INFO 200
Information Sources Survey Assignment
Jax Skorich 1200 words -1500 words

Introduction:

The pets-as-people community are the latest trend in pet ownership with 97% of the American Pet Owners community claiming that their pet is a "part of their family" (Brown, 2023). A study conducted by The Daily Wag boasts that 73% of Gen Z'ers are willing to splurge on pet accessories and grooming; furthermore, they claim that more and more people are shifting their view from pets as tools to pets as "important family members deserve[ing] of respect" in all Generation age groups (Lee-Smith, 2023). The information needs of this community are generally grouped into two categories, Veterinary needs and non-veterinary needs; these two worlds sometimes overlap in areas such as homemade food with supplements and exotic additives for the wellness and dietary needs of their pet (Marsh, 1998). Veterinary needs include but are not limited to pet insurance, pet medication, and pet care; while, non-veterinary needs include pet spas, pet outfits, pet accessories, and the most interesting has been the homemade dog food movement within the overall pet community. The Everyday Life Information Seeking model (ELIS) by Savolainen (1995) is a good way to describe how the pets-as-people community might seek information for non-vet needs. For vet needs a pet owner may employ this methodology or the newer proposed online health information seeking behavior (HISB) intervention model by Solhjoo, et al., (2018).

Research-based source:

APA Style Citation:

Hawn, R. (2021). Homemade pet food guidance: Teaching clients to avoid common pitfalls and maintain quality control. *American Animal Hospital Association, Newstat*(2021-03).

https://www.aaha.org/publications/newstat/articles/2021-03/homemade-pet-food-guidance-teaching-clients-to-avoid-common-pitfalls-and-maintain-quality-control/

Position within the information cycle:

Days/Weeks after the event: Newstat trends magazine Online through the American Animal Hospital Association.

Scope and content:

American pet owners and the homecooked diet trends and guidelines to create well-balanced meals. Often new pet owners will create a homemade diet that is lacking in something or has something in abundance. This article hopes to give access to home-cooking best practices for dogs and cats.

Credentials and authority of the author, editor, and/or publisher:

The American Animal Hospital Association is partnered with Veterinary Visionaries and Partners for Healthy Pets. The author Roxanne Hawn is an award-winning freelancer according to the author's description at the bottom of the article.

Purposes and uses:

The purpose of this article is to educate pet-owners about the possible dangers of home cooking pet food. Informing the reader of how much of each type of food to include in the overall meals throughout the pet's day. The author does recommend getting a consultation with a board-certified veterinary nutritionist for more personalized recipes and meal plans.

Intended audience:

This article is geared toward the American pet owner who is already home-cooking or is looking into home-cooking their pet's meals.

Design:

This article's designed from an online community made up of the American animal hospitals. This association holds conventions each year, as well as consistently updating resource sections and news articles about pet trends. This association also provides accreditation courses and study assistance.

Currency and frequency of update:

This Association keeps the site updated and provides a monthly Trends magazine in which the Newstat articles are published and then archived on the website. Each Magazine features a different aspect of animal needs or roles within the animal community for example, techs are the topic for October.

Biases and gaps:

The author admits having a bias of pet-owners not completing thorough research before beginning the homecooked diet. With that in mind, the author compiled 200 recipes to compare to the veterinary guidelines: finding most of them lacking. The article left room to grow in the department of variety in pet diet; while they did offer a recipe for each dog and cat, they did not consider the variety of breeds and dietary restrictions.

Value for your information community:

This article is a great benefit to the community in that it provides a basis of factual information and resources in which to grow that knowledge base.

Community-based source:

APA Style Citation:

Position within the information cycle:

Scope and content:

Credentials and authority of the author, editor, and/or publisher:

Purposes and uses:

Intended audience:

Design: (Choose one and provide 1-2 sentences additional explanation.)

- Online database
- Reference work, encyclopedia, dictionary
- Peer reviewed journal as a whole
- Published academic book on a particular topic
- Web site or online community

Currency and frequency of update: (Choose one, provide the year of publication, and provide 1-2 sentences additional explanation.)

- Multiple editions
- Stand-alone work: book, e-book
- Web Site, Online Community, Forums, Social Networking Site

Biases and gaps:

Value for your information community:

Compare, Contrast & Reflection:

(*Provide an analysis and comparison of the content and uses of the research-based and community-based information sources. To conclude, reflect on what this assignment taught you about your information community and the types of resources available for its use. Be sure to include a references section if you cite any articles from our course or your research.)*

References

Brown, A. (2023). About half of U.S. pet owners say their pets are as much a part of their family as a human member. *Pew Research Center, July 2023*(7). https://www.pewresearch.org/short-reads/2023/07/07/about-half-us-of-pet-owners-say-their-pets-are-as-much-a-part-of-their-family-as-a-human-member/

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Lee Smith, A. (2023). New Wag! Survey: The State of Pet Parenting in 2023. *The Daily Wag, January 2023*(25). https://wagwalking.com/daily/new-wag-survey-the-state-of-pet-parenting-in-2023

Marsh, F. (1998). Accessories for pets—a growing market. In International Trade Forum, Geneva(1), 18-21,33-34.

Savolainen, R. (1995). Everyday life information seeking: Approaching information seeking in the context of "way of life". Library & Information Science Research, 17(3), 259-294.

Solhjoo, N., Naghshineh, N., Fahimnia, F., & Ameri-naeini, A. R. (2018). Interventions to assist pet owners in online health information seeking behaviour: A qualitative content analysis literature review and proposed model. *Health Information & Libraries Journal*, *35*(4), 265–284. https://doi.org/10.1111/hir.12236