



# Lucky Star Spay Neuter Program News

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**Our Mission:** To gather, recognize and celebrate the continuing annual commitment of each of our member veterinarians to provide some level of absolutely free spay neuter services to the needy animals of their choice, along with any other free services they choose to provide.

## **OUR LUCKY STARS**

We are proud to present this roster of Lucky Star Veterinarians. Together these **18** professionals have generously pledged **456** absolutely free spay neuter surgeries & other free services for needy animals of their choice in **2014**, for which they have our admiration & thanks:

**Dr. Ohad Barnea**, Cliffside & Tenafly Animal Hospitals

**Dr. Sarah Barnes**, Eleos Veterinary Service

**Dr. Erno Hollo & Dr. Kelly Vex** Basking Ridge Animal Hospital

**Dr. Harvey E. Hummel**, Andover Animal Hospital, Newton

**Dr. Danci Mock**, West Caldwell Animal Hospital

**Dr. Maritza Perez**, West Orange Animal Hospital

**Dr. P. Picone**, Audubon Veterinary Associates

**Dr. Sandra Stalder-Frey**, Alpha Veterinary Care

**Dr. Carolyn Wooley**, MCSNIP, Pennington

**Dr. Laura Acosta, Dr. Iris M. Biely, Dr. David Croman, Dr. Laurie Heeb, Dr. Diana Knight, Dr. Peter Midgley-DiGeronimo, Dr. Faith Perrin & Dr. Michelle Wong**, People for Animals, Inc., Hillside and Robbinsville

## **FOR NYC RABBITS FREE S/N CLINICS**

Rabbits adopted from NYC rescues/shelters are already S/N'd. Now, even NYCers who have bought "intact" rabbits from pet shops can have their new pets S/N'd @ FREE clinics offered jointly by the **Mayor's Alliance for NYC's Animals** & the **Humane Society of New York**. A free clinic was held in April. Future clinics are planned. Apmts required & rabbits are asked to come in for a free check-up shortly before surgery. For info re future clinics, New Yorkers, check <http://www.animalalliancencyc.org/>

## **EASTER BUNNIES-NOT A HAPPY BUNCH**

Nor are many of the families that acquire them. Taking care of rabbits & socializing them takes time & effort, which parents who buy the pets for their kids don't always realize. Nor are they aware of their new pets' prolific breeding habits. Suddenly there are litters & new owners quickly feel overwhelmed. Many release their new pets outdoors, un-aware domestic rabbits can't survive in the wild. Others give them up to shelters like



**Animal Care & Control of NYC** & its adoption partner, **NYC Metro Rabbit**, the adoption program of **Rabbit Rescue & Rehab**. These alone take in about 600 rabbits/yr. making rabbits the 3rd-largest shelter population after cats & dogs. Photo: Anna Bongiorno <http://www.animalsheltering.org/resources/magazine/mar-apr-2014/a-little-help.html#.U018exq6jgA.email>

*"...animals who are s/n'd get adopted much quicker than animals who are intact," says Paul, partly due to how the staff tout perks such as lower risk of mammary tumors for spayed female rats and reduced odors for neutered male mice. Miller notes that fixed bunnies are generally cleaner and less likely to spray or bite."*

..... **North Star Rescue, California,**  
dedicated to pet rodents & rabbits

**PLEASE SEE PG 2 FOR MORE S/N NEWS**

## **UNCHAINED NEW YORK "UCNY"**

UCNY advocates for chained outdoor dogs on Long Island via Community Outreach, Humane Education, Spay Neuter, Rescue & Rehoming and the "Exchange your Chain" program, working one-on-one with pet owners to provide non-judgmental help to improve the lives of outdoor chained &/or neglected dogs, striving to bring positive, lasting change in the lives of families & their dogs. View the video to be inspired.

<http://unchainednewyork.org>

"The bottom line is that removing a dog from this situation won't break the cycle (unless it's an absolutely dire circumstance, then we will try & act immediately). ... it is our experience, that the dog that has been removed, will be easily & quickly replaced. ..., that leaves us right where we started. So, before we take the route of removing the dog, we try & educate the owners about proper pet care. Along with education, training & tips we provide, we also provide supplies, including insulated dog houses, lightweight tie outs, straw (in the winter for warmth), bowls, bones, toys, & food. **We also will provide free S/N services**, along w/rabies & vaccinations when this surgery is performed. We provide crates for owners who are willing to transition their dogs indoors, even if it's just for the night. We ... believe that we need to break the cycle in order to see any lasting change.".....UCNY

## **\$'s FOR "HV-HQ-LC" S/N SCHOLARS**

High-volume, high quality, low cost S/N is key to controlling pet over-population. Nobody knows more about it than Asheville, NC-based Humane Alliance. This year, Neighborhood Cats announces the launch of the Neighborhood Cats-Humane Alliance Veterinary Scholarship Program, designed to underwrite high-volume (hv) training for veterinarians working with feral cats, pit bulls & others at-risk. Neighborhood Cats will send 6 doctors from across the USA to Humane Alliance for intensive, week long hv instruction. This program is made possible with generous funding from the Summerlee Foundation. For more info go to [www.neighborhoodcats.org](http://www.neighborhoodcats.org).

## **BREAKING OUR 'ONE PAGE' RULE!**

We won't make this a habit, but we wanted to give rabbits their due and still cover these S/N efforts focusing on those "most at risk".

## **A FOCUS ON THOSE "MOST AT RISK"**

A 1 hr recording of a Feb ASPCA webinar:  
How to Increase the Impact of Your S/N



Services tells the story of how & why the ASPCA completely changed their free/low cost S/N services in NYC from a focus on numbers to a focus on impact. ALL THEIR OUTREACH RESOURCES now go to reaching those animals most at risk of cruelty, neglect,

shelter intake & euthanasia. They use census data, shelter intake stats & local human social services agencies to reach the people whose pets they want to reach. The work is difficult & can take extended periods of time to finally result in "fixing" that one pit bull that is impregnating a whole neighborhood, but when they finally "reach" that owner of that animal, that neuter has a really big impact. The owners, who never had S/N on their radar screen & took long to be convinced, can eventually become S/N advocates in their family & neighborhoods, prompting a whole culture change. Here's a stunning statistic: 500 pit bulls/pit mixes, get surrendered EVERY MONTH to NYC Animal Control. That & other sobering facts motivate them & ultimately their clients. What was at first a difficult, confusing & at times discouraging adjustment has produced results that they believe have been well worth the effort. This is a fascinating piece with much to think about. (photo: UCNY)

[www.aspcapro.org/webinars](http://www.aspcapro.org/webinars), click on "recorded webinars", then scroll down & click on: "How to Increase the Impact of Your Spay/Neuter Services" to register free to listen.

## **NEXT ISSUE: AUGUST 1<sup>ST</sup>**

Just one page, I promise!