



# THE SCOOP



Staff Contact: (714) 754-5128  
Animal Control: (714) 754-5674  
Animal Licensing: (714) 754-5300

[www.costamesaca.gov/pets](http://www.costamesaca.gov/pets)  
[www.pricelesspetrescue.org](http://www.pricelesspetrescue.org)  
[www.newportcenterah.com](http://www.newportcenterah.com)



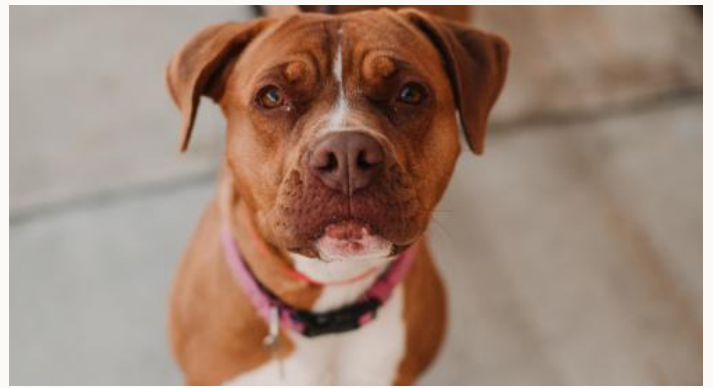
(Chuckie, picture courtesy of Priceless Pet Rescue)

## CAT OF THE MONTH

Chuckie is a cat of many nicknames. He goes by Chuck, Chuckles, and Chucksters, but what he truly wants to be called is "yours."

Chuckie is a domestic short hair, adult feline who is the life of the party. He interacts well with other cats, kids, and adults and has no problem saying hello first.

Due to his social nature and approachable attitude, he was appointed to the Knead Catfeine Cat Cafe greeting committee. If you are interested in adopting Chuckie, please visit [www.pricelesspetrescue.org](http://www.pricelesspetrescue.org).



(Quinn, picture courtesy of Priceless Pet Rescue)

## DOG OF THE MONTH

Quinn is a stunning pittie! She is a beautiful, chestnut Pit Bull Terrier who has a reputation of being a total "love bug" and a volunteer favorite.

Quinn walks well on a leash and loves going on hikes, walks, and hanging out in the backyard. She prefers to be the only pet, as she enjoys as much human attention as possible.

She is willing to be your most loyal companion and has so much love to give to any home who adopts her. Plus, she's such a good girl. If you are interested in adopting Quinn, please visit [www.pricelesspetrescue.org](http://www.pricelesspetrescue.org).

## THE IMPORTANCE OF DOG OBEDIENCE TRAINING

BY JAY LITVAK, DVM, COMMITTEE CHAIR

When looking for a new pet to adopt, we sometimes get caught up in the moment. We focus on the cute and fuzzy instead of the long-term work that goes into owning a pet, especially dogs.

One of the most common reasons that adopted dogs are relinquished is due to behavioral issues. This is much more of an issue with dogs than cats. Cats generally acclimate easier and quicker to your home; however, dogs are entirely different.

The socialization period for dogs ranges between 8 and 14 weeks; therefore, it is imperative that training begins as soon as the dog is adopted. Since puppies are not immediately fully vaccinated, working with an one-on-one trainer may be best until your puppy can join a larger group.

Once of age, there are not any real limitations of the obedience training you can use. Learn the behavior of your dog and research their breed to see which environment may be better suited for them.

Socialization is also a major component for training classes. This is a great way for you and your dog to meet other dogs and people in a safe and controlled setting. If you feel the setting is not working for you, please consult the trainer or behaviorist regarding your specific needs.

For seasoned dog owners, teaching basic skills can be taught at home. The most important elements to teach are: leash training, housebreaking, and the ability to sit and stay on command. Remember, entering a new home takes time to acclimate, but the reward lasts for a lifetime.

# ANIMAL SERVICES OPERATIONS



Find a stray, contained pet in Costa Mesa?

## 1 CALL ANIMAL CONTROL

Call (714) 754-5674 or take the pet to the Costa Mesa Police Department at 99 Fair Drive.



## 2 TAKE IT DIRECTLY TO THE SHELTER



All impounded animals are brought to the shelter. Animals receive vaccinations, a microchip, and are spayed/neutered following the seven-day holding period.

## 3 OWNERS ARE NOTIFIED

Animal Control and shelter staff attempt to locate owners by scanning microchips and looking for license and ID tags.



A no-kill pet rescue  
www.pricelesspetrescue.org  
(909) 205-5695

## 4 ADOPTION CARE

Adoptable animals are transferred to Priceless Pet Rescue's adoption center, The Orphanage, located at 1536 Newport Blvd., Costa Mesa.

## 5 HAPPILY EVER AFTER

Animals are adopted into their forever homes.



