



RC Pets Scoop

City Animal Care & Services Program Newsletter

November / December 2006, Issue 5



RC ANIMAL CENTER HERE TO SERVE YOU

The Animal Care & Adoption Center offers much more than just pet adoptions. The Center offers a variety of pet-related services to the community such as microchipping, low-cost vaccination clinics, spay/neuter information, animal licensing, volunteer opportunities, holiday promotions, behavioral consultations, and much more.

Be sure to regularly visit www.RCPets.info for current information on all the happenings at the Animal Care & Adoption Center.



MEET THE NEW ANIMAL SERVICES DIRECTOR!



Joe Pulcinella is certainly not your average Joe when it comes to animal services management. With 36 years of experience in the business, Rancho Cucamonga's new Animal Services Director is ready to take the helm and lead the community's long-term efforts toward a no kill facility. "I look forward to the exciting opportunities ahead and providing high quality service for the two and four-legged citizens of Rancho Cucamonga," said Joe Pulcinella.

Joe comes to Rancho Cucamonga from the Orange County Animal Shelter in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, where he has served as shelter director for the past several years. He also managed several animal shelters in Pennsylvania. Joe has a B.S. in Psychology.

Joe Pulcinella replaces Acting Director Pam Easter, who has led the Department since May 2006, in addition to her duties as Rancho Cucamonga's Assistant City Manager.



"IT'S A SMALL PET WORLD" OPENING CELEBRATION



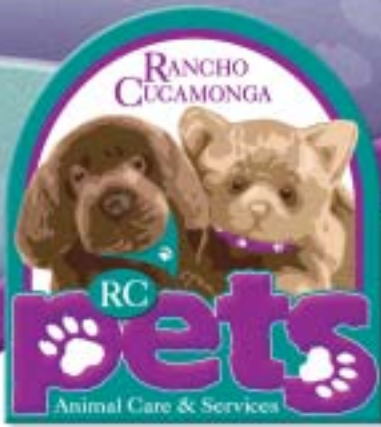
It was a day for the dogs - and cats - as almost 1,000 residents celebrated the reopening of the City's newly transformed Animal Care & Adoption Center on October 21, 2006.

Spawled across two big soccer fields adjacent to the Center, the Grand Opening Celebration focused on the wonderful pets at the Center looking for new homes and featured vendors, games and activities, public safety K-9 demonstrations, adoption fair, and an amazing Doggie Olympics, where pets competed for the title of best kisser, looking most like their owner, and best trick.

The international theme of "It's a Small Pet World" allowed visitors to visit exotic destinations such as Asia, Australia, and British Isles, get their "passport" stamped, and learn more about the pets that originated from there. Inside, many residents toured the Center and learned more about how the staff provides care and shelter for animals while they wait for their new forever homes. The event also spotlighted the important work done by the many rescue groups that were in attendance.

The event was a big success, providing exposure for the Center, strengthening relationships with rescue groups and local vendors, and - most importantly - finding new loving homes for the animals. Sixteen animals were adopted the day of the event and eight were adopted the following day.





Looking for Love?
Check out www.RCPets.info and fall in love with one of the many wonderful animals featured!



NEW ANIMAL CENTER HOURS ADD CONVENIENCE



The Animal Care & Adoption Center adjusted its business hours in September in order to make it more accessible and convenient for the public and working families. On weekdays, the Center is now open until 8 p.m., while on weekends the Center is open until 6 p.m. The extended evening hours are convenient for working families wanting to adopt a pet, looking for their lost pet, or handle other pet-related business such as renewing a license.

Judging by the steady stream of “walk-in” traffic, the extended evening hours have proven to be popular with the community. Center hours are 1 p.m. to 8 p.m. Monday - Friday and 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. The Center’s new business hours will continue for a limited time.

Rancho Cucamonga Animal Care & Adoption Center: 11780 Arrow Route, at the Rancho Cucamonga Adult Sports Complex, (909) 466-PETS (7387) www.RCPets.info



IT’S “HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS” AT THE RC CENTER



Challenging accepted wisdom, the RC Animal Center hopes to spread holiday cheer by uniting pets with their new families this holiday season. The RC Animal Center staff will be encouraging pet adoptions between Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Bucking traditional thought that animals should not be given as gifts, the RC Animal Center joins a growing consensus that the holiday season - with kids on school vacation and families spending more time together - is the perfect time to adopt a new member of the family. Since parents will persist in giving pets as gifts, center staff can at least ensure that the gift will be a good match. “So many children want a pet as a holiday gift, we’d rather they adopt from us rather than buying from a pet store,” explained Center Manager Jen Woodard, “that way we can ensure a quality match, promote spay/neuters, and provide counseling that will minimize returns.”

Be sure to regularly visit the RCPets website at www.RCPets.info for more information on the “Home for the Holidays” program.



HOLIDAY PET SAFETY TIPS

Here are some tips for keeping pets safe during the holidays:

Give your dog a bone? While it may be tempting to slip your dog a bone from the Thanksgiving turkey, a bone splinter may be ingested and become lodged inside the pet’s digestive tract and cause damage.

Do not feed your pets human food. Many holiday foods, including fatty meats, gravies, poultry skins, chocolate and alcohol may cause illnesses, from vomiting and diarrhea to highly serious pancreatitis and other toxic reactions.

Many holiday plants can lead to health problems in dogs and cats. Among the plants to keep out of reach are holly, mistletoe, poinsettias, and lilies.

Pets, particularly cats, can be tempted to eat tinsel, which can block the intestines. Hang tinsel high and securely keep it out of reach of pets.

The holiday season can be stressful on pets too! Reduce stress by keeping feeding and exercise on a regular schedule.

