

Pets without Parents

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www.PetsWithoutParents.net



Isn't Eezie the cutest little pup ever? She was found all alone on the streets, but she's full of love! She is about 3 months old, and is a shepherd, possible pit mix.

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www.riversideanimalcare.vetsuite.com



HEY OHIO, LET'S MAKE IT 50!

Ohio is the **ONLY** state in the **COUNTRY** with a statewide law singling out pit bulls as vicious. Because of this law, many sweet, innocent pups (that may look scary) die every year. There is hope OHIO! House Bill 14, introduced by State Rep. Barbara Sears, would remove the phrase "belongs to a breed that is commonly known as a pit bull dog" from the state's legal definition of vicious dogs. She noted that "pit bull type dogs are being singled out and targeted on their appearance and not on any offense that they have ever committed. We are implying that pit bulls, by their very nature are vicious and are the only type of dogs that can attack without provocation, and that is simply not the case." There are many ways you can help push for the passage of HB14, please visit www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=129_HB_14



Protecting the "Real" Stars

I wrote an article during the first year of Paws & Think about the American Humane Association. This group is the only one responsible for awarding the "No Animals Were Harmed" end-credit disclaimer that we love to see after movies involving our furry friends. After all of the "Oscar" buzz this past month, and new movie trailers I have been watching lately, I thought the AHA, and their tireless work, was worth another mention.

Now, I love movies... but seeing anything happen to animals just makes me cry. In a heart-wrenching scene in the Academy Award-nominated film True Grit, a horse is ridden to utter exhaustion and then is shot to end its suffering. And while most people realize that "movie magic" and editing are behind that realistic impression, the horse is real -- and so are the American Humane Association Certified Animal Safety Representatives™ who were on the set making sure "No Animals Were Harmed."

Since 1940, the AHA Film & TV Unit has provided a voice for animal actors. They monitor 2,000 productions a year, all around the globe, and their guidelines for the Safe Use of Animals in Filmed Media are the highest standards of animal care of their kind in the world. The "No Animals Were Harmed" certification they bestow, remains one of the most sought-after honors for a film. They provide Certified Animal Safety Representatives who monitor productions, educate film crews, and work hard to protect animal actors in films, TV shows and commercials.

Professional animal trainers make up one of the largest rescue groups in the country. American Humane Association estimates that more than 80% of the dogs and cats used in motion pictures come from shelters. After a dog has worked with a professional trainer on a movie set, it's not only well trained and socialized, but also exposed to numerous cast and crew members interested in adopting the animal. Trainers often keep the animals after a production wraps, or find them other permanent loving homes. Here are just a few memorable animal actors with not-so-fancy pedigrees.

"Fang" from Harry Potter. A drooling Neapolitan mastiff named Bully is one of the four dogs that portrays Hagrid's loyal yet cowardly "boarhound" Fang. One of the production's trainers rescued Bully from a junkyard and adopted him after filming ended.

Along for the wild ride on this popular movie is the Grinch's trusty dog Max. Although he objects to his master's penchant for wreaking havoc, his loyalty never wavers. Max was actually played by six different dogs, each a mixed-breed shelter rescue. Animal trainer Roger Schumacher spent three and a half months practicing with the animals prior to filming to perfect their stunts and acclimate them to the set environment. This period not only allowed the canine stars to become their character, but also allowed the trainers to discern which particular behaviors each dog felt comfortable performing.

Not to be outdone by their canine counterparts - many cats have come from humble beginnings as well. Morris, the cat, was discovered by trainer Bob Martwick at the Hinsdale, Illinois, animal shelter in 1968. Morris' credits include all of the ads for 9Lives cat food and the feature film Shamus with human co-star Burt Reynolds. After the original Morris retired in the late 1970s, Morris II was discovered at a New England Shelter and stepped in as spokescat for 9Lives. For years, all Friskies cats have been adopted from various Los Angeles and Southern California area shelters by Rob Bloch of Critters of the Cinema.

My rescues have always kept me entertained, but have yet to make a nickel doing so! Its nice to know that some have hit the "big time" with fame and fortune - but I'm sure the thing that makes them feel rich - is having a loving home. See you at the movies!

(source: www.americanhumane.org)

Feeling pretty lucky to have things to do with my best friend!



- **Saturday, March 19th - Top Hat & Tails Gala 6-10pm** @ 1150 Charles Lane, Marysville
Join us for a fun evening with bagpipes, food catered by Der Dutchman and a silent auction - all to raise money for shelter improvements at the Humane Society of Union County. Tickets are \$50.
- **Saturday, March 19th - St. Patty's Day Annual Pub Crawl - 10am - 7pm** @ various locations downtown starting at Slammers, on to Mac's, Union, Level & others... and finishing at Slammers. Over \$500 in raffle prizes - join us for some good ol' fashioned St. Patty fun! This event benefits Pets Without Parents. Check our website for full Pub schedule - petswithoutparents.net

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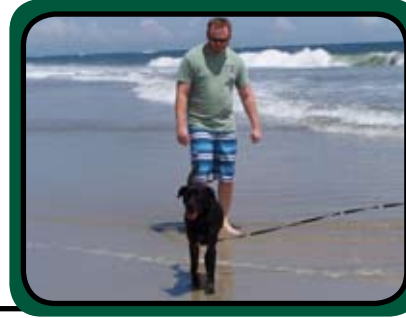
I have always had sisters in my house - dogs and cats. This summer, a "boy" came into my life - so now I have a brother. As we all know, brothers are irritating. Need proof? This ridiculous boy always has to pee where I pee, and if possible, higher. So, after a little "digging" I found out that male dogs raise their legs while urinating to aim higher because they want to leave a message that they are tall and intimidating. Some wild dogs in Africa even try to run up tree trunks while they are urinating to appear to be very large.

