



"Old age means realizing you will never own all the dogs you wanted to." - Joe Gores



Welcome to
The Pet 'N Player,
a free monthly newsletter
from Pet 'N Play -
Your Personal Pet Sitters.
We hope you enjoy it!

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Monthly Poll:

(Click on the question to answer)

[Declawing cats is an emotionally charged and hotly debated topic. Do you think that owners should be allowed to declaw their cats?](#)

Why people care more about pets than other humans

Wired

We love our pets. Two-thirds of Americans live with an animal, and according to a 2011 Harris poll, 90 percent of pet owners think of their dogs and cats as members of the family. These relationships have benefits. For example, in a survey by the American Animal Hospital Association, 40 percent of married female dog owners reported they received more emotional support from their pet than from their husband or their kids.

[Read More](#)

This month's pet trivia (answers below):

- 1) People have about 650 skeletal muscles. How many do cats have?
A) 350 B) 500 C) 650 D) 800
- 2) True or false: Dalmatians are born with spots?
- 3) What is the total number of claws that most house cats have?
A) 14 B) 16 C) 18 D) 20 E) None of the above
- 4) How old was the world's oldest dog, an Australian Cattle Hound named Bluey, in human years?
A) 21 B) 26 C) 29 D) 31

The results of last month's poll question:

Do you think it is okay to dress up your pets (like in a Halloween costume)?

2/3 of you said it is okay on special occasions, while 1/3 said it is not okay.

May Pet Holidays:

National Pet Month (US)

[Responsible Animal Guardian Month.](#)

Pet Cancer Awareness Month.

Sponsored by Pet Cancer Awareness and the Blue Buffalo Foundation for Cancer Research. (Also see November events.)

Chip Your Pet Month.

National Service Dog Eye Examination Month.

The [American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists](#) hosts this annual event when over 200 veterinary ophthalmologists donate their services to provide eye exams to service dogs in the US and Canada.

May 1, 2015: [National Purebred Dog Day](#)

May 3-9, 2015: [National Pet Week](#). Always held the first full week of May by the American Veterinary Medical Association.

May 4-10, 2015: **American Humane's** [Be Kind to Animals Week](#). This week-

"In the beginning, God created man, but seeing him so feeble, He gave him the cat." - Warren Eckstein

Ever wonder where your outdoor cat wanders?

The Boston Globe

Though tigers and bears still keep many secrets, the enigma of the suburban house cat remains more mysterious yet. In the 1950s, one of the world's top experts on felines, German ethologist Paul Leyhausen, had tried to study the outdoor travels of *Felis catus*. To follow just one house cat "would have required three well-trained, physically fit and inexhaustible observers, plus a lot more equipment than we could command at the time," he later admitted. [Read More](#)



Meet Zoe (back left), Ella (back right) and Hailey, this month's Featured Pets.

long event has been celebrated since 1915. Always the first full week of May.

May 4-10, 2015: [Puppy Mill Action Week](#). An initiative of the HSUS, this week is always scheduled to begin the Monday before Mother's Day.

May 18-24, 2015: [Dog Bite Prevention Week](#). This event by the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) along with the United States Post Office (USPS) and the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) focuses attention on preventing dog bites.



Looking for that perfect holiday or birthday gift for your favorite pet lover? Click on a banner ad to check out the products. Or [visit our web site](#) for other unique and fun products for pets and pet lovers alike!

(Sad note, our friend Hailey passed away in April)

[See all of our past Featured Pets here!](#)

The great grain debate: Should pet foods avoid grains?

By Jennifer Adolphe

Grain-free diets are becoming much more commonplace in the pet food aisle. There are a number of reasons for this growing trend, such as the belief that grains are harmful for pets or that grain-free diets are more appropriate for dogs and cats from an evolutionary perspective. Also, gluten has been touted as a substance to be feared in many popular human diets, and pet and human nutrition trends usually go hand-in-hand. With so many grain and grain-free options available, what do you need to know about the great grain debate? [Read More](#)

Solving pet anxiety

Pet Age

Pets can suffer from anxiety just like humans. Unfortunately though, pets can't schedule an appointment with a therapist. What they can do is exhibit behaviors that indicate anxiety. It is up to the pet owner to help ease the uneasiness of their pet and they are looking to retailers for help. Pets can feel anxiety for a number of reasons. [Read More](#)

"I love cats because I enjoy my home; and little by little, they become its visible soul." Jean Cocteau



Holistic medicine becoming more popular for pets

WBZ-TV

For us humans, holistic medicine has been a growing field for a while. Now it's gaining popularity in the treatment of pets, too. That's a why a dog like Sundance can be found getting resistance treatment in a pool, or acupuncture, for her hip problems. "Every day, you could see her getting stronger," said owner Peter Wood. [Read More](#)

Fun facts about pets:

The calories burned daily by the sled dogs running in Alaska's annual Iditarod race average 10,000. The 1,149-mile race commemorates the 1925 "Race for Life" when 20 volunteer mushers relayed medicine from Anchorage to Nome to battle a children's diphtheria epidemic.

Cat urine glows under a black light.

The last member of the famous Bonaparte family, Jerome Napoleon Bonaparte, died in 1945, of injuries sustained from tripping over his dog's leash.

Catnip can affect lions and tigers as well as house cats. It excites them because it contains a chemical that resembles an excretion of the dominant female's urine.

We hope you get a laugh at one of the comics below. There are new comics every day on our web site, just click on a comic. They are brought to you by [Andertoons](#).





Pet Sitter's Corner

Each month in the Pet Sitter's Corner we will keep you up to date on changes with Pet 'N Play, local events, and other interesting news.

We are excited to announce that our **Adoptable Pets** page is now up on our web site! The list includes local shelters and rescues in Southeastern Michigan. You can find rescues of pure bred dogs, non-pure bred dogs, cats, and small animals like rabbits, ferrets and more. There are also resources for finding other specific breeds in other parts of the state or country.

There are over one hundred rescues listed, so everyone should be able to find their next four-legged family member! And if you know of anyone looking to adopt a new pet, send them our way! [Check out our page here.](#)

There are a number of local pet events in May. First of all, every third Monday is [Yappy Hour](#), from 4-6pm, alternating between the two Ann Arbor dog parks (Swift Run and Olson Park). And every Wednesday evening starting at 6pm is the [Gallup Park Dog Walks](#).

May 10 from Noon to 4 pm is the [SASHA Farm Spring Social!](#) Meet the animals at their first fundraiser of the year, and enjoy a guided tour and animal friendly bake sale.

May 16 from 8am-1pm is [The Humane Society of Huron Valley's 36th Annual Walk & Wag and Run!](#) This is a great event for pet lovers, whether you want to help raise funds, make a donation, or just enjoy the day.

**Thank you for reading our newsletter! We hope you enjoyed it.
And please feel free to share it with anyone and everyone.**

Send any pet sitting questions you have to us at: info@pet-n-play.com

Trivia answers:

- 1) B - 500 skeletal muscles 2) False - they are born white and develop spots later
3) C - 18 (5 in the front paws and 4 in the rear paws) 4) C - 29 years!

[Check out past issues of The Pet 'N Player here](#)

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