



FAITHFUL friends

FALL 2017

SAVING THE MOST VULNERABLE

Every year, the Department's animal care centers are inundated with thousands of very young, orphaned, and abandoned kittens who require extra care before they can be offered for adoption. These kittens do poorly in animal care center settings, due to their undeveloped immune systems and their need for enhanced nursing and care requirements that are beyond the abilities of animal shelters.



Alma and Kitty

In an exciting new program, the Department's Baldwin Park animal care center has embarked on a life-saving partnership to save these vulnerable kittens. In April, 2017 DACC began a unique collaboration with the ASPCA® (The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals®) under its Feline Pilot Project to provide intervention and care for "Pee Wee" kittens – those that are between four to eight weeks old. These kittens are past the most challenging first several weeks of life and are able to eat without assistance, making their chances for survival much greater. The kittens are placed with foster volunteers, who provide the care needed until the kittens are old enough to be adopted.

The Pee Wee program has cared for more than 600 kittens since that time, accounting for almost half of the Baldwin Park ACC's intake of kittens in that age group. The program has increased the number of kittens' lives saved at the care center by 200 percent.

Building on this success of the Pee Wee program, DACC has teamed up with the Pasadena Humane Society & SPCA (Pasadena Humane) and the ASPCA to open Kitten-Garten, a nursery for kittens four to eight weeks old at the PHSSPCA's shelter. Kitten-Garten is made possible by a generous grant from the ASPCA in the amount of \$325,000. It is the first phase in a larger project that will include a purpose-built kitten nursery to provide round-the-clock care for all kittens under eight weeks.

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DOUBLING DOWN ON PET ADOPTIONS



Supervisor Kathryn Barger, representing the 5th Supervisorial District, has taken the Board of Supervisors Pet Adoption program to a whole new level.

Supervisor Barger and a friend

The Board pet adoption program was started by Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich in 1995. Since that time and until his retirement in 2016, he introduced a dog or a cat at every Board meeting with the hope that the animal would be adopted. Supervisor Barger agreed to carry on this important tradition in December 2016, when she began her term as Supervisor. However, she has taken it one step further – featuring both a dog and a cat at each Board meeting. We are grateful to her commitment to the animals and doubling their opportunity for finding new homes!

Be sure to tune in online at <http://bos.lacounty.gov/Board-Meeting/Live-Broadcast>. Board meetings are televised live and re-played the following evening at 10 p.m.

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The Los Angeles County Animal Care Foundation is an independent 501(c)(3) charitable foundation that supports the animals served by the County of Los Angeles Department of Animal Care and Control. The Animal Care Foundation provides help to more than 60,000 animals each year. Through the leadership of a volunteer Board of Directors, money raised by the Animal Care Foundation is used in many ways to enhance the care and increase the adoption of unwanted animals.

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PALMDALE ANNIVERSARY



Left to right: Marcia Mayeda, Director, Los Angeles County Department of Animal Care and Control; Abby Douglass, President, Los Angeles County Animal Care Foundation; Los Angeles County Supervisor, Kathryn Barger; and Pauline East, Los Angeles County Animal Care Foundation Secretary.

On Saturday, September 9, 2017, the Palmdale Animal Care Center celebrated its one year anniversary! Los Angeles County 5th District Supervisor Kathryn Barger attended the event along with local elected officials, Animal Care Foundation board members, local chamber representatives and community members. A special offer of \$1 fee for dog adoptions (cat adoptions are free) was offered, as well as tours of the state-of-the-art facility.

During the festivities, the Foundation unveiled their paver fundraising program.

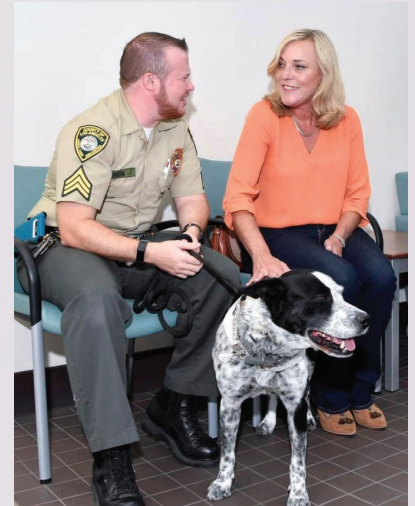
The Los Angeles County Animal Care Foundation is offering a way for donors to become a permanent part of our Palmdale Animal Care Center. Over 500 individual

tribute bricks or 'pavers' are now available for you or your company's sponsorship. Each paver will include your name and the message of your choice. Messages may be in honor or in memory of a person or a beloved pet. They will be placed strategically under the pergolas in front of the care center for all to see.

