

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

In the matter of honoring the 25th Anniversary of the Animal  
Rescue Foundation in Walnut Creek

**Resolution No. 2015/302**

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 15th year this event welcomed more than 2,000 visitors and an assortment of pets; and

WHEREAS, in 2002 the 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

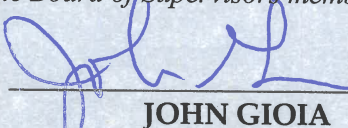
WHEREAS, in 2012, the Pets for Vets program was created to connect shelter animals with veterans who are struggling to transition back to civilian life; and

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

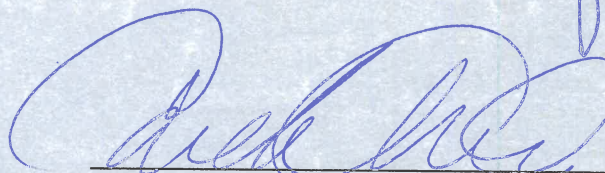
WHEREAS, in 2015, 25 years after Evie the Cat was rescued, ARF will complete 2,500 adoptions, more than any year before, and has celebrated its 30,000th adoption milestone with the adoption of a kitten named Ravioli.

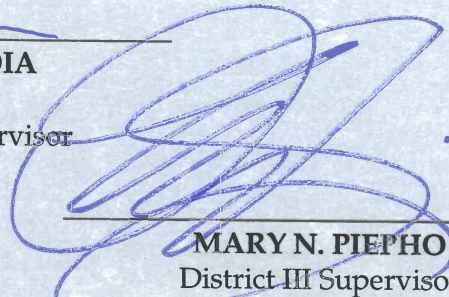
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of Contra Costa County does hereby honor the Animal Rescue Foundation for their commitment to the greater health and well-being and continuous support of cats and dogs throughout our community.

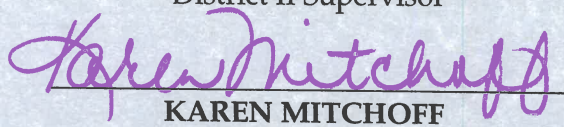
*PASSED by a unanimous vote of the Board of Supervisors members present this 18<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2015.*

  
JOHN GIOIA

Chair,  
District I Supervisor

  
CANDACE ANDERSEN  
District II Supervisor

  
MARY N. PIEPHO  
District III Supervisor

  
KAREN MITCHOFF  
District IV Supervisor

ABSENT  
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 TWA, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors and County Administrator

By  Deputy