

# WHAT'S UP, DACC?

AUGUST 2020

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
ANIMAL CARE & CONTROL

LATEST NEWS FROM OUR  
ANIMAL CARE CENTERS



RITA EARL PHOTOGRAPHY

## ADOPTION FEES WAIVED IN AUGUST

To celebrate Clear the Shelters 2020 and to ensure that as many animals as possible find permanent homes, the County of Los Angeles Department of Animal Care and Control (DACC) is waiving adoption fees for all cats and dogs during the month of August. This includes adoption, spay/neuter, and vaccination fees, but adopters will still be required to pay license fees. Residents may schedule an appointment to adopt by emailing the animal care center (ACC) directly at the appropriate address below:

- Agoura: [agoura@animalcare.lacounty.gov](mailto:agoura@animalcare.lacounty.gov)
- Baldwin Park: [baldwinpark@animalcare.lacounty.gov](mailto:baldwinpark@animalcare.lacounty.gov)
- Carson: [carson@animalcare.lacounty.gov](mailto:carson@animalcare.lacounty.gov)
- Castaic: [castaic@animalcare.lacounty.gov](mailto:castaic@animalcare.lacounty.gov)
- Downey: [downeyctaip@animalcare.lacounty.gov](mailto:downeyctaip@animalcare.lacounty.gov)
- Lancaster: [acclancaster@animalcare.lacounty.gov](mailto:acclancaster@animalcare.lacounty.gov)
- Palmdale: [palmdale@animalcare.lacounty.gov](mailto:palmdale@animalcare.lacounty.gov)

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*Most pets are well adjusted family members and live harmoniously with their families. However, even the best pet may lash out if they are excessively harassed or challenged.”*

## KEEPING KIDS AND PETS SAFE AT HOME

School closures due to the Coronavirus pandemic have significantly changed home life for both families and their pets. Many children are now home full time and not attending school or daycare. Parents working from home may be distracted by work responsibilities and challenged to monitor the interaction between their children and pets. As a result, the Department of Animal Care and Control (DACC) has seen an alarming increase in the reporting of dog bites to children. Most of these situations have occurred when the family dog was eating, playing with a toy, challenged, or hurt by a child. Keep your children safe and your pets happy by following these tips:

- Recognize that your pets need their own time for rest and de-stressing.
- Remember that small children are not good at recognizing signs of stress or danger from animals. Growling, hissing, avoidance, stiff body posture, twitching tails (cats), and lip licking are just some behaviors indicating that the pet's anxiety is increasing and could result in a bite.
- Be especially protective of older pets and small or fragile animals.
- Do not allow children to interfere with a pet when it is eating.
- Always supervise children and pets when they are playing together. Toys can be a source of competition and a dog might bite if its toy is removed.
- Do not allow children to climb on dogs, pull their ears, play with their mouths, tug their tails, or engage in other aggravating behaviors.

Most pets are well adjusted family members and live harmoniously with their families. However, even the best pet may lash out if they are excessively harassed or challenged. Every pet needs some alone time, even if it's at a neighbor's house!

Marcia Mayeda, Director  
Click [HERE](#) to view Marcia's blog!



## BOSCO AND MIGEL

### A STORY OF REUNIFICATION



This story begins with a dog named Bosco and his two-legged best friend named Migel. Bosco was an unweaned puppy when the two were first introduced, meaning that Migel had to bottle feed Bosco to ensure his survival. The two grew incredibly close over the years as Migel would bring Bosco along everywhere he went. This gave Bosco a chance to meet new people, while also serving as an opportunity for Migel to spread awareness and education about the Pit Bull breed. The two became so inseparable that Migel, who worked as a truck driver for five years, even brought Bosco along with him while out on the road.



When it seemed that nothing could come between this devoted duo, tragedy struck in 2018 when Migel came home and found that his house had been burglarized. Upon inspection, Migel discovered that the perpetrator(s) had stolen some tools, a generator, some other high-priced items and, above all, his family member and best friend, Bosco.

The days, months, and eventually years passed without Migel hearing any word on his long-lost friend. At this point, the hope for a reunification had faded and their companionship had become but a happy reflection of the past. Migel would be left to wonder about what became of his best friend.



Then on July 24, 2020, a stray dog was brought to the Palmdale Animal Care Center. The Palmdale team scanned the unknown stray for a microchip, as they do with all stray animals, and were thrilled to find a registered microchip.

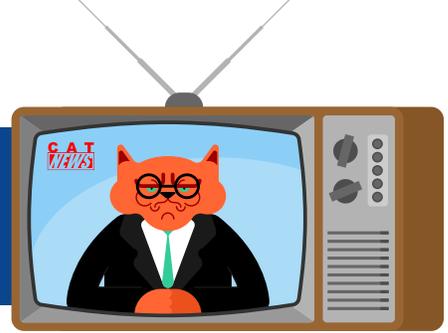
Staff called the number registered on the microchip to let the individual know that his dog had been found. On the other end of the phone was Migel who was in disbelief. Migel made his way to the Palmdale Animal Care Center with what must've been a conglomeration of heavy emotions.

Upon arriving, the Palmdale team brought out the stray dog who Migel recognized as his best friend, Bosco. The two shared a long-awaited moment of reunification which, unavoidably, had everyone in tears.



