

PAW PRINTS

June 2016

A Volunteer Newsletter

Issue #24

JUST ONE DAY! JUNE 11TH

On June 11, animal shelters across the USA are asked to take a pledge not to kill any savable animals. Instead of injecting pets with lethal doses of sodium pentobarbital, shelters are asked to pick up cell phones and cameras, and to engage their communities in new and creative ways. Instead of going into trash bags, the animals will go out the front door in the loving arms of families. At the end of the day, the shelters will be emptier than when the day started.

Imagine, if each animal shelter in the USA adopts out or transfers to rescue groups an extra three animals on June 11, the USA can become a no kill nation, even if it is for

Just One Day. If we can do it then, we can also do it on June 12 for just another day.....Every life saved is a life worth celebrating.



Why June 11?

On June 11, 2001 Nathan Winograd became the Executive Director of the Tompkins County SPCA in New York. It was a day that changed everything for the animals in that community, and a day that launched a movement that is reforming animal shelters across the USA. On June 11, 2001, Tompkins County, NY became the first No Kill Community in the USA. Ever since shelters around the nation been asking themselves, "If they can do it, why can't we?" What they are learning is that they can and they are. In honor of this day, shelters and rescue groups are invited to try a new way of operating for Just One Day. It is easy and fun and it can change the World. (Continued on P. 4)

SUMMER TIME IS COMING!

For the last two years, during summer break, many of our volunteers have left us because of college and other such things. We ask our volunteers to be helpful and please make sure to inform the Volunteer Coordinator of their schedule changes or plans to resign from the shelter volunteer program. We also would like to know about your college plans!!

This also applies to vacation at any time of the year. As soon as you know of your vacations plans please let us know ASAP.



Our Take

ZAP: Let me start off today's column with.....IF YOU EVER LEAVE AGAIN....IM PICKING YOUR REPLACEMENT!

ZIP: What's wrong? Didn't Captain Jackie do fine? She interviewed well.

ZAP: Maybe from the bottom of a well. I digress!

ZAP: Readers, today we are going to talk Backyard dog.

ZIP: That was what I was when a great officer came and saved me.

ZAP: A backyard dog is a lonely dog left to be by itself. Dogs are pack animals and need to be with others, making them social in some sort.

ZIP: Correct Zap. When the officer saved me, I didn't really like her nor did I like my animal friends near me.

ZAP: So Zip -- you were technically feral?

ZIP: Feral is correct. I would stay in the back of the kennel and didn't like it when these people would come and take away my bed and water. I would try to tell them to leave me alone, but they wouldn't listen. Now I know what they were doing!

ZAP: I was feral too, but being a feral cat and being so young I craved for the attention of a human. The human was a volunteer and she was so sweet and eventually took me home....along with you.....remember?

ZIP: Ahhh yes....those were the days when she would come around to pet me and give me treats. I didn't want her to touch me, but it's hard when you're hungry and she had really tasty treats.

ZAP: Backyard dogs are seen all over. To save them call your local animal control department and report them. It may take a little while, but they will come and save them. Being abandoned and not loved is a horrible feeling. Think how you would feel! Thank you to Officer Mitchell for saving ZIP and the Ardlock Family for taking us both home.

VOLUNTEERING

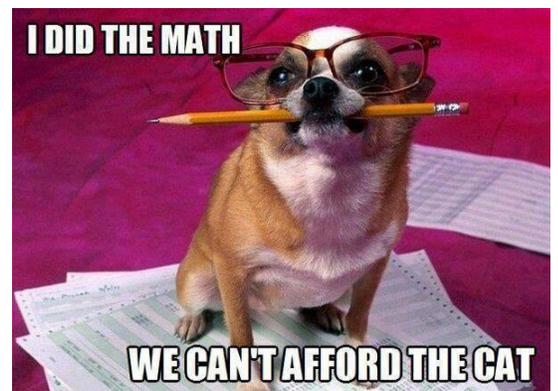
Do you know of anyone who would like to volunteer? We are looking for some key volunteers to help with our Bed making project on Thursday afternoons.