[www.costamesaca.gov/pets](http://www.costamesaca.gov/pets)



## Newport Center ANIMAL HOSPITAL & PET HOTEL SUITES

Newport Center Animal Hospital (NCAH) will be hosting an open house on Saturday, June 15 from 10:00am to 12:00pm. This event will be open to the public for a chance to meet Dr. Anthony Rizk, the NCAH staff, and to view the facility at 1333 Avocado Avenue in Newport Beach. Refreshments will be served. The Animal Care Services team and Animal Services Committee will be onsite to assist with the festivities.

Kitten season is in full swing, which has increased the amount of impounded animals in the shelter. Since April, NCAH has already received 25 baby kittens from the shelter. Overall, NCAH has received 226 animals at the shelter and has maintained an 89% live release rate since January 2019.

To view Costa Mesa's impounded animals, please visit [www.costamesaca.gov/impoundedanimals](http://www.costamesaca.gov/impoundedanimals).



Animal Care Services is partnering with Priceless Pet Rescue (PPR) for the Pup Up Dog Adoption event on Saturday, June 8. This small event will be held from 10:00am to 1:00pm at Lions Park (570 W. 18th Street) and will feature some of Costa Mesa's cutest furry friends. For more information, please call Animal Care Services at (714) 754-4918.

As the City of Costa Mesa's animal adoption services provider, PPR has already provided many homes for our adoptable animals. In 2018, PPR adopted out 395 Costa Mesa animals into their new "forever" homes. This year, PPR has already successfully adopted out 170 animals!

If you are interested in adopting a new pet, please visit PPR's, The Orphanage, in person at 1536 Newport Blvd in Costa Mesa. You can also view animals online at [www.costamesaca.gov/adoptableanimals](http://www.costamesaca.gov/adoptableanimals) and [www.pricelesspetrescue.org](http://www.pricelesspetrescue.org).

## ANIMAL SERVICES COMMITTEE 2019 GOALS

In December 2018, the Animal Services Committee finalized their 2019 committee goals:

1. Complete contract agreements with Newport Center Animal Hospital and Priceless Pet Rescue in the first quarter of 2019. **COMPLETED** ✓

2. Produce a public service announcement, in print and in video, related to the three-pronged partnership with Animal Control, Newport Center Animal Hospital, and Priceless Pet Rescue.

3. Educate the public on responsible pet ownership and care, with regard to City ordinances and frequently asked questions, no less than six times per year.

4. Consider and make a recommendation to the City Council regarding ordinances related to the existing TNR (Trap, Neuter, Release) Program.

5. Research and create a list of service providers that can provide low-cost vaccinations and/or a voucher program for Costa Mesa residents for spay and neuter.

6. Assist Animal Control with promotion and education related to coyotes and the Coyote Management Plan.

7. Cooperate and coordinate with the Parks and Community Services, Animal Care Services, events, initiatives, and projects.

# COMMITTEE WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS, CITY COUNCIL APPROVES CONTRACT EXTENSIONS

In March, City Council voted to appoint new members Diana Gardiner and Erin Roberts, and reappoint Rebecca "Becca" Walls, to serve two-year terms on the Animal Services Committee.

The new members had the opportunity to meet with staff liaisons prior to their first meeting to learn about the committee's goals and priorities, as well as the Animal Care Services operations.

The committee welcomed its new members at the April 17 meeting, which also thanked its two former members, Marilyn Brooks and Harriet Brown, for their service and insight.

On April 16, City Council voted unanimously to extend the contract services for Newport Center Animal Hospital (NCAH) and Priceless Pet Rescue (PPR) for two years.

NCAH is contracted for animal sheltering services, while PPR provides animal adoption services. Both vendors have provided the City with their services since January 2018.

The committee and staff are proud to continue their partnership with NCAH and PPR. With the contract extension approvals, the committee celebrated the completion of their first goal of the year.

## ANIMAL CONTROL



BY REBECCA WALLS,  
COMMITTEE MEMBER

Being an Animal Control Officer (ACO) is a tough job and there are many duties our Costa Mesa Animal Control team does regularly that we, as residents, rarely see.

On Easter morning, I saw ACO Anna Rodriguez lying underneath a stopped car in the middle of Wilson Street. I pulled over and asked if I could assist with the situation. Long story short, in an attempt to avoid traffic, a small dog named Minnie crawled into the wheel well and engine compartment of a nearby car waiting at the turn signal.

Fortunately, the driver stopped their car and notified Animal Control of the situation. ACO Rodriguez responded to the call and attempted to retrieve Minnie from the car.

Once Minnie's owner was located, we were able to coax her free from the engine. With the quick help from the driver, owner, and ACO Rodriguez, Minnie made it home safely.

Thank you Costa Mesa Animal Control for another happy ending!



