Humane Society NEWSLETTER



Summer 2013

New CHS Thrift Store is Open

The Calaveras Humane Society's new Angels Camp CHS Thrift Store is now open for business. The former Wags & Purrs Thrift Store/Pet Boutique, which was located in San Andreas, has closed down. The new store is located in Angels Towne Center at 240 South Main Street/Highway 49 in Angels Camp. The new store is between the Rite-Aid Store and the Save Mart Market.

"The Angels Camp Thrift Store carries a variety of high-end used goods. Shoppers will find high-quality, gently-used clothing and accessories, household items, furnishings, books, toys, donated pet

merchandise and lots more," said Pat Gulyas, manager of the Angels Camp store.

The new store is open Tuesday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.



Seniors, those who are 55 years and older, can take advantage of the store's 5% Senior Discount offered on Tuesdays.

The store features a Cat Adoption Center, open Thursday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Pat Gulyas

Shoppers and visitors are welcome to check out the new store and browse all the great merchandise and adorable cats and kittens. The CHS Office will remain at the 576 E. St. Charles Street location in San Andreas.

Showing Our Gratitude Annual Appreciation Dinner

The Calaveras Humane Society held its Annual Appreciation Dinner on April 17th. More than 130 attendees were honored at the event, which was once again organized by Mary Pons and catered by The Pickle Patch.

"This is the one evening of the year that volunteers can come together and catch up with fellow volunteers, celebrate successes, and share interests and stories. It was a wonderful event with a perfect blend of good food, good company and good fun," said Karen Elliott, Interim CHS President.

The CHS Board of Directors selected three volunteers for special awards.

The Barbara Brooks Volunteer of the

Year Award
went to
Dolores
Ransom for her
outstanding
service and
commitment to
the Calaveras



Humane Society and the animals of

Calaveras County. Dolores is at the Animal Services Shelter every day, sometimes twice a day, walking and socializing with the dogs. Dolores also schedules and organizes the many volunteers who walk the shelter dogs. Dolores is a true example of selfless devotion.

CHS Lifetime Achievement Award went to

Jean Macomber for her passionate dedication to the Calaveras Humane Society and the animals under its care. During her many



years with the CHS, Jean has: served on the Board of Directors; transported animals to other rescue groups; cleaned cat cages, and still helps with dog licensing mailings at the county shelter; and, most recently, she is the undying energy for, and is working on, every aspect of obtaining a new shelter.

CHS Special Achievement Award was presented to Linda Burns. For seven years, Linda has headed the donation box collection team. She coordinates six volunteers who

collect monies from the CHS donation collection boxes at 80 businesses throughout Calaveras County.



Linda keeps track of all businesses where CHS boxes are located, makes sure the box donations are collected and keeps an account of how much money each box contains on a monthly basis. Her team collects approximately \$15,000 per year.

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Dear Members and Readers

If you have requested the CHS newsletter to be delivered via email and are still receiving a paper copy, please be patient with us. We are new at this and are still working out the bugs. We apologize and hope to have this issue resolved shortly.

President's Message

June 3rd marked the first day of Henning Schreiber's tenure as Manager of the Calaveras County Animal Shelter. The Calaveras Humane Society welcomes him with open arms. Under the administration of Environmental Management Department Head, Brian Moss, we think that Henning is a wonderful choice to set the direction of the Animal Services Department. His career path shows him to be a thinker and a problem solver, which is just what the County Animal Shelter needs.

That said, without the tireless hours spent at the shelter by Calaveras Humane Society volunteers, it would be impossible to keep the County

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If you are interested in becoming a CHS board member, please email your resume to chs@calaverashumane.org
or mail to Calaveras Humane Society P.O. Box 1390 San Andreas, CA 95249

Shelter operating under anybody's leadership. Recently, JoAnn Kromfols, a CHS volunteer and communications committee leader (and statistics guru in her former life), undertook the task of compiling the data collected by various categories of shelter volunteers and here is what she found. Annual shelter volunteer hours were as follows: Cats – 3104 hours, Dogs – 7408 hours, Dog Evaluators – 1080 hours, Administrative Assistance – 273 hours, Marketing – 1056 hours.

