



PHOTO BY JODI SCHNEIDER MCNAMEE

Oliver always wears his collar with identification tag.

ID TAGS: Vets and Furry Friends seeing untagged pets

Continued from page 3

helps us get their dog home safer and faster so the dog doesn't have to stay in the shelter, which can be traumatic for the animal," Brown added.

Collars – with identification and contact information – are your pets' fastest ticket back to you should they become lost.

A study done by ASPCA in 2011 found that while 80 percent of pet owners thought pet ID tags were important, only 33 percent of them said their pet wears an ID tag all of the time.

The Nugget Newspaper receives calls frequently for lost and found dogs and cats.

"It never ceases to amaze me that nine times out of 10, the pet is not wearing a collar with ID," said Furry Friends Foundation (FFF) Director Kiki Dolson. "What could have been an easy process of matching the pet to its owner now is not. Even if your dog is microchipped, they should wear a collar with a phone-number tag."

Identification has come a long way, and pet parents today have multiple options to protect their animal. However, the best bet is to combine the options and use an identification tag along with something more permanent, like a microchip.

Microchips are rice-grain-sized identification pieces that are implanted under the skin at the back of the animal's neck. These microchips can be read by anyone with a scanner – veterinarians, animal shelters and animal control officers.

Not all people know or are willing to take a dog that they have found without ID to a vet's office to be scanned.

Sisters Veterinarian Clinic technician Darcy Marshall says the clinic has its share of lost dogs year-round.

"Most of the lost dogs that we come in contact with are without outward identification," Marshall said.

"However, we do have the ability to scan the dogs for a microchip and find that about 50 percent are chipped. The bottom line is that people should identify their pets in every way if they want to keep them safe and get them returned as soon as possible."

Kitties can be chipped too. If you choose to put a collar on your cat, make sure it is the break-away or stretch-and-release variety. A bell is like a dinner call to coyotes, so depending on where you live, you may want to forgo that.

Having identification with contact information securely attached to your pet's neck makes it much more likely that you'll get your furry family member back if he decided to take off on a solo adventure.

Often people who have reported a lost dog to *The Nugget* say that the dog did not have his collar on because he was recently bathed.

"Please remember when you bathe your dog, put his collar back on immediately," said Dolson.

If your dog goes missing, having him licensed drastically improves your chances of getting him back. Furry Friends Foundation will sponsor rabies vaccinations through Bend Spay & Neuter so your dog can be licensed.

A license tag helps animal control and shelters quickly identify your dog and get him back to you safely. If your dog is found wandering the streets, a rescue organization can easily look up your dog via its license identifying number.

FFF will also sponsor the license fee and the ID tag cost. Stop by *The Nugget* office – FFF is located inside – and fill out a simple application.

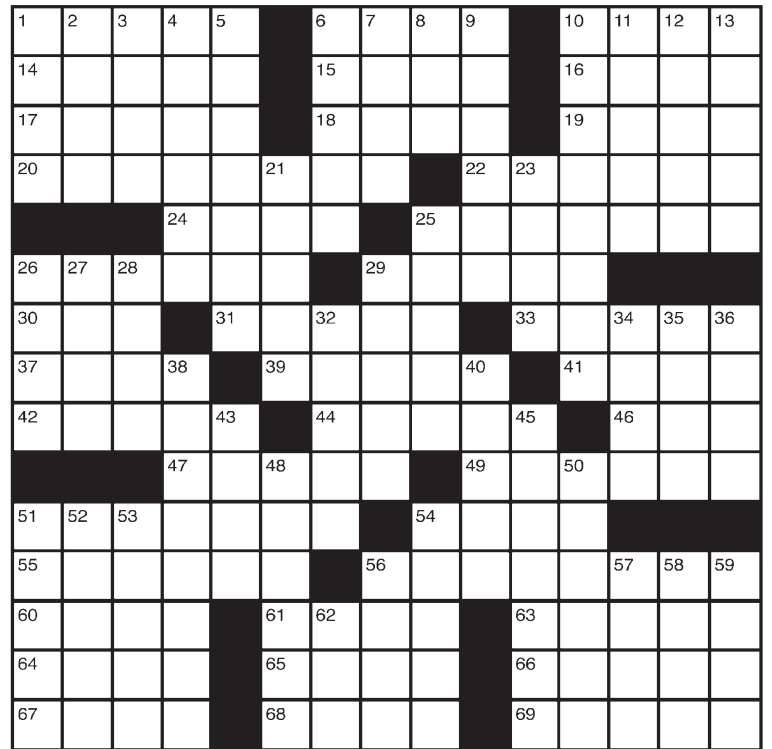
If you want to get your pet chipped, the cost is \$25 at Bend SNIP walk-in wellness clinics, held on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The mission of FFF is to help pets remain in their homes by operating a pet-food bank at the Kiwanis building, providing spay/neuter/vaccination sponsorships, and assisting with emergency medical needs to families in financial hardship.

