

LAS CRUCES SUN-NEWS

“On the Pawsitive Side”

Welfare News for Animals & People

Sunday, March 30, 2008

Positive lifesaving work is happening for dogs and cats in Las Cruces. HSSNM dog adoption events are now every Saturday morning at the Farmers Market on the downtown mall. Affordable dogs are there. Different shapes, sizes, breeds, and even a few lovable mutts are available for adoption. Make it a family event. Look for a pet while browsing the wares on Saturday morning.

These dogs are rescued from our community's public and private animal shelters, and our many foster homes. The many volunteers from the Humane Society of Southern New Mexico and the staff at the Center are working together to bring you affordable altered animals at adoption events. Last week was HSSNM's first adoption event with eight lucky dogs going to their forever homes.

Senator Mary Jane Garcia lent her support to the early development of the LifeSaver system of animal adoptions. Dona Ana County businesses and community organizations sponsor LifeSaver events. Vic Villalobos of American Classifieds and the City of Las Cruces staff recently sponsored the first of these fun team-building events. HSSNM holds regular training for volunteers to get ready for the matchmaker work and good times together as dog meets owner. Let us know if your business or organization is ready to help.

Pet overpopulation remains a very serious problem for the animals and people of Dōna Ana County. Our community animal shelters must become the best place to find our companion animals. Many different breeds of dogs and cats are readily available. Rescue organizations are available for people really interested in a particular breed. Of course we know that the most loving and fun pets are often the “mutt” who never forgets who was the real hero that adopted them.

Be part of the solution. Meet friends, have fun and be a LifeSaver. Drop by to get your next cat at PetSmart, dog at the Saturday Farmers Market adoption event, or visit the Animal Service Center of the Mesilla Valley. You can sign up to volunteer and get connected with the many folks having fun and making a better day at www.hssnm.org or call 522-2529.

By Mike Hainer

President of the Humane Society of Southern New Mexico