So, let's review... boys are idiots.

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Happy Tails...

We adopted Parker (your Gideon) a few years ago after he had been stabbed and left to die in the woods. He had some medical and behavioral problems for a while but by now he is Parker the Brat Dog because he has so much energy and persistence. Here is Parker at the beach last summer in North Carolina. He does not like to be left at home with the other dogs so when we travel we take him along, if possible. He is great with kids, and everyone he meets - what a changed dog! Thank you Pets without Parents for saving Parker.



Furry Friends Feelin' the Love

Love is in the air. A little kiss here... a whisper there, and a sweet smile that takes over your face when you think of the funny way they... *chase a ball*. Huh? Yep. We are talking about our pets! If you think your pet's pretty special, you're not alone. A recent survey of pet lovers found that:



- 85% refer to themselves as their pet's mom or dad
- 90% would not date someone who wasn't fond of his or her animal companion.
- 73% talk to their pets in a different voice
- 52% believe their pets listen to them best (spouse or significant other scored only 31%)
- 56% send greeting cards "from the dog or cat"
- 57% remember the names of their neighbors pets better than the neighbor humans
- 24% would travel 1,000 miles or more to obtain specialty veterinary care

So, how'd you do? Yeah me too - I am ruining the curve on this one! It's nice to know that I'm not alone. That's OK... who loves ya baby!?

(source: pawstreet.com)

"Spring" Into Spring, Safely!

Believe it or not, the weather is starting to warm up, and I think I actually saw the sun today! Woohoo! A few reminders as we ease our way into Spring.

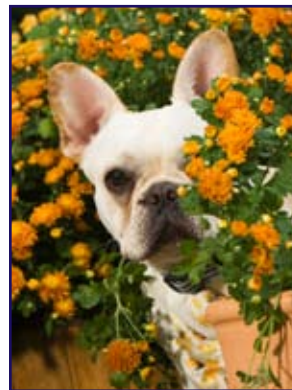
#1 The Easter Bunny brings plenty of treats, but he may also bring some hazards... Keep Easter lilies and candy bunnies in check - chocolate goodies are toxic to cats, dogs and ferrets, and lilies can be fatal if ingested by our furry friends. Kids aren't the only ones who think that Easter basket looks cool - kitties love to nibble on colorful plastic grass. This can lead to an obstructed digestive tract, severe vomiting and dehydration. Also, while "real" bunnies, chicks and other festive animals are adorable, please resist the urge to buy (unless you've really thought about it) These cute babies grow up fast and often require specialized care!

#2 Many pet parents welcome the breezy days of spring by opening their windows. Unfortunately, they also unknowingly put their pets at risk - especially cats, who are apt to jump or fall through unscreened windows. Be sure to install snug and sturdy screens in all of your windows. If you have adjustable screens, make sure they are tightly wedged into window frames.

#3 April showers bring May flowers - and an onslaught of bugs! Make sure your pet is on year-round heartworm preventive medication, as well as a flea and tick control program. If your pups are lucky enough to be going with you on vacation this spring, you may want to consider starting treatment early. Plan on applying at least a few weeks in advance to help your buddy fend off those dreaded sand fleas!

OK... now we're ready to safely "spring" into Spring! C'mon sunshine!

(source: aspca.org)



We're raffling a house...
 to find homes for more
 abandoned animals!

- Raffle tickets are \$100 each
 - No more than 2500 tickets will be sold
- No limit on the number of tickets you may buy!
- The drawing will take place on May 7th
- Our goal is \$125,000
- You do not need to be present to win

Help homeless animals and you may win a condo - buy your raffle tickets today!

This raffle is sponsored by the law offices of Madison & Rosan, Keller Williams Consultants Realty, Talon Title Agency of Central Ohio, Inc. & PrintPro, Inc. To see condo description, photos, drawing details and raffle rules including ways to buy tickets, please visit:

www.homeforahundred.net*

*By purchasing a ticket, you agree to the rules of the raffle as found on our website.

BOCCO'S RANTS...



Did you know that adult cats can make over 100 vocal sounds! Luckily, kittens do not have their full vocabulary of sounds until they are 3 months old. Good thing - who knows what they would be whining about at such an early age! As to be expected, dogs can only make about 10 different sounds. If you ask me - that is 10 sounds too many!

(source: freekibblekat.com)

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- 3/4 CUP SHREDDED SWISS CHEESE
- 1 EGG
- 2 TABLESPOONS SUNFLOWER OIL
- 1 CUP (APPROX) WATER

NOW WHAT?

PREHEAT OVEN TO 300 DEGREES AND LINE A PAN WITH BAKING PAPER. MEASURE AND MIX WHEAT FLOUR, OAT BRAN AND SEMOLINA. ADD THE CHEESE, EGG, SUNFLOWER OIL & WATER. MIX TO A SMOOTH DOUGH. ROLL THE DOUGH 1/4" THICK ON A FLOURED SURFACE. CUT STRIPS 1/2" WIDE AND 5" LONG WITH A LARGE KNIFE. TWIST THE DOUGH STRIPS LIKE CORKSCREWS. PLACE ON BAKING PAPER, AND BAKE 20 MINUTES. EAT & ENJOY!