Mary S. Roberts
Pet Adoption Center

Serving Since 1897

WOOF & MEOW Gazette

Summer 2020

INSIDE:

Page 2
When the World Closed, Hearts and Homes Opened

Page 3
It Isn't a Foster Fail, It's an Adoption Success!

Page 4
Become a Member, Help Pets

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

The COVID-19 pandemic has not only changed everything worldwide, it has changed our community and the way we live day to day. However, one thing is for certain: despite it all, the Mary S. Roberts Pet Adoption Center continues to provide second chances. And, thanks to all of you, we can continue to love, care for, and nurture the many cats, dogs, puppies, and kittens who need our help.

Over the last few months, we have focused on maintaining our lifesaving programs, while keeping staff and volunteers safe, allowing them to keep their focus on the animals who depend on our care. Throughout it all, our staff has been amazing, our volunteers have helped us out when we needed them, and our community has come through for us. Almost every day, we have been encouraged by the thoughtfulness, generosity, and compassion of our community — it has truly touched our hearts. From people dropping off food for or making donations to our Pet Food Assistance Program, to the outpouring of new foster parent applications, to the many, many adopters who opened their hearts and homes to a new pet, and to everyone adjusting to updates in procedure, policy, and rules, allowing for social distancing and aiding in keeping us all safe, we have been positively impacted by it all. These selfless acts of kindness have given us so many positives to reflect on, and help us all to remember to focus on the good.

The support you provide year-round helped to prepare us for this unparalleled time. Time after time, and no matter what circumstances came our way, our team and our community have been there for the animals. While we don't know what the future holds, we do know that your continued support will pull us through. Our staff, volunteers, and board of directors cannot thank you enough.

When the situation is at its worst, the Pet Adoption Center is at its best — all because of the dedication that surrounds and supports us each and every day.

With gratitude,

Carrie

Carrie Ridgway
Executive Director

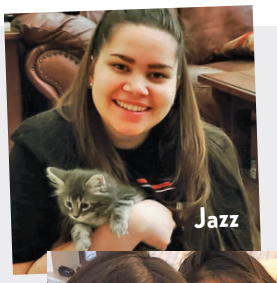
WHEN THE WORLD CLOSED, HEARTS AND HOMES OPENED

CLOSED! Over the past few months, it seemed no matter where you looked, you were bombarded with this word, seeing it all over the community, all over the news, and all over our social feeds. **It even appeared at the Mary S. Roberts Pet Adoption Center (MSRPAC) when we were forced to close our doors in early April, move our adoptable pets into foster homes, and handle adoptions by appointment only.**

OPEN! Yet, even though the Pet Adoption Center's doors were closed, **there were many wonderful people who opened their hearts and homes by adopting an orphaned pet.** During the month of April, over 100 homeless pets found their new families and were adopted into loving homes. The team at MSRPAC reported they have also seen amazing numbers for the months of May and June, with adoptions increasing even more each month. The Pet Adoption Center was able to reopen its doors, with modified operations and hours, in mid-May. This welcomed change, along with many adorable kittens and puppies hitting the correct age and weight to become available, **led to almost 60 pets being adopted during just one week.**

MSRPAC is thankful for the support we have received from the community during these times of uncertainty. There are many things the community, the country, and the entire world is learning from the events over the past few months, but the best things learned are that kindness is contagious and compassion can never be cancelled.

If you'd like to learn more about MSRPAC, view adoptable pets, or learn how you can help, please visit their website at **petsadoption.org.**



IT ISN'T A FOSTER FAIL, IT'S AN ADOPTION SUCCESS!

A dog can bring a smile with a wag of its tail. A dog can bring joy with an unexpected kiss. A dog can bring comfort during an uncertain time, companionship during times of isolation, and can heal a heart with unconditional love.

Sweet Sofie came into our care March 25, and just like all the pets we had onsite, she was moved to a foster home on April 6. **But this wasn't just any foster home; it was the home of the Thompson family, who had recently lost their dog, Turbo, a 14-year-old Jack Russell terrier.** Turbo passed away just as the country was navigating through the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic, leaving his family to deal with the loss of their family dog while simultaneously figuring out how to handle the loss of routine, socializing, and more.

Turbo's family wasn't quite ready to adopt, but thought fostering would bring much-needed joy to their house and provide a homeless pet with a safe and loving place to crash while waiting to be adopted. When the Mary S. Roberts Pet Adoption Center (MSRPAC) put the call out for fosters, the Thompsons quickly volunteered — specifically requesting Sofie, because she reminded them of their beloved Turbo. The Thompson family excitedly picked up Sofie and brought her to their house. They happily showed her around; Sofie investigated and made herself at home — she even showed off her ability to navigate the doggie door with ease. All members of the family agreed that Sofie was special; she was loving, affectionate, and very sweet — **everyone was happy to have Sofie around, even if just temporarily.**

It didn't take long for "temporarily" to turn into "forever." After one night with Sofie, the family was in love and wanted to adopt. They couldn't stand the idea of Sofie going to and getting used to another new environment; they really wanted Sofie to have the stability and security of a permanent home. The family placed a call to our foster care coordinator that morning, and Sofie's adoption was processed less than 24 hours from when Sofie was moved into foster.

