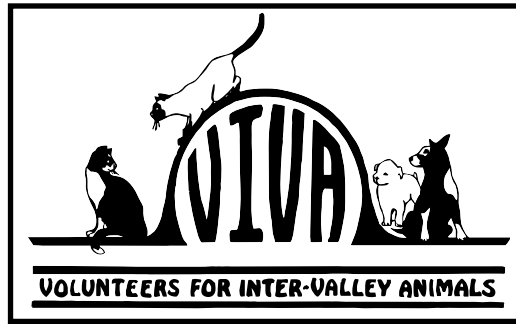


♡ If you love your pets, have them spayed or neutered. ♡

- Cattery
- Low Cost Spay/Neuter
- Adoption Services
- Foster Homes
- TNR Assistance



- Feral Sanctuary
- Lost and Found Service
- Animal Placement Service
- Pet Owner Education
- Cat Boarding

A few good felines . . .



Darla--
recovering from
a rough life



Zipper--
Queen of
Everything



"H" litter--
Almost ready



Simona--
big & beautiful



Blister--
wanted in 7 states



Birdie--
Carol E's favorite

Adoption Center
Street Address:
133 North D Street
Lompoc, CA 93436

Hours:
Saturdays from
10 to 4 or
by appointment

Phone:
(805)735-6741

Mailing Address:
VIVA
PO Box 896
Lompoc, CA 93438

Website:
<http://vivaonline.org>

Email:
info@vivaonline.org

VIVA

*"Helping
the Helpless"*

Return Service Requested

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
LOMPOC, CALIFORNIA
Permit No. 132

AUGUST 2007

- *Adoptions: Saturdays 10AM thru 4PM or by appointment
- *8/18: National Homeless Animals Day

PET ADOPTIONS ...Shirley Cram

On June 10th, we held a pet adoptathon in cooperation with other shelter members of the Kitten Coalition. On this day, VIVA found homes for five adult cats and seven kittens. The results are not in from all the shelters, but I'm sure that making the public aware of all the cats and kittens in need of homes will help increase adoptions. We still have plenty of little fur balls, waiting for a home, as well as many wonderful adult cats that will make great pets.

AND THEY KEEP COMING

This morning (Tuesday, July 17th), we took quadruplets to be neutered. These four little black boys were indistinguishable from each other. What a good time they were having in the livingroom cage before they got popped into carriers and taken to the vets. These little guys are ready to be adopted. Come and get them!

ANOTHER MONEY-MAKER

Sue Davids and her small group of helpers held another garage sale in late June. They made over \$700 for the animals on a three-day weekend.

BOARDING REMINDER

Remember VIVA boards cats at our shelter for \$8 a day per cat.

AB1634 - MANDATORY SPAY/NEUTER BILL ...Shirley Cram

This bill has been postponed until next year. I believe that Public Health and Animal Services will go forward with a mandatory spay/neuter ordinance for Santa Barbara County. Much research needs to be done so we can have an ordinance that is fair and controls the pet over population problem. Anyone who has ever worked in a shelter and seen beautiful, loving, healthy cats and dogs killed because the shelter is full and there is no one to adopt them knows that we must control the population. Yes, education is important, and the availability of low cost spay/neuter is vital, but these tools are not enough if we cannot control irresponsible breeding. The other important thing that will make all this work is if adoptions all went to "forever homes". Just think how wonderful it would be if our shelters were not overflowing.

This is an example of why we need mandatory spay/neuter. This is a true story: a woman has a six month old kitten and plans to spay it but finds out it is already pregnant. She decides she cannot go through with the spay operation because the unborn kittens will be killed. She allows the cat to have kittens. When the kittens are about six weeks old, she gets tired of cleaning litter boxes and puts the mother cat and her kittens outside in her yard. They disappear in her neighborhood. Sometime later the mother cat comes back to her house and is pregnant again. She does exactly the same thing as she did before... does not spay, has a litter of kittens, and then tires of the work involved with caring for them, and they are thrown out in her yard. Now we have a mother cat and approximately eleven kittens (if they all survive) in a neighborhood. The kittens that survive will all have litters. This woman is irresponsible. We need this law so people like this woman can be forced to spay her cat. It is ironic that this woman who cared so much about killing unborn kittens would care nothing about the fate of these kittens once they were born.

