Happy Spring!

* How to Handle a Parvo Outbreak
* Being Aware of Brucellosis
* Politics of Dogs & Kennel Crates
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Petland stores raise more than $140,000 for St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital*

(Chillicothe, Ohio: March 11, 2019) – The numbers are in! Petland stores nationwide raised more than $140,000 during the 2018 St. Jude Halloween Pin-Up Promotion benefitting St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital®, which is leading the way the world understands, treats and defeats childhood cancer and other life-threatening diseases.

“This year, our franchisees more than doubled their contributions,” said Petland’s Director of Public Affairs Elizabeth Kunzelman. “We have an amazing group of franchisees and general managers with very big hearts, who truly understand the difference even one dollar can make. We are very proud of everyone’s efforts during this campaign.”

Several franchisees and store operators have visited the hospital in Memphis, Tenn., as well as St. Jude Target House, one of three housing facilities for St. Jude patients and families.

Petland first partnered with St. Jude in 2009. The St. Jude Halloween Pin-Up Promotion, now in its 28th year, asks customers to donate $1 or more at the register during the month of October to support the hospital’s lifesaving mission: Finding cures. Saving children.” In exchange for the donation, customers sign a St. Jude Halloween-themed pin-up which is displayed in the store. Petland also initiated a corporate campaign for the home office, offering payroll deductions for donations. To date, Petland has raised more than $640,000 for St. Jude.

Treatments invented at St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital have helped push the overall childhood cancer survival rate from 20 percent to more than 80 percent since the hospital opened more than 50 years ago. Because of fundraisers like the St. Jude Halloween Promotion, families never receive a bill from St. Jude for treatment, travel, housing or food - because St. Jude believes all a family should worry about is helping their child live.

To learn more about the St. Jude Halloween Promotion, visit stjude.org/halloween.

Petland, Inc. is a franchise operation with quality, full service retail pet centers across the United States, Canada, China, Mexico, South Africa, Brazil and El Salvador. For more than 50 years, Petland Pet Counselors have been dedicated to matching the right pet with the right person and meeting the needs of both. To its customers who already have pets, Petland is dedicated to enhancing their knowledge and enjoyment of the human-animal bond. Petland was founded in 1967 and is headquartered in south central Ohio. For more information on Petland, visit www.petland.com.

St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital

St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital is leading the way the world understands, treats and defeats childhood cancer and other life-threatening diseases. It is the only National Cancer Institute-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center devoted solely to children. Treatments invented at St. Jude have helped push the overall childhood cancer survival rate from 20 percent to 80 percent since the hospital opened more than 50 years ago. St. Jude won’t stop until no child dies from cancer. St. Jude freely shares the discoveries it makes, and every child saved at St. Jude means doctors and scientists worldwide can use that knowledge to save thousands more children. Families never receive a bill from St. Jude for treatment, travel, housing or food - because all a family should worry about is helping their child live. Join the St. Jude mission by visiting stjude.org, liking St. Jude on Facebook (facebook.com/stjude) and following us on Twitter (@stjude).
Thank You

As caretakers of future family members, Petland understands the commitment you make and the challenges you face with the puppies in your care. As a partner, we would like to say thank you for all that you do.

Petland.
How to Handle a Parvo Outbreak

When Parvo Happens
1. **Isolate the Affected Puppy** - If you have an area to isolate a sick puppy, do so. If not, treat him in place and manage your biosecurity. Do not move healthy animals around the kennel or to another kennel; that will just spread the disease.
   
2. **Use Caution with Healthy Puppies** - Take care of the healthy puppies first, then move to the sick ones. Do not go back to the healthy puppies without strict disinfection or a change of clothes. Remove your coveralls or smock after care and wash your hands to stop the spread. Hand disinfectants take too long to kill parvo, don’t rely on just them alone.
   a. Use a penetrating disinfectant and a shoe bath to kill parovirus.
   b. Bleach won’t cut it in an outbreak since it won’t penetrate feces.

3. **Hydrate with Electrolytes** - Give all puppies electrolytes in water. You want to hydrate any puppy thinking of getting sick. Re-Sorb® in one gallon of water is economical to use. Electrolytes should be in your emergency kit.

4. **Give Injectable Fluids** - Sick parvo puppies do not drink, so without injectable fluids they die. I start with saline 0.9% NaCl or LRS. Give SQ fluids at least, but IP or IV fluids is best.
   a. Start with 5 ml/lb twice a day and don’t forget to account for diarrhea loss. Two tablespoons of diarrhea/vomit needs 30 cc of fluid to replace.
   b. Add 50 percent dextrose to keep glucose up in a puppy. Dilute it to create a 5 to 10 percent dextrose solution max. To create a 5 percent dextrose solution, mix 50cc of 50 percent dextrose in 500cc of saline.
   c. Ask your veterinarian about Reglan® or Cerenia® to stop the vomiting.

5. **Booster** - Give a parvo-only vaccine to every puppy every four weeks and over one pound and booster every two weeks.
   a. Replacements under one year, booster parvo vaccine once.
   b. Adults vaccinated within the last year are not a worry.

