

The PAWsitive

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REUNION — Dillon Morgado, 21, and Jackson the 7-year-old Alaskan Malamute reunite at the Western Riverside County/City Animal Shelter in Jurupa Valley. Jackson and the Morgado family were apart for more than three years — but a microchip played a vital role in the happy reunion. Please see page 4. (Photo by Public Information Officer John Welsh)

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Shelter Pets Ready for Fair

Shelter Workers Hope to Go Home Empty Handed



If this year's Riverside County Fair and National Date Festival is anything like last year's event, the county's animal shelters are going to see empty kennel runs. And that's exactly the result everyone is hoping for when the county fair kicks off on Friday, Feb. 13. Riverside County Animal Services placed almost 200 dogs in loving homes during the fair's two-week run, surprising everyone's expectations. The \$20 special adoption rate played a major role in the high number of adoptions. Also, adopters were allowed to leave their pet in the holding area to enjoy the fair all day long before they headed home with their pet. The county will once again offer the dogs for the special rate of \$20 — which includes the pet's spay or neuter surgery, a microchip and vaccinations. A dog license fee of \$16 will apply if the adopter lives in Riverside County's service areas. Keep a watch on our Facebook page for a sneak preview of the dogs making the trek.



The Riverside County Fair & National Date Festival ("Datefest") runs Feb. 13 to Feb. 22 at the county fairgrounds, located at 82-503 Highway 111, in the city of Indio. Visit the official Web site for much more information about special events:

<http://www.datefest.org/>

***FUN TIME AT THE FAIR** — These photos are from our fun during the 2014 Datefest. Photos by John Welsh, PIO, Riverside County Animal Services*

** SAVE THE DATE **

UPCOMING EVENTS, COUNTY HOLIDAYS, ETC.

ART FOR THE ANIMALS SUBMISSION PERIOD: Feb. 2 to Feb. 26. Visit our Web site for all the key



details: www.rcdas.org (The image of cat looking out window, “City Kitty Enjoys Her View,” left, is courtesy of local artist Joan Coffey.)

LOW-COST VACCINATION CLINICS: First Wednesday night of every month and third Saturday of every month at the county’s main shelter, 6851 Van Buren Blvd., Jurupa Valley, CA. (NOTE: Walk-in vaccinations are available 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays at the San Jacinto Valley Animal Campus, 581 S. Grand Ave., San Jacinto, CA).

DOG ADOPTIONS AT THE FAIR: Feb. 13 to Feb. 22: Riverside County Fair & National Date Festival (“Datefest”), county fairgrounds, 82-503 Highway 111, Indio, CA.

LINCOLN’S BIRTHDAY (OBSERVED): Shelters will be closed on Thursday, Feb. 12, in recognition of President Lincoln’s birthday.

WASHINGTON’S BIRTHDAY (OBSERVED): Shelters will be closed on Monday, Feb. 16, in recognition of President Washington’s birthday.

FREE DOG AND CAT FOOD FOR NEEDY PET OWNERS:

Tentatively set for Wednesday morning, March 4. Sponsored by the Animal Solutions Konnection (ASK) Foundation. We will e-mail past recipients. First come, first serve. Recipients must qualify. Please read the news release at www.rcdas.org.

SPRING DOG OLYMPICS/Day Camp: March 30 to April 3, Western Riverside County/City Animal Shelter,



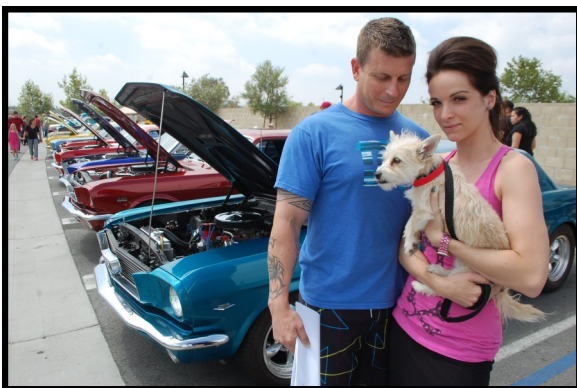
6851 Van Buren Blvd., Jurupa Valley, CA. Ages 7 to 15. Visit our Web site for more information: www.rcdas.org

ART FOR THE ANIMALS LIVE AUCTION: Sunday, March 29, 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., Riverside Art Museum (RAM), 3425 Mission Ave., Riverside, CA.

