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**ABOUT THE COVER**

Juju Bean, a 5-year-old tabby, has been looking for a home with an experienced cat person. This lovely lady is smart, entertaining, and enjoys walking on a leash! Juju Bean is happiest when quietly sitting on your lap with plenty of cheek and head scratches. She’s a true original.

As of press time, Juju Bean was still available for adoption.

**OUR MISSION**

The mission of the San Francisco SPCA is to save and protect animals, provide care and treatment, advocate for their welfare, and enhance the human-animal bond.

**OUR ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENT**

Printed by a Forest Stewardship Council-certified printer on 30 percent post-consumer-waste, recycled paper.
O ur mission is to SAVE and protect animals, PROVIDE care and treatment, ADVOCATE for their welfare, and ENHANCE the human-animal bond.

Advocating is sometimes the most challenging of these four directives, because it doesn’t have the immediate gratification of the other three. We can’t always see the animals for which we advocate, but that doesn’t make our actions on this front any less important or urgent.

Statewide, we’ve been actively supporting a number of bills:

- **Assembly Bill 96**, to help save African elephants and rhinos from extinction by tightening restrictions on the importation and sale of ivory and rhino horn in California. Sadly, San Francisco ranks second among U.S. cities for elephant-killing ivory imports.

- **Assembly Bill 147**, to encourage the adoption of research dogs (commonly beagles) and cats in California when they are no longer needed for science.

- **Assembly Bill 485**, to reestablish the opportunity for taxpayers to make voluntary contributions to help support the lifesaving work conducted in California animal shelters, including access to spay/neuter.

- **Senate Bill 716**, to protect elephants by prohibiting the use of bullhooks and similar inhumane devices in California. Bullhooks are steel-pointed rods resembling fireplace pokers that are used in circuses to train elephants through physical punishment.

- **Assembly Bill 976**, to offer a tax deduction to qualifying individuals for fees paid to adopt certain at-risk dog and cats from California’s shelters.

In San Francisco, we helped Supervisor Katy Tang’s office rally support for a ban on exotic-animal performances. San Francisco is now the largest U.S. city to protect against the cruel use of exotic animals in entertainment.

And of course we have been working with Humane Society International on the South Korean dog meat farm issue. Please see Page 7 for an update on the Korean dogs we made available for adoption in March.
Every year more than 5,000 animals come through the Shelter Medicine department at the San Francisco SPCA before being transferred to our adoption centers. In addition to these animals, the Shelter Medicine department spays or neuters thousands of owned animals from the public. Last year alone we performed more than 3,600 operations, many of which were discounted or free, on owned animals.

Many of the shelter animals have health issues and require extensive treatment for upper respiratory infections, ringworm, broken bones, skin issues, and other ailments. These animals are cared for by 11 Shelter Medicine veterinary technicians who ensure that they are made comfortable and given the treatment they need before adoption.

For years we have had volunteers generously donate their time to walk the dogs and socialize the cats who are waiting for adoption in the Shelter Medicine department, but now we have a new volunteer program specifically to assist the vet techs in medicating sick and injured animals.

The Shelter Medicine volunteers are highly trained by our staff, participating in eight hours of classroom training, followed by at least 12 hours of intensive hands-on training to be able to calculate doses, identify proper medications, and handle stressed animals to provide the best care possible. These nine volunteers are already making an incredible impact, not only for the animals but also the staff.

Veterinary Assistant Teresa Payne explained that for every volunteer shift, she and the other staff members are freed up to devote more time to animals with more specialized or acute needs, like a shy dog who needs to eat to keep up his strength. Teresa says, “The
Dale Leininger, Shelter Medicine volunteer, precisely charts which medications he administered to Apple.

Volunteers’ positive attitudes are contagious. They are genuinely happy to be here, learning how to provide medical care to the animals, and it shows.”

Michelle Enus is one of the volunteers who have gone through Shelter Medicine training by Laura Berkheimer to become Shelter Medicine volunteers. Laura manages the program, and the volunteers shadow her to ensure they follow all procedures exactly. In just 30 minutes, Michelle and Laura medicated seven dogs and provided physical therapy for one dog who had surgery on her back femur.