Stories like that of Bosco and Migel are not uncommon in Los Angeles County, and are usually only possible thanks to a microchip. This is a friendly reminder from DACC to have all of your pets microchipped and registered!

# DACC NEWS!



## PETCO FOUNDATION GRANT MATCH

DACC would like to thank Los Angeles County community members for helping save animal lives. The Petco Foundation put forward a match wherein they would grant \$25,000 to DACC for COVID-19 relief if another \$25,000 was raised to match the award. The Los Angeles County Animal Care Foundation, a non-profit which raises funds to support DACC, took on this challenge and, throughout the entire month of June, engaged community members to raise the matching funds. As a result, DACC has been granted a total of \$50,000 to support animal lifesaving work.

“The matching grant from the Petco Foundation and the generous donations from the community will allow DACC to provide critical services during the COVID-19 crisis,” said Marcia Mayeda, Director of the Department of Animal Care and Control. “These funds will help pet owners who require assistance with services and supplies for their pets, including necessary food and medical assistance.”

## HAVE YOUR PETS LICENSED!

**Why license your pets?** It's required by law! California state law requires that all dogs over the age of four months be vaccinated against rabies and be licensed through a local animal care and control agency. The County of Los Angeles requires the same. In addition, unincorporated Los Angeles County requires that all dogs and cats be spayed or neutered, vaccinated against rabies, and microchipped. Other incorporated cities whom the department services may slightly differ (check your local city hall or the License Fees link below) but in most cases require the same.

Licensing is also an important means of identification and can help return lost pets to their owners. Licensing your pet not only helps promote public safety within your community but could also help you reunite with your pet if they become lost!

**Where do I license my pet(s)?** Good news! You can now easily apply for a pet license or renew a license by using DACC's new online pet licensing system, which can be found here:

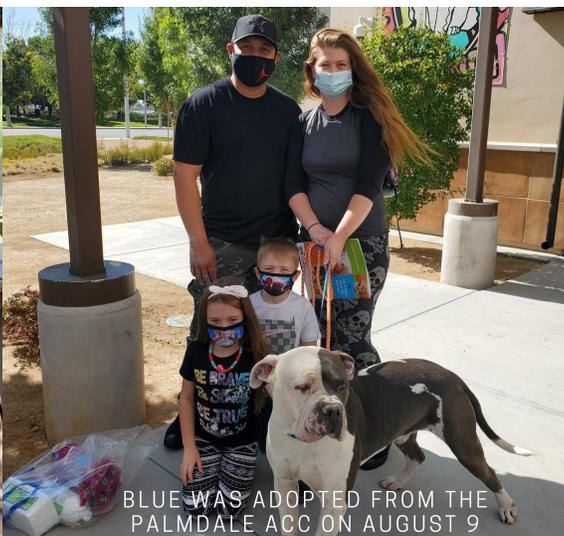
<https://animalcare.lacounty.gov/licensing/>

**Curious about fees?** The most current license fees can be found here:

[License Fees \(may vary depending on where you live\)](#)



SMORES WAS ADOPTED FROM THE CASTAIC ACC ON AUGUST 2



BLUE WAS ADOPTED FROM THE PALMDALE ACC ON AUGUST 9



ADOPTED FROM THE AGOURA ACC ON AUGUST 5

# AUGUST PUPDATES!

## AUGUST 8

On August 8, the Castaic ACC received an update on former canine resident, Smith, who was originally adopted from Castaic, returned to the Lancaster ACC, and then adopted again—this time, seeming to find his permanent home. "

"He is THE most amazing boy honestly I have ever met," said his owner. "I bring him into work everyday...Thank you so much for this connection—he has changed my life for the better."



Follow us!



FIND AN ANIMAL CARE CENTER NEAR YOU!

### Baldwin Park:

4275 N. Elton Street  
Baldwin Park, CA 91706  
baldwinpark@animalcare.lacounty.gov

### Carson/Gardena:

216 W. Victoria Street  
Gardena, CA 90248  
carson@animalcare.lacounty.gov

### Downey:

11258 S. Garfield Ave.  
Downey, CA 90242  
downeyctaip@animalcare.lacounty.gov

### Castaic:

31044 N. Charlie Canyon Rd.  
Castaic, CA 91384  
castaic@animalcare.lacounty.gov

### Agoura:

29525 Agoura Road  
Agoura Hills, CA 91303  
agoura@animalcare.lacounty.gov

### Lancaster:

5210 W. Avenue I  
Lancaster, CA 93536  
acclancaster@animalcare.lacounty.gov

### Palmdale:

38550 Sierra Highway  
Palmdale, CA 93550  
palmdale@animalcare.lacounty.gov

## AUGUST 3

Rocky is currently in foster care with a family who applied to LA County's new foster program! He is enjoying his many walks, boat rides, and abundance of love from his foster parents. Rocky's foster mother recently updated the Agoura team. "He [Rocky] is so chill," she said. "He sleeps a lot, and is totally non-reactive to other dogs." She also emphasized how much both she and her husband adore Rocky. Interested in fostering? Click [HERE!](#)



## FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

For the latest DACC updates, and for heartwarming stories from around our animal care centers, please follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter!



Interested in Fostering?  
Click [HERE!](#)

Licensing Questions?  
Call: (562) 345-0400  
Email: [licensing@animalcare.lacounty.gov](mailto:licensing@animalcare.lacounty.gov)

Interested in Volunteering?  
Click [HERE!](#)