Future Litters For the Next 90 Days
Move vaccine to four, six, and eight weeks, starting with parvo-only vaccine at four to six weeks.
   a. If you have tiny breeds that are less than two-pound puppies, ask us how to do that safely.
   b. Keep 12 to 14 days between vaccines or you won’t booster immunity.

Contaminated Pen After a Parvo Break

Once you have parvo in a pen, follow this guideline to get it out. Clean twice and disinfect three times.
   a. Clean and disinfect in the morning.
   b. Clean and disinfect in the evening.
   c. The next morning, disinfect again. Once it is dry you can go back into the pen safely with puppies or the next mom to give birth.

-Dr. B
Don Bramlage, DVM, Director of Veterinary Services at Revival Animal Health
Did you know some of the most common pet health problems are preventable?

Sure, you could treat the problems as they crop up. But think of how much healthier your pets would be if you could prevent them in the first place. That’s working smarter, not harder and it’s the stuff geniuses are made of.

Learn more at RevivalAnimal.com/Prevention
The highly contagious bacterial disease brucellosis is a particularly disheartening condition for dog breeders to deal with in their kennels. Rightfully so, considering that the disease can wipe out an entire kennel, causing emotional impact and economic losses. Considered a lifelong infection, brucellosis does not respond to treatment.

Dog breeding kennels provide a perfect environment for an outbreak, as dogs can contract the *Brucella canis* bacterium through ingestion, inhalation or contact with infected semen, vaginal secretions, saliva, nasal secretions, and urine. Contaminated objects, including food or water bowls and bedding, also are a source for infection.

*B. canis* was first characterized in 1966 after several outbreaks of abortion and infertility in dogs in several states. Since then, outbreaks in breeding and research kennels have been sporadically reported worldwide. Although few prevalence studies have evaluated disease occurrence in the U.S., experts say brucellosis is of increasing concern due to the increasing numbers of infected dogs seen by veterinarians as well as the potential threat posed by importation of infected breeding dogs and semen for artificial insemination.

A research team at Texas A&M University led by assistant professor Angela Arenas-Gamboa, DVM, PhD, DACVP, is working on a vaccine to protect dogs from brucellosis. A protective vaccine against *brucellosis* has the potential to significantly impact canine and human health by limiting the spread of *B. canis*.

“We have developed the vaccine candidate, and we are determining if the vaccine is capable of inducing an adequate immune response and is safe for dogs, including pregnant animals,” Dr. Arenas-Gamboa says.

The research is funded by the AKC (American Kennel Club) Canine Health Foundation, which recognizes brucellosis as a top infectious disease health concern. To learn about the study online, go to: [https://bit.ly/2Qws137](https://bit.ly/2Qws137). Purina and the AKC Canine Health Foundation have been partners since 1977 in supporting canine health research to benefit all dogs.
Besides affecting dogs, brucellosis is a zoonotic disease that can make people sick, particularly those having contact with infected dogs and their body fluids. In humans, it can cause fever, chills, discomfort, peripheral lymphadenomegaly (deep-subcutaneous lymph nodes become abnormal in size, consistency and number), and splenomegaly (enlargement of the spleen).²

Brucellosis is a challenging disease to diagnose partly because the clinical signs resemble other diseases, thus it is sometimes called “The Great Imposter.” Misdiagnosis and underdiagnosis are presumed to be common. Meanwhile, the disease can quickly spread throughout a kennel.

Veterinarians diagnose brucellosis based on clinical suspicions followed by blood tests, such as the commonly used rapid slide agglutination test (RSAT). Accurate blood testing is diminished in chronically infected dogs, because the bacterium can be intermittent and because dogs treated with antibiotics may test negative despite having B. canis infection, making it a diagnostic challenge in some cases.

Treatment consisting of neutering, appropriate antibiotics and pain relief is not a panacea for brucellosis. Recovery is very poor, and it is extremely difficult to eradicate from an infected kennel.

Proper Puppy Nutrition – Nourish Growth & Development

Puppies grow rapidly. At times during their rapid growth and development from weaning until approximately 4 to 6 months of age, puppies, depending on the breed size, require about twice as much energy, or calories, per pound of body weight as adult dogs of the same breed size and a higher nutrient intake to support their growing bodies.

“The first food a breeder introduces to puppies should provide complete and balanced nutrition to meet the nutrient requirements of growing puppies,” says Purina Veterinary Communications Manager Laura Eirmann, DVM, DACVN. “With proper nutrition, puppies are more likely to develop properly and have strong bones and teeth, healthy vision, a thick lustrous coat and strong muscles.”

Although rapid growth in many breeds begins to plateau by 6 months of age, puppies continue to grow and develop for several months longer depending on the breed size of dog, with smaller breeds reaching physical maturity at a younger age compared to large- and giant-breed dogs. During this period, their nutrient requirements per pound of body weight are still greater than they will be as adults, and thus, they should continue to be fed a food specially formulated for growth, advises Eirmann, who is boarded in veterinary nutrition.

Large and giant breeds, such as Great Dane, Saint Bernard and Newfoundland, may not mature physically until nearly two years old. These breeds, as well as any puppy with an anticipated adult weight of seventy pounds or greater, should be fed a growth diet specifically formulated for large-breed puppies for their entire growth period.

