



# CHICO POLICE DEPARTMENT

## PRESS RELEASE

530-897-4900

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### **For Immediate Release**

### **National Animal Shelter Appreciation Week, November 3-9**

Every year, the first full week of November is set aside as National Animal Shelter Appreciation Week as a way to honor animal shelters and the dedicated people who work to protect animals. The City of Chico Animal Services would like to take this opportunity to encourage our community to become more acquainted with the services provided by the City run animal shelter.

The original portion of the City of Chico Animal Shelter was built by the City in 1956, with an addition built in 1987, and a new kennel building completed in 2013. The facility has 71 dog runs, 7 small dog cages, 62 cat cages and 5 medical cages.

The shelter is run by 6 full time City staff members with the assistance of 4 interns and a variety of volunteers, including local residents, ROP and Chico State students and community service workers. Volunteers logged over 36,000 hours of donated time for the 2012-2013 fiscal year.

City Staff and volunteers are responsible for the feeding and care of all animals housed on the City property, including the dogs in the new kennel building waiting for adoption. Additional duties include reuniting lost pets with their families, providing resources for people who have found or can no longer keep a pet, and finding homes for animals that are not claimed by their owners. City of Chico shelter staff adopted out 63 dogs, 211 cats, and 26 "other" animals, mostly rabbits, this past year.

In addition, shelter staff cares for sick and injured animals, works with rescue groups for special needs animals, and cares for orphaned kittens. Staff is proactive in helping people solve their animal problems and works with animals to make them more adoptable.

You can show your appreciation to the staff at the City of Chico Animal shelter during National Animal Shelter Appreciation Week, November 3<sup>rd</sup> through 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Supervisor:**

**Watch Commander:**

**Prepared By: Tracy Mohr**

**Date/Time: 11/1/13**

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1. Take a tour to learn more about the shelter and see firsthand how things work, and if it is a good fit, consider volunteering.
2. Do your part in the community. Make sure your pet is spayed or neutered, and if they already are, consider helping a neighbor, or having a community cat fixed. Make sure to keep your dog on a leash when off your property. Consider having your pets microchipped to help the get home quickly and safely if they get lost.
3. Donate items like pet food, dog collars and cat litter, which are always needed and appreciated. Contact the shelter for more information about our wish list. 100% of any funds donated to the shelter go directly toward the care of animals at the shelter, including spaying and neutering and heartworm and leukemia testing of animals for adoption, which help keep adoption fees low. No donated funds go into the City general fund.

For more information, to take a tour or volunteer, or make a donation, please contact the City of Chico Animal Shelter at 530-894-5630. You can visit the shelter located at 2579 Fair St. in Chico, or our website at [www.chicoanimalshelter.org](http://www.chicoanimalshelter.org). Friend us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/ChicoAnimalShelter](http://www.facebook.com/ChicoAnimalShelter)

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