



On Location!



SUMMER 2012 NEWSLETTER OF ACTORS AND OTHERS FOR ANIMALS

WWW.ACTORSANDOTHERS.COM

ACTORS AND OTHERS FOR ANIMALS TO ADMINISTER HEIGL RAY OF HOPE FREE SPAY/NEUTER PROJECT



RACHAELRAY
NUTRISH™



Actors and Others is very pleased to be administering the “Heigl Ray of Hope” spay/neuter program generously funded by the Jason Debus Heigl Foundation, Rachael Ray, and the Los Angeles County Animal Care Foundation. This ongoing program provides free spay and neuter surgeries for the residents of El Monte and Baldwin Park in an effort to reduce the number of unwanted animals that end up in the Baldwin Park Shelter. There is a limit of five (5) pets per household (no feral cats), and verification of residency will be required at the time of surgery. There are no other requirements. Only those living within zip codes 91706, 91731, 91732 and 91733 are eligible. Anyone wishing to make a reservation should call Actors and Others at 818.755.6045.

Actress Katherine Heigl and her mother Nancy founded the Jason Debus Heigl Foundation in memory of their brother and son, Jason Debus, to improve the plight of pets through a variety of programs. Celebrity Chef and animal lover Rachael Ray, in partnership with Ainsworth Pet Nutrition, created a premium line of pet foods and treats called Rachel Ray Nutrish, of which she donates 100% of her proceeds to help with the care and protection of animals in need. The Los Angeles County Animal Care Foundation is a private nonprofit foundation that supports the County Department of Animal and Control. We thank them all for their dedication and participation.

Actors and Others is privileged to be part of this cooperative action to end the tragedy of pet overpopulation and homelessness. This program will be expanding to encompass other vicinities.

DOG SPAYS 26,457
DOG NEUTERS 20,613



CAT SPAYS 41,724
CAT NEUTERS 30,170



MEDICALS 11,642



RABBIT SPAYS 509
RABBIT NEUTERS 570



PET THERAPY PATIENT VISITS 204,762
HUMANE EDUCATION STUDENTS 48,513



YOUR DONOR DOLLARS AT WORK 2001-2011

Because of your continuing support during the past decade, we are happy to report that more and more animal guardians have learned the importance of having their pets spayed or neutered. More veterinary resources are also now available, but the economic challenges of the last few years have meant that many are struggling to care for their companions. Actors and Others remains a primary resource for these economically disadvantaged animal guardians in Los Angeles and adjacent counties.

Caring for Animal Companions Who Share Our Homes And Our Hearts



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*Founded in 1971 by
Diana and Richard Basehart*

Edited by Susan Taylor

SUMMER LEARNING

This summer we are once again presenting our very popular humane education program "Safety Around Dogs" in local area libraries. Approved by the L.A. Public Library system, this program utilizes puppets and other materials to prepare young children how to react around dogs and how to responsibly care for and protect their pets. Children and parents alike give this program five paws, and we invite you to join us at one of the following presentations:



July 5	4:00 p.m.	Sylmar Library	July 19	(TBA)	Northridge Library
July 7	3:30 p.m.	West Valley Library	July 24	(TBA)	Angeles Mesa Library
July 11	4:00 p.m.	San Fernando Library	July 25	10:00 a.m.	Sunland Library
July 12	4:00 p.m.	Sun Valley Library	July 26	1:30 p.m.	Malabar Library
July 14	4:00 p.m.	Canoga Park Library	July 31	4:00 p.m.	Lakeview Terrace Library
July 17	4:00 p.m.	Encino-Tarzana Library	August 1	2:00 p.m.	Woodland Hills Library
July 18	4:00 p.m.	Van Nuys Library			

NEW MOBILE APP HELPS KEEP PETS SAFE



IN CASE OF EMERGENCY
Help ensure your pets safety while you are away!
www.iceforpets.com

There is a new emergency mobile app designed to help pet guardians keep their pets safe. Called ICE for PETS ("in case of an emergency"), the app contains many features that allow you to store a range of information, such as the name and address of your veterinarian, so that if need be it is in the palm of your hand. But its most important facet provides pet guardians with the ability to send a text to a designated person, such as a family member or pet sitter, alerting them to "an emergency" situation such as a delayed flight, having to work late or the unforeseen traffic accident in which you are unable to get home to care for your pets. The app even sends you several warnings before actually sending the SOS message. Our board member, Clara Tortomasi, gave it a try and recommends it as a great security tool. It is available on iTunes for \$0.99 and can also be downloaded at www.iceforpets.com.

