

COMPANION

IF YOU FIND IT HARD TO THINK ABOUT LIFE WITHOUT YOUR PET...IMAGINE YOUR PET'S LIFE WITHOUT YOU.

OVER 500,000 PETS ARE ORPHANED EACH YEAR DUE TO THE DEATH OR DISABILITY OF THEIR HUMAN COMPANIONS. 2ND CHANCE 4 PETS IS THE FIRST ORGANIZATION TO FOCUS THEIR EFFORTS ON THIS LONG, UNRECOGNIZED ISSUE.

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DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Dear Friends,

As guardian's of our animal companions, we must answer many questions about their welfare; "What's the best diet for them?", "Are they getting the right amount of exercise?", "Are they getting the right vitamins and supplements?", "What's the new 'toy of the month'?".

One of the most difficult questions to answer is "Who will care for them if I am no longer able to?". This is a difficult question to answer — especially if we have pets with special needs or we have no friends or relatives that are able caregivers. Additionally, we're so close to our pets emotionally that its hard to make a decision objectively.

To choose a caregiver objectively we need to hear from others who love pets. For instance, I've asked veterinarians, veterinary assistants, pet sitters, and members of animal welfare and rescue groups for help finding someone committed to caring for my pets and someone my pets will like.

I hope that the information here, in our newsletters, and on our website will help you plan appropriately for the lifetime care of your pets. So, before you decide on the next "toy of the month" - ask yourself, "Who will take care of my pets if I am no longer able to care for them myself?".

Warm wishes,

Amy Shever
Director of 2nd Chance 4 Pets



When you are creating your estate plan, don't forget about me!



ABOUT 2ND CHANCE 4 PETS...

2nd Chance 4 Pets' mission is to protect our animal companions and prevent them from becoming orphaned due to their owner's death or disability. Our goal is to educate and inform the public about available solutions to pet owners and put a stop to unplanned, unwanted euthanasia of their pets.

WHO WE ARE

2nd Chance 4 Pets is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization staffed by volunteers and located in Los Gatos, California. We work throughout the state and across the nation to provide pet owners with comprehensive information about lifetime care solutions to ensure that their pets will always be cared for. We are committed to providing assistance to pet owners in making lifetime care decisions for their pets.

Based on the overwhelming response and requests for assistance we have received from pet owners, animal rescue groups, shelters, hospices and veterinarians, our programs have made a significant impact on preventing unnecessary euthanizing. We are providing pet owners with peace of mind while reducing the financial and emotional strain on already overburdened animal shelters and rescue organizations.

BACKGROUND ABOUT EUTHANASIA

In the United States, there are 4 to 5 million abandoned and orphaned pets euthanized each year. In California alone, 750,000 to one million dogs and cats are destroyed— costing the state's tax payers over \$50 million annually. More than 500,000 of those pets euthanized in the U.S. are because owners did not appropriately plan for the lifetime care of their pets.

2ND CHANCE 4 PETS: WE CAN HELP

We are committed to providing you with the information you need to ensure your pets will always be cared for. Contact Us! • 2nd Chance 4 Pets • 1484 Pollard Rd. • No. 444 • Los Gatos, CA 95032
Telephone: (408) 871-1133 • Online: www.2ndChance4Pets.org • E-mail: info@2ndChance4Pets.org

THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS AND VOLUNTEERS!

Being a "grass roots", nonprofit organization, we are grateful and overwhelmed with the support we have received. We appreciate your time and contributions. No donation is too small!

