

♡ 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



Lexie--room 7



Pistachio--room 2



Tuxie--room 1



Cecilia--room 1



Jasper--room 7

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

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LOMPOC, CALIFORNIA
Permit No. 132

JANUARY 2008

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

January is "Adopt a Rescued Bird Month."

OPEN HOUSE HUGH SUCCESS

This is the biggest fund raiser of the year, and it looks like we made approximately \$12,000 for the animals. A big thank you to all the volunteers who worked so hard to get the shelter ready for the event. Those volunteers who collected donations, priced items, operated our country store (which was outside and took in almost \$1,500), shopped for and prepared the refreshments, sold raffle tickets, gave shelter tours, made phone calls to the winners, supported the fund raiser, and did the clean-up afterward, all deserve a big thanks. By the end of Sunday we were very tired. Our day started at 6AM and ended at 9PM. For the animals, it was worth it!

OUR BOARDING ROOM

It's an on-going financial support as well as a service to our members and friends. The boarding room was full during the holidays. As a reminder: we have six "two story" cages in what used to be the front bedroom of the little house we purchased. When the sun's out, the room gets its rays in the morning. The cost is \$8.00 a day per cat, less than half what it costs other places. Reservations required.

IF YOU GOT A PUPPY OR A KITTEN FOR CHRISTMAS

First, congratulations for the new addition to your family. We hope it will be an indoor animal that is loved and cared for as you would a child. Second, call us if you have questions about taking care of your new baby. The holidays are a stressful time for all of us, and a new animal that is taken into a noisy household with extra people there for family and friends gatherings can be overwhelmed at the beginning.

Many animals come down with a URI (upper respiratory infection) primarily caused by the stress of a new surrounding. Don't panic. A trip to your veterinarian, who will prescribe an antibiotic, will do the trick. A trip to your veterinarian is a good idea anyway. Your new baby can get a thorough examination and any needed vaccines other than the ones given where you adopted it, hopefully at a shelter for homeless animals. Enjoy the unconditional love from your new family member!

THE LIFE AND TIMES OF THE FLEA FROM CATNIP MAGAZINE

During their lives, fleas pass through four stages: egg, larva, pupa, and adult. The complete flea life cycle typically takes three to five weeks under normal household conditions. During an average 100-day life span, a single female flea can lay more than 2,000 eggs. Most of these slippery eggs soon roll off Fluffy as she goes about her busy day. Many eggs, for instance, end up in favorite snoozing spots, such as her bed...and possibly yours.

After one to ten days, the eggs hatch into wormlike larvae. The light-sensitive larvae wiggle into dark, protected areas such as crevices in wood floors and the base of carpet pile. There, they dine on organic debris and "flea dirt" - undigested blood excreted by adult fleas - for five to eleven days. The larvae then spin protective cocoons; inside, they transform into pupae and finally into adults over a seven to fourteen-day period. When body heat, moving air currents, and carbon dioxide emissions signal that an animal is close by, the adult fleas emerge from their pupal cocoons and use their powerful, springlike legs to jump aboard the passing animal.

The hungry adult fleas begin feeding almost immediately. Unless removed (by your grooming cat or you), fleas spend their entire adulthood on an animal host. Fleas thrive in temperatures between 75 and 85 degrees Fahrenheit and humidity of 75 percent or above. Consequently, they are a year-round problem in many part of the U.S.

Editor's note: Talk to your veterinarian about the best product to use to get rid of fleas. VI VA uses both Advantage and Revolution. Advantage kills fleas within hours without invading the blood stream. Revolution goes into the blood stream and kills fleas, ticks, and mites.

We NEVER use flea collars and would encourage you not to use them. Most don't work well, the animals can get themselves caught on something, the collars can get caught in the animals' mouths, the smell can be nauseating, etc Both Advantage and Revolution are applied to the back of the neck.

Yale and Yancey Get a New Last Name

You may recall reading in our December newsletter about the kittens we rescued from the 99cent store parking lot, Yale and Yancey York. Lunn and Til Courson read the story and after meeting the kittens at the holiday open house, they decided to adopt the pair. Lunn has sent regular updates to let us know how Yale and Yancey are adapting to their new life.

While any kitten benefits from a short period of confinement after moving to a new home, it is a critical adjustment requirement for formerly-feral kittens. Lunn ingeniously devised a confinement area using a baby play pen with a unique cover. She tells us, "the "lid" to the play pen is the leaves of my grandmother's table that Mom & Dad brought to California from South Carolina in their motor home years ago. Meemee would not be surprised." Yale and Yancey love their new family. Lunn writes:

they've only been here a short time and are already purring and relaxed—much different than when we first saw them at VIVA's open house. This morning Yale was trying to grab a spider that was webbing down in front of the window. . . they're very busy and love to romp. Thank you Linda and Heather for your endless energy & continued efforts for the welfare of all felines.

Linda and I are so happy that Yale and Yancey Courson have a wonderful, loving home. Thank you Lunn and Til!

Lexie

The beautiful patched tabby in the photo below is Lexie. A little over a year ago, Linda and I were asked to trap-neuter-return (TNR) a litter of older feral kittens that had taken up residence under a Lompoc home. We didn't know at the time that the lady caring for the colony was a renter and her landlords prohibited animals. When the care giver left town a couple of months ago, she and her landlords asked us to remove the three kitties from the property. The care giver had obviously been working on socializing the colony because one of the three, Lexi, turned out to be quite friendly. Lexie's brother and sister moved to the feral cat sanctuary where they will be very comfortable, but now Lexie is all alone and she seems a bit sad. She will be a very grateful and loving companion for the lucky person who adopts her.



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