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editor's letter



Hello Spring time, warmer weather and fabulous dog events! This is my favorite time of year especially being able to take our furry kids on morning and evening walks where we're enjoying the sunrise and sunsets! This is also the time when pet events are in full gear so don't miss out on the Celebrity Dog Walk in Boulder City, the Wag-A-Tail Walk a Thon and of course Pet-a-Palooza plus many more!

Speaking of Pet-a-Palooza, we had a blast with the crew from MIX 94.1 and all of their pooches for a fun photo shoot. Be sure to check them out on page 11. They all work so hard on this awesome event and have been a joy to get to know over the last few years! We're thrilled to share photos of them with their favorite canines.

Spring is also a time when everything is in bloom and the world celebrates Earth Day on April 22 which is why we have dedicated this as our "green" issue. Inside you'll find eco-friendly dog products as well as excerpts from a new book called ECO Dog that provides tips on living healthy with your pet while helping to save the Planet. Making small changes in the way we live with our furry friends not only benefits the environment but also the health and well being of our favorite family members.

Since we're on the topic of well being, we have a new columnist for our magazine. Cash, the pampered pooch of VH1'S Schatar "Hottie" Taylor (former cast member of Flavor of Love and Charm School) has launched his own "Wellness" column for all to enjoy. Penned by his famous "mom", Cash provides tips on living life in the lap of luxury for the overall well being for both humans and canines.

Last but certainly not least, be sure to check out our Pampered Pooches in this issue. They are the furry children of famous comedian Margaret Cho. Don't miss her show coming at the Pearl at the Palms on March 29th!

We hope you enjoy our 14th edition of Lucky Dog Magazine and be sure to stop by all of the upcoming pet events to say hello!

Woofs & Wags!

michelle danks

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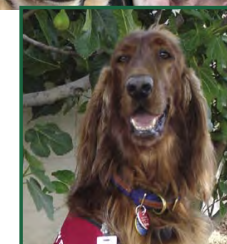
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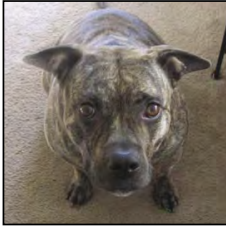
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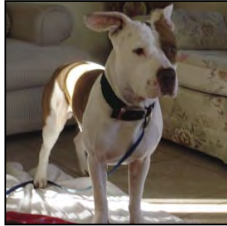


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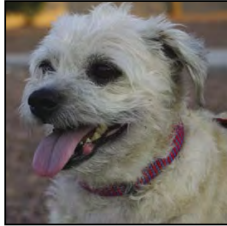
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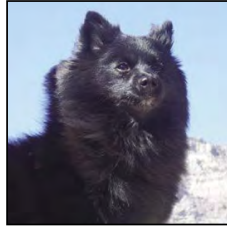
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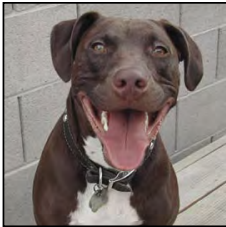
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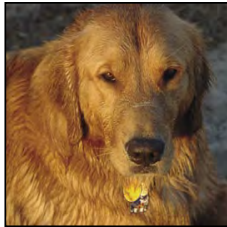
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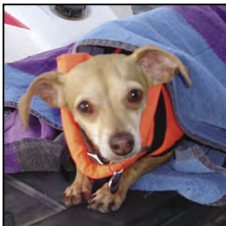
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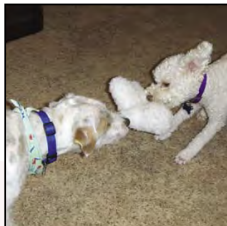
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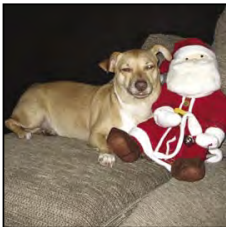
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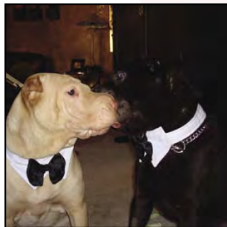
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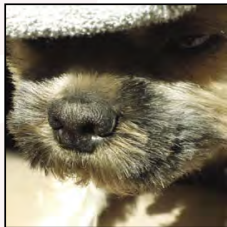
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Shamus One Lucky Dog



“Shamus is one special dog and in all honesty we feel we are the lucky ones!”

Shamus: An Irish Angel

Submitted by Mariah Ochoa

Cover Photo by Cindy Renee | C. Renee Photography
Additional photos provided by Mariah Ochoa

I would like to introduce my boy Shamus. Shamus is an eight-year old Irish Setter that we adopted from the Lied Animal Shelter about four years ago. He was an owner turn in, and as far as we knew their complaint and reason for giving him up was that he barked too much. Well, if you were an Irish Setter cooped up in a small back yard you would bark too.

When we first saw Shamus he was at a local Veterinary hospital recovering from surgery. He was brought into a room for us and was a walking skeleton. You could do an anatomy lesson on him and point out every bone. He looked so sad and scared. We fell in love with him on the spot and loaded him into our car.

Since then Shamus has gained about 30 lbs, he runs all day in our 1/2 acre yard with our miniature horses and other four dogs. But best of all Shamus became a certified therapy dog and visits Mountain View Hospital and cheers up many patients and staff. He truly is an angel, looking constantly for that hand to pet him. He will scout the room and find someone willing to give him what he wants love, love, love... He loves his job and once he sees his vest he sits by the door waiting to put it on and go, pulling me along as we enter the hospital. His favorite thing and what he looks forward to every visit is putting his front feet on the counter of the nurses station and wait for his treat...can't start without it.

Shamus is one special dog and in all honesty we feel we are the lucky ones!