You may wonder what marketing and administrative tasks our volunteers perform? After all, we clean cat cages, walk dogs, and transfer adoptable pets to other shelters. Well, think about it. Our marketing volunteers place photos and information about adoptable pets on our CHS Web page, Facebook page, flyers, Licks and Purrs, and other sites to expose them to the public. It works! Our administrative help sends out all dog licensing notices for the county, schedules volunteers and develops statistics for the county. All in all, we volunteer a minimum of 12,921 hours per year to keep the County Shelter operating. That is the equivalent of 6.212019 full time employees.

Given the contribution of the Calaveras Humane Society to the operation of the County Animal Shelter, we URGE the members of the Board of Supervisors to not make further cuts to that department. Animal Services has



already given at the office.

The teamwork between County Animal Services and Calaveras Humane Society will improve daily now that Brian's and Henning's team is in place. We are delighted to see the changes, and will keep you updated as this private/public partnership develops.

Also, a reminder....the Calaveras
Humane Society does NOT benefit from
donations to any of the national
organizations such as ASPCA or Humane
Society of the United States. While they
perform a needed service, in these tough
times we urge you to send your donations
to local organizations and "help us help
out at home." Thank you for all you do. \$\sime\$

Karen Elliott Interim President

Come - Sit - Stay

Please join us at our monthly board meeting in the CHS office conference room at 576 East St. Charles Street, San Andreas. Our meetings start at 5:30 pm on the third Thursday of each month.

Mark Your Calendar

- ✓ Duck Races, July 20, Murphys Community Park. The races start at 1:00pm.
- Art & Wine Festival, August 17, Arnold Cedar Center. Check the CHS website and local papers for the time.
- ✓ Paws & Claus, in December. The date, time, and location to be determined. Stay tuned. Our calendar constantly changes with new and exciting opportunities.....so stay tuned and always check for updates at www.calaverashumane.org. If you would like to sponsor a fundraising event, include a CHS information booth at your event or if you would like to volunteer at events, please call 736-9417 or send an email to chs@calaverashumane.org.



Tail Waggers



Angels Food Market, Mike Croshaw
Charitable Foundation, Mr. & Mrs. William Broll
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Deanne Klages
Dawn & Dana LaPlante
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Keep Your Dog Safe During Rattlesnake Season

Warm weather brings us and our pets out into the great outdoors. Warm weather also brings out rattlesnakes. Living and recreating in our rural area, you should beware of snakes, especially if you have a larger, active dog like a Labrador Retriever. But small dogs are also at risk, and unfortunately are much more likely to succumb to the venom.

Dogs use their noses to explore, and they are most frequently struck by rattlesnakes when they try to sniff them. Consequently, the most frequent sites for bites are the nose and muzzle, which causes swelling from the strike and might compromise the dog's airway. Dogs being bitten on the forelimbs are common. Direct strikes to the chest and into the heart have been reported.

Rattlesnakes are venomous. Larger rattlesnakes are more deadly than smaller ones. Snakes that are heading out for their first foray of the season are hungry and the most dangerous of all because they usually haven't struck any prey recently and have more venom at their disposal.

The best way to protect your dog from snakes is to use a leash and be alert. Rattlesnakes are most active in the heat of the day, and they are most frequently found around rocks, shrubs, and bushes (although they might bask in the open, especially in the morning). So take your walks in the cool of

the evening or morning, and keep your dog from nosing around rocks, shrubs and bushes, and pay attention. A class in rattlesnake aversion is recommended for those who live or play in high-risk areas.

Even if you do everything right, your dog can still be bitten. If this happens, go straight to the vet, as soon as possible. DO NOT:

- Suck out the venom. Venom sucking is an ineffective rural legend.
- Cut the skin overlying the site. Incisions can exacerbate the tissue damage.
- Apply a tourniquet to the area. Again this can exacerbate the tissue damage.
- Ice the site. Icing can also exacerbate the tissue damage.
- Administer aspirin or any other nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs. These drugs can exacerbate blood clotting problems, and they might interfere with treatment at the vet.

