



PAWS A WHILE

HUMANE SOCIETY OF TUOLUMNE COUNTY

SEPTEMBER

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12 Fun Factoids About September!

We all know that September starts off with the Labor Day celebration, yet we thought you might enjoy a few additional fun facts about September – so here are a dozen of them!

1. The name “September” comes from an old Roman word, “septem,” which actually means seven. That’s right – September was the seventh month of the year on the Roman calendar – and it did not become the ninth month until the advent of the Gregorian calendar.
2. The Romans believed that September was looked after by the god of fire. So they always expected fires and volcanic eruptions to occur during this month.
3. Out of all 12 months of the year, September is spelled with the most letters. It contains nine letters, and it happens to be the ninth month of the year. No other month has the same amount of letters as their number in the calendar year.

4. This September “Harvest Moon” is the fullest moon of the year. When you gaze at it, it looks very large and gives a lot of light throughout the entire night. No other lunar spectacle is as awesome as the Harvest Moon.



5. The first day of fall is typically on September 22 or September 23 in North America. This is when the hours in the day are almost equal to the hours in the night. This occurs at the same time as the Spring Equinox does in Australia.

6. A little-known, but highly significant holiday falls in September. September 17th is Constitution Day, which marks the day that the U.S. Constitution was adopted.

7. There are more pop and classic songs with “September” in the title than any other month.

8. We all know that Labor Day is in September, but did you know that September also has a few little known holidays?

Among these are National Grandparent Day, National Cheese Pizza Day, and National Drink-a-Beer Day.

9. September is known as Harvest Month. It’s a great month to harvest in preparation for the coming winter months. In fact, in Old England, it was called “Haerfest-monath,” meaning Harvest Month. Some of the best crops to harvest are onions, apples, raspberries, and tomatoes.

10. Zodiac signs in September are split between Virgo (August 23 – September 22) and Libra (September 23 – October 22).

- Virgos are known for being loyal, practical, thoughtful, analytical people who sometimes come off as cold, but it’s only because they’re taking a methodical approach to friendship (like most aspects of their lives).
- Libras are a little different. Their main characteristics include being diplomatic and fair. They like harmony, dislike being alone, and always strive for peace and justice in the world.

11. Famous people born in September include Adam Sandler, Amy Winehouse, Bill Murray, Bruce Springsteen, Confucius, Freddie Mercury, Queen Elizabeth, Stephen King, and Sophia Loren.

12. The birthstone for September is the sapphire which is said to reduce inflammation, treat fever, and act as a lucky charm for the person wearing it. It symbolizes intuition, clarity of thought, peacefulness, as well as loyalty and trust.

Okay – so you are ready to go with some fun facts about the month of September. Now, if only National “Cheese Pizza Day,” and National “Drink a Beer Day” fell on the same date! Yummo!



FIND YOUR BEST FRIEND

Meet our current guests! Wouldn't you like to take one home today?



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WELCOME!

The Humane Society of Tuolumne County (HSOTC) is dedicated to improving the lives of companion animals in our community and finding permanent and loving adoptive homes for the cats and dogs in our care.

The HSOTC has the designation of a **limited intake/no-kill shelter** where animals are only euthanized if they are too sick to be treated or too aggressive to be suitable for adoption. The no-kill shelter designation rejects euthanasia as a means of population control and

HSOTC UPDATES



Paws-a-While E-Newsletter

July 22, 2021

Read the latest scoop on what's happening at the HSOTC! January 2021 February 2021 March 2021 April 2021 May 2021 June 2021 July 2021

Looking for Your Next BFF (Best Furry Friend)?

If you are considering adopting a new four-legged friend look no further than the HSOTC! There's no time like the present to check out our available animals at [hsotc.org](https://www.hsotc.org) today! Then give us a call to set-up a "meet and greet" appointment at 209-984-5489.



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September is Also Animal Pain Awareness Month

Nothing hurts pet parents more than believing their pet is in pain. And we can't blame them. It's hard to know exactly how much pain or discomfort our lovable pets may be in since they can't ask for aspirin or show us where it hurts.

We love that September is dedicated to taking a closer look at pet pain and finding ways to improve the lives of all animals.

What Is Pain Like for Our Pets?

Pain is complex yet we also know that animals, large and small, experience pain in a similar way to us. While their emotional reactions and sensitivity may differ, the physical process that creates the pain sensation is similar in most mammals.

Turkeys, raptors, parrots, and chickens express distress from pain. Studies of birds demonstrate that they're not immune to pain. Even fish feel pain!

What Can You Do to Help Your Pet Cope with and Manage Pain?

Enough about how our pets feel pain and more about how we can help them feel better!

All pets, just like us, have different thresholds for how their pain affects them. We've seen dogs with broken legs wagging their tails like there's no tomorrow and other dogs that limp and cry out after putting any weight on a toe with an ant bite.

