

# ANIMAL FRIENDS

WE'RE MORE  
THAN A SHELTER



Saving Lives Since 1874

## INSIDE:

### CARR FIRE DOG

Viggo was extremely shy when we evacuated him from the Carr Fire area. Read about his transformation. *pages 3-4*

### COCONUT THE CAT

He beat cancer and won over everyone's hearts - including his foster family. *page 5*



## MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT AND CEO ALLISON LINDQUIST

### HAPPY NEW YEAR! THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF THE EAST BAY SPCA.

It is hard to believe another year has passed. While this year saw even more natural disasters across California, it also saw thousands of lives saved, thanks to your help.

Shortly after the Carr Fire started in July, I personally drove to Redding with Oakland Shelter Manager Lisa Hammock to help relieve the local shelters there and make room for animals newly displaced by the fire. One of the several dogs we transported back with us to the Bay Area was Viggo, who is featured on pages 3 and 4. He was so shy and shut down, he wouldn't even walk on a leash. He had already been in a Redding shelter for a month, and was still so fearful, he couldn't be handled at all.

A Redding shelter staff member saw us trying to load poor Viggo into our van and suggested that we might "pass" on him and just leave him there – he was just too difficult.

We didn't pass on him. We got him out of the noisy shelter, into the van, and back to the East Bay SPCA where he settled into a quiet kennel to rest. It took our staff a lot of patience and more than two weeks before they could even give him vaccines and check him out medically. It was a long road to get Viggo ready for adoption and we're delighted to share his story.

Of course, we were deeply troubled by the news of the devastating wildfires near Chico in November, but we were ready to aid and assist whenever and however we could. On November 15, we evacuated 17 dogs and cats from shelters impacted by the Camp Fire in Butte County to help make kennels available for lost animals looking to be reunited with their families. Many of them experienced respiratory problems due to kennel cough and their prolonged exposure to smoke, but we rehabilitated these pets and hope to find them loving homes.

All of you reading this are our family. Your generous support provides us with the resources needed to save as many of these deserving animals as possible. You help us provide the desperately needed veterinary care for both shelter and owned animals and our spay/neuter services that help prevent overpopulation of unwanted animals. We are proud to serve as more than a shelter by providing behavior and training classes for pets and their people, year-round educational programs that teach local youth humane values, dog safety training to local law enforcement officers and firefighters, free pet food for home-bound seniors, and so much more.

From the bottom of our hearts, we thank you.

I look forward to continuing the great things we can do together in the coming year.

Sincerely

**ALLISON C. LINDQUIST**  
President and CEO  
East Bay SPCA



Photo by Heidi Eder/Right Brain for Hire

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Stacey Wells**  
*Board Chair*

**Mark Cratsenburg**

**Lynne Dujmovich**

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**Tracie Cota**  
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**Barbara Dryg**  
*Vice President of Finance*

**Kimberly Low**  
*Vice President of Development*

### LOCATIONS

**Oakland Adoption Center and Theodore B. Travers Family Veterinary Clinic**  
8323 Baldwin Street  
Oakland, CA 94621  
510.569.0702

**Oakland Spay & Neuter Surgery Center**  
410 Hegenberger Road  
Oakland, CA 94621  
510.639.7387

**Dublin Adoption Center and Spay & Neuter Surgery Center**  
4651 Gleason Drive  
Dublin, CA 94568  
925.479.9670

### OUR MISSION

**THE EAST BAY SPCA** is committed to the welfare of cats and dogs in the communities we serve. We strive to eliminate animal cruelty, neglect and overpopulation by providing programs and education that support people and companion animals.

VISIT US ONLINE AT  
[eastbayspca.org](http://eastbayspca.org)

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK  
[@eastbayspca](https://www.facebook.com/eastbayspca)

LEARN HOW WE'RE MORE THAN A SHELTER AT  
[morethanashelter.org](http://morethanashelter.org)

# HAPPY TAILS

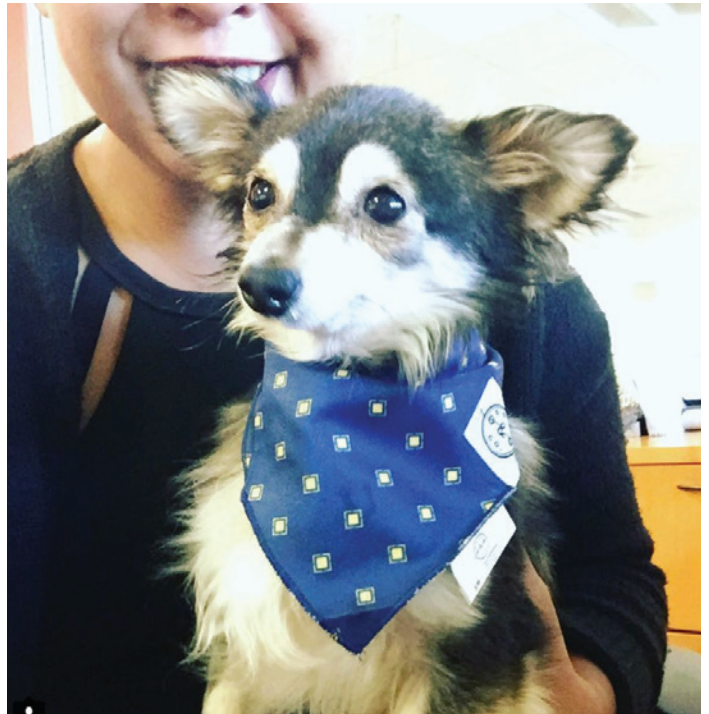
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## SENIOR PET ADOPTIONS