Thank you... Jared Moon • Linda Lewis • Jasse Singh • Ken Becker • Ketchum Public Relations • Clay Myers • Tiffany Steeves • Mary Jo and Hank Greenberg • Peggy Hoyt • John Hoyt • Wayne Pacelle • Gerry Buyer • Duncan Strauss • Jane Hoffman • Mike Arms • Piper Crussell • GOOGLE • Cyrus Meijia • Kristy Collison • Clare Keating • Carrie Collins • Stephanie Hale • Vanessa Williams-Stretta • Gabriella Schmitt • Deborah Vasser • Dan Leister • Winnie Cheng • Cheryl Romano • Beth Ellen • Katie Baca • Gisela Vargas • Roger Chapani • Greg Naderi • Heather Smith • Annie Behari • Miriam Velazquez • Mark Loughry • Maggie Parke • Liz Masoner • Lisa Moss • Richard Newton • Patrica Clerico-Parham • Patricia diVerdici • Laura DeVilbiss • Larissa Rodriguex • Lynn Appel • Julian Delos Santos • Jennifer McManus • Jackie Ramirez • Jana Owens • Katharine Moore • Paula Barker • Laura Noss and Social Planets PR • Karen Hansen • Andy Meadows and Live Oak Hosting • Amy Farnham, Sneaky Puppy Design • Diane Sangster, Pixel Gym • Melissa Jurist • Gail Garabedian • Margaret Hoopes • The Adelson's • Vybrant Technologies • Bark in the Park San Jose • Jennifer Moulton • Bryan McNeal • Katie Edmiston • Ruth Olsen • Alexa • Laura Bixler • Tracey • Sharon Frost • PEETS COFFEE SANTANA ROW • Lynn Richards • Lois Maki • Dr. Edward Larsen • Vinnie Hayes • Sandra Stansberry • Sheryl Lane • Crimson • Sybil Smiley Adelson • Ellen Harrison, D.V.M. • The Turnbeau's • Eight in One Pet Products • Merrick Pet Specialties • Diane Petrenick • Sheila Stabenow • Buzz Miller • Compass Point Nonprofit Services • WEBEX • Office Depot

A very special THANK YOU to Animal Welfare Trust who has made it possible for us to launch our literature campaign allowing us to distribute information to help pets and their human companions across the country. Together we will help prevent our animal companions from being orphaned due to the death of their human companions. We will bring peace of mind to pet owners and reduce the burden to animal shelter and rescue groups.



2nd Chance Volunteers participated at a recent animal care conference meeting with members of animal welfare and animal control organizations

ABOUT OUR FOUNDER

As an 18-year animal shelter volunteer Amy Shever has been deeply affected by the many healthy animal companions euthanized each year simply because their owners had died or become disabled and left no arrangements for their continued care. Amy felt compelled to find a solution that would save these helpless animals from the same tragic misfortune— 2nd Chance 4 Pets was the answer.

Amy is a founding member of Tri-Valley Animal Rescue in Pleasanton, California. She also founded PetGuardian LLC (www.petguardian.com), an affiliate of Best Friends Animal Society, which provides affordable and comprehensive estate planning for pet owners. Amy holds a Bachelor's in Marketing and Communication and a Master's in Education and Training. Her most profound education has come from her animal-filled life.

Contact and Information:
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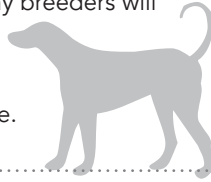
THE TRUTH BEHIND THAT DOGGY IN THE WINDOW

Imagine your child in a squalid closet with 15 other kids. There's no heat in the winter, no air conditioning in the summer and no room to exercise or socialize.

We have all been there, standing outside the glass window, or inside the mall cooing at the adorable puppies. As the kids pull you through the pet shop door you have seconds to decide. Do I succumb and purchase this puppy knowing that I could give him a special home, or do I explain to the kids that pet store puppies may be bred in horrible environments and if people stop buying them, inhumane breeders will go out of business.

WHERE DO PET STORE PUPPIES COME FROM ANYWAY?

They are bred in commercial production facilities known as "puppy mills." Puppy mills typically make money by shortchanging the physical and psychological development of an animal. "Puppy mills" are facilities where dogs are bred to maximize profits at the lowest possible costs. Puppy mill breeders often spend as few dollars as possible on the care and welfare of the puppies. Many breeders will keep puppies in small crates no bigger than the size of their own bodies with minimal food or veterinarian care. Females are bred as young as six months and as often as physically possible until they die.