Shamus shares our home with our four other dogs including Canela, also an Irish setter, K.O. the boxer, Moose and Ronia, both German Shepherds. Shamus is also the official greeter in our home to any dog I bring in for rescue or for my board & train program, as I am a dog trainer here in the valley.



Shamus + Canela wearing their therapy dog vest and hospital badge

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From Rags To Riches

Margaret Cho's Pampered Pooches' Beautiful Life



counter-clockwise: Margaret, Gudrun, and Bronwyn
/inner: Ralph



By Heather Turk

You might not know it from her stand-up routines, but comedienne Margaret Cho is a huge dog lover.

"One day I would love to have a big house, like a farm, and rescue hundreds of dogs," Cho said. "I'd be that crazy dog lady."

Cho may not have saved hundreds of dogs yet, but she has rescued three very lucky dogs: a Pomeranian/Chihuahua mix—or Pomchi—named Gudrun ("Gudrun is a fierce Norse goddess," Cho explained, "and I thought she needed a strong name because when we got her she was so little!"), an Australian Shepherd/Beagle mix named Bronwyn and a German Shepherd mix named Ralph (named after Ralph Fiennes in *The English Patient* because he was so badly beaten when Cho rescued him). Both Gudrun and Ralph were adopted from local California shelters while Bronwyn was found wandering the streets alone.

"Someone found her downtown and I took her in," Cho said. "She was really beat up and had scars all over her body. Her fur's grown back now, though, so you can't really tell. She's such a doll. I've always found that rescue dogs are the best companions, though."

Surprisingly, for a woman who has three dogs and prides herself on being a "good dog mom," the San Francisco native admits she never really had many four-legged friends growing up.

"I had a dog when I was a very young girl, but it died pretty fast of mange," she recalled. "I didn't get another dog until I was 27. I was

looking for a companion and Ralph and I just bonded. He was my only boy for 7 years; he was my first love and my first boyfriend."

While Cho now shares her love with two other pooches (and a husband), Ralph still remains Cho's baby. In fact, there's nothing Cho wouldn't do for any of her "children."

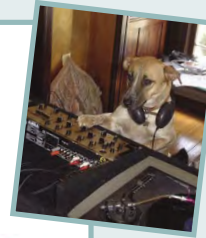
"Ralph has a bad hip, so his movement is pretty limited," Cho said. "We live in this two-story house, but we moved everything we owned to one floor and we just live there so Ralph doesn't have any problems getting up and down the stairs. I don't mind changing my life so that my dogs are happy."

Even though there's nothing Cho wouldn't do for her dogs ("Right now Gudrun's on my stomach farting up a storm," Cho said with a laugh. "I don't mind, though. I kind of like it because it's a sign she's had a good day. We have these latex rubber dog toys we put treats in that she'll play with all day long, so she'll swallow a lot of air. [Her farting] shows she's tired and relaxed."), she never puts anything before their health.

"I don't give them treats for treat-sake, and when I do give them treats, I always put them inside their toys," she said. "Even when we're training, affection is generally their reward. I'm very strict about their diet because I want them to live long, healthy lives; I'm probably even more careful about their diets than my own. I only give them high-end dog food, and even then it's just a certain amount. Because of Ralph's hip he can't really exercise, so I have to be extra careful about his weight and make sure I don't overfeed him."



photo by: Ken Phillips Publicity Group



While Ralph may not be able to enjoy leisurely walks outdoors, both Bronwyn and Gudrun love taking walks with their owner.

"As soon as I wake up, we go on a walk," Cho said, who admits most of her day is filled up with "dog care." "And if I don't wake up early enough, they'll just sit on my chest until I can't breathe to wake me up. It's so funny; they look like ravens on a telephone line lookin' at me, waiting for me to get up and take them on a walk."

Just because Ralph can't join Bronwyn and Gudrun on their morning hikes doesn't mean Cho forgets about him. Every night, Cho gives the 11-year-old pup a full-body massage, "from the tip of his nose to his tail," to get his joints moving. And while Ralph may be too old to sleep with Bronwyn and Gudrun in Cho's bed ("It's too high for him," Cho said. "Plus, at a certain point there's just too many dogs in the bed."), Cho made him his own faux-mink bed right next to her's so that he is never far from her side.

As inseparable as the four are, one might wonder what Cho does with her pups when she's on the road. And while certain celebrity pooches may enjoy the facilities of a local doggy hotel or day spa when their owners are away, those simply aren't good

enough when it comes to Cho's pampered pooches.

"I'm lucky because my husband's an artist, so he works out of the house," Cho said. "So they're never really alone; there's always someone with them. And if we're both going somewhere, we don't like to fly with them because the whole kennel under the plane thing is scary, so we have different friends who will come over and stay with them. I did try the cage-free kennel once when I was in India for a couple weeks, but I heard that all Bronwyn did was stare out the window and cry. It was so sad."

With Cho headed to The Pearl at the Palms March 29 in support of her new stand-up tour *Beautiful, Lucky Dog* asked what she found beautiful about her three dogs.

"They're the most beautiful creatures I've ever seen," she said. "They have beautiful eyes, they're fluffy...they're just magical."

And while, unlike Cho's mother, Ralph, Bronwyn and Gudrun have yet to find their way into one of the comedienne's routines ("I haven't used them yet because they're my private joys," Cho explained, that doesn't mean they don't keep her laughing whenever she's offstage.

"We have certain areas of the house with carpet, and whenever any one of them sees a rug, they'll instantly get on their backs and expect tummy rubs," Cho said with a laugh. "And Ralph, he can be aggressive when he wants to get petted. Whenever he rubs his snout on my hand, I know that means, 'I want to get petted now.'"

With all the love and affection Cho gives her pets ("I'm completely devoted to them," she said), it's only natural to question what comes first in her life: her dogs or her husband. "I have a hard time with that," Cho concluded with a laugh. "I think they're about equal, though."

