



SAFE HAVEN ANIMAL SANCTUARY

paw print NEWS

FALL 2012

Safe Haven Celebrates Annual Open House

On a warm, sunny day in September, supporters of Safe Haven and new friends joined volunteers at the sanctuary for an afternoon of fun, furry friends and free food. People who had not visited Safe Haven in many a year were highly impressed with the positive changes made throughout. People came out to meet the resident felines in their newly remodeled exterior cattery playground and were greeted with purrs and rubs.

The dogs behaved well amidst so many new faces. From their enclosures the canines weighed up their human counterparts peering in at them, assessing their potential as new owners. Much to everyone's delight, one cat and three dogs were adopted that afternoon.

You should be very proud of the sanctuary and the mission it accomplishes as the only "no kill" shelter in all of Doña Ana County. Your support allows us to continue the work we do on behalf of the animals in our community.



Glenna Poet and Nancy Schleuter.



Waiting for visitors.



Enjoying good company and good food.

Volunteer Opportunities for You

We know you are out there. You're an animal lover, student, workplace employee, retired person. Someone who likes to make a difference and someone who has a couple of hours occasionally to contribute to either the Sanctuary or the Thrift Store. Tasks are many and varied and can include cattery work which involves grooming and cleaning, dog socializing and pen cleaning, light maintenance work, gardening, Visitors' Center clean up, working at off-site adoption events weekly, and much more. Volunteers are the backbone of your organization and are instrumental in keeping things running smoothly.

If you can only commit to a few hours once in awhile, there is the Fundraising Committee, occasional booth staffing at local venues, helping with office work, making flyers and brochures on the computer. The Thrift Store is in need of help as we receive a great deal of merchandise on a daily basis. We can use help with receiving, sorting, pricing, merchandising the goods on the store floor, cashiering, bookstore help. So much to do!

If you think you might be able to help the organization as a volunteer, do visit our website and click on the Volunteer link. There you will find an application to complete. We always try to match people with what they enjoy doing. Plus, you need to have fun while volunteering so bring a friend along with you or make a new one on your first day.

GO GREEN By choosing to receive this newsletter via email instead of a printed version, you will not only be helping Safe Haven save postage but will contribute to a healthy environment. Notify us at shaspets@yahoo.com if you wish to go green.

News From the Storefront

We have earned bragging rights when it comes to the Thrift Store. Our customers tell us that it is the nicest thrift in Las Cruces – and we agree!

Under the management of Ismael Lujan and his team of assistants and wonderful volunteers, we have grown your store into a fine establishment. Proceeds from the sales at the store support the major portion of the operating budget for the sanctuary. This year we added a TV monitor on which we show rotating photographs from the sanctuary. We have put an emphasis on the animals at the sanctuary in order to make sure the shoppers know where their money is going.

Thanks to your support, we recently added another 600 square feet of space to the store. This will be primarily used for furniture. Please keep us in mind when you are looking for a home for that gently used couch, chair, or other household item and don't forget that we now pick up large items.

IF ANYTHING HAPPENED TO YOU, what would happen to me?

Thousands of companion animals are surrendered to animal shelters due to the death or disability of the pet owners who had cared for them. Many healthy, adoptable pets are euthanized simply because the pet owners did not plan for the possibility that their pets might outlive them.

There are a number of things pet owners can do to ensure that, if something happens to them, their pets will be cared for. Owners should identify caregivers who can care for their pets, maintain written care instructions, and set up a finance plan or set aside a fund to cover the care of their pets.

Step 1 – Identify Caregivers

Identify people who could step in to take short term care of your pets in the hours, days or weeks after an emergency, or who would adopt your pets should you die or become incapacitated. If you cannot find friends, relatives, or neighbors to care for your pets, your veterinarian and local pet sitters might be able to help you locate potential caregivers. Safe Haven Animal Sanctuary can also be contacted as a place for your pet to go to.

Step 2 – Prepare written instructions outlining how your pets should be cared for

How do you want your pets to live - in another household or in a sanctuary? What kind

of special care do your pets require? Do you want your pets to stay together? To make sure that your wishes are followed, your instructions must be written down and someone must know where to find them.

Step 3 – Set up a fund specifically for the care of your pets

You currently pay for food, shelter, supplies and medical care for your pets. Those expenses will not stop, even if you aren't here to pay them. You may want to set aside funds for temporary or foster care, transportation to a new home and the ongoing care of your pets.

