



Spay and Save

Volunteer Newsletter



ADOPTIONS
March to June
Cats 77
Dogs 0

Spay and Save to Resume Adoption Days..HELP!

By Toni Dougherty

Hopefully the Covid 19 Pandemic will soon be behind us and we can resume cat and dog to person meetings, better known as ADOPTION DAYS, in our favorite retailers. This pandemic has been hard on our retailers but especially hard on the cats and dogs that need homes. We have had surprising success with adoption through our Web and Facebook pages but most potential adopters like the "that puppy in the window", "love at first sight" experience when choosing to "Love a Friend for Life".

Following are some thoughts from Chris Daniels on this but most of all we will need some willing volunteers to get the Adoption Days rolling again. On Page 6 are some T shirts that can be purchased from several resources, but I have included the one that seems to have the best price. Order one and come wearing it for our first ADOPTION DAY IN THE NEAR FUTURE

WE NEED YOUR HELP...

By Chris Daniels

Although we held an outside adoption day at Roxborough Pet Valu on Saturday, June 28, 2020, both Conshohocken and Gateway Pet Valu stores have not invited us back as of yet. PETCO stores have not reinitiated adoption days but have allowed us to display our cats at 50% capacity (in other words we may use the bottom OR top of the habitat.) Keep up the positive thoughts and prayers for our full return in the not too distant future.



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Adoptions, Fosters Empty Shelter Cages During COVID-19 Crisis

Editor's Note: This is an article I found in USA Today on April 28th, 2020 about the emptying of the shelters in the last few months and it was not unexpected that the stay at home order might create a good environment to introduce a new family member. My feeling on this issue is that the optimism might be premature for several reasons one of which was addressed in the article below. What happens when people resume working schedules? Also aside from this how many animals have not been rescued for lack of volunteers as a result of the stay at home order? Will we see a big influx of returned animals and rescued cats, dogs, and kittens once everything returns to normal? I hope not. **Maybe one good thing about this Pandemic is that it has made a real dent in the unwanted pet population. Cont.on Page 2**



Adoptions Foster Empty Shelters cont.

From USA Today April 2020

"America's animal shelters have been transformed during the COVID-19 pandemic by surging adoptions and fosters and plummeting pet populations. But be sure of this: Shelters will never run out of animals in need.

In fact, few shelters are empty, notwithstanding the cheery videos you may have seen. Most still have adoptable cats and dogs, though there might be a waiting list to get one.

The heartening news is that Americans have stepped up by the tens of thousands to adopt, foster or just clean cages at their local shelters as social distancing, combined with reduced staffing, has closed facilities to the public and sent adoption processes online.

When Dumb Friends League, a private animal shelter in Denver, put out a call for volunteers to foster dogs, cats, bunnies, guinea pigs and even horses, more than 2,200 people signed up.

"People are saying, 'I just really want to help and feel like I'm making a difference in some shape or form,' " says shelter spokeswoman Maia Brusseau.

Happy news: Pet adoptions are way up amid coronavirus crisis, even with shelters closed to public.

Fact check :Pets will not spread the coronavirus to their owners

But they have not run out of animals, says Brusseau; far from it. Dumb Friends is the largest shelter in the Rocky Mountain region, caring for 21,000 animals last year. Earlier this week, there were 1,115 dogs, cats, and other small animals in its care, including fosters, and that total changes "hourly," she says.

Still, shelters and animal welfare organizations have made herculean efforts to reduce their populations since the pandemic started.

♥ Are shelters really empty amid the coronavirus crisis?

Shelters describe themselves as empty or near empty, at least temporarily, based on their success at getting animals fostered or adopted quickly. But often there are remaining animals, especially dogs, who are not adoptable for medical or behavioral reasons, plus a steady stream of strays coming in.

The spike in adoption and fostering is no exaggeration

Jennifer Bilodeau of Cornelius, North Carolina, slipped into the Lake Norman Humane Society in nearby Mooresville this month just before the state's "stay-at-home" order, with an eye to adopt another cat. Eventually, she took home a black kitten with green eyes whom she named Roe.

"People have the time (now), we're home so why not?" Bilodeau says.

Adoptions, Foster Empty Shelters cont.

"There's no reason not to do it, considering that they're better off in your living room than in a shelter."

♥ So what happens when pet parents return to work?

"One of the concerns is animals currently in foster care being returned to shelters when their caregivers go back to work," says Jim Tedford, head of the national Association for Animal Welfare Advancement. "There is concern that shelter intakes will skyrocket after the pandemic. "But returning to work means people who lost their jobs during lockdowns will be better able to pay for pet food and supplies, thus avoiding increased shelter populations from pets surrendered for economic reasons.

It could also reduce the long lines at pet-food giveaway events organized by shelters and pet-food companies, such as the one in mid-April at Miami-Dade County Animal Services, when more than 500 cars turned up two hours before the start and they ran out of food after distributing 11,000 pounds. They're already planning a bigger giveaway for May.

People and Their Pets in a Pandemic



Chinese pet owners are creating makeshift coronavirus masks for their cats and dogs

Despite advice that animals cannot catch the virus, fears were sparked in China when Prof. Li Lanjuan, a member of the senior expert team from China's National Health Commission, suggested that animals might have to quarantine if they came into contact with a human patient.



Most of the masks used were intended for human use and many got creative as with the dog, where a plastic cup was used as a mask.

Below of course no one will miss the opportunity to make some money by coming up with cat faced masks and a T Shirt design that says I survived the Coronavirus 2019.



Adoption Fees Why Not?

BY SARA SIKORA

What should you say when folks question: WHY does Spay and Save not charge an adoption fee? I feel that it is important for them to know.

