Mardi Paws
Help Pets in Need at the 15th Annual

Walk for Animals

Saturday, May 2, 2009
Crown Point Shores, Mission Bay

San Diego Humane Society and SPCA

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PETCO
Ralphs
THE WALKING COMPANY
PETCO FOUNDATION
MEMORIAL BLO ODL DRIVE HONORS
Bandit the Biker Dog

Mark Shaffer continues to assist and support fund-raising events throughout San Diego in memory of his pal "Bandit the Biker Dog." Mark lost his best friend Bandit to a brain tumor in December. Mark especially enjoys giving his time to events that support local Humane Societies and animal shelters, Children’s Hospitals and bringing joy to those precious children along with visiting the people at the San Diego Hospice.

Joan Laisney is a woman on a mission to bring comfort and kindness — and soft, cozy beds — to thousands of animals awaiting new “forever” homes in the county’s shelters and rescue foster homes.

The Carlsbad resident, who loves both animals and sewing and is the parent of two rescue cats and a “knucklehead” black Lab, initially set out to repair the cat and dog beds at the North County shelter operated by the County of San Diego Department of Animal Services.

She quickly discovered that it was quicker, easier and cheaper to make soft, sturdy new beds from donated materials. After site visits to assess their needs, she realized that all of the county’s shelters and rescue groups, generally run on a shoestring by dedicated volunteers, needed comfortable animal beds.

So many homeless animals, she observed, had only worn-out beds or hard, cold concrete to sleep on. A comfortable bed, Laisney explains, relieves stress for the displaced animals in overcrowded shelters.

“It also makes them look better and calms them down and makes them easier to adopt,” she says.

She decided she could meet the shelters’ need for bedding and save them money they could use for the animals’ enrichment and care.

“I started asking people and fabric shops for donations of fabrics and jumped into their rummage bins,” she explains.

Both fabric stores and individuals responded generously. In the year and a half since starting Kennel Comforters Sewing Project, Laisney, along with a group of volunteers recruited through Meetup.com and Craigslist, meet monthly to sew at the North County Shelter in Carlsbad. They provided more than 1,500 beds for homeless cats and dogs awaiting adoption in shelters throughout San Diego County, from Chula Vista to Camp Pendleton and east to Escondido.

Laisney’s washable flat dog beds, circular cat beds and even ski cap-shaped beds for newly-weaned motherless kittens needing extra warmth have brought comfort to thousands of animals.

Kennel Comforters had a booth at the recent Doggie Street Festival, where Laisney demonstrated how easy it is to cut, sew and stuff animal beds. She had on hand sets of instructions for volunteers who would like to start their own projects to make beds for shelter animals. All it takes, she explains, is a pair of sharp scissors, a sewing machine and a willingness to spare a care for homeless animals.

Laisney asked visitors to the festival to bring donations of polar fleece (minimum two-thirds of a yard), bags or 10-pound boxes of polyfill stuffing material and sturdy fabric such as khaki, lightweight (not heavy) denim or upholstery fabric that she and volunteers could turn into beds. Donations of old but clean pillows are also useful.

More help is always appreciated, she explains. Interested volunteers of all ages can check Laisney’s blog at kennelcomforters.blogspot.com or Kennel Comforters’ notices on Meetup.com and Craigslist for the next meeting, email Laisney at Kennelcomforters@gmail.com or call her, (760) 815-5686.

Nothing will stop Laisney’s quest to give shelters animals snug beds.

“This has to go on forever. I’m not going to stop,” she says.
Twice a month, La Mesa resident Shirley Colman takes her dog Davy, a sweet-tempered, mellow apricot-and-white American cocker spaniel adopted from an animal shelter, to the La Mesa Branch Library for children to read to him. Davy is one of three certified pet therapy dogs who regularly visit the library to help children read.

Most of the program participants have struggled with their reading. Having a nonjudgmental pet listen while they read helps them gain confidence in their reading and language skills while they bond with companion animals. Anna Hartman, children’s librarian at the La Mesa library, explains that children often select books with dog characters in them.

“Sometimes the kids show the pictures to the dog and choose books they think the dog will like,” she says.

Colman got involved in pet therapy programs about ten years ago with her late dog Duffer, who was certified through Therapy Dogs International (TDI). She credits Duffer with easing her father’s final illness.

“We helped my father die. I saw how good he [Duffer] was with my dad and how he made him more comfortable,” she says.

Having observed firsthand the benefits and special “canine medicine” therapy dogs can bring to patients in need of comfort and children in need of encouragement to learn, she knew soon after she adopted him that Davy had the right temperament and instincts to be an effective therapy dog.

“A (therapy) dog must be friendly, must be good with every age person, from children to almost vegetative to the end-of-life person. The dog must show compassion and show it wants to help. It must outwardly behave so as to want to help the client, whatever the needs, and must also have all the basic commands down pat,” Colman explains.

While there are 13 separate organizations in San Diego County that evaluate and certify dogs and their handlers to serve as therapy dog teams, all have slightly different requirements. Colman chose TDI because she liked the flexibility it offers volunteers to select the facilities they want to visit.

When she contacted TDI to arrange for Davy’s certification, she discovered she would need to travel to Los Angeles or Orange County for a testing session because the organization had no presence in San Diego County. Instead, she arranged for TDI evaluator Mary La Crosse of Fountain Valley, Calif., to come to La Mesa for a weekend in August of 2008 to evaluate and certify 23 new canine teams. The successful dogs also received the American Kennel Club’s Canine Good Citizen temperament certification, required for dogs to work as therapy dogs.

The testing proved so successful that Colman and La Crosse agreed to conduct TDI sessions every few months in La Mesa until San Diego County has a qualified TDI evaluator to meet the demand. With so many new volunteer teams, San Diego now has a “virtual” TDI chapter linking volunteers and the many facilities requesting therapy dog visits.

Pet therapy programs, whether they “employ” dogs or small animals such as rabbits, guinea pigs and rats, as the San Diego Humane Society’s (SDHS) Pet-Assisted Therapy (P-AT) program does, are volunteer-driven and have similar goals.

“We do this because we believe in the program, whatever the organization. We’re trying to do the same thing: bring comfort, cheerfulness and happiness to people who don’t get it any other way. Animals can do what medicine cannot,” Colman says.

Judith Eisenberg, who coordinates...
SDHS’s P-AT program, agrees that the program’s volunteers are motivated by the desire to help others. P-AT volunteers take dogs and small animals into medical, convalescent and retirement facilities, as well as homeless shelters, transitional housing and specialized public school classes and libraries.

Facility staff members report that previously unresponsive patients have often reacted with a smile to a visiting pet. One pre-teen girl at a psychiatric hospital developed such a bond with a P-AT bunny that she later adopted it and was able to avoid future hospital stays.

