



Lake Eustis
Kennel Club

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LEKC meets the 4th Wednesday of each month
@ The Lady Lake Library, W. Guava Street.
Board meets 6 p.m. General meeting 7:15 p.m.
Website: www.lekcdogclub.org

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BRAGS:



Sharie's Rowdy qualified in 2 classes at the Sonlight Ranch Scent Work trial 4/9/2019. 2nd leg in Advanced container and 1st leg in exterior with a 2nd place.

Sharon Everson's Good Boy Roy and Refree



Good Boy Roy earned first place in Novice Interior at the Scent Work Trial hosted by Sonlight Ranch in Brooksville, on Wednesday April 11, 2019.



Refree earned a third place in Novice Container and first place in both Novice Exterior and Novice Buried at the Sonlight Ranch in Brooksville on Wednesday April 11, 2019.

Did you know?

April is from the Latin word aperio, "to open" (bud), because plants begin to grow during this month.

Puzzle of the month:

A motorcar is three times as old as its tires were when it was as old as the tires are now. When its tires are old as the car is now, the car will be a year older than the tires are now. What are the present ages of car and tires? (Answer page 3)

Federal Animal Welfare Act (FWA)

Today, the USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service published a request for public comments on [proposed updates to the federal Animal Welfare Act \(AWA\) licensing requirements](#).

After receiving more than 47,000 comments in response to a 2017 request for comments on an advanced notice of proposed rulemaking, USDA APHIS is proposing:

- **To amend its licensing requirements to eliminate automatic renewals. With this change, licensees would have to demonstrate compliance with the AWA and demonstrate that the animals in their possession are adequately cared for in order to obtain a license. APHIS reports that this proposed change would also strengthen existing regulations to prevent individuals and businesses whose licenses were suspended or revoked from working for other licensees.**
- **To lighten the regulatory burden for licensees who are fully compliant. APHIS is taking steps to streamline the licensing process by reducing licensing fees and simplifying the payment and collection process.**
- **To require any dealer, exhibitor (defined as carnivals, circuses, animal acts, zoos, and educational exhibits) or research facility with dogs to maintain a written program for veterinary care and medical records and to make those records available to USDA upon request. The written veterinary care program would have to include regular visits by the attending veterinarian to conduct a complete physical examination of each dog not less than once a year, vaccinations for contagious and deadly diseases of dogs, and preventative care and treatment for hair coats, nails, eyes, ears, skin, and teeth. In addition, the proposed rule would require that dogs have continual access to potable water unless restricted by an attending veterinarian.**

AKC Government Relations is in the process of fully reviewing the proposal, and will provide additional analysis and comment in the coming days. For more information, view the proposal or contact AKC GR at (919) 816-3720 or email doglaw@akc.org. You may also contact the USDA directly at 301-851-3730.

Submitted by Kathy P

Laugh Line

Q: Why are dogs like phones?

A: Because they have collar IDs!

Q: Why do dogs run in circles?

A: Because it's hard to run in squares!

Q: What do you get when you cross a sheepdog with a rose?

A: A collie-flower!

Q: What do you get when you cross a racing dog with a bumblebee?

A: A greyhound buzz!

Q: Why did the snowman name his dog "Frost"?

A: Because "Frost" bites!

Q: What dog keeps the best time?

A: A watch dog!

***The amount of good luck coming your way depends directly on the amount of hard work you put in.**

I told myself that I was going to live the rest of my life as if it were Saturday (Chip Gaines)

How cold was it? It was so cold the snowman kept trying to get into the house.

Answer to Puzzle: The car is 18 months old; the tires are a year old.

XYLITOL

EDUCATIONAL ALERT! Koda, a friend's dog, ate half a cheesecake. The cheesecake was made with xylitol instead of sugar to reduce the calories. Koda fought for days but did not pull through. I'm posting this because xylitol awareness needs to be something we are all conscious of as advocates for our pets. Many use xylitol because other sweeteners have bitter after tastes and xylitol does not. Supposedly it's safe for humans but if it's toxic for dogs, I would also think it's not the best for humans. I guess because it doesn't kill humans, manufacturers say it's ok. ☹️ Xylitol is harmful to dogs in any amount, even deadly to many if it's not treated within 15 minutes of ingestion. There are so many products made with xylitol. It usually comes under the guise of SUGAR FREE. Follow this link for a list of products that contain this deadly compound. I was shocked to see it is even in some clothing. This is not a comprehensive list so be diligent. It boggles my brain it was in a cheesecake! <https://www.preventivevet.com/xylitol-products-toxic-for-dogs...>



Knowing the Right Time to Say Goodbye to a Pet

End-of-life decisions for animals are difficult. A veterinarian has developed a scale to help clear up the confusion.