PLAN TODAY FOR YOUR PET'S PERPETUAL CARE

Most of us think of ourselves as pet parents and treat our animal companions as beloved family members. So it is important that we make plans now to care for them in case we become medically incapacitated or pass away. California allows Pet Trusts which permit you to appoint a caretaker and leave instructions and funds for their continuing care. As with our own estate planning, it is a good idea to have an attorney prepare these documents for you. However, there is also an alternative that you can do yourself called a Pet Protection Agreement. You can get more information and prepare the agreement at LegalZoom.com.



SPAY AND NEUTERING PETS SAVES LIVES

THE DOGS WHO TAUGHT US A VALUABLE LIFE LESSON



The media attention of the black Labrador dog who sat stoically next to her deceased male companion touched all of our hearts. Ultimately “Maggie” was reunited with her family. And for most of us that is where the story ended. But in truth that is where the story just begins. At Actors and Others, we believe it is a cautionary tale worth repeating.

Maggie had escaped from her new owners’ garage. She was not spayed, licensed, microchipped or vaccinated and was not wearing any collar or ID tag. We will never know where she met her unidentified companion, but you can be sure it was because of mating instincts. This sad story highlights the very serious message that it is in fact a *matter of life and death* to be a responsible pet guardian. Imagine your beloved companion roaming the streets in search of a familiar face, a recognizable voice only to be injured and/or killed. It happens every day in every city around the country. In fact, dogs and cats being hit by cars is one of the most common medical emergencies we handle at Actors and Others, and it is even more tragic if you do not have enough funds to care for such unforeseen accidents.



This saga also calls attention to the heartbreaking apathy of society in general, as well as the inspiring truth that it only takes one person to make a difference. Eric, the empathetic Good Samaritan who stopped, used cones and his car to block traffic and risked his own safety to protect these gentle creatures exemplifies the common decency that should be second nature to all of us but was glaringly missing here. Incredibly, as Eric lay on his knees, keeping Maggie calm, two Sheriff Deputies drove by and a third joined with the crowd of gawkers standing around dispassionately recording the event.

For over 40 years Actors and Others has been diligently working to help pet guardians protect and care for their pet companions by first and foremost ensuring that they are spayed or neutered. Maggie’s story and that of her deceased companion and of her savior Eric underscores our duty to be responsible pet guardians as well as citizens and should be a daily reminder that the most important way to safeguard our pets from roaming and facing life alone and on the streets is to ensure that they are spayed or neutered.

HOW TO BE A RESPONSIBLE PET GUARDIAN

- Spay/Neuter for both health and safety reasons and to easily and totally eliminate the instinctual desire to breed.
- Be sure your pet wears some sort of ID tag or microchip.
- Make certain all doors and gates are securely latched at all times.
- Always leash your dog.
- Keep your pet healthy. Preventing illness costs less than treating it.
- Clean litter boxes daily.
- Remember your pet is a companion for life!



MEMORIALS, TRIBUTES AND CELEBRATIONS

*Memory is a way of holding onto the things you love, the things you are, the things you never want to lose.
~From the television show The Wonder Years*

We invite you to honor and share a memory on these pages. Birthday wishes or a thank you to a special animal lover or veterinarian are also welcome. When accompanied by a contribution of \$20 or more, tributes or accolades will be printed in our bi-annual newsletter.

This past year, Actors and Others lost several dear friends – **Stuart S. Friedman, D.V.M.** and **Chet Dowling** – whose support and counsel date back to our humble beginnings. Their dedication and hard work are forever weaved into our fabric. **Dr. Robert Warburton Miller**, husband and father to two of our treasured friends and supporters, Dr. Joyce Miller and Page Lane Miller, will be missed as well. In addition, we also want to specifically remember Dr. Friedman’s wife **Sonja Friedman**, actress **Peggy Jane Rae**, “Laugh In” alumni **Alan Sues** and good friend Gail Campbell Blue’s husband, **Larry Blue**. And we would like to remember one of our beloved pet therapy volunteers, **Melita**, a gentle Golden Retriever, who with her guardian Elodie Lorenz spent six years visiting the patients at the Tarzana Rehabilitation Center. They all live on in the friendship and kindness they brought into our lives.

