



John Manlove, Mayor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 31, 2004

For information: Martin DeLeon (713-475-4824 office, 281-850-0850 mobile)

CITY OF PASADENA OFFERING PET ADOPTIONS
OR SEARCHES FOR MISSING PETS ON-LINE

The City of Pasadena Animal Control and Adoption has added a new service where citizens looking to adopt a pet or pet owners looking for their missing pet can now go on-line. The Pasadena Animal Control and Adoption installed software on March 23 that will allow dogs or cats at the shelter to be viewed on-line through cooperation with PetHarbor.Com, a non-profit website which assists city animal control and private animal welfare agencies nationwide.

Animals brought in to the Pasadena Animal Control and Adoption have their pictures taken and then placed on-line. On average, there are as many as 100 pictures of dogs and cats at the Pasadena shelter that can be viewed on the website. The animals are narrowed down by category. Visitors to the website can narrow their search to a dog or cat and then further narrow the search by separating the animal by gender, age and size with the choices being small, medium or large.

Visitors to the website who see a dog or cat on-line that they would like to adopt can call to see if that pet is still available. However, citizens wanting to adopt a particular pet must visit the shelter in person located at 5150 Burke to place a hold on the animal. Pet owners who have lost their dog or cat can also call to see if their pet is still at the shelter.

“We hope to reunite more dogs and cats with their owners,” said Karen Hoffman, chief animal control officer, Pasadena Animal Control and Adoption. “We also hope to increase adoptions. It’s a lot easier for a potential pet owner to click on a picture rather than visit several different animal shelters.”

Hoffman said other shelters that have placed animals on-line have seen a huge success in the number of adoptions and reuniting of pets with their owners. Hoffman is hoping this new on-line service will also help lower the number of animals being put down each year. Two pets were adopted and two pet owners were reunited with their pets the first day the on-line service became available according to Hoffman.

“The first day it went on-line, people started calling us and congratulating us,” she said.

Pets lost or available for adoption at Pasadena’s Animal Control and Adoption can be viewed on-line at www.petharbor.com. Citizens can call Pasadena Animal Control and Adoption at (281) 991-0602 for more information.