The good news is that no matter how much your pet's acute or chronic pain bothers them, there are ways to help them feel better.

Ways of Helping Your Pet Overcome Pain

1. Recognizing Your Pet is in Pain- The first step to help your sweet bundle of joy feel better is to recognize they are in pain. How else would you know to find solutions if you didn't realize your pet is feeling less-than-perfect?

Some Signs of Pet Pain

Not all pets will express they're in pain the same way. Cats are especially Houdinis when it comes to making symptoms of pain disappear. However some common signs of pain include:

- Becoming withdrawn or hiding more
- Change in sleeping and eating habits
- Vocalizing more
- Grooming, grooming, and grooming some more. This can be pinpointed in the area causing pain (like the feet when a dog has grass allergies or arthritis).
- Panting and irregular breathing
- Trouble getting around
- Agitation and aggression
- Shaking and shivering

2. Nutritional Supplements and Nutraceuticals

Nutraceuticals may sound like a foreign language, but these are just simple compounds found in foods and plants. They can do wonders for pets struggling with cancer and joint-related pain.

How do they work?

They often reduce inflammation and relubricate joints. Not just for dogs and cats: they also work for reptiles and birds!

3. Who Needs Laser Tag When You Have Laser Therapy?

Your senior pup or cat might actually be up for a game of laser tag after their cold laser

therapy. Laser therapy can assist your pet to heal from chronic or acute pain without an invasive procedure. And dogs often love the experience! Most relax as if they're at the spa and come in for their next session with their tails wagging because their last treatment helped them feel better.

How does it work?

Your pet lies or stands on a bed or mat. And the cold laser uses a concentration of light to promote cell regeneration and increased blood flow. And the process releases endorphins in your pet's brain, making them feel comfy and content.

4. Acupuncture Will Help Alleviate the Pin Pricks of Pain

Acupuncture may sound 'out there,' but it works! This treatment effectively reduces pain for young, adult, and senior pets. This practice is exceptionally beneficial for pets suffering from chronic pain.

How does it work?

The tiny pin-pricks trigger your pet's brain to release its own endorphins and anti-inflammatory chemicals. The minuscule pokes encourage blood flow and increase oxygen. The blood and oxygen wash toxins away from the inside. The needles don't just relieve pain in the area they're placed, results show that dogs and cats experience less pain all over.

Hot lasers in tiny pinpoints offer the same healing effect of traditional acupuncture and can be less cumbersome when it comes to wiggly dogs and cats.

5. Keep Those Teeth Healthy

One source of pain that is often overlooked is oral discomfort. Dogs, cats, and other pets can feel terrible when their teeth aren't healthy. From infection to receding gums, dental problems can cause your pet pain as they eat, drink, and even play.

Don't Let Your Pet Live with Pain

Your pet depends on you for the quality of life they deserve. There are some simple day-to-day things you do can help to keep the pain away. Keep your dog or cat at a healthy weight to reduce joint issues, exercise daily, and provide your pet with a quality diet.



September Pet Holidays

Month-Long Celebrations

- Happy Cat Month
- National Service Dog Month

- National Pet Insurance Month
- Responsible Dog Ownership Month
- Pet Sitter Education Month
- Animal Pain Awareness Month

Week-Long Celebrations

- September 12–18: Adopt-a-Less-Adoptable-Pet Week (third week in September)
- September 19–25: National Deaf Dog Awareness Week (last full week in September)
- September 19–25: National Dog Week (last full week in September)

Day Celebrations

- September 8: National Dog Walker Appreciation Day
- September 12: National Hug Your Hound Day (second Sunday in September)
- September 12: National Pet Memorial Day (second Sunday in September)
- September 13: Pet Birth Defect Awareness Day
- September 17: National Pet Bird Day
- September 18: Puppy Mill Awareness Day (third Saturday in September)
- September 18: Responsible Dog Ownership Day (third Saturday in September)
- September 19: National Meow Like a Pirate Day
- September 23: Dogs in Politics Day
- September 25: International Rabbit Day
- September 28: World Rabies Day



In Celebration of Happy Cat Month...Here's How to Make a Few Cat Toys Out of Wine Corks

Hey cat parents, don't throw away those old wine corks as you can turn them into cute cat toys instead! Here are two purrfect playthings guaranteed to help your kitty get their pounce on.

You'll also have the option to create some homemade catnip spray that you can use to scent the toys for maximum frisk.



Things You'll Need

- Wine corks (if you don't drink wine, you can buy corks online or at a craft store)
- Catnip (optional)
- Non-toxic permanent bonding glue
- Craft feathers
- Pipe cleaners (aka craft stems)
- Scissors

First, Prepare the Corks

Before moving on the toy tutorials below, you'll need to prepare your wine corks for action. Here's how.

Step 1: Put a pot of water (about two cups) on medium heat.

Step 2: If you'd like to make catnip spray, add about a teaspoon of catnip to the water. Cover the pot and bring the water to a boil.

