

## Animal shelter celebrates adoption milestone

The Mid-City shelter operated by the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Los Angeles recently reached a milestone when Biscuit, a 5-month-old Chihuahua mix, became the center's 100th adoptee.

The center reopened on July 20 after renovations and improvements were made to the facility through the support of the Stringer Foundation, Petco Foundation and individual donors. The facility first opened as a pet shelter in 1949 and was renovated in the 1960s when an administrative building was added. After ceasing shelter operations in the early 2000s, the location on Jefferson Boulevard was used for spay/neuter services, emergency animal housing and a training center. It became an animal shelter again in July and is currently offering dog and cat



photo courtesy of spcaLA

Biscuit (center, right) became the 100th adoptee at the newly renovated spcaLA Mid-City Adoption Center.

adoptions.

"I couldn't have asked for a better 100th adoption," said Jessica

Wolf, pet adoption center manager. "The response to the center from the community has been so positive – it's a great feeling. People in the neighborhood and all over Los Angeles have come to visit and adopt."

Biscuit was adopted by two sisters who live in Grenada Hills. Dogs, cats, puppies and kittens are available for adoption from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday. The spcaLA Pet Adoption Center is located at 5026 W. Jefferson Blvd. For information, visit [spcaLA.com](http://spcaLA.com).

## Governor convenes city leaders at forum on ending homelessness

Deputy Mayor Christina Miller represented Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti at a meeting on Sept. 6 of Gov. Gavin Newsom's Council of Regional Homeless Advisors.

Experts from throughout California shared successes and discussed challenges in confronting the homelessness crisis in communities throughout the state. The meeting was held at the Stanislaus Veterans Center. Miller, deputy mayor for city homelessness initiatives, gave a presentation on L.A.'s approach to bridge housing shelters. The program has helped L.A. become what is considered a national model for bringing people into housing.

"Homelessness is a statewide and national crisis that demands intense focus, the brightest minds and our best ideas," Garcetti said. "The council is bringing all of that to the table for California at a moment when we have to act with urgency to confront the emergency on our streets and do everything in our power to bring people indoors as quickly as possible."

Garcetti is leading the city's response to the homelessness crisis, with a record \$462 million in the 2019-20 budget dedicated to permanent housing, temporary shelter, services and facilities to help home-

less individuals get off the streets. Twenty-six emergency shelters are expected to open by next July through the A Bridge Home initiative.

The meeting of the Council of Regional Homeless Advisors comes as the California Legislature enters the final weeks of the 2019 session. Garcetti is supporting multiple pieces of legislation that would help accelerate and strengthen L.A.'s efforts to confront the homelessness crisis. They include AB 1482, authored by Assemblyman David Chiu (D-San Francisco), which will protect renters from skyrocketing costs and unfair evictions. AB 1197, authored by Assemblyman Miguel Santiago (D-Los Angeles), would help stop abusive, costly and time-consuming lawsuits intended to block construction of housing for homeless individuals by providing a blanket California Environmental Quality Act exemption for all HHH-funded supportive housing. A Bridge Home sites and all state-backed shelters. SB 329, authored by Sen. Holly Mitchell (D-Los Angeles), will strengthen protections for low-income residents by expanding anti-income discrimination provisions for Section 8 and other vouchers across California.

## Community members sought for BHPD Chief's Advisory Panel

The Beverly Hills Police Department is seeking community members to join the Chief's Advisory Panel.

The panel was formed by Beverly Hills Police Chief Sandra Spagnoli in 2018 to expand community outreach in support of the 20-year Police and Community Together initiative, known as PACT. The Chief's Advisory Panel is a community resource for the chief in forming strategies, developing policing concepts and increasing public awareness. The panel is also a forum for discussion about concerns. The goal is to have a broad spectrum of viewpoints represented.

The rotating membership of the

panel is comprised of 20 citizens from throughout the community who represent a range of interests and experience. There are currently three vacancies on the panel.

New members will be selected based on their background, experience and involvement in the city of Beverly Hills. Applicants must live, work or attend school in Beverly Hills to be eligible.

Members serve a one- or two-year term and are expected to attend monthly meetings held on weekday evenings.

The application period is open through Monday, Sept. 23.

For information and to submit an application, visit [beverlyhills.org](http://beverlyhills.org).



photo courtesy of L.A. Animal Services

Seventy-six senior dogs found new homes during a recent pet adoption event at L.A. city animal shelters.

## Foundation helps L.A. animal shelters find homes for dogs

The Pet Care Foundation recently supported pet adoption events at all six L.A. City Animal Services Centers to help find homes for animals five years and older, which are considered seniors.

Seventy-six senior dogs found new homes. Cat adoptions were free as part of a "Clear the Shelters" event sponsored by NBC held on the same weekend

in August.

"Mature pets are the best possible addition to any family," said Brenda Barnette, general manager of L.A. Animal Services. "They appreciate you even more because you've given them a second chance at a happy and fulfilling life."

For information and to locate an L.A. City Animal Services Center, visit [laanimalservices.com](http://laanimalservices.com).



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