Here are some of the happy senior pets that were recently adopted from our Oakland and Dublin Adoption Centers! Do you have a Happy Tails story and photos to share? Submit them at [eastbayspca.org/happytails](http://eastbayspca.org/happytails).



*Kip and Flip, bonded pair*



*Fernando (formerly known as Ferdinand)*



*Prudence (formerly known as Hermana)*



*Kash (formerly known as Jethro), Carr Fire rescue*

# THE ROAD TO RECOVERY

## BANDING TOGETHER FOR VIGGO

While adoption lies at the core of what we do here at the East Bay SPCA, there are many dedicated staff and volunteers behind each animal that gets adopted to its forever home.

Such was the case with Viggo, a one-year-old Shepherd. Viggo was one of many rescued by our animal transfer team in emergency response to the Carr fires in August.

More than half of the animals the East Bay SPCA transfers require medical attention and behavioral training before they can be adopted, and Viggo was no exception. In fact, he was one of the most anxious and fearful dogs to come through our doors. Our dedicated medical, behavior and training, and shelter staff worked tirelessly with Viggo and their hard work paid off.

At intake, we were able to give Viggo the time and space he needed to begin adjusting to his new surroundings. Thanks to our behavior and training staff's patience and expertise, he became familiar with the staff and volunteers and started trusting them.

It was then the teams were able to successfully assess Viggo and develop the appropriate treatment plan. Dr. Gwen Gadd, East Bay SPCA staff veterinarian, prescribed a medication that would help ease Viggo's anxiety, so he could begin learning key behavior skills.

"My approach to veterinary medicine is focused on finding treatments that work for the individual. We know stress negatively impacts our health and animals are no different. Animals and people do better and feel better when they are able to let go of fear and anxiety," says Dr. Gadd.

With Viggo's anxiety under control, he was placed into Courageous Canines, one of our three behavior modification programs for timid or fearful dogs. To encourage bravery, our behavior and training staff began using positive reinforcement methods to build his confidence and minimize stress during his stay. Starting slowly, Micah McKechnie, Behavior and Training Associate, worked with Viggo to begin associating positive interactions and behavior with getting a treat.



Meeting other dogs at the shelter helped build Viggo's confidence

## THE EAST BAY SPCA BEHAVIOR MODIFICATION PROGRAM

# 250

animals were enrolled  
in a behavior program  
in 2018\*

\*as of November 30, 2018



**FELINES** who are timid, aggressive players or bored by the shelter environment also need personalized care. Enrichment plans can build confidence through positive reinforcement or provide an energy outlet using play therapy.

Despite his anxiety around people, it turned out that when Viggo was finally introduced to other dogs, he really came out of his shell! Going from timid and fearful to gallivanting and playful, Viggo showed us that he needed a home with another dog that could act as a “helper dog.”

Based on everything they had learned over the course of Viggo’s stay, our staff began to envision the ideal home for him: a home with another dog and someone with patience and a flexible schedule to spend ample time with him.

In came Elaine. She had seen Viggo on the East Bay SPCA website and came in to meet him. Naturally, Elaine had some reservations, but after multiple visits, including several successful introductions to her resident shepherd, Genta, Viggo went home with his new family.

Elaine has continued to work with the East Bay SPCA medical and behavior and training to ensure an easier transition for Viggo.

“Viggo was fearful, unsocialized, and untrained. I was on a roller coaster of self-doubt and uncertainty. The remarkably skilled East Bay SPCA trainers and vets never abandoned me. They offer advice, resources, and a listening ear — I value their guidance so much,” says Elaine, Viggo’s adopter.



*Viggo meeting shelter dog, Bubbles*



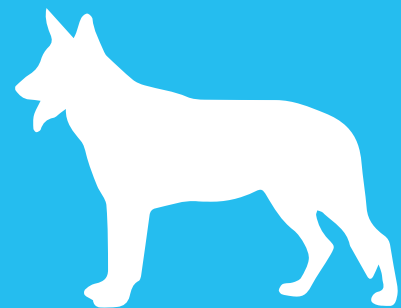
*Elaine, and her resident dog, Genta, meet Viggo*



**COURAGEOUS CANINES** can be timid and shy when meeting new people, but once they get to know you, it’s all cuddles and kisses! To encourage brave choices, we give these dogs time to assess a situation and reward them when they show bravery.



