



SAFE HAVEN ANIMAL SANCTUARY

paw print NEWS

SUMMER 2013

ADOPT! ADOPT! ADOPT!

Once you decide to adopt a dog from Safe Haven, your first task is to find the right dog. This is going to take time on your part, and should begin before you even set foot in the sanctuary. Not every dog is a match for every human family. Decide what size dog you would like. Study the different breeds so when you get to the shelter you have a general idea of what a wide variety of breeds are like. There are two main things you should look for: the dog's energy level and the dog's dominance level. By studying a wide variety of breeds before you get to Safe Haven you should be able to make a more educated guess as to what type of dog will work for you.

For example, if you see a Rhodesian Ridgeback mix and you studied up on this breed you will know that it will be high energy and needs a more dominant owner. You should choose a dog with the same or lower energy level than your own. You also need to take a serious look at your family's personality. Are you the laid-back, not very active type or are you more authority-driven and active? If your family is passive, a dominant dog would be a horrible match for you. If your family is more assertive and can easily provide structure you may be able to handle a more dominant type. If you are a laid-back, like to watch TV type of family then choosing a very high energy dog that needs to go on daily jogs would not be a good match for you.

After you have a good general idea of what types of dog will work for you and everyone in the house is in agreement about adopting a dog, it is time to start looking for the right match. Do not think that you need to come home with a dog on the first day. If you choose poorly and bring home a dog that does not match your family you may hurt the dog you are trying to save more than you are helping it. This is why we do not encourage impulse adoptions. The staff and adoption counselors at Safe Haven are trained to help you find the right match.

The key to success at Safe Haven is having a good, healthy turnover of pets. The more animals placed in adoption, the more space we create to take in those pets still awaiting a new home. We have a healthy number of dogs and cats who are still awaiting a new forever home.



Champ's Family

Happily Ever After Champ

In March 2012, we adopted a German Shepherd dog named Champ from Safe Haven. Jeff, the sanctuary manager, called Champ "The Gentle Giant." He and our daughter are best buddies and partners in crime. Champ taught her how to open doors so they could get treats out of the pantry. He helped her dig a hole in the backyard. Champ and she eat together, and if he fit in her toddler bed they would sleep together. Champ is also very protective of her. If you aren't on his approved list you don't get near our daughter.

My husband and I often wonder why Champ was at Safe Haven for so long; perhaps he was waiting for us. We are most grateful for his presence in our family, but we can't imagine how Champ wasn't adopted sooner. He really is a Gentle Giant, who is the perfect gentleman with our senior dog and the perfect friend for our daughter. We really must thank Jeff and all the volunteers for helping us bring Champ into our lives and home. Thanks to everyone who makes Safe Haven possible.

News from the Storefront

People who walk in the store for the first time are always amazed. From the warm and friendly greeting from the volunteers and staff, to the quality items so well displayed, it is soon apparent that this is not your run-of-the-mill thrift store. Just the other day we received Royal Doulton china pieces, Noritake dinner service, Stuart Irish crystal, a huge collection of stamps, and so much more.

This year's cool spring seems to have contributed to the procrastination of the annual spring cleaning ritual. Items are now starting to come into the store in greater numbers and furniture pickups have increased. We are still very much in need of quality pieces and working appliances. We will pick up these larger items if you call us.

Come by and browse and don't forget to tell your friends. Money raised from sales goes to support our animal family at the sanctuary.

From the Director

This spring has presented many challenges for the sanctuary and staff. An over-proliferation of unwanted cats, kittens and dogs and their puppies put a strain on the resources that we have available. Once again, the failure to spay and neuter pets results in a large number of calls to Safe Haven to take in these pets whose owners or life savers do not want them to be euthanized. With a maximum capacity for 40 cats and 45 dogs, we were filled up in no time. To compound the problem, adoptions during the first part of this year have been slow, resulting in minimal space opening up for the intake of new pets.

Safe Haven, being a "no kill" limited admission facility, can only accept animals based on space availability. We look for pets that are adoptable and do not, for the most part, accept pets deemed aggressive, feral or in poor health. Surrender of a pet by its owner must be pre-coordinated by telephone. Adopters go through a screening process and once an application has been reviewed and accepted, the new adopter is required to sign an agreement. As a result of these careful adoption procedures, very few pets are returned to the

sanctuary and many end up in wonderful, loving homes.

Veterinary testing is done on all incoming pets to make sure they are healthy. Once assimilated into the Safe Haven family, they receive ongoing veterinary care and a high quality diet. As a result, we have happy and healthy animals at the sanctuary ready for a new home. Adoption counselors and volunteers are at Pet Smart the first three Saturdays of each month from 11 a.m.–3 p.m. with adoptable pets. Anyone wanting to visit the sanctuary can make an appointment by calling 575-805-5338.

The operating budget for the sanctuary is supported by revenues from the sale of items at the thrift store on El Paseo Road. We know you will keep that in mind when you are recycling your gently used items. When you are looking for that piece of crystal, good book to read, seasonal items, pottery for the garden, or whatever you might be in need of, you can most likely find it at the Safe Haven thrift store. You will be amazed at the beautiful items we receive.

—Lorna Harris, Executive Director

Save the Date!

The Safe Haven Annual Open House and Adoption Event is scheduled for Sunday, October 6th from 12 – 4 p.m. Please mark your calendars and come out to visit your sanctuary and the animals. We'll have complimentary food and refreshments for you and volunteers will be giving tours. Our pets love company so gather up friends and family, take a short drive, and enjoy a Sunday afternoon with us.