“It doesn’t take a lot of time to make a difference in someone’s life and give them something normal. The volunteers get a lot of joy out of bringing pleasure to others. Most people we visit can’t even take care of themselves,” Eisenberg says.

For more information about TDI’s evaluation and registration programs, as well as upcoming dates, visit www.tdi-dog.org, or email tdi-lamesa@sbcglobal.net. For information about SDHS’s volunteer P-AT or to volunteer, visit www.sdhumane.org or call (619) 299-7012, ext. 2271.

Chula Vista Animal Care Center Appeals For Donations

BY NICOLE SOURS LARSON

The Chula Vista Animal Care Center, particularly hard hit by the city’s budget crisis, is appealing to the public for donations of special Kuranda pet beds, towels, blankets, toys, newspapers and food to be used to care for the shelter animals while they await adoption.

The shelter’s wish list, including specific types of food needed and a link to order discounted pet beds, is posted on its website, along with addresses for drop-off locations.

The web address is www.chulavistaca.gov/pets; click on “Angels for Animals” donation drive, or call (619) 691-5123 and leave a message.
CHULA VISTA NATURE CENTER: a snapshot of a disappearing ecosystem

If you haven’t yet visited the Chula Vista Nature Center and its collection of native Southern California animals and plants, you’re missing one of San Diego County’s hidden gems — and best-kept secrets.

Part zoo, part nature preserve, part historic site, part composting and environmental education lab, the nature center — recently vulnerable to closure because of city budget cuts — is located just off the E Street exit west of I-5 and overlooks San Diego Bay and the San Diego city skyline. To enjoy this treasure, plan to spend a couple of magical hours at a bargain price in a tranquil, art-filled oasis.

The nature center sits on 3.33 acres on Gunpowder Point next to the 316-acre Sweetwater Marsh National Wildlife Refuge, which protects one of the last remnants of rapidly disappearing Southern California coastal salt marsh wetland. This habitat supports both plants and animals native to the region, including many seen in the nature center’s aviaries, aquaria, gardens and trails.

Here you’ll encounter fresh Pacific breezes ruffling the low-growing native plants, many about to bloom, which cover the salt marsh and provide habitat to more than 200 species of birds. At the Discovery Center entrance you’ll meet green sea turtles swimming inside a glass tank, almost close enough to touch noses. Inside, children can pet sharks and rays housed inside the “petting pool” exhibit and watch staff feed sharks daily at 3 p.m.

In the outdoor aviaries you’ll be able to view nesting pairs of endangered light-footed clapper rails, the center’s mascot, as they twitter around their enclosures readying their nests for a new clutch of eggs. The clapper rails represent the center’s greatest achievement, explains Charles Gailband, who oversees the nature center’s animal collections. About 90 percent of the clapper rails’ habitat has disappeared, he says, leaving only 10 percent scattered in isolated clumps, creating genetic problems.

“We breed these birds and release them in different populations and habitats to introduce new genetic lineage and make them healthier,” Gailband says.

The center has bred and released more than 200 birds since 2001. Its success spurred the San Diego Zoo’s Wild Animal Park and SeaWorld to join the breeding program, which has helped the species recover from a low of about 400 birds in the 1980s.

Near the clapper rails’ enclosure, Gailband points out a Gadwall duck splashing and bathing in the aviary pond, flapping his wings vigorously to dry off while a blue-billed northern ruddy duck swims graceful, rippling circles and a long-billed marbled godwit and other shorebirds wade in the shallows.

1) Boo, a burrowing owl at the Chula Vista Nature Center. 2) The light-footed clapper rail in its enclosure at the Chula Vista Nature Center. 3) Hawkeye, a native redtailed hawk. 4) A resident egret searches for food in a salt marsh at the Chula Vista Nature Center.
On the far side of the walkway, Raptor Row houses aviaries for eagles, hawks and owls, none of which can be released to the wild because of disabling injuries. They sit atop their perches, watching their world pass by. Visitors can interact with staff members as they feed the golden and bald eagles at 3:30 p.m daily.

Chula Vista resident Nancy Stinebeck, a “bird crew” volunteer for 2 ½ years, first brings out Hawkeye, a red-tailed hawk, followed by Boo, a burrowing owl, on her leather-covered arm, each bird tethered to a harness.

“This is a wild animal, not a pet,” she stresses as she warns visitors to stay back and only admire the birds, never touch them.

Hawkeye, she explains, was hit by a car and suffered an eye and wing injury and cannot fly.

Only one non-native animal resides at the nature center, where he serves as a living example of why a wild animal should never be kept as a pet and why an unwanted “pet” should not be released in unfamiliar terrain to fend for himself. Verde, a docile and affectionate green iguana, offers a “teachable moment” both for adults and for thousands of school children who visit the nature center each year as part of their science curriculum, Gailband explains.

A handsome reptile native to Central and South America, he had been a pet until his caretakers decided to dump him in the nature center’s salt marsh wetland to “live on his own.” A tropical species not adapted to living in Southern California’s cold snaps or accustomed to foraging for his own food, Verde would not have survived long on his own. Now a 10-year resident of the nature center, Verde enjoys basking in the sun or under a heat lamp outside in his enclosure during cooler coastal days and spending his nights cozy and warm inside.

The Chula Vista Nature Center is open Tuesdays through Sundays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Parking is free and access to the center is via a free shuttle. Admission is $6 for adults, $5 seniors and students, $3-$4 children ages 4-17. For more information about exhibits and programs, visit the website, www.chulavistanaturecenter.org, or call (619) 409-5900.
Chula Vista Nature Center’s survival looks more promising — but needs public support

BY NICOLE SOURS LARSON

Threatened recently with closure due to of the city’s acute budget shortfall, the Chula Vista Nature Center’s prospects for survival are now looking brighter. Following public outcry over the nature center’s possible closure, Mayor Cheryl Cox convened a Nature Center Task Force to create a sustainability plan. The plan would restructure the center’s finances and operations and develop more stable funding sources not dependent on the city’s general fund for the center’s $1 million annual budget.

“As the mayor, I am committed to raising funds to offset the funds that the city can no longer provide,” she pledges.

Cox is also urging area residents to visit the center. “If everyone who lives in Chula Vista visited the nature center just once a year and paid the $6 admission, the nature center would be fully funded!” she says.

Buck Martin, Chula Vista director of recreation, oversees the center and is encouraged by the outpouring of support. He reports that in just the last few months, donors have contributed more than $600,000 to keep the center open.

Dr. Brian Joseph, who recently stepped down as chair of the Friends of the Chula Vista Nature Center, is optimistic about the center’s future and sees changes to its organizational and financial support as long overdue, with the nonprofit Friends organization playing a greater role in future finances and management.