Safe Haven has limited capacity and intake is based upon available space. If you decide that Safe Haven is your place of choice for your pets, plan a visit to the sanctuary and verify your decision. Safe Haven's mission is to adopt healthy animals into new homes so keep that in mind also as you make your decision. Additionally, consider engaging an attorney to finalize any arrangements you make. It will take a little leg work, but it will be comforting to know that you can provide for your beloved pets if and when you are no longer around.

A form for you to record your Pet Information is available upon request by emailing shaspets@yahoo.com or by calling 527-4544.

Safe Haven Receives Rotarian Grant

Recently Safe Haven was awarded a \$2,000 grant from the Mesilla Valley Rotary Club. This grant was made for the purchase of much-needed shade trees at the Sanctuary. We were able to purchase 9 trees and supplies, including installation, with the money. The trees will provide shade to those dog pens that receive the most summer sun.

Rotarians Bernadine Dallago (left) and Denise Cooper (right) were on hand at the sanctuary Clean Up Day to help spruce up the facilities in anticipation of the Open House. Safe Haven is very grateful for this support by the Rotarians.



Paw News from the Director

Animal overpopulation in Doña Ana County is a situation that is constantly in need of being brought under control. With the Animal Services Center always over capacity - they see a euthanasia rate of over 50% - and with Safe Haven constantly at capacity and turning numerous animals away every day, dealing with this situation is a challenge. In an effort to reduce these numbers the Coalition for Pets & People (CFPP) has formed, with a goal of "Zero in Seven". This translates to zero euthanasias by 2019.

The group is comprised of representatives from all animal organizations in the area, including Safe Haven. There is a core council and a number of committees that deal with varying areas of concern. The group has received funding of \$48,000 under a Doña Ana County contract, which will get the effort started. One focus is on Animal Control officers in the field being able to waive citations in return for the owner having their pet neutered, free of charge, and showing proof of same. A building is being sought in which to perform free and low-cost animal sterilization. Micro-chip scanners for Animal Control officers in the Sunland Park area are also under consideration. A marketing committee is taking shape and will work on publicity for the group. It is an admirable and challenging effort but one that is surely needed.

There are a number of cities in the nation that have had outstanding results in reducing pet over-population and it is hoped that the Coalition will incorporate some of those practices as they might pertain to this area. It would be gratifying indeed to see the overpopulation situation brought under control in the not too distant future.

Safe Haven continues to promote adoptions and awareness of the sanctuary facility and is actively seeking volunteer foster families to reduce some of the burden of in-take. Be sure to mention Safe Haven to your family, friends and neighbors. There are Safe Haven bumper stickers available at the store and the sanctuary if you would like to support us by placing one on your vehicle.

—Lorna Harris, Executive Director



These adorable cockapoo puppies were brought to Safe Haven when barely four weeks old. Their mother died suddenly and the owner was unable to give them the constant care they needed. They are commanding lots of attention and after much TLC from your staff, they are thriving and will be ready for adoption before the holidays.

Wish List

- ProForce disinfectant from Sam's Club
- Pedialite – unflavored
- Canned cat food
- Dry cat food
- Clumping kitty litter
- Clorox wipes
- Exceed dry dog food from Sam's Club
- Sam's Club gift certificates
- HP 564XL or HP 60 Black Ink Cartridges
- Copy paper
- Laundry detergent
- Frontline Plus Flea and Tick products
- Wire Dog Crates – Large
- Landscaping services and plants
- Shade Trees
- Paving stones
- Chicken wire
- Plastic Coat hangers
- Skirt Hangers
- Cat beds with covers
- Easy walk harnesses for dogs
- Paper Towels
- Large Leaf Bags
- Blankets

Join us on Facebook

SHAS has a new Facebook page! We plan to keep you up-to-date on the latest news such as adoption events, animals that need homes, special requests for donations and more! Please join the community and use this page as an opportunity to share news and resources, plus networking with fellow animal lovers and SHAS volunteers.

Safe Haven Website

Check out our website for all that's new at Safe Haven – www.safehavenanimalsanctuary.net. Here you'll find a new home page "Happily Ever After", featuring stories of pets and their new families. If you would like to share a story and photo of a pet you've adopted from SHAS, send it to shaspets@yahoo.com and we'll post it for you.

Bridget Burris, DDS, DICOI
Jared Wallis, DDS

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DID YOU KNOW?

Cancer Study in Dogs May Benefit Humans

An innovative cancer treatment process is improving the survival rates for dogs with cancer. The American Kennel Club Canine Health Foundation funded a ground-breaking study using expanded T-cells to help extend the lives of dogs that have lymphoma cancer, the most common canine cancer.

