Josh and Friends Project Update

Several veterinary students recently volunteered at a Red Dirt Agility Club Trial to raise awareness about the Josh and Friends Project. In exchange for working this two-day agility competition, Red Dirt donates money to Josh and Friends. Those funds are used to purchase Josh and Friends kits, which the students deliver to area children’s hospitals to help children overcome their fears when they are facing surgery or dealing with a terminal illness.

Pictured above are (front row, left to right) Jessie Davis ('19), Crystal Matt ('19), Britt Propst ('17), and Kaitlyn Gregg ('17); (back row, left to right) Jillian Spencer ('19), Zach Croslin ('19), Matthew Baker ('17), Carly Schueler ('19) and Rachel Shoemaker ('19). Also participating but not pictured were: Mackenzie Jochim ('17), Ashley Adair ('19), Kendra Huseman ('19), Mariah Goodall ('18), Meredith Mulhusen ('19) Christine Toffoli ('17), Samantha Hancock ('19) and Katie Holley ('19).

Earth, Wind and Fire Training

Members of the CVHS recently participated in a state-wide disaster preparedness exercise named Earth, Wind and Fire. Dr. Daniel Burba and Jill Murray, also members of the Payne County Animal Response Team (PCART), were involved in the exercise which is designed to evaluate the readiness of first responders in the face of a natural disaster in Oklahoma.

Pete’s Pet Posse at Work

Established in 2013, Pete’s Pet Posse (P3) is OSU’s therapy dog program. Participating dogs and their handlers complete a training program and operate under the veterinary care of OSU’s Veterinary Medical Hospital. The dogs are often seen on campus. Several CVHS dog owners participate in the program.

During the aftermath of the Homecoming Parade disaster, Pete’s Pet Posse comforted many students, staff and faculty members. Pictured above are Alissa Cable ('16) far right and her dog, Zipper—just one example of the comfort that P3 gave during the Homecoming Parade vigil held on campus.

House Officer Seminar
Burba, director of PCART, was stationed in the incident command center located in the Stillwater Police Station. He worked alongside several groups including local police, fire and the American Red Cross. The exercise was a large flood situation in the area. Various departments were called upon to respond to a myriad of situations called injects and then evaluated afterwards on their response. This included the Animal Response Team.

"It got pretty hectic at times," said Burba. "We had multiple calls coming in--llamas loose on Highway 51, stranded cattle due to high water, evacuation of an animal shelter because of flooding, abandoned animals being dropped off at the Veterinary Medical Hospital and the need to evacuate the CVHS Ranch due to Lake McMurtry's banks failing. It gave me a lot to think about in regards to preparation should such a natural disaster occur. We definitely are going to need more resources--personnel, equipment and supplies--should something like this occur."

Rebecca Tims, DVM, will present "Dysautonomia" on Thursday, Dec. 3, at 8 a.m. in Room 104 at the Veterinary Medical Hospital. Tims is a small animal internal medicine resident mentored by Dr. Shane Lyon.

**Veterinary Biomedical Sciences Seminar**

Erika Lutter, PhD, will present "Chlamydia trachomatis interaction with myosin and host kinases" on Thursday, Dec. 3, at 4 p.m. in Room 259 McElroy Hall. Lutter is an assistant professor of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics at Oklahoma State University.