

# under one roof

news from napa humane

## ta-da! napa humane launches new web site

It's here...and all that we wished for!

The focus of our new site is to inform, educate, enlighten, and guide pet owners – and potential pet owners – to create and maintain humane homes for their companion animals. We've aimed to keep you, our partners, informed of our ever-expanding calendar of activities and classes and provide tips to keep pets healthy and happy. There is a resource guide to understanding the network of animal welfare organizations and agencies in the Napa Valley, resources for what to do if you've lost or found a pet and much, much more!

Kudos to Wendi Piscia, our Program Administrator, for managing the web site project and content and to our talented partners at Net-Flow Corporation and designTHIS! We are much in your debt.

Check out our new (and much improved) site at [www.napahumane.org](http://www.napahumane.org) and be sure to let us know what you think. Of course, our opinion is that it's "the cat's meow," but we want your feedback to make it even better and to help us continue to grow. Send your comments and suggestions to Wendi at [wpiscia@napahumane.org](mailto:wpiscia@napahumane.org). ^



## need to license your dog? drop by the napa humane clinic!

Did you know that a dog license is mandatory in the County of Napa to comply with California state law? Every dog over four months of age must be licensed with proof of rabies vaccination per the State of California Health and Safety Code for public safety and disease control – not to mention that a license may be a lost pet's ticket home.

Napa Humane is excited to be piloting a project in an effort to increase compliance with licensing and make the process more convenient for the public. At no extra expense, you can purchase a first-time license, or renew your dog's license at our Spay/Neuter Clinic.

In addition to Napa Humane, currently dog licenses may also be purchased or renewed at the following locations:

**Napa County Animal Shelter**  
942 Hartle Court, Napa

**Napa County Treasurer's Office**  
1195 Third Street, Napa

**Yountville Town Hall**  
6550 Yount Street, Yountville



*Napa Humane's Clinic is located at 3265 California Boulevard in Napa, or give us a call for more information – 707.252.7442 x200. ^*

## a message from napa humane's executive director

### smart giving in difficult times

Dear Friends,

The global recession and market turmoil are forcing everyone to stop and take a hard look at the future. Business and consumers are cutting back on spending. Our governments face revenue shortfalls at the same time their citizens need services more and more. At Napa Humane we face the same uncertainty about these things as everybody else.

It is difficult to keep animal welfare "top of mind" during these times. Our job is to meet the challenge by making sure that the crisis doesn't distract donors and patrons from helping us meet our vision and strategic goals by sharing our successes as well as our need so that our momentum continues.

So, please enjoy these pages describing how you support companion animals with humane education in our schools and in our communities. Share the joy that giving brings by reading about our good friends Jim and Cricket Smith, Niko Baila and Rob Zerby. And, celebrate with us as you check out our Clinic statistics – you make it possible!

I am impressed by you who continue to give generously even in these times. You realize that a gift today ensures the future of our organization and the services we provide which are needed now, more than ever. Thank you for allowing us to work for the animals – thank you for being our partners. We are most grateful.

Thank you so very much,



Jane Albert  
Executive Director



Coming in September 2009...Pet First Aid Classes!  
A partnership of Solano-Napa Pet Emergency Clinic and Napa Humane.  
To register to receive information visit [www.napahumane.org](http://www.napahumane.org),  
go to "contact" and to the "register to receive communications" page.

### first quarter clinic statistics january through march 2009

Thanks to your support, Napa Humane is able to offer affordable basic services aimed at positively impacting the companion animal population. Specifically, to reduce the number of companion animals in shelters through spay/neuter and microchipping and decreasing the instance of preventable diseases through core vaccinations. ^

#### Spay/Neuter Surgeries Performed

**1,057**

#### Pets Vaccinated at Weekly Vaccination Clinic

**586**

#### Pets Microchipped

**413**



### e-news...on the way!

With the help of designTHIS! we have launched the electronic version of Napa Humane's newsletter, "Under One Roof."

