

THE HOLLYWOOD PET SET

More bark than bite? At least at home, that's the rule for the industry's top dogs, from NBC's Robert Greenblatt to CAA's David O'Connor, as they reveal the bonds — whether canine, feline or equine — that bring indescribable bliss *Edited by Jeanie Pyun*

THE
PET ISSUE

Kurt Sutter with Ike (African gray parrot)

Photographed by Ramona Rosales on July 23 at Sutter's Bel-Air house

I always refer to my recent fascination with birds as my midlife crisis, which I keep telling my wife is better than crack and hookers," jokes *Sons of Anarchy* show-runner Sutter, 47. Sutter's wife (and star of his gritty biker series), Katey Sagal, 59, actually is to blame for Sutter's affinity for feathered friends because she bought him a pair of diamond doves for Father's Day four years ago. Since then, the couple's 6-year-old daughter has set the doves free ("Esme decided that they shouldn't be in the cage"), but he has a new addition to his family, a smart African gray parrot named Ike. "I'm sure it's some homage to Ike Turner on some level — some dangerous badass parrot," says Sutter of the name choice. With a love of pistachios and a habit of imitating words and sounds from his surroundings, Ike, now a little more than a year old, splits his time between Sutter's office in his Bel-Air home and his outdoor cage during writing sessions. Ike lives with French bulldogs Lumpy and Lola, some fish and Django the labradoodle, which "is Katey's baby," Sutter says Ike prefers to be near him but is not a cuddler and doesn't "play well with others," specifically, other birds. Sutter has yet to bring Ike to the set, but he's considering a cameo in the near future: "I'm sure he'll end up on the show at some point." — REBECCA FORD



From left: Chelsea Handler, Snoo Dogg and Ryan Kavanaugh with Handler's Jax (boxer) and Chunk (chow mix) and Kavanaugh's Taz (Siberian husky) and Freedom (Alaskan husky)

Photographed by Brian Bowen Smith on July 16 at Stage 1 on the Universal Lot in Universal City

Perhaps it takes a Dogg to know what abandoned hounds need. As rapper Snoo Dogg, 41, an owner of 11 dogs and an investor in Dog for Dog food, explains, shelter mutts most often are euthanized not because a pound lacks space but rather "because there's not enough food to feed them. So we figured we can say, 'Buy some dog food for your dog, and we'll drop [an additional bag] off at a local shelter.' You save a dog's life."

The "we" in this scenario is 38-year-old Dog for Dog founder (and Relativity Media CEO) Kavanaugh — who started the dog-food brand with president and Three Dog Bakery owner Rocky Kanaka Keever — and late-night talk-show host and fellow investor Handler, also 38. The Santa Monica-based company, which stocks its goods at Petco, Pet Food Express and most neighborhood pet stores, prides itself on using all-natural ingredients such as peanuts and flaxseed and steers clear of sugar, salt and hydrogenated oils. "You love your dog, so put a little heart into what you're feeding your dog," says Keever, who demonstrates the edibility of DFD's

all-natural Blueberry DogsBar (\$3.99; the most expensive DFD product is \$66.95 for a 25-pound bag of food) by taking a bite out of it. This prompts Handler — who like Kavanaugh, Snoo and Keever feed DFD to their own beloved animals — to crack, "I wanted to get involved so I can share my food with my dogs because I'm hungry a lot."

The recipe, of course, has a grander purpose: to offer a quick caloric boost for malnourished dogs while also providing essential proteins and quality chow for daily feeding. Kavanaugh, who has given six rescues a home at his house in Malibu, hopes a little can go a long way. "A company like Iams spends \$1.5 billion a year on marketing. We don't market," says the executive, whose media company has backed such Oscar-caliber films as *The Social Network* and *The Fighter*, as well as September release *The Family*, helmed by Luc Besson and starring Robert De Niro. (Plans are also in the works for a DFD reality show.) "Instead, we put that money toward the bags going to the pounds. The goal is ending euthanasia in pounds." — SHIRLEY HALPERIN



