



Lucky Star Spay Neuter Program News

Published by the **Lucky Star Spay Neuter Program** 12 Birch Lane, Morristown, NJ 07960

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Volume 66

February 2015

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 **17** professionals have generously pledged **456** absolutely free spay neuter surgeries & other free services for needy animals of their choice in **2015**, 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. Eric Etheridge, Dr. Laurie Heeb, Dr. Peter Midgley-DiGeronimo, & Dr. Faith Perrin, People for Animals, Inc., Hillside and Robbinsville

S/N IMPACT OF PETSMART SALE?

"Animals 24-7" asks--What will the Dec. 2014 sale of PetSmart mean to PetSmart Charities (PSC) the affiliated nonprofit that helps to facilitate about 400,000 adoptions & about 285,000 S/N's /yr, while making about \$34 million/yr. in grants to about 2,800 other animal charities? Since PSC is separately incorporated, the PetSmart sale does not necessarily mean a transition of PSC leadership--though probably it will. Usually leadership changes at "for-profits" are soon followed by changes in Boards of related charities. More: <http://wp.me/p4pKmM-10H>

OUR NEXT ISSUE: APRIL 1ST 2015

LUCKY STAR PLEDGES FOR 2015

We thank all our Lucky Star Veterinarians who have renewed their priceless pledges of free S/N's & other free services for 2015! We **welcome PFA's Dr. Eric Etheridge** to our roster, as we thank Drs. Knight & Wong for their past support & wish them the best on their new paths, hoping they will take Lucky Star along!

"FIX FELINES BY FIVE" CAMPAIGN

www.Mariansdream.org, whose mission is to create & support programs to end pet over-population, celebrates the start of their new campaign & Dr. Richard Speck's , '[The Case for Neutering at Five Months of Age](#)' (click title to access) in the Nov/Dec "Today's Veterinary Practice". "**FIX FELINES BY FIVE**" recognizes that most people "were not sure when" to S/N or thought pets "should be S/N'd after 6 mo. of age." (By then, litters are possible & 60% are unplanned & not wanted.) "... a Mass. survey found that female cats & dogs that had been sterilized after having at least 1 litter accounted for 87% of all litters born..... Pet population rates were not being driven by animals that would remain intact, but rather by those that would eventually be spayed." Since there is some debate re S/N'g large dogs before 6 mos, the **program focuses solely on cats to "Beat the Heat" & substantially reduce unplanned unwanted litters while achieving all the additional benefits of S/N.**

"The majority of presterilization litters can be eliminated by performing recommended neutering just one month earlier—at 5 months of age rather than 6 months."

Dr. Richard Speck

WAY TO "0" POPULATION GROWTH?

Readers' comments are as interesting as this ASPCA blog:

<http://www.aspcapro.org/blog/2014/12/01/how-many-cats-do-we-need-sterilize-reach-zero-population-growth>

CELEBRATE "SPAY DAY" FEB 24 2015