

the Wag Times

A PUBLICATION OF RANCHO COASTAL HUMANE SOCIETY

Where are we Going with All Those Therapy Dogs?



We've told you before about the dogs that listen intently while children read to them at our "Read for Wags" events.

We visit college campuses during the week before final exams to help students relax and concentrate.

The simple act of feeling fur helps residents of extended care facilities to lower their blood pressure and improve memory.

PAT visits to C.A.S.E. in Carlsbad help autistic students.

When PAT volunteers and their dogs participate in RCHS Animal Camp the children benefit from hands-on interaction with these gentle creatures.

"We've made several first-time appearances," says Mary. "PAT dogs attended the annual 'Make-A-Wish Easter Egg Hunt' at San Diego Botanic Garden. They provided 'fur therapy' for the children and their families."

On May 17 your Rancho Coastal Humane Society will take part in San Diego Kids Fest at Liberty Station in Point Loma. Mary says, "Kids Fest is a great opportunity for us to educate the public about your Rancho Coastal Humane Society. It's a large event with lots of people. The PAT dogs will give people of all ages a moment to de-stress."

"PAT volunteers stay busy, but we're always open to new opportunities to share the unconditional love of animals. Let us know if you have questions or suggestions. If you have a dog and you think it would be a good therapy dog, let us know. If you're in another part of San Diego County, we'll put you in touch with a Love on a Leash chapter near your home."

RCHS does not charge for PAT visits. You make this possible. Find out how you can support this program. Visit your Rancho Coastal Humane Society at 389 Requeza Street in Encinitas, log on to www.sdpets.org, or call 760-753-6413.

Maybe a better question would be, "Where AREN'T we going with all those Pet Assisted Therapy (PAT) dogs from your Rancho Coastal Humane Society?"

"Pet Assisted Therapy has become one of our fastest growing programs," says RCHS Volunteer Coordinator Mary Pilon. "A couple years ago there were fewer than a dozen PAT volunteers with their Love on a Leash trained and certified therapy dogs. Today we have 47 volunteers and dogs that go out into the community. They deliver unconditional love to the people who need it most...when they need it most."

You may have seen the photos of our PAT dogs on Thanksgiving Day with 50 Camp Pendleton based U.S. Marines spending the holiday far from home.



Rancho Coastal Humane Society (RCHS) is a private nonprofit, 501(c)3, Humane Society in San Diego County that is primarily supported by community contributions and some fees for service. It was volunteer founded in 1960 and maintains a 10:1 volunteer to staff ratio. It provides quality shelter care, adoption services, and education programs and is the only welfare organization in Southern California to provide an Animal Safehouse Program for the survivors of domestic violence. RCHS was also the first Animal Shelter in the country to be solar powered.

We Celebrate Animals EVERY DAY at your Rancho Coastal Humane Society.



**Please join us on
September 20
for the Celebration
of Second Chances.**

How much is it worth when your dog sees you and gets so excited that it practically wags itself in half? You can't put a price on a purr of a contented cat on our lap. For a pet that has been lost, abandoned, given up... a second chance at life is priceless.

Please join us as we celebrate the love of animals during Rancho Coastal Humane Society's 2014 Celebration of Second Chances. This year's Celebration will be held on Saturday, September 20 from 4:30 to 9:00 p.m. at the Del Mar Country Club in Rancho Santa Fe, CA.

While we can't put a price on the love we receive from our pets or the lives that we save through our FOCAS and Adoption programs, we can put a price on tickets to the Celebration. The theme this year will be "Help Us Grow." Tickets will be \$175. VIP level will be \$275.

The money raised during the Celebration will enable your Rancho Coastal Humane Society to continue serving people and animals when they need us most. For 54 years RCHS has been dedicated to the rescue of abandoned pets. Our Adoption program has matched thousands of pets with their forever families. Our humane education and community outreach programs are impacting the lives of people and animals throughout San Diego County. Our Animal Safehouse program provides a safety net for the pets of domestic violence victims.