Sponsorships run from \$100 to \$1,000 depending on size. Pavers will become a permanent part of the care center and a reminder to Palmdale visitors of those who support our cause.

Funds from paver sponsorships will support programs like 'Grooming Gives Hope' and 'Dreams Come True,' helping us further our mission – finding new, loving homes for all the animals in our care.

Sponsorship forms are available now on our website at <http://lacountyanimals.org>, by e-mailing supporter@lacountyanimals.org or by calling 323-854-1820.



Sgt. Connor Johnson and Supervisor Barger.

SAVING THE MOST VULNERABLE

Continued from Page 1

The ASPCA will transport young kittens from the Baldwin Park ACC to Pasadena Humane's Kitten-Garten each week. Kittens will be cared for by Pasadena Humane staff, on-site volunteers, and foster parents until they are ready for adoption. Many kittens will be made available for adoption at Pasadena Humane, while others will be transferred to partner shelters across the country by the ASPCA's Animal Relocation Program.

"We are thrilled to have this fantastic opportunity for our underage kittens to develop and thrive," said Marcia Mayeda, Director of Animal Care and Control for Los Angeles County. "This public-private partnership will save many lives, and demonstrates the positive outcomes when nonprofits and local government work together to solve community issues."

If you are interested in volunteering to be a kitten foster parent with this program or at any of the Department's animal care centers, please contact the care center volunteer coordinator. You can help save the lives of our most vulnerable animals!

KING MAX AND QUEEN MARY KATE CROWNED AT "SENIOR PROM"

When most people think about adopting a pet, they usually think about a cute little kitten or an adorable puppy. Many people forget that older dogs and cats, particularly those older than five years, are outstanding adoption choices.

These pets have a lot to offer. They don't need to be potty-trained, endlessly entertained, and are much less destructive than puppies. Most adult pets are laid back, even-tempered and serve as the best company you can ask for (and can be great sofa buddies, too)! They have been there, done that, and just want to spend time with their families.

On July 22, 2017 volunteers at the Lancaster Animal Care Center decided it was time to shine a light on the care center's senior population. With a tropical party theme, a Senior Prom was held at the care center. Named "Paradise Paws!" pineapples, leis, and palm trees were abundant. There was a photo booth with props to get everyone in the party spirit. Hawaiian music played as the play yard morphed into a dance floor ready to welcome the prom King and Queen. The high point of the event was crowning Prom King Max and Prom Queen Mary Kate to the roar of the crowd and camera flashes, compliments of local paparazzi!

To encourage those in attendance to consider adopting senior dogs, the regular adoption fee was dropped to \$50. Partygoers must have begun to see the seniors in a different light as five seniors graduated that day to forever homes. Congratulations to the Lancaster ACC volunteers on their fun and successful event!



King Max and Queen Mary Kate.



Media host Alexis Moffett with volunteers Alyssa Benavidez and Marbeth Alanis.

HELP THE ANIMALS BY DONATING A VEHICLE

The Foundation is thrilled to add vehicle donations to its ways to support its many activities.

Donating an old car, truck, boat or RV to the Foundation is simple, and the proceeds will go to support our vital animal programs. We will handle the pick-up, title, and all the paperwork. To learn more: <https://careasy.org/nonprofit/los-angeles-county-animal-care-foundation>.



SUPERVISORS

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ANIMAL CARE CENTER LOCATIONS

Agoura
29525 Agoura Road
Agoura Hills, CA 91301
818-991-0071

Baldwin Park
4275 N. Elton Avenue
Baldwin Park, CA 91706
626-962-3577

Carson/Gardena
216 W. Victoria Street
Gardena, CA 90248
310-523-9566

Castaic
31044 N. Charlie Canyon Road
Castaic, CA 91384
661-257-3191

Downey
11258 S. Garfield Avenue
Downey, CA 90242
562-940-6895

Lancaster
5210 W. Avenue I
Lancaster, CA 93536
661-940-4191

Palmdale
38550 Sierra Highway
Palmdale, CA 93550
661-575-2888

DREAMS COME TRUE - RILEY

In the spring of 2017, Animal Control Officer Sal Gomez of the Palmdale Animal Care Center rescued a four year old Chow Chow mix that was injured and limping, most likely hit by a car. The dog, later named Riley, was transported to a private veterinarian for x-rays. The x-rays revealed that she needed surgery to repair extensive damage to her hip.

