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PENINSULA VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

PVMA News

PVMA Meetings are cancelled for 2020

**Please watch the PVMA website
for important information
and updates!**

**Newsletters will continue bimonthly
and notices will be sent to members.**

www.PeninsulaVMA.org

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Family Reunions Go To The Dogs

At their first reunion last May, the sisters greeted each other with an indifferent sniff. But they eventually warmed up over the hour they spent at a park in San Mateo. “We, the people, were way more excited than the two dogs,” said one of the dog-owners. She had recently discovered, via DNA test, that her dog Wiley had a sister living nearby named Kaylee. Thus the doggie reunion. DNA tests have opened up a new world where humans find estranged or unknown family members. Now, just as with the human variety, canine family reunions can bring fun and surprises.

Wiley and Kaylee found each other through dog-DNA test maker *Embark Veterinary, Inc.* The \$199 test screens for more than 170 genetic health conditions, identifies the dogs’ breeds and connects owners of related dogs when both have taken the tests. The families believe that Kaylee and Wiley, both mostly Siberian Husky, immediately recognized each other. Kaylee usually tries to dominate unknown dogs by putting her head over the other dog’s shoulder. “She doesn’t do that with Kiley,” the owner said. There seemed to be a clear feeling of kinship there.

Studies suggest that dogs can recognize their mothers and littermates even after years of separation. While living with the litter, dogs become imprinted to the scent of their mother and their littermates. Kaylee was adopted from an Oakland shelter while Wiley was found at an Oakland horse barn. There’s clearly a story of abandonment on the streets of Oakland that we’ll probably never know.

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Newsletter Editor Notes

email address is:

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We welcome submission of
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suggestions for topics.

All submissions must be received by
the 20th of the month
preceding publication



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This is “*Eclipse*”. Every day she leaves the house by herself and takes the bus downtown to a Dog Park where she spends some hours getting exercise and making friends. Then she takes the bus back home again. She has her bus pass attached to her collar.

The adventurous dog began this habit when her owner, Jeff Young, took too long arriving at the bus stop one day, so when the bus arrived she just got on by herself. The bus driver recognized her and dropped her off at the Dog Park. Jeff then began letting her go on her own and she always came home after her visit.

All the bus drivers know Eclipse now and many of the regular passengers enjoy seeing her on her way to and fro. “She makes everybody happy,” they say.



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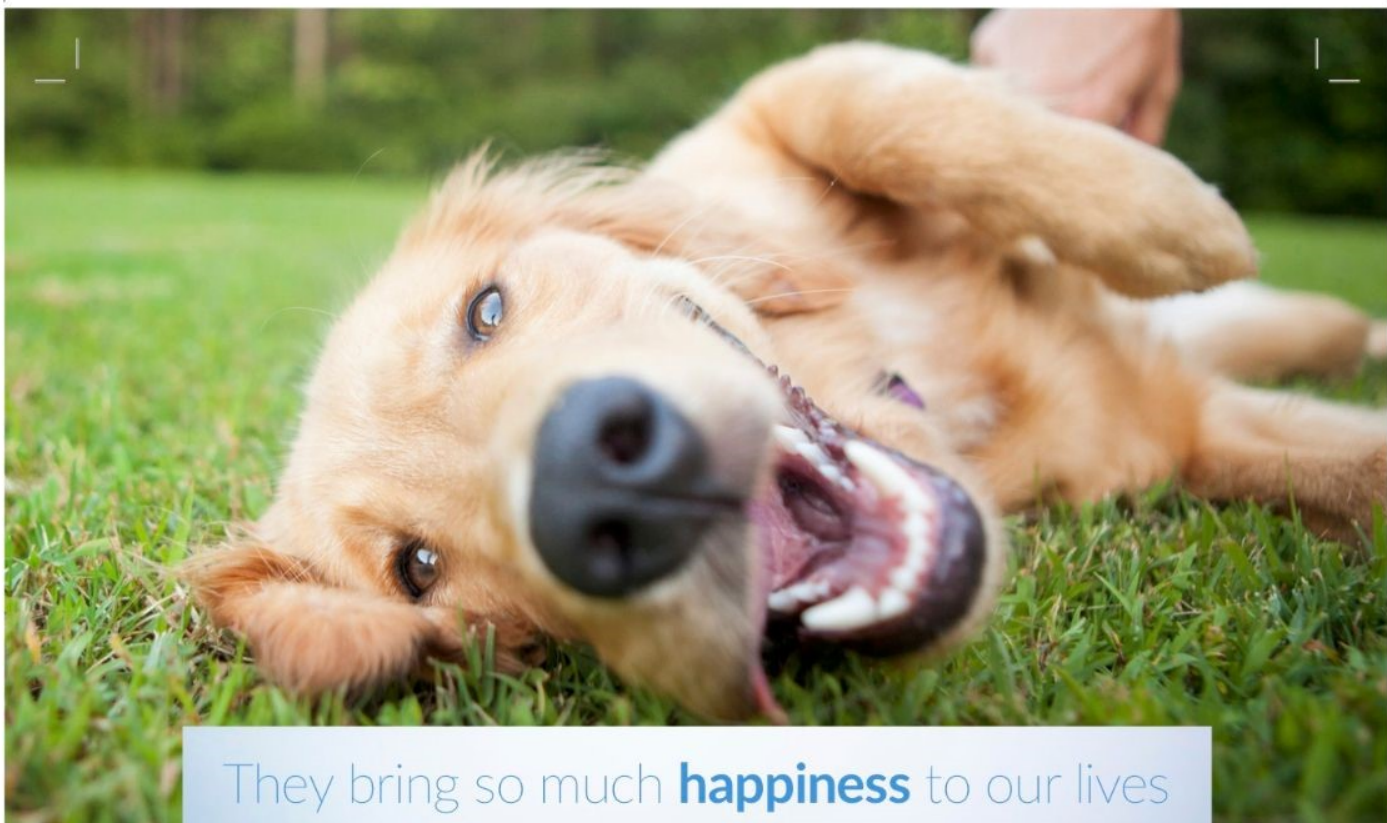
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