Try to keep yourself and your dog calm, and go to the vet. Carry your small dog or walk your larger dog to the car. Focus on the fact that most rattlesnake bites are not fatal to dogs.

The main treatments for dogs are pain control (using narcotics, not non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs) and antivenin. Antivenin is expensive. It might cost \$600

or more per vial, and three or more vials might be necessary. So prevention is the key. •

By Dr. Eric Barchas

To see, "How to Keep Your Dog Safe During Rattlesnake Season," the original article in its entirety, go to www.dogster.com/lifestyle/doghealth-safety-rattlesnake-season. For more information on and articles by Dr. Barchas, go to www.facebook.com/ericbarchasdvm.

Help Your Business While You Help the Animals.

Advertise your business in our newsletter for only \$25 per issue. Mail your business card with a check, made out to "CHS," to the Calaveras Humane Society c/o Sally Raubfogel, P.O. Box 1390, San Andreas, CA 95249 or call 736-9417.

Dear Doc

A friend told me that milk is not good for cats. Why is this, my cat seems to like milk.

Ralf from Valley Springs

Dear Ralf,

Is milk good for cats? First of all, mature cats do not need milk to be part of their regular diet nor for that matter should it be considered for a regular treat. Cats may adore milk, but milk doesn't always return the "affection". The main concern has to do with the lactose content, which many cats have trouble digesting, resulting in diarrhea

and occasionally vomiting. So cats can be lactose intolerant. When kittens are born there is plenty of lactase [digestive enzyme for lactose] in their systems but as they mature they produce less lactase and therefore they are unable to digest the lactose efficiently. This fact in turn explains the problem of lactose intolerance. These digestive problems can manifest in about 8 to 12 hours. Having said that, some cats will be able to tolerate milk just fine, but I would still not suggest using it on a regular basis. If a dairy product is still desired for the cat, consider cheese or yogurt. By the way, dairy milk for kittens should not be used because there is an overload of

lactose relative to feline milk: therefore, they do not have enough lactase to handle it.

Lastly, there are milk replacers for kittens, if needed often using modified cow's milk [adjusted casein and whey ratios and a reduction in lactose].

Dr. D.S. Grover Mother Lode Veterinary Hospital

382 E. Highway 4 Murphys, CA 94247 (209) 728-3423

This column is for advice only and is not intended to take the place of consulting with your own veterinarian concerning medical issues. Please email your question to chs@calaverashumane.org, type Dear Doc in the subject line or mail your question to The Calaveras Humane Society/Dear Doc, P.O. Box 1390, San Andreas, CA 95249.

DEATH TRAP

It takes only minutes for a pet left in a car on a warm day to succumb to heatstroke and suffocation. On a 78-degree day a car parked in the shade can reach over 90 degrees and hits 160 degrees if in the sun, even with the windows rolled down.

Dogs cool themselves by panting and sweating through their paws. If they have only hot air to breathe, they can collapse, suffer brain damage and then die.

Please, don't leave your pet in a parked car!









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Tips to Keep Your Indoor Cat Happy

You don't have to open the door to the great outdoors to give your cat a more interesting life. In fact, by just looking at your home from a pet's point of view and adding a few environmental enrichments, your cat can be both safe and happy indoors. Here are five easy ways to get going:

1. Think Vertical

2. Add Toys

Cats love to climb, so give them the opportunity. Cat trees mounted floor-to-ceiling, wrapped with sisal rope and studded with platforms for perching will give your cat the opportunity to look down on the rest of the world. This is especially satisfying if there are dogs in the household. What cat wouldn't like the chance to finally look *down* on the dog?

