

LAS CRUCES SUN-NEWS

On the Positive Side: Volunteers save lives

For the Sun-News

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Volunteers are an integral and critical part of animal shelters. Not only do they support shelter operations, but they also enrich the lives of homeless animals as they await their loving, forever homes.

Working with animals is a rewarding experience and a great opportunity to meet other animal lovers. Animal Services Center of the Mesilla Valley (ASCMV) is grateful for the countless hours that members of the community have donated to help care for Doña Ana County's homeless animals, and we are seeking more volunteers. We have a variety of opportunities available to those who can offer a few hours each month; some of these activities include walking dogs, assisting at off-site adoption events and helping shelter visitors.

Each volunteer opportunity has a significant impact on the animals' lives and is vital to helping reduce the county's pet overpopulation. Orientations are held bi-weekly with training sessions held for those activities, such as dog walking, that require additional information.

If you have some time to spare and enjoy working with the community and its animals, we encourage you to contact Jordan Simons, the volunteer coordinator, for more information. The address is: Animal Services Center of the Mesilla Valley, 3551 Bataan Memorial West, Las Cruces. Phone: (575) 382-0018; Web site: www.ascmv.org

The animals thank you!