

Celebrate Davis!

SHOP. PLAY. WORK. LIVE.

Davis Community Park
Thursday, May 26 4:30 to 9 p.m.

- Admission is free
- Fireworks start at 9 p.m.
- The best Davis businesses and services will be on display
- Visit your favorite restaurant booths and dine in the park
- Enter to win a \$1,000 shopping spree
- Vote in the Battle of the Bands competition
- Visit www.celebratedavis.com or call the Davis Chamber at 756-5160 for information



Pets and Fireworks Don't Always Mix

Animals have a keen sense of hearing, and the unexpected explosion of fireworks, whether a simple backyard celebration or a huge, professional production can cause panic in dogs, cats, horses and even birds.

"Pets and fireworks can be a tragic mix," said Peter Weinstein, president of the California Veterinary Medical Association.

Because some pets, especially dogs, can become more sensitive to sounds like thunder or fireworks as they age, even an animal that hasn't reacted in previous years could become unexpectedly fearful, Weinstein said.

Because some dogs will panic from the loud fireworks and bolt through windows or other enclosures and run away, it is critical that pet owners make sure their animals have secure visual identification on them, she said.

Some of the common signs that your pet is spooked by fireworks include shaking and trembling, barking and howling, excessive drooling, attempting to hide, refusing food and trying to leap a fence or escape from a house or other enclosure.

Frightened horses have been known to run through or jump fences, resulting in serious injuries.

To ensure that your pet stays safe this Fourth of July, here are some safety tips recommended by the CVMA:

- Keep small pets indoors at home in a safe, sheltered area. Turn on the radio or TV for

distraction.

■ Never leave pets alone outdoors, even if tethered or in a fenced yard. Dogs, especially, may escape and become lost or injure themselves by chewing or choking on their leashes.

■ Do not take your pet to a fireworks show or leave it in your car unattended. If you must be outside with your pet, be sure to keep it on a leash or in a carrier.

■ Protect animals from children who may not realize that waving sparklers or setting off safe firecrackers could upset a family pet

■ Make sure your pets' ID tags are current, so you can be reunited easily in the event that it runs away.

■ If your dog or cat is extremely fearful or easily stressed, talk to your veterinarian about a mild sedative or tranquilizer to calm its fears.

■ Horses may need to be sedated. Make sure all sharp objects are removed from their enclosures. If you have stalls, keep them in their stalls rather than outside.

For more information, contact Melissa Stallings at (916) 649-0599.

—Compiled from *The Davis Enterprise*



Davis Focus is a publication of the Davis City Manager's Office, and is distributed to all city residents. Our goal is to inform our community about policies and services. For more information or comments, e-mail us at focus@cityofdavis.org. www.cityofdavis.org

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NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2005

A CLOSER LOOK AT OUR COMMUNITY



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