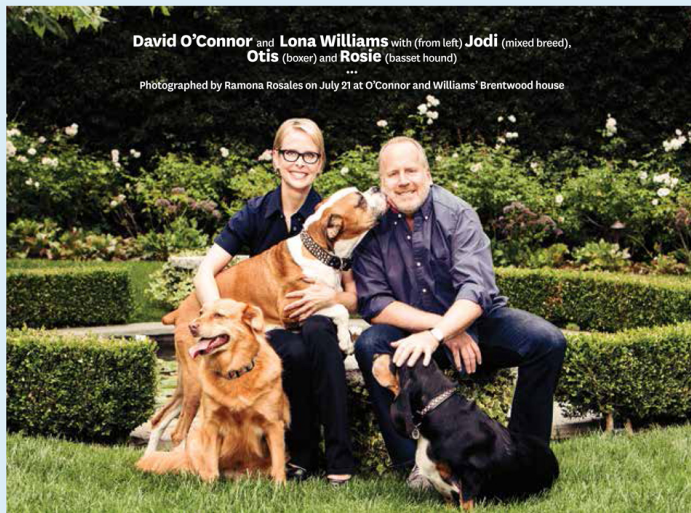
"I feel like I'm pouring the whole world a bowl of dog food."
Snoo Dogg

Otis, a large boxer, is licking and slobbering over David "Doc" O'Connor, managing partner at CAA, while Rosie, a mellow basset hound, and Jodi, part duck-tolling retriever and leader of the pack, nuzzle O'Connor's wife, screenwriter Lona Williams (2014's *The Dunderheads*) at their Brentwood house. All three are rescue dogs. Jodi was originally found wandering the streets of San Bernardino. And if Otis hadn't been adopted by the couple, he surely would have suffered the fate of euthanasia at a kill shelter.

The boxer, who has three legs, is "inspiring because he never lives a day of his life like he's missing a leg," says O'Connor, 55. "We presume he got hit by a car and his owners didn't have the wherewithal to take him to a vet. They put him in an overnight drop box at a kill shelter in Idaho, where he was dragging his leg around." Staff at the Animal Adoption Center (AAC) in nearby Jackson, Wyo. (where the couple has a second home), got him out of the kill shelter. Williams — a longtime advocate for animals who serves on the board of the AAC — fell for Otis when she met him. And though the couple (who have a daughter, Lucy, 13, and son, Angus, 9) then had four dogs and her husband was adamant he didn't want another, even O'Connor couldn't stand firm in the face of Otis' boundless affection.

"David was on the phone on the couch, and Otis ran in the room, up on the couch and started licking, and it was game over," recalls Williams, 46, who also is on the board of the Humane Society of the United States.

One of her top-line philanthropy goals is stopping dog and cat euthanasia in Los Angeles. She's a loyal supporter of the local chapter of Best



David O'Connor and Lona Williams with (from left) Jodi (mixed breed), Otis (boxer) and Rosie (basset hound)
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Photographed by Ramona Rosales on July 21 at O'Connor and Williams' Brentwood house

Friends Animal Society, which has put together NKLA, a new coalition of more than 50 independent organizations working to make Los Angeles a no-kill city by 2017.



Otis

Already, the initiative is making a serious impact, with 13,000 animals killed at shelters in 2012, down 4,000 from the previous year. An estimated 3.4 million animals are euthanized annually in the United States. "Once you know the number of adoptable healthy animals killed every year, once you know the horrors of puppy

mills, where the mothers languish in cages their entire lives, never touching grass, you can't go back," she says, noting that 20 to 30 percent of the animals in shelters are purebreds.

One of the most important tools in reducing that number further is educating people that most animals aren't in shelters because of behavioral problems but because of lack of identification and owners' life changes such as divorces, deaths in families and economic problems. Says Williams, "These dogs are superstars." — DEGEN PENER

The Top 10 Dog Breeds in Los Angeles

Chihuahuas don't make the cut, shih tzus do, according to the American Kennel Club's latest rankings By Margaret Bonaparte



No. 1 Bulldog
In 2009, the bulldog pushed aside Labradors to become L.A.'s most popular breed. Adam Sandler, Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt are owners, as is Victoria Beckham, whose Coco can be seen on Twitter shopping at Hermes.