We would love to send Napa Humane communications, announcements, and our newsletter directly to your inbox. If you think that's a good idea too, go to [www.napahumane.org](http://www.napahumane.org), then to "contact" and to the "register to receive communications" page. We promise never to sell or share your contact information and will be mindful of your time with the volume of our communications. ^

# napa humane heroes

## “keeping it close to home”

### jim and cricket smith **honor napa humane with estate donation**

There's a perception out there that estate planning is something only for the über-wealthy. Animal lovers Jim and Cricket Smith beg to differ. The couple recently chose to donate half their estate to Napa Humane, the other to The Land Trust of Napa County.

Jim and Cricket, who have lived in Napa since 1974, emphasize that estate planning can be simple and not limited to the Rockefeller set. “If you own a home, you have an estate,” explains Jim. “Cricket and I don't have family so it was logical for us to designate the non-profit organizations we support. Even if one does have children, you can always find room to include your favorite charities.”

Now retired from rewarding careers, Jim and Cricket spend their days with their beloved Lexa, a beautiful red Irish terrier who loves to run and play at Alston and Kennedy parks. Lexa is two and half, full of energy, and keeps the Smiths active. In addition to Lexa, the couple has four sheep that live on their property in Napa's Coombsville area. “The sheep are Lexa's friends. She's always running the fence line looking at her extended pack,” says Cricket laughingly.

The Smith's love of the Napa Valley and their passion for companion animals make them a great inspiration to all, and their selfless contribution to Napa Humane will help ensure the welfare of animals in our community for years to come. ^



*Jim and Cricket Smith and “Lexa”*

Photos by Marissa

## kids who care...

### **meet niko!**

In May 2007, an SUV pulled into Napa Humane's Clinic parking lot, backed up to the front door, and a young girl bounded out of the passenger side of the vehicle. Then, the back cargo hold popped open to reveal a bounty of supplies straight from our Clinic “Wish List.”

That's how we met Niko Baila. On her own, the then 10-year-old decided that in lieu of gifts for her birthday that she wanted to help the animals, and so she asked all her friends to bring something to her party that would benefit Napa Humane.

But Niko's philanthropy didn't stop there. Around holiday time that year a card arrived with a generous cash donation – a gift from Niko with a heart-felt message to the staff and volunteers of Napa Humane and the explanation that the contribution was from gifts she had receive through the year and money she'd earned for chores that she wanted to share with the animals.

We saw Niko again the following May just after her birthday party – and then again just last month with, you guessed it, another cache of in-kind contributions from our “Wish List.” “There are pets that are in need,” reminds Niko. “I know that I can make a difference by helping Napa Humane – it is something everyone should do!”

Our thanks to Niko for her generosity. To enjoy the benefit of her gifts for the animals is very special indeed, but to count her among our friends is priceless. We are proud to share her inspiring story with you and proud that she is part of our Napa Humane family! ^



*Niko Baila*



# “chairman chow” groth hosts the sixth annual “cause for the paws”

“Cause for the Paws,” the community fund raising event for Napa Humane is shaping up to be our best event yet!

Hosted by “Chairman Chow” Groth of Groth Vineyards & Winery (and his people, Dennis and Judy Groth, and the Groth family), there’s something for everyone at this year’s “Cause!” “This is the best event in the Valley,” Chairman Chow exclaimed. “It’s like a new toy, supper time, and a belly rub all rolled into one. I give it four paws up!”



Photography by Jason Tinacci

*The Grove at Silverado Resort  
“Cause for the Paws” 2008*

**So join us Sunday, July 19th from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in The Grove at the beautiful Silverado Resort.** At press time we have the support of over 40 wineries and breweries, and 20 restaurants, chefs, and artisan culinary purveyors for your enjoyment. Back by popular demand – live music by “City Lights!”

**Our silent and live auctions are bigger and better than ever** as we welcome back auctioneers extraordinaire, the Pio Roda family – Rely, Richard, and Gina...and we have a few surprises to look forward to for returning and new guests alike.

Of course, you won’t want to miss **Napa Humane’s Mobile Adoption Unit** with loads of adorable adoptables onboard, or our premium drawing and Napa Humane store with exclusive specialty fun and practical logo items.

Proceeds from this year’s event will benefit the programs and services of Napa Humane’s Clinic offering affordable spay/neuter, vaccination, and microchipping services for companion animals throughout our Valley. The event is sponsored by Groth Vineyards & Winery, Pet Food Express, Bubbling Well Pet Memorial Park, Solano-Napa Pet Emergency Clinic, Round Like a Circle Graphic Design, Silverado Resort, and 1440 KVON & 99.3 THE VINE.