In addition to supporting a worthy cause, you'll have a wonderful evening. Guests will be treated to a buffet dinner, music, entertainment, and raffle and auction items. VIP admission to the Celebration of Second Chances also includes a cocktail reception and heavy hors d'oeuvres with RCHS President Jim Silveira.

We're accepting prizes for the raffle and also a limited number of auction items. If you run a pet-friendly business, sponsoring the Celebration is a great way to reach customers who share your love of animals.

One more thing that you should know. Your Rancho Coastal Humane Society is a non-profit 501(c)(3) charitable organization that receives no funding from government contracts. RCHS is supported by income from our programs, grants, and your donations. The money raised by the Celebration of Second Chances benefits the animals in our care and our community programs.

We hope that you can join us for the Celebration of Second Chances on Saturday, September 20 at the Del Mar Country Club in Rancho Santa Fe. For more information and updates visit our website at www.sdpets.org. For information about sponsorship or donations call 760-753-6640 or e-mail nwinfrey@sdpets.org.

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Please address all correspondence to:

Rancho Coastal Humane Society

389 Requeza St.

Encinitas, CA 92024

e-mail:

info@rhumanesociety.org



the President's Message



Jim Silveira
President/CEO

What makes us a Family of Animal Lovers?

There's an old saying about the "Family of Animal Lovers." There does seem to be a bond between people who love animals. Let's talk about some of these people.

There are those who say they love animals, but their actions don't support their claims. We don't have to look far to see the people who confuse obsession for animals with love of animals. Some people confuse quantity with quality. And there are the others who can't tell the difference between the love of animals and the love of money. If they can make money from animals...they love animals.

So what is it that makes us a Family of Animal Lovers?

Charlie Brown said that, "Happiness is a warm puppy." That's hard to argue.

Former Beatle Sir Paul McCartney says, "You can judge a man's true character by the way he treats his fellow animals." Very wise.

Ellen DeGeneres jokes, "I ask people why they have deer heads on their walls. They always say because it's such a beautiful animal. There you go. I think my mother is attractive, but I have photographs of her." Good point, Ellen. And thank you for the shipment of your Halo food donated to your Rancho Coastal Humane Society!

A couple years ago one of our new RCHS staff members was surprised to learn that Bob Nouchi was a volunteer and not a full time staff member. Asked why he thought Bob was on staff, the new guy responded, "Because Bob has a full-time attitude." Families are full time.

I might have told you before about a friend of RCHS who travels around the world... often with no specific plans. A few years ago he arrived in a European city where he became completely lost and didn't speak the local dialect. He told us that he saw someone with a dog and he began petting it. It made him feel better. And when the owner realized that our friend was lost and needed aid, he helped him find someone who spoke English.

Why? Because we are a family of animal lovers. A Family! Full time. Worldwide.

Elvis Presley said, "Animals don't hate, and we're supposed to be better than them."

While there's no record of who said it first, we love the quote, "I want to be the person my dog thinks I am."

We are a family of animal lovers. And we're proud of it.

Jim Silveira
President



Thank You To Our Media Partners!

Like you, our local news media is contributing to the success of your Rancho Coastal Humane Society. Every Wednesday three dogs from RCHS are featured on the "Fox 5 Morning News."

Easy 98.1 introduces you to the "Wet Nose Wednesday" pet every Wednesday morning.

Dogs and cats from RCHS are also featured regularly by Magic 92.5, KFSD, KSPA NBC 7/39, the San Diego Union-Tribune, the North County Times, the Coast News, Encinitas Patch, The Paper and The Rancho Santa Fe Review.

We genuinely appreciate all this support for those who have no voice.



That Was Then. This Is Now. The RCHS Thrift Shop.



RANCHO COASTAL
HUMANE SOCIETY

Thrift Shop

There are changes coming to Rancho Coastal Humane Society's Thrift Shop at 120 Aberdeen Drive in Cardiff by the Sea. To understand where we're going, let's look at where we've been.

