

Pawz at Play News May/June Issue



*Riley Dickey
waits patiently
for his turn on
the slide!!!!*

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*"They are your friend,
your partner, your
defender, your dog. You
are their life, their love,
their leader. They will be
yours, faithful and true,
until the last beat of
their heart. You owe it
them to be worthy of such
devotion."*

Ms. June
Dakota Coe



Spring Has Sprung!!!!

Spring is definitely in the air here at Pawz at Play! We have tails wagging in the breeze and hot tongues hanging out every which way! It has been very busy around here with Spring Break vacations and lots of daycare doggies coming to enjoy the sunshine with their friends. You're sure to see many new faces on the webcams these days. We are so thankful you think of us to take care of your furry friends while you're gone. Keep reading for some interesting tidbits regarding your favorite canine's happiness and health.

Best Wishes,
Pawz at Play Staff

Fleas, Fleas, Fleas, Ticks, Ticks, Ticks

They are here earlier than expected, the little buggers! Be sure and protect your pet. We have Frontline available for sale in our lobby.

Reminder

Memorial Day is 5/27-5/29
Don't wait until the last
minute to reserve a spot!!!!

Miss Dakota Coe is our Top Dog this month. This little lady is quite a beauty but she is no wallflower, she gets in there with the best of them! Dakota has a perky, outgoing personality and gets along great with everyone but her very best bud is Milo Noland. Dakota does play hard but is never too busy to give the playground supervisors lots of hugs and kisses. That's what makes Miss Dakota such a top dog! Happy Birthday Dakota!!!

HOT WEATHER ADVISORY!

"Baby it's hot outside"

It's even hotter for your pet under all that fur! As the hot weather approaches let us remember some safety tips for our dogs & cats:

- If possible avoid leaving your dog outside in the heat for any length of time. Their internal temperature is greater than ours. So if you're hot...they're even hotter!
- Never leave your dog/cat in a parked car even with the windows down. Temperatures can soar to 160 degrees within minutes!
- WATER! Make sure your water bowls are always full. Check them frequently and have multiple bowls of water available on very hot days. Don't forget those outside water bowls!
- The toilet is not a water fountain! Avoid letting your dog drink out of the toilet. There is a harmful bacterium that may harm your dog, especially if you use the drop in bowl cleaners (blue water), they will make your dog very ill.
- Those pesky fleas come out in the warmer weather. Check your dog and cats frequently and use a flea preventative regularly such as Frontline.
- **Please, Please** walk your dog on a leash. Even though you may feel safe that he won't run off; your dog could suddenly bolt due to loud noises, wildlife, or something to give chase to. Don't take that chance!

Have a great, safe Springtime!

Water Anyone?

Some of you may have noticed your dogs drinking heavily after being at daycare. We always have at least two water bowls down inside and two outside for the dogs. So if there is water available why is your dog drinking so much when you get home? Well, there are a few possibilities:

- Even though water is available some dogs, like children, are too busy to stop and drink a lot (they do drink when they are thirsty). They save the big drinking for when they are settled down at home.
- It's hot outside. By the time they have ridden home in a hot car, with all the excitement of it all, they are thirsty again.
- Some dogs don't like sharing a water bowl with other dogs. Seriously! Don't worry though; they will drink when they are thirsty.

So please don't be concerned if your dog comes home and drinks a lot of water. Rest assured they are being offered water at daycare. That old saying rings true "You can lead a horse (or dog) to water but you can't make him drink." ☺

Celebrating a Birthday this May and June

Scooby Doo Terry	Dixie Frazier 5/2
Diogee Stancliff 5/5	Roger McConnell 5/6
Riley Dickey 5/10	Dockers Hall 5/17
Sawyer Owen 5/18	Eddie Lane 5/21
Taylor Latimer 5/27	Lucky Webb 6/1
Maynard Brewster 6/3	Jutta Galley 6/3
Dakota Coe 6/5	Molly Higgins 6/5
Milo Noland 6/14	Chloe Kimberling 6/15
Velvet Segal 6/16	Murphy Adams 6/16
Gunnar Webb 6/21	Hershey Lyman 6/22
Snow Ostrowski 6/23	Amber Wagner 6/26
Bobbi Staso 6/27	Dakota Thompson 6/27

We hope we didn't miss anyone, please let us know your pet's birthday!

Meet The Staff



Miss Gina & Maggie

Gina is one of the Big Dog Supervisors and has been with us since we opened. She is newly married to a handsome fella named Josh and has a 5 year old daughter, Jessica. Gina has a true love for animals as evident by her 5 dogs (she is fostering one), two ferrets, Max & Ruby, and a Bearded Dragon named Peanut Butter. She volunteers at the Spay & Neuter clinic and is like the Howard Johnson's for strays roaming the streets in her neighborhood, she always leaves the light on! Gina has a firm but gentle way with the dogs and has taught more dogs than we can name manners and tricks. We are so thankful to have Gina as part of the Pawz at Play team!