WHAT CAN YOU DO TO PUT PUPPY MILLS OUT OF BUSINESS?

- Educate your family, friends and neighbors about pet store puppies and the deplorable breeding practices involved.
- Write your legislator(s) or congressman to ask that stricter laws be adopted to govern the breeding of puppies and that existing laws be enforced.
- Use the media to expose puppy mill conditions. Write a letter to the editor of your local paper, contact your local TV or radio station to publicize the horrific breeding conditions.
- Work to enact a local ordinance that would limit the number of animals a breeder can sell.
- Distribute brochures and flyers to expose puppy mill conditions.

The more difficult it is for a pet store to turn a profit, the more likely they will quit selling live animals.

Remember, reputable breeders do not make money by selling puppies, and no reputable breeder would ever sell their puppies to a pet store. If you want a pet and can take care of it, why not adopt? If puppies and companion animals were adopted from shelters or rescue organizations, puppy mills would no longer be able to earn a profit and would cease to exist.

Art for the animals by
Best Friends artist Cyrus Mejia



Original oils, limited edition prints
and commissioned pet portraits.

www.cyrusmejia.com

FURBURBIA: LET'S CLOSE DOWN THE PUPPY MILLS!

Furburbia, with two locations in Utah, offers an alternative to buying your pets from questionable pet stores. None of the pets at Furburbia have come from uncaring breeders, puppy mills, or other questionable sources. Every pet has been saved by adoption groups from almost certain death and brought to Furburbia. Adopting from Furburbia means saving a life.

Furburbia founder Gregory Castle works with Best Friends Animal Society on the program No More Homeless Pets in Utah, a coalition of rescue groups, shelters and vets who work together to end euthanasia of homeless and stray animals. And they've had tremendous success. Since 1999, this group has reduced the number of animals unnecessarily euthanized by 30%. Their program has increased adoptions from 18,000 animals in 1999, to nearly 30,000 this year—a 59% increase in six years.

"We believe Furburbia has been successful because it takes the animals to a familiar environment for adopters, and gives them a very accessible alternative to pet stores," said Gregory.

Part of the program's success is due to innovative events and alliances, the other part comes from people like you, who, when you decide to get a pet, adopt from places like Furburbia. Check out Furburbia at: <http://www.utahpets.org/furburbia.html>

Editors note: the time has come to put an end to pet stores selling pets from puppy mills. We all know that there thousands of pure breed pets euthanized each year because they are unable to find a new human companion to care for them. The Humane Society of the United States estimates that close to 25% of all pets in animal shelters are pure breeds. Let's support efforts -such as Furburbia- and put an end to puppy mills.

HOME SWEET HOME, FOREVER

"After I die—and that could happen tomorrow or 20 years from now—I want my animals cared for all together and in my home. Is it possible?"

This was the question posed by a client of attorneys Hoyt & Brian, LLC in Oviedo, Florida. The pet owner was a single woman in her late 50's. She had no children (aside from five dogs and 10 cats), and she owned her house.

As it turned out, the answer was "yes." Peggy Hoyt, an advisory board member for 2nd Chance 4 Pets, a principal in the law firm and a pet lover herself, worked closely with the client to create the necessary legal documents and draft careful instructions for the as-yet-unnamed caregiver. Together, they assembled an "animal care panel" consisting of the pet owner's veterinarian and a few close friends. This panel would be responsible for interviewing and selecting the live-in caregiver, once the need arose.

Responsible pet owners across the country are eager for information on how best to ensure quality care for their companion animals, when they die or become disabled. 2nd Chance 4 Pets asked Peggy Hoyt to provide additional details on the special arrangement she crafted for her client.

Q: How is a live-in caregiver selected?