Margaret Cho performs inside The Pearl at the Palms March 29 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$38, \$48 & \$58. Call 702-474-4000.

photos by: Ken Phillips Publicity Group



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- * Remove or clean shoes upon entering the house.
- * Keep a basket of towels by all entrances to wipe your dog's feet as she enters the house, especially if she has been running through muddy or wet areas.
- * Vacuum often, preferably with a vacuum cleaner that is fitted with a HEPA filter system. (HEPA stands for High Efficiency Particulate Arrestance; this type of dry media filter captures 99.97 percent of particles 0.3 microns and larger.)
- * Brush and bathe your dog regularly.
- * Keep your dog's food and water dishes clean at all times.
- * Refresh your dog's water several times a day. Use filtered or bottled water.
- * Eliminate carpeting where possible. Carpets hold dirt, flea larvae and fleas, and mold. Synthetic carpets can off-gas (release chemical fumes), creating a toxic environment for you and your pet.
- * Reduce your dependence on potentially toxic cleaners by switching to homemade cleansers when possible.
- * Keep your house well ventilated to reduce indoor air pollution. Air filters are useful throughout the house.



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Life Lesson #4 from Leroy + Lucy:

Attachment

Exciting times over here at Lucy and Leroy's place. A few weeks ago a friend of mine called me frantically asking for my help. On an impulse buy, a young couple purchased a pure bred Jack Russell from a pet store. As we know, puppies are not like shoes or a handbag, they are living, breathing, time consuming, balls of energy and love that need a commitment from their potential humans. But, this couple got caught up, and as you can see by the photo - who could blame them? Well, it turned out that the well meaning couple could not keep the new pup so they tried to adopt it out. They found someone within a week. The new owner seemed thrilled at first with the arrival of the rambunctious pup named Bella. Until day two, when the new owner came to the conclusion that rambunctious is not what she wanted at all.



above: Bella, the new family member.

At three months old Bella had been puppy-milled, pet-stored, bought and sold, given away and given back. That's too much frantic back and forth action even for a Jack Russell! So, what to do? I already have two dogs and I love the balance of the energy between them. I didn't want to upset that balance but...but...the pup needed me. At least for awhile. We decided to take Bella into our home and nurture her until Michael's daughter, Amanda, would take her into her new dog-friendly home in July. In the meantime, I hear from friends that I should not get attached. Being Buddhist, I know all about attachment and the problems attached to attachment. Still, I think to myself, why not? Why not love the puppy with all my heart and watch her grow until it's time for her to move on? Isn't that what people do with their human children? That's the idea, isn't it? We don't love only under the condition that we will have something forever and ever.

Heck, I don't even think it's a good idea to love with any conditions at all. Sometimes we do things because it's the right thing to do. Sometimes we do things because it feels good. In this case, it's a little bit of both. So, yeah, I'll probably get attached to Bella, I might already be. But, that's okay. Because being in the moment with her is worth the price of having to eventually let her go. As for Leroy and Lucy adjusting to the new arrival. Not so much. Well, not at first anyway. Leroy seemed annoyed that a being with equal energy in a more compact body, entered his home. Lucy has absolutely no interest in sharing her toys. After about a week of Leroy's constant growling and Lucy hoarding her toys...I caught a peek of silent play. This is one of my favorite visions on the planet. Dogs, silently rolling around, playing and running to and fro. In fact, they are doing it now as I type this. Bella takes a break every once in awhile to chew on the side of my chair or to steal a sock out of the laundry basket. I have to admit, for a kid who grew up wanting a dog more than anything (mom was allergic) being surrounded by three, happy terriers living it up...for as long as it lasts...well, it feels a little bit like heaven to me.



clockwise: Leroy, Annie + Lucy

Enjoy the now and love unconditionally. 🐾

Love and Peace,
Annie Wood

Annie Wood is an actress/writer and founder of DoGoodStuff.org. She appears in the Dane Cook/Jessica Alba film "Good Luck Chuck." Annie lives in Los Angeles with her canine teachers, Leroy, Lucy and Bella.
www.anniewood.com www.myspace.com/actingannie

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Cash is King

by Schatar Sapphira Taylor

also known as The Hottie Moneybank\$
Editorial Consultant: Money Banks Media
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I love going to the dog park and meeting new friends. Some of the parent owners know that I am celebrity dog and already know that I am seen on TV and the internet by millions around the world. What they don't know is I am pampered and frequently fed with a fork or spoon.

I'm sure many of the others who are the only "child" probably get the same pampering. What about the pampering of the parent pet owners. Who pampers you?

I and the other pooches are unaware of the frustration, anger, traffic, stresses at work, family issues, mundane errands and professional responsibilities our parent owners face. All of these things can lead to a feeling of being overwhelmed.

As a celebrity, one of the number one things I hear is take time for yourself. Some parents are so busy, they rarely take time to do anything for themselves.

Even those with the super person syndrome need some extra love. They feel as if they have to do everything for everyone and nothing to enrich their own lives.

What can you do as a pet parent owner? May I suggest speed pampering.

After leaving the dog park or work, a quick trip to local spa for a pedicure or manicure. Men too. You can soak your feet in swirling bubbling water while the chair back moves up and down in a vibrating symphony.

Go to Crowning Beauty on Decatur and pick out new hair extensions which can be styled during your next speed pampering session. A quick body massage on the Migun table at Healing Waters gives several senses a new awakening. Complete your pampering while savoring your favorite mint, meal or desert.

Laugh, Laugh, Laugh. I was listening to one report that said laughter can add 8 years to one's life Find a funny movie, your favorite show or talk with those who keep you giggling!