Michelle has been volunteering with the SF SPCA for a year and a half. She started as a dog walker, then moved on to food preparation for the dogs, and now is volunteering with Shelter Medicine. “I’m always looking for ways to expand my skill set to help more animals,” she says.

The pilot program has been a success, so the hope is that by the end of the year, we will have 20 to 30 Shelter Medicine volunteers. As the volunteers become more familiar with their new roles, they will be able to help even more animals. Each volunteer visits up to 40 animals in a three-hour shift.

With the expected growth of this unique volunteer program, Laura hopes that it will become a model for other shelters. “The Shelter Medicine volunteer program will show other shelters how helpful and vital medical volunteers can be,” she says. “With thorough training, volunteers can alleviate the stress on staff and help shelters save even more lives.”

Volunteers are at the heart of every program at the SF SPCA. This new program is yet another way we use the various skills of our volunteers to better serve the animals.

The pilot program has been a success, so the hope is that by the end of the year, we will have 20 to 30 Shelter Medicine volunteers. As the volunteers become more familiar with their new roles, they will be able to help even more animals. Each volunteer visits up to 40 animals in a three-hour shift.

While we are currently only recruiting Shelter Medicine volunteers from our pool of active volunteers, we always need more people to spend time with the animals and help staff. Visit sfspca.org/volunteer to learn about ways you can help.
Janet Watson’s love affair with the San Francisco SPCA began 27 years ago. Since her landlord wouldn’t allow pets, she decided to find an alternate way to fulfill her craving for an animal connection. She started volunteering with our Animal Assisted Therapy program, which promotes the human-animal bond by having trained animals visit hospitals, nursing homes, psychiatric facilities, convalescent homes, and schools.

Janet is a global communications consultant and executive coach who serves as senior faculty advisor at the UC Berkeley Haas School of Business. She started volunteering with the animals provided by the SF SPCA, and then with her own dog, Connor.

“I usually visit places where I can take a back seat to the animal-human interaction that’s happening in front of me,” she says. “I think of it as providing the conduit, which is the dog, for the connection to happen.”

Janet and Connor touched the lives of countless people until Connor’s passing at the age of 12. Janet’s second dog, Jackson, also a Labrador retriever, continued Connor’s legacy.

“Jackson, now 13, spends much of his AAT time at Sisters of the Presentation, a retirement facility for nuns who had been teachers. Janet has been a regular visitor for almost 20 years. While she and Jackson have provided relief and happiness to many people, Sisters of the Presentation holds a special place for her.

She recalls one special resident, Sister Lorna, whose health had deteriorated over time to the point that she no longer recognized people. On one visit, “Jackson went right up to her bed, and we took her hand and led her to stroke his coat. And suddenly she started talking!” Janet says. “She recognized him by his touch. The facility guide at the time told me she hadn’t spoken in months. It was truly a miracle.”

The experience of seeing Sister Lorna interacting after so long and knowing that Jackson was the reason for that, bolstered Janet to continue carrying out her work despite her busy schedule.

“I think the value the SF SPCA has to offer is extremely rewarding,” she says. “Frankly, if I didn’t need to work, I’d be doing AAT full-time!”

It is this passion and purpose that has her determined to continue even though Jackson is due to retire any day now. Janet also teaches workshops for the next generation of AAT volunteers. “I don’t want to stop,” she says.
ADOPTION UPDATE:
DOGS RESCUED from the Korean Dog Meat Industry

In the last edition of Our Animals, we told you about our recent partnership with Humane Society International (HSI). Together, we saved 57 dogs who were being raised on a dog meat farm in South Korea. HSI worked with the farmer to convert his farm to humane crops, but it’s estimated that millions of dogs are still suffering on farms throughout the country. This project was designed to educate the public about this situation, demonstrating that these companion animals can find loving homes, if given a chance.

“Many of these dogs had never even touched the ground — they spent their entire lives in wire cages,” said Dr. Jennifer Scarlett, SF SPCA Co-President. “The only time they’d feel a human’s touch is if they were being pulled from their cage and sent to slaughter.”