Riley was brought to the Palmdale Animal Care Center where animal care sergeant Connor Johnson began a search for an adoption partner organization to adopt Riley and provide the care she needed. Unfortunately, Riley would growl when people approached her cage. Because of that, the staff were concerned Riley might not be adopted.

Marilyn Tucker of Los Angeles heard about Riley and showed an interest in adopting her. Riley's condition and behavior was shared with Ms. Tucker, but that did not dissuade her. Ms. Tucker has a rescued Chow Chow mix at home and loved the breed. However, she was concerned about the cost of the surgery and that she may not be able to adopt Riley due to the expected high cost of surgical repair.

Care center leaders, manager Lisa Eldridge and veterinarian Dr. Rachel Saelor, believed that Riley had a good prognosis with a wonderful home. Thankfully, the Foundation's "Dreams Come True" Program is available for animals like Riley. The program provides for special surgeries, procedures, and medications for animals in Los Angeles County Department of Animal Care and Control (DACC) care centers. It is funded by the Los Angeles County Animal Care Foundation and saves the lives of pets whose medical illnesses or injuries are too extensive and too costly to treat through the normal course of DACC veterinary services.

Riley's injuries were surgically repaired by VIP Animal Hospital in Santa Clarita. Shortly thereafter, Riley was taken to her new forever home by Ms. Tucker.

A few months later, Ms. Tucker reported that Riley had settled into her new home. Riley had completely recovered from her surgery and is a perfect fit in the Tucker family. Ms. Tucker captured Riley's successful journey into her forever home in a personalized coffee mug with Riley's photo that says, "Can you tell me the story about how you rescued me again?"



Riley



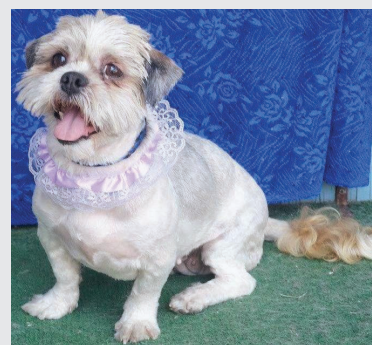
GROOMING GIVES HOPE



Trixie Before

This is Trixie, a 6-year-old Shih Tzu. When Trixie was brought to the Downey Animal Care Center her fur was dirty, matted and had grown so long that it completely covered her eyes. She was a perfect candidate for the Grooming Gives Hope Program.

The Grooming Give Hope Program provides grooming to dogs coming into the care center. In Trixie's case, she was given a bath, her fur was combed out and trimmed, her nails were trimmed and a lace collar tied around her neck to make her feel pretty. This is one of the programs the Los Angeles County Animal Care Foundation is pleased to offer dogs like Trixie to improve their health and well-being, as well as improve their opportunities for adoption. Many thanks to our donors for their generous support in improving outcomes for dogs like Trixie!



Trixie After

JUSTICE IN DOG-THROWING CASE

In October, 2016 Los Angeles area residents were horrified when security camera footage captured a man cruelly throwing his dog down a steep hillside in the City Terrace area of East Los Angeles. The dog was rescued by local resident Reuben Roque, who reported the incident so an investigation could be undertaken to bring the abuser to justice. Initially DACC took in the dog to provide a complete medical evaluation, and then in a joyous reunion Reuben adopted her to be his forever companion, naming her Hera.

DACC's Major Cases Unit officer Armando Ferrufino conducted a complete investigation into this case. As a result the perpetrator - Andres Spancky Raya – was found guilty of felony cruelty to animals on September 7, 2017 and sentenced to two years in prison.

Hera is now in a loving home with Reuben where she will never face this type of cruelty again. Reuben, a veteran and former military policeman, provides career guidance counseling for veterans and is training Hera to be a service dog. Reuben and Hera have formed an amazing bond, and Reuben is a shining example of courage and compassion on behalf of animals!



Reuben Roque and Hera

"SAY CHEESE!" KLAWS REACHES OUT TO PETS IN NEED

Students at Castaic Middle School are reaching out to help animals in their community. The KLAWS Club, (Kids Loving Animals Within Shelters), is a group of students helping pets at the Castaic Animal Care Center find their forever homes.

KLAWS already implemented a reading program to the animals, to make them more comfortable and relaxed in the animal care center. Building on their experience in animal care center activities, KLAWS decided to take on a new project – taking beautiful pictures of the animals for posting on line, to make them more appealing to adopters.

