Mary S. Roberts
Pet Adoption Center
Serving Since 1897

WOOF & MEOW Gazette

Winter 2025

YOUR SUPPORT & IMPACT

Learn about the differences you've made.

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YOUR KINDNESS MAKES STORIES LIKE KITANA'S POSSIBLE

As this year comes to a close, my heart is full of gratitude for you. Because of your support, pets like Kitana didn't have to face their journey alone. She was first relinquished as part of an unwanted litter, adopted, and then returned when her family fell on hard times. It could've been the end of the road for her, but instead, with your help, we were able to give her comfort, care, and another chance. Today, she's receiving the love and attention she deserves.

It's moments like these that remind me how powerful your kindness really is. Every time you choose to give, you're not just helping an animal — you're rewriting their story. You're turning hardship into hope, fear into safety, and loneliness into love. I see it every single day, and I wish you could see the wagging tails and soft purrs that say thank you in ways words never could.

As we step into a new year, I hope you'll consider making a year-end gift to keep this lifesaving work going. Because every Kitana out there deserves that second chance — and together, we can make sure they get it.

With deep gratitude,

Carrie Ridgway
Executive Director

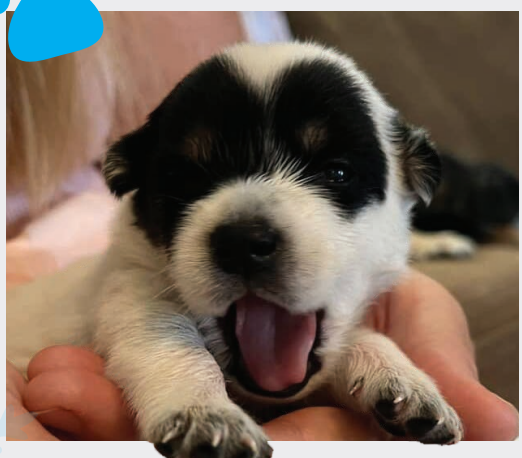
P.S. When I walk through the kennels at night, I see pets resting a little easier because of you. That's the kind of impact you have, and I hope you carry that warmth with you into the new year.

FROM BOTTLE BABY TO BUDDING THERAPY DOG: MATILDA'S JOURNEY

When Matilda (formerly Swan) first came into our care in July of last year, she was just a week and a half old and weighed barely more than a pound. Alongside her littermates, she required bottle feeding and plenty of hands-on care from her foster family. They noticed early on that she struggled to get her hind legs under her, so they worked patiently with her through daily physical therapy — **helping her build strength and confidence until she caught up.**

By September 2024, the once-fragile pup was ready for adoption, and she found her perfect match. **With her adopter's love and commitment, Matilda flourished.** She completed beginner, intermediate, and advanced training classes, and earlier this year, she proudly passed her Canine Good Citizen test. Now, she is preparing to become a certified Therapy Dog, following in the pawprints of her big sister, who has since retired from the role.

Matilda's story is a reminder of what's possible when teamwork, dedication, and compassion come together. From the foster family who gave her a strong start to the adopter who nurtured her potential, Matilda is now on the path to bringing comfort and joy to countless others. She may have started life as a fragile little pup, but today, she is poised to change lives well beyond her own.



KIDS MAKING A DIFFERENCE BEYOND HUMANE EDUCATION

Did you know our Humane Education department offers year-round programs and activities for children, from Animal Kids Camp to Helping Hounds after school programs to birthday parties with a purpose? These programs don't just teach compassion — they inspire action.

Many of the kids who participate have taken their care for animals beyond the classroom. Some have adopted pets of their own, giving them a new, loving home. Others have turned birthdays into giving opportunities, asking friends to bring donations for enrichment items instead of gifts.

One family even decided to foster dogs from our center, giving them a much-needed break from kennel life. These kids read bedtime stories to their foster pup and even made a colorful poster to help promote her adoption!

We are continually inspired by the creativity and kindness of the young people who join our Humane Education programs. They are proof that compassion has no age limit — and that even small actions can make a big difference for pets in need. **To learn more about our programs and services, visit petsadoption.org.**

CORPORATE TEAM BUILDING WITH HEART: RIGHT HERE IN RIVERSIDE

Looking for a team-building activity that goes beyond the office walls? The Mary S. Roberts Pet Adoption Center's **Riverside Rover: Tailored for Teams** program combines meaningful volunteer work with stress-busting time alongside shelter dogs.

Available every Tuesday, 8:00am–4:00pm, this one-of-a-kind program lets businesses and organizations strengthen their teams while making a real difference for pets in need.

- **Group Dog Outings** – Walk adoptable dogs or bring one back to your office for some kennel-free time.
- **Team Building with Impact** – Boost morale and bond with purpose.
- **Flexible & Fun** – We tailor the experience to your group's size and schedule.
- **On-Site Option** – Short on time? We'll bring a shelter dog to you!

Don't just plan another meeting — plan an unforgettable experience that changes lives.

Sign up today and transform your workplace into a force for good, one wagging tail at a time!

And don't forget, you can also join our **Riverside Rovers** community dog walks or host a **Rover Over** short-term stay to help reduce kennel stress and improve adoptability.

Together, we can create happier pets, stronger teams, and a more compassionate community.

SAVE THE DATE

APRIL 18, 2026

WALK with the Animals
Mary S. Roberts Pet Adoption Center

We're excited to announce that our beloved **Walk with the Animals** returns to **Fairmount Park in Riverside** on Saturday, April 18, 2026!

This community favorite is more than just a walk — it's a celebration of pets, people, and the bond we share. Get ready for:

- A scenic walk around beautiful Fairmount Park
- A lively vendor village
- Fun activities for the whole family
- Spirited music and entertainment
- Amazing raffle baskets ... **and plenty more surprises!**

Mark your calendars now — you won't want to miss this unforgettable day of wagging tails, community spirit, and lifesaving support for the animals at Mary S. Roberts Pet Adoption Center.

Sponsors, vendors, and donors are now being accepted. Stay tuned for registration details coming soon!

TRIBUTES

May 1 - August 31, 2025

IN HONOR OF

Roberta Spieler by Michalis Floutis
Aurantia Chapter-NSDAR by Janet Moreland
Pamela Demulling by Carol Cushing
Pamela Demulling by Laura Davis

IN MEMORY OF PET

Ruby E Birts by Jim & Linda Latendresse
Nancy Fiveland by Janis Y. Binam
Matthew Nolasco by Cynthia Nolasco
Carole Patty by Carole Zuloaga
Tarim Atkins-Curtis by Megan Hall
Loriann Erickson by Alice Mendoza
Nancy Fiveland by Leilani Brabant
Hank by Larry Lugo
Patty Griffin by Misty Griffin
Bobo by Jaime Johnson
Daniel Brucic by Leila Chambers

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FACILITY LOCATIONS

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

Adoptions
Daily 12pm - 7pm
Closed Tuesdays

Pet Relinquishments
Appointment Required
Applications can be filled out online at bit.ly/MsrPetRehome

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

Low-Cost Vaccination Clinic
Saturdays
9am - 1pm
Appointment Required
Weekday Appointments
10am -2pm

Pet Adoption Thrift Store
9462 Magnolia Ave
Riverside, CA 92503
951-729-6617
Monday–Friday
10am - 6pm
Saturday
10am - 4pm
Sunday
12pm - 4pm
Donations accepted until 4pm Friday - Monday

CONNECT
petsadoption.org