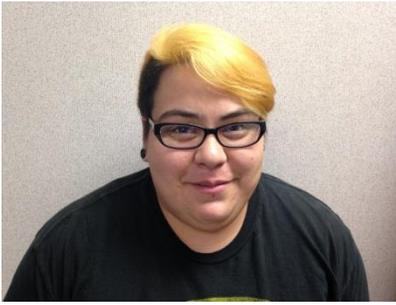
If you know of anyone who might be interested in helping out with this and other fun projects, then KCAS is the place to be.

Ask those interested to contact Jeff George at 661-868-7130 or email at jeffg@co.kern.ca.us.



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Volunteer Spotlight

Megan Reyes

I volunteer because I love animals and I'm going to school to be a veterinarian technician. I want to help these animals because they can't speak for themselves. When I come to the shelter I see these animals that need love and they need to be shown someone loves them.

But I'm not just a volunteer. I'm also on med staff so I get to give these animals their meds and a treat and they love it. I love helping my furry four legged friends get healthy and back to being a happy healthy being. So I love what I do and I love all the animals I come in contact with. They may have had a rough start but I will make sure they get a forever home and have a happy ending.

Little things make me happy like when all my furry friends know their names and they let me know they need some love and a good belly rub. I also think the best hugs and kisses are from our furry pals. There are a million reasons why I volunteered, why I do what I do, and why I love what I do. But for the most part I get to go into the shelter to see their Happy Tails and happy meows and they have lots of love to give.

I just love being in the shelter and being a volunteer. It is so much fun and I've learned so much from the people and staff I've worked with. But most of all I love standing by a kennel and talking and loving on all the dogs. It's something I look forward to whenever I'm there.

3 Questions We All Want to Know!

- 1 If I could live anywhere in the world where would I live? **Boston**
2. If you just won the lottery, what is one thing that you would spend your money on?
Pay off all of my mom's bills and then donate some.
3. If you could have one superpower, what would it be and why? **Super speed cause I could get all my work done and then some and then take a well needed nap .**



I wanted to continue the article and history of Just One Day.....

How it Came to Be *by Mike Fry*

People frequently ask me where I got the inspiration for Just One Day. They are often surprised by the answer. In fact, I got the idea while talking to someone who was in a chemical dependency program. I asked her how she was doing. She responded, "You know, 'one day at a time.'"

I had recently been talking on Animal Wise Radio about how killing was often such an automatic, go-to 'solution' for many shelters that it was much like other destructive addictions, and just as difficult for some shelters to stop. In that context, when I heard 'one day at a time' a lightbulb went off in my head: what better way to encourage shelters to try a new way of being than to

make it one, easy, simple request. To participate, shelters don't have to agree to a complete, dramatic overhaul of their operations. They only need to agree to try something new for Just One Day. Naturally, our goal is to have them experience a new way of operating that will set them on a new path long past June 11. Because, the fact of the matter is that if they are successful with adoptions on June 11, they shouldn't need to kill any healthy or treatable pets on June 12, and then June 13... they just need to take it one day at a time.

Visitors & Guests

An email was sent out a little while back in regards to friends coming to the shelter during your volunteering shift.

This is a big violation for you and also could adversely affect the shelter.

People who are not volunteers, family friends or spouses can cause a distraction resulting in a dangerous and potentially a deadly situation.

Please make sure you do not bring anyone with you while you're here. If they want to come in and be a volunteer

and participate in that capacity, we welcome them in.

Isolation Puppy Room

There is a major policy change that is occurring in the IP puppy room for those of you who take care of the puppies.

Even if you do not do puppies, you will soon receive an e-mail about an updated puppy cleaning procedure that will specifically target the IP puppy room.

Due to the nature of the area and the blatant disregard for proper procedure by some people, including volunteers, we have had to implement this new procedure.

The transfer of diseases is extremely high when you are working in the IP puppy room and then going to clean AP.

We cannot become no kill when we have to euthanize animals because correct precautions with the puppies that are left in our care have not been followed.