“We’re reinventing how we think and how we do business. I can’t say enough good things about how the city, the council and the community have come together,” he says.

All involved with the center agree that its survival depends on the public’s support. They urge San Diegans to visit the nature center, shop in the gift shop, buy a family membership and then buy another as a gift — and make a tax-deductible donation through the website, www.chulavistanaturecenter.org.
Doggy Street Festival 

adoption event

POINT LOMA-Pets of all breeds and sizes are being abandoned in ever-increasing numbers due to record foreclosures, natural disasters like Hurricane Katrina and the California fires. On average, shelters have 30 percent more animals than they did this time last year.

Through her feature-length documentary film titled “Rescue Me,” which chronicles the journey of a group of dogs, some rescued, others lost or facing euthanasia, San Diego-based, award-winning filmmaker Jude Pauline Artenstein became acutely aware of this national tragedy and its impact on the local dog rescue and shelter community.

The documentary focuses on San Diego and four other cities in the U.S., and acquaints viewers with the real faces behind the numbers and the heroes who come to their rescue. In an effort to participate in positive action in her home community, Artenstein decided to organize the first annual Doggie Street Festival.

This one-day pet celebration and adoption event was held Sunday, March 1 at NTC Park in Liberty Station. More than 20 breed-specific rescue groups and local shelters attended, along with adoptable pets, in an effort to find permanent and loving homes. Among them were Helen Woodward Animal Center, San Diego Humane Society and SPCA, Labrador Rescuers, Chihuahua Rescue, FOCAS and SNAP, The Dog Squad, Beagles & Buddies and It’s the Pits.

Aussie Pet Mobile partners with Disney Entertainment

SAN DIEGO-Aussie Pet Mobile, the nation’s largest mobile pet-grooming service, has partnered with Walt Disney Studios Home Entertainment for the February 2009 Blu-ray and DVD release of the all-new movie “Space Buddies” starring Jason Earles of Disney Channel’s “Hannah Montana” and Amy Sedaris, the voice of Foxy Loxy in Disney’s “Chicken Little.”

As part of the promotion that runs through May 3, Aussie Pet Mobile will give customers a $5 mail-in rebate coupon toward the purchase of “Space Buddies” on Blu-ray or DVD.

For information, call (858) 560-5007 or visit us on the web, www.YourLocalAussiePetMobile.com/San-Diego.

Aussie Pet Mobile of San Diego provides mobile grooming services for dogs and cats throughout San Diego County. Owner Cam Schultz and her friendly crew of mobile grooming specialists have been offering full-service grooming with extra-gentle care in San Diego since 2002.

‘Iams Home 4 the Holidays’ a huge success

RANCHO SANTA FE-Approximately 1,202,751 dogs, cats and other pets woke up with their new families this morning after being adopted during the 10th annual “Iams Home 4 the Holidays” pet adoption drive. More than 3,550 animal shelters and pet rescue groups in 17 countries worldwide “joined paws” in the three-month campaign to increase adoptions, save lives and take business away from puppy mills and backyard breeders during their most lucrative time of year. The 1,202,751 adoptions far surpassed the goal of placing one million pets in their new homes by Jan. 5.

Again this year, dog and puppy adoptions overshadowed cat and kitten adoptions 49 percent to 45 percent, with the other 6 percent of pets adopted during the drive consisting of rabbits, birds, amphibians and various other exotic animals.

Dogs and Puppies 591,533
Cats and Kittens 543,569
Other Pets 67,649
Total Adoptions 1,202,751

For more information call Helen Woodward Animal Center, (858) 756-4117.
Life lessons learned
‘Soul of a Horse’

LA JOLLA-Julie Cantillon, a fifth-grade teacher in La Jolla, Calif., having no prior history with horses, began this school year with a renewed feeling new energy after reading “The Soul of a Horse: Life Lessons from the Herb.” She believes the book speaks to educators. In her own words: “I felt that ‘The Soul of a Horse’ has many parallels to my work with (human) students. I go to Warwick’s in La Jolla quite frequently, and was drawn to the book because it came highly recommended. While I was browsing, I heard a couple of employees talking about how they hadn’t even ridden a horse before but they learned several life lessons (patience, persistence, et cetera) through reading the book.

“I have to say that I was fascinated by the storytelling! I admittedly don’t know much about animals but found it refreshing that the author questioned so many assumptions — particularly when it came to working with horses. I feel this is true with teaching, too. There are many assumptions in the traditional schooling process that need to be questioned. Patience and respect are key ingredients that are often lacking in the educational process. Since I read the book over the summer, I had a renewed feeling beginning the school year. I remember having the feeling that the author was talking to a group of educators at many points in the book.”

New York Times education writer Jack L. Kennedy agrees. He says, “This warm, cleanly written and simple but powerfully drawn book is a voyage of discovery that ponders how things fit together, how we learn, why we do what we do, and how much caring and patience outweigh discipline and over-direction.”

Joe Camp, the author, is also the producer and director of all the celebrated Benji movies and programs, and the creator of the canine superstar. The author of the inspirational memoir “Benji & Me,” he has also written several children’s books. As a passionate advocate for children and animals, Camp’s mission is to revolutionize the way people think about horses and their treatment. He lives in Valley Center with his wife Kathleen and three stepchildren. They work tirelessly to care for their herd of six horses, five dogs and two cats. His powerful, life-changing experience with the first horse he ever brought home motivated him to become a champion for creating a better world for horses.


Puppies aren’t products

LOS ANGELES-As American consumers become more aware of puppy mills these days, some Los Angeles pet shops are going out of business.

The latest is Pet Love, a Beverly Hills pet retailer that for 15 years has been located in the upscale Beverly Center. The Beverly Center said it will terminate Pet Love’s lease sometime in the next few months.

Pet Love’s eviction from the Beverly Center could become part of a national trend, according to Best Friends Animal Society, a national animal-rescue organization that has been educating Los Angeles residents about puppy mills, mass commercial breeding operations that supply pet shops with inventory.

Because puppy mills flood the market with approximately 400,000 animals each year, they contribute significantly to the plight of overcrowded animal shelters in the United States, where each year approximately 5 million homeless pets are put down. In Los Angeles shelters alone, approximately 25 percent of dogs are purebred animals, many of which end up euthanized.

The Pet Love closure is the result of Best Friends Animal Society’s “A Puppy-Store-Free L.A.” campaign, launched last July at a Los Angeles news conference. The campaign includes a four-point program for Los Angeles that includes peaceful protests outside stores that sell puppies, undercover investigative work, plans to change local ordinances,
and rescuing animals from shelters for transport to other communities where they can be adopted.