ART FOR THE ANIMALS ONLINE AUCTION PERIOD: April 7 to April 21. Visit www.rcdas.org for all the details.

PARK N BARK CAR SHOW & SPECIAL ADOPTION EVENT: Saturday, May 30, (Time: TBA) Western Riverside

County/City Animal Shelter, 6851 Van Buren Blvd., Jurupa Valley, CA.



Jackson Goes Home

Animal Control Officer Will Luna has handled small dogs, big dogs, vicious dogs, and scooped up more than one litter of puppies in his career with Riverside County. On Jan. 23, he met up with one of the largest, hairiest dogs he's ever had to impound. Jackson the 7-year-old Alaskan Malamute, at 145 pounds, was certainly a big boy. Of course, his gorgeous coat of fur made him look so much bigger. He certainly was one of the sweetest dogs Luna has met.

And the best news of all: underneath all that coat, embedded in his skin, we scanned for a microchip and the scanner beeped. Music to our ears! We called Jackson's owners and two brothers drove to our main shelter to reunite with Jackson — THREE YEARS AFTER he disappeared. Indeed, a windstorm knocked down a fence at the family's Jurupa Valley home and Jackson escaped. Someone obviously gave him a home and some care until the day he landed back on the streets and into Officer Luna's arms.

When a veterinary technician from Riverside County Animal Services called Jackson's owners, the news stunned the family.

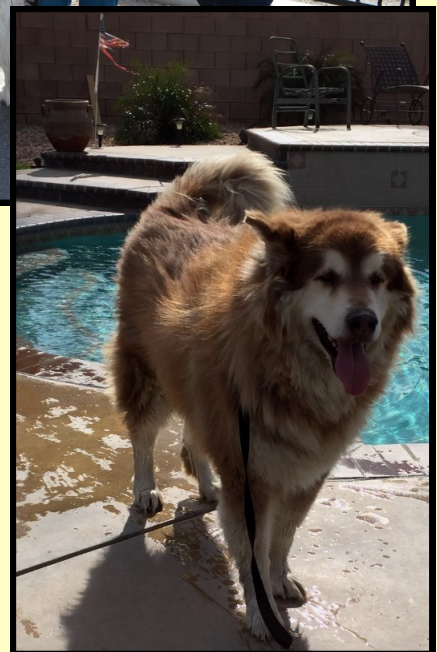
"I almost fell out of my chair," said Jackson's owner, Wendy Morgado of Jurupa Valley. She and her husband, Rey, adopted Jackson from a rescue group several years ago. They looked everywhere, posted signs, called the shelter, etc. Veterinary Technician Itzel Vizcarra called Ms. Morgado as soon as the microchip number popped up on a scanner.

"We have Jackson," Vizcarra said.

"What did you say?" a shocked Ms. Morgado said. "I got chills," she said.

Shortly afterward, her two sons, Dillon, 21, and Hunter, 20, drove to the shelter to make the reunion official. Such reunions do happen at the shelter from time to time — all thanks to microchips. It's important to note, of course, that stray animals, if found by a Good Samaritan, deserve a chance to get back to their rightful owner. Posting fliers, visiting local shelters with a "FOUND" flier, etc., are helpful tips.

On his second day back at his rightful home, Jackson was on the road again. This time it was for a much needed trek to the groomers. Now he's home, resting well with his three buddies: Roxy and Davey the Great Danes and Skittles the Shih Tzu.



TOP RIGHT: Animal Control Officer Will Luna and Jackson the Alaskan Malamute (Photo by Sgt. Cynthia Lee); Middle: Lots of staff at the main shelter were thrilled to hear Jackson was going home after a three-year absence; RIGHT: Jackson is back to dipping his paws in the pool and taking a few sips too. (Photo courtesy of Morgado family).

