

Publication:THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC/THE PHOENIX GAZETTE

Date:Friday, July 5, 1991

Edition:Final

Section:Community North

Page:3N3

Illustration: Photo by Russell Gates / Staff photographer Photo by Community

NO-KILL ANIMAL SHELTER NEAR COMPLETION

By Lori Baker, Staff writer

A no-kill animal shelter in northeast Phoenix — where animals could be boarded until a home is found for them — is nearly completed.

After eight years during which more than \$275,000 was raised statewide, the Animals Benefit Club of Arizona plans to open its Pets Are Wonderful Rescue Shelter and Educational Center, near 32nd Street and Bell Road, later this summer.

A \$10,000 donation was made Tuesday by the Arizona Community Foundation to the non-profit ABC. But another \$10,000 is needed before the shelter can open, said Dee Kotinas, president of ABC.

The Arizona Community Foundation is a not-for-profit organization that gives about \$2.4 million annually to Arizona charities, said Jeff Simpson, spokesman for Arizona Community Foundation.

"We were fortunate enough to have a fund established for the benefit of animals and their care and finding a no-kill animal care shelter in distress was a wonderful marriage of interest," Simpson said.

"We're challenging animal lovers in the community to meet or exceed our donation," he said.

Because ABC will offer education about pet care, ABC board member Ellen Pilcher said her group is working toward "alleviating the problem of overpopulation rather than just continuing to put a Band-Aid on the problem."

ABC has about 2,600 members in northeast Phoenix, Scottsdale, Tempe and Mesa, and another 1,000 members elsewhere in the state.

Readers of The Arizona Republic and The Phoenix Gazette donated about \$21,000 in 1990 for the ABC shelter, officials of the group said.

Kotinas said she's anxious to open the shelter so animals' lives can be saved.

"About 250,000 animals are put to death in Maricopa County each year," she said, referring to the county pounds and the Arizona Humane Society.

Without the new shelter, ABC is able to take in only as many homeless animals as space in foster homes permits, Kotinas said. Since 1982, ABC has placed about 7,500 animals for adoption.

The shelter can house 20 dogs plus puppies and 25 cats plus kittens at a time. ABC spends \$3,000 monthly maintaining about 100 animals in temporary foster homes throughout the Valley.

"ABC's rescued dogs and cats will not (just) be locked in cages in the shelter," Kotinas said. "They will have large furnished runs which lead into yard play available to them all day long."

Before being placed for adoption, animals will be spayed or neutered, and receive shots and behavioral training.

Prospective owners also will receive tips on pet care.

"We want the animals to be part of your household and be family members," Kotinas said.

ABC's educational facility will have a library, and will be a center for high school and college students to learn about animals. Donations to ABC may be sent to P.O. Box 26627, Phoenix, 85068.

Memo: Photo Reprints available. Please call 602-271-8298 for cost information.

Caption: Pets Are Wonderful Rescue Shelter and Educational Center, near 32nd Street and Bell Road, plans to open later this summer.

Dee Kotinas, president of Animals Benefit Club of Arizona, says \$10,000 is needed to open the facility.

Reprints of photos may be available. For information, please call (602) 444-8025.

This database is for internal use only. Stories from this database may not be sold or given away. Requests from the public for copies of stories should be referred to www.azcentral.com for the 7-day archive.

Resale: No

Words: 457

Status: Unsent

Keyword: ANIMAL AID BUILDING FINANCE

Id: archive~64101092