



Gasterville Natural Pet Care Newsletter

School's Out for Summer!

July 2006

Not only have the kids finished school for the summer, but I've completed my veterinary certification course!

After spending 20 years working in various corporations and businesses as an administrative assistant, obtaining this certification was an important step in transitioning to a much more rewarding career!



Kathryn Gaster Allen

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Rest in Peace Eddie



One of the best know animal actors in recent years has passed away. Moose, the Jack Russell terrier who played Eddie on the long-running show "Frasier"

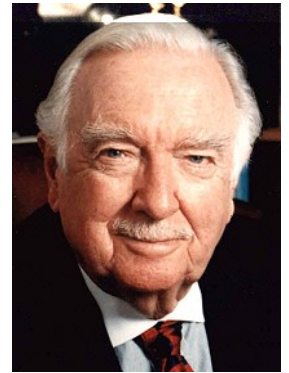


died June 22 at 16 years old. In 2003, Animal Planet ranked Eddie as fifth in its Greatest TV Animals, right behind Lassie, Kermit the Frog, Flipper and Mr. Ed. We highlighted Jack Russell terriers a few issues back, and Moose was a classic example of the breed.

[Read the full obit...](#)

News Legend Walter Cronkite Interviewed by HSUS

Anyone growing up in the 60's and 70's knew his voice (and your parents didn't trust anyone else to deliver the news, did they?) The Humane Society's website has a lovely article on Walter Cronkite's love of animals.



[Read the full interview...](#)

Curiosity Traps the Cat

A Utah family's cat gets trapped under their newly poured driveway - here's a great video of Tom, the curious cat - the best part is the interview is with the two young daughters of the family and they tell the story - very cute.

[Watch the video...](#)

Lewis the Cat Gets Home Detention

You may have heard about Lewis the cat on the news and we highlighted his story in last month's newsletter. It seems that Lewis has been spared any punishment more than just home detention. But his owner, Ruth Cisero, must also complete two years of probation in order to have her own record expunged. Ms. Cisero turned down a "plea bargain" which involved having Lewis euthanized.



[Read the article...](#)

Shortage Sends Brits to Foreign Dogs



British police have had to use foreign dogs because of a shortage of suitable home-bred German Shepherds. The handlers are now faced with overcoming a language barrier - the dogs respond to commands only in their "native tongue". At least two British police forces have sent their officers abroad



to learn how to speak to the dogs, or have had to hire interpreters. Once the humans learn the dog's language, commands are given in both languages, eventually using only English.

[Read the article...](#)

Doggie Dining in Florida

Florida has a new state law, effective July 1, which will allow every city commission, town council and county commission in Florida consider whether to allow doggie dining if residents demand it. However, few have so far.

The South Florida Sun-Sentinel reports that the law doesn't automatically let restaurants accept pets on their patios. Most city personnel interviewed had no plans to initiate such local legislation.

Pet owners, however, are planning on making the call to their local government officials. Those who oppose dogs at restaurants can object if their local government debates the issue. Many people oppose it, citing potential hygiene and behavior issues.

It's no wonder that city officials aren't "straining at the lease" to allow doggie dining, as the criteria includes 11 conditions set by the state, such as requiring the installation of signs to warn patrons and requiring the removal of dog waste "immediately." The restaurant must also provide the local government with a diagram showing exactly where on the patio dogs will be allowed, the dimensions of the area, the placement of the tables and chairs and the days of the week and hours that dogs will be permitted.

Although some restaurants already let owners dine with their dogs on outdoor patios, it is actually illegal and they could face legal action, including fines up to \$1,000 a day.



French Government Bares Teeth Against Dangerous Dogs



The French government said last month that it was going to tighten laws on dangerous dogs and may outlaw some breeds deemed especially ferocious after two small children were mauled to death in the first three weeks of June.

The new rules are not yet in effect, but in the meantime, the government told local authorities to capture threatening animals, and, if necessary, put them down.

