



Groomed for the Holidays



LOOKING GOOD — A fine crew of volunteers at the Riverside Shelter freshened up the pets with suds and love on Monday, Dec. 14. These animals and others headed to the city of Riverside's Home for the Holidays adoption event today (Dec. 15). Clockwise from top left: Chris Mozeleski of Riverside gets the spots (not all of them!) off a Dalmatian; Gloria Gomez of Corona dries a sweet pit bull; Karolyn Verville of Riverside shows off a fluffy Pomeranian; Iris Bustamante and Maryann Cerato-Dominick, both of Riverside, socialize with two cute kitties. Photos by Public Information Chief John Welsh

Nothing beats a nice, warm bath, eh?

A handful of homeless dogs received a nice cleansing, courtesy of a fine crew of volunteers at the Riverside Animal Shelter. The clean doggies then took a trip to the Main Street mall area just outside Riverside City Hall for Round 2 of a two-part Home for the Holidays adoption push sponsored by the city.

Adopters scooped up 18 dogs and two cats during the first part of Home for the Holidays at City Hall on Dec. 1. Riverside city officials and the Department of Animal Services called the first round a great success.

Now today they are also hoping more adopters come out and find their lifelong pet.

Home for the Holidays is a

nationally recognized tradition among shelter organizations. In the past, workers at such agencies cringed about pets as holiday gifts. The fear was that the pet would end up back at the shelter after the holiday period faded away.

But now groups embrace the holiday time as a great season for adopting — as long as the adopters recognize a pet is forever, not just for a few days.

Desert Dogs Head to The River

Cute doggies from the Coachella Valley Animal Campus in Thousand Palms are also making a road trip. The dogs are heading to The River in Rancho Mirage. Management officials at the classy, outdoor shopping mall are very big supporters of the homeless pets and they love seeing them connect with their adoptive families at the mall, located at Bob Hope Drive and Highway 111. Animal Services representatives and their four-legged friends (including the stylish, female dapple Dachshund featured on the right) will be at the mall Friday and Saturday (Dec. 18 & Dec. 19) between 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Just listen for our happy barks!



Photo by Senior Adoption Counselor Marisa Sanabria