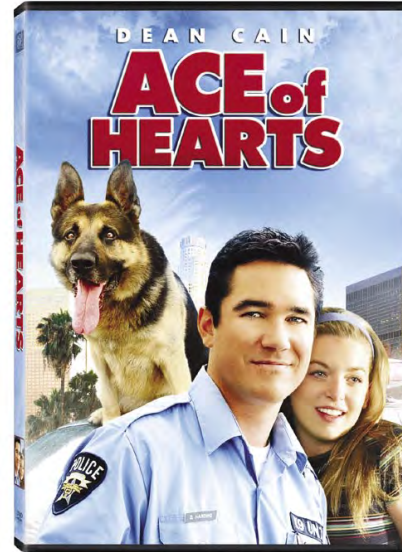
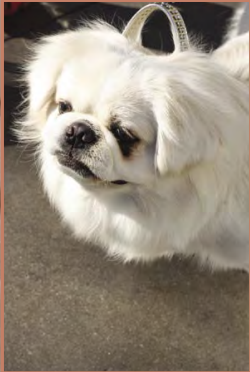
Look in the mirror and make silly faces. Enjoy your family and friends. I am told that tears of laughter are chemically different from tears of pain. So, let your body experience the joy of laughter.

Some people are so busy, they could not imagine finding one whole hour in a day, that has a full 24 hours by the way, to do one special thing for themselves. If an entire hour seems too vast, a quick 15 minutes or even a treasured 60 seconds a day might be attainable to do something you enjoy.

Some may take a deep breath and appreciate the fresh outdoor air. Others may light a scented candle and enjoy its inviting fragrance and sweet glow. Some may relax by enjoying a sip of warm tea. Some may even go to Mount Charleston or Lake Mead for a sparkling change of environment.

Treasure every minute and have fun! Laugh, take a walk or picnic at the local park. Relax. Pamper yourselves. Be soothed and refreshed. Life is meant to be enjoyed. My friends, we all have the right to live like a king!

 love, Cash



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Century City, CA - Discover the remarkable story of a courageous police dog that proves that a dog is a family's best friend in Ace of Hearts, debuting on DVD May 6 from Fox Home Entertainment. Inspired by a Reader's Digest true story, Ace of Hearts stars Dean Cain (Las Vegas, Lois & Clark) as Officer Daniel Harding, a distinguished officer of the K-9 police unit and his trusty four-legged partner Ace, a German Shepard. The journey begins when Ace is wrongly accused of hurting a suspect, leading an overzealous district attorney to convince police authorities he should be punished, stripped of his badge and taken away. Officer Harding and his 13 year-old junior sleuth daughter, played by Britt McKillip (Bratz: Babyz The Movie), team up and embark on a mission to clear Ace's name, save a valuable family member and bring everyone together again. The Ace Of Hearts DVD will be available for the suggested retail price of \$26.98 U.S. / \$37.98 Canada.

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ANIMAL PLANET REVEALS A NEW SPECIES OF ENTERTAINMENT FOR 2008



(Silver Spring, Md.) – When Animal Planet re-launched in the first week of February 2008, viewers found compelling programming that features man's best friend juxtaposed with ferocious lions in their natural habitat. The way the stories are told and the lens through which viewers see these tales will change dramatically. The network has launched eight new series and specials, all designed to reach a more adult audience with gripping entertainment rather than pure observational documentary and host-driven formats. The new Animal Planet will also be expressed through new graphics, a new feel and new sounds that bring out the raw, visceral emotion in the animal kingdom – all leading viewers to see animals as characters not merely creatures.

The new programming on Animal Planet will tap into the instincts that drive us all – fear, hunger, pleasure, nurture – with compelling stories that resonate with what it means to be human. New content coming to the network includes new docu-soaps (ESCAPE TO CHIMP EDEN, LEMUR KINGDOM); pet entertainment (PETFINDER, GROOMER HAS IT, CLINICALLY WILD); and unscripted dramas (WHALE WARS, AFTER THE ATTACK, A YEAR WITH LIONS), as well as the return of PUPPY BOWL, the AKC/EUKANUBA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP and MUTUAL OF OMAHA'S WILD KINGDOM.

"In an increasingly technological, rational, pressured, thoughtful and well-socialized environment, there is an enormous desire for

unmediated, intensely felt, visceral, in-the-moment experiences" notes Marjorie Kaplan, president and general manager of Animal Planet Media. "And animals, in real life and in great, archetypical stories, are a short cut to those instinctual feelings. In a world of intellectual or clever television or lightweight entertainment, Animal Planet is television that gets you where you live - literally - in your gut."

"Consumers will be surprised at the unexpected new face of entertainment we're bringing to them on-air and online," added Victoria Lowell, senior vice president of marketing for Animal Planet Media. "The new campaign will change consumers' perceptions of our brand. There is so much goodwill to the brand, and now we've got to translate that goodwill to increased viewership."

Noted photographer Jill Greenberg – who shot a series of primates for an exhibition and recent book entitled *Monkey Portraits* – photographed animals for the brand campaign exclusively for Animal Planet. Greenberg has a signature style portraying animals' unique personalities and showcasing their uncanny emotions, and Lowell notes "Jill's imagery captures the new Animal Planet point of view of the animal kingdom."

Mono, based in Minneapolis, is the creative agency executing the brand campaign. Dunning, Eley and Jones, based in London, is the design agency behind the new logo and on-air look.



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ASPCA Releases Updates to Estimated Costs of Pet Ownership

NEWYORK, March 2008—When the urge to adopt strikes, few potential pet parents consider the costs of pet ownership, which can often be far greater (and run longer) than they anticipated. The ASPCA® (The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals®) today released its updated guide to pet costs to help new pet parents plan and budget for their futures. They are available at <http://www.aspc.org/petcarecosts>.

"The joys of owning a cat or dog are infinite," says ASPCA President & CEO Ed Sayres. "In order to provide a loving and safe home for our pets, however, we must ensure that our budgets can accommodate their needs."

