



CAT CORNER

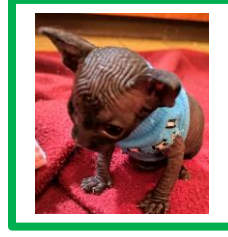
The Merced SPCA Newsletter



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Cynthia Kelly

SAMMIE'S STORY A Social Media Success



On April 7th, we received a call that there was a rare, chocolate Sphynx kitten that needed immediate care. This little kitten was only two weeks-old and had a severe upper respiratory infection that had caused his left eye to bulge and burst.

Our vet gave Sammie a 50% chance of surviving until he was big enough (and old enough) to have eye removal surgery. He immediately went into foster care with one our most patient, loving and determined foster moms, Cindy T. Over the next two weeks, Sammie not only continued to get better, but he also actually began to thrive. He doubled his weight and surgery was postponed for an additional three weeks.

During his time in foster, people from all over California began to follow Sammie's journey. From San Jose to Los Angeles, they were enraptured by this small, hairless kitten in stylish sock "jammies". **Sammie in Jammies was BORN!** Sammie had such a large following on Facebook and TikTok, that we created an Instagram page just for him: [@sammieinjammies](#). Some of his followers include PetSmart, Ollie and The Farmer's Dog, just to name a few. Sammie is a local celebrity in Merced too, with over 1,000 viewers wishing him well in his journey.

Sammie has two loving and excited dads waiting for him to be ready for his new home. Chris and Eric were selected from over 40 applicants for his adoption, and we felt that they would be perfect for Sammie. We're thrilled that Sammie will get the care and attention he needs in his forever home, and we can tell that his dads are already in love with him.

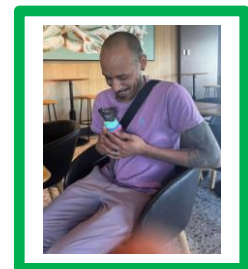
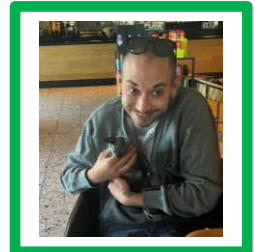
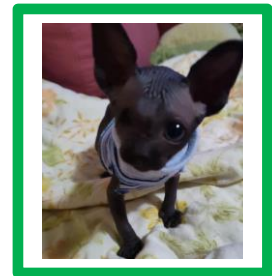
On May 13th, Sammie's eye was removed, and he also shed his jammies for the summer. Sammie continues to grow (bigger every day, it seems) and is always one day closer to being placed with his new family.

This is why we continue to "do what we do" at the Merced SPCA. There are so many cats and kittens that need our help and care to make it to their forever homes. Without our selfless volunteers, none of this would be possible. Your donations continue to support our local efforts of trap, neuter and release, community cat colony care and animal rescue. Without your generous support, we wouldn't be able to help the many cats and kittens in Merced, who need as much care as Sammie.

Thank you all for your continued support of the Merced SPCA and Sammie in Jammies!

In This Issue

YOUR PET'S SUMMER CARE



Pet Summer Care

Save Your Pet's Life with These Simple Summer Tips

Visit the vet for a spring or early-summer checkup. Make sure your pets get tested for heartworm if they aren't on year-round preventative medication. Flea and tick preventive medicines are a must in the summer months.

Give your pets plenty of fresh, clean water. Pets can get dehydrated quickly when it's hot or humid outdoors. Make sure your pets have a shady place to get out of the sun and keep them indoors when it's extremely hot.

Know the symptoms of overheating in pets, which include excessive panting or difficulty breathing, increased heart and respiratory rate, drooling, mild weakness, stupor or even collapse. Symptoms can also include seizures, bloody diarrhea and vomit along with an elevated body temperature of over 104 degrees.

Never leave your animals alone in a parked vehicle. Not only can it lead to fatal heat stroke it's illegal in California.

Don't let your pet walk on hot asphalt. Being so close to the ground, your pet's body can heat up quickly, and sensitive paw pads can burn. Keep walks during these times to a minimum.

Please leave pets at home for Fourth of July celebrations. Exposure to lit fireworks can potentially result in severe burns or trauma. Many pets are also fearful of loud noises and can become lost, scared or disoriented, so it's best to keep your little guys safe from the noise in a quiet, sheltered and escape-proof area of your home.

Follow these tips to for a happy, healthy and fun summer with your pets!

In Memoriam

Donations received on behalf of loved ones or those fur babies who have journeyed over the Rainbow Bridge

Cindy Poole for **Kenneth Edward Reding**
Cindy Kelly for **Jodie Kelly**
The Justice Family for **Cassie, Fuzz-it and Marmalade**

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The Merced SPCA is a local chapter and not affiliated with any national programs. We are an organization of volunteers that believes that we can build a community where people value animals and treat them with respect and kindness. To become a member of Merced SPCA, please contact us. Donations can be made online or mailed to: *Merced SPCA P.O. Box 929, Merced, CA 95341* or email us at merced.spc@yahoo.com



Trap-Neuter-Release (TNR) is a catch, spay and/or neuter and release program for community cats. The cats are trapped, brought to a veterinarian to be spayed or neutered, vaccinated, ear-tipped and then returned to their outdoor home.

This Spring our trappers focused on the female cats in our colonies. We have trapped and spayed 51 females. The obvious benefit to TNRing females is that they don't go through cycles of reproduction (heat), don't attract males (less fighting) and their health is greatly improved.

This also means that there won't be 300- 350 homeless kittens in our colonies this summer.

Our work is far from over. We'll be focusing on the unaltered males in our colonies in late summer.

Each cat we can TNR in Merced equals 10-15 less kittens per year on our streets.

We couldn't do this with out you!

Please donate today at www.mercedspca.com or scan the QR codes below.