**Fat stem-cell therapy successful**

SAN DIEGO—Dec. 4, 2008—Vet-Stem, the San Diego-based company using fat-derived stem-cell therapy in veterinary medicine, recently completed its second study with positive findings. The multi-center clinical trial, published in “Veterinary Therapeutics Fall 2008,” revealed that dogs treated with stem-cell therapy showed statistically significant improvement in lameness, pain and range of motion for elbow injuries.

“This study reinforces the importance of our work — we are making tomorrow’s medicine a reality today,” says Vet-Stem CEO Robert Harman. “We have seen over a thousand dogs benefit from the Vet-Stem regenerative cell therapy, and we are elated the results of this scientific study confirm such success.”

Vet-Stem regenerative cell therapy, which has been used on horses since 2002, was launched for dogs in early 2008. Since then, more than 1,000 veterinarians have completed the online credentialing course allowing them to use the stem-cell therapy on more than 1,000 dogs across the nation.

“We’ve seen stem-cell therapy save dogs whose only other option was euthanasia,” Harman said. “We are helping patients forgo surgery and pharmaceuticals for problems like arthritis and joint and tendon injuries.”

The procedure is simple. Veterinarians remove a small sample of fat from the dog and send it to Vet-Stem. Laboratory technicians isolate regenerative stem cells that already exist in the fat. The large number of stem cells available eliminates the need to grow in culture or manipulate the cells. The cells are then returned to the authorized veterinarian for treatment of the injured animal within 48 hours.

The results from this study expand on one published in 2007 that explored the effectiveness of Vet-Stem’s therapy for hip-related osteoarthritis. The outcome showed that stem cells do improve healing in injured or arthritic dogs’ hips. The findings stated that in a blind, placebo-controlled clinical trial, 80 percent of dogs improved significantly after being treated with stem-cell therapy.

The most recent study is only the beginning of fat-derived stem-cell therapy. Vet-Stem is currently conducting studies for the use of stem cells for internal medical conditions as well.

For information, log on to www.vet-stem.com or call (888) 387-8361.

**Dog Squad Rescue fosters and places dogs in new homes**

SAN DIEGO—By August of 2007, Caroline Wright and Susan Barbato had become tired of seeing adoptable dogs euthanized for health issues or lack of space at their local shelter. They decided to do something about it. They formed Dog Squad Rescue, a nonprofit organization of about 20 volunteers that rescues dogs from death row, fosters them, restores them to health and organizes adoption events to place them in new homes.

“We’re not particular about the breed, size or health of the dog. We’ve placed over 120 dogs in homes in the last year and a half. The majority have come from the North County Shelter,” explains Dale Lawson, Dog Squad’s director of media relations who, along with Marcia Pascuga and the founders, completes the four-person volunteer board.

Lawson got involved with the group after his elderly dog, also a rescue from the North County Shelter, died. He wanted to honor his memory and advocate for homeless animals.

“We are their voice. If not for us, who’s going to save them?” he says.

For more information about Dog Squad Rescue, visit the website www.thedogsquadrescue.org or call (760) 804-1400.

**‘Lava’ assists in car burglary case**

LA JOLLA—On Jan. 7 at about 2:45 a.m., the San Diego Police Department (SDPD) communications division received a call from a resident who reported a car break-in at his home in the 600 block of Gravilla Place in La Jolla. The caller indicated he was following the suspects in his personal vehicle. The dispatcher kept the caller on the line and relayed the location information to the responding patrol officers.

With the victim’s assistance, Northern Division patrol officers located the suspects.

The victim in this case is retired Lt. Col. Jay Kopelman. Kopelman told officers that his dog Lava alerted him that something was wrong, which caused Kopelman to check the perimeter of his home and discover the car burglary in progress.

SDPD recommends that crime victims not try to take suspects into custody on their own. In this case, the victim did an exemplary job in notifying the police immediately and allowing the patrol officers to handle the apprehension and arrest of the suspects.

**‘First Dog’ pick**

WASHINGTON D.C.—The burning question on the minds of the whole world was answered when First Lady Michelle Obama announced that her family is looking for a Portuguese water dog that is “old enough” and a “match” for the family dynamic this April. According to the first lady, the only thing still up in the air is the name.

The AKC’s dedicated website, www.presidentialpup.com, provides up-to-date information on the Obamas’ search for a dog and offers resources related to the presidential family’s search, including America’s choice of first dog, materials on hypoallergenic breeds and facts on past presidential pets.

For information on Portuguese water dogs, visit www.akc.org/breeds/portuguese_water_do or www.pwdca.org.
**MARCH 2009**

**MARCH 5-8**

13TH ANNUAL SAN DIEGO BIRD FESTIVAL
- SPONSORED BY THE SAN DIEGO AUDUBON SOCIETY.

**COST:** Different prices for workshops and day trips.

**FOR MORE INFO:** [www.sandiegoaudubon.org/birdfest.htm](http://www.sandiegoaudubon.org/birdfest.htm)

**MARCH 8**

PET TELETHON CBS CHANNEL 8

9 a.m.-2 p.m. - Call in and pledge donations to benefit San Diego Humane Society. You or your company can be a sponsor.

**FOR MORE INFO:** [www.SDHumane.org](http://www.SDHumane.org); sponsorship info contact Debby Hansen at events@sdhumane.org or (619) 243-3408

**MARCH 8**

UGLY DOG CONTEST

10 a.m.-3 p.m. - **COST:** $8 Adults, $2 ages 12-under, Dog entry fee per contest category $6. Benefits Rancho Coastal Humane Society & Helen Woodward Animal Center - Del Mar Fair Grounds-Paddock

**MORE INFO:** [www.UglyDogContest.com](http://www.UglyDogContest.com) or (858) 755-5913

**MARCH 13-15**

THE DRESSAGE AFFAIR

9 a.m.-4 p.m. - **COST:** FREE to park and watch. This horse show will take place at Horsepark, located two miles east of the San Diego Fair Grounds at the intersection of El Camino Real and Via de la Valle in Del Mar, 92014.

**MORE INFO:** [www.SanDiegoDressage.com](http://www.SanDiegoDressage.com)

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**MEMORIAL BLOOD DRIVE HONORS**

**Bandit the Biker Dog**


**WHEN:** Sat. March 21, 9am – 3pm.

**WHERE:** San Diego Harley Davidson,

5600 Kearny Mesa Rd.

San Diego, 92111

**MORE INFO:** Mark (619) 885-0988


“bandit the biker dog”

12/13/01 - 12/19/08
BUNNY CALENDAR

Check out all upcoming events at: www.sandiegobunnies.org/aboutus/events.html

HRS BUNNY SUPPLY STORE
Noon – 3 p.m. First Four Saturdays of every month.
4805 Mercury Street, Ste B, Kearny Mesa. (corner of Mercury & Ronson Rd)
www.sandiegobunnies.org/products/index.html

HRS FOSTER RABBIT ADOPTIONS
March 15, April 5 & 19, May 3 & 17
If you are interested in adopting, please complete our adoption application at www.sandiegobunnies.org/adoptions/AdoptionForm.asp or email adopt@sandiegobunnies.org.