NUTRIENT BALANCE IS IMPORTANT

The nutritional health of puppies, just like adult dogs, depends on receiving the correct amounts and proportions of six essential nutrients: water, protein, fat, carbohydrates, minerals and vitamins. To be considered "complete," a puppy food should contain all essential nutrients, except water, which should always be accessible. These nutrients also must be present in the proper proportion to ensure a puppy food is balanced. The nutritional adequacy statement on the pet food label will state if a product provides "complete and balanced nutrition" for growing puppies. “Though fat, protein and calcium tend to get the greater emphasis in puppy foods, every single essential nutrient is key, especially during the period of rapid growth,” Dr. Eirmann says. “Deficiencies in any essential nutrient can compromise short- or long-term health.”

Feeding a complete and balanced puppy food is important for numerous reasons. Dr. Eirmann notes problems that can happen if nutrients are not balanced:

- A zinc deficiency can contribute to compromised immune function and skin abnormalities.
- Too little protein can cause disturbed growth as well as immune compromise and increased susceptibility to various stressor and infectious agents.
- Calcium balanced with phosphorus is particularly critical for large-breed dogs, as too little or too much can lead to skeletal problems.

Continued on page 14
IF SOMEONE TOLD YOU THAT

OF THE TOP 100 SHOW
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*Dog News Magazine Top 100 Dogs based on AKC All-Breed Competition and IBIS through 12/31/18. The handler or owner of these champions may have received Pro Plan dog food as Purina ambassador.
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Your Pet, Our Passion.
KEEPPING PUPPIES FIT

Along with providing complete and balanced nutrition, puppies of all breed sizes need an appropriate amount of calories during growth. This is defined as the amount that supports normal growth and maintains the puppy at an optimal lean body condition.

Maximal growth is not optimal growth. Overfeeding and excessive weight gain in large dogs is a risk factor for developmental orthopedic conditions such as hip dysplasia. “When feeding a large-breed puppy, research shows that avoiding overfeeding benefits skeletal development,” says Dr. Eirmann. “A breeder or owner should monitor a puppy’s weight and body condition score, adjusting food intake as necessary to maintain ideal body condition.”

Just as in adult dogs, ideal body condition means that the ribs are easily palpable with minimal fat covering and that the waist is easily noted when viewed from above. A puppy in ideal body condition has an obvious abdominal tuck when viewed from the side. “Even puppies not predisposed to skeletal problems should be maintained at a lean body condition since overweight pups often become overweight or obese dogs with increased risks for various health problems,” Dr. Eirmann says.

Some breeds and some individual puppies may have higher or lower energy needs compared to average. “Puppies should be fed a measured amount, or a weighed amount for more precision, of a complete and balanced puppy food at each meal,” explains Dr. Eirmann. “The pet food label provides general guidelines to serve as a starting point, but the amount of food should be adjusted as needed to maintain a lean body condition for that specific puppy. Keep in mind that all additional foods including training treats contain calories.

Treats should not exceed 10 percent of the puppy’s daily caloric intake in order to prevent excessive weight gain and unbalancing the puppy’s nutrient intake.”

Matching caloric density of the food to a puppy’s energy needs is important. “If a puppy eats everything offered and then seems excessively hungry after or between meals, a diet with a lower energy density that has fewer kilocalories per cup may help with satiety since the puppy can be offered a large volume of the lower calorie food,” she says. “Conversely, if a puppy is unable to eat sufficient volume of a food to maintain weight or if the volume appears excessive such that the dog looks bloated after meals, a puppy food that is more caloric dense may be beneficial because a smaller volume can be fed to meet energy and nutrient needs.”

One thing to keep in mind is frequently switching foods is likely to create a pattern of pickiness and/or obesity in a puppy. “Beyond that, the key is to select a complete and balanced puppy food that matches the energy needs of the puppy,” says Dr. Eirmann.

Getting puppies off to a good start in life includes feeding a highly nutritious food made for growth and development. Breeders who take time to give puppies a nutritious advantage in the food bowl will benefit from knowing they’ve played an important role in helping them transition to healthy adult dogs.

FEEDING PUPPIES WISELY

1. Puppies should be fed a food specially formulated for growth and development until they reach physical maturity.
2. DHA an essential nutrient to support brain and vision development.
3. Large and giant breeds do not mature until they are nearly 2 years old. Thus, until they reach maturity, they should be fed a diet specifically formulated for large-breed puppies in an amount that maintains lean body condition to prevent excessive weight.
4. Small breed and toy breed puppies should be given food with nutrient-dense, bite-sized kibble. The smaller kibble size makes it easier for small mouths to chew.

**Article From Nestle/Purina & AKC**
Great Reasons to Register Your Litter with the AKC

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The Politics of Pet Dogs and Kennel Crates
Science doesn’t support negative publicity about using kennel crates. By Stanley Coren

I was more than a little surprised to find that there is an active campaign being pursued to ban the use of kennel crates for dogs. This has resulted in a number of articles in mainstream newspapers and magazines, as well as vigorous lobbying attempts to get the use of kennel crates for dogs classified as a form of animal abuse.