So they grabbed their cameras and smart phones, and headed to the animal care center to take photographs of the animals awaiting adoption. Accomplished shelter photographer, Rita Earl-Blackwell, met with the students to provide tips on producing good photos.

The students greatly enjoyed taking photos of the animals. One of the students, who is on the yearbook committee, believes that photographing the dogs is helping increase her skills. These will be put to good use during the school year.

Castaic Animal Care Center manager, Karen Stepp, says she is delighted by the partnership that has been built with the school and looks forward to the students' visits. She encourages the students to seek out new ways to get their community to visit the shelters and adopt the many wonderful animals awaiting their forever homes.

Kudos to KLAWS! We thank you, and the animals do too!



MEMORIAL GIFTS

The Foundation gratefully acknowledges the following contributions made in memory of loved ones.

Christine Arias – in memory of Oreo & Ditto
Mario Arroyo – in memory of Mailey
Dianne Boranian – in memory of Jazzmine Daniell-Baker
Terri Bozigar – in memory of Brianna Rose (paver at Palmdale Shelter)
Theresa Bozigar – in memory of Remy (paver at Palmdale Shelter)
Monica Caldas – in memory of Dusty & Nickie
Derrick Chi – in memory of Ginger
Sheila Y. Chung – in memory of Muffie, Otis, Dickens & Little Frank
Sheila Chung – in memory of Daisy (17) & Nigs (first pet 60 years ago)
Lori Clark – in memory of Jamie Dubinsky's 59th Birthday
Terry & Alice Cornell – in memory of Kelly Ann Long
Kurt Crampton & Keri Purpura – in memory of Kelly Long
Mari Danihel – in memory of Dr. David & Betty Gregg and their favorite cat Ming Toy (paver at Palmdale Shelter)
John & Abby Douglass – in memory of Heinz Naef
(paver at Palmdale Shelter)
Pauline East – in memory of Buddy Boy (paver at Palmdale Shelter)
Pauline East – in memory of Kelly Ann Long
Phillip & Sherri Ellman – in memory of Sophia England
Susan Elmes – in memory of Joan Elmes Ririe
Karen Fales – in memory of Grandma & Grandpa Fales Birthdays
Maureen Furniss – in memory of all the Furniss Family Pets
Diane Gallagher – in memory of Nikki
Timothy & Janie Gibson – in memory of Jia-Jia
Timothy & Janie Gibson – in memory of ZZ-Long
Adrienne Herman – in memory of Rocky
Lois Hicks – in memory of Poochini Hyatt
Terri Holman – in memory of Brenda Hardin
Julie Jaffarian – in memory of Teddy

Aurelia Jimenez – in memory of Bonita
Donna Koch – in memory of Isabella Mayeda
Mitchell & Ann Kolacinski – in memory of Honey
Kathleen Lamb – in memory of Brenda Hardin
Jeff Molin – in memory of Magic
Janette Murayama – in memory of Mickey
Nancy Moomau – in memory of Peaches Moses
Nancy Moomau – in memory of Isabella Mayeda
Dan Munz – in memory of Kelly Long
Palmdale Mobile Park, LLC – in memory of Kelly Ann Long
Sharon Pecorelli – in memory of Peaches Moses
Sharon Pecorelli – in memory of Isabella Mayeda
Stephanie Raleigh – in memory of Brenda Hardin
Reinsurance Association of America – in memory of Melody Carreon
Colleen Rico – in memory of Stoli Repen
Colleen Rinaldi – in memory of Brandy & Bear Bear
Lydia Roberts – in memory of Kelly Ann Long
David & Teresa Rodriguez – in memory of Rufus
Kirsten Rosenberg – in memory of Sweet Spencer
Rob Schrab – in memory of Sully Darmody
Samira Sedighan – in memory of Pugsly
James Snell – in memory of Lily Bean
Andrea Soto – in memory of Pancake
Elizabeth Stothers – in memory of Chopper & Gerty
Catherine Tilli – in memory of China Mahoney
Anil & Alparna Triveli – in memory of Nala
Richard & Lesley Watkins – in memory of Spike
Judith Webb – in memory of Sassy
Kristine & Elliott White – in memory of Eva (paver at Palmdale Shelter)

The Foundation gratefully acknowledges the following gifts made in honor of special people and animals.