Did You See Us on National TV?

Our Shelter Dogs Loved on 'The Ellen DeGeneres Show'



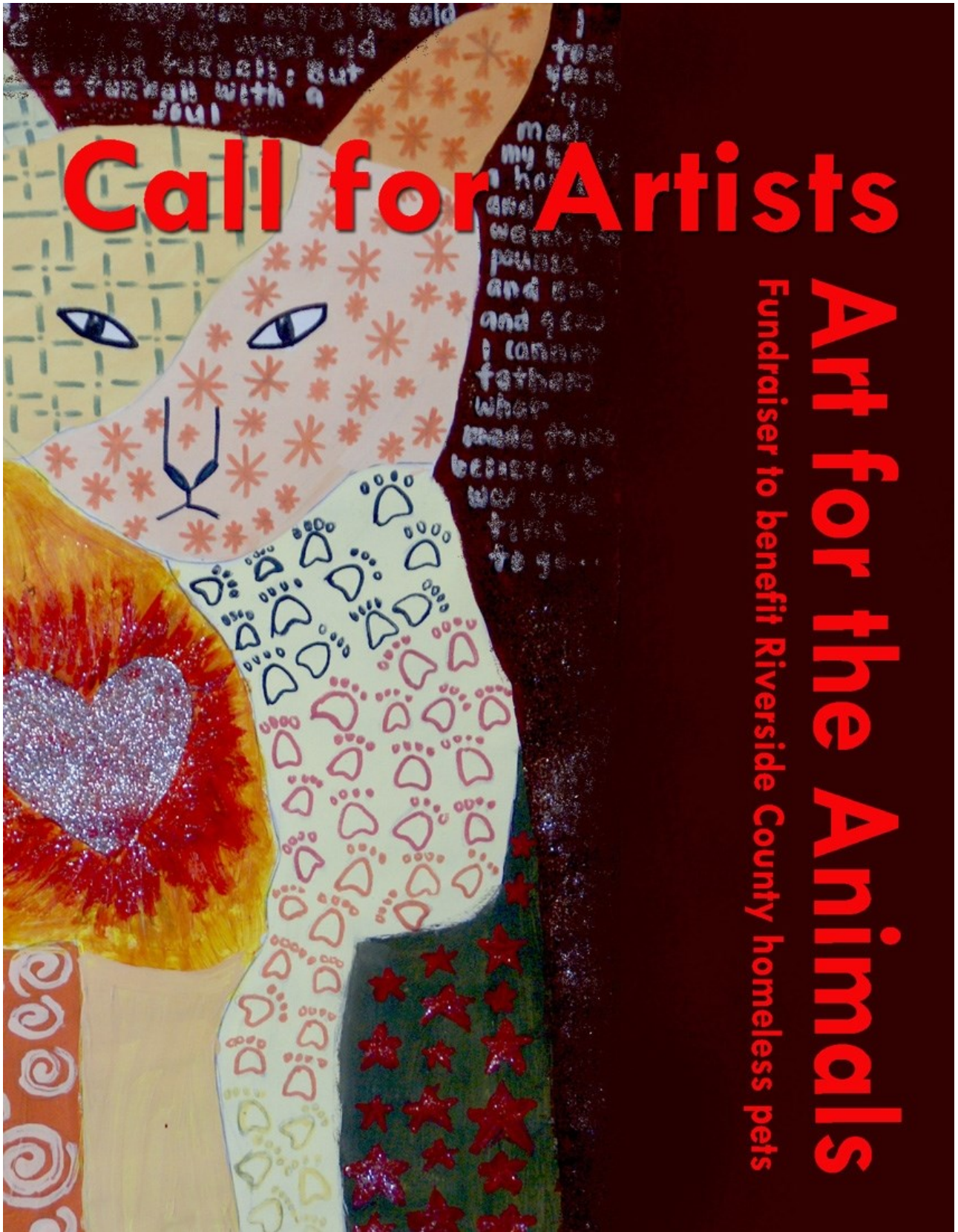
GETTING updates from our rescue group friends about former Riverside County shelter animals can be a blast. And this is especially true after we're told to watch a nationally-syndicated television program to see two past residents enjoying some fame. Our pals at the Shelter Transport Animal Rescue Team (S.T.A.R.T. Rescue) told us about a pair of dogs that received some extra exposure, thanks to "The Ellen DeGeneres Show" on NBC. Their national TV debut happened on Jan. 28.

