

Clinic targets vaccinations, spay/neuter for cats, dogs

C.A.R.E.4PAWS WILL HOLD ANOTHER EVENT SUNDAY IN GOLETA

[Print Email](#)



Contributed

Veterinary technician Gabrielle Lotspeich holds a Chihuahua mix as fellow technician Amanda Weston gives a shot.

August 13, 2013 12:15 am • [Staff report](#)
(0) [Comments](#)

Owners took advantage of low-cost vaccinations and spay/neuter services for dogs and cats at an event held in Lompoc, the focus of an effort to stem the city's pet overpopulation.

Hosted by Santa Barbara-based nonprofit C.A.R.E.4Paws and held at Miller Landscaping on June 29, some 126 dogs and cats were vaccinated at the event. Dr. Ruth Corbo was the veterinarian who oversaw the clinic.

Additionally, 68 pets were signed up for a free spay or neuter appointments. Some 46 dogs and cats pets had already been fixed and a dozen others' owners wanted to think about taking advantage of the program, clinic organizers said.

"We're very happy with the turnout," said Isabelle Gullo, director of C.A.R.E.4Paws. "We put on these free events quarterly to help pet owners who may not otherwise have the means to vaccinate their dogs and cats.

"Another goal is to promote spaying and neutering, which is the only way to fight Lompoc's pet overpopulation problem and take some of the burden off the local shelter," she added. "Most people don't know this, but at any given time of the year, the shelter is filled to the max with homeless dogs and cats. And unfortunately, there are not enough families out there to adopt all of these animals."

C.A.R.E.4Paws (Community Awareness, Responsibility, Education) works to reduce pet overpopulation and keep animals out of the shelter.

To help boost adoptions, C.A.R.E.4Paws is hosting Santa Barbara County's largest pet adoption festival from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday at Girsh Park in Goleta.

The fifth annual Wags' Whiskers Festival will feature dogs, cats and bunnies from about 25 animal shelters and rescues countywide. The festival also showcases local animal service providers, such as pet stores and veterinary clinics, including CARE Hospital, this year's top event sponsor.

Festival-goers will enjoy two Frisbee shows with Southern California's famous Disc Dogs (for the first time at Wags n' Whiskers), fast-paced Flyball with Santa Barbara Supersonic and a police dog performance. New this year is a henna tattoo parlor, a kissing booth hosted by the four-legged crew from Peace, Love & Pit Bulls from Las Vegas and participation from the Cesar Millan Foundation.

C.A.R.E.4Paws' "Pawsitive Thinking Kids Corner" invites children to discover how to care for all living beings, while hair experts from Paul Mitchell The School offer "Cuts for Mutts."

From 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Project PetSafe will offer low-cost vaccines, microchipping and licensing for dogs.

For more information, call 968-2273, email info@care4paws.org or visit www.care4paws.org.