Professional Pet Sitting Etc.

**Solving Your Pet Care Needs,
Leaving You Guilt Free, Since 1990!**

www.profpetsit.com

MAY 2017 NEWSLETTER

Spring is in full effect and we at Professional Pet Sitting Etc. are so excited for the warm weather! Spring is a time of renewal and sometimes taking a time out for yourself or with your family is just what you need to start a fresh! As you plan your remaining spring break getaways and upcoming summer vacations, remember that we are your partner in short and long term pet sitting.

"The promise of spring is that it is still early enough in the year to make my dreams come true…or I can change my mind, push the reset button and start anew."
-Lois Joy Hofmann

TRENDING:

Cat cafes

Photo Credit: Tom's Cat Cafe

They've taken over our home, the Internet and now.... our coffee joints! Cat cafes have been popping up all over the U.S. and it's not going away anytime soon. Though cat cafés have been on the scene in Japan since 1998, the first one only opened up in America in 2014. Cat Town Café became the first permanent cat café when it opened up in Oakland, California and since then, over 40 have followed their lead.

Cat Cafes allow people to enjoy their usual coffee drinks along with observing, playing and even adopting cats. The cat café phenomenon allows people to interact and relieve stress while shelter cats are able to get out and be socialized.

Cat cafés have also spread all over the world including Korea, Austria, Spain, Hungary, Germany, France, and the United Kingdom!

We've heard it the theory before but "Could cat's really be taking over the world?"

To see if there is a cat café in your area visit http://www.thecatniptimes.com

YUMMY BARBEQUE

IDEAS YOUR POOCH WILL LOVE!

DOG-SAFE BBQ FOODS

- Hot Dogs-slice into pieces for a tasty treat!
- Grilled Veggies-zucchini and sweet potato make a perfect snack (no additives)!
- Frozen Fruit-blueberries and watermelon are safe fruits your pooch will enjoy!
- Meats-small portions of salmon, steak, or ribs (bones removed) will make sure your dog doesn't feel left out!

DOG-APPROVED RECIPES

BACON SWISS BURGER TREAT

These easy to make treats have all your dogs favorites in every bite!

Ingredients: 1/2 pound ground Beef (cook and drained), 3 slices Bacon, cooked and crumbled,1/2 cup shredded Swiss Cheese, 2 Eggs, 1/4 cup Milk, 1 1/4 cup Whole Wheat Flour

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees Fahrenheit and line a baking sheet with parchment paper or a silicone baking mat.
2. In a large bowl mix all ingredients one at a time, kneading well after each addition.
3. Knead dough into ball and roll onto a floured surface 1/4 inch thick. Cut with the cookie cutter of your choice.
4. Place on your prepared cookie sheet and bake for 10 to 15 minutes. Cool and refrigerate.

Credit: www.doggydessertchef.com

BBQ CHICKEN HOMEMADE DOG BISCUITS

Check out this saucy spin on a classic homemade dog biscuit!

Ingredients:

- 2 cups whole wheat flour
- 1 cup rolled oats
- 1 cup wheat germ
- 1/2 cup rye flour
- 1/2 cup yellow cornmeal
- 1/2 cup barbecue sauce, low or sugar free
- 1/4 cup safflower oil (see note above)
- 1 cup chicken broth

Additional Flour for Rolling

Instructions:

1. Preheat oven to 375° F
2. In a large bowl, whisk together the whole wheat flour, rolled oats, wheat germ, rye flour and cornmeal.
3. In a medium bowl, stir together the barbecue sauce, oil and broth.
4. Pour the BBQ sauce mixture into the dry ingredients and stir until thoroughly combined.
5. Knead the dough and roll to 1/4 inch thickness.
6. Using a cookie cutter, cut out the dog biscuits.
7. Place the biscuits on a lightly greased baking sheet.
8. Bake for 35 minutes, or until golden brown.
9. Cool completely on a wire rack.

ENJOY!

Credit: www.dogtreatkitchen.com

SHISH KEBABS

You may end up keeping these delicious looking kebabs for yourself!

Kebabs:
2 lbs. beef, chicken or lamb
Sweet Bell Peppers
Zucchini
White Mushrooms
Grape Tomatoes

Marinade:
3 tbsp. fresh lime juice
3 tbsp. olive oil
1 tbsp. fresh chopped cilantro
¼ tsp. ground cumin
1 small clove garlic-optional

Chop meat into cubes. Thoroughly clean mushrooms. In a sealable bag, combine lime juice, olive oil, cilantro, cumin and garlic (optional). Add meat cubes to the bag, tossing to coat. Seal the bag, removing as much air as possible and place in the fridge overnight or for several hours.

Once the meat has been marinated, it's time to build your kebabs. If you are using wooden or bamboo shish kebab skewers, they should be soaked in water for an hour prior to using. Chop zucchini and peppers into chunks. Build your skewers alternating meat and veggies. (My dogs and many other dogs are not really fans of tomatoes or mushrooms, so for them just use meat, zucchini & peppers.) Use the leftover marinade to baste the kebabs.

Grill kebabs over medium heat, basting and turning to cook all sides, until the beef is medium-rare, about 15 minutes.

Remove from heat and serve!

Credit: www.twolittlecavaliers.com

MAY IS LYME DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH

LYME DISEASE

What is Lyme disease?

Lyme Disease (Borreliosis) is a tick-borne disease caused by the spirochete bacteria, most often carried by the common deer tick, also known as "black-legged tick" or "bear tick." These disease-carrying ticks are very small and usually go undetected. Lyme disease is most prevalent in the Pacific Coastal, Upper Midwestern, and Atlantic Seaboard states. Once a tick attaches to its host, the disease is transmitted after 24 to 48 hours, however, symptoms in dogs sometimes don't occur for 2 to 5 months. Humans, dogs, and other pets can get Lyme disease though dogs are the most affected.

Common Symptoms

The most common symptoms in dogs include:

- Lameness
- Fever between 103-105
- Swelling in joints
- Loss of appetite
- Breathing difficulty
- Sensitivity to touch
- Stiff walk with an arched back
- Swollen lymph nodes
- Lethargy

Treatment

Treatment for Lyme disease is usually very effective, especially when caught early. A tetracycline or penicillin-based antibiotic such as doxycycline or amoxicillin is the most common treatment. Treatment lasts for 14 to a recommended 30 days, but there are times treatment lasts longer.

Prevention

You can easily prevent your pet from getting Lyme disease by using a flea and tick preventative or discussing Lyme disease vaccination with your pet's veterinarian. Keeping your pet away from wooded areas and tall grass will also decrease the chances of your pet getting ticks.

Note: People cannot catch Lyme disease from infected dogs unless the same tick makes its way to you or your pet passes the same tick to you.

If you have any other questions about Lyme disease and pets, don't hesitate to give Professional Pet Sitting Etc. a call, we are always happy to help any way we can!

If you have a suggestion or topic you would like to see in an upcoming newsletter, give us a call!

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