Spay and Save does not have a "set adoption fee." One of the tenants that this organization was founded upon by our beloved Peg Banes was that no one put an amount on an animal's life. Upfront costs should be used for the necessary vet care, because you should have your new furry friend checked out within the first few weeks of adoption for a check up and any needed vaccines, as well as food, litter, beds and other fun pet supplies you may or may not need.

After a month or so, Spay and Save will send you a letter asking for a donation. Again, the founder did not want to place a set amount on the donation because she felt that no one person's finances are the same. A fee of \$125 could turn away a perfectly caring, devoted adopter; it could be "pocket change" for someone else. So the donation amount is left to the adopter's discretion, and the generosity of most adopters is just awe-inspiring.

Basically Spay and Save covers all upfront costs for veterinary care, vaccines, treatment, food and other expenses so that the adopter does not have the added expense of an adoption fee. We rely on donations to recoup our monies so we can keep doing what we do without adoption fees.

Gaby Bold our New Website and Social Media Gruu

From Chris Daniels:

This is our newest Facebook/website and social media guru. She has made multiple contributions to our organization and posts on Facebook plus helps Barb Hardy with website tasks. Gaby is eager to learn and has been a tremendous help on adoption days at the Limerick Petco. Here is a bit about Gaby in her own words.

In March, my work hours were reduced due to COVID-19. I felt that this was a perfect opportunity to shift my assistance with Spay and Save from attending adoption events and cleaning the Limerick habitats weekly to providing digital support. My goal is to learn the processes to jump in and help when/where I can. I would like to record these processes onto 'how to' documents for future reference and/or to build the website's "help documents" section. Every day is a new opportunity to change the world. Even if we are in lockdown, we all have the internet at our fingertips!

Why volunteer my time for an animal shelter? Well, 4 years ago, I rescued my first cat, Zelda (a beautiful blue) from Forever Home Animal Rescue. She has been my rock through some tough situations. About a year later it seemed that she needed a housemate. I associated myself with Forgotten Cats and started the foster-to-adopt process, and soon Auryn (dilute tuxedo) became part of our family. Visiting their Trainor facility was extremely rewarding, and I was hooked! Since that building was so far from where I live in Royersford, I switched my focus by filling in at the Pottstown Petco where they have adoptable cats. This past fall I decided that it was time to find a closer rescue and one that adopted out cats and dogs. My boyfriend and I were getting ready to expand our family further by adopting a dog. Suddenly we met Zara in October and could not leave the pop-up adoption event without her. She has certainly made our family complete for now! However, I have not given up hope that someday I can be a foster for our organization, unfortunately we need a bigger home before that next dream can come true.



Volunteer Corner

Spotlight on Susan Trombadore and Kathy O'Brien

By Chris Daniels

Many persons have donated funds for adoptions and others have donated to our general operations fund, but no one actually thought of foster moms and dads impacted by the Covid 19 pandemic. Susan Trombadore did. Susan has been in our organization for 15 plus years, maintaining cages at Limerick Petco and coordinating Perk Valley Pet Eatery adoption days. Offering two separate extremely generous donations, Spay and Save was able to purchase several food cards. Susan's generosity prompted our Kathy O'Brien to follow suit. Kathy is our follow-up coordinator who has been with our organization for 20 plus years. Susan's giving spirit and Kathy's generosity allowed 15 foster moms and dads to receive much-needed assistance.

On May 16th, Charlene Choate took Chester to his forever home. It was love at first sight despite obstacles of a mask! Charlene and John Choate were previous adopters and we have no doubt they will give this little boy all the love and attention he deserves!



Right: Meet Frisky and Sarah McCarthy who is the wonderful human being who is offering this 16-year-old cat a comfortable caring home for his remaining years. Frisky was abandoned at a kill shelter in Philadelphia by his owners who said he had "diarrhea." After viewing our website and video, this lovely young woman stepped up to offer Frisky a second chance in life. Frisky was adopted from my home on Monday with mask, gloves and required social distancing!



Left : Guy Homer looks dashing with his newly grown beard and long hair. Guy and Shelly Homer are long-time volunteers who despite these uncertain times, continue to bring newspapers, supplies and offer their printing services to our organization. THANKS to all our Spay and Save family who continue to help.

Below: Benny seems to have finally found his forever human! Benny and Carl Huebner are inseparable. They go everywhere together and share the good life. Benny had a LONG, EXHAUSTING AND COMPLICATED stay at Spay and Save. We are GRATEFUL to Carl who had the patience and love to give this fine boy a forever home.



Calendar of Upcoming Events

Date	Event Location	Coordinators
1 st Saturday	Gateway Pet Valu (Dogs)	Theresa Lare
1 st Saturday	Limerick Petco	Stacia Ferraioli
5 th Saturday	Paoli PETCO	Kathy Tierney
5 th Saturday	Conshohocken Pet Valu	Beth Licata
2 nd Saturday	Gateway Pet Valu	Janet Leach
2 nd Saturday	Exton Petco	Chris Daniels
3 rd Saturday	Limerick Petco	Madelyn Ferraioli
4 th Saturday	Port Valley Pet Eatery	Susan Trombadore
4 th Saturday	Extonborough Pet Valu	C Daniels/Joan Carr
4 th Saturday	Blue Bell Pet Valu (Dogs)	Paula Wenke

Adoption Days
Soon to Resume



Come Dressed to Volunteer at Adoption Days



These tee shirts are available for 19.00+ at <https://www.etsy.com>



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- ♥ President: Chris Daniels
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- ♥ Secretary: Kimberly Shaw
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