This year our Tail Wagging News celebrates the wonderful dogs in our Animal Assisted Therapy program. Our Read-To-A-Dog events are a huge hit at local libraries. It is a special opportunity for many children who have little or no exposure to dogs elsewhere.

Ohlone has gone through some big changes during this past year. First, are the amazing new volunteers with great ideas to bring OHS into the digital world and to expand what we can offer. We are also saying good-bye to some long-time friends who are moving on to new phases in their lives.

We hope you have noticed our OHS presence in social media and are receiving our e-newsletters. You can follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. You can also request our e-newsletter by calling 510-792-4587 or sending an email to: info@ohlonehumanesociety.org. Thank you for your continued support of OHS. Without you we could not do what we want to for the animals.

Humane Education

OHS was delighted to fund more than 130 subscriptions of RedRover’s Kind News newsletter for Tri-City K-6 classrooms this year. We love getting positive feedback from both teachers and students.

We’re also excited to have kicked off the KIDZONE at our booth. This area is set up for kids (and their parents) to learn about animals through fun activities.

Wildlife Rehabilitation Center

2019 was a topsy-turvy year at the wildlife rehabilitation center. David Anderson our Center Manager for over 15 years left in March to pursue his new life’s journey in the Yosemite wilderness. In June, we had a new addition to our wildlife center family. Kelli Di Bene joined us in the position of Center Manager and just in time to take care of all the springtime orphaned and injured animals. All of us at the Wildlife Rehabilitation Center thank you for your continued support and wish you the very best in 2020.

Shelter Assistance Program

OHS supports the open-admission Tri-City Animal Shelter (TCAS), where we help to improve the outcomes of animals passing through the shelter doors. Our TCAS is terribly understaffed and underfunded and needs more of both to be a successful shelter. The OHS Shelter Assistance Team meets monthly with the Shelter Manager and we donate much-needed supplies, help with animal transport, and help staff the TCAS booth at local events. Here’s a pic from the Pet Fair, a TCAS dog in his modeling debut—now adopted!

Animal Assisted Therapy

Dogs provide unconditional and non-judgmental love and affection. Our teams visit elderly frail adults and curious loving children. We also present appropriate “meet and greet” behaviors and proper manners around dogs. Our Read-to-a-Dog program at libraries is always a fun favorite activity. In this coming year we hope to expand the AAT program.
Spay and Neuter Program

We've had quite a growth spurt this year. The feral cat program has expanded to include a TNR component. We now have an organized team of dedicated volunteers helping ferals, as well as the long-established independent feral volunteers who work tirelessly to help spay and neuter feral cats.

The domestic program has also been busy helping low-income people get their pets fixed. This helps keep their pets healthy and reduces the over-population of unwanted and abandoned animals. As of the end of September, we have assisted getting 535 feral cats and 101 domestic animals fixed.

Thank You for Your Years of Service to OHS

This year, we have had to say good-bye to three devoted, long-time members:

Eric Mills, our Community Relations Director, has left OHS but continues his tireless pursuit of legislation that will protect all vulnerable animals, through his Paw-Pac Organization.

David Andersen, after about 15 years as our Wildlife Center Technician, has moved up near Yosemite to start a new chapter in his life. He loves his quieter rural life and continues to use his wildlife expertise to work as a certified vet tech up there.

Paul Arvin helped restore the old “dog pound” in the hinterlands of Newark to the amazing Wildlife Center that it is now. Then he stayed on as the OHS Wildlife Director for the last 15 years. He has also spent many years as the treasurer and stepped in to take over the President’s role when Nancy Lyon could no longer do it. Now, he is retiring from all 3 positions and will continue his swim, bike, and gym pursuits.

OHS will miss all of these guys and their devotion to OHS and our programs.

Paw-Pac Helps

Governor Gavin Newsom signed four landmark bills for the State of California!

- **AB 44** - with AB 273, already chartered, prohibits all fur in and out of state, and makes California the first state to ban fur!!
- **AB 1260** - bans the import and sale of exotic/endangered animals or parts including CROCODILE, ALLIGATOR, iguana, skink, caiman, hippopotamus, and three lizard species!!
- **AB 1254** - bans bobcat trophy hunting!!
- **SB 313** - bans the use of wild animals in circus!

The Paw-Pac group visited the Capitol with a request for Governor Newsom to sign these bills in a suite, and HE DID!

Pets Meals-on-Wheels

OHS Pet Meals-on-Wheels provides food for pets of homeless residents in the Tri-City Area. We distribute 80-100 pounds of pet food a week to community resource centers where it is given to people on a first come-first served basis. Donations of unopened dry kibble and canned food for both cats and dogs are welcome. Please contact OHS for more information and to donate.

OHS Foster Program

This year we started our own foster program to help the shelter. We're delighted to report the first 18 kittens are in their forever homes with 1 still searching. We helped 2 new fosters get 4 of the kittens they had adopted. We currently have 10 kittens going through the process. The kittens go to their forever homes after being spayed or neutered and immunized. There have been SO many people who pulled together to accomplish this, it's heartwarming.

Special Assistance

This program is established to help our Tri-City neighbors who cannot afford to pay for a pet’s medical emergency. We do not pay for long-term care but can help with clinic visits, meds, and in some cases, comfort care. No one should have to watch their beloved pet suffer because of lack of funds. We are there to help them out.