BUNNY 101
Sunday, March 29, Noon to 2PM
HRS Bunny Supply Store
$15 fee includes subscription to The Rabbit Reader.
Pre-registration required by March 27
Email events@sandiegobunnies.org or call 619-718-7777 to register.

BUNNY MASSAGE WORKSHOP
Sunday, April 26, 1PM to 5PM
HRS Bunny Supply Store
Fee: $25 per person or $40 per family (limit 3)
Pre-registration required by April 22
Email events@sandiegobunnies.org or call 619-718-7777 to register.

MARCH 14-15
DEL SUR KENNEL CLUB DOG SHOW – DEL MAR FAIR GROUNDS
9 a.m.-4 p.m. - COST: FREE to watch, $9 to park. Dogs showing in several rings plus vendor booths with pet products.

MARCH 15
3RD ANNUAL SOLANA BEACH – PAWS IN PARK
11 a.m.-3 p.m. - COST: FREE. Come with your family and pets and enjoy Flying Disc Dog and Flyball demonstrations, see exotic animals from Pacific Animal Productions. Pet experts in dog training and nutrition will be on hand to answer your questions. Pet-related vendors with products and services in the vendor village and pet adoptions. La Colonia Park, 715 Valley Ave, Solana Beach, 92075.
MORE INFO: Call Kirk Wenger, (858) 720-2453

MARCH 21
BANDIT THE BIKER DOG MEMORIAL BLOOD DRIVE
SPONSORED BY THE SAN DIEGO BLOOD BANK
9 a.m.-3 p.m. - COST: Donation. Free food from Pat & Oscars, a live band and movie passes, one-hour Harbor Cruise tickets and Burrito Bucks from Chipotle to the first 40 donors. Location: San Diego Harley Davidson, 5600 Kearny Mesa Road, 92111. CALL THE BLOOD BANK, (800) 469-7322 FOR AN APPOINTMENT TIME.

MARCH 21-22
SIGNATURE 1 COUNTY HORSE SHOW
9 a.m.-4 p.m. - COST: FREE to park and watch. This horse show will take place at Horsepark, located two miles east of the San Diego Fair Grounds at the intersection of El Camino Real and Via de la Valle in Del Mar 92014.
MORE INFO: Email Robin at RobinSerfass@cox.net or (760) 753-0431

Don’t miss a single issue.

☐ Yes, I want to receive every issue of San Diego Pets Magazine. Just $15 for 1 year (6 issues).
Mail to: 4645 Cass St., 2nd Floor, San Diego, CA 92109
MARCH 26-29
SPRING CLASSIC QUARTER HORSE SHOW
9 a.m.-4 p.m. - COST: FREE to park and watch. This horse show will take place at Horsepark, located two miles east of the San Diego Fair Grounds at the intersection of El Camino Real and Via de la Valle in Del Mar 92014.
MORE INFO: Call Larry Gimple, (714) 444-2918

MARCH 29
PAWS IN THE PARK
— WALK TO BENEFIT ESCONDIDO HUMANE SOCIETY
8 a.m.-noon - COST: Collect Pledges - Kit Carson Park in Escondido, fun 1.5- or 2.5-mile WALK with your pets, plus pet contests, vendor village and more.

APRIL 2009
APRIL 11
WOOFSTOCK A FESTIVAL FOR DOGS AND PEOPLE BENEFITING CANINE COMPANIONS FOR INDEPENDENCE
9 a.m.-2 p.m. - COST: $5 includes entrance and FREE parking and free opportunity ticket in prize drawings. Plus a “Fun Walk” for those who are interested in collecting pledges. Many animal-business vendor booths at the vendor village for shopping, canine agility and fly ball courses, children’s fun zone, live music, food and demonstrations from assistance dogs.
MORE INFO: www.CCI.org/Woofstock or call Cheryl Crawford, (760) 728-5525

APRIL 16-19
NATIONAL HORSE SHOW – WESTERN WEEK
9 a.m.-9 p.m. - COST: Parking $9. Shows will be held in the Arena Complex at the San Diego Fair Grounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Blvd., Del Mar, 92014.
MORE INFO: www.DelMarNational.com or (858) 792-4257

APRIL 18
NIGHT OF THE HORSE – WILD WEST EXTRAVAGANZA
7 p.m. – COST: $18 Grandstand and $9 parking. This is an exciting show of authentic stagecoaches, trick riders, mounted shooting, buffalo and more.
MORE INFO: Call (858) 792-4252 and tickets

APRIL 23-26
NATIONAL HORSE SHOW – DRESSAGE WEEK
9 a.m.-9 p.m. – COST: Parking $9. Shows will be held in the Arena Complex at the San Diego Fair Grounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Blvd., Del Mar, 92014.
MORE INFO: www.DelMarNational.com or (858) 792-4257

APRIL 28 – MAY 3
NATIONAL HORSE SHOW – HUNTER JUMPER WEEK
9 a.m.-9 p.m. – COST: Parking $9. Shows will be held in the Arena Complex at the San Diego Fair Grounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Blvd., Del Mar, 92014.
MORE INFO: www.DelMarNational.com or (858) 792-4257

CALENDAR

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Keeping your rabbit companion healthy is the key to giving it the best chance to live out its full life expectancy.

Good health starts with a good diet. Left to their own devices, domestic rabbits will eat almost anything put in front of them, so it’s up to you to making sure their diet is one that will support a long and healthy life. Start by ensuring your rabbit has unlimited fresh grass hays (timothy or orchard grass) available to munch on all day. The indigestible fibers from grass hays are the staple of their diet, and keep their digestion working properly and their teeth worn down. Add some daily fresh greens and you enrich the diet with vitamins and minerals. A small portion of plain, high-quality pellets rounds out their daily routine. Be sure to keep pellet portions limited according to your rabbit’s age, optimum weight and health condition. You can learn more about proper portions at www.sandiegorabbits.org/diet. Severely limit or stay away from sugary, high-fat treats like those found at the pet store. Yogurt drops, honey sticks and other treats that contain seeds, nuts and dried fruits can lead to obesity, chronic soft stools, GI blockages and lifelong health issues. It’s best to avoid them from the start.