No. 2 Labrador retriever
Family-friendly Labs still are No. 1 nationally. Local breeder Teresa Bergquist of Susana Labradors, whose puppies have starred in *Bridesmaids*, explains their appeal: "They're intelligent and can count and memorize."



No. 3 French bulldog
The French bulldog, exemplified by *Modern Family*'s Stella, has jumped two spots since 2011. Bred during the late 1980s to be lap warmers, they're seen on the leashes of Reese Witherspoon and Hugh Jackman.



No. 4 German shepherd
Employed worldwide as skilled guard dogs, German shepherds are strong, loyal and known as a one-man breed for their allegiance to their owners — Ben Affleck, Nicole Richie and Jennifer Aniston, among them.



No. 5 Golden retriever
The friendly golden retriever became a breakout breed after 1997's *Air Bud*. Up one slot from No. 6 in 2011, these old reliables, used in search-and-rescues and as guide dogs, no doubt signal stability to their industry owners.



No. 6 Yorkshire terrier
The Yorkie might have been used as a rat catcher in 19th century England, but nowadays the breed is coveted by celebrities like Miranda Kerr. Highfliers take to their travel-friendly portability and entertaining personalities.



No. 7 Poodle
The poodle comes in three sizes — standard, miniature and toy — for owners who like options or are allergic (but don't mind frequent grooming). Blake Lively's toy, Penny, was a constant companion on the set of *Gossip Girl*.



No. 8 Pomeranian
L.A.'s most popular toy breed (Chihuahuas rank at No. 28), Poms demand a lot of attention, which owners like Gwen Stefani happily provide. Channing Tatum and wife Jenna often are photographed walking their Meeka on city trails.



No. 9 Toy spaniel
The sweet disposition and trainability of Cavalier King Charles Spaniels makes them great therapy dogs. Julianne Hough has posted about her two dogs on Instagram: "Can't move! Babies are taking care of me."



No. 10 Shih tzu
With its long double coat that requires daily brushing, the shih tzu — the breed of Kerry Washington's canine Josie — has been around for a thousand years. It was bred to be a house pet during China's Ming Dynasty.

Top 5 Pet Custody Battles

Pets are furry family members to many couples — and can spark nasty custody battles when those couples divorce. But courts often will not rule on pet ownership. "You don't want to be the lawyer going in front of a judge asking to divide a pet," says Freid and Goldsman divorce lawyer Jon S. Summers. When Fido's fate does come before a court, the verdict could be heartbreaking. California law considers pets property, like a TV, so the judge almost always grants ownership to one ex, leaving the other petless. And anything from pet-food receipts to testimony from neighbors and therapists might be used in court to determine the pet's rightful caretaker. But most couples, says Summers, reach pet custody agreements outside the courtroom. Here's who won in five famous battles:

HUGH HEFNER VS. CHISSY HARRIS

After breaking off their engagement in June 2011, the couple battled over who would win ownership of Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Charlie. Harris originally allowed Hefner to keep Charlie but changed her mind that December. **Winner** Hefner retained custody as evidenced by both dog and Hal being featured on Nat Geo Wild's *Dog Whisperer* in July 2012.

BRITNEY SPEARS VS. KEVIN FEDERLINE

During their divorce, Spears lost custody of the couple's two children, Sean Preston and Jayden James. PETA wrote Federline a letter urging him to file for custody of their pets, too, which he did. **Winner** Inconclusive for the pets; only the divorced parties (and their dog walkers) know. Federline continues to have custody of the kids.

DREW BARRYMORE VS. TOM GREEN

The couple divorced in 2001 after being married for less than six months, then fought for custody of yellow Labrador Flossie, who saved their lives by waking them during a 1998 house fire. **Winner** Barrymore, Flossie's original owner, won the case.

JON GOSSELIN VS. KATE GOSSELIN

The former reality stars battled over custody of their two German shepherds, Shoka and Nala, who were purchased on an episode of *Jon & Kate Plus 8* in February 2009. Jon brought the dogs back to their breeder that September, saying Kate was a negligent owner. **Winner** Jon lost custody.