Let's hope that we can make Santa Barbara a no-kill county.

THINGS TO CONSIDER PRIOR TO ADOPTING A NEW PET

- * Do I have the time a pet needs so it doesn't get lonely or become destructive?
- * If renting, will I be able to find another home that will take animals if necessary?
- * If I am adopting a young animal, will I be able to care for it for its entire life?
- * If small children are in the family, will the animal grow too big for them?
- * Can I picture this animal in my home as part of the family?
- * If adopting a dog, is it a breed that will fit our lifestyle?
- * If there are other pets, will they accept a new addition?

DOG OWNERS: READ THIS DOG TOXIN REPORT

This account was written by Laurinda Morris, DVM from the Danville Veterinary Clinic in Danville, Ohio.

This week I had the first case in history of raisin toxicity ever seen at MedVet. My patient was a 56-pound, 5 year old male neutered lab mix that ate half a canister of raisins sometime between 7:30 AM and 4:30 PM on Tuesday. He started vomiting, diarrhea, and shaking about 1 AM on Wednesday, but his owner didn't call my emergency service until 7 AM.

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I had heard somewhere about raisins AND grapes causing acute Renal failure but hadn't seen any formal paper on the subject. We had her bring the dog in immediately. In the meantime, I called the ER service at MedVet, and the doctor there was like me - had heard nothing about it, but... Anyway, we contacted the ASPCA National Animal Poison Control Center and they said to give IV fluids at 1½ maintenance and watch the kidney values for the next 48-72 hours.

The dog's BUN (blood urea nitrogen level) was already at 32 (normal less than 27) and creatinine over 5 (1.9 is the high end of normal). Both are monitors of kidney function in the bloodstream. We placed an IV catheter and started the fluids. Rechecked the renal values at 5PM and the BUN was over 40 and creatinine over 7 with no urine production after a liter of fluids. At this point I felt the dog was in acute renal failure and sent him to MedVet for a urinary catheter to monitor urine output overnight as well as overnight care.

He started vomiting again overnight at MedVet, and his renal values have continued to increase daily. He produced Urine when given Lasix as a diuretic. He was on three different anti-vomiting medications, and they still couldn't control his vomiting. Today his urine output decreased again, his BUN was over 120, his creatinine was at 10, his phosphorus was very elevated, and his blood pressure, which had been staying around 150 skyrocketed to 220. He continued to vomit, and the owners elected to euthanize.

This is a very sad case - great dog, great owners who had no idea raisins could be a toxin. Please alert everyone you know who has a dog of this very serious risk. Poison control said as few as seven (7) raisins or grapes could be toxic. Many people I know give their dogs grapes or raisins as treats, including our ex-handlers. Any exposure should give rise to immediate concern.

Even if you don't have a dog, you might have friends who do. This is worth passing on to them.

A Wonderful, Giving Idea

When Robyn Franklyn sent her wedding invitations, she asked her friends to give donations to VIVA and another animal organization in memory of her parents, rather than to buy wedding presents for her. Thank you, Robyn, from the animals!

GEICO'S COMPLETELY WELL AND NEEDS A HOME

Thank you, again, to all our supporters who sent extra money for Geico's operation. He doesn't look like a flower anymore as he doesn't have to wear his collar. He is completely healed and does not have to be on any kind of special food.

Geico is such a wonderful cat: large, sweet, buff-colored male that gets along with all humans and cats. He is such a favorite of the volunteers that, once he came out of confinement in a cage, he became a "house cat", meaning he roams freely the halls at VIVA. Please come visit him with an eye toward adoption!