France imposed initial restrictions in 1999, ordering dangerous dogs to be muzzled and always kept on a leash. However, these latest attacks have caused authorities to review the original danger lists, which did not include cross-breeds. Agriculture Minister Dominique Bussereau told reporters after a cabinet meeting that, "there are dogs which at present are not considered dangerous that are going

to be put on the dangerous dog list". Two of the May attacks involved a 17-month-old girl who died after being bitten on the head by an American Staffordshire Terrier which was owned by

her uncle as well as an eight-year-old boy who died after being bitten on the neck by a Bull Mastiff. The Interior Ministry estimates there are some 80,000 dangerous dogs in France. However, some animal experts have questioned the government's plan, saying even docile breeds of dogs can be trained to become violent.

One-in-Five Employers Allow Pets At Work



The American Pet Products Manufacturers Association sponsors "Take Your Dog to Work Day", which fell on June 23 this year. A survey the Association conducted reports that nearly one in five people say their employers allow pets in the workplace. The survey also says that 55 million people believe that having pets in the workplace leads to a more creative environment, decreases absenteeism and helps coworkers to get along.

[Read the article...](#)

This is a Real Cat House!

Is there no end to reality shows? Evidently not, since 10 cats are spending 10 days in a New York store window, competing for titles of best sleeper, loudest purr and who can catch the most toy mice. Meow Mix House will be shown on cable channel Animal Planet, as well as a website. Viewers will be asked to vote off contestants. And yes, just like on other reality shows, there will be cat fights (admit it, you were thinking it!) [The Meow Mix House site](#)



[Read the article...](#)

Health Issue



Fear and Anxiety

With summer comes thunderstorms and this month, fireworks and 4th of July. Many pet guardians dread the beginning of July, knowing how their pets, especially dogs, react to fireworks. Recent weather here in northern Ohio has been heavy with rain and thunderstorms. A friend's elderly black lab has spent hours standing in the bathroom shower at the slightest suggestion of a storm!

With the keen senses animals possess, we may not even be aware of what is causing their anxiety, but we are certainly aware of the affect it has - panting, whining, restlessness - and there seems to be no comforting them!

Our friends at Only Natural Pet Store offer the following suggestions:

Keep pets indoors during storms and fireworks. Provide them with a safe, quiet, escape-proof place with blankets and a favorite toy. Ensure your pet's ID information is current. If your dog or cat runs away, check in with your local animal shelter, which may be very busy this time of year. Prior to tranquilizing your pet, test herbal remedies to better help your pet deal with stress. Play soothing music and reassure your pet with gentle tones. Take your pet for a walk before fireworks to prevent an accident. Do not make a big deal of leaving. This may alert your pet that something is wrong.

If you'd like to try an herbal remedy, Only Natural carries the following:



Anxiety / Fear Flower Essences

"Use for trips to the vet, new situations, thunder and storms, getting adjusted to new people and animals, mistreated in the past, competition, anxiety attacks."

Look! A Squirrel!!



Wholesome Peanut Butter Dog Treats

Gasterville Natural has been making dog treats for about a year now - these peanut butter treats are the most popular with our canine clients. Containing all natural, preservative-free ingredients, you may be tempted to try them yourself!

Ingredients: whole wheat flour, corn meal, rye flour, rolled oats, peanut butter, eggs, canola oil.

\$4.00 for each 8 oz. package

[For ordering information...](#)

Other Products of Interest



HomeoPet Anxiety

"A homeopathic formula that promotes a sense of calm in animals experiencing fear, fretting, or anxiety from separation, travel, loud noises, vet or groomer visits, or other stressful situations."



Only Natural Pet Stress Soother Herbal Remedy

"Can be used for many nervous and anxiety problems. This carefully selected balance of herbs will quiet nerves, relax the body, and heal tissues."



Bite This! Flea Remedy

"Bite This! is a blend of Neem oil, pure essential oils, organic botanical infusions, and base oils that will help protect your canine from fleas. Simply put a few drops in your hands and rub into your dog's fur."



Only Natural Pet All-in-One Flea Remedy

"This natural flea powder will safely eliminate fleas on your pets and in your home. It is completely non-toxic, chemical-free, and odorless. You will see results in a matter of days, and fleas cannot build an immunity to its effects."

Quick Links...

[Gasterville Natural Pet Care](#)

[Kathy's Tripod site - pictures and more](#)

[Just for fun](#)

[Cleveland Animal Protective League](#)

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