The cat with the most toys wins. Every indoor cat should have toys for batting around, toys for chasing, toys to hide inside and toys for interactive play. And don't forget that some of those toys ought to have catnip in them. While not all cats can enjoy the fragrant herb, those who do find it extremely blissful. If your cat is a catnip junkie, indulge him frequently. Rub fresh catnip onto cat trees or scratching posts, or stuff it into toys. It's perfectly safe for your cat to enjoy the

Some of the most enjoyable toys for both people and cats are the interactive ones. Every cat lover should have a "kitty tease"

toy, typically a flexible rod with a line that ends in something furry or feathery to engage a cat's prey drive. Other interactive toys include gloves with goodies dangling from the fingertips, or laser pointers that offer cats a spot of light to chase. (Just be careful not to aim the beam into your cat's eyes).

3. Provide Rooms with Views

Whatever the size of the house, your indoor cat will know every one of its sights and sounds within just a few days. Provide a little visual stimulation by putting a bird feeder outside a window fitted with a cat-sized ledge that allows for comfortable viewing.

Be aware, though, that the view of the world isn't always going to work for your cat. If your yard is attracting other cats from the neighborhood, your own cat may become frustrated by the sight (he can even turn that frustration into attacks on people in the house!). Blocking visiting cats from your yard or discouraging them with sprinklers may solve the problem. Otherwise, you may have to make certain windows off-limits to your own cat.

If a window view isn't going to work, try a TV. A few companies offer DVDs for cats. Pop one of these in, and it will entertain your cat with a lively mix of feline-friendly images and sounds, including those of birds and rodents.

4. Go Green

Cats love nibbling on plants. Any decent feline reference book will provide a list of plants which should **not** be in a pet-



friendly house. You can also visit the Animal Poison Control Center for information on dangerous plants.

After you get the unsafe ones out of the way, protect your decorative houseplants by hanging them up or otherwise placing them out of reach. Keep cats from digging in your decorative pots by putting a layer of small, rough stones over the dirt. You can then add a collection of accessible plants (such as grass shoots) for him to rub.

5. Give Face Time

Of course, one of the best things you can do for your indoor cat is to spend time with him. Playing, grooming, petting or just plain hanging out -- it's all good. Your cat loves you and loves spending time with you.

Keeping a cat inside is one of the best ways to ensure a long and healthy life, but it won't be a very happy existence unless you're going to add some intrigue to the surroundings. It doesn't take much in the way of time or effort, so get going. Your cat will thank you!

By Dr. Marty Becker, vetstreet.com

CHS - By the Numbers

From the start of the fiscal year of July 1, 2012 through May 31, 2013, the Calaveras Humane Society, thanks to a grant from the Wintercreek Foundation and matching funds from the CHS, gave residents of Calaveras County more than \$101,730 to assist in the spaying and neutering of 1,728 dogs and cats.

- Through the CHS Foster Cat Program, a total of 230 cats found forever homes and 19 were placed in other rescue organizations.
- Through the CHS Foster Dog Program, a total of 45 dogs found forever homes or were placed in other rescue organizations.

If you would like to join the Cat or Dog Foster Program or apply for a Spay/Neuter voucher, please call the CHS Office at 736-9417.





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When to Say Good Bye

It is never an easy decision to euthanize a dying or terminally ill pet. People who are looking for help in making this decision often ask their veterinarian, "If it were your pet, what would you do?" Most vets will evaluate the animal's condition and focus on the medical issues and facts so that the pet owner will have the knowledge to make an informed decision on his or her own. Vets can tell pet owners what to look out for and what to expect, but the answer is not always clear or easy.

According to some in veterinary medicine, it may be time to euthanize your pet when the bad days outnumber the good days. Pet owners usually can tell the difference between a 'good' day and a 'bad' day in the life of their pet. Keeping a daily chart over a week or more will tell the pet owner when the good days are overtaken by the bad.

When evaluating a pet's quality of life, here are some things to consider:

- Is your pet still housebroken or is s/he having more and more accidents? Housebroken animals can become distressed because they know it is 'wrong' but they are unable to control their bladder or bowls.
- Is your pet having difficulty or can it urinate and defecate normally?



