

PIMA COUNTY ANIMAL CARE newsletter

APRIL 2014 • ISSUE 108

Say Hello to the Cone Heads

Thanks to your support of our special-needs pets, we're seeing a lot more happy cone heads like Bella around our shelter!

This 5-month-old Lab mix puppy came to us after she was hit by a car. Her pelvis was fractured and her leg was broken in two places.

Our shelter vet and her team sprung into action to treat Bella's pain, amputate her leg and give her the second chance she deserves. She recovered in foster care and was adopted by a loving family who named her Darla.

Thanks to your support, you can expect to see a lot more pets like her at Pima Animal Care.

Make a tax-deductible gift to our medical fund, and your donation will help cover the life-saving supplies, medicine and care that pets like Bella need: <http://bit.ly/HelpPimaPets>



CALLING ALL ARTISTS!

Pima Animal Care Center is issuing a call to artists for our "Mews and InsPAWrations" Silent Art Auction designed to help us achieve our goal of saving 5,000 animals between June 1 and August 31.

You don't have to make a living at art to contribute a piece to our show, taking place on July 19.

If you know your way around a welding torch or if you can throw a pot, create intriguing paintings, or string striking jewelry, then we would love your support. Art doesn't have to be pet-themed, and your donation is tax deductible.

Proceeds will go directly to support the pets at Pima Animal Care Center, which is the County's only open-admission shelter, tak-

ing in roughly 24,000 animals last fiscal year. We're saving more than ever before, but we need the community's help. Part of the equation is drawing new groups to our adoption center. Art is one way to inspire that kind of engagement.

If you can help, we'd love to hear from you. Please contact Development Director Karen Hollish at karen.hollish@pima.gov at 243-5984.



"Building a better community for people and pets!"



4000 North Silverbell Road • Tucson AZ 85745 • 520-243-5900 • www.pima.gov/animalcare

FRIENDS OF THE FURRY



Pets Respond to a Loving Touch.

It's something pets in a shelter miss very much – or sadly, have never experienced.

That need is being addressed through the H.E.A.R.T. program – Healing Every Animal with Reiki Tucson – which launched in March, after months of careful planning.

Felice DiAnna and her husband, Larry Franks, have for many years been practicing Reiki, a form of natural healing that channels energy to help with physical and emotional well-being. It is not intended to replace traditional western medicine and is not grounded in religious beliefs, but many people find it helpful in restoring balance.

And when Shelter Manager Jose Ocaño expressed an interest in using the therapy on the pets waiting for adoption, they were thrilled to marry their love for animals with their interest in the discipline.

They, with the help of two other Reiki practitioners, have held four Sunday sessions to date, focusing on animals referred to them by volunteers and shelter staff.

“While it's still early, and the population sample is small, Reiki not only promotes wellness within the pets but it also appears that it helps them find their forever homes,” Felice said.

The duo plan this month to begin training a cadre of volunteers to help. Classes will be offered only to official shelter volunteers, since the practice may require sitting in kennels with the pets.

Given space limitations, interested volunteers are encouraged to sign up early. Anyone interested in participating or wanting to find out more should email Felice@ATimeofHealing.com.

“Ultimately,” Larry explained, “the time spent treating the pets with Reiki will make them even more lovable and adoptable.”

RECOGNIZING LOCAL CITIZENS WHO HELP OUR ANIMALS!



Vote coming on new facility

Voters will have an opportunity to weigh in this November on whether to support significant upgrades to the County's aging animal shelter.

The unanimous vote by the Pima County Board of Supervisors came just weeks after the opening of a new tent, designed to temporarily provide relief for chronic overcrowding of the facility, which cared for nearly 24,000 pets last fiscal year.

While the live release rate has increased from 55 percent two years ago to 78 percent this fiscal year to date, it also means the Center is keeping more animals in the shelter and keeping them longer while they wait for new homes.

The proposed \$22 million in facility and medical improvements would help Pima Animal Care achieve industry best practices. It would cost about \$4 annually for the homeowner of a house at the median value of about \$150,000.

For more information about the coming election, visit our bond information page at: www.pima.gov

We're looking for foster homes for PACC animals

Foster care programs are crucial in helping homeless pets have another chance at finding home.

By nursing pets that are still too young to go up for adoption or that are recovering from illness or injury, foster homes help those pets become stronger and more adoptable.

Now that Pima Animal Care Center has a dedicated shelter veterinarian who can serve as a resource for foster volunteers, we are launching our first foster program.

We are seeking pet lovers to help us provide care.

Why should you consider fostering? It's a great way to get your temporary “fur fix” without having the long-term commitment of owning a pet. And you're actually helping multiple animals, since caring for an animal outside of the shelter frees up more space inside the shelter for another pet.