A large dog, for example, will likely require an average yearly food allowance of \$225, while a bird's diet is sparse in comparison, requiring an outlay of only \$75 per year. Rabbits and guinea pigs love fresh bedding, which totals a whopping \$415 per year, versus a fastidious feline, whose litter costs a modest yearly average of \$165.

Recurring medical expenses such as yearly exams and vaccinations range in price from \$210 to \$265 for dogs and \$160 for cats. Pet insurance coverage (including ASPCA Pet Health Insurance) varies, but some policies will cover spay/neuter surgeries, vaccinations, and heartworm medication. Rates for dogs clock in at an average of \$225, while healthy cat owners can find insurance coverage for approximately \$175 per year.

In return for the gift of companionship, pet parents may choose to spoil their new kin with toys and treats. Humble creatures like fish have little need for extra stimulation, but a pet guinea pig could consume \$30 annually in toys and treats. Cat and dog parents can expect to spend \$25 to \$75 per year on their furry friends' goodies.

The ASPCA suggests examining your budget, much as you would consider your lifestyle and needs, when adopting a pet. If you live modestly, consider adopting a pet that won't strain your wallet. Another alternative is fostering a pet or volunteering at your local animal shelter to get your furry fix.

For more information on adopting the right pet for you and your budget, please visit <http://www.aspc.org/petcarecosts>.

Founded in 1866, the ASPCA® (The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals®) was the first humane organization established in the Americas, and today has more than one million supporters throughout North America. A 501 [c] [3] not-for-profit corporation, the ASPCA's mission is to provide effective means for the prevention of cruelty to animals throughout the United States. The ASPCA provides local and national leadership in animal-assisted therapy, animal behavior, animal poison control, anti-cruelty, humane education, legislative services, and shelter outreach. The New York City headquarters houses a full-service, accredited animal hospital, adoption center, and mobile clinic outreach program. The Humane Law Enforcement department enforces New York's animal cruelty laws and is featured on the reality television series "Animal Precinct" on Animal Planet. For more information, please visit www.aspc.org.

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Planning can save your animal's life and give you peace of mind, reducing the anxiety that many pet owners experience when they envision their beloved pets living without them.

Setting up a Trust is essential to ensure your assets are distributed according to your wishes and your pets are cared for when you are unable to.

Since no one knows what tomorrow will bring, and we all feel like no one can take as good of care of our pets as we can, don't wait another minute to put a proper plan in place.



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march

Celebrity Dog Walk

Saturday, March 29 | 10am to 2pm
Boulder City Veteran's Park

Leash up your pooch and head to Boulder City's Veteran's for the Celebrity Dog Walk, a special event to honor our "best friends." The Celebrity Dog Walk is an annual event presented by See Spot Run, a non-profit organization working to establish the Boulder City Dog Center, a 19-acre regional facility for off-leash recreation, dog shows, events and classes. For a \$10 donation, each walker and dog will receive a bandana for the dog to wear and a goodie bag filled with treats, toys, samples and coupons. For more information call 702.293.6285.

35 Dog Years Anniversary at Doggie Oasis Day Care

Monday, March 31
Doggie Oasis Day Care | 2924 Lake East Drive at The Lakes

Visit Doggie Oasis Day Care and check out why they have been the Las Vegas leader in doggie day care for the last five years. Tour the facility, grab a lei and watch as your dog makes new best friends. Additional information can be found at www.DoggieOasis.com.

april

Biggest Weenie Doxie Weight Loss Program

The Hot-Diggity Dachshund Club along with K9 Barracks & Bath and Doggie Oasis Day Care have teamed up for a Heart Healthy Month for Doxies. Pre-register by April 5th. A small registration fee per dog will be collected with proceeds going to the club and rescue. Visit www.LVHDdachshunclub.com for details.

12th Annual Wag-A-Tail Walk-A-Thon to benefit

the Las Vegas Valley Humane Society
Sunday, April 6 | 8am Registration | 9am Walk Begins

Hills Park in Summerlin | 702.247.9694 or visit www.lvhumane.org

9th Annual Pet-a-Palooza

Saturday, April 12 | 10am -5pm
Star Nursery Fields at Sam Boyd Stadium

www.mix941.fm for more information

Yappy Hour Brunch at Three Dog Bakery

Sunday, April 13 | 11am - 1pm
2110 N. Rampart Blvd | LV, NV 89128 | (702) 737-3DOG

Free event with tasty treats for people and pups!

Spring Fling

Saturday, April 19 |
Dog Fanciers Park

Join the Las Vegas Hot-Diggity Dachshund Club for their Annual Spring Fling. Food, raffle and much more. They will also be holding a blanket + towel drive to benefit Adopt-A-Rescue Pet. Visit www.LVHDdachshundclub.com for more info

"Cocker"tail Party at Three Dog Bakery

Thursday, April 24 | 5pm - 7pm
2110 N. Rampart Blvd | LV, NV 89128 | (702) 737-3DOG

Drinks & "yap"petizers for people & pups!

May

Vegas Rock Dog Lounge™

A Rock N' Roll Night Out With Your Dog | Details TBA

A benefit for Best Friends Society & The Las Vegas Weimeraner Club & Rescue. www.vegasrockdog.com

Calendar of Events



Nevada Week for the Animals: April 5-13, 2008

Event

Nevada Week for the Animals

Dates

Saturday, April 5 - Sunday, April 13, 2008

Event Purpose

- To celebrate the animals who enhance the lives of Nevada citizens.
- To acknowledge the invaluable role that animal shelters, humane organizations and rescue groups play in Nevada's communities.
- To build awareness on behalf of all animals in the Silver State.

Event Adoption Goal

To find forever homes for 500 homeless Nevada pets during the course of the week-long celebration.

