

♥ If you love your pets, have them spayed or neutered. ♥

- Cattery
- Low Cost Spay/Neuter
- Adoption Services
- Foster Homes
- TNR Assistance



- Feral Sanctuary
- Lost and Found Service
- Animal Placement Service
- Pet Owner Education
- Cat Boarding



Vinnie



Valentina



Pistachio



Sabrina Furrari

Adoption Center
Street Address:
133 North D Street
Lompoc, CA 93436

Hours:
Saturdays from
10 to 4 or
by appointment

Phone:
(805)735-6741

Mailing Address:
VIVA
PO Box 896
Lompoc, CA 93438

Website:
<http://vivaonline.org>

Email:
info@vivaonline.org

VIVA

*"Helping
the Helpless"*

Return Service Requested

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
LOMPOC, CALIFORNIA
Permit No. 132

FEBRUARY 2008

CALENDAR:

2/2: Groundhog Day

2/14: National Pet Theft
Awareness Day

2/26: Spay Day USA

Adoptions are held every
Saturday 10AM - 4PM or by
appointment on Mon, Tues,
Wed and Thurs mornings.

February is "Unchain a Dog"
Month

... for THE RECORD

Every Tuesday morning, VIVA's "Pet of the Week" is published in Lompoc's local newspaper, The Lompoc Record. Photographed by VIVA's Heather Kennedy and accepted by the Record's Bo Poertner, these pictures of our beautiful cats give them an opportunity to be seen and wanted. Just last month both Patches and Pete were adopted the very days their photos were published. We encourage Lompoc residents to get a subscription to our local paper that helps us get homes for our shelter animals. Please support those who support VIVA.

A GIFT TO OUR CATS

The Santa Ynez Pet Hospital staff, instead of exchanging gifts at Christmas, gave the money they would have spent to VIVA for our homeless cats. What a wonderful thing to do for the animals!

Spay and neuter NOW before
its too late! Tell your friends.

VI VA HELPS WITH "SPAY AND NEUTER-A-THON"

On January 13th, 74 feral cats from the Lompoc and Santa Maria area were spayed and neutered. Another "Spay and Neuter-A-Thon" is planned for a day in March.

Animal Services of Santa Barbara coordinated the effort which involved volunteers from animal welfare organizations (including VIVA) and volunteer veterinarians and was specifically aimed at reducing the number of litters of feral kittens, most of which end up in shelters.

Once the cats are spayed, the county works with Catalyst for Cats and VIVA to find homes or alternative environments. Ranch and barn owners have given some of these cats homes. Often property owners who discover ferals will join the TNR (trap-neuter-return) programs by agreeing to make food, water, and shelter available to these homeless cats. For information about the next event, contact Stacy Crump @ 934-6981. For a wonderful video about spay/neuter, log on to our website: <http://www.vivaonline.org>

SBCOUNTYWORKSONAN OVERPOPULATIONORDINANCE

The following are some of the ideas being considered:

Cats: Must be spayed or neutered by 6 months except for these reasons: health; registered with 'nationally recognized purebred registry'; in county temporarily; owner purchases a breeding permit.
Ferals: people feeding ferals will be treated as owners (but 501c3s and animal rescue groups with s/n programs will not be); no breeding permits issued to ferals under any circumstances.

Dogs: Must be spayed or neutered by 6 months except for these reasons: health; registered with 'nationally recognized purebred dog registry'; dogs working as or used as breeding stock for law enforcement, search and rescue, herding and livestock guarding; in county temporarily.

Licenses: 1) if exempt, owner buys an unaltered license (no new fees or permits); 2) if required to spay or neuter, must do so to qualify for altered dog license. There is much more to this ordinance but no room to print all of it. See below:

COMMUNITY FORUMS ON PROPOSED ORDINANCE

To solicit public input on the proposed ordinance, the county is going to hold two meetings:

South County: Wednesday, February 27th at 6 PM at the Santa Barbara County Public Health Department Auditorium, 300 N. San Antonio Road, Santa Barbara

North County: Thursday, February 28th at 6:30 PM at the Santa Maria Animal Center, 548 West Foster Road, Santa Maria
Please attend one of these forums to make sure that the rescuer's side of the story is heard. More info: lee@leeheller.net 451-5787

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Linda and I have seen and done some unusual things in the course of catching feral kittens, so I was quite happy last June to find myself crawling over a pile of pleasantly-scented cinnamon sticks. The nice people at Fisher Farms had been feeding a feral cat for quite some time when they heard the distinctive mewling of kittens. They looked and listened and then gave VIVA a call when they figured out where the sound was coming from--the cinnamon sticks. (In case you're wondering, as I was, cinnamon sticks are often used by florists to compliment the Fisher Farm agricultural products they use in high-end dried arrangements.) We found three tiny kittens (Priscilla, Patrick, and Platinum), trapped their mom, Penelope, and then searched the rest of the building until we were satisfied no kittens had been left behind. Two days later, Jay Fisher called to say another kitten had appeared out of nowhere. We picked up the very hungry kitten we named Patience and marveled at the fact she had survived for two days without her mom. We were amazed when Jay called five days later about yet another kitten. Persistence had apparently sustained herself by



learning to eat on her own. While the rest of the litter nursed, Persistence sat in the bowl of dry food and ate ravenously. We considered it a miracle when, two weeks after the initial rescue, Jay found two more kittens. These kittens had been living in a box of dried wheat and it was obvious that's what they had been eating. I went straight to Village Vet to see Dr. Ganter. She and

her staff cared for the kittens for the day and gave them a clean bill of health. Although their growth was stunted, Panic Button and Patty Cake were fine. It was really their lucky day. Not only were they rescued, but Linda Jay Zivich was at the vet that day with her dog Bruno. She heard their story and quickly committed to adopting the pair when they were old enough. All of the "P" litter kittens went to great homes long ago, but they are never far from our thoughts.

A Letter and Photo from David and Linda Jay Zivich-- Panic and Patty's new family

Panic Button (Zak) and Patty Cake (Zoe) are loving every minute of their lives here. Their older sister, Zelda, has learned at age two how to be the kitten that she never was. That's been an extremely wonderful experience to watch. Zoe, the smaller of the two, is lanky and bowlegged. Zak, "the attack", is built like a middle linebacker and is about twice the mass of his lil sis. Zoe is the dominant personality as with most females, feline as well as human. Zak is an easy going beautiful mound of fur soft as chinchilla. he loves to crawl up on our bed



nightly and come up to us and push his lil' wet nose straight into our faces as if to say, "Pet me, now!!!" Zoe comes up when she chooses, sleeping at the foot of the bed. The two of them together play along with Zelda, all day and all night long. Zak eats about ten pounds of food daily while the two females daintily pick at theirs. We have a 100 pd. fox hound, Bruno, who has adjusted to his new brother and sister who takes great pleasure in nibbling at his toe nails as well as his tail. They get along great together. They have been a marvelous addition to our family and we love them dearly. Oh, and by the way, they are so much easier to raise than children. I wish I would have known that a few decades ago. Once again, thank you for your donation to our family.

David Zivich

Declawing is similar to cutting your fingers off at the first knuckle. It is outlawed as an act of cruelty in many nations.

To learn more, visit <http://pawproject.com>

PLEASE . . .
DON'T DECLAW.