HONORARIUM GIFTS

Tracy Baker – in honor of Bella Astin
Richard & Priscilla Benson – in honor of Ruby's 8th Birthday
Betty Jo Clarke – in honor of Just In Time Prince Dominguez
Leigh Clausen – in honor of Buddy (paver at Palmdale Shelter)
Thomas & Sherrill Crawley – in honor of Nala
William Daly – in honor of Brenda Hardin
Brian Darga – in honor of Luke Darga
Nikki Du – in honor of Mr. Pickles & Boba
Irit Ehrlich – in honor of Montana & Leo
Brad Folb – in honor of Nicole Campa
Steven Garetto-Barnett – in honor of Castaic Volunteers through Disney EARS to You Program
Erin Garnero – in honor of Jolie, Thumbelina & Bev Leight
Tom & Joan Getz – in honor of Howard Rosenberg's Birthday
Jeanene Hamilton – in honor of Blanche
Kristen Hargis – in honor of Ollie & Piper King
Brenda Henriquez – in honor of Bensen the Lil Shipoo
Forest Jones – in honor of Michael O'Malley
Jeff Jordan & Roxie – in honor of Grommet (paver at Palmdale Shelter)
Juliet Kalashnikoff – in honor of You tube senior dog from Baldwin Park Animal Shelter
Rachel Kaplan – in honor of Moji
Jessica Kummer – in honor of Toby Faber
Chris Laib & Lon – in honor of Scout & Ben (paver at Palmdale Shelter)
Vanessa Loftus-Brewer – in honor of Sophia, the cat
Lucy Matsumoto – in honor of Sadie, Sofie, Oliver and Lulu Matsumoto; Tatune, Abaja Tesore, Minnie & Bella
(paver at Palmdale Shelter)

Marcia Mayeda – in honor of DACC Staff & Volunteers (paver at Palmdale Shelter)
Carol Miller – in honor of Matt Goldfield & Aia
Michael Miller – in honor of Barbara Gani
Nancy Moomau – in honor of Wuppy Collin's 10th Birthday
Danilo Morales – in honor of Audrey Robinson
Donald Moser – in honor of Alex & Charlie (paver at Palmdale Shelter)
Lynne Musumeci – in honor of Diva
Douglas Nunes – in honor of Anna Kuznetsova
Jennifer Ordorica – in honor of Fox & Tarzan
Sharon Pecorelli – in honor of Wuppy Collin's 10th Birthday
Tom & Melinda Peters – in honor of Alice Fern, Gizela Jane, Robbie, Fran, Softi, Balint (paver at Palmdale Shelter)
Priscilla Picard – in honor of Oso
Dorothy Reynolds – in honor of NJ & Molly
Maria Ricca – in honor of Ido Gani
Reiko Romero – in honor of Mickey
Polux Rojas, Jr. – in honor of Blue
Ronnie Rubin – in honor of Song to Song (paver at Palmdale Shelter)
Robert T. Sherman – in honor of Wolf
Mary Sperber – in honor of Evan Sperber
Susan Suhr – in honor of Snuffy, Pepe, Misha, Giselle & Gelsey
Cora Tolentino – in honor of Julianne Bull
Sunanda Vadapalli – in honor of Truffles
Betsey Webster – in honor of Compassionate L.A. County Employees (paver at Palmdale Shelter)

DACC BUSTS LARGEST COCKFIGHTING OPERATION IN U.S. HISTORY

It is believed that cockfighting has been going on for more than 6,000 years. To believe that this brutal and gruesome activity is considered a form of entertainment and sport is shocking. Luckily, we live in a nation that respects the lives of all animals and cockfighting has been outlawed in every U.S. state. It can be prosecuted as either a misdemeanor or a felony in California.



Cockfighting is a blood sport between two roosters of the breeds of chickens called game fowl, or “gamecocks”. The gamecocks are genetically predisposed for aggressive behavior. The birds will naturally fight when placed in close proximity to each other. In cockfights, a sharp, knife-like implement or “gaff” is strapped to the roosters’ legs so they cut and impale their opponents. The fight ends when the first bird dies. Often times the winner may later die from his wounds as well. This type of event also tends to draw the attention of crowds that are involved in illegal gambling, illegal weapons, child abuse, and illegal drugs.

On May 15, 2017, the County of Los Angeles Department of Animal Care and Control (DACC) led local animal care agencies in a joint raid on an 80 acre property in the Val Verde area of Los Angeles County, near Santa Clarita. Also participating in the raid were the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department, the District Attorney’s Office, the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Los Angeles (SPCAla), the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) and the Pasadena Humane Society and SPCA (PHSSPCA). This raid received worldwide attention for being the largest seizure of fighting birds in U.S. history – more than 7,800 birds were on the premises. The fact that these

birds sell on average in the \$50 - \$1,500 range indicates that the estimated value was significant.

