

May
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Crest Hill
ANIMAL HOSPITAL

MAY NEWSLETTER

For the month of May, our mission at CHAH is to honor the thousands of military dogs that have given and sacrificed their lives to protect and serve our nation. The “War Dog” has been a vital resource to our military efforts and conflicts since WWI. At this time they were classified as “Ambulance Dogs” and trained to find wounded soldiers. By WWII, they were trained as scouts, trackers, sentry, and messengers. In this war, according to military records, war dogs saved over 15,000 lives. In the Vietnam War explosive detection and booby traps were added to their list of services. Records show that over 10,000 lives were saved. War dogs continue to be on duty in Afghanistan with nearly 2,800 dogs deployed currently.

To honor these K9 heroes, the Michigan War Dog Memorial was erected in Lyons, Michigan. This black granite wall lists all the names of the dogs, as well as their tattoos to recognize them for their service and sacrifice during the Vietnam War.

CAMP KAISER



Important Links:

www.petpoisonhelpline.com

www.mwdm.org

www.poopbrigade.com

www.4medt.com

HONORING OUR FALLEN K9 HEROES



MWDM is a non profit organization that educates the public about these K9 heroes through presentations and seminars. They are always accepting donations through Paypal. More information can be found on their website. www.mwdm.org

On Dec. 3rd, 1965, Marine Lance Corporal Salazar first met his dog named, “Kaiser.” It was the start of a close friendship and intense training. This 85 pound German Shepherd would go on to serve in Vietnam with his handler, Salazar, and participate in dozens of major operations. In a mission to search and destroy the two were on patrol through heavy brush toward a small village. Just as they broke through, they were hit with heavy fire and hand grenades. Kaiser was hit immediately. After returning fire, Salazar knelt down by his wounded companion and he licked his hand and passed away. Salazar managed to carry him back to his company where they were able to give him a proper burial. They paid him tribute by naming their camp, Camp Kaiser.



IN MEMORY OF SGT. STUBBY

Many people are unaware of one of the first K9 war heroes aptly named, “Sergeant Stubby.” Stubby was a Boston Terrier that served in WWI. He was the official mascot of the 102nd U.S. Infantry Regiment. Stubby served for 18 months and participated in 17 battles. Duties included finding and comforting the wounded, alerting to surprise mustard gas attacks, and even caught a German soldier at one point by holding him by his pants until American soldiers found him. During his first 8 months, Stubby entered combat in the trenches in France. They were under fire constantly night and day for over a month. A few months later he was wounded in the foreleg by Germans throwing hand grenades, but quickly returned to battle. Another time Sgt. Stubby was injured by mustard gas. Once recovered, he returned with a specially designed gas mask to protect him. At this time, Stubby became very adept at alerting his unit to incoming artillery shells. He



could hear the whining before humans. At the end of the war, Robert Conroy smuggled Stubby home. He became a celebrity and marched in parades across the country. Stubby has been called the most decorated war dog of WWI and was unofficially nominated for Sergeant. He met presidents Wilson, Coolidge, and Harding. In 1921, he attended Georgetown University Law Center with Conroy, and became their team mascot. He would be given a football at halftime and nudge the ball around to amuse fans. Sgt. Stubby lived to be 10 years old. He is on exhibit at the Smithsonian Institution along with his story and also the subject of a 2018 animated film.



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In Memory of Snooki

On behalf of CHAH, we all wanted to extend our condolences to long time Veterinary technician, Alissa, and her family on the loss of their dog, Snooki. The Johnson's adopted Snooki from Joliet Township Animal Control 10 years ago and was their 1st family dog. She loved playing with other dog friends. Snooki loved being with her family more than anything. She took many trips and hikes off leash and wouldn't stray far, just looking back and waiting on them. Snooki loved sleeping in bed at night with “her kids,” Nate and Bella. We loved Snooki's visits here with mom at work and she was simply the best girl. The memories made with Snooki and her family will forever be in their hearts and she is irreplaceable. RIP, Snooki. We will miss you!

