

ON THE POSITIVE SIDE

HSSNM welcomes new coalition leadership

by Frank Bryce

May 1, 2015

The Humane Society of Southern New Mexico is pleased to recognize and welcome the newly elected leadership of the Coalition For Pets and People. Taking office last month, new co-chairwomen Joanne Ferrary and Jessica Barraza, along with Secretary Carolyn Standridge have already demonstrated an eagerness, commitment and leadership that bodes well for even greater accomplishments of the coalition.

The new leaders have immersed themselves in learning about the history of the coalition, begun to establish greater community outreach and are looking toward the goals and direction to be taken by the CFPP as it moves forward. These individuals bring with them impressive resumes, including organizational, management and problem-solving skills, with a deep compassion and desire to resolve the wide array of animal issues we face.

The continuing coalition central initiative plan "Zero in 7" aims to bring together multiple animal organizations, community leaders, activists and a network of volunteers to address the needs of companion animals and their people. It's a very real challenge. We hope the group will find community support from both public and private organizations and individuals to accomplish their task. If you are interested in promoting and advocating the highest level of humane care for companion pets in Doña Ana County, join us at the next Coalition Council meeting at 6 p.m. May 5 at the Thomas Branigan Memorial Library's Rio Grande Room.

In other news, it will be a busy weekend for HSSNM's ongoing microchipping campaign.

From 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, HSSNM will be providing pet microchipping for \$6.35 per pet as part of the "Customer Appreciation Day" at the Check and Go office at 400 N. Telshor, Suite D in Las Cruces.

In the afternoon, the Las Cruces Police Department will be providing Identichild services to attendees.

Natalie DiMatteo with Check and Go said the event will have pizzas, drinks, raffles and prizes.

The La Clinica De Familia will be conducting a Community Health and Safety Fair from 10 a.m.

to 2 p.m. Saturday at the Doña Ana County Sheriff's office, 865 N. Anthony Drive in Anthony, New Mexico. The health fair will offer a wide range of information and resources for safety, medical and dental issues to participants. The fair will also be conducting a blood drive.

This apparently is the first time pet services have also been made available at the health fair. Also on hand will be Dr. Elizabeth Carver, DVM, to provide low-cost pet vaccinations.

Also, if you run out of activities and are looking for that special companion with four legs and loving disposition, HSSNM will be conducting a dog adoption event 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday at PetSmart at the corner of Lohman Avenue and Walnut Street. All of our sweethearts come with up-to-date vaccinations, microchip and are spayed and neutered.

Frank Bryce is President of HSSNM. Interested guest authors can contact HSSNM at 575-523-8020.