Housing your rabbit indoors will greatly contribute to its health and longevity. Predators (foxes, raccoons, coyotes, stray cats, etc.) and parasites (fleas, flies and mosquitoes) are a serious threat to the health and safety of a rabbit housed outdoors. Temperatures above 80 degrees and wet weather also pose health hazards, with heat being a factor in many summertime fatalities. When you house your rabbit indoors, it is much happier and healthier and you enjoy it more as you are likely to have a more rewarding relationship. Rabbits are very social and need a lot of interaction with their human family members.

Regular veterinary care is important to catch health issues early and prevent costly, long-term or even fatal conditions. San Diego House Rabbit Society (SDHRS) recommends you schedule a “well bunny” exam when you first adopt your rabbit to establish a baseline for care. A checkup every two years keeps your vet on top of any issues that may arise. At 6 years old, it’s recommended you make annual checkups a priority, with basic blood work or X-rays to check for potential issues. Ensuring your vet is rabbit-savvy also is necessary. Rabbits are considered an “exotic” species and some veterinarians are specially trained in their care. This is especially important since many medications safe for dogs or cats are deadly to rabbits and could accidentally be prescribed by a vet who is not knowledgeable about rabbit medicine.

Are you ready for a 10-year commitment?

Rabbits are for a Lifetime... Not Just for Easter.

www.sandiegorabbits.org
For more information email: hrs@sandiegorabbits.org
619.718.7777

Check SDHRS’ website for a list of recommended rabbit vets in San Diego County.

An important key to your rabbit’s long-term health is to ensure it has been spayed or neutered. Rabbits are especially prone to reproductive cancers when not altered. Taking this into account, along with behavioral benefits and the obvious — overpopulation issues — getting your rabbit altered should be at the top of your list. We are lucky in San Diego County that we have many resources for rabbit spays and neuters — even lower-cost options. Getting your rabbit altered makes it a much better companion. An unaltered rabbit may be difficult to litter-box train, more likely to destroy its surroundings, and more aggressive and difficult to handle. Raging hormones turn young rabbits into little “hellions” and is likely the number-one reason for rabbit relinquishments. Getting males neutered at approximately 12 weeks and females spayed at 20 weeks settles them down and helps to make them better family companions.

San Diego House Rabbit Society is available to advise you on the best ways to get your rabbit companion to a healthy state and to keep it there. Contact us via email at hrs@sandiegorabbits.org, or call our help line, (619) 718-7777.

~ Judith Pierce, chapter manager, San Diego House Rabbit Society
Shelters around the country are overcrowded and full, often resulting in time limitations put on animals that are already in their facilities or sending many new animals brought into their facility to euthanasia.

Bone Appetit Cat & Kitten Rescue/Adoption Center rescue organization was created to work closely with three San Diego County shelters, city shelters and the Feral Cat Coalition (FCC) to assist in placing the animals into permanent homes.

Bone Appetit Rescue takes excess cats or kittens into our program from the shelter systems, never putting a time limit on that animal. We will keep the animal until it gets adopted.

Once the feline enters our rescue program, it will be spayed or neutered when healthy and old enough, updated on its vaccinations, tested for FIV/FELV (feline AIDS and feline leukemia), de-wormed and de-flea’d, and get a complete health check.

We rely strictly on donations for the funding of our entire program, and all of the cats and kittens in our program are rescue only. Once adopted, we provide a complimentary veterinary exam for the new kitty, as well as a discount in our pet supply store for new adopters.

Although we can’t always take special needs cats, we did take in William. I discovered William only by accident. He may have been hit by a car when he was living out on the streets since he had a severely injured leg. William already had been sitting at the shelter 10 days. I felt I just had to go get him. So I took him home. We decided to name him William, as in William Wallace, because he is our little “Braveheart.” You would never know anything is ailing this little guy by the way he purrs and uses his “good leg” to reach out for attention. Right away the veterinarian concluded the injured leg definitely needed to come off. At his age, he would most likely learn to hop on three legs and get around all right in time. She performed the operation, and William is now recovering well.

Our goal is to educate people on the importance of spaying and neutering their pets, and to help as many cats and kittens of all ages to find the forever, loving families and homes they so deserve.

If you would like to help our rescue efforts, please send donations to Bone Appetite Cat Rescue. We thank you for supporting our rescue and adoption efforts, and for opening your hearts and homes to our wonderful, loving cats and kittens. When considering a new addition to your family, please come to meet our beautiful rescue cats and kittens at our adoption center located in Bone Appetit Pet Store, open seven days a week.

Bone Appetit Cat and Kitten Rescue/Adoption Center is located at Bone Appetit Pet Supply, 4845 Newport Ave., San Diego, CA 92107.

For more information, call (619) 226-6250.
What you do today will have an effect on your pet’s future. This includes your choice of pet food. Following the tragic and fatal events leading to the pet food recall in 2007, more pet parents have chosen to pay attention to the ingredients of the food they are dispensing. Now, faced with the recent FDA reports that popular chicken jerky treats made in China could be causing severe illness in dogs, even more consumers are reading the label.

So how do we keep our pets safe and fed? Some have chosen home cooking for Felix and Fido. Others are buying only pet food and treats manufactured in the U.S., with the thought that the ingredients and processing are better monitored and therefore safer. I know of a number of people opting for home cooking, including people purchasing dehydrators to make their own chicken and other protein-sourced jerky treats.

Even the most superior dry kibble and canned wet foods are highly processed, eliminating much of their nutritional value. Because of this, I generally avoid adding them to my dog and cat’s menu plan. Basing my choices on safety and quality nutrition, I occasionally serve my pets unseasoned home-cooked meals, but mainly feed them minimally processed raw meat-based pet food, along with fruits and vegetables.

As a representative of the healthy pet-food industry, I hear some people remark that they do not feed a raw or home-cooked diet because of higher costs. When calculating everything together, however, you may find that it is less than you think! Since these meals are not as processed as dry kibble and canned products, your pets will receive a much higher level of nutrients per ounce of food. This will leave them more fully nourished and satisfied at the end of a meal. Feeding healthier, more nutrient-rich foods is also a way to prevent some health issues, reducing veterinary costs down the road. Some medical conditions arise due to poor nutrition, so what you invest in your pet’s diet now can end up saving you money later!

Another argument I hear from pet parents is that it takes too much time and work to prepare food or handle frozen raw diets. Because people’s lives today are so busy, their hesitancy is not surprising. With so much information and help now available, however, making these healthy dietary choices for our pets is easier than ever. If you are unable to make a full-time switch to one of these nutritional paths, Samantha Sarilma, owner of the Point Loma Pet Pantry (www.pointlomapetpantry.com), stresses the importance of “adding freshness” to your pet’s diet. Adding fresh, lean, unseasoned raw or cooked meats, vegetables and fruits greatly increases the amount of accessible nutrients in your pet’s diet, whether it is daily or on occasion. Of course, the more frequently you add fresh, nourishing ingredients, the greater the benefits.