Activities

- Super Adoption on April 12 in Reno: Pets in search of forever homes and entertainment galore at the Reno-Sparks Livestock Events Center.
- Pet-a-Palooza on April 12 in Las Vegas: Nevada's largest pet festival at Star Nursery Fields at Sam Boyd Stadium, produced by MIX 94.1 FM radio.

• Other events to be announced:

- o Pet adoptions at shelters and outreach locations
- o Animal hero awards for both people and pets
- o Pet therapy visits
- o School and library activities
- o Animal welfare forums
- o Blessing of the animals
- o Celebrities and VIPs as Animal Ambassadors

Event Sponsor and Organizer

Best Friends Animal Society (<http://www.bestfriends.org>)

Get Involved

Support Nevada Week for the Animals by organizing an event, volunteering at an NWA activity or helping with statewide coordination. To find out more, contact NWA Coordinator Julie Snyder: julie-snyder@earthlink.net; 775-265-9455, or visit www.network.bestfriends.org/nvweek.

For More Information

Contact NWA Coordinator Julie Snyder: julie-snyder@earthlink.net or 775-265-9455.

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Pets911.com Showcases Pet-Friendly Rentals by Zip Code



(Scottsdale, AZ) One lesser known victim of recent home foreclosures is the family pet. Shelters have seen an increase in pet surrenders due to families moving into

apartments that prohibit animals. Worse yet, some pet owners are just leaving their pets behind with the house or turning them loose in rural areas. Even in a trying time, it is possible to keep the entire family together. Pet-owners finding themselves moving out of their homes and into apartments can use Pets911.com to find apartments in their neighborhood that accept pets.

Pets 911 is the national pet lost and found database and one of the top pet adoption portals. Its Pet Friendly Living section, in partnership with Apartments.com, provides a database of thousands of pet-friendly rental communities from all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

An Apartments.com survey to current renters indicated that more than 84 percent own a pet and more than 34 percent stated that it was very difficult to find an apartment that allowed their pet. Because of this, one of the top reasons pets are surrendered to shelters is due to owner relocation.

"Financial situations may make it logical for people to rent instead of own, but pets shouldn't suffer," said Pets 911 Program Manager Tracyann Mains. "Pets 911 wants to make it as easy as possible for movers to bring along pets to their next apartment."

About Pets 911

The mission of Pets911.com is to provide a public service that will one day create an America where all pets are valued companions that have lifelong, loving homes. Since 1998, Pets 911 has brought together the nation's premiere animal welfare organizations, local government animal control agencies, and animal service providers to create the most comprehensive resource for pet health and well-being on the web.

At any given time, Pets 911 includes listings for more than 30,000 adoptable pets at nearly 8,000 animal shelters, contact information for more than 6,000 veterinarians, and postings of more than 8,000 lost or found pets. For more information, go to Pets911.com.

About Apartments.com

Apartments.com is the most visited national apartment Internet listing subscription service with more than 50,000 unique addresses representing more than three million rental units from managed properties, newspaper classifieds and for-rent-by-owner properties. With personalized searches, highly visual ads featuring 360-degree virtual tours, professional photography, and comprehensive community listings, Apartments.com makes it possible for renters to access apartment rental inventory from across town or across the country. Leads from highly qualified ready-to-rent prospects are delivered to Apartments.com customers, increasing closure rates and decreasing the average cost of leasing an apartment. The site's foundation of solid partnerships with the local newspaper and television station Web sites of more than 10,000 newspaper affiliate and strategic partners across the country include Yahoo! Real Estate, AOL Real Estate, the Chicago Tribune, The Washington Post and the Los Angeles Times. Apartments.com is a division of Chicago-based Classified Ventures, LLC.





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Al-APet's Emergency Pet Alert Bracelet and Response System Provides Revolutionary Turnkey Pre-Planning for Pets' Care



Los Angeles – Launched at the 50th Annual Global Pet Expo was a new jewelry line for humans designed to keep animals and their guardians together, similar to the popular medical alert ID bracelets.

died. He was away from home 6 weeks and when we went to clean out his house, we found his cat...barely alive. A cat none of us knew he had. If he had worn an Al-APet **Emergency Pet Alert Bracelet**, his emergency contact would have been alerted to care for the cat. That phone number can make a major difference between life and death for someone's beloved pet."

Al-APet, LLC, a female owned business based in Tarzana, California, created the patent pending products to help save pets' lives in case their owner is injured or separated from them for a variety of reasons. The front of the Al-APet **Emergency Pet Alert Bracelet** states **"In the Event Of An Emergency, I Have Pets At Home"**. On the backside of the surgical grade stainless steel bracelet is engraved **877-SAVPETS** and a **unique I.D. number** tied to the wearer's profile in the membership database.

Owners Wear Bracelets That Save Pets' Lives in Case of Separation Due to Accident, Disaster or Death

Operators are available 24/7 to locate the assigned alternative caregivers to advise of the emergency situation and provide the guardian's designated pet care instructions from their profile. Information can also be sent directly to the pet owner upon request if they wish to forward to family, contacts, veterinarians, legal counsel or any other entities related to their pets' care. Each bracelet comes with an initial one-year membership in the profile registry. Membership allows the wearer to update profile pet care details, personal contact names and numbers, veterinarian and healthcare information, pets' habits, recreation preferences and legal provisions to ensure their beloved pets are protected and cared for properly while they are separated. This emergency contact information will guarantee that animals are not left alone until their guardian can safely return.

Al-APet President, Michelle Hayden, states, "Everyone is concerned and wonders 'who will take care of my animals in case of an emergency?' That's a common thought, but rarely prepared for unfortunately, often leading to an animal's death if not found in time. An acquaintance of mine took ill, was hospitalized and ultimately

Currently three unisex bracelet styles are available with a sterling line in production. Each bracelet clearly states that the wearer has pets at home and it draws attention by its unique design. "Al-APet's company policy is that we stand behind our products," says Ms. Hayden. "Any manufacturer's defect will be fully covered 100%, no questions asked. Bottom line, we love animals and we want these bracelets on your arm to save your pets."