A: The animal care panel identifies candidates through advertising in the newspaper, word of mouth, veterinarian recommendations or other means. The panel interviews candidates and selects a person to live in the home and care for the client's pets. If the caregiver does not work out, the panel will remove that person and hire someone else.

Q: What safeguards are in place to ensure quality of care?

A: The legal document requires periodic reporting. Additionally, the animal care panel has the right to inspect the home to ensure that the animals are properly cared for.

Q: Does the mortgage on the home have to be fully paid off for this plan to work?

A: The home does not need to be paid off, but there needs to be sufficient resources available when the pet owner dies to continue the mortgage installments or pay off the balance.

A few considerations to discuss with your attorney when making these arrangements: (1) The pet owner should consider whether the live-in caregiver is paid (the value of rent is less than the value of the care services) or pays (the

value of rent is greater than the value of the care services). (2) Are expenses relating to the animal the responsibility of the caregiver?

Q: What else should people consider in setting up a plan like this?

A: In addition to the animal care panel, they may wish to separate the functions of animal care from asset care, by designating a trustee who is different from the people who oversee the care of the pets or actually care for the pets. Separating these functions helps avoid any potential conflict of interest.

Q: Does the trust maker need to leave money to cover the trustee's costs, as well?

A: Yes. If people don't have independent resources, the best way for them to create that wealth is through the purchase of a life insurance policy that names the trust as the primary beneficiary.

Q: How often should the estate plan be reviewed?

A: Any estate plan, especially one that is designed to provide for pets, should be revisited on a regular basis (annually is a good idea). On average, people in this country update their estate plans every 19.6 years, but a person's whole composition of pets will almost certainly change in that time period.

Q: How may people get more information on this method for ensuring lifetime care for companion animals?

A: Because laws differ from state to state, we recommend that pet owners discuss pet trusts—and the processes involved in setting up an animal care panel—with a locally licensed attorney. This is essential to ensure that the plan is legal in their state, and that it includes necessary safeguards for trustees, beneficiaries, and caregivers. Pet owners can locate an attorney in their area by visiting www.nnepa.com. Pet owners that have designated caregivers and trustees may want to consider the comprehensive PetGuardian Pet Trust Program, www.petguardian.com, toll free 1-888-843-4040.

Q: What other safeguards do you recommend?

A: Another technique that we use in our planning is a concept known as "trust protector." This is an independent third party (often the attorney who drafted the trust) who has special fiduciary power. For example, the trust protector may remove a bad trustee or change the withdrawal rates of beneficiaries. This person may also amend the trust after the trust maker has passed away, in case the law or certain circumstances change.

Q: Do you have any final recommendation for pet owners?

A: Keep your estate plan maintained and updated. There are four things that can change with regard to your estate plan: (1) your life, including your personal and financial circumstances; (2) the law; (3) your lawyer's experience; and (4) your legacy, in terms of how you want to leave your assets. By reviewing your estate plan frequently, you can be sure that your wishes will be carried out, and your companion animals will receive the quality of lifetime care that you want them to have.

For more information, please contact 2nd Chance 4 Pets, call (408)871-1133 or write to us at info@2ndchance4pets.org. To contact the law offices of Hoyt & Brian, please call (407)977-8080, write to Peggy Hoyt at peggy@hoytbryan.com or visit the website www.hoytbryan.com.

*Note from the editor: we included this article in response to the numerous contacts we received from pet owners who care for "multiple" pets in their homes. These pet owners were looking for a lifetime care solution which would allow them to keep their pets together and allow for the pets to continue to be cared for in their home should the pet owner die or become too ill to care for them. Please read Peggy Hoyt's book *All My Children Wear Fur Coats* for more information about planning for your pets' future care.*

PET TRUSTS BASICS – Q&A WITH PROFESSOR GERRY W. BEYER

Q. What is a "pet trust"?

A. A pet trust is legal technique you may use to be sure your pet receives proper care after your death or disability.

Q. How does a pet trust work?

A. You choose a trusted person or bank (the "trustee") and provide them with enough money or property to financially care for your pet according to your instructions. The trustee is bound by duty to oversee the expenses for the care of your pet by a designated caregiver.