In the August 2012 "Wag Times" Thrift Shop Manager Brian Cook told us that Mondays had been slow. "You could practically fire a cannon through here and not hit anyone."

What changed? Brian says, "First, we remodeled. Then we started the Monday sales. Business went up 80% on Mondays! That created room for new merchandise. The new merchandise brought in more customers. More customers generated more donations and even more sales."

(By the way, Brian is one of those, "Give him a little encouragement then stand back" kind of guys. If something works, he'll make it work even better!)

"In order for the donations to help the animals we need to sell it. So every Sunday we offer 50% off all previously reduced items except clothing. Then, on Monday, we take 50% off all previously reduced apparel. On Tuesdays we re-stock. Then we hold the 'New Arrival Sale' every Wednesday."

One of us geniuses thought about telling Brian that this isn't how other stores do it. They don't put the new stuff on sale. But it can be hard to get Brian's attention when he and Jay are unloading a whole house full of donated furniture.

"The 'New Arrival Sale' is different every Wednesday. We take 50% off our most popular donated items. There are different categories every week. Clothing. Computers. Art. Furniture. Musical instruments. One lady stood in the Thrift Shop wiping her eyes while holding a cookie jar. She said it was just like the one her grandmother had. Sometimes our new arrivals are your oldest memories."

"We post new items on our Facebook page. Get the inside scoop by hitting the 'Like' button on our Facebook page. But you really need to come in and see for yourself."

So, Brian. What else ya got going on?

"We were at Fashion Week San Diego's Spring Showcase on April 26. Our display included designer labels from My Sister's Closet and Well Suited."

Sheesh! Anything else?

"There is one more thing. We hope to update our loyalty rewards program by May 1."

So Brian and his dedicated crew at the Thrift Shop are expanding, upgrading, updating, and breaking sales records. That must be pretty gratifying.

"Breaking records is fun," says Brian. "But the best part is that every dollar helps the animals and people served by your Rancho Coastal Humane Society. We can never lose sight of that. Every animal deserves a tomorrow."

For more information, to make a donation, or to look for your grandmother's cookie jar visit the Thrift Shop at 120 Aberdeen Drive in Cardiff by the Sea, call 760-753-0970, or "Like" Rancho Coastal Humane Society Thrift Shop" on Facebook.

Adopt a Shelter Cat Month? So what?

We saw on the calendar that June is national "Adopt A Shelter Cat Month." Cattery Coordinator Jaime Johnson chuckled and said, "So what? Every month is Adopt a Shelter Cat Month at your Rancho Coastal Humane Society!"

Why is June so special? Jaime says that's the early part of kitten season. "Even a ten month old cat might be ignored by potential adopters

when they see all those kittens. Adopt a Shelter Cat Month reminds us that they all need forever homes, not just the babies."

Watch our website at www.sdpcats.org and "Like" Rancho Coastal Humane Society on Facebook to learn more about some of our Staff Favorites throughout the year. Better yet, meet the kitties face to face at 389 Requeza Street in Encinitas.



EVERY month is Pet Dental Health Month!

February may be National Pet Dental Health Month, but RCHS Medical Director Kathy Zerkle says "EVERY month is pet dental health month." Kathy says there are warning signs that a pet has poor dental health.

- #1: Dog breath can be one of the first signs. It's more subtle with cats. There can be lots of reasons for pets to have bad breath. When an animal arrives at RCHS one of the first things we check are teeth.
- #2: A pet with a sore mouth might lose appetite. They don't eat or they eat less than normal. A toothache can cause that.
- #3: A cat or dog in pain and not eating can become irritable. When they're not eating they don't have as much patience as they normally would.
- #4: Along with this would be loss of energy. It hurts to eat so they don't eat. Without the food intake they become lethargic.