Step 3: Steam the corks over the water for about three to five minutes.

Step 4: Bore 1/2 inch deep holes into the softened corks using the narrower of your two scissor blades or a screwdriver. Repeat for all corks, and you'll be ready to start.

Catnip Spray Option: If you've added catnip to your water, let it steep for another hour, then strain it into a spray bottle. Use this to mist your cat's playthings, cat furniture, and scratchers. This will stay fresh for several weeks if stored in the fridge.



Feather Toy

Tap into your cat's natural desire to hunt by creating a bird simulation toy using fun craft feathers.

Step 1: Apply glue all around the bottom shaft of one feather. If needed, trim any surrounding fuzz off the bottom shaft of your feathers before applying glue.

Step 2: Insert the shaft into one of the corks and gently push in as far as it will go.

Step 3: Repeat the first and second steps with a second feather and then a third.

Step 4: Apply glue all around the top edge of the hole to fill in any gaps and to secure the feathers in place. And you're done!



Pipe Cleaner Toys

These are some of the fun toys to make, as you can, literally, bend pipe cleaners to your will. You'll definitely want to take advantage of their springiness to make your own configurations.

Step 1: Bend pipe cleaner into a "v."

Step 2: Wrap each ends around your finger to create springy coils.

Step 3: Apply glue to the bent end and insert into the

cork and you're all done! Plus, if you've made catnip spray, give your toys a light mist.

Drum roll please!! And let kitty playtime commence!

Dear Tabby



The series of oil paintings called Dogs Playing Poker was originally used to advertise what kind of product? Artist C.M. Coolidge was commissioned by Brown & Bigelow to advertise cigars through a series of 16 oil paintings beginning in 1903 and used on promotional products such as posters and calendars.

Why do cats eat grass? Most veterinarians believe grass eating seems to be a way for cats to relieve gastrointestinal (GI) symptoms, parasites or possibly infections. An additional theory is that cats are craving micronutrients found in leafy plants while another is that cats eat grass simply because they like. Hey Mikie...he likes it!

Purrfact: It takes eighteen muscles to move a dog's ear. This specificity of motion helps the dog pinpoint the origins of sounds much faster than a human can. A dog can locate the source of a sound in 1/600 of a second and can hear sounds four times farther away than a human can.

Eight Great Vehicle Accessories For Dog Owners



1. Dog Car Seat Belt

A dog is a highly valued member of your family and there is no reason why they should have less access to safety equipment in comparison to other car passengers. That is why a dog car seat belt is the first vehicle accessory for dog owners as your dog should be safely secured while sitting on the back seat of your vehicle.

A dog car seat belt simply works by clipping in one end to the red seat belt buckle while the other end clips to the back of your dog's harness. A dog seat belt should never be connected to a dog collar as in the instance of an accident or severe braking it could choke your

dog.

2. Dog Car Hammock/Seat Cover

To protect your vehicle's interior every dog owner should consider investing in a dog car hammock (also known as a dog seat cover). A dog hammock is simply a piece of waterproof fabric that draped between the back of the front seats and back seats over the headrests. They come in either half or full sizes.

Not only does a dog hammock protect your upholstery from shedding hair, scratch marks, and other dirt and debris your dog might bring into the vehicle but it also contains your dog to a smaller area, further improving their safety.

3. Collapsible Dog Travel Bowl



Third on the must have list is a collapsible dog travel bowl that you can leave folded up in your glove box at all times. This is a super handy dog accessory to have while you are away from home as then you can serve your dog water out of one of your drink bottles.



4. Soft Dog Travel Crate

An alternative method to restraining your dog in a vehicle is to use a soft travel crate. This method is more suited to toy, tiny, and small dog breeds as well as puppies however larger crate trained dogs can also be happy travelling in a crate. Not only is this dog accessory handy, it is also very useful for trips to the vet.



5. Back Seat Dog Bed

If you want to give your dog the most luxurious experience while riding in the car you should definitely consider buying one of these back seat dog beds!

A dog back seat bed is very similar to an ordinary dog bed however it has a back rest, making it look like a human armchair. They usually have a dog seat belt attached to the side or backrest to secure your dog in. Additionally the actually bed is secured

into the vehicle much like a child booster seat.

6. Portable Dog Travel Bottle

Another way of bringing water for your dog in the car is to use a portable dog travel bottle. These are just like human water bottles however there is an attachment at one end that allows a dog to drink from it.

7. Dog Cooling Mat

On really hot days, it's a good idea to put a dog cooling mat on the backseat to cool your dog down. These mats are filled with a special gel that when pressure activated start to cool. They can also double up as a protective layer between your dog and your car interior, too.



8. Dog Car Ramp/Stairs

And last but not least, if your dog is getting older or is suffering from an injury you should consider getting a dog ramp or staircase to help them into the vehicle. This will put less pressure on their joints as they won't have to leap in anymore.



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one more animal
at a time.*

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