## Selected Pet Events In The Los Angeles Area

ONGOING - Stray Cat Alliance's Charity Shop

11677 Santa Monica Blvd., corner of Barrington, Los Angeles 90025 Charity resale shop benefitting SCA's free programs for cats in low income communities - spay/neuter and medical care. Great deals on antiques, collectibles, designer clothing, housewares, jewelry, art and more! Always accepting donations. Open Wednesday through Sunday. For hours visit StrayCatAlliance.org/Events/Charity or call 310-905-4141 or email ResaleShop@StrayCatAlliance.org.

ONGOING - Free Dog Training At Blue Dog Ranch ~ 11AM - 2PM 119 West Linden Ct., Burbank 91502

Every 1st & 3rd Sunday. All new adopters welcome! All issues welcome! For more info call 818-729-0550

Jun 18 - Los Angeles Vegan Beer and Food Festival ~ 11AM - 7PM

Rose Bowl, 1001 Rose Bowl Dr., Pasadena 91103
Stop by the Mercy For Animals booth and also be sure to check out our exclusive VIP lounge. Check out craft beers, vegan eats, live music, a market-place & much more. MFA will offer copies of our free Vegetarian Starter Guide and other helpful resources on transitioning to a healthy and compassionate plant-based diet. We will also have a ton of awesome MFA merchandise available for purchase. Volunteers are needed to staff the MFA table from 11AM -7PM Full-day or half-day shifts are preferred. To volunteer or for more info email: shaynar@mercyforanimals.org or call 908-399-5098, www.mercyforanimals.org. Tickets (\$40 - \$100) can be purchased online at www.aeg.festivalticketing.com or call 855-414-6342

Jun 25 & 26 - Kitten Rescue's Annual Giant Yard Sale ~ 8AM - 4PM 22640 Erwin St., Woodland Hills 91367

Shop for toys, clothes, linens, furniture, antiques, books, kitchen/glassware, tools, jewelry, collectibles, art, holiday & more and save lives while having fun! If you would like to donate your gently used items, clean out your closets, cupboards and drawers to help save homeless animals. To make drop-off arrangements email: cynacee@yahoo.com. All donations are tax deductible. For more info visit: www.kittenrescue.org

Jun 25 - An Evening of Remembrance By Candlelight ~ 3-4:30 PM Los Angeles Pet Memorial Park, 5068 N. Old Scandia Lane, Calabasas 91372 Share stories, pictures and fond memories of your beloved pet(s). Meet other "pet parents" and support one another. Being amongst others in the same situation helps ease the pain. Your surviving pet(s) are ALWAYS welcome to attend. Bring a pot luck dish, if you'd like. Please re-

member to bring a beach chair to sit on. For more info call 818-591-7037 or email lapetmemorialpark@gmail.com

Jul 16 - Clear The Shelters Pre-events

The Grove, 189 The Grove Dr, Los Angeles 90036
NBC4 will organize pre-events the weekend prior to Clear the Shelters to preview the animals that will be available for adoption. Visit the shopping mall to learn more about Clear the Shelters, meet NBC4 reporters and visit with several animals from local shelters. For hours visit:

NBCLA.com/CleartheShelters.

Robert Kovacik (cont'd from p.21)

the Kennedys to John Glenn to Jerry Brown. "Growing up we were surrounded by those who vowed to make a difference. My mother had high expectations for all four of us, but the mantra in our household was 'No one is better than you are BUT you are no better than anyone else'."

Robert knows he can rely on his friends when needed. When asked what happens to Hayworth and Hudson when he has to fly off to cover breaking news or an international assignment, he assures me that he has a long list of those who happily offer to house and puppy-sit.

He had to do precisely that when the horrific night club massacre occurred recently in Orlando. He cancelled his annual place in the West Hollywood Pride Parade, where he and anchor Colleen Williams represent NBC4, to fly to Florida to cover the tragic story, again

Jul 17 - 19th Annual Pooch Parade Fundraising
Dog Walk & Pet Expo ~ 9AM-4PM

San Buenaventura State Beach Park, 900 San Pedro St, Ventura 93001 Canine Adoption and Rescue League will host a fun filled day starting off with our charity dog walk ("Pooch Parade") followed by pet contests, demonstrations, silent auction, raffle, adoptions through local rescue groups, and pet related vendors. Admission is free. San Buenaventura State Beach charges \$10 for parking. For more info visit www.poochparade.org, email: info@poochparade.org or call 805-644-7387

Jul 17 - Clear The Shelters Pre-events

Citadel Outlets, 100 Citadel Drive, Los Angeles 90040
NBC4 will organize pre-events the weekend prior to Clear the Shelters to preview the animals that will be available for adoption. Visit the shopping mall to learn more about Clear the Shelters, meet NBC4 reporters and visit with several animals from local shelters. For hours visit:

NBCLA.com/CleartheShelters.

Jul 23 - Clear The Shelters

NBC4 and Telemundo 52 are bringing back Clear the Shelters for a second year. The life-saving event was created to help address the overcrowding of animals at animal shelters in the Southland and raise awareness about the benefits of adopting from a local shelter. In 2015, the largest single day pet adoption drive in Southern California resulted in more than 2,500 animals adopted in Los Angeles, Ventura, Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino counties, and 20,000 adoptions throughout the country. Join us and the more than 50 animal shelters & rescue organizations participating. Adoptions fees are reduced to \$20 for one day only. For more details stay tuned to NBC4 as well as NBCLA.com/CleartheShelters. For adoption organizations interested in participating, please email NBC4Community@nbcuni.com.

Jul 30 - An Evening of Remembrance By Candlelight ~ 3 - 4:30PM Los Angeles Pet Memorial Park, 5068 N.Old Scandia Ln, Calabasas Share stories, pictures and fond memories of your beloved pet(s). Meet other "pet parents" and support one another. Being amongst others in the same situation helps ease the pain. Your surviving pet(s) are ALWAYS welcome to attend. Bring a pot-luck dish, if you'd like. Please remember to bring a beach chair to sit on. For more info email

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seeking the details that will resonate with those back home.

Robert was born on June 15, making him a Gemini; they are described as "truly free souls, driven by curiosity and a desire to know." If you go to his Facebook page, you will see a picture of a sweet faced, tow-headed youngster with a glint in his eye, who totally fits that Geminian description. It's that combination of optimism and practicality that makes Robert Kovacik one of LA's favorite TV journalists, multiple Emmy winner and, more importantly, a strong voice for the animals of Southern California. Follow Robert on Twitter and Instagram at @RobertNBCLA or on his Facebook page at www.facebook.com/RobertNBCLA.

(Lisa Lyons, an animal-lover, is mom to Tori the terrier and Itty Bitty Kitty. She is also an accomplished blogger and publicist and volunteers at Best Friends LA, Heaven on Earth, and supports the Gentle Barn animal sanctuary in Santa Clarita.)