Bracelet retail prices start at \$45 and include the first year membership in the database emergency registry. Annual membership renewals are \$22.95. Al-APet is proud to

promote cruelty free/socially conscious products.

Sales inquiries should be directed to sales@alapet.com.



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Chronic Ear Infections In Pets

By Kimberly S. Coyner, DVM, Diplomate American College of Veterinary Dermatology

Chronic or recurrent ear infections are one of the most common and frustrating diseases that occur in dogs and cats. Symptoms of ear infections include red, swollen, itchy or painful ear canals with increased discharge and odor. Diagnosis by the veterinarian involves obtaining a swab of the ear discharge for microscopic analysis to identify causative bacterial or yeast organisms. In some cases, culture of ear canal discharge is performed to identify specific organisms and which antibiotics are most appropriate. Treatment of an occasional ear infection with topical or oral antibiotics is sometimes all that is necessary, but in cases in which ear infections persist or recur despite medications, it is important to identify and treat the underlying (primary) cause of the infections as well as any predisposing or perpetuating factors.

Primary causes for ear infections: These are diseases which by themselves can cause ear inflammation and infections.

Allergies: Allergies to pollen/dust or food can predispose animals to recurrent or chronic ear infections. Although allergic animals often have other signs such as itchy skin, sometimes chronic or recurrent ear infections are the only symptom. A hypoallergenic diet trial or skin testing/desensitization injections for pollen/dust allergies can help diagnose and treat these underlying diseases. Additionally, in some cases an unusual contact allergy to topical ear medications or cleaners can also create ear inflammation which persists even after infection is treated.

Tumors/polyps: Masses in the ear canal such as tumors or polyps can block the canal, leading to infection and preventing topical medication from penetrating well. If growths are present, surgery may be needed to remove them. A thorough deep otoscopic examination, usually with sedation, and/or video-otoscopy (using a highly magnified camera with biopsy and flushing capabilities) are necessary to identify and biopsy ear canal masses.

Foreign objects in the ear: Dried clumps of wax, grass, or other objects can irritate the canal and act as a focus of infection; as with ear canal masses, otoscopic or video-otoscopy are necessary to identify and remove foreign objects in the ear canal.

Ear parasites: Parasites such as mites or ticks can irritate the ear canal and create infection; otoscopic exam and collecting ear debris for microscopic analysis can identify these parasites.

Hormonal diseases: Hypothyroidism and Cushing's disease (excess steroid produced by the adrenal glands) can cause altered ear secretions and decrease immune response, leading to chronic ear infections. These disorders usually occur in older animals, and can be diagnosed with appropriate bloodwork.

Auto-immune diseases: Although less common than other disorders, diseases such as lupus or pemphigus which cause immune-mediated destruction of skin can also involve the ear canals and ear pinnæ, creating ulcers and crusts which can become secondarily infected.

Predisposing factors for ear infections: These are issues which by themselves usually cannot create ear inflammation/infections, but in the presence of other primary factors can make an ear infection more likely to develop.

Abnormal ear conformation/hair: Some dogs have narrow ear canals or long ear flaps, or have hair growing in the canal. These situations can cause moisture and wax to build up in the ear canals, leading to infection. Prophylactic use of ear cleansers/drying agents is usually needed 1-2 times weekly to prevent infection. An example of a dog with pendulous ears is the Cocker Spaniel, and "cocker ears" is a term often used to describe chronically wet inflamed ear infections in Cocker Spaniels. It is important to note that Cocker ears are also a breed prone to allergies and hormonal disorders, which are very treatable primary causes of ear infections, and "cocker ears" should not be regarded as an inevitable or untreatable condition in this breed.

Excessive moisture: In dogs that swim frequently, or live in high-humidity climates, the increased moisture in the ear canals can cause an environment conducive to infection. Using a mild astringent earwash after swimming can help reduce ear canal moisture and irritation. Many dogs swim frequently and never get ear infections, so if a swimming dog is affected by chronic recurrent ear infections, an underlying primary cause such as allergies should be sought.

Perpetuating factors for ear infections: These are factors which will perpetuate ear canal inflammation/infection even after a primary cause has been addressed.

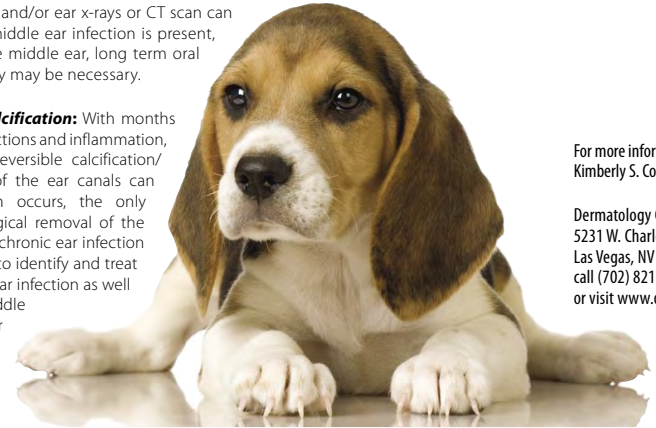
Middle ear infection: This can occur when an ear infection becomes chronic and penetrates through the eardrum into the middle ear. Even if the outer ear infection is treated with topical medications,



above: atopy/hypothyroidism: A dog with allergies and hypothyroidism causing severe bacterial ear infection. Photo provided by Dr. Coyner

bacteria from the middle ear can continue to grow and reinfect the outer ear. Ear cultures, detailed examination of the ears under sedation, video-otoscopy, and/or ear x-rays or CT scan can identify this problem. If middle ear infection is present, aggressive flushing of the middle ear, long term oral antibiotics or even surgery may be necessary.

