



February 2011

Bring Your Dog to Work

From: Pet Age Magazine

Dogs can bring more to an office environment than a playful nuzzle or an unexpected smile.

Employees are more likely to trust each other and collaborate more effectively in the office when a dog's around, according to new research out of Central Michigan University (Mount Pleasant, Mich.).

The study involved several four-member groups—some with dogs and some without. Each person was charged with a fake crime, then surveyed to see whether he or she would report fellow group members.

Employees in groups with dogs were 30 percent less likely to turn on other employees. Jennifer Fearing, co-author of *Dogs at Work: A Practical Guide to Creating Dog-Friendly Workplaces*, says this

illustrates the cohesive effect canine co-workers can bring to a workplace.

“It’s heartening when research confirms our instincts and our practices,” said Fearing, who also is the California senior state director for The Humane Society of the United States (Washington). “We heartily agree with the positive impact that dogs can have on workplace morale, collaboration and productivity.”

The book, which Fearing co-wrote with Liz Palika, is available through Humane Society Press, the publishing arm of HSUS. It is being promoted as an aid to employers planning to implement “dogs at work” programs.

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Burglars Stole Pet Medicine To Make Rave Drug

Police say they've broken up a burglary ring that would steal a drug from veterinary clinics.

The drug was then cooked and sold to people at rave parties.

“I’m glad they caught somebody. I don’t know what to think to be honest. It’s sad,” said Dr. Leonard Jones, veterinarian at Plum Animal Hospital, one of nine area clinics that were burglarized.

In each case, a drug called Ketamine was stolen, which is used to anesthetize animals.

“It basically blocks your mind from sensing what your body is feeling, so you can still get a high where you’re disassociated – almost like your brain is apart from your body,” said Jones.

Six people have been indicted by a grand jury, according to the Pennsylvania Attorney General’s Office.

Brandon Wise is accused of being the ring leader and allegedly cooked the drug to transform it from a liquid state to a powder before selling it at raves. It’s called “Special K” on the street.

From: KDKA Pittsburgh, By David Highfield



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