Q. What are the main types of pet trusts?

A. There are two main types of pet trusts. The first type, called a "traditional pet trust," is effective in all states. You instruct the trustee to help the person who is providing care (the "beneficiary") to your pet after you die by paying for the pet's expenses according to your directions as long as the beneficiary takes proper care of your pet. The second type of pet trust, called a "statutory pet trust," is authorized in more than half of the states. A statutory pet trust is a basic plan and does not require the pet owner to make as many decisions regarding the terms of the trust. The state law "fills in the gaps" and thus a simple provision in a will such as, "I leave \$1,000 in trust for the care of my dog, Rover" may be effective.

CONSCIOUS ART: THE BEST FRIENDS 575 PROJECT

"We can judge our hearts by how we treat our animals." - Immanuel Kant

The 575 Project: Memorial to the forgotten Imagine a world where no animal suffers the effects of homelessness, which, too often, means untimely death. Now, consider that last year alone, in the US, some 575 dogs and cats were euthanized each hour. That's almost five million animals, unnecessarily and prematurely put down, in a single year. Cyrus Mejia, cofounder of the Best Friends Animal Sanctuary, wanted to do something to raise public awareness of these staggering numbers: the 575 Project was born.

The exhibit includes items Mejia collected from shelters where animals have been euthanized—dog collars, leashes, and cans of pet food. Each of these items was used to compose a different memorial: 575 dog collars shape a doghouse bound in leashes. Inside the doghouse, three tennis balls lie, quiet, a testament to the dogs that no longer need to be played with, or protected. You can view a quick time movie of the exhibit right now at <http://www.cyrusmejia.com/575project.html>.

Euthanasia is not a solution The 575 Project raises awareness about the importance of eliminating euthanasia as an end-all solution to unwanted animals and the over-population of animals. When asked how people can get involved in this movement, Mejia said, "Spay and neuter your pets, and adopt from shelters and tell your friends and family to do the same.... Never let it be said that one person can't make a difference."

For more information on The 575 Project, please visit www.cyrusmejia.com and find out how you can help bring awareness to the fight to keep homeless, helpless, animals alive. About 20 animals died as you read this story.

Update! The Best Friends Art Project exhibition will be hosted by the Texas Rangers Baseball Team at their home stadium, Amerquest Field, in Arlington Texas, August 23 – 31, 2005. More details for this event and future locations where you can view the exhibit will be posted on our website www.2ndchance4pets.org.

Q. Which type of pet trust is "better"?

A. Many pet owners will prefer the traditional pet trust because it provides the pet owner with tremendous control for the pet's care. For example, you may specify who manages the property (the trustee), the pet's caregiver (the beneficiary), the specific expenses the trustee will pay for, the type of care the animal will receive, what happens if the beneficiary can no longer care for the animal, and finally, disposition after the pet dies.

Q. What if my state does not have a special law authorizing pet trusts?

A. You may still create a traditional pet trust even if your state does not have a pet trust statute.

Q. When is a pet trust created?

A. You may create a pet trust either (1) while you are still alive (an "inter vivos" or "living" trust) or (2) when you die by including the trust provisions in your will (a "testamentary" trust).

Q. Which is better – an inter vivos or testamentary pet trust?

A. Both options have their advantages and disadvantages. An inter vivos trust takes effect immediately and thus will be functioning as soon as you die or become disabled. This avoids delay between your death and the property being available for the pet's care. However, an inter vivos trust often has additional start-up costs and administration fees. These costs are higher because the pet owner must transfer property

to the trust now and the trustee has duties with regard to that property even before the trustee is doing anything with regard to the pet. A testamentary trust is the less expensive option because the trust does not take effect until you die and your will is declared valid by a court ("probating the will"). However, there may be no funds available to care for the pet during the gap between your death and the time your will is probated. In addition, a testamentary trust does not protect your pet if you become disabled and unable to care for your pet.