Source:

There are some methods of restraining and confining dogs which have problems. Tying out dogs on chains or ropes for excessive amounts of time has been shown to have negative effects. Obviously tying a dog out for long periods without access to adequate shelter from the elements can be harmful to a dog’s health. However, there are also psychological problems that result from this practice, the major one being that it increases the level of aggression in dogs. The reason for this is that a dog’s first response to anything that it interprets as a threat is to run away from the situation. Restraining a dog on short tether prevents him from fleeing, and therefore, the dog self protectively chooses to attack whoever he sees as a potential danger before they get a chance to harm him.

This aggressive attack behavior soon becomes habitual—a fact that has been recognized for a long time. There is even a manuscript recovered from the ruins of Pompeii which describes the procedure for turning a dog into an effective guard dog, and its major recommendation is to tether the dog on a short lead near the door of the home or other premise that needs to be protected.

Contrary to the information on the use of tie outs, I knew of no evidence suggesting that the judicious use of kennel crates can cause problems for dogs. In fact, there is a reasonable consensus among dog behaviorists which suggests that the use of a kennel crate is extremely helpful in many ways. A lot of evidence indicates that it is much easier to housebreak a puppy if it is taken out to eliminate before bedtime, placed in a kennel crate overnight, and then taken out again to eliminate first thing in the morning. Use of the kennel crate can also prevent destructive habits from developing, since if the dog is placed in a kennel crate when one is out of the house for short times, the puppy never has the opportunity to learn about the pleasures of chewing on your furniture.

Many of the negative attitudes toward the kennel crate seem to arise from people anthropomorphizing. Obviously a human being would not like to have their freedom curtailed and to be confined to a small space. Indeed, one of the ways that was used by the North Vietnamese to attempt to psychologically break prisoners of war was to keep them in small confined cages. However, dogs are not people. The major progenitor of dogs was the wolf, and wolves spend a good deal of their day in a den. Dens are simply small caves, or burrows that the wolf had dug out. Dens often provided just enough space for the animal to stand up and turn around. The den is viewed by these canines as a place of safety and our domestic dogs seem to have inherited that behavioral predisposition.

A kennel crate can serve as an artificial den for our pet dogs and when provided with a pad or a towel to rest on, and perhaps a chew toy, it can become a place of comfort and
Throughout the years and across the country Lena and I are grateful to be working with ‘you’ the dog breeders. We are proud to call ourselves ‘dog breeders’...and we are proud to be working with you.

We know that so many groups and individuals work so tirelessly to help protect our rights to own the dogs we care for and the puppies we raise. Over the past years we have witnessed successes and hardships. We would like to share a letter that was most recently written to one of those groups we have seen selflessly working to help the dog breeders and Pet Stores of New York.

Dear Jessica,

I would like to start out by thanking you for your tireless efforts in having all stores in the New York area join your organization “PUPPI”. I understand that ‘PUPPI’ stands for People United for the Protection of Pet Integrity.

Joining these forces throughout the boroughs and counties of New York was not an easy task and you made great strides accomplishing this. Your common mission is to educate the public on the benefits of freedom of choice when obtaining an animal as a pet. Rescue is an option, but not necessarily the best. Purchasing puppies from licensed breeders who are inspected at stores that are also thoroughly regulated and inspected is an extremely diligent way to find your forever pet. Consumers have the right to shop or adopt.

I know that your family has been in this business at the same location for 80 years and 3 generations. You must be doing something right! Your community embraces and respects you for all your community service and all the healthy animals you have matched with families.

Keep educating and fighting to spread the word that pet ownership comes in all forms. Whether be an adoption or a purchase. Each family must have the right to choose what best fits their needs. Please remember we are always here for you as a source for any of your “PUPPI” efforts.

Thank you again for all you are doing,

Michael Glass
mg@aprpets.org

Lena Cross
lena@aprpets.org
I believe that PETA really has not scientific evidence to support the complete abolishment of the use of the kennel crate. It seems to me that their actual desire for banning cratering is that in so doing they would make keeping dogs in the house more difficult and the housebreaking of puppies less reliable. This advances their anti-pet agenda by taking away some of the pleasure of pet keeping and in that way it would further their program aimed at denying us the companionship of our dogs and cats.

Unfortunately, they have been having a modicum of success. Because of such misleading publicity and lobbying campaigns there are a number of venues that have passed laws against tying dogs out. This is sensible if we were dealing with tethering dogs for long periods of time, or without adequate shelter, but some of the legislation has been as extreme as the ad campaigns used by PETA which incorporate words like “don’t ever.”

Thus, here in my hometown of Vancouver, a woman was recently fined $250 because she tied her dog’s leash to a bicycle rack while she ducked into a grocery store to pick up a couple of items. The dog was tied out for less than 10 minutes, and could easily be seen by its owner through the store’s window. Tying out a dog for a few minutes on a shopping trip does not constitute dog abuse, but legislating against such a common practice could discourage people from having dogs since it would mean they could not take their pets with them when they move around town. This appears to be the kind of thing PETA really wants to advance—to bring about an end to the keeping of dogs and cats as pets—not the protection of animals.
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Message from Karen Strange, President of MoFed

2019 is here and the animal rights activists are going strong as ever across the nation. As a Congressman told me recently, “They never go away!”

