

## Puppy Mill Awareness Day



Puppy Mill Awareness Day, September 20<sup>th</sup>, is a day dedicated to celebrating the lives of dogs who have survived horrible experiences and those people and organizations that dedicate their time, energy, and resources to reducing the abuse and neglect that is associated with the commercialization of dog breeding. The purpose is to make people aware that Puppy Mills do exist to produce puppies in all shapes and sizes and to inform people of the awful things that happen to these animals as a result of the existence of Puppy Mills.

Started by Last Chance for Animals and other animal activists, PMAD takes place every September to spread awareness of the sad truth behind the puppy mill industry and to encourage the public to adopt – not purchase – companion animals.

PMAD started in Lancaster, Pennsylvania in 2004, and now animal advocates across the United States join forces on this day by holding protests, organizing adoption events, and leading marches or walks. Anyone can hold a PMAD event in their hometown.

As long as people buy dogs from puppy-mill-supplied pet stores because "Ooooh, it's just like Paris Hilton's dog", or "I have to have it THIS WEEKEND, I can't wait another day!", or "It matches my handbag!" without doing any research on the breed they're getting, the care that a dog needs, etc., then these awful places will exist. Supply and demand. If we could educate people, starting with the folks on this list that think "Oh, one little puppy from the pet store won't hurt!" Or, "But, they all need love!"- then we'd be well on our way.

Taken and modified from the following sources:  
<http://daysofyear.com/puppy-mill-awareness-day/>  
<http://www.lcanimal.org/index.php/campaigns/puppy-mills/pmad>  
<http://www.awarenessday.org/>

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### **September Calendar of Events**

4<sup>th</sup> – Labor Day – Shelter Closed  
6<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday Night Clinic – 5pm  
9<sup>th</sup> – Saturday Clinic – Frazier Mountain Park – 9am  
11<sup>th</sup> – Patriot Day  
13<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday Night Clinic – 5pm  
20<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday Night Clinic – 5pm  
20<sup>th</sup> – Animal Services Commission Meeting  
County Admin Bldg, 1115 Truxtun Ave, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor – 6pm  
22<sup>nd</sup> – First Day of Fall  
27<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday Night Clinic – 5pm



ZIP

# OUR TAKE

*A look at animal welfare from the eyes of.....these two!*



ZAP

ZIP: Woouoooo, we are back for another monthly installment of chit and chat! Hey Zap how you doin'?

ZAP: YAWN.....Im fine. Just a little tired. I need another vacation.

ZIP: Vacation! Really, like you really work??

ZAP: Ummm, yeah, you mangy critter.

ZIP: Ok Zap fine....but think about this. You want a vacation and you travel, guess what can happen to you??

ZAP: What?

ZIP: You could get sick, you could carry something home and get your family sick, oh man you can become the OUTBREAK MONKEY!

ZAP: What?? Now you're calling me a monkey!

ZIP: Well if the paw sock fits. Not really a monkey, but if you go on vacation you can get sick or bring something home with you.

ZAP: I suppose. I mean, a nice quiet beach sounds great.

ZIP: Why I am so concerned, especially for canines like me, is that the latest issue we have out there is Canine Influenza and it is becoming an epidemic.

ZAP: What do you mean?? The flu?? .... What's the big deal?

ZIP: The deal is that it's highly contagious and so serious that many members of my family are suffering. Our human partners can visit a shelter and potentially carry it home to us and we can get sick. Actually, you can carry it with you and potentially infect your family friend.

ZAP: Oh, that does sound serious. From Zip and myself, it's time to get educated, folks. We all survived the recent Panleukopenia outbreak at the shelter. We need to be vigilant in caring for all animals!

ZIP: Well said, Zap. See you all next month.