IN THE NAME OF ROB FRIEDMAN IN MEMORY OF STUART S. FRIEDMAN, D.V.M.

Summit Entertainment Peter Bernstein
Ranee Turtle Jackie Rubin
Louise Kaufman Auri Maruri
Andrew Matosich Erik Feig
Bob Hayward William Nicholson
Jon Feltheimer Paul Katz
Jeff Longo High Country Resort Properties
Jackie Rubin Earl Holliman
Ilanna Bavli

IN MEMORY OF SUSANNA FOSTER

Connie Billips

TO NEAL & THOMAS, IN MEMORY OF MORTY

Toni Sherman and Don Meyer

SPECIAL HOLIDAY WISHES TO RON AND GERALYN CORCILLO

Margaret Corcillo and David Pietsch

IN MEMORY OF CHET DOWLING

Barbara Awerkamp

IN MEMORY OF REGINA MILLE

Harriet and William Rothlisberger

New Mexico Celtic Singers

John Maguire

IN MEMORY OF MY BELOVED “CHICKIE”

Joan Frankel

IN LOVING MEMORY OF CHIKIS MEJIA-RAMOS

Pam Rainey

IN MEMORY OF ANASTASIA AND PRINCETON

Robert and Roberta Kamaunu

IN MEMORY OF CLAUDIA

Carole Jane Grant

IN MEMORY OF SENSHI

Eileen Harte

IN MEMORY OF RICHARD BASEHART

Kelly and Betty Tower

IN THE NAME OF HAYLEY HORWIN

MEMORY OF NOEL HORWIN

Anonymous

IN MEMORY OF KEVIN COUGHLIN

Wanda Tomaski

IN MEMORY OF ALTHENA, MY BELOVED CAT

Jean Tanaka

IN THE NAME OF MARSHA HERVEY

Anonymous

TO THE WILSON FAMILY, IN MEMORY OF LUCKY

Toni Sherman

TO ELI LIEBERMAN

Carole Jane Grant

IN MEMORY OF MY RESCUED DOG CASSIE

Irene Brown

IN MEMORY OF VIKING

Anonymous

TO FEHERVARI FAMILY, IN MEMORY OF BUSTER

Carole Jane Grant

TO ELLIE ALTSHULE, IN MEMORY OF AWSLEMA

Toni Sherman

IN THE NAME OF LISA AND GREG GUZZETTA

Teresa Spence

IN THE NAME OF OSCAR AND GLORIA SCHUSTER

Nancy Dorfman

Actors and Others for Animals is deeply grateful to **Judith Hopper** who remembered us in her Will. By doing so she created a loving, lasting memorial to the affection she had for her pets and all animals. If you are interested in establishing such an estate plan, Actors and Others will be happy to work with you. These heartfelt gifts allow us to provide more services for the benefit of animals and those who care for them.

We just learned of the passing of another dear friend, **Bob Stewart**. Bob was truly a television icon, creating and producing the classic game shows “The Price Is Right,” “To Tell the Truth,” “\$10,000 Pyramid” and “Password.” He helped us celebrate our 40th anniversary last year by roasting our mutual long-time friend Betty White with his unforgettable wit and wisdom. We thank Bob for all of the wonderful memories.



THANK YOU BETTY WHITE AND THE PETCO FOUNDATION FOR BEING OUR FRIENDS AND RAISING OVER \$250,000



*“Thank you for being a friend
Traveled down the road and back
again
Your heart is true you’re a pal and
a confidant*

*I’m not ashamed to say
I hope it always will stay this way
My hat is off, won’t you stand up
and take a bow*

*And if you threw a party
Invited everyone you knew
You would see, the biggest gift
would be for me
And the card attached would say
Thank you for being a friend”*