**Check out our web site to view auction items, our beverage and culinary offerings, and to purchase tickets to the event – still just \$45.00 with advance purchase!** With questions, to purchase tickets by telephone, or make a donation to our auction, call Jennifer Smith at 707.255.8118 x204. ^



Photography by Jason Tinacci

*“Louie” was adopted while hanging Out in the MAU at “Cause” 2008*



Photography by Jason Tinacci

*“Little Micky” found his forever home at the “Cause for the Paws”*



Photography by Jason Tinacci

*“Cause” 2008  
Live Auction Action*

## see you at the “cause”!

# program highlight:

## napa humane's "bite prevention"

The Center for Disease Control (CDC) reports that 4.5 million people are bitten by dogs each year. In fact, in 2006 alone (the most recent year for which statistics are available), more than 31,000 people underwent reconstructive surgery for dog-bite related injuries. Children account for 70% of those bite victims – it is estimated that by the age of 12 years, half of all children in the United States will suffer a dog bite.

But dog bites aren't the only concern for children. Cat bites and scratches pose risks as well. While the same kind of statistics are not recorded by the CDC, the potential trauma of an encounter with a cat causing harm to a child can last a lifetime as well as expose the child to particular diseases sometimes carried by cats.

Napa Humane has created a program for children as young as four years old to teach them safety around dogs and cats at home, while visiting homes with dogs and cats, and in the community.

Using tools such as photos of animals that capture posture, body language, and situations to avoid and a live-action DVD, our humane educators work in classrooms, afterschool programs, and with youth groups such as Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts teaching children to be safe around companion animals.

An important focus of the program is that it is empathy-based to teach consideration for the ways dogs and cats feel when their tails are pulled or food is taken away rather than resorting to scare tactics.

### Some of the highlights of the class are:

- **Never approach** an unknown dog or cat that is alone without its owner; always ask the owner's permission before petting it.
- **Do not disturb** a dog or cat that is eating, sleeping, caring for puppies or kittens, or is playing with a toy or has a treat.
- **Never tease** a dog or cat – they will not realize that you are just playing.
- **"Be still like a tree"** – remain motionless when approached by an unfamiliar dog, and "be still like a log" – roll into a ball and lie still if knocked over by a dog.
- **Do not run** from a dog or cat; do not chase a dog or cat.



*Wendi Piscia teaching "Bite Prevention"  
at West Park Elementary School*

If you would like to learn more about Napa Humane's "Bite Prevention" class – or to become a humane educator, please contact Wendi Piscia, Program Administrator, at 707.255.8118 x202. [^](#)

# the people of napa humane

## super rob zerby

He's played Santa twice, driven the Mobile Adoption Unit (MAU) up and down the Valley countless times, and he's always at the ready to pitch in and help ... if fact, no Napa Humane event is complete without him! Tall dark and handsome, with a wicked sense of humor, Rob is also an experienced dog handler.

Rob joined the Napa Humane family a little over two years ago. A Wells Fargo employee, Rob contributes to Napa Humane through the Wells Fargo Community Support Campaign. When he received a letter from Napa Humane's Executive Director, Jane Albert, thanking him and listing the areas where Napa Humane needed volunteer assistance, Rob jumped at the opportunity to help, especially with dogs. Rob is the proud father of Annie, a yellow lab mix, who is herself a rescue.

Today, Rob is a key member of the Mobile Adoption Unit team. Rob visits the Napa County Animal Shelter in advance of MAU events to spend time with the dogs and evaluate which are most suited for an outing. "It's crucial that we have a thorough understanding of the dog's temperament before taking him or her out into the community," says Rob. "They are ambassadors for the Shelter and it's important that we know how they will behave."

Aside from volunteering at events, Rob helps with the MAU by keeping her squeaky clean and with routine maintenance.

In his free time outside of volunteering with Napa Humane, Rob enjoys épée fencing and touring the Valley via road bicycle and sport bike. ^



*Rob Zerby and "Resti" adopted at the Cause for the Paws*

**napa humane**

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