Kathy says that pet dental health isn't as scary as it sounds. Here are her suggestions:

- #1: Get regular check-ups by your veterinarian. (Don't wait until next February!)
- #2: Brush their teeth. One RCHS supporter keeps the dog toothpaste and toothbrush by the leashes. Her dogs know that there's a walk coming after the tooth brushing.
- #3: Most veterinarians agree that dry kibble keeps teeth cleaner than wet food.
- #4 Fresh breath after a treat doesn't mean clean teeth. Try long-lasting nylon chew toys, rawhide, or Greenies. Supervise this. One half hour of chewing per day.

Kathy adds, "Pet dental health isn't just about white teeth and fresh breath. Periodontal disease below the gum line can cause gum recession, bone loss, loose teeth, bone infection, and even broken jaws in extreme cases. The best plan is to stop periodontal disease before it starts. Make every month pet dental health month."

Animal Camp - Like a Week on Animal Planet.



Animal Planet shows us puppies that are too cute and big cat diaries. You can learn how to train your pets, protect them in extreme weather, and find nature in your yard.

In other words...Animal Planet teaches many of the same lessons that children learn when they attend "Animal Camp" at

your Rancho Coastal Humane Society!

"Animal Camp is exciting," says RCHS Humane Educator Lizzie Hart. "Campers enjoy hands-on experiences with dogs, cats, rabbits, and other animals."

Lizzie sees the interest rise when the lessons turn to wildlife. "We all feel helpless when we see a baby bird that has fallen out of its nest or a bunny that has strayed from its mother. Animal Campers learn how to handle these situations then they teach their siblings, neighbors, parents, and grandparents. It's like tossing a rock into a pond. The wave keeps growing and growing in all directions."

Spring camp filled up weeks ahead of time. Lizzie says now is the time to register your kids for Summer camp if you don't want them to miss out.

- The first three weeks, starting June 23 and ending July 11, will be "All About Our Pets." This will teach 6 to 12 year

olds how to be more responsible pet owners.

- "Animal Keepers" will be the theme July 14 through August 1. This is for older children, ages 11 through 14, who want experience in animal care and training.
- August 4 through 15 will focus on "Wildlife Among Us." Campers 6 through 12 learn about local wildlife and preserving their habitat.

"Class size is limited to assure that every child gets attention. Summer Camp filled up weeks ahead of time last year. Register now if you want to make sure your little animal lover doesn't miss this opportunity that can help shape their future."

For more information or to register for Animal Camp call 760-753-6413, log on to www.sdpets.org, or visit RCHS at 389 Requeza Street, Encinitas.

Dogs serve not to take lives, but to save them.



K9 Veterans Day isn't one of those holidays when the government offices close, school kids get the day off, and you don't have to feed the parking meters. There were no brass bands or speeches. It's a day when a few Americans quietly pay tribute to those who bravely stood in harm's way...on four paws. On March 13 at your Rancho Coastal Humane Society in Encinitas some friends and supporters, including San Diego Third District Supervisor Dave Roberts, visited the Military Working Dog (MWD) Memorial in honor of K9 Veterans.

"This is the only private MWD memorial west of the Mississippi," says RCHS spokesman John Van Zante. "You don't have to pay to get in. There are no guards and you

don't need a pass. All you need is a desire to honor these heroes."

RCHS Community Liaison and former United States Marine Nick Winfrey says, "When the United States K9 Corps officially began on March 13, 1942 the dogs were used exclusively in war zones. Today they also boost security at our borders, transportation centers, ports, and military bases. They serve the police, the F.B.I., Customs, Border Patrol, Secret Service, and Airport Police."

Winfrey adds, "MWD's lost their lives searching Ground Zero in New York. Anywhere you find U.S. troops you'll find MWD's. The average MWD saves 150 soldier lives during its service. They're sentries. They detect bombs and drugs. They track escapees. They protect their handlers. When they're not working, they comfort the people around them."