Supporters of Safe Haven

In Remembrance

In May of this year, Safe Haven lost a founder and lifetime supporter, Bob Hammel. Bob, along with the late Artie Ford, played a key role in forming the Safe Haven Animal Sanctuary here in Las Cruces. Through Bob's organizational skills and diligence over the years we are grateful to have the wonderful facility and thrift store that we have today. Bob's widow, Caryl, has been a long time volunteer cashier at the store. We remember Bob fondly and are very grateful to have had people of his caliber involved in this organization. The organization is grateful to have received memorial contributions in honor of Bob's life.

Fundraiser for Safe Haven a Great Success

For the third consecutive year, Safe Haven held their annual fundraiser, "Wineing for the Animals". On a rare Thursday evening in April, when the wind did not blow, a little over 100 people gathered at the Amaro Winery for an evening of great food, good music and to sample some fabulous wines with friends.

We wish to thank our community supporters who donated items for the silent auction and others who contributed to the overall success of the event. The volunteers who helped pull the evening together deserve a huge thanks. Safe Haven was fortunate to net \$4,900 from the evening.



Board of Directors

President Carol Mellen
 Vice President Lynn Ellins
 Secretary Susan Mitchell
 Treasurer Sharon Hartford

Directors Robin Hutchins, Jennifer Goude, David Zeemont
 Executive Director Lorna Harris
 Sanctuary Manager Jeff Barker
 Thrift Store Manager Ismael Lujan
 Website Administrator Dorian Rudin

Volunteer Coordinator:

Sanctuary – Michelle Shawala mikey195200@yahoo.com

Thrift Store – Stephanie Roberto nevaehfr@gmail.com

Seeking Board Members

Safe Haven is actively seeking two qualified board member candidates. If you, or someone you know, can dedicate a few hours each month to serving, please contact the Executive Director and we will send you a board application form with more information.

Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of the month at 5:30 p.m. and usually last about one and a half hours. If you can bring a professional skill to the table that will contribute to the financial health and overall wellbeing of a terrific organization, we would love to have you join the team.

Featured Pets

Chance – Now talk about cats having nine lives! This little guy survived dodging traffic on Hwy. 70 during morning rush hour, but not quite all of the vehicles. He was hit by a car and rescued by our sanctuary manager and staff from Jornada Veterinary Clinic, who happened to be watching the whole drama unfold. With nothing broken and surgery to repair an existing hernia on his back, which was thought to be caused by a dog attack, Chance, shown here with volunteer, Wendy Baldwin, is now at the Sanctuary recovering. He has a wonderful spirit and is such a friendly little dog. Once he is fully recovered, this sweet little guy will be ready for adoption into a new home.



Baby Girl – Born in 2012, this Maine Coon mix kitty is an outstanding cat. She loves people and gets along well with other cats and children. She gets plenty of TLC from our staff and volunteers, so Ms. Baby expects the world to be filled with cat lovers and knows that one of them will provide her with the purr-fect forever home.



COMMUNITY PARTNERS

- Pet Smart, 2200 E. Lohman Avenue, Las Cruces
- East Lohman Veterinary Clinic
- Jornada Veterinary Clinic
- Denise Cooper, CPA, 1155 Commerce Drive, Las Cruces
- Target, Las Cruces
- San Saba Pecans, W. Amador, Las Cruces
- Central Bark Grooming service
- A Dayley Grooming
- Tractor Supply Store
- Gonzales Nursery
- WalMart, Valley Drive

WISH LIST

- Canned Friskies Pate' cat food
- Meow Mix Dry cat food
- Clumping kitty litter
- Exceed Chicken/Rice dry dog food (Sam's Club)
- Sam's Club gift certificates
- HP 564XL or HP 60 Black Ink Cartridges
- Copy paper
- Laundry detergent & Clorox Wipes
- Cat beds with covers
- Easy walk harnesses for dogs
- Large Leaf Bags 44 gall.
- Puppy Pools from Pet Smart
- Bleach & Paper Towels
- Pedigree or Alpo Canned dog food
- Milk Bones

Volunteer opportunities for you

Yes, it's hot and getting hotter and so much nicer just to stay under the air conditioner. However, our dogs do not have that luxury. They rely on a splash in a kiddie pool to cool them off. They would sure welcome a nice early morning walk and play in the park or someone just to sit and visit with them. The cats fair better than the dogs, having an air conditioned building, but they too, welcome social visits and grooming. They will thank you with rubs, purrs and meows.

Each summer we lose a number of volunteers to graduations and vacations, this puts a lot of stress on our sanctuary management and remaining volunteers who have to care for over 80+ animals each day. If you, or someone you know, would like to come out and spend time with the dogs and cats of Safe Haven, just go on line and fill out or download a volunteer application. We don't mind if you come every day or once a week or just when you feel like it. So, take a look at your schedule and try to squeeze a visit to the sanctuary in there somewhere, we know you will be well rewarded.

Safe Haven Animal Sanctuary

840-D El Paseo
Las Cruces, NM 88001



HOURS

Office:

Mon-Friday – 8 am-1 pm

Thrift Shop:

Monday-Saturday – 8 am to 5 pm

Sunday – 11 am to 4 pm

Sanctuary:

Tue-Sunday – 10 am-5 pm and by appointment any other time

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

General Info 575-527-4544

Thrift Shop 575-541-4942

Sanctuary 575-805-5338

CONTACT INFORMATION

E-Mail: safehaven@nightfury.com

Website: <http://www.shaspets.com/>

Sanctuary E-mail: safehaven.pets@yahoo.com

Please Donate!



I want to help care for animals at our beautiful “no kill” Safe Haven Animal Sanctuary.

\$25 _____ \$50 _____ \$100 _____ Other _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Your donations to SHAS are tax deductible. Please make your checks payable to:
Safe Haven • 840-D El Paseo • Las Cruces NM 88001, or visit the PayPal link on our website. **Thank you!**