# TRAINING



# TIMEOUT

## Canine Influenza

### H3N2 – A DANGEROUS OUTBREAK (A KCAS FOCUS)

Canine influenza (CI), or dog flu, is a highly contagious viral infection affecting both dogs and cats. Influenza viruses belong to the family Orthomyxoviridae. (The Orthomyxoviruses are a family of RNA viruses that includes seven genera: Influenza virus A, Influenza virus B, Influenza virus C, Influenza virus D, Isavirus, Thogotovirus and Quarantavirus. The first three genera contain viruses that cause influenza in vertebrates, including birds, humans, and other mammals.)

Influenza virus A infects humans, other mammals, and birds, and causes all flu pandemics

Influenza virus B infects humans and seals

Influenza virus C infects humans, pigs, and dogs.

Canine H3N8 influenza was first identified in Florida in 2004 in racing greyhounds. It is thought this strain developed from an equine H3N8 influenza strain that jumped from horses to dogs. Since being detected in 2004, canine H3N8 influenza has been identified in dogs in most U.S. states and the District of Columbia.

Canine H3N2 influenza was first identified in the United States in March 2015 following an outbreak of respiratory illness in dogs in the Chicago area. Prior to this, reports of canine H3N2 influenza virus were restricted to South Korea, China and Thailand. It was initially identified in dogs in Asia in 2006-2007 and likely arose through the direct transfer of an avian influenza virus.

Following the initial diagnosis in Chicago, additional cases of canine H3N2 influenza were reported in a number of states. In early 2016, a group of shelter cats in Indiana were diagnosed with H3N2 canine influenza. It is believed the virus was transmitted to them from infected dogs.

In May 2017, canine H3N2 influenza was diagnosed in dogs in Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Texas, Kentucky, Tennessee, Missouri, Louisiana, and Illinois. This was the same strain of H3N2 involved in the 2015 outbreak in Chicago.

There is no evidence that either strain of canine influenza (H3N8, H3N2) can infect humans.

**\*\*\*BEGINNING IMMEDIATELY, KCAS WILL BE OFFERING THE H3N2 VACCINATION AT CLINICS, BUT A BOOSTER MUST BE ADMINISTERED THREE WEEKS AFTER INTIAL VACCINATION TO BE EFFECTIVE\*\*\***