- Has your pet's personality changed?
 Does your pet still recognize you, still interact with the family, and still enjoy activities appropriate for its age?
- Is your pet eating and drinking normally or has it lost its appetite?
- Can your pet move around without difficulty or pain?

It is never an easy decision to euthanize a pet without some regret or guilt. These guidelines will hopefully help a pet owner determine the best course of action for a terminally ill, geriatric, or critically injured pet.

For the sake of the pet owner who decides to euthanize a pet, discuss your feelings with family members, friends, and your vet. If your sense of loss and grief is more than you can handle, actively seek support groups or counseling. •

Changes to the Spay and Neuter Program

As of the first of September 2013, the value of the spay and neuter vouchers will be changing back to the original amounts.

Female dogs – from \$90 to \$45. Male dogs – from \$60 to \$30. Female cats – from \$60 to \$30. Male cats – from \$40 to \$20.

For the past two years, the Calaveras Humane Society value of the vouchers was bolstered by a grant from the Wintercreek Foundation. The Wintercreek Grant enabled the CHS to temporarily double the spay and neuter voucher values. During that time, 1,263 dogs and 2,266 cats were spayed or neutered through the program. Many thanks go to the Wintercreek Foundation for its support.

Pet owners interested in obtaining a spay/neuter voucher can contact the Calaveras Humane Society at 209-736-9417. Vouchers may be used to spay or neuter a dog or a cat at participating veterinarian offices.

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DON'T LITTER – SPAY AND NEUTER!

To receive a CHS
Spay/Neuter
Voucher, please call
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Humane Society at
736-9417.

LAW OFFICES OF

MICHAEL W. MILWARD & ELLEN D. VOGT

Attorneys at Law

1111 Dunbar Road, Suite A-200 P.O. Box 233 Arnold California 95223

Tel: 209.795.0271
Fax: 209.795.0419
evogt@sonic.net

Please Help, The Animal Shelter Needs Volunteers!

The Calaveras County Animal Shelter needs dedicated volunteers. You have to be 18 years or older, love animals and have a few spare hours a week or month to make a difference in the lives of abandoned cats and dogs.

The shelter needs dog kennel cleaners, cat cage cleaners, and dog walkers. If you are interested or want more information, please contact Debby, the CHS Animal Services Liaison, at beaudog@goldrush.com or the Calaveras Humane Society at 736-9417 or chs@calaverashumane.org.

(209) 736-9417



WISH LIST ITEMS TO HELP CHS HELP THE ANIMALS

- ✓ Postage Stamps For sending Spay/Neuter Vouchers
- ✓ Paper Towels For shelter volunteers
- ✓ Leather Leashes For shelter volunteers
- ✓ Self-sealing #10 business size envelopes For sending Spay/Neuter Vouchers
- ✓ Brushes Whisk broom type to clean cat cages
- ✓ Frontline or Advantix topical flea prevention for both cats and dogs For cat and dog fosters
- ✓ 'Snuggle Safe' heat pads For new kittens
- ✓ Livestock squeeze chute
- ✓ Livestock pens

For the CHS Adoption Centers -

- ✓ 'World's Best' cat litter
- √ 13-gallon trash bags for laundry
- ✓ Washable cat beds

Become a member! We depend on your annual support to fund our many programs!

Your CHS Membership includes: ✓ 1-year subscription to CHS quarterly newsletter ✓ Information on upcoming CHS events ✓ Gifts of \$250 or more receive special recognition in our newsletter Send me more information about volunteering or becoming a foster parent. □	Membership Levels: Tail Waggers Club: -\$20 Friend -\$250-\$499 Silver -\$35 Business/Organization -\$500-\$999 Gold -\$50 Supporter -\$1000+ Platinum -\$100 Benefactor
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- ✓ Signing up is as easy as 1, 2, 3!
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purchase amount will be automatically donated to the Calaveras Humane Society.

You can access your personal eScrip donations on www.escrip.com to see how much you have earned for the Calaveras Humane Society. Support the Calaveras Humane Society while you shop and sign up for a S.H.A.R.E.S. Card or an eScript Community Card today!



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