The expertise of over 100 animal care professionals and law enforcement officers contributed to the success of the raid. It took the efforts of fifty DACC employees approximately four days to complete the evacuation of the premises.

Because of the serious public health concerns and the aggressive nature of gamecocks, all of the seized birds had to be euthanized. In situations like this, animal control and humane agencies must take this precautionary action to prevent the serious risk of the spread of diseases such as Avian Flu or Exotic Newcastle Disease. These diseases can also have a devastating effect on the poultry industry and public health. Further, due to the aggressive nature of these birds they cannot be adopted as backyard or farmyard pets because they will attack and kill other fowl.

Thirteen dogs and one cat were also found on the property. They have all been adopted to forever homes.

Working together, the Sheriff’s department and the other organizations involved were able to skillfully plan and execute this operation. “We are extremely proud of our staff and support teams,” said DACC Director Marcia Mayeda. “We hope this sends a powerful message to those engaging in cockfighting that this crime is taken very seriously.”

Anyone who has knowledge of illegal animal fighting is encouraged to report it to their local animal control agency.

KELLY LONG, A TRUE FRIEND OF THE ANIMALS

Kelly Ann Long, longstanding liaison from the City of Palmdale, died peacefully on August 21, 2017. As a 27-year employee of the City and supervisor for the Public Safety Department, she was an invaluable partner with the Los Angeles County Department of Animal Care and Control. She worked with our Lancaster Animal Care Center and then with the Palmdale Animal Care Center when it opened in 2016.

Kelly’s infectious smile and positive attitude were always so welcoming. She possessed a passion for animals and never hesitated to assist in our adoption efforts whenever she could. She was a pet adoption advocate and helped raise awareness, being sure to always share information about the many wonderful pets available in our care centers.

While devoted and committed to the City of Palmdale, she always found a way to include the animals in her work. She coordinated the monthly City Council Pet of the Month program, where adoptable animals were featured before the City Council and the community during the city council meetings. Kelly was also a devoted cat owner and always had an uplifting story about her own cats to share.

Always giving and passionate, she leaves behind a legacy of compassion and collaboration that highlights what it truly means to be an advocate. She will be sorely missed by all who knew her and by those whose lives she touched, both human and animal alike.





ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL “CLEAR THE SHELTERS”



On August 19, 2017 all Los Angeles County Animal Care Centers participated in the nationwide Clear the Shelters event hosted by NBC and Telemundo. This mega-adoption event was very successful, and 452 DACC animals found new, loving homes as a result!



ESCAPED COBRAS LEAD TO SEIZURE OF DANGEROUS REPTILES

On July 6, 2017 DACC led a multi-agency search warrant operation to seize illegally held venomous and dangerous reptiles at two locations in Ventura County, including a private residence in Thousand Oaks, Calif. (the City of Thousand Oaks contracts with DACC for animal care and control services). More than 160 reptiles, as well as parrots and mice, were seized from the property. The species of reptiles included seven species of cobras, Gaboon vipers, puff adders, rattlesnakes, Gila monsters, Mexican beaded lizards, alligators, and more. These animals were being kept in violation of local and state licensing laws, as well as animal cruelty laws.

Acting on tips from local residents and the discovery of two escaped cobras, DACC assembled a team of experts to safely and humanely remove the deadly animals. Other agencies involved included the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Los Angeles Zoo and Botanical Garden, the Ventura County Sheriff’s Department and Department of Animal Services, the Ventura County District Attorney’s Office, the Ventura County Fire Department, and the City of Thousand Oaks. Reptile experts from the Los Angeles Zoo were invaluable in ensuring the safe removal of these very deadly reptiles.

All animals were transported to facilities that are skilled in caring for such animals, including the Los Angeles Zoo and the San Diego Zoo. The Pasadena Humane Society and SPCA cared for eight alligators until they were placed in a sanctuary. Although some reptiles were so ill that they did not survive despite all medical efforts to treat them, the majority of the seized animals have been placed in sanctuaries or with zoos.

The owner of the reptiles was arrested on multiple felony charges of animal cruelty. Further charges are pending. DACC strongly discourages the keeping of venomous or dangerous reptiles as pets. The risk to public safety and difficulty in providing humane care for these animals make them unsuitable for private ownership. DACC is grateful for the assistance of the agencies that assisted with the search warrant and ensuring a safe environment for the residents in that area.