Hot Topic of the Month

Spaying and Neutering Your Pet

Some may wonder why we require that all dogs over 6 months of age be spayed or neutered. Let us explain... Foremost we don't want any dogs getting pregnant. That would certainly make for some interesting puppy combinations though! Let's say we allow you to bring your dog even though he/she's not fixed. They are the only one not fixed so you're safe right? Well, your dog won't get pregnant but he/she will most likely be picked on by the other dogs. Dogs sense the hormones that your dog is producing and see that as a sign of either weakness or aggression. We have seen this many times as our puppies mature. This "picking on" or aggressiveness toward the un-neutered/spayed dog dissipates, like the hormones, after they have the surgery. Some other unpleasant behaviors consistent with un-neutered males (and sometimes females as well) are they will often mark or urinate around the house, even though they are housetrained. This is a hormonal instinct that has nothing to do with knowing to go potty outside. You may also see your male/female dog mounting other dogs or objects. In our last newsletter we discussed mounting and how other dogs can get aggressive when mounted. For the safety of all the dogs in our care we require that all our dogs be neutered/spayed by or around 6 months of age. Here are a few myths and facts about spaying and neutering taken from The Humane Society of the United States website:

MYTH: *I don't want my male dog or cat to feel like less of a male.*

FACT: Pets don't have any concept of sexual identity or ego. Neutering will not change a pet's basic personality. He doesn't suffer any kind of emotional reaction or identity crisis when neutered.

MYTH: *But my pet is a purebred.*

FACT: So is at least one out of every four pets brought to animal shelters around the country. There are just too many dogs and cats—mixed breed *and* purebred.

MYTH: *But my dog (or cat) is so special, I want a puppy (or kitten) just like her.*

FACT: A dog or cat may be a great pet, but that doesn't mean their offspring will be a carbon copy. Professional animal breeders who follow generations of bloodlines can't guarantee they will get just what they want out of a particular litter. A pet owner's chances are even slimmer. In fact, an entire litter of puppies or kittens might receive all of a pet's (and her mate's) worst characteristics.

If you are interested in spaying/neutering your pet and are worried about the cost please call or go to the following website to find the nearest low-cost clinic. Just an FYI, they also offer low cost vaccinations as well!

No More Homeless Pets in Kansas City

816-333-PETS/www.kcpets.org

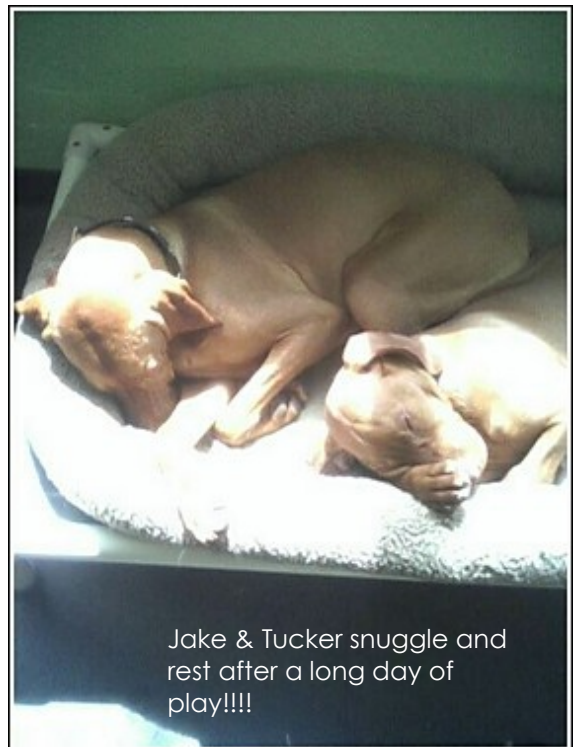
Pawz at Play Referral Program

We love that you love us! So many of you have told your friends, co-workers, or neighbors about us and we are so grateful. We would like to thank you by giving you a full day of daycare for everyone you send us that purchases a daycare package or boards for 4 days or more. We have referral cards and more information at the front desk.

Mark Your Calendars!

Upcoming Events:

- Pet Expo May 6-7 at the American Royal Center
Look for us there!!
- Run for the Dogs- Heart of America Humane Society Saturday, May 13- Rain or shine!
- FurBall- Wayside Waifs Saturday, May 20
- Memorial Day- May 29
- Dog N Jog- Greater KC Humane Society- Saturday, June 11at County Club Plaza Look for Pawz at Play!
- Paws in the Park-Heritage Dog Park- Saturday, June 17th 9am-1pm



Jake & Tucker snuggle and rest after a long day of play!!!!