



OHLONE
HUMANE SOCIETY
EST. 1983

OHS Spring 2022 Newsletter!

**Save the Date for the 22nd Annual Niles
Dog Show!**

NILES DOG SHOW



No Pedigree? No Problem!

July 16th, 2022

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

**Niles Community Park
3rd & H Streets, Niles District**

The Annual Niles Dog Show is BACK for 2022!

Contests for Dog-Person Look-a-likes, Best Costume, Prettiest Female, Handsomest Male and more

Demonstrations from the Fremont PD K-9 Unit and CARDA Search and Rescue

Rescue Organizations, Crafts Booths, Food Trucks, and a Pancake Breakfast

Sponsored by the Niles Main Street Association and Ohlone Humane Society

Click [here](#) for more Information!

**Skunk Season - It's Stinky Business and
We Love It**



It is the peak of skunk mating season, so our striped neighbors are especially active right now. Male skunks may fight over females, and females will spray males they don't like. This means there's a lot of skunk odor floating around.

We obviously want to avoid being sprayed and a skunk prefers to use their stinky spray only as the last resort. A skunk spray is produced in limited amounts and the supply must be replenished once depleted, which can take up to ten days. The smelly stuff is a precious commodity to the skunk since it's their only real line of defense against predators. Unless taken completely by surprise a skunk will offer plenty of warning signs and signals before spraying.

If you give a skunk an opportunity to escape an encounter without spraying, they will almost always take it. Look for a raised or shaking tail, stomping feet and a U-shaped posture. These are signs the skunk would prefer to exit the scene without spraying.

Give them space when you do see them and give them a warning like turning on a light or making noise before leaving your home or letting your dog out in a yard after sunset. Despite their stinky reputation, skunks are great neighbors who provide excellent natural pest control and will eat snails, slugs, insects and even rodents.

Call us at the [Ohlone Humane Society Wildlife Rehabilitation Center](#) at 510-797-9449 or Alameda County Vector Control 510-567-6800 for advice or more info about how to peacefully coexist with skunks and other local wildlife.

Volunteer Corner

Girl Scouts: Making A Legacy



A community cat is a cat that lives outside in a territory in groups called a “colony” and are cared for by “community cat caretakers” who make sure they have food, water, shelter, are spayed or neutered, and given medical attention when needed. Community cats are often misunderstood because they are living around our community and neighborhoods, but are unowned and most are not interested in being social. They are often viewed as a problem as a result of their mating season behaviors such as yowling or marking and people want them removed, even euthanized.

After looking into the “community cat problem” they learned that Trap-Neuter-Return was the solution for helping community cats. Ellie and Eleanor met with OHS’s Community Cat Outreach Program Manager, Sarah Wood who coached them on Trap-Neuter-Return basics until Ellie and Eleanor became experts! They then created training videos and demonstrations to help people new to Trap-Neuter-Return visualize how a few simple steps are all it takes to help a community cat coexist in our community better, live healthier lives, and prevent more kittens in need. The TNR videos can be seen on their website [Silver Cat TNR](#) or on OHS’s [Youtube](#) channel. They also created a hair tie fundraiser that raised over \$300 and helped them buy traps and First Aid kits to donate to Ohlone Humane Society to help countless community cats.

TNR improves the health of the cats and stabilizes the population, while also minimizing the impact of the cats on the community, especially during mating

season when yowling, fighting, marking, and other behaviors make the usually elusive cats all too visible. Ellie and Eleanor will help countless cats lead healthier, safer, and longer lives with their passion to teach their community about these mysterious and misunderstood cats.

Seeing rescue through fresh eyes taught us a lot. We are reminded to approach a community need with curiosity, creativity, hope, and a lot of faith in the willingness of our neighbors and community to get involved. We all have the power to make a difference, one spay at a time.

-Sarah Wood



Ellie and Eleanor teaching how to do Trap Neuter Return

Celebrating our Own Foster Hero

Congratulations to our very own, Cindy Potter who was recently nominated for the Feline Foster Hero Award in honor of all the work she has



down to grow our kitten foster program! She has built a team of over 40 foster volunteers and has placed over 200 kittens in loving homes this year! We at OHS are so grateful for everything Cindy Does for our organization, Cindy is an inspiration to all who knows her.

Volunteer Pack Out Party

Recently a wonderful group of OHS volunteers donated a weekend of their time dedicated to our [Pet Meals on Wheels Program](#). They created individualized bags of dog and cat food from bulk donations which were then distributed to various food drives and community centers that service those in need. You, too can lead the "pack" and have a pack out party or donate bulk items for our Pet Pantry! Check out our [Amazon Smile Wish List](#) and please donate whatever you can.



Calling all Volunteers!

Come make a difference for wildlife and volunteer with OHS! Become a foster parent, volunteer at an event like the Niles

Dog Show, a driver for our Pet Meals on Wheels Program, joining our Trap Neuter Return team, help with the rehabilitation of wildlife, or perhaps you and your pet can join the Pet Partners Program!

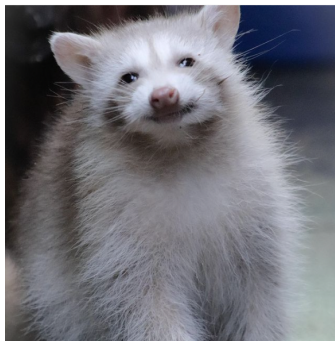
Click [here](#) for our current volunteer opportunities!



The OHS Humane Education Program is Expanding!

As in the past several years, OHS will continue to provide free classroom subscriptions to Kind News magazine for our elementary teachers located in Fremont, Newark or Union City. But wait, NOW there's more!

While everything we do at OHS is geared toward animal welfare, our Humane Education program will now reach out to our teachers and followers through our website postings about OHS animals in rehabilitation or rescue. These animals make our program unique!



For example, our OHS Wildlife Rehabilitation Center recently cared for and released a rare blonde raccoon. See our story on our [website](#) under our feature, Animal Tales.

Our Animal Assisted Intervention program through Pet Partners™ provides opportunities for children to meet a trained therapy dog nose-to-nose to reduce fears, provide emotional support, and understand how to care for and love companion animals and themselves.



We had a record intake of 11 kittens on one day rescued with the help of a caring homeless family living in their car who barely had enough food to take care of themselves, but cared enough to not let the kittens starve. All kittens are safely placed with foster families as they receive health care, will be spayed or neutered, and given proper nutrition to prepare for adoptions to forever homes. One little one has a birth deformity still being evaluated...more to come on that one in the future. And rest assured, the homeless family also was connected to community resources to help them as well.

We also had fun in February with our local teachers who participated in our Great Schoolyard Bird Count. The students counted birds and sent us some of their drawings about their sightings. Their inspiring works of art also are posted on the website and we hope to see more of their contributions to our website in the future.

OHS invites you to visit our [website](#) regularly to see more stories about the animals in each program! By embracing humane treatment of and learning about animals, we help the children in our community understand that kind treatment of animals can lead to kindness towards each other.

OHLONE HUMANE SOCIETY

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