



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ALL THE PRESIDENTS' DOGS

Jefferson, Cleveland, McKinley and Others to run Again...for the Dog Park!

WALNUT CREEK, California – February 8, 2006 – Tony La Russa's Animal Rescue Foundation (ARF) is celebrating canine cuties and the Presidents' Day weekend by naming its most recent group of shelter rescue dogs after United States presidents. With the likes of Jefferson, Cleveland, McKinley and others making a run for the park, children can come to ARF and learn historical facts about the country's past leaders as their families search ARF's dogs for the perfect four-legged match.

"President" Polk is a playful and very active 2-year-old red Dachshund/Chihuahua mix. Polk will make a good first-timer's dog as she grows into the perfect adolescent, campaigning for love and affection. If a family is looking for a mild-mannered Labrador mix, they might consider casting a vote for Johnson. Johnson is a sweet, sensitive and gentle 1-year-old fawn-colored "president" with a soft personality and will make a great running mate. Perhaps Madison should be the next resident of the Oval Office – she's a sweet black and red 5-year-old Doberman Pinscher mix, with energy to spare. And also throwing his hat into the ring is Jefferson, a delightful, intelligent and sweet 1-year-old tan and white collie mix.

"Ask not what your dog can do for you - ask what you can do for your dog," states Elena Bicker, ARF's General Manager, "ARF has so many great dogs from which to choose. Anyone interested in welcoming a new member to the family should definitely stop by and visit with these and any of ARF's other dog dignitaries."

Placed on each dog condo will be a biography of the respective United States president, along with fun facts about that particular leader. While spending a day at ARF is fun and rewarding, it can also be a day filled with learning. ARF's innovative facility is a destination for the community, as well as a national model, providing a resource for people of all ages to enjoy animals.

ARF adoption hours are Thursdays and Fridays from 2 p.m. – 7 p.m. and Noon – 5 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. When adopting, all members of the family must be present, including existing family pooches if you're planning to bring home a new ARF dog.

The adoption fee for one ARF dog is \$200. Adoption costs include spaying or neutering, age-appropriate vaccines, worming, microchipping, and six dog training classes. As a special incentive for adopting any ARF dog from Thursday, February 9, 2006 through Sunday, April 9, 2006, adopters will be entered into a very special drawing. The winning adopter will be offered the opportunity to lead the "Paws on Parade" dog walk at *Animals on Broadway*, ARF's springtime community festival. *Animals on Broadway* is a fun-filled celebration of people and their pets and will be held at Broadway Plaza in Walnut Creek on Saturday, May 13, 2006.

ARF saves the lives of loving dogs and cats who have run out of time at public shelters. ARF gives another chance at life to dogs and cats who otherwise would be killed. ARF provides the care and attention they need, including spay or neuter surgery, until ARF finds them a new home of their own.

ARF's People Connect programs strengthen the human animal bond for the elderly; residents of assisted living centers, teens at juvenile hall, high school students, grade school students and young children through programs that are national models of excellence. ARF programs allow people to experience the unconditional love and acceptance of dogs and cats. People rescuing animals...animals rescuing people...™.

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