Q. Where can I get a pet trust?

A. You may consult with an attorney who specializes in estate planning and who has experience with pet trusts. Alternatively, there are businesses such as PetGuardian (www.petguardian.com) which provides a pet trust program. Note that these businesses do not provide legal advice and are not authorized to practice law.

Professor Buyer received his J.D., summa cum laude, from the Ohio State University and his LL.M. and J.S.D. degrees from the University of Illinois. Professor Beyer maintains extensive research conducted on pet trusts at <http://www.ProfessorBeyer.com>. Professor Beyer joined the St. Mary's University School of Law faculty in 1981 and has served as a visiting professor at several other law schools including Boston College, Southern Methodist University, the University of New Mexico, and Santa Clara University. Professor Beyer is an Academic Fellow of the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel and maintains membership in the American Bar Foundation, the Texas Bar Foundation, and the College of the State Bar of Texas.



WHO WILL BE YOUR
PET'S GUARDIAN WHEN
YOU'RE NOT THERE?



PetGuardian

Providing loving care for your pet is a lifelong commitment. Who will be there to honor this commitment if you no longer can?

Year after year, thousands of helpless pets are euthanized after their owners have died. Visit us at www.petguardian.com or call 1.888.843.4040 to find out how to establish an affordable PetGuardian Pet Trust Plan to ensure the lifelong care of your pet.



in association with



Best Friends
ANIMAL SOCIETY

WWW.PETGUARDIAN.COM

THE GABRIEL FOUNDATION, IT'S FOR THE BIRDS!

There's good news and bad news about life shared with a parrot; the good news is that they're never going to grow up and leave home! The bad news is that they're never going to grow up and leave home!

As a friend once said to me, "They should make a companion pet that lives as long as we do," to which I replied, "They do! Only, it has 2 legs and is called a parrot." He stared at me in embarrassed silence. Anyone concerned with the healthy future of aviculture and animal welfare is often reminded of the need to make a lifetime commitment to their pet, referring to the lifetime of that animal. With a parrot, due to its potential long life span, it requires the human caregiver to commit his lifetime in addition to making formal provision for its care in the event that the bird(s) will outlive the human.

-Julie Weiss Murad, Founder and CEO of The Gabriel Foundation

Nibble was Susan's beautiful parrot, purchased from a reputable breeder. Susan adored Nibble's companionship and affection. Nibble returned her affection and companionship with songs, kisses, and chatty friendship. Susan and Nibble were inseparable for over five years, but when Susan died unexpectedly, Nibble lost her home and caregiver in a single night. Lucky for her, because The Gabriel Foundation was there to care for her.

The Gabriel Foundation is a 501(c)(3) avicultural and veterinary affiliated parrot welfare organization promoting educational outreach, conservation, rescue, rehabilitation, adoption and sanctuary pertaining to the needs of parrots everywhere. Its sanctuary program was developed to meet the special needs of parrots — some of whom live to the ripe old age of 80 years. The Gabriel Foundation is considered a parrot welfare organization, (P.W.O.) and provides for the welfare of parrots in general through its educational outreach programs, website and published materials. The Foundation cares for the welfare of parrots "under its wing" through its MAP certified aviary, providing the highest quality nutrition, environmental enrichment, husbandry, psychological enrichment and the very best in veterinary medical care. The Foundation continues to care for the welfare of parrots that leave the Foundation with long term follow up and on going educational information and support.

