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Metro Back to Home Page Other Sections

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## Makati marks World Animal Day

By: Alex Silva

THE Makati City government, through the Makati Veterinary Services Office, will be offering free pet treatments tomorrow at the city hall quadrangle, in line with the worldwide celebration of World Animal Day.

Among the treatments to be offered are anti-rabies vaccination, deworming, neutering and consultation. Prior to this, a Mass will be held at 8 a.m. to be followed by the blessing of pets.

Dr. Ma. Vivien C. Manalastas, city veterinarian, said the free services are open to the public and are available on a first come, first served basis. She said all kinds of pets ranging from common pets to exotic pets like python and iguana, will be accepted for the blessing.

The city veterinarian is urging pet owners to take advantage of the free services.

Their cooperation, she said, can greatly help the city government in its anti-rabies campaign and in the promotion of responsible pet ownership in Makati.

Freebies such as off dog and cat tags and collars will be given to those who come early.

Last year, the MVSO and Mayor Jejomar C. Binay forged ties with officers of Compassion and Responsibility Towards Animals in promoting animal welfare in Makati and safeguarding the welfare of city residents against diseases and hazards brought about by stray animals.

Under the agreement, CARA will help the MVSO in managing, supervising, regulating and controlling the ownership of dogs in the city, particularly on the promotion of Republic Act 848.5, popularly known as the Animal Welfare Act of 1998.

The agreement has helped the MVSO in bringing down the case of animal bites in Makati, paving the way for a rabies-free city in the last two years.

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