Sofie's new family includes her mom, dad (currently serving overseas until July), two human siblings, and a 15-year-old cat sister, Nina. **Sofie's mom says, "I am so happy that Sofie is part of our family. My heart is still healing from Turbo, but I am happy to give a special dog like Sofie a happy life in her golden years, and making many memories with her and my family."**

You can make a difference too. Sofie's mom shared that fostering with MSRPAC is easy. "It makes a difference that MSRPAC makes sure the foster parents have everything needed, so that the family is able to concentrate on loving and taking care of the fosters that come into their homes." To learn more about becoming a foster parent visit our website at **petsadoption.org.**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chairman of the Board
Duane R. Roberts

President
Mike Gardner

Vice President
Tina Grande-Field

Treasurer
Sue Kinsinger

Secretary
Charlotte Ransom-McKenzie

Board Members
Ellie Bennett
Scott Ditfurth
Maureen Lyons
Christopher Moffitt
Ruthan Smith
Jennifer Sniff
Ron Vervick

Emeritus
Wayne Davis, DVM
Joe Tavaglione
Ellen Weinfurtner

CONTACTS

Executive Director
Carrie Ridgway
951-688-4340 ext 313

Donations & Events
Marlene Martinez
951-688-4340 ext 311

Community Outreach
Molly Shannon
951-688-4340 ext 316

Humane Education
Tawny Hendrix
951-688-4340 ext 317

Pet Relinquishment
Marcus Sanders
951-688-4340 ext 309

Animal Care
Brielle Spears
951-688-4340 ext 304

Spay/Neuter Clinic
Dr. Yikcia Pope
951-977-8634

Volunteer Services
Elizabeth Barnhart
951-688-4340 ext 315

Adoptions
Pamela Klein
951-688-4340 ext 310

FACILITY LOCATIONS

Pet Adoption Center
6165 Industrial Ave
Riverside, CA 92504
951-688-4340

Adoptions
Daily 12pm-7pm
Closed Tuesdays

Pet Relinquishments
By appointment
951-688-4340 ext 309

Low Cost Spay/Neuter Clinic
Tuesday-Friday 7:30am-6pm
Appointments Required
951-977-8634

Low Cost Vaccination Clinic
Saturdays 9:30am-11:30am
Walk-Ins

Pet Adoption Thrift Store
6065 Magnolia Ave
Riverside, CA 92506
951-684-6143
Open Daily 12pm-7pm
Donations accepted until 4pm Friday-Monday
Website: petsadoption.org

OUR MISSION

The Mary S. Roberts Pet Adoption Center strives to eliminate the suffering of homeless cats and dogs by providing humane care for pets in transition, facilitating adoptions to good homes, supporting pet overpopulation education, and supporting sterilization of companion animals.

CONNECT

Website: petsadoption.org

TRIBUTES JAN. 1, 2020 – JUNE 30, 2020

Donations in Memory of People
Gisela Hehle
by Dennis and Carol Millar
Adele Lucas
by Gail & Bob Koach
Jessica May Hooten
by Emma Erickson
Joan Loveridge
by Katherine Wider

Donations in Memory of Animals
Buster
by Misty & Chuck Griffin
Rambo
by Misty & Chuck Griffin
Gracie
by Misty & Chuck Griffin
Miss Olivia
by Lisa Holloway

Donations in Honor of People
Gabriel Muro Domingo
by Dustin Domingo
Carey & Doug Winicki
by Rick Overby
Gisela Hehle
by Lorraine Bobby
Patricia Grable
Paula Mallette
Ms. Carla Yawney
by Anthony Tarascio
Nannette Wiecek
by Lia Portener
Joan Loveridge
by Katie Pickett

Donations in Honor of Animals
Ebony
by Misty Griffin
Matilda
by Leannah Bradley
Porter
by Eric and Jessica Winscher
Rigby Griffin
by Chuck and Misty Griffin
Achilles
by Jaime Marie Pinckard
Onyx Powell
by Chuck and Misty Griffin

BECOME A MEMBER, HELP PETS ...

Monthly giving through the People for Paws Program is an incredibly easy way to support the Mary S. Roberts Pet Adoption Center. On the same day of each month, a tax-deductible amount that you choose will be charged to your credit card or deducted from your bank account. At the end of the year, we will send you a receipt for your taxes.

Here's the lifesaving difference you can make:

$10 — Paw Pal

- Gives two animals arriving at the Mary S. Roberts Pet Adoption Center a soft bed, blankets, and a dinner with special treats

$25 — Fur Friend

- Vaccinates one pet against rabies and other deadly diseases

$50 — Best Buddy

- Spays/neuters one pet

$100 — Humane Hero

- Helps newborn puppies or kittens survive by providing special formula and supplies

15-RIVCA-0820-N