Neither do we! I began working against the animal rights movement in late 1989 to protect my interests of breeding and showing dogs. At that time, I did not fully comprehend the far-reaching effects the movement had, but it wasn’t long before I learned that they were attempting to eliminate agriculture as we know it, our food sources, zoos, circuses, medical research that benefits animals and humans, wildlife management of hunting, fishing and trapping, and pet ownership and enjoyment. There was and remains virtually nothing involving animals that they don’t have their fingers in trying to eliminate altogether or at the very least, regulate to the point of animal owners no longer being able to operate.

The trend across the nation in legislatures this year is to increase the penalties for animal abuse and neglect. The devil is in the details as activists attempt to lessen what constitutes guilt while increasing the penalties for the crimes to higher degrees of misdemeanors and felonies, knowing that all laws are subject to interpretation in courts of law. Missouri is no exception. Several bills have been introduced dealing with these issues. MoFed will work to kill all such legislation as we believe our animal abuse laws are plenty sufficient and we do not believe laws against animal abuse should exceed those against human abuse.

Another issue many of our members are facing is the increasing trend nationwide of laws being passed that require animals sold at pet stores to only come from rescues and shelters. We are adamantly opposed to government interference telling a business that his or her source for products can only come from one or two avenues, thus interfering with free commerce.

As I have stated on several Facebook discussions, I want to know why dogs raised by licensed, professional breeders who provide excellent care and who follow state and federal regulations (and often far exceed those requirements) are considered by activists to be the worst possible animals one can have, but if they are “rescued” either lawfully or unlawfully, they suddenly within a short time, become the very best animals from the best sources possible? Of course, my questions go unanswered!

Could it be that emotion and propaganda to fool the public become the tools used by unscrupulous animal rights activists to pad their own pockets while working to eliminate competition by breeders? Importation of street mutts from foreign countries to fill the void of supply and demand created by activists who push for the elimination of breeders and pet stores is adding many problems to society with unwanted diseases from which our animal populations have no antibodies, rabies, socialization issues and a host of other problems cropping up from animals flooding our shores.

The question then arises, when is enough enough? Missouri’s pet providers have stepped up to the plate over and over, and have survived serious attempts to eliminate the industry in our state. Cattle and hog farmers are facing numerous county health ordinances that seek to end production in a cost effective manner. Many citizens are supporting bans on many farm operations while driving through fast food restaurants ordering cheeseburgers with bacon, not knowing where that food originated. As the population ages, activists are working to eliminate research that helps both humans and animals to live longer and lead productive, healthy lives. Circuses are becoming a thing of the past as activists claim that animals traveling with them are abused and “made to work”. Zoos are frowned upon by many as a source to educate the public about the importance and enjoyment of conservation of various species. Rodeos, 4-H and FFA activities are being threatened as activists voice their opposition.

It may seem like doomsday is upon us, but I pledge to continue to educate the public as well as legislators and Congress about the importance of animals in our lives. I will continue to rally the troops when our interests are in the crosshairs of emotional animal rights activists who know nothing about animal husbandry. I will take every opportunity to stand up for what is right, whether it is in discussions with friends, answering questions from those who do not understand agriculture, wildlife management and animal ownership, or replying to Letters to the Editor or Facebook posts.

Our future is up to us. Are we willing to sit idly by and allow uneducated, emotional animal rights activists to dictate our lives and take our freedoms away, or are we going to stand up for our rights to own and enjoy animals in a responsible manner? I know my answer. I will never stop and I will never back down from what I believe is right! How about you?

Please join our efforts today. We must set any differences aside and work as a team to protect our rights to own animals. I hope you will join MoFed today as we continue our work of nearly three decades!

Contact MoFed at (573) 364-6583 (Anne Edwards) for more info!
MISSOURI FEDERATION OF ANIMAL OWNERS

The MISSOURI FEDERATION OF ANIMAL OWNERS (MoFed) was formed in the early 1990’s to help protect the rights of animal owners and enthusiasts against the devastating effects of the animal rights movement. Among their successes, MoFed has:

- Lobbyed the state legislature, governor’s office and members of Congress to eliminate detrimental legislation and to pass positive legislation for animal owners
- Worked side by side with agriculture interests to defeat animal rights proposals
- Represented animal owners to state government, county commissions and city councils
- Soundly defeated multiple issues proposed by animal rights activists

JOIN NOW TO HELP PROTECT YOUR RIGHTS AS ANIMAL OWNERS AND ENTHUSIASTS!
(Because MoFed is a lobbying organization, memberships and donations are NOT tax deductible).

2019 MoFed Membership Form
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Monitoring for Periodontal Disease (PD) in Dogs

Examining each dog’s teeth and gums regularly, such as once a month, is the best way to detect and treat disease or injury early.