**TAKEN FROM:** <https://www.avma.org/KB/Resources/Reference/Pages/Canine-Influenza-Backgrounder.aspx>

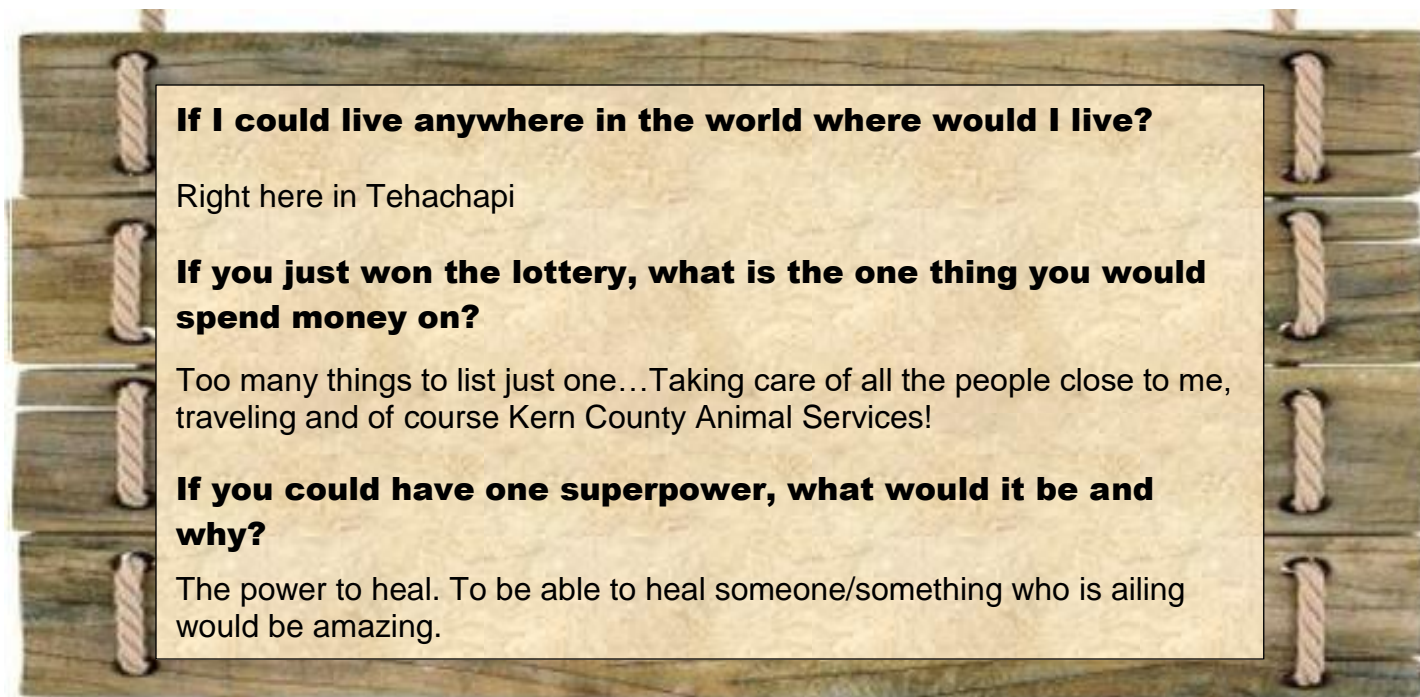


I was born in Orange County, California and lived there until I was 10 when my parents decided to up and move to Durango, Colorado. We lived on 3 acres and had a variety of the usual farm animals... pigs, chickens, goats, sheep, horses, of course dogs, and cats. I moved back to the OC (Orange County) at 17 and have lived in California since then.

I have worked for Kern County Animal Services going on seven years now and officially became Shelter Supervisor two years ago. Before I started my tenure at Animal Services, I was a Zoo Keeper at Moonridge Animal Park in Big Bear and that is where I met my husband, Don. He and I moved to Tehachapi 9 years ago with our daughter Haley.

For nearly a decade, I have dedicated myself to taking care of the animals that are unable to care for themselves and I am continually attending conferences, workshops and classes to further my knowledge in the world of animal sheltering. My favorite part of my position is having the ability to make a difference in the lives of the animals in Kern County. I consider everyone I work with my second family and appreciate the dedication, kindness and compassion I witness everyday by the staff and volunteers.

I am a “serial foster” and regularly take kittens home that are too young to stay at the shelter. Being able to give them a second chance and watch as they find their forever families is a wonderful, fulfilling experience. My goal for the future is to continue to help Kern County stay on the path to achieve “No Kill” status.