The rescued dogs were flown to SFO and transferred to the San Francisco SPCA, where they received medical care and lots of love from staff and volunteers. Eighteen of the dogs stayed at our shelter, and the rest were transferred to three rescue partners.

Some of the 18 dogs were quickly ready for adoption, but several required extra TLC to overcome behavioral issues. Our staff and volunteers worked tirelessly to help all of the dogs get the second chance they deserved.

Herminio Neto, who adopted Rosie, shared a similar update. “Rosie is doing wonderfully. She has made amazing progress with her confidence and has a lot less anxiety. We are so proud of her and thankful to the wonderful folks at the SF SPCA for all the amazing support.”

We couldn’t be happier for all of the Korean dogs and their new families!

Lifesaving projects like this aren’t possible without your support. Please consider making a gift at sfspca.org/donate to help us continue our work. Every dollar makes a difference.

Rosie enjoying her new life in California.

It took several months, but we’re happy to report that all of the dogs have found loving homes. And despite their rough start, they’re quickly adjusting to life in America.

Katie Mickey, who adopted Sunshine, told us, “With a lot of hard work and help from the SF SPCA Puppy Manners training class, Sunshine now acts like a normal puppy and has really come out of her shell. We are so grateful for the effort that so many people all over the world contributed to making Sunshine’s new life a success. She is the light of our lives.”

Follow Sunshine on Facebook and Instagram! @sunshinemylifeinthesunshine
The San Francisco SPCA was THE place to be on Friday, May 29! It was standing room only at our Dogs on the Catwalk cocktail party, which drew close to 2,000 guests, who enjoyed delicious food, cocktails, and live music. Our staff and volunteers couldn’t have been happier seeing all the smiling faces mingling around our Mission Campus Adoption Center to kick off Maddie’s® Pet Adoption Days (more on that later). Despite the San Francisco chill in the air, crowds gathered for one of the biggest draws of the night: a fashion show for pets and people! To kick things off, gorgeous (two-legged) models hit the catwalk in celebrity-favorite designer Claire Farwell’s vegan, red-carpet-ready looks and showcased Jill Milan’s Italian-made, cruelty-free handbags.

For the grand finale, the crowds went wild for our adorable, adoptable dogs as they basked in the runway spotlight. And yes, they stole the show! During our Dogs on the Catwalk event, 23 animals were adopted by excited owners who whisked them off to their forever homes. Among those adopted were Tin Tin, one of our long-term pit bulls, and Opal, another sweet pittie girl.

During our Dogs on the Catwalk event, 23 animals were adopted by excited owners who whisked them off to their forever homes. Among those adopted were Tin Tin, one of our long-term pit bulls, and Opal, another sweet pittie girl. We want to thank the incredibly supportive and generous community of animal lovers who joined us for this fun and successful event!
Maddie’s Pet Adoption Days

On the morning of Saturday, May 30, rescue groups from around the Bay Area started setting up their mobile adoption sites on Rescue Row, the official nickname for the street outside the SF SPCA. The street quickly filled up with hundreds of animals ready to find their forever homes during the annual Maddie’s Pet Adoption Days.

Maddie’s Fund was founded in 1994 by Workday™ Co-Founder Dave Duffield and his partner Cheryl in honor of their beloved Miniature Schnauzer, Maddie. Thanks to their generous grants, all participating shelters were able to waive adoption fees for the weekend. The SF SPCA set a personal record by adopting out 129 animals!

Maddie’s Pet Adoption Days has supported the adoptions of more than 30,000 homeless dogs and cats around the country since the program’s inception in 2010. For each pet adopted during the event, Maddie’s Fund gives participating shelters a stipend from $200 to $2,500. This funding enables the shelters and rescue groups to save and treat even more animals throughout the year.

SF PRIDE

The SF SPCA proudly showed its wild side at this year’s 45th Annual San Francisco Pride Celebration & Parade. The “We Are Animal” theme was a big hit that struck a playful chord with our staff and volunteers, who showed their full support for equal rights. Special guest Kat Robichaud, from TV’s “The Voice,” led our pack down Market Street, performing in her beautifully outrageous style. Never ones to miss a party or celebration, our four-legged friends joined in on the fun by walking with us in the parade amongst their canine buddies and animal-loving friends.

