

ANIMAL SERVICES

A West Valley Visit

West Valley Animal Shelter, 20655 Plummer St. Chatsworth, CA 91311
• 3rd in a series

Club Counselor Tanya Edwards continues her tour of Animal Services shelters.



Capt. Keith Kramer started as an Animal Control Officer 27 years ago and says one of the things he loves about his shelter is that it is "one big family," and that his goal is for it to be the "good mood shelter." He encourages his staff to have a good attitude as it's just as easy as the alternative.

This month, I'm visiting Animal Services' West Valley Shelter, also known as the "Good Mood" animal shelter.

One of the things that sets the West Valley Shelter apart is its "very high adoption rate," according to Capt. Keith Kramer. Saving animals is the primary goal of all of the LA shelters to the extent that they not only take in animals from other shelters within the City that may be overcrowded, but it is not unusual that they will ship animals to other shelters within the United States and Canada who are willing to take in the animals to save their lives.

Special thanks to Capt. Kramer for his assistance.



A little girl from the community drops in to pet the "kitties."



From left: Delfina Cantero and Jo Aguirre, ACT Volunteer Liaison, 5 years of City service.



Animal Control Officers, from left: Charity Anderson, 15 years of City service; and Nancy Page, 23 years.



Administrative staff, from left: Archie Cajucum, Clerk Typist, 23 years of City service; Delfina Cantero, Clerk Typist, 13 years; Rowena Quijote, Sr. Clerk Typist, 12 years; Margo Gonzalez, Clerk Typist, 6 years; and Daniel Luna, Clerk Typist, 10 years.



From left: Capt. Kevin Kramer; Karrie Demascio, Acting Lieutenant, 15 years of City service; and Glen Julian, Animal Control Officer, 5 years.



Animal Control Officers, from left: Larry "Santa" Herskovic, 11 years of City service; Sergio Rios, Supervisor, 21 years; Kevin Franklin, 10 years; and Oliver Gillon 13 years.



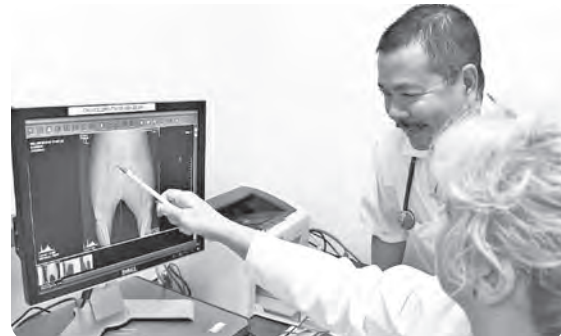
Animal Care Technicians, from left: Stella Sullivan; Jessie Franke, 5 years of City service; and Jeronimo Herrera, 4 years.



From left: Greg Lamug, Registered Vet Tech, 3 years of City service; Cynthia Hockman, MSDVM (Veterinarian), 4 years; and Ed Loria, RVT, 22 years.



West Valley Shelter cares for and has available for adoption unusual pets including horses and chickens.



Dr. Hockman points out an X-ray of a dog with a hip injury to Ed.



Scott Young, Animal Control Officer, 22 years of City service.



Candido Silva, ACT, 4 years of City service, received the "top seller" in adoptions certificate for all of the LA City Animal Service Shelters.



Evidence of the family atmosphere, there was a celebration of Sergio's birthday with a potluck, and pork roasts and baked potato casserole supplied by Stella Sullivan, ACT and New Hope Coordinator.



According to Capt. Kevin Kramer, volunteers like Sanson Chen and Iliana Baires Renuka Nadarajah and Christine Chisom "are critical to the Animal Shelters because we could not provide this level of care without them." Rabbit care volunteers (from left) Heidi Okuhara and Misty Miller.



Volunteer Sanson Chen.



Volunteer Iliana Baires.



From left: Volunteers Renuka Nadarajah and Christine Chisom.



From left: Volunteers Heidi Okuhara and Misty Miller.