With so many people turning to alternative feeding practices, there are pet food and treat recipe books available, as well as other resources to assist the home cook.

Kelly Bolken, dog behaviorist, nutritional consultant and owner of Paw Country holistic pet store in La Mesa (www.welcometopawcountry.com), says, “A good guideline for home cooking is 65 to 95 percent meat (including organ meats and ground bone) and the remainder, fruits and/or vegetables.”

Kelly continues, “I rotate around between green beans, carrots, sweet potatoes, pumpkin and sometimes I add a little quinoa for added protein when I
am low on meat. You can use just about anything. When home cooking, it is essential to add calcium if ground bone is not included. The other two supplements that are required are EFAs (fish oil) and a multivitamin. I rotate my multi between several products, including bee pollen, Positive Health, Animal Essentials Multi, Animal Essentials Green Alternative, and I also use diatomaceous earth and/or kelp for their myriad minerals and other health benefits.”

In addition to fresh home cooking and the use of supplements, Kelly, Samantha and I are all supporters of feeding a raw diet to pets, including our own. This is the best and easiest way to ensure they are getting the nutrients needed. There are many brands of raw pet food formulated into complete meals, adding varying amounts of fruits, vegetables, vitamins and minerals. The food comes in pre-measured patties or nuggets, cutting down on preparation time. It is also available in bulk form, allowing pet parents to measure out their own desired quantities per meal. Researching the different brands of raw frozen pet food and their ingredients can help you make the most informed and healthiest choice for your pets. Please note that not all brands of raw diets are complete meals in and of themselves. Checking company websites and gaining information from informed staff members at healthy pet stores and other holistically focused professionals are encouraged.

Feeding raw diets formulated into complete meals by health-conscious pet food companies can take a lot of the guesswork out of proper feeding. The home cooking route can take more thought and care to ensure your pets are getting the dietary balance they need. Additional supplementation and vitamins can benefit any animal, regardless of diet, depending on their individual needs.

In addition to learning about needed supplements, when home cooking it is essential to stay up to date on what “people foods” are acceptable and safe and which are not. Chocolate, onions, chives, fried and fatty foods, as well as those seasoned with salt and other potentially dangerous and unnecessary additives top the list for most popular pet species. Some pose threats to some animals and not others. Grapes and raisins can be fatal, while dairy products can be problematic, causing digestive issues. Garlic and avocado are others to avoid, although small amounts can be found in some pet foods and supplements and might be OK in those forms. Caution is still advised, however, since each animal’s sensitivity level varies. The bodies of pets differ, just like ours do. Visit the ASPCA website for current information regarding food and household safety for pets (www.aspca.org).

With so many different and often conflicting philosophies regarding pet care, the bottom line is always what I am personally comfortable with. The same is true for you and all consumers. We ultimately need be consistent advocates for our companion animals, doing our own research and implementing what is best for their unique, individual needs.

If you have pet nutrition or other animal care or behavior questions, I welcome your emails at info@wildtame.com.
Animal Adoption Organizations

**A Passion For Paws Akita Rescue** Cheryl Weatherford (858) 551-7511
www.APassionForPaws.org

**Angel Wings Cat Rescue Inc.** Wilma Daubman (760) 744-0764
www.AngelWingsCatRescue.com

**Bat Rescue** Richard Wilkins (858) 679-0211
www.batrescue.org

**Chihuahua Rescue of San Diego** Ann Pollack (760) 726-4813
www.GSP-Rescue.org

**German Shorthaired Pointer Rescue** (760) 726-4813
www.GSP-Rescue.org

**Greyhound Adoption Center** Toll Free 1-877-478-8364
www.greyhoundog.org

**Greyhound Connection** (619) 286-4739
www.Greyhoundconnection.org

**Operation Greyhound** Bruce or Bob (619) 588-6611
www.OperationGreyhound.com

**Paws of Coronado** Louise Shirey (619) 435-8247
www.PawsofCoronado.org

**Pit Bull Rescue of San Diego** Kate John (858) 361-3592
www.PitBullRescueSanDiego.com

**Pug Rescue of San Diego County**
www.pugbutts.com

**San Diego House Rabbit Society** Judith Pierce (619) 718-7777
www.SanDiegoRabbits.org

**S.D. Turtle & Tortoise Society** (619) 593-2123
www.SDTurtle.org

**Southwestern Rottweiler Club San Diego**
Deanna Giller (619) 645-8800 www.SRCSD.net

**Westie Rescue of California** (619) 579-6395
www.WestieRescueCA.com

**San Diego Bulldog Rescue**
Finding loving homes for bulldogs in need.
You can help our program by visiting www.ralphs.com.
Select “Community” and use our NPO number 90619.
web: www.sdbrd.org Phone: (619) 501-0219

Animal Welfare Organizations

**Labrador Harbor** Sue Frounfelter (619) 892-0049
www.LabradorHarbor.org

**Lions, Tigers & Bears** Bobbi Brink (619) 659-8807
www.LionsTigersAndBears.org

**Project Wildlife** Caring for sick, injured & orphaned wildlife
(619) 225-9202 www.ProjectWildlife.org

**Zoofari inc. - A partner in preservation** Jackie Navarro (760) 630-9230
www.Zoofari.net

Dog Beaches/Parks

**CORONADO BEACH**
North end of Ocean Blvd., South of Naval base & North of Lifeguard Tower

**SOUTH CORONADO CAYS PARK**
Coronado Cays Blvd.

**DEL MAR NORTH BEACH**
N. end of 29th Street Sept.15 to June15 only

**FIESTA ISLAND**
Sea World Dr. & Fiesta Island Rd.

**OCEAN BEACH DOG BEACH**
end of Voltaire St. & W. Point Loma Blvd.

**LEASH REQUIRED LOCATIONS**

**CARDIFF STATE BEACH**
Old Hwy 101, Cardiff lot seaside

**CORONADO TIDELANDS PARK**
Mullinix Dr. & Giorietta Blvd.

**DEL MAR BEACH**
S. of Powerhouse Park & Ocean Ave.

**ENCINITAS**
San Elijo State Beach, Manchester Ave.

**IMPERIAL BEACH**
5th St. & Imperial Beach Blvd.

**OCEANSIDE**
Oceanside Harbor, Haroor Dr. west to Harbor

**LA JOLLA SHORES BEACH**
8200 Camino Del Oro From 6 p.m. to 9 a.m. only

**MISSION BEACH -THE STRAND**
S. end of Mission Blvd. at channel entrance From 6 p.m. to 9 a.m. only

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**Irish Setter Club of San Diego**
Madelon McGowen (619) 441-7339
Email - MadMac64@yahoo.com