There is a movement to have March 13 declared National K9 Veterans Day. The K9 Veterans Day website points out that there were dogs in the trenches in France during WW I. They were at Iwo Jima in WW II. MWDs served alongside our troops in Korea, Vietnam, and wherever they're needed. "Dogs serve not to take lives, but to save them. They serve and sacrifice to save...and they deserve to be remembered."

The Military Working Dog Memorial at your Rancho Coastal Humane Society is at 389 Requeza Street in Encinitas. It's open from 11:00 AM to 4:45 Wednesday through Sunday. While it's your donations that allow us to keep the memorial open, you don't need a ticket to get in. You don't have to salute. All you need is a few minutes to honor those who stood in harm's way...on four paws.

For more information visit the shelter, call 760-753-6413, or log on to www.sdpets.org.



Bella... Home at last.

Every day at your Rancho Coastal Humane Society there are stories that at touch our hearts and make our eyes "sweaty." March 14, 2014 was a sweaty-eye day when "Bella" left the cattery to begin her new life.

Bella was a 4-year-old Torbie. That's a Tortoiseshell and Tabby. If you believe that cats have 9 lives, then Bella was using hers quickly.

Someone had her front claws removed. Then she got a gum disease and lost all her teeth. No front claws and no teeth left her totally defenseless.

Our story picks up when a caregiver told an elderly client that she had too many cats, and asked the woman to take Bella. Bella couldn't bite or scratch her. All she needed was someone to love. The elderly woman took Bella.

Life was purr-fect. Bella purred almost non-stop. But when the woman died six months later and none of her family could take Bella, the woman's daughter brought her to your Rancho Coastal Humane Society and asked us to find her a new home.

On the outside Bella was beautiful. But after all she had been through, was there any beauty left inside?

Yes! Bella craved attention. No fear. No shyness. Just trust.

We've come a long way, baby! But the Community Pet Food Bank still needs you!



It's hard to believe that the Community Pet Food Bank at your Rancho Coastal Humane Society is less than a year and a half old. At the same time, for many of the pets served by the Pet Food Bank, it's been a lifetime.

We pulled out the news release announcing the grand opening of the Pet Food Bank in November of 2012. It explained that the Community Pet Food Bank would help:

- Seniors living on fixed incomes
- Families that are working poor
- People with disabilities or illnesses
- Pet owners among the homeless population

RCHS Community Liaison, Nick Winfrey said, "These people have so little, yet

they share everything they have with their pets. Pets give their unconditional love to someone living on the streets, on a fixed income, or the working poor. Homeless shelters are not equipped to take pets so their owners stay on the street, share their meals, or go without food themselves so their pets can eat. The food, leashes, collars, blankets, flea treatment and other supplies at the Community Pet Food Bank are donated. All we ask is for people to give until it feels good."

All these months later, the need has not gone away. If anything, it's greater than it was when the Pet Food Bank opened. We're now feeding about 150 pets per day. That's two meals per day for each pet. Almost 10,000 meals per month.

Nick says that, in addition to the clients being served at the Pet Food Bank at RCHS on the first and third Saturdays of each month, we're also distributing pet food every week at a local church and through the Community Resource Center. RCHS Volunteer Monica Kaiser has accepted the responsibility as leader of the Pet Food Bank. Monica, a retired San Diego Police Department Lieutenant, has seen lives

change for many of the Pet Food Bank's regular clients. These people are now better able to provide for their own needs because we're providing for their pets' needs.

We still need you to give until it feels good. Learn how you can help support Rancho Coastal Humane Society's Community Pet Food Bank, or how we can provide food and other supplies that help to keep families and their pets together. Visit RCHS at 389 Requeza Street in Encinitas, call 760-753-6413, or log on to www.sdpets.org.

"A bone to the dog is not charity. Charity is the bone shared with the dog, when you are just as hungry as the dog." Jack London



A few days after Bella arrived we met Jane. She had recently lost her cat and wasn't sure if she was ready to allow another cat into her life. For the next month Jane called or visited the cattery every day.

