

May 2017

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*"You can keep a dog; but it is the cat who keeps people, because cats find humans useful domestic animals." - George Mikes*



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)

## 6 Reasons Why Food Puzzles Are Worth The Effort

Vetstreet



Some veterinarians recommend using puzzles to deliver a portion of a pet's daily food to confined cats and dogs. But what if you are not sure if food puzzles are such a good idea for your pet? Or what if you're not sure your pet will use one or you think they look like too much work? I am here to tell you that the payoff for your pet is tremendous and well worth any extra work.

[Read More](#)

### This month's pet trivia (answers below):

- 1) Why do dogs yawn?  
A) They are bored   B) They are excited   C) They are nervous   D) They are sleepy, just like humans

[Does your pet have a middle name?](#)

Last month's question:  
**Do you clip your pet's nails by yourself?**

Everyone said yes, they do it themselves!

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### **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: **National Purebred Dog Day.**

May 3: **National Specially-Abled Pets Day.**

May 7: **Mayday for Mutts.**  
First Sunday in May.

2) Where can feral cat colonies be found?

A) Mobile home parks   B) Alleyways   C) Abandoned houses   D) All of the above

3) Female dogs definitely have better personalities if they are allowed to have a litter before being spayed?

A) True   B) False

4) Feral cats do not need shelters, as they are used to being outside in all kinds of weather?

A) True   B) False

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*"Even the tiniest Poodle or Chihuahua is still a wolf at heart."* - Dorothy Hinshaw Patent

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## **Dogs May Reduce Allergies and Obesity in Babies**

Thebark.com

For the past couple of decades researchers have been looking at the role that pets, especially dogs, have to play in rates of allergies in children. Many have found that, what is being termed the hygiene hypothesis, is indeed correct, meaning that a little dirt early in life helps to stave allergic diseases, including obesity.

[Read More](#)

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May 7 – 13: **American Humane's Be Kind to Animals Week.** This week-long event has been celebrated since 1915. Always the first full week of May.

May 7-13: **National Pet Week.** Always held the first full week of May by the American Veterinary Medical Association.

May 8-13: **Puppy Mill Action Week.** An initiative of the HSUS, this week is always scheduled to begin the Monday before Mother's Day.

May 8: **National Animal Disaster Preparedness Day.**

May 21-27: **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. 3rd full week in May.

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Meet Shadow and Pauline -  
Our Featured Pets for May 2017!

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

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## How Often Should I Wash My Pet's Food Bowls?

Vetstreet

When it comes to washing pet bowls, there is a lot of conflicting information out there. How often should you wash? What should you wash the bowls with? Where should you wash? Everybody seems to have an opinion. So we've decided to go straight to the experts to find out what they think about pet bowl hygiene, food-borne disease prevention and their best practices to protect the health of humans and animals in the household. [Read More](#)

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*"A dog will flatter you but you have to flatter the cat." -*  
George Mikes

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Meet Bandicoot  
[Our Adoptable  
Pet of the Month!](#)

From the Humane Society  
of Huron Valley

See all the adoptable pets  
of the month on our web  
site [here](#)

## [5 Signs Your Dog is Bored](#)

### and What To Do About It

moderndogmagazine.com

Life can't be one long dog park visit, but does your dog understand that? Probably not. The reality is that many dogs stay at home while their people are at work during the day. Rather than whine around the house complaining there's nothing to do, your home-alone dog may be stirring up trouble. It's important to note your dog is not doing this out of spite. Spite is a very human trait, but not a canine one. [Read More](#)

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### Fun facts about pets:

**A cat will almost never meow at another cat. Cats use this sound for humans.**

**The calories burned daily by the sled dogs running 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.**

**A cat will never break a sweat because it has no sweat glands.**

**The Canary Islands were not named for a bird called a canary. They were named after a breed of large dogs. The Latin name was Canariae insulae - "Island of Dogs."**

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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](#).

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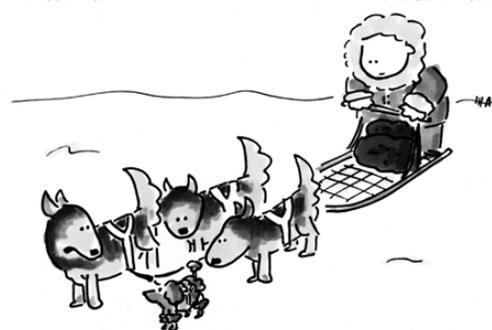
WWW.ANDERTOONS.COM



"I see under 'special talents' that you always land on your feet. Tell me about that."

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"You the temp?"

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## 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.

**May 20, 2017, from 8am-1pm is The Humane Society of Huron Valley's 38th Annual Walk & Wag and Run! At Rolling Hills County Park, Ypsilanti,** it's their biggest fundraiser of the year! There is a 5k race, a 1 mile fun walk, stunt dog performance, best dog trick competition, and a whole lot more. Come out and enjoy the fun, or better yet, put together a team and fund raise for a worthy cause. Find out more at: [hshv.org](http://hshv.org)

**May 27-28, 2017 is the Dog Bowl 2017! In Frankenmuth, MI,** it is a high energy event that showcases dogs running, jumping, diving, and retrieving! Located in Frankenmuth River Place Shops. Lots of great events: Best Costume Contest, 50 yard Doggie Fun Run, Disc Dog Competitions, Wiener Dog Races, Pet Retail Vendors, Dog Bowl King and Queen, Dog Breeds of the World Show, Annual Canine Cruise of the Bavarian Belle River Boat, DockDogs Competition and Hot Air Balloons. Find out more at: <http://dogfunfest.com/>

**Good News - Part 1:** Several of the lost pets we posted about on our Facebook page were re-united with their owners! We always love a happy ending, especially if we were able to help out at all. And by "we," we mean all of you! Be sure to follow our posts and pass them along, to help more pets find their ways home.

**Good News - Part 2:** The Humane Society just hosted the first (annual) "Empty the Shelter" event, sponsored by the [BISSELL Pet Foundation](#). This is BISSELL's third annual "Empty the Shelter" event, and the first in which HSHV will be participating. Last year, more than 2,800 pets in nearly 90 shelters found homes during BISSELL's Empty the Shelters events. There were about 120 pets at the shelter at the start of the event, and they hoped to adopt out most of them.

**Good News - Part 3:** The Humane Society is celebrating 10 years of Trap-Neuter-Return! Since 2007, the Humane Society of Huron Valley (HSHV) has sterilized over 11,000 free-roaming cats in their Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) program. Keep up the great work!

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](mailto:info@pet-n-play.com)

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**Trivia answers:**

- 1) C - They are nervous. In reality, yawning in dogs is usually a sign of nervousness.
- 2) D - All of the above. Feral cat colonies can be found virtually anywhere humans do not always go. The colonies can average as low as two full grown cats upward to about fifty or sixty, maybe more.
- 3) B - False. Studies have shown this to be false. Many of the health benefits of spaying occur only if the bitch is spayed before that first litter.
- 4) B - False. Feral cats do need shelter. If colony is being managed by a human caretaker, the caretaker should provide them with a man-made shelter, like a doghouse, to protect them from the wind, cold, rain, snow, and heat.

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

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