The dogs, a Chihuahua and a Cocker Spaniel, were once like many of the dogs that end up at the main shelter: strays. Officer Mary Salazar saved the 8-year-old Chihuahua while working her beat area. Her colleague, Officer Tiffany Fuller, plucked the Cocker Spaniel mix while on her duties. Volunteers at S.T.A.R.T., a Los Angeles-based nonprofit organization, nicknamed the pair Ellie DeSpaniel and Portial DeChihuahua. Of course, the TV segment produced much interest and they're expected to be permanently placed in a loving home soon.

Ellie DeSpaniel and Portial DeChihuahua were handsomely groomed for their TV appearance on "The Ellen DeGeneres Show," thanks to the folks at S.T.A.R.T. Rescue. To learn more about this unique rescue organization, check out its Web site at: startrescue.org.

Photos courtesy Steve Spiro, S.T.A.R.T. Rescue.





For all the details about submissions, how to help become a corporate sponsor, donations, deadlines, live auction information, etc., please visit our Web site:

www.rcdas.org

SHELTER LOCATIONS

Blythe Animal Shelter

245 S. Carlton
Blythe, CA 92225
(760) 921-7857

Coachella Valley Animal Campus

72-050 Pet Land Place
Thousand Palms, CA 92276
(760) 343-3644

San Jacinto Valley Animal Campus

581 S. Grand Ave.
San Jacinto, CA 92582
(951) 358-7387

Western Riverside County/City Animal Shelter

6851 Van Buren Blvd.
Jurupa Valley, CA 92509
(951) 358-7387 (PETS)

Don't Forget to Follow us on Twitter:

@helpinRIVcoPETS

Or LIKE us on Facebook!

We have three Facebook pages:

Coachella Valley Animal Campus
Riverside County Animal SERVICES
San Jacinto Valley Animal Campus

Did you adopt from us?

Send a photo and key information to:

shelterinfo@rcdas.org

Did you catch our 2014 STORIES OF THE YEAR?

Check out our 2014 wrapup:

http://www.rcdas.org/images/DOWNLOADS/FLYERS/2015/2014-STORIES_OF_THE_YEAR-With_Photos.pdf

(Or please visit our Web site: www.rcdas.org for direct link)



Free Dog Training Workshops

FREE FOR EVERYONE TO COME!
BUT PLEASE LEAVE YOUR DOG AT HOME



PROBLEM SOLVING WORKSHOP:

Is your dog driving you crazy, or maybe you'd like to be preventive on any bad habits in the future? Whether you have a bad behavioral issue you're dealing with now, or you just want to learn more about dog behavior, this is the class for you! We will cover everything from chewing, barking, jumping up, begging for food, and much more.

MONDAY FEBRUARY 09 @ 6PM

99 GET AMAZING RESULTS 99
WITH POSITIVE DOG TRAINING METHODS
- JASON RAE

BROUGHT TO YOU BY:

POTTY TRAINING WORKSHOP:

Do you have a puppy or adult dog that you need help potty training? Here's a hint if you're rubbing your dog's nose in it and yelling at him: you're doing it WRONG! Come out learn how to do it the right way.

MONDAY FEBRUARY 23 @ 6PM



AND



BOTH WORKSHOPS ARE LECTURE STYLE LASTING APPROXIMATELY 1 HOUR, AND NO REGISTRATION NEEDED FEEL FREE TO DROP IN ANYTIME.

CALL FOR MORE INFO! (951) 358-7295

WWW.INSIDEOUTDOGTRAINING.COM/FREWORKSHOPS

Address:
Western Riverside County/City Animal Shelter
6851 Van Buren Blvd
Jurupa Valley, CA 92509