THE HISTORY OF THE FOUNDATION

Julie Murad, founder and CEO of The Gabriel Foundation, has been involved with companion birds for more than 30 years. In 1992, she made the decision to add a Hyacinth macaw to her flock. She knew a reputable breeder of Hyacinths and asked to be put on the waiting list for a bird. When the pair laid eggs Julie's name went on one of the three eggs in the clutch to be her future companion. Once hatched, he was named Gabriel, and it wasn't long before Julie was fascinated by this charming fellow. Sadly, Gabriel died of an intestinal blockage at 22 months of age. Julie wanted to honor her special friend by helping others learn about the specialized needs of parrots, the plight of parrots in the wild, and provide a resource to serve parrots and their people in need

of help, so, The Gabriel Foundation was hatched. Today, Julie continues her work with the Foundation, shares her home with many parrot companions in addition to her dogs, llamas, donkeys and sheep. She is a frequent presenter at major avicultural and veterinary conferences and a published author. Espousing the rules of Applied Behavior Analysis and positive reinforcement, she provides behavior consultations on the parrot/human relationship. She has spent time in South America, Mexico and Australia observing the behavior of parrots in the wild, and her knowledge of that behavior plays an important role in her work.

THE WORK OF THE GABRIEL FOUNDATION

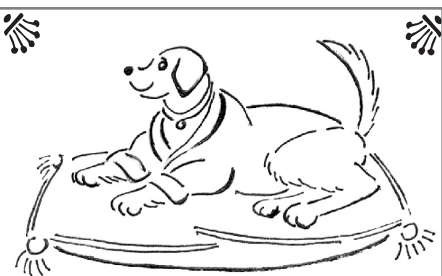
The Gabriel Foundation aviary provides the highest quality care for up to 250 birds at one time. The Foundation provides a haven for birds with chronic diseases, behavioral problems, and old age. Staff members are dedicated to meeting the needs of every bird. The Foundation has a successful adoption program which has placed nearly 700 parrots into new homes over the past 9 years.

The Foundation's Education Center is located centrally in Denver. The Foundation is in the process of moving to a new state-of-the-art facility closer to Denver and will be able to provide for 400 parrots with its expanded aviary. There will be nearly 12,000 square feet of indoor areas to house the birds, a lab and treatment area, bird food prep kitchen, reception area, adoption meeting rooms and specially designed species' rooms to house the parrots when they are indoors. Over 25,000 square feet of outdoor flights is being constructed to provide for the physical and mental health of the Foundation's residents with daily outdoor activity, weather permitting. 24/7 on sight staff will make certain that the

parrot's safety is always maintained. With two quarantine rooms, birds entering the Foundation will be able to be accommodated on a rotating basis. The new facility will have plenty of grounds to host special events celebrating the parrot and the neighbors are parrot-friendly!

If you want The Gabriel Foundation to care for your parrot after you die or become disabled, specify in your estate planning documents that your parrot must be given to the Foundation. Additionally, the Foundation asks that you set aside enough funds to cover your parrot's housing, food, and veterinary care for the rest of its life. If you wish your bird to be re-homed, the Foundation will honor those wishes and work with your bird and a potential adopter to find the best parrot to person match. The Foundation's lengthy adoption process and continual follow up with the adoptive family for the long term help to assure that your bird will be cared for by a deeply committed adoptive family.

For more information: <http://www.thegabrielfoundation.org> or, contact The Gabriel Foundation at 1025 Acoma Street, Denver, CO 80204. Tel: 303.629.5900 or Toll free at 877.923.1009. Send your email to Gabriel@thegabrielfoundation.org. *Editor's note: if you can not identify a potential caregiver for your pets, sanctuaries and lifetime care programs can be a solution. We strongly recommend that you physically inspect any facility to make sure that it could be an environment where you pet would receive adequate love and care.*