# NEWS & NOTES

## MILESTONE HOURS

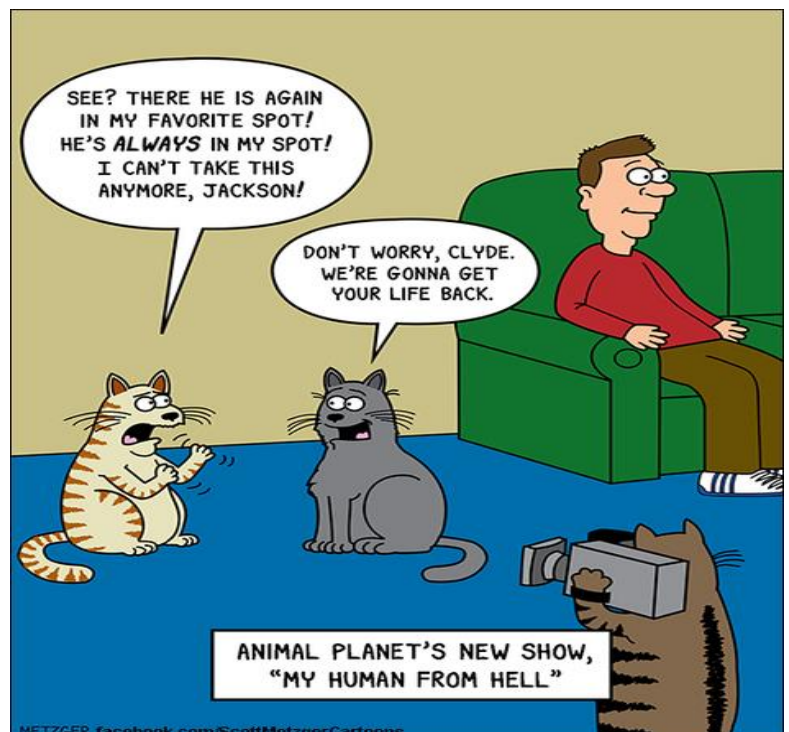
(as of July 31<sup>st</sup>)

Rhonda Montgomery	2208
Shawn Fernberg	959
Deborah Waits	823
Megan Reyes	679
Barbara Fowler	682
Crystal Struckhoff	644
Jean Absher	565
Barbara Beckstrom	506
Ben Neal	502
Rhonda Smith	460
Rowena Yong	436
Julie Langers	424
Teddi Rawles	408
Danny Spanks	395
Stan Cameron	389
Nancy Ballinger	336
Nancy Apodoca	327
Kristen Danley	285
Tabitha Sanchez	284
Sarah Abate	277



## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS	DAY
Kristine Moore	6 <sup>th</sup>
David Sanchez	8 <sup>th</sup>
Ashley Sessions	11 <sup>th</sup>
Shanice Richards	13 <sup>th</sup>
Liz Keogh	18 <sup>th</sup>
Heather Higgins	22 <sup>nd</sup>
Mark Gulesian	28 <sup>th</sup>
John Harrer	30 <sup>th</sup>
Caitlin Holden	30 <sup>th</sup>





# Coordinator's Corner

It's September and the sight of fall colors and cooler temperatures are soon to be here. I am so looking forward to this.

## **Goodbye Ole' Friend**

It was with a sad heart that I had to accept the resignation of the innovative leader of the Pet Detective program John Harrer. John has been with us for almost 18 months and recently left the program to enjoy his retirement with his recently retired wife Ranae. John was asked to take the concept of the Pet Detective program and make it happen and boy did he ever. It wasn't very long before we could see positive results in animals being returned to their owners. He was able to recruit staff and teach the program to them; thanks to John, we currently have three Pet Detectives.

We at Kern County Animal Shelter must say thank you and best wishes to a great man that took nothing and made it into something. Enjoy your retirement and happy trails.

## **Canine Influenza Vaccines**

Canine influenza is very dangerous to dogs and is easily transmittable to cats and other dogs, including your own. While we have not heard of any cases here in Kern County, there are verified cases in other parts of California. Most of the major outbreaks have been back east, primarily in the Chicagoland area. Immunization is the key to prevention. Beginning on Sept 6, the vaccine will be available to ALL dogs in the County, regardless of City/County residence, at all our 5-6:30 pm Wednesday Fruitvale Shelter clinics as well as at the 9 am-noon Saturday Park clinics throughout the County (including the Bakersfield area) for \$10. The recommended booster shot 3 weeks later will also cost \$10. Spread the word! And be sure to read more about the virus in the Training Timeout article above.

## **Changeover**

During the medical time off that I took, we lost almost 50 volunteers in a short amount of time. For those of you who are veterans, you are seeing a lot of new faces in the shelter. Please be welcoming to these new volunteers, and to all the new volunteers, welcome to our shelter. Your adventure in the Green Army is just beginning! Thank you for choosing to help the voiceless of our community.

**Have a great month and we will see you in October.**