**San Diego Whippet Association**
Jo Rufing (619) 477-4222
www.SanDiegoWhippets.com

**DOG WALKING SOCIAL CLUBS**

**San Diego County French Bulldog meet-up**

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**All Breed Obedience Club Inc.** (619) 287-2211
www.aboci.com

**Ballistic Racers Flyball Team**
B & J Matsumoto (619) 991-5267

**Catchers on the Fly**
Pamela Beane (760) 471-9087
www.CatchersOnTheFly.org

**Luratics Lure Coursing & Earth Dog**
Pat Bennett (619) 749-0724
www.Luratics.com

**Martini’s Ranch – Agility Debby Wheeler (760) 294-4085**
www.MartinisRanch.com

**HERDING CLUBS**

**Action K9 Sports**
Terry Parrish (760) 739-8673
www.actionk9sports.com

**Spay & Neuter Services**

**Feral Cat Coalition** (619) 758-9194
www.feralcat.com

**Pet Assistance Foundation**
Betty Brokaw (619) 469-5008
www.orgsites.com/ca/pet-assistance/

**SNAP – Spay Neuter Action Project** (619) 525-3047
www.Snap-SanDiego.org
**Animal Shelters & Humane Societies**

**SHELTERS THAT WILL ACCEPT STRAYS & HAVE ADOPTIONS**

**BAY PARK/MISSION VALLEY**

**County Animal Services – Central**
5480 Gaines St., CA 92110 (619) 236-4250
www.sddac.com Hours: Tues-Sat 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

**BONITA**

**County Animal Services – South**
5821 Sweetwater Road, CA 91902 (619) 685-6309
www.sddac.com Hours: Tues- Sat 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

**CAMP PENDLETON**

**Camp Pendleton Animal Shelter**
4th St. Area 25 Bldg. 25132 CA 92054 (760) 725-8120

**CARLSBAD**

**County Animal Services – North**
2481 Palomar Airport Road, CA 92009 (760) 438-2312 or (760) 746-7307
www.sddac.com Hours: Tues-Sat 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

**CHULA VISTA**

**City of Chula Vista Animal Shelter**
130 Beyer Way, CA 91911 (619) 691-5123
Hours: Mon-Sat 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

**CORONADO**

**Animal Control Facility**
700 Orange Ave, Coronado, CA 92118 (619) 522-7371
Hours: 7 days 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 a.m.

**EL CAJON**

**City of El Cajon Animal Shelter**
1275 N. Marshall Ave., CA 92020 (619) 441-1580
Hours: Tues-Sat 10 a.m. to 5:30 pm

**ESCONDIDO**

**Escondido Humane Society**
3450 E. Valley Parkway, CA 92027 (760) 888-2275
www.EscondidoHumaneSociety.com
Hours: 7 days 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**OCEANSIDE**

**North County Humane Society**
2905 San Luis Rey Road, CA 92054 (760) 757-4357
www.NCHumane.org Hours: 7 days 10 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.

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**BAY PARK/MISSION VALLEY**

**San Diego Humane Society & SPCA**
5500 Gaines Street, CA 92110 (619) 299-7012
www.SDHumane.org
Hours: Mon-Fri 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Sat-Sun 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

**EL CAJON**

**Friends of Cats**
15587 Olde Highway 80, CA, 92021 (619) 561-0361
www.FriendsOfCats.org Hours: Tues-Sun 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**ENCINITAS**

**Rancho Coastal Humane Society**
389 Requeza Street, CA 92024 (760) 753-6413
www.RCHumaneSociety.org
Hours: 11 a.m.-5 p.m. every day except Tues. 11:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

**RANCHO SANTA FE**

**Helen Woodward Animal Center**
6461 El Apajo Road, CA 92067 (858) 756-4117
www.AnimalCenter.org Hours: 7 days 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

**SPRING VALLEY**

**National Cat Protection Society**
9031 Birch Street, CA 91977 (619) 469-8771
www.NatCat.org Hours: Tues. Sat. Noon to 5 p.m.
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South Co. Emergency Animal Clinic (619) 427-2881
3438 Bonita Road, Bonita, CA 91902 M-F 6 p.m.-8 a.m. Sat. Sun. Open 24 Hours

*Pet Emergency & Specialty Center of South County* (619) 591-4802
885 Canarios Court, #108, Chula Vista, CA 91910 M-F 6 p.m.-8 a.m. Sat. Sun.
3:30pm-8am  www.PESCSanDiego.com

**CARLSBAD**
California Veterinary Specialists (760) 431-2272
2310 Faraday Ave. Carlsbad, CA 92008 7 days 24 hrs.
www.CaliforniaVeterinarySpecialists.com

**ENCINITAS**
VCA North Coast Veterinary & Emergency (760) 632-1072
414 Encinitas Blvd. Encinitas, CA 92024 7 Days 24 hrs.
www.VCANorthCoast.com

**ESCONDIDO**
Animal Urgent Care of Escondido (760) 738-9600
2430-A S. Escondido Blvd. Escondido, CA 92025 7 Days 24 hrs.
 www.AUC.US.com

**KEARNY MESA/CLAIREMONT**
Animal ER of San Diego (858) 569-0600
5610 Kearny Mesa Road  San Diego, CA 92111 M-F 6 p.m.-8 a.m. Sat. Sun. 24 hrs.

**LA MESA**
Pet Emergency & Specialty Center (619) 462-4800
5232 Jackson Drive #105  La Mesa, CA 91942 7 Days 24 hrs.
www.PESCSanDiego.com

**MISSION VALLEY**
VCA Emergency Animal Hospital & Referral Center
(619) 229-2400 2317 Hotel Circle South  San Diego, CA 92108 7 Days 24 hrs.
www.VCAEmergency.com

**MURRIETA**
California Veterinary Specialists (951) 600-9803
25100 Hancock Ave. #116, Murrieta, CA 92562 7 days 24 hrs.
www.CaliforniaVeterinarySpecialists.com

**POWAY**
Animal Emergency Clinic (858) 748-7387
12775 Poway Road Poway, CA 92064 M-F 6 p.m.-8 a.m. Sat. Sun. 24 hrs.
www.AnimalEmergencySD.com

**SAN MARCOS**
California Veterinary Specialists (760) 734-4433
100 N. Rancho Santa Fe Road #133 San Marcos, CA 92069 7 Days 24 hrs.
www.CaliforniaVeterinarySpecialists.com

**SORENTO VALLEY**
Veterinary Specialty Hospital (858) 875-7500
10435 Sorrento Valley Rd. San Diego, CA 92121 7 Days 24 hrs.
www.VSHSD.com

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