**STEP 1**
Gently pull back the lips and cheeks in order to see the teeth and gums. Inspect both upper and lower jaw on both sides of the mouth. **Don’t forget to look at the back teeth.**

**STEP 2**
Gently open the mouth as wide as the dog will allow to inspect the inside (nearest the tongue) areas of the teeth, both sides, and upper and lower jaws.

### No Disease (Grade 0)
- **Gums:** normal, healthy
- **Teeth:** no tartar, no loose or missing teeth

### Gingivitis (Grade I)
- **Gums:** mild redness
- **Teeth:** mild tartar, no loose or missing teeth

### Early Periodontitis (Grade II)
- **Gums:** redness and swelling
- **Teeth:** mild to moderate tartar, no missing teeth but some may be loose

### Moderate Periodontitis (Grade III)
- **Gums:** redness, swelling, may bleed with gentle touch or chewing, may be recessed in areas (a)
- **Teeth:** moderate to severe amount of tartar (b), there may be loose or missing teeth

### Severe Periodontitis (Grade IV)
- **Gums:** severe redness, inflammation, bleed easily, pus may be present
- **Teeth:** large amount of tartar, loose and missing teeth are likely

**PRACTICAL TIP**
When visually assessing, it is best to avoid causing distress at all steps. Handle the dog gently, and only do what the dog will comfortably allow. This will be a better experience for the dog so he or she will be more likely to cooperate with future exams, and it decreases the risk of bites to the caretaker.

Note any broken, loose, or missing teeth. Note any discharge (e.g., pus), blood, redness, or swelling of the gums.

If you see any of these, or any other abnormal conditions, we encourage you to consult with your veterinarian for treatment options.

This Animal Care Aid is part of a series developed to provide information about PD in dogs. For more information, refer to the other topics covered in the series ("Canine PD" and "Preventive Care for PD in Dogs").

Questions? Email us at CenterforAnimalWelfare@aphis.usda.gov

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Can Dogs See Ghosts?

While there are people who believe in the paranormal, have you ever wondered whether your dog is able to sense the spirits? After all, canines have extraordinary senses that are much sharper than a human’s. And wouldn’t it be comforting to know that your dog is able to detect a loved one who has passed on?

As much as we’d like to believe there is some truth to the idea that dogs can sense the paranormal, the scientific answer is that we just don’t know. Despite the fact that there is no scientific proof that dogs can see ghosts, so much of animal behavior is uncertain that the possibility of a dog sensing something a human can’t is not out of the question. “The most interesting part of the science of dog behavior and understanding is that we simply don’t know so much,” says Russell Hartstein, a certified dog behavior consultant and dog trainer in Los Angeles.

Your Own Perceptions Play a Part

Much of a dog’s behavior can be a mystery to an owner but there are countless examples that leave us wondering if the unimaginable is actually conceivable. “When someone is inclined to believe in the paranormal, some dogs may exhibit behaviors that make it look like they are perhaps sensing an apparition is nearby,” says Dr. Mary Burch, director of the AKC Family Dog Program and a certified animal behaviorist. “This may be the dog that stops and stands still at a given point in the house, and the owner later finds out someone died there.”

If a dog is standing in the corner, barking at nothing visible could it be that he senses something out of the ordinary? Or perhaps he stays close to an object that is associated with a deceased family member, whether it be a favorite chair or side of the bed, as if that person is still present.

Dr. Burch points out that when a dog barks at what appears to be nothing, an owner sometimes thinks it’s because he’s seeing a ghost or picking up on something she can’t. "While clairvoyance generally falls outside of what we can prove in terms of science, we do understand and have research on a ‘dog’s basic five senses,” she says.

The Sixth Sense

In addition to the five senses (sight, smell, taste, touch, hearing), dogs also possess a ‘sixth sense’—that “gut” feeling we get when something doesn’t feel right. The difference though is that dogs are more open to trusting what they feel and acting on those feelings accordingly, while most people’s minds analyze what’s going on and deny the possibility that auroras or spirits exist. “Dogs are remarkable creatures, with senses that far exceed a human’s,” explains Dr. Burch.

When a dog runs and sits by the door waiting for his owner, Dr. Burch explains this behavior could be a habit simply learned through repetition. But if the owner comes home much earlier than usual, and the dog still sits by the door within minutes of his arrival, that unexplained behavior could appear to be his sixth sense.

Dogs also have the ability to ‘detect impending disasters’ before they happen, thanks to their powerful sense of smell. “Barometric pressure and all natural phenomena have odors associated with them,” says Hartstein. “They are beyond the capacity of our noses to recognize, but dogs can sense these changes immediately.”

Can Dogs See Things We Can’t?

The level of a dog’s hearing also surpasses a human’s, and dogs possess the ‘ability to hear higher-pitched noises’ from a much greater distance. “Dogs’ auditory perception is another area where they perceive the world around them in a vastly different way from human beings,” points out Hartstein. “These differences may be connected to their ability to pick up on different and undetectable phenomenons that we do not.”

A dog’s field of vision is much wider than ours; they can see objects at a greater distance, and their ability to see in ‘twilight’, dusk and dawn is far superior to ours, making it possible to pick up certain movements that are undetectable to the human eye. “It could be absolutely accurate that the dog is picking up on something we may not be able to see. But what they are perceiving may not be Casper the Friendly Ghost, “explains Dr. Burch.