She asked so many questions about Bella. Bella purred as soon as Jane touched her. On March 12, 2014 they decided to spend their lives together. It was a day that made our eyes sweaty.

While most of the pets adopted from your Rancho Coastal Humane Society arrive through our FOCAS program, others come to us when their owners die or become disabled. We hope that you have a long term plan for your pet's care. If not...please contact us. We'll be happy to help you come up with a plan.

As for Bella....you made this happen. Your support allowed us to take her in, provide the care and medical attention she needed, then help her find the home where she truly will live happily ever after.

For those who have no voice, Thank You!



*We counted the paws and divided by four.
The Second Annual "5K Paw Walk in the Garden!"*

**San Diego
BOTANIC
GARDEN**



How did we determine the number of dogs at the second annual 5K Paw Walk in the Garden on Saturday, February 22, 2014? We joked with one reporter that we counted 2,620 paws at the starting line then divided by four. That made 655 dogs and their people supporting Rancho Coastal Humane Society (RCHS) and the San Diego Botanic Garden (SDBG).

"That's not really how we came up with 655," explains Nick Winfrey, Community Liaison for your Rancho Coastal Humane Society. "Most of the 655 registered walkers had a dog. Some didn't bring a dog but others brought two. Whether you brought a dog or not, it was a great time for animal lovers to share the love."

This was only the second time in history that dogs were allowed in the garden, and the second time that RCHS and SDBG collaborated to attract attention and generate funds.

"It's hard to believe that these Encinitas landmarks never worked together until last year's 5K Paw Walk in the Garden," says RCHS spokesman John Van Zante. "We share common goals of educating the public and preserving the environment by protecting pets and plants. Our thanks to San Diego County Third District Supervisor Dave Roberts and County Board for proclaiming February 22, 2014 as 5K Paw Walk in the Garden Day."

The 2-legged and 4-legged walkers "set paw" on the course at 9:30. There were dozens of walking teams. The Top Dog award for the largest team went to the Drake Center for Veterinary Care.

Nick says, "Walkers had the option of covering the full course, but scenery and serenity won out over speed and span. Everyone had a great time while raising funds to support SDBG and RCHS."

The "5K Paw Walk in the Garden" featured pet products, food (for people), treats (for dogs), valuable information for dog lovers, a pet first aid station, and (of course) dogs!

For more information about the 5K Paw Walk in the Garden visit RCHS at 389 Requeza Street or SDBG at 230 Quail Gardens Drive in Encinitas. "Like" RCHS and SDBG on Facebook to see event photos.



June 20 is national "Take your Dog to Work Day."

If you would like to participate, here are a few guidelines.

- Make sure it's okay with your boss and the people who work near you.
- Only take dogs that can be comfortable in your work environment.
- Bring everything you need for the day. (Bed, treats, leash, poo bags, etc.)
- Take breaks in approved areas.
- Take a copy of your vaccination records.
- Snap some photos and put them on your Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, or company website.

Don't spend the whole day goofing off. "Work like a Dog" to make sure your employer lets you take your dog to work again next year.





Alli – Happily Ever After Thanks to the Animal Safehouse Program!

We all know a victim of domestic violence. In the January “Fetch” e-newsletter your Rancho Coastal Humane Society told you about Alli...a cat that arrived at RCHS through our Animal Safehouse Program. The story from ASP Manager Amy Heflin generated so much interest that we’re taking this opportunity to tell you more about Alli and how the ASP safety net saved her.

Alli’s “mom,” Stephanie, tells us, “When I took her as my pet Alli was about 3 weeks old, she would sleep on the bed with me every night. I also had an older cat. Boots was about 6 years older than her. He accepted her right away. Boots would carry her around like a mama cat.”

