



# Waggin' tails

*Promoting Compassion Toward All Creatures*

Winter 2022 ISSUE

HUMANE EDUCATION & ADOPTION REFERRALS

## Safe and Happy Holidays

Though the holidays can be an exciting and enjoyable time for people, they can be problematic for some of our pets, and may involve some unexpected hazards. Here are some tips for keeping dogs, cats and other pets safe at Christmas time:

### Christmas trees and pet safety

If you have a real Christmas tree, keep the water in the stand covered so your animals can't drink it. The pine sap is dangerous if ingested.

Secure the tree to a wall or the ceiling with twine and a hook to prevent pets from knocking it over.

Tree lights should not be left on when you're not around, since your pets may tangle themselves in the cords. Unplug the tree lights when you're not using them.

Once you've decorated your tree, pick up all tinsel, ribbon and ornament hooks on the floor. These glittery items may be attractive playthings to your pets, but they can get sick if they ingest them. If a gastrointestinal blockage occurs, surgery may be needed to save your pet.

If your pets express interest in playing with the decorations on the tree, decorate the bottom third of the tree with wood or plastic ornaments that won't break.

### Holiday gifts, plants and candles

Keep all gifts that contain human food off the floor so that pets are not tempted by the smells. Human treats can be dangerous for pets — especially food containing chocolate, alcohol, raisins and onions.

Holiday plants such as poinsettias and mistletoe can be dangerous, too, if your pets chew on them. Keep holiday plants well out of reach of your pets, or buy artificial plants. See list of harmful plants below.

Many people love to burn candles around this time of year, but they can be hazardous to pets. Put burning candles in places that are inaccessible to your pets and don't let candles burn unattended. If you have birds as pets, be aware that the perfumes in scented candles may cause them to develop respiratory inflammation.

Many people have garden benches inside and outside of the home, often putting plants on them. Pets love to jump up on them to nap then catch their foot/leg in them when jumping down, breaking their leg. Tie a mat over the seating or nail painted plywood on it.

## 10 toxic Christmas plants for pets – keep them safe throughout the holidays

Poinsettia and mistletoe are just two toxic Christmas plants that can be harmful to cats and dogs. Keep pets safe this holiday season and watch out for these toxic festive trees and florals.

1. POINSETTIA
2. HOLLY
3. MISTLETOE
4. YEWE
5. CHRISTMAS TREES

6. IVY (HEDERA SPECIES)
7. AMARYLLIS
8. LILLIES
9. LAUREL
10. SNOWDROPS





# 5K Run and Jog-A-Dog

Held on Sunday, Nov 20, 2022 At Heritage Oak Winery, was a little smaller than we would have liked but still turned out to be a nice event.

Thank you so much to Owners Tom and Carmela Hoffman, Heritage Oak Winery is a lovely place for this kind of event. Thank you to all of the wonderful volunteers who worked to make this event special. Kim, Tim, Angie, Patti, Cheryl, Karen, Cindy, The raffle wowed us again with many nice things to be won. Special thanks to all of our sponsors. and all of the runners.

## BEST OF SHOW

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Heritage Oak Winery  
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**To the world you are one person, To a rescued animal, you ARE THE WORLD!**

# Happy Tails

This beautiful 10 year old senior was adopted from us approximately 9 years ago. She was returned to AFC recently because she was terrified of the other animals in the house and lived in in the bedroom closet. Upon coming back to AFC, April became a very loving girl in her foster home, but was still very shy and nervous with new people. A wonderful cat lady saw her online and fell in love with her bio and picture. 'Kerry' had just lost her 'Henry' to kidney disease and was grieving for another kitty companion. We knew how wonderful Kerry was as she adopted Henry from us many years ago and gave him a wonderful home.



Since adopting April (now 'Emma') Kerry tells us how fantastic she is doing.



Hi Kathy!  
We adopted Benji from your foster home 8 years ago and wanted you to know that Benji is thriving and living his best life! He's getting older and he had some health issues last year but he is still very much a pup at heart. Attached are some of our favorite pictures of Benji! Hope you are well! Thank you for fostering Benji and

for giving us one of the most important family members in our lives! - Betty and Sarn

.....  
Here's the best Very Good Boy in Pacifica! Thanks again for everything. Coco/Mendel has made us very happy.

It's been a joy so far. I have had a lot of dogs over the years and I'd say so far this is one of the easiest transitions I've seen. I know it's early days yet and I don't want to jinx myself, but it's very encouraging. He's a real gem. I hope Erika (foster mom) is feeling a little better about things. Thanks for checking in.



All the best,  
Deanna

Pita was adopted at an early age, but her situation was not the best. The family didn't pay attention to a toddler and thus, Pita received some abuse. Unfortunately, the family didn't call us to rehome Pita and kept her for 3 years, When the family finally called us looking for help, one of our cat volunteers went to the house to pick up Pita personally, as the family said they couldn't even catch her. Pita stayed with us for another 7 years. Then – it finally happened! Pita's day had arrived when Valarie came to visit looking to rescue a senior kitty. We had a number of choices for Valarie to think about, but it was Pita who won that day! We have adopted many cats and kittens over the years, but this adoption is one of the rarer miracle happy tails. We are all so happy for our little Pita!! And so very grateful to Valarie for giving Pita a chance to have a loving and purrmanent home!



Fiona was originally abandoned very heartlessly at our sanctuary in 2015 - in a cardboard box. Thanks to her Kitty Foster Angel, Lynn, Fiona turned into a beautiful silver tabby senior girl. As a long term senior foster kitty Lynn decided to adopt her. Unfortunately, Lynn passed away and Fiona needed to be rehomed again. We all know how hard it is to adopt our senior cats. She needed a 'third' chance at love and a good home.

A wonderful family saw this sweet girl on line and applied to adopt her for their senior 'Mom'. Our sweet senior lady was adopted!!!! We want to thank Coral and her family for giving this sweet girl a home and a 'third' chance at a 'purrmanent' home.

Juju is famous! Made it to @tempebarstool #goodboyfriday



Juju was adopted from AFC a few years ago by Kathleen in Fresno. Former foster mom Rosie gets updates frequently and here is the current update:  
"Juju is a model and ASU fan. (Arizona State Univ) That's where my daughter goes to school"  
She also reports that Juju has 7,000 likes on Instagram!!



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**June 2022 - October 2022**

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Animal Friends Connection sincerely apologizes for any errors made in posting your dedications

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## Waggin' Tails Winter 2022



Animal Friends Connection  
Humane Society

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