Dogs are fascinating creatures, and there is still much uncertainty when it comes to the abilities of man’s best friend. “Their senses are highly attuned, and it is obvious that they are perceiving the world in vastly different way than we do,” says Hartstein. Whether their extraordinary senses are able to pick up on unknown forms, energies, or the paranormal continues to remain a mystery.

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Another Day, Another Strain

The CDC’s [December 21, 2018 Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report](https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/67/wr/wr1221.pdf) covers a rabid dog imported from Egypt by an animal rescue organization, and highlights why our efforts to develop effective regulations of dog importation is so vital.

The rabid dog ("dog A," a six-month old Chihuahua) bit his “flight parent” and a vet tech. Both of the bite victims and dogA's caretakers required post exposure treatment, which consists of 4 vaccinations, one on the day of exposure if known, and 3 subsequent vaccinations on day 3, 7 and 14. Further, an investigation and lengthy confinement for two of the other imported dogs was required.

For people who take a “What's the big deal?” or “It's the thought that counts” attitude toward the issue of poorly regulated dog importation, the discussion section of this article lays out the huge cost in time, effort, and funding (hundreds of millions of dollars) that has gone into eliminating canine variant rabies in the United States. It also describes a dangerously lax international transport system, where a dog with little-to-no known medical history can enter the US. While rabies is the disease deemed most dramatic and newsworthy, other, more common parasites and illnesses such as the canine flu and canine brucellosis are both common and serious ongoing health threats.

Finally it should also be noted that Chihuahuas and Chihuahua mixes are the second most common type of dog found in U.S. Shelters. If one wishes to adopt a Chihuahua or Chihuahua type dog, it's not as if there aren't plenty of loving, healthy local dogs to choose from. Going this route, not only do you have the opportunity to bring a great dog into your home, your odds of requiring emergency vaccinations and being the center of a public health investigation will be SIGNIFICANTLY lowered.

On another note;

Sadly, you can't make this stuff up. More rescue importation madness!

As if on cue, a few minutes after we put out a blog on imported Korean rescue dogs introducing a new strain of canine distemper into North America, our inbox was awash with this APB:

*Officers looking for rescue dog in Leawood that escaped, possibly exposed to rabies.*

The escaped dog was in a group of 26 dogs imported from Egypt, in which one got sick and tested positive for rabies. The dog that escaped has not shown any signs of the disease itself.

Yes, by all means let's displace our domestic dog population with pets from a part of the world where the CDC recommends rabies vaccines for anybody who might interact with the local animal population. What could possibly go wrong?

One final note: the rescue group says they followed proper protocol in importing the dogs, which if true, is a very strong argument in favor of modernizing our current importation laws, which have not been significantly updated since the 1950's. Situations like this, which threaten our animals and ourselves, shed still more light on why NAIA and the NAIA Trust are working on a federal bill to rein in irresponsible international rescue.

*NAIA Trust 111 SW 5th Suite 2660 Portland, Oregon 97204  Email: naia@naiaonline.org*
Recently revealed tax documents show that the Humane Society the United States received nearly $1 million in 2017—the most recent publicly available records—from an organization called The Wyss Foundation. The Wyss Foundation is financed by Swiss billionaire Hansjorg Wyss—a controversial figure with a questionable past.

Wyss has gained notoriety for his donations to major liberal candidates and causes, funding a variety of environmental causes and some groups that have been described as "dark money" front groups, drawing comparisons to Hungarian billionaire George Soros, who has played heavily in politics.

The bulk of Wyss's $5.6 billion fortune was made from his 2012 sale of the company Synthes. Synthes is best known for testing a product without FDA approval that caused 5 deaths. Charges were filed against Wyss in Washington under the state's racketeering laws for leading a criminal enterprise but escaped indictment.

Wyss was also embroiled in sexual harassment allegations. In 2013, Wyss was accused of increasingly aggressive and sexual behavior by a former employee. The victim's lawyer has said Wyss has a pattern of carefully grooming and victimizing women.

But hey—given HSUS's own history of its board providing cover last year for CEO Wayne Pacelle, who was credibly accused of sexual harassment, maybe that's not a negative.

Causes supported by Wyss include radical environmentalism. In Montana, his foundation backs groups against energy and growth development disguised as hunting and wildlife enthusiasts. There's a lot of overlap between HSUS's animal liberation agenda and radical environmentalism—such as anti-hunting sentiments.

It's one more lesson that the Humane Society of the United States isn't about helping shelter animals in your community, but playing a part in a larger lobbying agenda that people aren't aware of.

HSUS Shut Down Greyhound Racing in Florida. Now the Dogs Need Homes

One of the HSUS legislative pushes in November was a ballot measure in Florida that passed and brought an end to greyhound racing in the Sunshine State. While HSUS activists hail this as a victory and raise funds, the fate of anywhere from 5,000 – 8,000 greyhounds is now in limbo. These retired racers need homes. And where exactly is the “Humane Society” of the United States? It seems HSUS is hardly doing a thing.