*Theme song of the “Golden Girls,”
by Andrew Gold*

On March 10, 2012 at the Sheraton San Diego Hotel & Marina, the Petco Foundation hosted their Fourth Annual Hope Gala. The 2012 Hope Award was presented to Actors and Others’ board member and BFF, **Betty White**. Her unselfish commitment to the protection and care of all animals brought her to San Diego to help raise over \$250,000 for Actors and Others to continue our work! In fact, she was the first one of the evening to stand and pledge a donation! In accepting the honor Betty said it all: *“It is wonderful to receive this award, for both the honor it bestows and for what it implies – a better future for animals. That is why we are all here tonight – to help the animals.”*



Paul Jolly, Executive Director of the Foundation since its establishment, helped highlight the theme of the evening by reciting a story about a stray dog that shared his home for a very short time but launched him on a life’s quest that ultimately led to the Petco Foundation and to Actors and Others. Each word vividly transported the audience through the anguish, desolation and pain suffered by this discarded dog while at the same time also providing hope for a better day. The Petco Foundation is the philanthropic arm of the pet specialty retailer Petco Animal Supplies and has raised over \$90 million since its inception in 1999 to help promote and improve the welfare of companion animals and works with over 7,500 local animal welfare groups across the country.



At the pre-dinner cocktail party, Betty White joined Actors and Others president, **JoAnne Worley**, board members **Loretta Swit** and **Jackie Joseph**, **Doris Roberts**, **Fred Willard**, **Cindy Williams**, **Claudia Bassols** and **Nancy Dussault** in presenting the ever irascible but lovable **Ed Asner** with the 2012 Actors and Others for Animals Betty White Award for being a lifelong humanitarian and animal lover. We could think of no better surroundings to celebrate Betty White and the Petco Foundation and bring full circle the collaborations we all share on behalf of animals.



LIBY GETS NEEDED VETERINARY CARE

Pet guardians continue to face some very tough choices about both the financial as well as emotional price tag that comes with having a pet in need of veterinary care. We were very happy to be able to help Maryann and Keith who recently had to file for bankruptcy and are living day to day uncertain what the future holds. “My husband and I are so very grateful to Actors and Others for helping us to pay for Liby’s dental work. She is nine years old and has epilepsy and congestive heart failure. Her teeth and gums were severely infected. My husband is 80 years old and has been out of work for two years. We knew we would lose her if she didn’t have her teeth and gums worked on. We don’t think we can find the words to express our gratitude. Thanks to your help we should have many more years with our little girl. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.”



HELPING THE HOMELESS



Thanks to funding by Actors and Others, 50 cats/dogs belonging to mostly homeless pet guardians residing in the “Old Town” area of Victorville are receiving a free spay/neuter surgery, rabies vaccine, and a city of Victorville dog license under a program which is being

provided through the Victor Valley Animal Protective League and administered by Mojave Desert Apple Rescue (MDAR). Many of these homeless residents love their pets very much and want to do the right thing but do not have the required identification or proof of residency. So MDAR issues a voucher to be presented at the time of surgery to verify their need and qualifications. MDAR also provides food, basic pet supplies and veterinary assistance to the homeless, disabled and unemployed in the high desert region so that they can keep their beloved companions.

87 CATS SPAYED AND NEUTERED



As soon as the weather turns warm, cats start breeding. So with the unusual warm weather of the past year, almost every unspayed outside female cat is pregnant, in heat or nursing. Actors and Others participated in a recent Antelope Valley cat spay day whereby 40 female and 17 male pet cats were sterilized. Volunteers provided transportation and even carriers to bring the cats to Valley Vet Non-Profit in Simi Valley. The program was so successful that at the end of the day, there was a waiting list of 30. Actors and Others was more than happy to give the go ahead to have these 30 cats spayed or neutered to stop the breeding cycle and the unthinkable number of unwanted kittens!

PET THERAPY TEAMS TO GET PERSONALIZED VESTS



For over 23 years, Actors and Others’ Pet Assisted Therapy teams have been visiting hospitals, rehabilitation centers and convalescent homes to bring patients a little bit of attention and

companionship and provide a welcome distraction from pain and isolation. Many of the animals have themselves been rescued and gone through their own rehabilitation and convalescent. Thanks to the generosity of the Petco Foundation Gala fundraising event, we are thrilled that our canine team members will soon be outfitted in their own personalized vests to easily identify them as official representatives of Actors and Others’ Pet Therapy program.