TIGER WOODS VS. ELIN NORDEGREN

Nordgren took possession of three of the couple's dogs after Woods' November 2009 car accident exposed to the world his infidelity. During their divorce proceedings, Woods and Nordgren each fought for custody of the dogs. **Winner** Woods has been seen walking the dogs. — JILLIAN ALBIN AND AUSTIN SIEGEMUND-BROKA



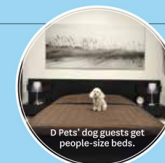
Spears and Federline in more tranquil times, with Chihuahua Bit-Bit in 2004.

Eli Roth with Monkey (French bulldog)

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Photographed by Emily Shur on July 11 at Roth's West Hollywood house



The name Eli Roth conjures images of blood and guts. But there's a softer side to the 41-year-old *Hostel* helmer. In fact, the man who spawned the phrase "torture porn" sounds more like a spa aesthetician when discussing his precious French bulldog, Monkey. "Her skin has all the natural oils it needs, so it's bad to bathe her too often because she dries out," he coos. "Frenchies are a delicate breed." The longtime PETA supporter is so indulgent with his rescue pup that he allows her dining-room privileges. "I know this is a terrible habit, but recently I started putting her in a chair at the table. She used to make all kinds of noise while I was eating; I sat her at the table and she calmed down instantly. So now she joins me for dinner." The only caveat: She is forbidden from jumping up and eating Roth's meal. The stern side of Roth does emerge at one point when he issues a time-out, but thanks to obedience training at Bone Sweet Bone in Studio City, Monkey is on her way to becoming a well-behaved pooch — an important feat given her stepping a bit into the spotlight. The 6-month-old dog is currently romantically linked to Moosie, the French bulldog of Paramount senior vp publicity Jessica Rovins. "We always joke about how we're going to arrange puppyprazzi photos," he quips, adding that his dog is not down for anything harsher than a photo flash. "I wanted to bring her to my last location [for *The Green Inferno*], but she would have gotten eaten by a python. We were filming deep in the Amazon. It's best that she stays local." — TATIANA SIEGEL



D Pets' dog guests get people-size beds.

Your Dog's 5-Star Accommodations

BOARDING

A D Pets

At this luxe 13,500-square-foot flagship pet hotel, rooms range from a standard suite (\$65 a night) to a double (\$200). A fleet of luxury rides are available for pick-ups and drop-offs; one high-end client couple flies their dog on a GS Jet into Van Nuys Airport with a Lamborghini awaiting their arrival. 1041 N. Highland Ave.

The Loved Dog

L.A.'s first cage-free dog boarding facility (from \$45 a night) counts Oprah Winfrey and Ben Affleck as clients, and Carrie Fisher recently dropped off her dog at owner Tamar Geller's Bel-Air home for a few weeks as a special service. "Celebrities want someone in their life to see them for who they are," says Geller, "just like their agent." 2100 Pontius Ave.

Wagville

The boarding spot (\$50 a night), with an extensive application process, features grooming, massages, training and field trips to Runyon Canyon. An in-house webcam lets you check in at any time, and staffers will sleep with your dog if requested. 2400 N. San Fernando Road

Chateau Marmutt

It allows overnight stays but only for early clients, so sign up long for a few day-care (for \$39) sessions first. Channing Tatum, Halle Berry and Jillian Michaels are clients. Says Michaels, "You can tell they love dogs and have a passion for what they do." 8162 Beverly Blvd.

SPA & BOARDING

CityDog Club!

Its two locations (from \$50 a night) feature the Best in Show treatment package (\$20): a blueberry facial, moisturizing paw balm and teeth cleaning. The Culver City spot near Sony sees plenty of its execs' pets. 1815 Pontius Ave.; 3940 Higuera St.

DAYCARE & ADOPTION

Spot!

This day-care center (from \$40 a day) features the area's only real grass indoor park and doubles as a dog rescue center. Miley Cyrus has adopted three dogs from there. 534 N. La Cienega Blvd.

— BRANDON KIRBY