Nearly 14 years ago, my daughter and I were grieving the death of my mother, and it seemed nothing could lift our spirits. Then we got Fluffy, a bouncing bundle of gray and white puppy, and everything changed.

Fluffy kept us busy with pee pads and squeaky toys. She made us laugh in spite of our sadness, and the gray clouds of grief began to recede.

Over the years, our 10-pound fluff ball was a constant in our lives. We dressed her up in holiday sweaters, celebrated her birthdays and scolded her for sneaking food from the cat's dish. But in recent weeks, as our walks slowed down and her naps grew longer, it became clear that our time together was limited. I hoped that in the end, Fluffy would have a natural death, drifting off to sleep for good on her favorite soft pillow.

A natural death is what many of us hope for with our pets. They are members of our family, deeply enmeshed in our lives, and for many of us, thoughts of euthanasia seem unfathomable, so we cling to the notion that a natural death is desirable.

But my veterinarian advised me that my end-of-life scenario for my dog wasn't realistic. In most cases, a natural death, she told me, means prolonged suffering that we don't always see, because dogs and cats are far more stoic than humans when it comes to pain.

Dr. Alice Villalobos, a nationally recognized oncology veterinarian based in Hermosa Beach, Calif., said that many pet owners idealize a natural death without thinking about what a "natural" death really means. A frail animal, she noted, doesn't linger very long in nature.

"When animals were domesticated they gave up that freedom to go under a bush and wait to die," said Dr. Villalobos. "They become very quickly part of mother nature's plan due to predators or the elements. And yet in our homes we protect them from everything so they can live a long time — and sometimes too long."

Dr. Villalobos has dedicated her career to helping pet owners navigate end-of-life issues. She created an animal hospice program she calls "pawspice." She coined the name because she doesn't want to confuse end-of-life care for animals with the choices we make for human hospice.

Her program is focused on extending a pet's quality of life. That might mean treating a cancer "in kind and gentle ways," she said. It can mean supportive care like giving fluids, oxygen or pain medication. In some cases, it might mean hand-feeding for frail pets or carrying an animal to a water dish or litter box. And finally, she said, it means a "well death."

Dr. Villalobos has advocated what she calls "bond-centered euthanasia," which allows the pet owner to be present and play a comforting role during the procedure. She has also championed sedation-first euthanasia, putting the animal into a gentle sleep before administering a lethal drug.

To help pet owners make decisions about end-of-life care, [Dr. Villalobos developed a decision tool](#) based on seven indicators. The scale is often called the HHHHHMM scale, based on the first letter of each indicator. On a scale of zero to 10, with zero being very poor and 10 being best, a pet owner is asked to rate the following:

- **Hurt:** Is the pet's pain successfully managed? Is it breathing with ease or distress?
- **Hunger:** Is the pet eating enough? Does hand-feeding help?
- **Hydration:** Is the patient dehydrated?
- **Hygiene:** Is the pet able to stay clean? Is it suffering from bed sores?
- **Happiness:** Does the pet express joy and interest?
- **Mobility:** Can the patient get up without assistance? Is it stumbling?
- **More:** Does your pet have more good days than bad? Is a healthy human-animal bond still possible?

Dr. Villalobos says pet owners should talk to their vet about the ways they can improve a pet's life in each category. When pet owners approach end of life this way, they often are surprised at how much they can do to improve a pet's quality of life, she said.

[Try Dr. Villalobos's scale: Assess Your Pet: Is It Time to Say Goodbye?]

By revisiting the scale frequently, pet owners can better assess the quality of the pet's hospice care and gauge an animal's decline. The goal should be to keep the total at 35 or higher. And as the numbers begin to decline below 35, the scale can be used to help a pet owner make a final decision about euthanasia.

"Natural death, as much as many people wish it would happen, may not be kind and may not be easy and may not be peaceful," Dr. Villalobos said. "Most people would prefer to assure a peaceful passing. You're just helping the pet separate from the pack just as he would have done in nature."

