



3,227	animals saved
39,471	ground transport miles
299	pets adopted through Petco
2,253	vaccinations given at clinics
971	microchips given at clinics
\$135,311	medical procedures



President's Message

Thanksgiving is a time of thankfulness, gratefulness and family and an ideal time to be writing this president's letter. Thankful for our volunteers who for twenty-one years have been committed to saving the unwanted animals of Merced County. So many animals abandoned, so many left in orchards or on streets, so many injured or sick animals left out to fend for themselves, or as I have right now, four foster dogs terrified by life. Cats not being taken into shelters any longer. The list goes on.

This has been our lives for twenty-one years. Now finally New Beginnings for Merced County Animals is about to realize what we have dreamed of for all those years but was beyond our grasp—a new spay/neuter facility. When you read this, we hopefully will have just finished escrow on a property ideal for a clinic. Can you believe it is about to become a reality for Merced County? Never have we needed it more.

New Beginnings was contacted by someone who has long had a dream to have a spay/neuter clinic in Merced County. Linda Tiller reached out to me about her dream and has an ideal property for this clinic, between Atwater and Merced, directly off of the 99 Highway. Linda has given us the opportunity to purchase this land and business at a very low price. We are so grateful for her benevolence. We are filled with thankfulness and gratitude for this opportunity to prevent many, many litters of unwanted animals. Spay/neuter surgeries are not within reach of so many people, especially right now with the rising costs in our economy. Now we can offer an affordable price for people to have their pets altered.

Now, onto family-you all. New Beginnings is committed to doing this project. More than ever, we need the support of the community to make this happen. Even when it opens, we will need to continue to raise money to keep the clinic low-cost. You, our family are needed now. Please consider a significant gift toward the funding. The amount differs from person to person. I will never forget the lady who walked into Valley Animal Hospital and donated four one-dollar bills. For her that was significant.

Right now, we have \$800,000 set aside for the clinic. We will need around \$3,000,000. Sounds like a lot but we've managed to lower it from the original estimate. We want to do this well and professionally.

There are many ways to contribute. Consider including New Beginnings in your trust or a Charitable Remainder Trust to New Beginnings. Some people have donated stock and some want to donate directly. We have had a contractor volunteer some time. Have a fundraiser for New Beginnings. Also, we will be offering places at the clinic to donate towards a memorial stone or other areas. Any other ideas, reach out. As a company donates, we will recognize all who do.

Thank you for being a family to us as we start this new wonderful blessing.



LAST CLINIC OF 2025

For the first time since we started the Petco Love free vaccination clinics, we held one in the city of Merced, and to say it was well received is an understatement. The first people in line arrived at 7am (two and one-half hours before we opened) and the line later extended to over two blocks long. It was a perfect day. The weather was fall-fabulous, the American Legion Hall was perfectly suited to our needs and 569 animals went home protected from preventable disease by vaccinations donated by Petco love. Quite a few also received microchips and rabies shots provided by New Beginnings.

Check out the photos below of happy fur parents and their kids.



TRANSPORT

As they say, "Back in the day" we'd get all the animals loaded into the van by 5pm and then dedicated drivers would undertake a 15-hour endurance test to Oregon or Washington. Fortunately, now we have wonderful airline partners, Wings of Rescue and Dog is My CoPilot, who whisk them away on a much more pleasant 5-hour journey. On October 28th we flew 44 dogs and 8 cats to the lives they deserve in Canada and Montana. The photos below show happy animals destined for new horizons; to finally know once and for all how it feels to be cherished and cared for. Godspeed, little sweethearts.



In Memory & Honor

We are honored to have received memorial donations in the names of:

Carl Cunningham
Lucy Zimmer
The Martins' best boy,
Elliott
Brenda Clay
Dexter Sampson
Joseph Woodard Boys,
Brigham & Spencer

Sonia Willson
Judith Souza
Norman Leonard
Jane Markiano
Al & Erna Zierenberg
Jericho Hickerson
Peggy Swafford
Juli McManus
Max, the best dog ever

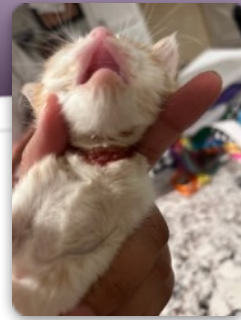
We are honored to have received tributes in the names of:

Jolene Jacobs
Karin McIntire
Alarcon Paws



MEDICAL

This issue we have a couple kitty situations to report. The pitiful little four-week-old kitten pictured here was brought to Valley Animal Hospital by Merced City Animal Control in deplorable condition. For reasons unknown, a strip of skin and fur was missing on his neck all the way around. Bad luck changed to good when Melody, a tech at Valley, named him Rusty and agreed to foster him. In addition to bottle feeding, she needed to bring him in daily for debridement, apply ointment and administer Clavamox. One month later the skin and fur had regrown and Rusty was reveling in his new home. Guess where! You got it—Melody's house! Her two young sons had become totally attached to his sweet, playful, trusting nature. Who could resist a rust-colored fluffball attached to your pant leg?