Ear canal scarring or calcification: With months to years of chronic ear infections and inflammation, eventually scarring or irreversible calcification/hardening of the walls of the ear canals can occur. Once calcification occurs, the only curative treatment is surgical removal of the ear canals. In recurrent or chronic ear infection cases it is thus important to identify and treat the primary cause of the ear infection as well as treat the outer and middle ear infections in order to prevent irreversible damage to the ear canal.



For more information or to contact Kimberly S. Coyner, DVM:


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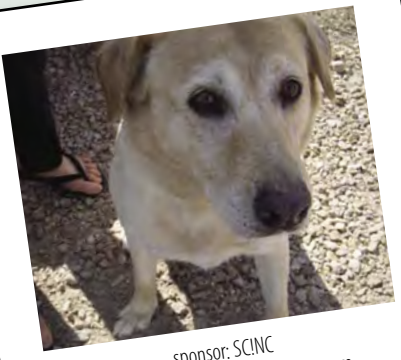
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BeBe

Heaven Can Wait Sanctuary | www.hcws.org

Hi my name is BeBe! I am a loyal friend once I warm up to you and get along great with other dogs. I am 8 yrs old so I stay pretty mellow but I would love for you to make me your new best friend! I am currently enrolled in the Pups on Parole program where I am learning my basic commands. To learn more about me, please call 702-227-5555.

Pepper

Heaven Can Wait Sanctuary | www.hcws.org

Hi my name is Pepper! I am 9 yrs old so I need a quite and stable home. Someone that will be loving and understanding. I am a very good natured and obedient friend. I am currently enrolled in the Pups on Parole program where I am learning my basic commands. To learn more about me, please call 702-227-5555.

Leilani

Heaven Can Wait Sanctuary | www.hcws.org

My owners turned me in because they were no longer able to take care of me. I am 1 year old and love to play and have fun. I like to go on walks and I get along great with other dogs and people. I am currently enrolled in the Pups on Parole program where I am learning my basic commands. To learn more about me, please call 702-227-5555.

Holly

Heaven Can Wait Sanctuary | www.hcws.org

Hello my name is Holly, I am a golden retriever female. I'm 4 or 5-years-old. I have a beautiful auburn/red coat and I'm very laid-back and relaxed. I am also a very loving dog. I'm very low maintenance. I'll stick right by your side, and give you lots and lots of love. I am currently enrolled in the Pups on Parole program where I have learned all my commands. To learn more about me, please call 702-227-5555.

Jasper

Las Vegas Hot-Diggity Dachshund Club | 702-373-3309
www.lvhdachshundclub.com

This beautiful 1-year old Dachshund came into rescue with a freshly broken leg. Jasper has been in no pain since his second surgery to repair his broken leg. Contact This little guy will If you would like to contribute to Jaspers vet bills please make a donation to our Paypal account. We thank you and Jasper does as well!

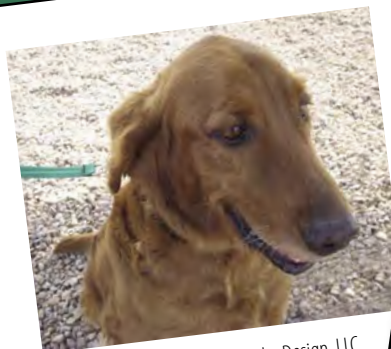
There were some complications, the pins which were placed into the bones, were rubbing on a major nerve in the leg and causing a great deal of pain. Jasper had to undergo a second surgery to shorten the pins.

Please keep Jasper in your prayers, that his leg heals well and he regains full use of it as well. We did place an advertisement in the Review Journal so his owners could reclaim him and sadly, nobody responded.

Waldo

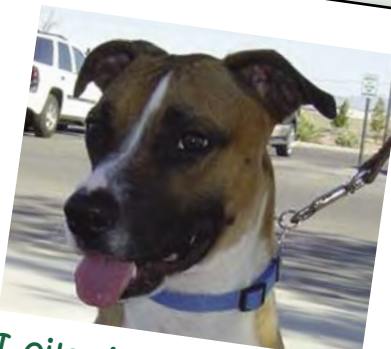
Las Vegas Hot-Diggity Dachshund Club | 702-373-3309
www.lvhdachshundclub.com

Waldo is a 3-4 year old wirehair Dachshund mixed with terrier and weighs 13lbs. He might be mixed with Jack Russell terrier as he is very springy and can jump very high! He is neutered, microchipped and up to date on vaccines. He is a very happy guy, always wagging his tail and great with other dogs of all sizes and both sexes. He loves to run and race around the backyard. He is crate trained and housetrained for the most part but will have an occasional accident. If you would like to meet Waldo please call Brenda at 256-0321.



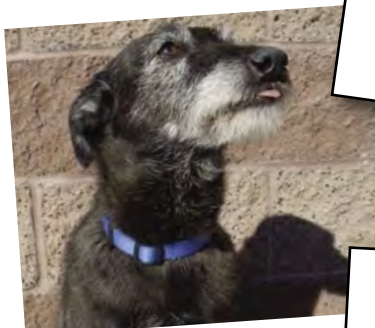
Holly

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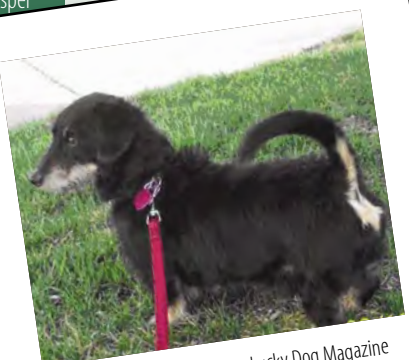
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