2nd Chance 4 Pets'
Pampered Pooches' Day
Coming April 2006

HOPE FOR LARGE BIRDS: PETCO'S NEW POLICIES

I was nine years old. It was a kinder, safer time when my mother allowed me to wander the pet department of a local retail store while she shopped other departments. His name was Chester. I ran to see him every time we shopped at that store. Chester was a beautiful cockatoo. He had luminous white feathers with peach undertones. Chester liked me, too. He always ran across his perch and pressed his head against the side of the cage. This in spite of the sign on his cage that said, "My name is Chester and I bite!" He spread his feathers so I could give him a good scratch above his eyes where he just couldn't reach. He was an expensive bird, and my mom wouldn't let me spend that much money on a pet. I did my best to tell people he was a good bird, he just picked favorites, and that he'd make someone a great friend. The last time I saw Chester was just before the store closed its' pet department. Unless he met with an early death, Chester is still out there somewhere.

Large breed birds like Chester can live to around 80 years of age, and some parrot breeds can live up to 100 years. With such a long lifespan, large breed birds require a commitment beyond even that of marriage or having children. Unfortunately, many people who purchase large breed birds do not fully recognize the commitment their birds require. Many of these birds are orphaned or released into the wild when their owners pass away.

In April of this year, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) achieved a major victory when a national pet store chain agreed to stop selling large birds like Chester. PETA announced through its website in April that PETCO, the second largest pet store chain in the US with over 740 stores nationwide, agreed to stop selling Amazon and African grey parrots, cockatoos, and macaws. PETA says these birds are not suitable as family pets because of their long life spans, size, and special care needs. In turn, PETA ended its two-year boycott of PETCO, halted demonstrations outside PETCO stores, and removed its anti-PETCO website.

PETCO also agreed to include large breed birds in the PETCO Foundation's partner adoption programs with local shelters across the country. The non-profit PETCO Foundation, founded in 1999, uses its resources to support programs in accordance with its stated "Four Rs: Reduce, Rescue, Rehabilitate, Rejoice." Currently the PETCO Foundation supports over 2,700 animal rescue organizations including 387 in California.

COMING IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE COMPANION

- ❦ More information about Pet Trusts and Planning for the Lifetime Care of Your Pets
- ❦ Our Animal Companions and the Health Benefits They Provide
- ❦ Pet Hospices and Perpetual Care Programs
- ❦ Educating Our Children about Lifetime Care For Pets
- ❦ Adopt-An-Orphaned-Pet-Day: September 2005
- ❦ Pet Identification: What's Most Effective

Only 40% of dogs and 30% of cats brought into animal shelters are adopted. Plan for your pets should you no longer be able to care for them.



From left to right: Amy Shever, Director of 2nd Chance 4 Pets; Wayne Pacelle, President of the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS), Peggy Hoyt, Estate Planner and Author, John Hoyt, Past President of HSUS, Wayne's dog, Rose

2ND CHANCE 4 PETS AND THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES

This past April, Amy Shever, Director of 2nd Chance 4 Pets, met with Wayne Pacelle, the President of HSUS, Peggy Hoyt and John

Hoyt (past HSUS President) to discuss the work of 2nd Chance 4 Pets. We reviewed our programs including **Adopt-an-Orphaned-Pet Day** which has been designed to create awareness and encourage planning for the future care of our animal companions, **Companions for Seniors** established to inform and educate animal shelters and our senior communities about adoption of appropriate pets and ensuring lifetime care for our pets, and the ongoing **Vet Outreach Program** providing veterinarians with the resources they need to educate pet owners about appropriately ensuring the future care of their pets. 2nd Chance 4 Pets looks forward to working with the HSUS team to leverage their extended network in an effort to help prevent our pets from being orphaned when their owners pass away, reduce the number of pets being euthanized and provide their human companions with peace of mind. For more information please visit www.2ndchance4pets.org.



If you would like to donate to 2nd Chance 4 Pets, please use the enclosed envelope or please visit our website, www.2ndchance4pets.org, where you can donate through Network for Good. Simply click on the "Donate Now" button. 2nd Chance 4 Pets is a 501(c)3 organization. Our tax ID number 13-4280812.



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