Heart of Gold Donor Reception

SAVE THE DATE!

Heart of Gold Donor Reception
(by invitation only)

ST. FRANCIS YACHT CLUB
WEDNESDAY, OCT. 21,
5:30–7:30 pm

Last year, our Heart of Gold event for donors who contribute $1,000 or more annually was sold out. This year, we’re looking forward to another wonderful event with guest speaker and cat lover Mick LaSalle, celebrated author and San Francisco Chronicle film critic. We look forward to thanking our special group of friends who generously help support our mission and to presenting our fourth annual Heart of Gold Awards. For more information on becoming a member of Heart of Gold, contact Jill Jacobs at jjacobs@sfspca.org.
Road to the Puppy Bowl Adoption Event

A smiling adopter poses with his sweet new pup.

The San Francisco SPCA and Animal Planet teamed up for the Road to Puppy Bowl adoption event on April 25–26. It was an all-star event for our animals, and in just two days, we found homes for 26 cats and 29 dogs — a total of 55 animals! Our Mission and Pacific Heights adoption centers teemed with enthusiastic people looking for a new furry family member. It was a fun-filled event with giveaways and fantastic photo ops, capturing happy adopters and their new best friends. Animal Planet generously covered the adoption fees for all of our qualified adopters.

Rich Avanzino with Co-Presidents Dr. Jennifer Scarlett and Jason Walthall.

A TEA TO REMEMBER

Legacy Society members packed the Franciscan Room at the Sir Francis Drake Hotel on April 23 to hear former SF SPCA President Rich Avanzino in conversation with Dr. Jennifer Scarlett. Rich is widely honored as the father of the “No-Kill” movement and also initiated Senate Bill 685, which protects animals after the death of their owners. The bill was inspired by the case of a dog named Sido, who Rich later adopted. Over half of the guests at the tea have their animal companions enrolled in the SF SPCA’s Sido Program, which offers an innovative way to plan for pets who outlive their guardians.

For information about naming the SF SPCA as a beneficiary in your will and joining the SF SPCA’s Legacy Society or about the Sido Program, contact Sandy Irber, Legacy Giving Manager, at 415.554.3027 or sirber@sfspca.org.

SF SPCA board member Sue Troxel with SF SPCA Development Officer Nan Zimmerman and Dr. Betty Carmack.

Co-President Jason Walthall with Raman and Maureen Menon.

Sometimes we come across an animal so wounded that we’re not sure he can ever be healed — with an injury so horrific that the outcome is uncertain, even under the best of circumstances. Sherbert was a patient like this: By the time he arrived at the San Francisco SPCA, the terrible gaping wound on his forehead was so large that it seemed improbable he would ever be whole again. Was this injury from a tragic accident, or was it inflicted by human hands? He couldn’t tell us. But he had other ways of responding: with playful affection so innocent that we wanted to believe that no one did this to him on purpose. This little injured cat revealed in the compassionate treatment of our shelter medical team, never missing an opportunity to rub against caring hands. His need for human attention was so great that he was transferred to a staff member’s office for all the cuddles and chasing games a little kitten could possibly desire.

He captured the hearts of everyone he met. Staff and volunteers alike ended up spending their lunch breaks with him. As time went on, Sherbert, conqueror of chairs and laps and keyboards, endured many additional surgeries with the unflinched attitude of an adolescent feline. With every procedure, our shelter veterinarians were able to close his wound a little more, until it eventually disappeared completely. On that day, he was officially ready to get adopted.

Cara Beth Rogers fell in love with the playful kitten the minute she saw him in our Mission Campus Adoption Center. Learning about the painful specifics of his past did not deter her, and Sherbert (newly named Mack) went home that evening.

Here’s an update from Cara Beth and Ryan: “For first-time cat owners, welcoming Mack into our home has been a hilarious adventure. He is endlessly curious and seems to always find a new corner to explore. He is full of kitten energy, and his favorite activity is hunting his toy mice — though the daytime hours are invariably spent curled up on a lap or a warm windowsill. He is a really happy guy, and you’d never guess what he’s been through. We feel incredibly fortunate to have found him. He has made life so fun!”

