two comics. They are really funny. My favorite comic is the animal one. I have to stop because my hand hurts.
Sincerely, Donovan

Dear Calaveras Humane Society, Thank you for sending all the kind news magazine. You guys are the best and I hope you send more information about animals. Love, Michael

Dear Calaveras Humane Society, Thank you for our Kind New Magazines. There is some very cool interesting facts in the magazine. A lot of people could get really smart from the magazine. I appreciate that you are making magazines for us. Sincerely Alyssa

Dear Calaveras Humane Society, Thank you for giving us so many Kind News magazines. I love to read all the articles and learn about lots of animals like the donkeys. I appreciate all the information about the bee's, and the article about the perfect pet. The quizzes are fun too. I am getting smarter about bees because I read all the articles about bees. I hope we get another one soon. Sincerely, Kyllie

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DONATE WHILE YOU SHOP

Using a S.H.A.R.E.S. CARD gives the CHS a 3% rebate of your shopping total at Save Mart, S-Mart Foods, and Food Maxx stores. The best part is there is no cost to you. To request one or more S.H.A.R.E.S. Cards, please contact: Lynn Keever at (209) 754-4453 or cutofthesun@wildblue.net, Connie Caldwell at (209) 728-2442 or conniec.3@comcast.net, or the CHS office at 736-9417.



SIERRA HILLS MARKET, ANGELS FOOD MARKET, and MAR-VAL FOOD STORES

Scan and donate to the Calaveras Humane Society. It's simple and it doesn't cost you anything!

- ✓ Signing up is as easy as 1, 2, 3!
- ✓ Fill out the registration form in the market.
- ✓ The store will issue you an eScrip card.
- ✓ Show your card each time you check out and up to 5% of the monthly purchase amount will be automatically donated to the Calaveras Humane Society.

You can access your personal eScrip donations on www.escrip.com to see how much you have earned for the Calaveras Humane Society.

Support the Calaveras Humane Society while you shop and sign up for a S.H.A.R.E.S. Card or an eScrip Community Card today!

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Send me more information about volunteering or becoming a foster parent.

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Your personal information will be used only by CHS and will not be shared

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 PO Box 1390 • San Andreas, CA 95249
 (209) 736-9417

*The Calaveras Humane Society is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization and receives no federal, state, or United Way funding.
 Your contribution is tax-deductible to the fullest extent provided by law. CHS's Tax ID# is 94-2581703*

Membership Levels:

- \$20 Friend
- \$35 Business/Organization
- \$50 Supporter
- \$100 Benefactor

- Other _____

- New Member - Renewal

Other ways to give:

- Sponsor _____ Kind News subscriptions at \$22 per classroom

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- Honor the memory of a loved one _____

or beloved pet (name) _____

Please send an acknowledgement card to:

Name _____

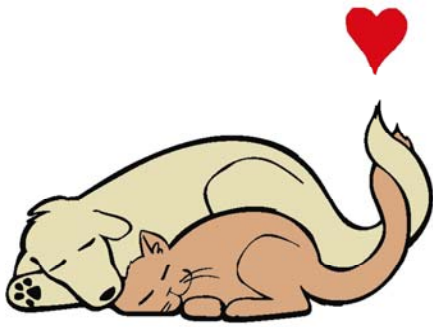
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CALAVERAS
Humane Society

P.O. Box 1390
San Andreas, CA 95249
(209) 736-9417

*Promoting an improved
quality of life
for the animals of our county*

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