

BARC OFFERS UNPRECEDENTED VALUE TO ADOPTERS, SETS GOAL OF 1200 LIVE RELEASES FOR AUGUST

August 6, 2010 -- BARC, responsible for animal shelter and care for the City of Houston, is offering unprecedented incentives to encourage adoptions of the animals in its care. BARC set a new record of 1,157 live releases in the month of July, and has set a goal of 1,200 live releases for August.

BARC will offer half-price adoptions every Saturday and Sunday in August. The \$27.50 half-price adoption fee includes a spay/neuter procedure and vaccinations (which have already been administered for mature animals), microchip, and required City animal license. Adopters will receive a goodie bag to cover the early days with their new family member, which will include a free bag of Science Diet food and other pet items such as toys, collars, and leashes.

BARC also includes a six-week dog behavior course FREE to everyone that adopts a dog from BARC. The courses are offered for both large and small breeds. Adopters will be enrolled on a space-available basis into future classes; the next six-week course begins August 21, 2010.

Friends of BARC hosts the Wags to Whiskers adoption event every weekend at BARC. This essential group of volunteers offers complementary hot dogs, hamburgers, and drinks to BARC visitors, in addition to other selfless donations to the BARC facility.

BARC animals will also be featured at five off-site adoption events every weekend, the days and times for which are listed below:

- **PETCO #469** on 290 @ 43rd: 11am-2pm every Sunday
- **PetSmart #198** on 610@ Westpark: 11am-3pm every Saturday
- **PetSmart #1045** on 290 @ Hollister: 11am-2pm every Saturday
- **Highland Village**: Saturday and Sunday, hours vary
- **Galleria II, in front of Gap Kids**: 10am-2pm every Saturday and Sunday

For further information, including maps and directions to off-site events, please visit the BARC website at www.houstontx.gov/barc. To learn about volunteering at BARC or to register, please visit <http://www.houstontx.gov/volunteer>.