The comments section of the HSUS blog is also alight with questions about what will happen to the dogs. A user identified as the blog's editor responded, saying, “Traditionally, the industry will only send their dogs to adoption groups that openly defend them.” Well that’s handy. HSUS creates a whole host of problems, and then doesn’t have to deal with the responsibility. While HSUS runs zero pet shelters (a fact most Americans are unaware of thanks to HSUS’s deceptive advertising), it could offer financial support.

Certainly, it is understandable that owners of the greyhounds would be reticent to engage HSUS after being screwed over, for lack of a better phrase.

But if HSUS truly cared about the animals’ future—as opposed to just giving it lip service—then it should make a public offer to assist with rehoming the dogs and pledging $100 per animal affected ($500,000-$800,000) to defray costs. That’s a relative pittance to HSUS, which spent millions on the campaign and has a budget exceeding $100 million. And a public pledge would go a long way.

However, if the past is any indication, the last thing we should expect is for HSUS to step up. It’s much easier to fundraise than to walk the walk. If you want to adopt a retired greyhound into your home, please take a look at Fast Friends Greyhound Adoption or any of the groups endorsed by the National Greyhound Association.

From our Friends at Humanewatch.org ....

**HSUS Gets Nearly $1 Million from the New George Soros**

adoption groups that openly defend them.” Well that’s handy. HSUS creates a whole host of problems, and then doesn’t have to deal with the responsibility. While HSUS runs zero pet shelters (a fact most Americans are unaware of thanks to HSUS’s deceptive advertising), it could offer financial support.

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Oklahoma Pet Professionals 2019 seminar

We have moved to the Rivers Bend Casino in Wyandotte 74370 OK. Our dates will be April 26, and 27 2019. Last year we drew breeders and public from Oklahoma, Missouri, and Kansas. Again this year, OKPP will offer CEU’s to both Missouri and Kansas breeders.

Please let us know how many days you will be with us, as this will affect our setup plan. Please keep booths setup until 2:00 p.m. on Saturday. The OKPP state seminar will be all day Friday and Saturday morning.

Booths will be 8ft. X 8 ft. Cost is $225.00 per booth. PLEASE RESERVE YOUR BOOTH EARLY DUE TO LIMITED SPACE – NO SHARING BOOTH – CORPORATE SPONSORS, PLEASE CONFIRM YOUR BOOTH SPACE. Your booths will be determined by your corporate levels. You can setup your booth on Thursday, April 25, 2019, starting at 2:00 p.m. Till 5 p.m.

Number of booths ____________________________________________
Name of company ______________________________________________
Contact person ________________________________________________
E-mail address ________________________________________________
Do you need electric? _________________________________________

Deadline will be April 24, 2017. Booth rentals after cutoff deadline date will be accepted according to space availability. We will have our annual auction. Your donations are not mandatory, but will be greatly appreciated.

Send your reservations and checks to Janet Donnelly, 24495 S. 4230Rd.,Inola, Ok. 74036.

Thank you and see you in April.

Please make checks payable to OKPP.

Gary Phillips, President, OKPP
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THINK ABOUT IT…..

Your child will not be seized from you nor will you be charged with abuse or neglect nor will you be charged with a felony:

If you fail to provide heat and air conditioning in a clean surrounding free of worn paint, rust, dust or dirt;
If you do not keep all medicines in a closed and locked cabinet and throw away all expired medicines;
If you allow your child to stay in a playpen or enclosed area smaller than a bedroom;
If you fail to have a smoke detector and fire extinguisher in the home;
If you do not provide access to clean water at all times;
If you fail to provide wholesome foodstuffs approved by your family doctor;
If you fail to allow your child unfettered access to the outdoors any time he or she wants, regardless of weather conditions and time of day or night;
If you fail to provide socialization with other children and fail to spend several intervals of play with you and others daily;
If you fail to have an in-home visit with the family doctor annually to include a hands-on physical examination of each child in your household;
If you fail to take your child to the doctor for something as minor as a scrape or scratch and list all treatments, medications and the exact time and date of the visit on a card specifically for your child;
If you child does not feel grass under their feet while playing in your yard;
If you and your spouse were not health tested or approved before conception;
If you fail to allow unannounced inspections of your home and surroundings where your child lives, plays and visits;
If all floors, walls and surfaces your child touches are not impervious to moisture and you fail to clean weekly at minimum and more often as needed;
If you fail to bathe, wash hair, trim nails and provide clean clothes as often as needed;
If you fail to care for your child according to beliefs or ideas of the general public, are reported to an Alert on a State Website and have law enforcement show up at your home for an evaluation and inspection;
If you fail to provide and maintain flooring throughout your home that is approved by state officials;
If you fail to provide proper drainage of any water or snow and shade for your child for any outside activities;
If you refuse entry into your home by anyone who questions how you treat your children;
If you have more than two or three children per household as per city or county ordinances;
If you are found guilty of abuse or neglect and do attend court ordered psychological evaluation for one year at your expense;
Or if you have more children after charges are brought against you.

Why is any type of dog breeder expected to do more for a DOG than a CHILD?

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