Right: Minnie in the engine compartment



Left: ACO Rodriguez and the driver of the car

## COYOTE SAFETY

### Tips to keep coyotes away:

- Do not leave small pets in the backyard unattended.
- Feed your pets indoors and do not leave pet food outside.
- Pick up fallen fruit from trees off the ground.
- Protect all water sources including pools.

### If you spot a coyote:

- Haze the coyote by making yourself big and loud.
- Log onto the Coyote Cacher to report your encounter.
- <https://ucanr.edu/sites/CoyoteCacher/>
- Email [coyote@costamesaca.gov](mailto:coyote@costamesaca.gov)

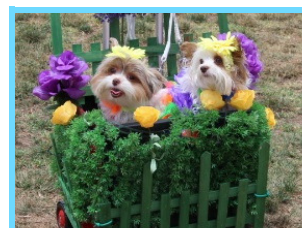
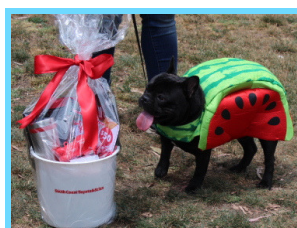
Visit [www.costamesaca.gov](http://www.costamesaca.gov) for more information.

## COSTA MESA BARK PARK

The Bark Park hosted the Spring Bark Bash on Saturday, May 11 from 11:00am to 2:00pm. Festivities during the this free event included a costume contest for pets and owners, a vendor fair, and dog adoptions from local animal rescue groups.

More than 200 people attended the celebration, with a total of 20 participants in the costume contest. Contest categories included Best in Show, Cutest, Funniest, Most Original, Best Homemade, and Best Pet & Owner. Prizes were donated by the participating vendors and were provided to contest and raffle winners.

Animal Care Services would like to thank South Coast Toyota and Doggie Walk Bags for their sponsorship, as well as all the vendors and rescues who partook in our community event. See you in October for Barktoberfest!



# LEASHING YOUR DOG

BY MARILYN BROOKS, FORMER COMMITTEE MEMBER

We all love having our dogs around us wherever we go. With many establishments becoming more dog friendly, it is even easier to bring Fido out to lunch or around town to run errands.

As owners, we know our pets fairly well. We know what entices their curiosity, what piques their interest, and how their moods change. So if my dog is perfectly behaved, why leash my dog?

Simple. The City requires that dogs who are not on their own property, be on a six-foot leash or shorter, and held by a person who can completely control the dog at all times. Actually, it's the law.

This violation is punishable by a fine, with the exception of the Bark Park. But what about dogs riding in cars? In order to keep your dog safe, they should be harnessed in the car or kept in a crate.

Dogs that are not tethered and restrained can be easily attracted to the sights, smells, and sounds away from you - a distant squirrel, a new smell, or the stranger nearby talking to your dog.

Simply put, you cannot always predict how your dog will react to factors you cannot control. Protect yourself and your dog by leashing and restraining them while walking and while in your car.

## MONTHLY STATISTICS (03/01 - 04/30/19)

Animal Care Services provides monthly statistics to track the animals entering the shelter, returning to their owners, transferring into the adoption center, and adoptions.

### MARCH AND APRIL 2019

- Total impounds to shelter: 114
- Animals returned to owners: 21
- Animals transferred to adoption care: 68
- Total adoptions: 53

For more detailed statistics, please visit:  
[www.costamesaca.gov/pets](http://www.costamesaca.gov/pets)



## RESOURCES

### Animal Care Services

(714) 754-5128

(714) 754-4918

### Costa Mesa Animal Control

(714) 754-5674

### Newport Center Animal Hospital (Shelter)

1333 Avocado, NB

(949) 447-5959

Hours: 9am - 5pm; Mon-Sat  
Closed Sundays

### Impounded Animals

[www.costamesaca.gov/impoundedanimals](http://www.costamesaca.gov/impoundedanimals)

### Adoptable Animals

[www.costamesaca.gov/adoptableanimals](http://www.costamesaca.gov/adoptableanimals)

## LOOKING TO DONATE?

Donating to assist in the well-being and care of Costa Mesa's sheltered and adoptable animals is as easy as 1, 2, 3.

1. Donate your time by becoming a volunteer with Priceless Pet Rescue. Visit [www.pricelesspetrescue.org](http://www.pricelesspetrescue.org) for more information on how to volunteer.
2. Donate pet supplies to the Animal Care Services which will be distributed between the animal shelter and the adoption center. Call (714) 754-5128 for more information on how to help, and to find out with items are currently needed.
3. Make a monetary donation to the Costa Mesa Foundation for Animal Care Services online or in person at City Hall or the Downtown Recreation Center. Visit [bit.ly/CMPetDonations](http://bit.ly/CMPetDonations) to make an online donation.

Apply or renew online at:

[www.costamesaca.gov/i-want-to/apply-renew-animal-license](http://www.costamesaca.gov/i-want-to/apply-renew-animal-license)

Licenses are issued on an annual basis.