I discovered Dr. Villalobos's scale as I was searching for answers for Fluffy in her final weeks. When she did get up, she often stumbled and seemed confused. Sometimes at night, I heard her whimper.

I had reached out to two at-home vet services, VettedPetCare.com and Instavet.com, that both offered compassionate guidance and confirmed my fears that no treatments were available to improve her condition. Fluffy was a very old dog, and they suspected her decline was a result of some combination of kidney and liver failure, but discouraged extensive testing since the physical symptoms were obvious. One visiting vet gave Fluffy subcutaneous fluids to help with dehydration and make her more comfortable and advised me to spend a final happy day with my dog before calling her for a final visit to end her suffering.

I trusted her judgment, but my tears and the fact that Fluffy still ate a little and wagged her tail when I stroked her clouded my thinking. I turned to the end-of-life scale and was able to see how poorly she was doing, despite the tail wag. I took my vet's advice and spent a quiet day with Fluffy, giving her the cat food treats she so loved, without any scolding. I revisited the scale several times, just to remind myself that I was doing the right thing. The scale allowed me to make a more detached assessment of Fluffy, and it was a tremendous source of comfort during a very difficult time.

It wasn't an easy decision or a pleasant one. But it was the right decision. And in the end Fluffy did drift away on her favorite soft pillow, just as I had hoped.

Tara Parker-Pope is the founding editor of Well, The Time's award-winning consumer health site. She won an Emmy in 2013 for the video series "Life, Interrupted" and is the author of "For Better: The Science of a Good Marriage." @taraparkerpoppe

Doggie Bone Broth Recipe

You will need:

- 4 lbs beef marrow bones (Some grocery stores call these “soup bones.” I suggest buying organic and grass-fed, if possible.)
- 1 cup organic parsley, chopped
- 1 cup organic spinach, chopped
- ¼ cup organic apple cider vinegar (This pulls the beneficial minerals and collagen from the bones — so don’t forget this “magic” ingredient!)
- Filtered water
- Slow-cooker (You can use a large stock pot instead, but I find a slow cooker is easiest since this will need to cook overnight.)

Step #1:

Pile the soup bones into your slow-cooker, then add your organic apple cider vinegar. Pour in water until the water-level reaches 2-3 inches above the bones.

Step #2:

Set your slow-cooker to high for 1 hour, then turn to low for 20-24 hours.

(I know this may seem like a long cook-time, but this is exactly how long it takes for all the powerhouse nutrients to melt away from the bones — and into the broth.)

Step #3:

After the broth is done, turn your slow-cooker off. Carefully remove ALL the bones and strain the broth to catch any fragments.

(NOTE: Cooked bones can be a serious choking hazard — so make sure to discard all the bones and make sure your dog can’t access the trash.)

While your broth is still warm, stir in the parsley and spinach.

Step #4:

Let the broth cool, then pour into storage containers and stick in the fridge for 2-3 hours. (I promise this is the last time you’ll have to wait during this recipe!)

After it’s completely cooled, remove the thin layer of fat on top to reveal the bone broth underneath.

(If you notice your broth looks more like JELLY than broth... that’s from all the nutritious

collagen you've pulled from the bones. Pretty cool, right?)

And now... the bone broth is FINALLY ready for your dog to enjoy!

Simply add a ¼ cup at a time to your dog's raw food until it's "fluffed up" and rehydrated, or let them enjoy it as an occasional snack.

(NOTE: This bone broth will stay fresh in the fridge for 3-4 days, so portion out what your dog will eat for the next few days — then freeze the rest for future meals.)

The best part is, you can customize this recipe to your pup's liking! For instance, feel free to add other dog-friendly veggies like broccoli or carrots...

Or freeze the broth in an ice-cube tray to make homemade "PUP-SICLES" for a savory, summertime treat.

You can even switch up the bones, too. Bones with plenty of joints like chicken feet for instance, are packed with even more collagen.

So go ahead and make this amazing, canine-boosting bone broth for your dog as soon as you can.

After all, the hardest part of this recipe is simply waiting for it to be done!

Just ask my 3 dogs, whose tails start wagging like crazy as soon as it starts simmering :)

To you and your best friend,

Dr. Marty (Contributed by Jackie)

HAPPY EASTER

