

*The Board of Supervisors of  
Contra Costa County, California*

In the matter of:

**Resolution No. 2015/302**

**Honoring the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Animal Rescue Foundation in Walnut Creek.**

WHEREAS, Evie the cat was rescued during a Major League Baseball game at the Oakland Coliseum by Tony La Russa on May 7, 1990; and

WHEREAS, in 1991 Elaine and Tony La Russa co-founded the Animal Rescue Foundation (ARF) saving 157 animals, 11 dogs and 146 cats, in its first year and holding the inaugural Stars to the Rescue gala fundraiser; and

WHEREAS, the Animal Rescue Foundation began humane education programs for children in 1993 to introduce and teach compassion and empathy towards animals; and

WHEREAS, five volunteers created the ARF Emergency Medical Fund ® to provide non-emergency veterinary care for pets of low-income community members within Contra Costa County in 1995; and

WHEREAS, the FoodShare program began in 1996 to deliver free, donated pet food to low-income Contra Costa County community members struggling to feed their pets; and

WHEREAS, the Inaugural Animals on Broadway community festival was held in 2001 celebrating the special bond between pets and people, in its 15<sup>th</sup> year this event welcomed more than 2,000 visitors and an assortment of pets; and

WHEREAS, in 2002 Pet Hug Pack, a team of therapy animals and volunteer handlers, made its first visit. Today, the program visits more than 200,000 seniors, veterans, at-risk youth, children and people-in-need; and

WHEREAS, in 2003 ARF's national headquarters in Walnut Creek opens its doors to the public; and

WHEREAS, ARF created its National Deployment Program with an inaugural trip to Joplin, Missouri following the devastating tornado in 2011; and

WHEREAS, in 2012 Pets for Vets program was created to connect shelter animals with veterans who are struggling to transition back to civilian life; and

WHEREAS, in 2014 the 25,000<sup>th</sup> spay and neuter surgery took place at ARF's state-of-the-art clinic in Walnut Creek; and

WHEREAS, in 2015, 25 years after Evie the Cat was rescued, ARF will complete 2,500 adoptions, more than any year before, and celebrated its 30,000<sup>th</sup> adoption milestone with the adoption of a kitten named Ravioli; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors hereby honors the Animal Rescue Foundation for their commitment to the greater health and well-being and continuous support of cats and dogs throughout our community.

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**JOHN GIOIA**

Chair,  
District I Supervisor

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**CANDACE ANDERSEN**

District II Supervisor

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**MARY N. PIEPHO**

District III Supervisor

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**KAREN MITCHOFF**  
District IV Supervisor

**FEDERAL D. GLOVER**  
District V Supervisor

I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of an action taken and entered on the minutes of the Board of Supervisors on the date shown.

ATTESTED: August 18, 2015

David J. Twa,

By: \_\_\_\_\_, Deputy