Now, the Persians. You may have heard about a hoarding situation discovered in a van parked at a motel in Santa Nella last June. Inside were close to 130 cats, all Persians, some already passed on, or in various stages of illness, neglect, matting and ringworm infestation. The entire lot was taken in by Merced County Animal Control. Sadly, some were in such wretched condition they had to be euthanized.

The rest have been housed at Animal Services ever since, with New Beginnings transporting them as they became healthy enough to go. Pictured here is one of the last twelve to fly and Animal Services is handling the adoptions of the remaining twenty. What an inconceivable state of affairs that was—a head-shaker to be sure. But finally, the best outcome possible.

That's what happens when people sympathetic to the needs of animals come forward. Your kind donations help us change bad luck to good.

YARD SALE

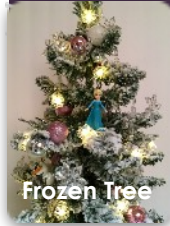
Armed with a year's worth of collected treasures gathered up by New Beginnings, her own trailer loads of accepted donations, unparalleled drive and boundless stores of energy, Morgan and her mom, Patty, launched yet another yard sale of massive proportions on October 3. Truly, you had to see it to believe it—it was basically an outdoor thrift shop. Mother Nature toyed with us a bit, threatening rain and causing a last-minute frantic procurement of numerous tarps to protect the goods. Fortunately, only a few drops actually materialized and the rest of the three-day sale proceeded under sunny and relatively cool weather. Yard sales are a lot of work “but it was worth it,” declared Morgan. Agreed! Our soon-to-be spay/neuter clinic benefitted to the tune of over \$10,000. Look for more yard sale flyers in the future—“Crazy Yard Sale Lady” Morgan says she wants to do two next year!

BAKE SALE & GIFT SHOPPE

Oh, you shouldn't be late, You'd better not miss, You ought not to wait, I'm telling you this, Our Bake Sale is comin' to town! Mark your calendars for Saturday, December 13, at the Multicultural Art Center, 645 W. Main in Merced, from 10-3. This isn't your usual bake sale—it's HUGE! Held in the MAC for our third year, we fill their large Black Box Theater end-to-end with rows and rows of tasty delectables including cakes, pies, breads, cookies, candies, jams, nuts, snacks, and specialty concoctions of infinite variety. It's a genuine treasure trove of delicious treats for yourself or gifts for friends, teachers, coworkers, neighbors and more. Plus, at least two of those long rows are filled with a wide assortment of gifts for both people and pets. Not finished yet! We also offer our New Beginnings tees and hoodies, a glittering selection of decorated trees, wreaths and garlands, and gift baskets for every taste. An added benefit of holding this at the MAC is that the Arbor Gallery is there, too, offering paintings, pottery, jewelry and many other gift possibilities.

Where would a bake sale be without bakers? Think of your recipe box as a resource for the animals! Drop off your most mouthwatering creations attractively packaged on FRIDAY, December 12 (the day before the sale), between 11 and 2 in the alley behind the MAC (between Main and 18th streets). Someone will be there to accept your donations. Bakers—it's helpful if we know what's coming, so please call Marie in advance at 209-777-2190 with your planned donations or questions. For our setup we greatly appreciate the Friday drop-off, but, if that's impossible, items can be brought the morning of the sale.

Don't forget what this is all about—the animals need us. With them in mind, come early, as this is a popular event. Don't let rain be a deterrent. Bring an umbrella and we will have people to assist you to your car with purchases if needed. Our Bake Sale—the talk of the town.



Frozen Tree



Gnome Tree



Dachshund Tree



Barbie Tree



Kitty Tree



Wreath



Dog Wreath



Sconce



bit.ly/nb2023

Want to get your newsletter by email? Scan QR code here or text **209.769.8953**



Be sure to visit our Amazon Wishlist on our website

New Beginnings for Merced County Animals

www.newbeginningsforanimalsmerced.org

(209) 769-2122

P.O. Box 1045

Winton, CA 95388

Tax ID: #36-4704902



FOLLOW US



New Beginnings 13th Annual

HOLIDAY

Bake Sale & Gift Shop

SAT. DECEMBER 13TH

The Multicultural Arts Center
645 W. Main St (Merced)

10:00am-3:00pm

WE NEED BAKERS & SHOPPERS!

Help make this event a sweet success for the animals!
Every item baked and sold helps raise funds for animals in need.

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT NEW BEGINNINGS FOR MERCED COUNTY ANIMALS

Whether you love baking, shopping for a Holiday event or just love treats, your support makes tails wag this holiday season.

Interested in donating baked goods?
Call or Text 209-777-2190

Themed Trees:
Satch
Frozen
Barbie
Doggie
Kitty, plus more.