



LEGACY SOCIETY NEWS

For the Love of Animals—and Their Humans

When it comes to the bond shared with a furry family member, even the most fleeting love burns bright. That's what Legacy Society members Susanne and Bill Losch learned when they adopted sweet Luna, a four-year-old, black-and-tan Coonhound who quickly stole their hearts.

A LIFE WELL-LIVED

"You never know why someone surrenders an adult dog," Susanne said. "It turned out, Luna had two tick-borne illnesses when we adopted her. We did everything we could, but it was just not a good situation." Luna passed away earlier this year, but she left behind a mark of love so deep, Susanne and Bill relish every memory with their beloved dog.

"I loved going to the beach with her and watching her explore," Susanne said. "There might be a



Susanne and Bill with Jasper—a former CHATT coalition shelter animal who has found his forever home

crab to sniff, or she could run free and play with other dogs. Her tail was always wagging."

"Dogs are so happy to be near you," Bill added. "I've always worked in jobs with a lot of pressure and it's nice to just relax with them. They don't care if you had a bad day at work, they just want you to scratch their belly."

LUNA'S LEGACY OF LOVE

Before adopting Luna, Susanne did pro-bono work on an SF SPCA project through her MBA program. That project would later become the California Humane Animal Transfer Team, or CHATT.

Through her work, Susanne and Bill both saw the far-reaching

impact of our animal-welfare programs. That mattered to the couple as they looked for ways to honor Luna with their own legacy.

"What gives us confidence the SF SPCA is worth investing in now and into the future is first, the quality of the people. Second, the level of innovation, and third, the impact of what you do, which scales not just in California, but also nationally, said Suzanne"

"A lot of organizations may have a good vision," Bill added, "but when it comes to actually executing on that, SF SPCA has done a fantastic job. That's a legacy that's going to continue even after Susanne and I are no longer around." 🐾



Luna at the beach

This issue is in memory of Luna and all animals who have enriched the lives of their human companions.

Message from the Director of Planned Giving



June Hom
Director of Planned Giving

For well over a century, the SF SPCA has championed the needs of animals in our community. This history inspires our people to deliver the very highest quality of care to companion animals and to support the people who love them.

We are committed to ensuring that all dogs and cats in our community and across California have access to high-quality care so they can find and stay in their forever homes.

In fiscal year 2021–22, we placed 3,300 animals in forever homes, performed 8,444 spay and neuter surgeries, and provided \$1M in financial aid so pets in our community have access to care and can remain with their beloved guardians.

We also transported, treated, and found forever homes for 2,152 animals from under-resourced shelters in central California.

Thank you for supporting the transformational work of the SF SPCA. The heartfelt promise of our Legacy Society members ensures that our innovative programs will endure, enriching the lives of animals and their guardians for generations to come. 🐾



Are you our secret admirer?

Have you named the San Francisco SPCA in your will and not told us yet? We want to invite you to join our community of support for special recognition, resources, events, and newsletters.

Become a Legacy Society member today.

sfspca.org/secretadmirer



Offering Hope to Overburdened California Shelters

The California Humane Animal Transfer Team (CHATT) is a coalition of Bay Area and Central Valley shelters working together to bring lifesaving veterinary, behavioral, and sheltering resources to where they're needed most.

In some parts of the Central Valley, where poverty levels reach as high as 20% above California's median, veterinary care is virtually inaccessible, and animal welfare suffers.



A COALITION TO SUPPORT COMPANION ANIMALS IN THE CENTRAL VALLEY

Now in its fourth year, the CHATT partnership is a resounding success. In the 2021-22 fiscal year alone, the SF SPCA transferred 2,152 CHATT shelter animals to our site in San Francisco, where many received specialized medical and behavioral care.

SF SPCA Shelter Manager, Marti Watts, travels twice weekly to CHATT partner shelters to deliver supplies and transport animals back to the SF SPCA. Shelter leaders tell her the help is indispensable. "The most rewarding thing about my work is the gratitude I receive from our partners," she said.

SHARING VETERINARY RESOURCES AND EXPERTISE

Our veterinary staff also travel regularly to the central valley to assist CHATT partners. Recently, SF SPCA veterinarian Amie Knieper, DVM, paid a visit to Tulare County Animal Services. While working alongside veterinary staff there, she overheard a call for help from another CHATT partner—King County Animal Services.

The shelter sought veterinary assistance for a dog with a suspected inguinal hernia. A private veterinarian had quoted more than \$1,000 to perform the lifesaving surgery. The dog was transported to Tulare instead. "Luckily, I was there," Dr. Knieper said. "I was able to show Tulare's veterinarian, Dr. Alexandra Myhal, how to reduce and repair the hernia, both helping this dog and future animals."

BUILDING CAPACITY AT PARTNER SHELTERS

The SF SPCA helps partner shelters grow by sharing a range of our own internal resources, including acquiring funding.

Earlier this year, we secured funding through California for All Animals to address a growing number of complex medical cases at our CHATT partners. These funds, earmarked for animal welfare by the State of California, helped Tulare County Animal Services purchase X-ray and ultrasound machines. The diagnostic equipment will play a critical role in saving the lives of more animals each year.

We also secured funding from the Bissell Pet Foundation to sponsor a two-day Spay/Neuter Clinic for animals in need at Tulare County Animal Services.

SECURING A BRIGHTER FUTURE—TOGETHER!

As members of the CHATT coalition, we not only provide direct assistance to California shelters in need, we also help them grow their own capacity to serve local companion animals, pet guardians, and communities.

Thanks to donors like you, through CHATT, we're making a lasting impact on the welfare of animals in our city, our state, and beyond. 🐾





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Your Legacy Can Start Today

Your will or estate plan makes an important statement about what you value. Whether you are updating your plan or thinking about it for the first time, this is an occasion for some questions.

- Do I need to provide for loved ones?
- Will a beloved pet need care?
- What type of legacy do I want to create?

Making a will also means thinking about assets like bank accounts, stocks or mutual funds, retirement assets, and real estate. Some assets are easy to pass on to loved ones, while others present opportunities for charitable giving.

A future gift to SF SPCA is your commitment to protect animals in need and support the people who love them. With your help, SF SPCA will ensure pets, their people, and the communities of San Francisco—and beyond—enjoy the future they deserve.

LET US HELP YOU PUT A PAW PRINT IN YOUR PLAN TODAY!

For more information, contact June Hom, Director of Planned Giving or Deborah Dick, Legacy Giving Officer. 🐾



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