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## **Two-day Adopt-a-Thon Count: 128 Adoptions; Event Concludes Sunday**

So far, 128 homeless animals have started new lives as family pets during the Riverside County Department of Animal Services Third Annual Adopt-a-Thon.

The event coincides with similar events throughout the world to raise awareness about shelter animals.

Riverside County Animal Services employees are hopeful that 225 animals from their shelters – including the Coachella Valley Animal Campus in Thousand Palms – will be heading to new homes during its three-day Adopt-a-Thon.

Adoption counselors coordinated 57 placements during Day 1 on Friday. Another 71 homeless pets found homes during Saturday's adopt-a-thon. The event concludes Sunday (10 a.m. to 4 p.m.) in the rear of the Riverside shelter, 5950 Wilderness Ave., just off Jurupa Avenue.

In 1995 the North Shore Animal League America in Port Washington, N.Y., ran a 36-hour-straight session to promote its homeless animals. That event became known as the birth of adopt-a-thon events.

In 2006 more than 1,500 organizations participated in Adopt-a-Thon events according to the North Shore Animal League. That list included the Riverside County Department of Animal Services. In 2005, Riverside County Animal Services coordinated 165 adoptions during its three-day Adopt-a-Thon. Last year the number of adoptions increased to 198.

The family event includes free hot dogs, face painting, prizes and even a dunk tank. Demonstrations by the Riverside Police Department, a Frisbee-catching dog, Riverside Animal Services and the well known Mutley Crew are also scheduled. For a full rundown, go to: [www.rcdas.org](http://www.rcdas.org)

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