

Letter: I'm supporting Starkey

March 10, 2024



I'm an almost six year volunteer at County Animal Control. I met Supervisor Starkey a couple of years ago when she visited the pound to investigate her constituents' complaint about inaction by Animal Control with regards to three loose dogs in the Fort Dick area that were allegedly killing cats. Upon visiting Animal Control, she realized there was an employee shortage; however, she did not just explain that to her constituents and move on to another issue, she began volunteering at Animal Control. This provided her an opportunity to see where help was most needed. She saw the need for Animal Control to have its own supervisor (Animal Control was previously under the Department of Agriculture) and was instrumental in creating the position and getting it approved. She listened to our concerns and fixed other problems, but now we have new concerns, and hope that she listens again.

With the impending closure of Four Paws Pet Hospital, many of your constituents will have nowhere to take their pet for care as it's my understanding that the two veterinarians in Crescent City and the two in Brookings are not taking new patients. The Board should consider enticing a new veterinarian to set up practice in town who will also offer emergency services so your constituents will not have to travel to Medford to save their pet (or in some sad cases, have them euthanized when suffering from an illness).

The overpopulation of cats and dogs needs to get under control; the County needs a spay/neuter ordinance. At minimum, any pet owner in government housing should be required to fix their animal.

I recently moved and am now in Supervisor Starkey's district. I intend to vote for her in hopes that she hears our concerns again and takes action.

Laureen Yamakido

Crescent City