



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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St. Paul the Apostle Church To Host Pet Adoption Festival On Manhattan's Upper West Side

New York, NY – April 4, 2005 – Cats and dogs and rabbits, oh my! That's what's in store for New Yorkers who stop in on Saturday, April 9, at the Pet Adoption Festival at St. Paul the Apostle Church on Columbus Avenue between 59th and 60th Streets, between 12 noon and 5:00 pm.

Dozens of darling and dashing Little New Yorkers, including cats, dogs and, yes, even rabbits from area animal shelters and rescue groups, will be wiggling and wagging their way into the hearts of New Yorkers who are looking to add a family member or two this spring. Among the groups lined up to show animals at the event are A Cause for Paws, Animal Haven, Animals Can't Talk (ACT), Bobbi & the Strays, Kitty Karetakers of Queens, Linda's Feral Cat Assistance, Miss Rumpel's Orphanage, NYC Animal Care & Control, and Rabbit Rescue & Rehab – all of which are members of the Mayor's Alliance for NYC's Animals.

Adopters and others attending the event will have the opportunity to get their pet-related questions answered by a veterinarian, a groomer, and an animal trainer, who will be on-hand at the event. New Yorkers also will have the opportunity for the first time to meet Maddie, the human-size mascot for Maddie's Fund, which provides funding for many Mayor's Alliance programs.



The Pet Rescue Foundation

The St. Paul the Apostle Church's Pet Adoption Festival is the first in a series of multi-group Pet Adoption Festivals sponsored by the Mayor's Alliance taking place around New York City from now through autumn. The goal: to bring animals to the people and increase pet adoptions from shelters and rescue groups, especially among families and individuals who might be reluctant to visit an animal shelter.

Seven Pet Adoption Festivals featuring adorable, adoptable Little New Yorkers are slated for New York City parks in Manhattan, Brooklyn, Queens, and Staten Island. They include:

Saturday, April 30 Mayor's Alliance Pet Adoption Festival – Queens

Astoria Park – Parking Lot at Hoyt Avenue and 19th Street
Hosted by Animal Haven
12 noon – 5 pm

Saturday, June 4 Mayor's Alliance Pet Adoption Festival – Staten Island

Hosted by P.L.U.T.O. Rescue of Richmond County
Clove Lakes Park – Near the Field House and Playground; Clove Road and Victory Blvd.
12 noon – 5 pm

Sunday, June 12 Mayor's Alliance Pet Adoption Festival – Brooklyn

Prospect Park – Bartel Circle, Prospect Park West & 15th Street
Hosted by B.A.R.C. Shelter
12 noon – 5 pm

Sunday, August 14 Mayor's Alliance Pet Adoption Festival – Queens

Cunningham Park – Parking Lot 1 near tennis courts
Hosted by Animal Haven
12 noon – 5 pm

Sunday, August 21 Mayor's Alliance Pet Adoption Festival – Brooklyn

Prospect Park – Bartel Circle, Prospect Park West & 15th Street
Hosted by B.A.R.C. Shelter
12 noon – 5 pm

Sunday, October 2 Mayor's Alliance Pet Adoption Festival – Manhattan

Central Park – Bandshell; Enter the Park at 72nd Street.
12 noon – 5 pm

Saturday, October 22 Mayor's Alliance Pet Adoption Festival – Staten Island

Hosted by P.L.U.T.O. Rescue of Richmond County
Clove Lakes Park – Near the Field House and Playground; Clove Road and Victory Blvd.
12 noon – 5 pm

So come out and meet your new best friend...bring your questions to the Ask the Vet, Ask the Groomer, and Ask the Trainer tables...stop by for a visit with an Animal Communicator...and enjoy the lively rhythms of a Dixieland Band

Also, coming in October:

Saturday & Sunday, October 8 & 9

Adopt-A-Cat Festival

IAMS / CFA Cat Show

Madison Square Garden, Manhattan

12 noon – 6 pm

ADOPT A LITTLE NEW YORKER TODAY!

The Mayor's Alliance for NYC's Animals, founded in 2002 and powered by Maddie's Fund, is a coalition of 65 animal rescue groups and shelters that are working with the City of New York to find homes for every cat and dog in the city who needs one. For more information about the Mayor's Alliance and its Participating Organizations, please visit the Alliance web site at www.animalallianceny.org and its adoption web site at www.bigapplepets.com.

Maddie's Fund, also known as the Pet Rescue Foundation, is a \$240 million family foundation established in 1999 to help communities throughout the U.S. eliminate the unnecessary killing of healthy and treatable homeless animals merely because they do not have homes. The foundation was created by Dave Duffield, founder and Board Chairman of the Silicon Valley-based software giant PeopleSoft, and his wife, Cheryl, in honor of the beloved family Miniature Schnauzer, Maddie, who died in 1997. For more information about Maddie's Fund, please visit their web site at www.maddiesfund.org.