“When Alli was one year old she had a litter of 7 kittens. I gave up 6 of the kittens and kept one. We named her Kermi. Alli was so worried about losing her that she would hide her under the couch. All three of my cats were close to each other.”

We lost Boots in June. Alli still gets jumpy when there is a lot of noise due to the domestic violence in our home and from being moved around a lot. I love her so

much. I gave her and Kermi up because I wanted the best for them. I pray they get adopted by a loving family, where she will get a lot of love and attention.

God Bless,
Stephanie

In a following letter Stephanie wrote, “Thank You Amy for all the support you have provided me and given to my pet kittys, Alli and Kermi. I have been going through a very tough time in my life due to domestic violence and left my home to start a new beginning. I kept nothing but two suitcases and my kittys.

It has meant so much to me that you took Alli and Kermi in to the Animal Safehouse Program. The support I received made it so much easier to get through the tough times.

I am so thankful for Rancho Coastal Humane Society. I am so glad there is a place for animals to get the immediate care that they need, and providing the support to people that are in domestic violence situations.

When my life is back on track; I want to give back to the Humane Society so others can get all the support that I received. I wish there were more shelters that provided this kind of support. Rancho Coastal Humane Society is providing. They are a true blessing.

I Thank You all with all my heart. God Bless each and every one of you.

Stephanie

Your Rancho Coastal Humane Society does not charge for the services we provide through our Animal Safehouse and Pet Crisis Programs. A lack of funds could be all it takes for a victim of domestic violence to remain in their abusive situation. That could cost them their life or the life of their pet. You make the Animal Safehouse and Pet Crisis Programs possible through your generous support. You are part of the safety net.

For more information or to learn how you can be more involved visit Rancho Coastal Humane Society at 389 Requeza Street in Encinitas, call 760-753-6413, or log on to www.sdpets.org.

Together, we save lives.

What are we “Wining” about?



Fine Wine. Fine Food. And a Fine Time just one mile up the street from your Rancho Coastal Humane Society.

Get your tickets now for the 11th annual Encinitas Rotary Wine and Food Festival, Saturday, June 7 from 5 to 8 PM at San Diego Botanic Garden. The event will take place in the Hamilton Children’s Garden. That’s the same spot where you started and ended the “5K Paw Walk in the Garden” in February.

Stroll through the gardens sampling fine wines and beverages from around the world, and tasting the best dishes and desserts from our local restaurants and caterers.

When you buy your tickets, remember to designate Rancho Coastal Humane Society as your beneficiary. Your donation will help people and animals when they need it most.

For more information call 760-753-1977 or visit www.EncinitasWineFestival.com.

IN RECOGNITION

A big "Thank You" to these donors who contributed \$200 or more during 2013.

\$200-\$499

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Thanks to ALL of our donors and friends who so generously support the RCHS programs for people and animals.*

You gave Rancho Coastal Humane Society your trust, your time, and your support last year. What did we do with it?

- Performed sight saving eye surgery for a cat named Squince.
- Paid for life saving hip replacement surgery for a dog named Koa.
- Domestic violence victims were able to escape because the RCHS Animal Safehouse Program provided a safety net for their pets.
- We took a dog named "Batman" into "protective custody" after he survived abusive owners, then placed him in a safe, loving, forever home.
- Cats and dogs about to be given up because their owners could not afford to feed them got the supplies they needed from the Community Pet Food Bank at RCHS.
- Two dogs from the RCHS kennels have been in training to become certified service companions for U.S. Veterans suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder.
- Found a forever home for 11 year-old Duke when his military family was transferred out of the country.
- Provided second chances for hundreds of cats & dogs transferred from other shelters and rescues through our Friends of County Animal Shelters program. More than 90% of the pets adopted from RCHS arrived here through FOCAS.
- Cared for an 18 year old Lhasa Apso when her elderly owner fell and broke his back. Our Pet Crisis Program cared for this dog until its owner was able to leave the hospital.
- Found a home for "K.C." after the Miniature Pinscher survived a near fatal attack.
- Embraced the true meaning of "Adopt a Shelter Cat Month" by increasing the number of cats adopted from RCHS by 68%.
- Educated hundreds of children about the humane and responsible treatment of animals during our Spring, Summer, and Fall Animal Camps.
- Provided Pet Assisted Therapy visits to children struggling to read, residents of extended care facilities, children with autism, stressed-out college students, and United States Marines that were far from home on Thanksgiving day.
- Ensured that no cat or dog had to go hungry during the holiday season through the Community Resource Center's Holiday Food Basket Program.
- Honored those who stood in harm's way...2-footed and 4-pawed...at Rancho Coastal Humane Society's Military Working Dog Memorial.

