



No More Litters, Spay or Neuter Your Critters!

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PRESIDENT'S FINAL LETTER - DECEMBER 2020

Even though we are closing the Tehachapi Humane Society we have continued to help pets in many ways with specifics below. We have seen an increase in abandoned animals because of Kern County Animal Control changes since Covid. The Mojave Shelter, which we have supported for many years, has closed permanently. We had already purchased 15 dog beds, dog food, and treats for them so we donated it all to the Lake Isabella Shelter and they were very grateful. Stray dogs from Tehachapi to Boron must now be taken to the Kern County Shelter in Bakersfield. In addition, that shelter no longer accepts owner turn in's of dogs or cats. Neither do they accept friendly, healthy, stray cats. So where do people go with their pets? Unfortunately some people resort to turning them loose.

Since our last newsletter, we have helped with many lost/found pets. In July a kind woman rescued a Chihuahua/Pug mix and a Husky mix off the center divider of Highway 58. She actually stopped the traffic to get the dogs which were Westbound between Sand Canyon and the truck scales. She called our lost and found line because she lived in North Edwards and could not take them with her. They had no ID so she brought them to me where they stayed for their 14 day hold. I worked with STOP who sent an adopter for the small dog and they took the Husky mix into their foster system and she eventually got a great home in Anaheim.

Then I got a call from a disabled man in California City who had three Border Collie/Shepherd mix pups because his female dog was not spayed. STOP took the pups, we gave the man spay vouchers, and STOP paid the copay.

In August a man found 2 Queensland Heelers on Tehachapi Willow Springs Road. He said he could hold them for awhile. I contacted Tehachapi Vet who happened to have someone wanting to adopt a female Queensland so they took her and the fellow that found them decided to keep the male. Also in August I held a female Chihuahua until her owner claimed her, and also a female Shepherd until she was claimed.

In September some folks found a Whippet/Terrier mix. They found out that the owner had died and they couldn't keep her so I kept her until STOP could take her and they found her a great home in Long Beach.

In October a man found a skinny Lab mix in Stallion Springs. He de-wormed him, gave him his shots, and planned to keep him but his landlord said he needed to pay an immediate \$350 pet fee which the man didn't have. I was able to get Jack the Lab into STOP. Also a lady passed away and I am now the proud owner of her goat, chickens, and guinea fowl.

I am very sad that THS is closing. I have been part of THS since moving here almost 23 years ago. My kids and foster kids all worked in the teen program when we had it and worked bake sales, rummage sales, and much more. I even got my two neighbor boys involved after mine had grown and gone. It will be strange not to check the phone lines. If you know me, you know I am a real talker and can talk for quite some time to someone who calls with some sort of need. I will have a lost/found line at STOP, 823-4100 option#1, so I can continue doing what I do best.

There are so many volunteers past and present that should be thanked for all they have done for Tehachapi Humane but that would be a lengthy list. I would though like to thank Janie Hartman. She has been with THS since the beginning in charge of our voucher program, as well as helping in other areas, and obviously has been invaluable.

Thank you to all our members through the years that have continued to renew their membership and support us in so many ways. I wish for a better 2021 for all of us.

With Love,
Kate

FINAL STATISTICS

Feral cats fixed this year: 283

Total ferals fixed from 2005-2020 4441 including 843 taken to Fixnation

Our thanks to Neide Franzen for these tremendous numbers.

Companion animal vouchers this year:

Dogs 50...M24 and F26

Cats 91....M42 and F49

Total figure over the years not available but staggering I know.

Our thanks to Janie Hartman for handling the vouchers since inception.

HELPFUL RESOURCES

I feel a great sadness that the Tehachapi Humane Society will be closing at the end of the year. It is mainly due to a lack of funds and volunteers. There are only a literal handful of women running it and it has been this way for years.

Kern County Animal Services has some programs that will help fill the void left from our closing. K.C.A.S. has low income spay/neuter vouchers available for Kern County residents (living in unincorporated areas of the county) with a \$20 copay. They also have a free spay/neuter program named, Save the Pitties, for any Pit Bull type dogs. That program is available to all county residents. You can take your pets to any participating vets in Kern County.

For a low cost spay/neuter clinic, call Critters Without Litters, in Bakersfield, their phone number is 831-6000.

There is also a Trap, Neuter and Return (TNR) program for feral cats, run by K.C.A.S that goes directly through Critters Without Litters.

They also have a Pet Food Safety Net program that supplies no cost, short term supplies of dog and cat food to all county residents. Food is given out on Wednesdays and Sundays from 8AM to noon at 3951 Fruitvale Ave. in Bakersfield.

You can email K.C.A.S at animalservices@kerncounty.com if you have questions or want to request a voucher. You can also go to kerncountyanimalservices.org for much more information.

S.T.O.P., is instituting a lost and found line that Kate will monitor. That number is 823-4100 option #1. Our phone number will stay in place until the 1st of February.

Robin Freckmann, founder of Tehachapi Humane Society