The Nugget Newspaper Crossword

By Jacqueline E. Mathews, Tribune News Service

- ACROSS**
- 1 Significant __; partner
 - 6 TV's "The Amazing __"
 - 10 Wheel centers
 - 14 Entire
 - 15 Come __; find
 - 16 As comfortable __ old shoe
 - 17 Comes to shore
 - 18 __-up; confined
 - 19 Impolite
 - 20 Church spires
 - 22 Infuriate
 - 24 Provoke
 - 25 Movie preview
 - 26 Afternoon nap
 - 29 Examinations
 - 30 In __ event; nevertheless
 - 31 Glowing piece of coal
 - 33 Seeps out
 - 37 Staircase piece
 - 39 Warn
 - 41 __ as a pin
 - 42 Malt shop orders
 - 44 __ these days; eventually
 - 46 UN member
 - 47 Nails
 - 49 Comfortably warm
 - 51 Rose or Sheen
 - 54 Taurus & Prius
 - 55 More uncanny
 - 56 Cabbage salad
 - 60 In addition
 - 61 Chilly
 - 63 Cranberry __; cool side dish
 - 64 __ machines; casino devices
 - 65 Queue
 - 66 Support one's church
 - 67 Very long times
 - 68 Forest animals
 - 69 Smooth and shiny
- DOWN**
- 1 Night birds
 - 2 "Well, don't __ beat all!"
 - 3 Sharpen
 - 4 Parents and grandparents
 - 5 Interval of relief
 - 6 India's dollar
 - 7 Primates
 - 8 Swindle
 - 9 Goes into
 - 10 Last name for 2 U.S. presidents
 - 11 Typical
 - 12 Policeman's ID
 - 13 Derisive smile
 - 21 Andes pack animal
 - 23 Intl. military alliance
 - 25 __ Haute, IN
 - 26 Talk back
 - 27 4 __ 16 is 4
 - 28 Observed
 - 29 High schoolers
 - 32 Fellow, in Britain
 - 34 Greek king of the gods
 - 35 Vane direction
 - 36 Stick around



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

8/24/16

— Last Week's Puzzle Solved —

T	O	S	S	I	N	L	A	W	G	R	I	M
O	N	T	O	N	O	S	E	R	I	C	E	
F	E	R	N	L	O	S	A	N	G	E	L	E
U	S	E	J	A	K	E	L	E	E	D	S	
	N	O	O	N	S	C	A	D				
S	I	G	H	E	D	C	A	N	Y	O	N	
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C	O	L	L	E	C	T	I	O	N	M	I	M
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S	E	P	T	B	E	T	S	Y	A	N	T	S

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8/18/16

- 38 Team from New England
- 40 General Mills cold cereal
- 43 Realtor's delight
- 45 Wooded areas
- 48 Round shape
- 50 Attack
- 51 Discontinue
- 52 "__, Dolly!"
- 53 Firebug's crime
- 54 Nat and Natalie
- 56 __ out; fall asleep
- 57 Early guitar
- 58 Nagging pain
- 59 Seven days
- 62 Pore secretion

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