The program is flexible. Your schedule and your lifestyle will help us determine which pets are right for you. We have everything from orphaned bitties to seniors, nursing mothers and pets recovering from surgery. We can find a pet that will work with your household. Call Justin Gallick at 243-5929 for more information.

And if fostering isn't right for you, but you'd still like to help, we'd be would be incredibly grateful for donations of milk replacer, puppy and kitten kibble, and pâté-style canned food for our young pets in foster care. Check out our Amazon Wish List for needed items. <http://bit.ly/ShopForPACCPets>



You Can Help Comfort a Shelter Pet

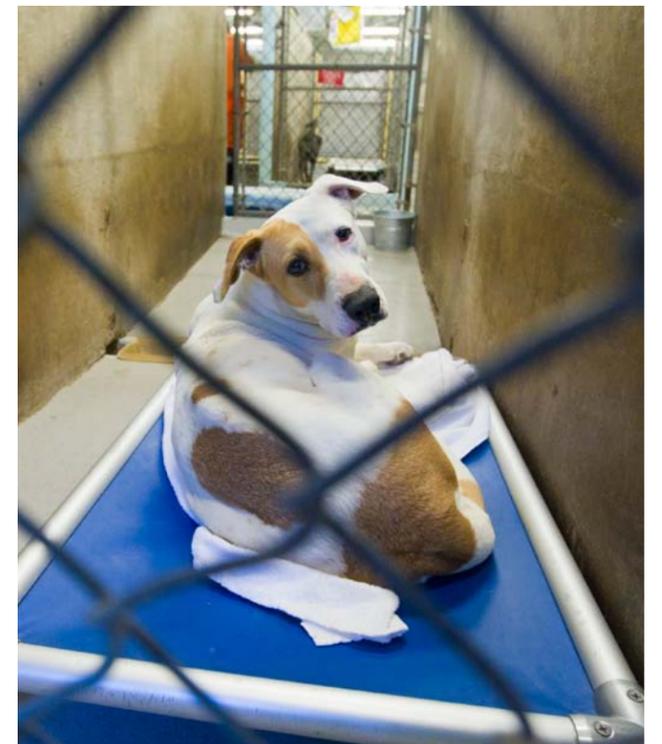
Shelter life can be scary for displaced dogs and cats, but our new shelter veterinarian, Dr. Jen Wilcox, says there are natural products available to help our homeless pets cope with the stress.

Please consider visiting our Amazon Wish List to donate Adaptil dog-appeasing pheromone (DAP) collars, diffusers and refills for our pooches, or Feliway diffusers and refills for our cats.

These products use natural pheromones to make dogs and cats feel safe, and Dr. Wilcox says we greatly need them to reduce stress in our temporary residents.

Our dogs and cats will thank you! Go here to send these much-needed supplies right to our shelter:

<http://bit.ly/ShopForPACCPets>





Ruff Runners!

Enthusiastic woofs of approval to the Tucson Ruff Runners, proving at their inaugural run in late March that running buddies can absolutely come on four legs!

Learn how you can get involved with Ruff Runners at:

<http://bit.ly/RuffRunners>

Photo by Nicole Michael



April Adoption Events

April 5 La Encantada,
10 a.m. until 3 p.m.

April 12, Petco,
22nd & Harrison,
10 a.m. until 3 p.m.

April 19,
PetSmart, Oro Valley,
10 a.m. until 3 p.m.

April 19,
Pima County Fair,
10 a.m. until 4 p.m.

April 26,
Ace Hardware, Oro Valley,
10 a.m. until 3 p.m.

Find us on Facebook!

<http://www.facebook.com/pimaanimalcare>



The Shelter Challenge is Coming!

Pima Animal Care Center is jazzed about the ASPCA Rachael Ray #100KChallenge and our chance to compete to find forever homes for even more of our pets. We've set our goal at 5,000 from June 1 through Aug. 31 and even though we couldn't fit each of you in the picture, your support is going to be essential if we're going to rock this challenge and make a big difference for our pets, like Wishbone here, appropriately front and center.

Thanks for all you're doing! *Counting down to June 1...*

What does 'open admission' mean?

You may have heard that Pima Animal Care Center is our county's only open-admission shelter. This means we take in every lost, injured and unwanted pet who comes to our doors, regardless of whether the person bringing the pet to us can pay a fee.

We don't turn away any of our community's homeless pets, and thanks to your support, we're saving more of their lives than ever before!

How many animals does Pima Animal Care Center take in each year?

The number of pets who come through our doors is staggering—nearly 24,000 last year!

How can I help?

You can volunteer to walk dogs, cuddle cats or help in one of our busy offices. You can follow us on **Facebook**, and ask your friends to like us, too. You can donate funds to help us save more at-risk pets, or you can donate supplies that will go directly to the pets in our care. Learn about the ways you can donate on www.pima.gov/animalcare, or call our Development Office at 243-5984.