Cara Beth Rogers

The wound begins to close. Sherbert remains a playful and curious kitten throughout his ordeal.

Step 1: Get adopted — check! Step 2: Follow my dream to become a yogi.
When our Shelter Medicine team first glanced at Ralphie’s X-rays on the screen, there was an audible gasp: His pelvis and hind leg were clearly fractured in multiple locations. The little Norfolk Terrier, who was found curled up and all alone on the streets of San Francisco, was quite literally broken.

Did he get hit by a car while trying to find scraps of food or a warm place to sleep? We’ll never know what happened to little Ralphie, but our staff made sure he understood that he was in loving, caring hands now. Warm blankets and pain medications kept him comfortable, and reassuring words and gentle scratches behind the ears let him know that he was safe.

Soon, he would limp about to explore his surroundings. With his adorable underbite and wiry brown hair, he attracted many visitors to the ICU. He also quickly lived up to his new nickname, “Ewok.” He was cute, yes, but also tough and brave.

Our Shelter Medicine team monitored his progress, and foster volunteer Chris Grano took Ralphie home to provide a quiet and comfortable environment while he continued to recover.

And just like his “Star Wars” brethren, Ralphie the honorary Ewok is a resilient dog. Chris reported great progress as Ralphie became more confident and bounced about the house — still limping, but spirit unbroken. By the time Ralphie was supposed to be returned to the shelter and listed for adoption, he had long stolen the hearts of his foster family. His temporary health resort became his forever home. Clever move, little guy!

Chris sends this update: “Since Ralphie became a full-time member of the Grano-Knudsen household, his schedule has become joyfully hectic. He likes to spend his time in Sonoma County between local wineries and camping at Johnson’s Beach. When in San Francisco proper, you can find Ralphie making new friends everywhere. Despite his previously fractured pelvis and broken leg, he loves chasing like-minded playful pups. Over the last two weeks, Ralphie has been busy attending the Just the Small Basics training class offered through the San Francisco SPCA and is planning to enroll in the more advanced course.”

“May the Force be with you.” — Yoda

Ralphie's radiograph upon arrival at the SF SPCA.
Since partnering with the San Francisco SPCA in 2012, Stockton Animal Services (SAS) has made one giant leap forward after another. Some of its recent milestones include celebrating its first-ever World Spay Day with record-breaking numbers and raising the bar even higher with a live release rate of 81 percent, an 11 percent increase from last year.

Despite these positive strides, there is still much work to be done. To Monica Smith, a Stockton Unified School District psychologist and an animal lover, the answer lies in educating Stockton youth about compassion and humane treatment, so that they may change the face of animal welfare for this and future generations.

Shortly after Phillip Zimmerman took over as the SAS Manager, Monica approached him with her idea: to start a humane education program in Stockton schools. Phillip was in complete agreement.

“I knew before I took this position that humane education in our schools was going to be critical in solving pet overpopulation in our community,” he says.

The two of them reached out to Maggie Amiano, the SF SPCA’s Humane Education Manager, for advice.

Having started similar programs in three different communities — in Oakland, San Diego, and San Francisco — Maggie used her invaluable experience and knowledge to funnel the ideas into a concrete plan.

It was decided that the pilot program — the first of its kind in the area — would start small, with Karly Noel from the RedRover Readers visiting just 10 of the elementary schools in August. Karly, a National Humane Ed Board member, would train the after-school teachers on how to conduct the program with books donated by RedRover Readers and the Animal Protection League in Stockton.

Trained volunteers would then go into classrooms and read one of 14 humane-themed children’s books with the aim of piquing children’s curiosity and encouraging them to ask questions.

“We want the children to think for themselves,” Maggie says. “When we ask them questions like, ‘Why does the dog not like being outside?’ or, ‘How do you think this dog feels in this position?’ or, ‘Why is he doing that?’ — we want them to tell each other about humane education. It’s just priming them for those compassionate feelings.”

