

RACHEL  
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If you've always wanted a miniature horse or potbellied pig, but were waiting for just the right moment, a Napa animal rescue organization may have recently created it by partnering with a Bay Area artist.

Jameson Humane Napa and Wine Country Animal Lovers of Napa have partnered with Bay Area Post-it note artist Ed Attanasio who is making drawings of several rescued animals, to help generate interest in rehoming them, as part of his Pandemic Pets Project, according to Jamison Humane spokeswoman Maral Papakhian.

"He is assisting us by drawing pictures of several of our animals, a senior cat named Buddy, a long-term foster dog named Cheyenne and a miniature horse named Lucy, who was rescued in Napa after having been neglected for at least a year," Papakhian said. "She had hooves so long she couldn't even walk."

Jamison officials were alerted to Lucy's plight when someone called to report a passel of pigs roaming the neighborhood, she said.

"We got a call from someone saying there were pigs loose nearby — someone who knew where they belonged — and when we (found them and) returned them, we spotted Lucy and she had clearly been neglected, and we asked about her and the rancher said someone had said they were coming to adopt her but never showed up, and that we could have her, so we took her on the spot," Papakhian said. "We've had her two or three weeks, and there have been amazing changes."

A ferrier was called immediately to address the equine's overgrown hooves, and in the weeks since Lucy has been at Jamison, she's become a whole

# The power of a POST-IT

## Pandemic Pet Project raises awareness for local animal rescues



Jameson Humane Napa

**Bay Area Post-it note artist Ed Attanasio partnered with Jameson Humane Napa to do drawings of animals in need of adoption. This is a drawing of Vietnamese Pot-bellied Lucy he made in 2021.**

new horse, Papakhian said.

"Now she's doing extremely well," she said. "She's happy; she's walking; she's exploring the ranch and getting along with the other animals, and she has a very sweet disposition."

Those rogue Vietnamese potbellied pigs are now part of the Jamison family, as well, she said.

"They make very great pets," she said. "We are working to get those adopted as well."

Lucy and the pigs are just a few of the latest animals rescued by Jamison Humane, which was founded in 2014 to rescue and rehome domestic and farm animals like "dogs, cats, pigeons, cows, goats, horses, you name it. Though no exotic animals," Papakhian said.

Attanasio is putting the power of his Pandemic Pet Project behind the effort to help animals find new homes.

"Ed is drawing Lucy and Spots, a pig rescued from a

family being evicted from their Napa home, who couldn't take their seven pigs, and over a month's time, in collaboration with other animal rescues, we worked to find them housing, veterinary care, food and a place to stay, until we could make room here," Papakhian said. "Now, we have four including Spots." Besides Spots, Attanasio is also creating Post-it note pictures of Cheyenne, the foster dog, and Buddy, the senior cat."

Attanasio started doodling pictures of animals on Post-it notes as a kind of post-stroke therapy several years ago, and now raises thousands of dollars worldwide with them for animal-related charities. He recently finished his 2,000th piece — of a Suisun City man's pet cat — and is still benefiting from the therapy, though still not monetarily, he says.

A San Francisco resident, a former stand-up comic and ad copywriter, Attanasio draws pictures of people's pets on sticky notes, and in exchange, the pet parents donate to the animal rescue/care organization of their choice — including the ones in and around Solano and Napa counties — and everybody wins.

Attanasio never takes payment for his Pandemic Pets Projects drawings, seeing the effort instead as a way to "pay it forward." He figures he's raised in the hundreds of thousands of dollars for animal-related agencies around the country and the world.

His efforts landed him an appearance on a national daytime TV show, after which more than 1,000 pet pictures poured in.

"The suggested donation per drawing is \$50, so if everyone did that, we would have raised more than \$100,000," Attanasio said. Some people likely donate less, while some give significantly more, judging from just two donation