*You make this possible by donating your time, your talents, and your money.
For those who have no voice... Thank You!*

IN RECOGNITION (Continued)

A big "Thank You" to these donors who contributed \$200 or more during 2013.

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2014 CALENDAR

There's ALWAYS something going on at your Rancho Coastal Humane Society! Here are some highlights for the coming year:

- May** 15: La Jolla Veterinary Hospital "Paws and Pints FOCAS Fundraiser" at La Jolla Brewing Company. Dogs welcome on the patio!
26 Memorial Day observed (RCHS Closed)
- June** Adopt a Shelter Cat Month
7 **RCHS is a beneficiary of the Encinitas Wine Festival**
14 **Semi-annual 50% Off Sale at the RCHS Thrift Shop**
22 RCHS at PETCO Park Adoption Sunday
23 **Summer Animal Camp begins (Through August 15)**
- July** 4 Independence Day (RCHS closed)
26 Zoonitas kickoff at Encinitas Library supporting RCHS Animal Safehouse Program
- August** 9 Meet pets from RCHS at the Cardiff Dog Days of Summer
- September** 1 Labor Day (RCHS Closed)
20 **RCHS Celebration of Second Chances at the Del Mar Country Club**
- October** Adopt a Shelter Dog Month
Domestic Violence Awareness Month.
Learn more about our Animal Safehouse.
20-24 **Fall Animal Camp**
and 27-31
- November** Adopt a Senior Pet Month
2-8 National Animal Shelter Appreciation Week
11 Veterans Day – Visit the Military Working Dog Memorial at RCHS
27 Thanksgiving (RCHS Closed)
- December** 13 **Semi-annual 50% Off Sale at the RCHS Thrift Shop**
19-21 RCHS joins CRC in "Holiday Food Baskets for Pets"

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A Faint Cry For "Help"

Most of us are turned off by the photos of sick animals and the warning that says something like, "This will continue if you don't send us all your money right this minute."

There are pleas that are so vague that you're not sure why they want our support, but if we don't send in a check, the world will go down the tubes.

Your Rancho Coastal Humane Society wants you to know that your donations make a difference.

The visits that you and your dog make to extended care facilities, veterans hospitals, elementary schools, college campuses, and domestic abuse shelters are improving people's lives.

The humane education that kids get at RCHS Animal Camp is an investment in the future.

The dog food, cat food, beds, toys, and brushes that you donate to the Community Pet Food Bank are helping to keep people and their pets together.

Your donations of used items and your purchases at the RCHS Thrift Shop help to support all of our programs for people and animals.

If you want pictures of abused animals... Sorry. We don't do that. We want you to know what we do at RCHS then decide, for yourself, whether it's something you want to support with your time, your talents, or your money. You can call us. You can check out our website. Even better... come see us. We'll be happy to give you the nickel tour and answer your questions.

Thank you for hearing our faint cry for "Help."

Call Rancho Coastal Humane Society
760-753-6413, log on to www.sdpets.org, or
come see us at 389 Requeza Street in Encinitas.



Stay up to date on all things Rancho Coastal, get 6 times as much news, and help the environment. Sign up today for our electronic newsletter Fetch at www.sdpets.org or by scanning here!