**POLITE POOCHES** see the world as an amusement park! Intelligent, and very energetic (often young), Polite Pooches need a lot of mental stimulation and exercise. To help encourage polite choices, we reward sitting, all-four-paws-on-the-floor, and waiting before going through doors.



**ENRICHED EINSTEINS** make excellent choices and are very polite but need extra enrichment while they stay with us. Whether a large dog, a mature senior, or long-term resident, all of our Enriched Einsteins are actively engaged in daily mental stimulation games, enrichment exercises, and lots of outside time!

# THE IMPORTANCE OF FOSPICE

## HELP FOR COCONUT THE CAT

Some animals who arrive at our shelters are looking for a safe, peaceful place to spend the remainder of their days. These animals are not suffering, they are simply not suited for adoption due to their age or untreatable medical conditions. However, they still need the same care and compassion as other animals entering our care. That's why here at the East Bay SPCA, we like to offer them something different.

Our Compassionate Care Fospice Program, a combination of foster and hospice, provides animals a safe, comfortable, loving end-of-life experience in a home environment.

Coconut, a cat diagnosed with inoperable tumors, was sent to fospice to live the remainder of his life in a loving home with one of our caring foster volunteers, Jessica Brodowski. After seven weeks, Coconut was re-examined and East Bay SPCA staff veterinarian, Dr. Gadd, decided to operate to attempt to remove the tumors.

After a successful operation, Coconut was once again eligible for adoption. Jessica and her family had missed him so much, they came back to adopt him.

"We are so in love with our little Coconut. We had to come back for him," she says. "Thank you for giving him a second chance. He is the best cat and we are so happy we found him!"



Coconut playing in his forever home



Coconut recovering after surgery.

So far this year, **869** animals have been fostered in Oakland and Dublin\*

\*as of November 30, 2018

**13** of those foster animals are part of our fospice program

**30%** of fospice animals are adopted into their foster homes



Learn more about fostering at  
[eastbayspca.org/foster](http://eastbayspca.org/foster)

# CONSTANT COMPANION

## MAUREEN CASSINGHAM

Maureen Cassingham, a long-time Bay Area resident, has been an East Bay SPCA supporter for 27 years and a monthly donor, or Constant Companion, for 24 of those years.

"The East Bay SPCA has done so much for me and our community," says Maureen. "It has grown and evolved tremendously without losing sight of its core mission to help people and their pets. That's one of the things I so admire about them."

With over 30 years of municipal experience as a City Manager and formerly the Executive Director at Cal State Hayward Foundation (now Cal State East Bay), Maureen understands the importance of serving and educating her community. Giving monthly is a great way to make a difference in the lives of local pets all year round. It also provides us with a steady source of funding to help us meet the increasing needs of our community.

"The East Bay SPCA's mission includes educating our youth about humane values. Not just how to interact with animals but teaching the next generation empathy and appreciation for all living things."

In her free time, Maureen can be found supporting the Golden State Warriors and Oakland A's. Having already visited every baseball stadium in the country, she now plans to visit every national park.



Maureen Cassingham with her two dogs, Tiny Tim and Carmen



Photos by Heidi Eder/Right Brain for Hire

## Become a Constant Companion!

Sign up today to make monthly gifts at  
[eastbayspca.org/constant](http://eastbayspca.org/constant)

We greatly appreciate your support!



## Italian Colors Dine & Donate

**MONDAY, JANUARY 28<sup>th</sup>  
5:00 - 9:00 PM**

Italian Colors Restaurant  
2220 Mountain Blvd #100  
Oakland, CA 94611

What could be better than enjoying wonderful food and fine wines and supporting the East Bay SPCA all at the same time? Join us for a lively evening of fun, food and fundraising!

Italian Colors in Montclair will be generously donating 10% of all proceeds to the East Bay SPCA. Includes bar and take-out orders. Make your reservation online at [italiancolorsrestaurant.com](http://italiancolorsrestaurant.com).

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### Foster Care Orientations

Oakland

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 19, 2:00 PM**

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2:00 PM**

Dublin

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 6, 10:30AM**

#### Volunteer Meet & Greet

Oakland

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 6, 2:00 PM**

Dublin

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 12, 2:00 PM**

## Start off 2019 on the Right Paw with Dog Training Classes



Get \$10 off any 5-week class when you use code **MANNERS** at checkout

Positive reinforcement methods

Beginner, advanced and specialty group classes

Expert instruction

From puppy to senior

Register today at [eastbayspca.org/training](http://eastbayspca.org/training)