From: "Newport, Christopher - ARA" <Christopher. Newport@houstont x.gov>
Date: Wed, 30 Jun 2010 12:19:45
To: Subject: FYI: BARC Press Release

Good Morning,

I am distributing the release below to the media now. A similar email will be sent to ALL CitizensNet subscribers, more than 95,000 individuals. Please feel free to distribute at your discretion.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 30, 2010
www.houstonbarc.com
Contact: Christopher Newport
713-837-9533 (o)
713-294-1636 (c)

BARC Offers Half-Price Adoptions
Houstonians asked to Own Up!

BARC, the City of Houston's Animal Regulation and Care facility, needs the residents of our great City to own up this weekend! BARC has experienced a sustained increase in the number of animals turned into the shelter over the last month. BARC currently has 925 animals in our shelter, which is designed to hold 550. Today is the best day to Own Up and find your new best friend!

BARC has recently made a number of changes that make it easier than ever for residents of the Houston region to adopt a new pet. We have new expanded hours on Thursday and Saturday: BARC is open from 11:30 am to 7:00 pm on Thursday and from 12:00 pm to 6:00 pm on Saturday. We have increased the number of off-site adoption events from 4 in January to 15 last month. BARC future pets are featured every weekend from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at the Galleria in front of Gap Kids. We recently established a new weekly off-site adoption event on Sundays at the PetCo located at 12015 NW Freeway. Visitors can come out this week and get a sneak peek at our new Cat Adoption Building, prior to our Grand Opening event on July 10th.

The changes at the shelter over the last six months have increased the average number of live releases to 1100 from 550, a 100% increase. BARC knows the City of Houston can drive that number higher than a bottle rocket, and there's no better time to do it! This is the perfect time to come find the pet you've been missing in your life! There's no better way to celebrate Independence Day than by accessorizing your back yard barbecue with a Furry Freedom Friend! Come to the BARC facility and see the great new environment and selection of future pets. The shelter is offering half-price adoptions, only $27.50! This low price features complimentary spay/neuter procedure and required City license! BARC will offer half-price adoptions through the Cat Building Grand Opening Event on July 10th.

If you aren't quite sure that you are able to make the long-term commitment of pet companionship, please explore fostering an animal. BARC also relies on the selfless service of volunteers, which can often make all the difference in an animal finding a loving home.

If you are unable to make it to the BARC facility at 3200 Carr, the Galleria, or PetCo one of our fantastic non-profit rescue partners, the Homeless Animal Partnership Initiative (HAPI), is hosting a family friendly adoption event. The location and time are listed below.

HAPI (Homeless Animal Partnership Initiative) Barks & Bikes Adoption Event:
Saturday, July 3rd, 2010
5:00-8:00 pm
Blue Line Bike Lab, 3302 White Oak

BARC is located at 3200 Carr, 77026. We encourage our residents to lend a hand to our voiceless friends in a time of need. For further information regarding how to volunteer or foster BARC animals, and for operating information, please visit our website at www.houstonbarc.com<http://www.houstonb arc.com>, or call (713) 229-7300.

- end -

Thank you,
Christopher Newport
(Please note new email address: christopher. newport@houstont x.gov)

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If you would like to receive periodic emails from Mayor Annise D. Parker and the City of Houston on topics of interest to you and your neighborhood, please go to http://www.houstont x.gov<http://www.houstont x.gov/> and register with CitizensNet.