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Return to Coachella Serves Hundreds of Pet Owners

Thousand Palms, CA – June 29, 2009: Last Saturday, Animal Samaritans returned to Veterans Park in Coachella to offer pet vaccinations and microchips. More than 100 pet owners brought their dogs and cats to the park, both for booster shots and for first-time vaccinations. The clinic was open from 6:30am – 9:30am, to beat the heat. Despite the short hours, all those who came for pet vaccinations were served.

“People started lining up at 5:30 in the morning,” remarked Fred Saunders, Executive Director for Animal Samaritans. “They’re getting to know us and rely on us in the East Valley. It’s important we show them we’re here.”

As with the clinic held in May, many pet owners came with young dogs for first time rabies vaccinations. Others followed up with the second round of vaccinations to guard against the deadly parvo and corona viruses. Several kittens were also vaccinated. In total, Animal Samaritans vet technicians gave 211 vaccinations and 13 microchips.

Due to the popularity of their mobile pet clinics, Animal Samaritans plans to return to Coachella in the Fall. Additional pet clinics are scheduled for Indio, Mecca, La Quinta, Palm Desert, and Palm Springs. A complete list of event dates can be found on their website, www.animalsamaritans.org

Animal Samaritans SPCA, a 501 (c) non-profit organization founded in 1978, is committed to improving the lives of animals and people. As the Coachella Valley’s most comprehensive animal welfare organization, they strive to one day eliminate the needless suffering and abuse of homeless and unwanted animals. Programs and services in place to save the lives of healthy and treatable animals include prevention through humane education, low-cost and no-cost spay and neuter, low-cost vaccinations, low-cost dental care and pet wellness exams, microchipping, animal sheltering and pet adoptions. In addition, more than one hundred volunteers from their Animal Assisted Therapy programs visit disabled children in special needs classrooms, nursing homes, and hospitals, while their Animal Assisted Activities teams see residents at Juvenile Hall. More information is available by visiting www.animalsamaritans.org