The research is being performed by a team of scientists at Texas A&M and the University of Texas MD Anderson Children's Cancer Hospital in Houston. A blood sample is drawn from a dog who has cancer. The white cells (T-cells), which are critical to fight infection and control cancer, are expanded and infused back into the same dog after chemotherapy treatment to help rebuild the dog's immune system. The hypothesis of the study was that the infused cells would wipe out any remaining cancer cells not eliminated during typical chemotherapy treatments. The early results are encouraging.

Dogs are genetically closer to humans than humans are to mice. Cancer in dogs develops in a similar way to human cancers. Given the promising results of this treatment with dogs, a similar trial in immunotherapy process is currently in clinical trials to help treat human cancer patients at MD Anderson Children's Cancer Hospital.

The U.S. Food & Drug Administration has approved using T-cell immunotherapy to treat humans for lymphoma. New trials stemming from this research are forthcoming.

For more information on the AKC CANINE Health Foundation check at www.akchf.org.

Adopting the Neediest

Laying out the welcome mat for unpopular pets – from the black cat to the blind dog – can be the start of a perfect relationship.



River is not a pretty kitty in the traditional sense. Found as a stray and brought to the sanctuary as a scrawny gray shorthair, she had suffered a few injuries that left her with a crooked ear and a forlorn expression on her face. Despite her appearance, she is an affectionate cat and will make a great companion to someone not focused on good looks but more on her gentle nature.



Rusty, a senior poodle who, in his old age, has become deaf, does fine with hand signals and has a great personality. We worry about him being in an outdoor pen during the cold winter nights. He is a happy old chap who also happens to be house-trained and gets along with other dogs and cats.



Loopy was surrendered as the only surviving kitten from a litter whose Momma had feline distemper. After some testing it was discovered that she suffers from a condition called Cerebellar Hypoplasia. This leaves her with some jerky movements and an inability to walk. She is undergoing physical therapy and has already shown very small or modest improvement in her ability to coordinate her movements. Loopy will be available for adoption

after her spay procedure but will need additional physical therapy to be administered in the home by the family.

"So many wonderful pets in need of homes are passed over because of stereotypes, myths and misinformation," says Jeff Barker, sanctuary manager. "People think they need a special skill set to take care of a deaf or blind pet, or, let's say, a pet with a missing limb, but pets like these oftentimes compensate so well, you forget their handicaps".

There is still this vast subset of animals perceived as unadoptable. Pitbull type dogs, FIV positive cats, pets with black fur, deaf animals, senior animals – they are far too frequently overlooked. Safe Haven believes that every animal deserves a forever home. Some pets require that leap of faith that requires you to look beyond appearances. All are craving your love and that makes you more special for adopting them.

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Board of Directors

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Executive Director	Lorna Harris
Sanctuary Manager	Jeff Barker
Thrift Store Manager.....	Ismael Lujan
Website Administrator	Dorian Rudin
Volunteer Coordinator	
Sanctuary – Wendy Baldwin	preciouspaws6@yahoo.com

Seeking Board Members

Safe Haven is actively seeking 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 two 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.

Membership Meeting

The Annual Membership meeting for Safe Haven was held on January 25th at the Branigan Memorial Library. A small group of people were present. Accomplishments for 2011 were highlighted and the Strategic Plan for 2012 was presented and discussed and also the Budget for the current year was approved. There were no board positions up for election this year and the current board and its officers stays the same.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

- PetCo, 3050 E. Lohman Avenue, Las Cruces
- Pet Smart, 2200 E. Lohman Avenue, Las Cruces
- Animal Hospital of Las Cruces
- 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

Happily Ever After.....

Safe Haven is always thrilled when one of your pets is adopted into a new, loving, forever home. Some stay with us just a short time, while others are with us for many months and sometimes years. It is always special to hear how the pet is adjusting in a new home. Recently, one of our dogs was adopted and we heard from her family.

"A few months ago I adopted a boxer mix puppy named Sydney from Safe Haven and I wanted to send you all a photo of her. She is such a wonderful puppy and continues to make me giggle! Her favorite things are to sunbathe in the backyard lawn, go for hikes, and play at the river! Thank you all so much for starting this girl out on the right foot. She has been such a joy."

May Sydney continue to bring and enjoy many years of happiness to her new owners.



*Your dream is to buy or sell a home,
My job is your dream.*

Jennifer Goude
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Compliments of

**Lynn Ellins,
Dona Ana County Clerk
and Safe Haven board
member**

Safe Haven Animal Sanctuary

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HOURS

Office:

Mon-Friday – 8 am-1 pm

Thrift Shop:

Monday-Friday – 9 am to 5 pm

Saturday – 9 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: www.SafeHavenAnimalSanctuary.net

Sanctuary E-mail: shas.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!**