Once the initial phase of the program is up and running, Maggie and her colleagues will initiate the second phase, going to Stockton themselves to teach some “hard animal skills,” like the importance of vaccines, spaying and neutering, and the benefits of positive reinforcement.

“Each lesson will end by providing the children with something they can then take home to their families, whether that be a spay or neuter voucher or a flier for the next vaccine clinic,” she says. “Our hope is that, even if their families aren’t receptive to the lessons, 10 years down the line, when they turn 18 or 19, they will make better choices because of the knowledge they’ve gained.”

While this program is still in the early stages, we couldn’t be prouder of our sister shelter as they tackle yet another issue with passion and drive.

“We need your help to support programs like humane education. Send donations to:

Stockton Fund for Animals
Community Foundation of San Joaquin
P.O. Box 286, Stockton, CA 95201
Adoptions at Pacific Heights

Some impressive statistics are emerging from the San Francisco SPCA’s Adoption Center in Pacific Heights. By June 2014, just three months after the merger between Pets Unlimited and the SF SPCA, Pacific Heights had already met its adoption goal with amazing results. The adoption center was given a fiscal year goal of 500 adoptions. They nearly doubled that goal with 558 cat and 351 dog adoptions for a total of 909 animals now living in happy homes!

Shelley Smith, Adoption Center Manager at the Pacific Heights Campus, noticed the impact of the merger right away. After the adoption center’s space was given a mini-facelift and brightening, they completed 54 adoptions in the first two weeks. Shelley credits many components coming together to create such an exciting increase in adoption numbers. She says, “The SF SPCA is a widely known organization, and their wonderful reputation and marketing have no doubt brought greater numbers of potential adopters to our location.” She and her staff couldn’t be happier sending so many loving and deserving animals into their forever homes.

Another contributing factor for the campus’ recent success is the introduction of same-day adoptions by embracing potential adopters’ enthusiasm and interest in an animal. Also, SF SPCA’s programs and services at both campuses offer greater resources and support for adopters and the community. And volunteer matchmakers make a big difference by finding a good fit for potential adopters and animals, allowing the adoptions team to take better care of new and existing clients.

The Pacific Heights Adoption Center is looking forward to the future and making a huge contribution to the lives of animals not only in San Francisco, but in the counties of the SF SPCA’s transfer partners as well. Shelley says the center is having “a magnificent impact on animal welfare, and we at Pacific Heights are proud to be a part of it!”
CONGRATULATIONS TO THE SAN FRANCISCO SPCA on their record-breaking year of saving lives.

Protect Your Pet with the Sido Program

The SF SPCA offers pet owners an innovative way to plan for their pet’s future. When pets outlive their guardians, cats and dogs enrolled in the Sido Program are welcomed into our adoption centers. They will receive exceptional care and attention while we work to place them in their next loving home.

The Sido Program is named for Sido, a dog who was condemned to die in her owner’s will. Over 30 years ago, the SF SPCA led the charge to save Sido’s life and helped pass legislation specifically aimed at saving her life and obtained a court ruling stating that it is illegal for a person to order a dog destroyed in a will.

To enroll your beloved cat or dog, contact the Development Office at 415.554.3029 or development@sfspca.org.

LEAVE A LASTING LEGACY

Join the San Francisco SPCA Legacy Society

Bequests and charitable trust gifts from forward-thinking individuals play a crucial role in the SF SPCA’s continued ability to sustain our crusade to change the future of animal welfare.

For more information, contact the Development Office at 415.554.3029 or development@sfspca.org.
We know that cats in particular have a stressful time coming to the vet. That’s why we’ve established our cats-only Feline Wellness Center at our Pacific Heights Campus. And our Mission Campus has been certified as a cat-friendly practice by the American Association of Feline Practitioners. Bring your cat in to see us. You’ll be glad you did.

**PACIFIC HEIGHTS CAMPUS**
Pets Unlimited Care Center | 2343 Fillmore St.
- Open 24 hours, 7 days a week for emergencies

**MISSION CAMPUS**
Leanne B. Roberts Animal Care Center | 201 Alabama St.

**Appointments available every day 8 am – 6 pm**
Free parking
More info at sfspca.org/vet

For an appointment at either campus, call **415.554.3030**.