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Paws-itive News at Animal Services

Good things are happening at Animal Services for our furry friends including new ways we can help the animals.

Ever watch those home renovation shows? Well, the dog play yard at the shelter was badly in need of a ‘flip.’ This outdoor yard is very important. It gives potential adopters space to get to know a dog plus it serves as an

One of Animal Services’ satisfied customers after a romp in the renovated play yard.
exercise yard to give dogs a break from the kennels. With help from Supervisor John Phillips who saw the need and even did a little of the heavy lifting plus a generous donation from Friends of Community Animal Services and voila - the play yard looks like new!

A huge thank you also to Carlos Duardado of Duardado Landscaping who did the work and Ty Brooks who volunteered to bring his own tractor for the day to get this project done.

You can check out the play yard for yourself if you’d like to do some volunteering. This is another piece of good news from the shelter: the Volunteer Program is back in full swing, thanks to the addition of an Educator and Volunteer Coordinator. That means if you’ve ever thought of giving a bit of time to the many animals in need, now is the perfect time to sign up.

Volunteers can get their steps in dog walking, help with mealtime, manage feline play time and help in the clinic - see some of the volunteers already in action below. Volunteering can be very fulfilling for both humans and animals!

The ideal volunteer is someone who is 16 years of age or older (or younger with parent or guardian) who can commit to a couple hours a week on a regular basis for a few months.

Interested? Contact Jessica Jeffrey at: jeffreyj@co.monterey.ca.us
Magnet Science Highlighted at Hospital

Part of Natividad’s ongoing renovation in its Radiology Department offered a fun and interesting science observation of magnets, really powerful magnets.

As part of the renovation, technicians recently had to quench the magnet in its existing MRI machine. While that sounds a bit like a soft drink commercial, quenches are what is done when these machines and the superconducting magnets that make imaging possible are being decommissioned and the machine’s magnetic field is being turned off.

While the act of eliminating the magnetic field is mostly a push of a button inside the hospital, the sudden loss of superconductivity in the magnet coils creates a show of liquid helium steam venting from the hospital roof.

Once the radiology renovations are complete, all imaging equipment such as CT, MRI and Ultrasound machines will be replaced with modern and more advanced technology to support Natividad’s Trauma Center and other general services.

Quenching a magnet causes a sudden, explosive boil-off of liquid helium from the MRI equipment (left). That steam is safely vented outside of the building (right).

East West Wing Work Earns Award

Since its grand reopening and dedication last summer, the rejuvenated East West Wing of the historic Monterey County Courthouse has been a source of enjoyment for both workers and visitors. Now, the building is getting additional appreciation.
The renovation work done on the structure has been selected by a panel of building industry experts for a “Gold Nugget’ award. These awards will be given out at the PCBC building industry conference in San Francisco Friday evening, May 31st. The conference is regarded as the largest homebuilding trade show on the west coast and its Gold Nugget Awards are known as the “Academy Awards” of the building industry.

The Courthouse renovation was selected as a 2019 Award of Merit Honoree for Best Rehabilitation Project. While the County owns the building, this award honors the project builder Avila Construction and Architect/Designer Wald, Ruhnke & Dost.

For those who remember what the building looked like before work began, you know how extensive this project was. The interior was gutted and completely remodeled for a modern work environment and on the outside, it was a makeover on a grand scale: a new roof, the building exterior washed giving the historic heads featured throughout the building walls a refreshed gaze. The courtyard was remodeled to look more like it did when originally built in 1933.

Congratulations to all of those who took part in this amazing renovation that will be enjoyed for decades to come.

Now it’s hard to remember what the East and West Wing looked like before (left) its incredible renovation (right).