As a quadruple amputee, just getting Chi Chi’s prosthetics on so she could go outside in the morning would be time-consuming. Fortunately, Elizabeth Howell from Arizona saw a video about Chi Chi’s plight online.

In our darkest moments, it can be hard to believe joy can be found again. But one amazing dog proves that no matter what happens, through love and patience, we can make the world a better place.

“She stole my heart,” Howell said, taken by how Chi Chi was still wagging her tail despite her injuries. After seeing Chi Chi’s perseverance and will to live, Elizabeth and her family took on the challenge. There were struggles as Chi Chi learned to trust people again, but with time, Chi Chi found peace and joy with her new family.

“She exemplifies resilience and forgiveness and willingly shares her love and compassion in abundance,” Howell has said. “Her sweet tempered and gentle spirit opens people’s hearts and her perceptive spirit senses where her love is needed.”

Chi Chi’s vet has called her a “miracle dog,” referring both to the fact that she survived losing all her legs and to the joy she brings to the world. Today, Chi Chi is a registered therapy dog, offering strength, love, and support to those who need it most. She visits VA hospitals, assisted living facilities, and children with disabilities.

To celebrate her journey of survival, courage, and love, Chi Chi was honored with the American Humane Hero Dog Award in 2018. You can follow the adventures of this brave, loving canine at Facebook.com/ChiChiRescueDog.

February is a short month with a lot going on. The month kicks off with Groundhog Day on Feb. 2, then the very next day is the biggest sports event of the year: Super Bowl LIII. Valentine’s Day is two weeks later on Feb. 14. It’s a month that can go by in the blink of an eye, and then the next thing you know, we’re in the middle of March!

But February is also Responsible Pet Owners Month — a little-known awareness campaign built around the idea of being better pet owners. It’s a month dedicated to pet care, safety, and overall responsibility.

For instance, one of the most important aspects of owning a pet is spaying and neutering. It’s a sad fact that there are millions of dogs and cats that end up homeless because their owners can’t take care of them. A big reason for this is because they didn’t spay or neuter their pets and ended up with a litter (or two) of puppies or kittens that they didn’t know what to do with.

Another great way to be a better pet owner is to feed your pets a proper diet. Just like people, pets of all kinds need good nutrition to thrive. Their version of a balanced diet is different than ours, but it’s also important to ensure their diet isn’t low-quality filler — the equivalent of a high-carb, high-sugar diet in humans.

Grooming is another thing to keep in mind. Some animals do need our help when it comes to taking care of their hair, teeth, and nails. For instance, many dogs and cats shed a lot in response to a change in season, such as colder weather (though shedding can vary by breed, not just location). They grow a thicker coat and then come spring, there’s hair everywhere!

It’s important to either groom your pet yourself or take them to a groomer. It’s incredibly important to get your pet acclimated and trained for grooming when they’re younger. That way, as they grow up, they remain calm during a grooming session, whether it’s just combing or a bath. And don’t forget to brush your pet’s teeth! Just like us, their teeth can accumulate plaque and they can get cavities, which can lead to infection. Next time you’re at the vet, ask them about your pet’s dental hygiene. In most cases, the best way to take care of it is to brush their teeth at least once a week.

There are a lot of pet foods on the market that are full of filler. If you see ingredients like ground whole grain corn, com meal, soybean meal, chicken by-product meal, or sugar, you’ve found fillers. The longer the ingredient list, the worse it usually is. You want to see simple ingredient lists that are easy to understand and contain “whole” ingredients, like chicken or turkey meal, whole eggs, fish meal, and so on. Some dog foods even contain carrots, peas, and brown rice — all ingredients that contribute to a healthy, protein-rich diet.

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January 2019
Breaking Through the TV Terminology

4K, HDR, and OLED Defined

When you shop for a new TV these days, you’re greeted with a bevy of acronyms and numbers — marketing terms you can’t make sense of. These are terms like 4K, HDR, and OLED, just to name a few. TV makers leave it up to you to figure out what these terms mean. Well, look no further. We’re going to cut through the marketing speak and get to the point. Here’s what today’s popular TV marketing terms really mean.

4K
The TV buzzword “4K” has replaced “HDTV” and “1080p” as the go-to marketing term. In short, it’s a reference to the number of pixels on the screen. Standard high-definition TVs (1080p) have a vertical resolution of 1,080 pixels and a horizontal resolution of 1,920. Here’s where it gets weird. 4K TVs have a vertical resolution of 2,160 pixels with a horizontal resolution of 3,840.

Marketers decided to swap the vertical resolution as their reference point with the horizontal resolution, because higher numbers are more impressive, right? But 4K TVs seem to fall short of the moniker. Regardless, these TVs have improved as the go-to marketing term. In short, it’s a reference to the color and image quality over standard HD, but you have to look at the numbers to really notice the difference. Here are some numbers that might be more impressive, right? But 4K TVs seem to fall short of the moniker. Regardless, these TVs have improved as the go-to marketing term. In short, it’s a reference to the color and image quality over standard HD, but you have to look at the numbers to really notice the difference.

HDR
High Dynamic Range, or HDR, is a type of image processing. When an image is processed, HDR is used to increase or decrease the luminosity of the image. It means bright whites, deeper blacks, and improved colors overall. It’s been used in photography for decades and in video since the 1990s. Most 4K TVs have built-in HDR processing, resulting in better color quality, which translates to better image quality overall.

OLED
Short for organic light-emitting diode, OLED TVs feature a microscopically thin layer of an organic compound that emits light when an electric current is introduced. Typical LED TVs rely on a backlight in order to produce a lit, visible image. These backlights take up space, resulting in a thicker TV. The major advantage of OLED TVs is they are incredibly thin and light, and they produce deeper blacks for an improved color and image quality.

SAFETY FIRST

Always wear a helmet. Riders without helmets are 40 percent more likely to suffer from a brain injury during an accident than a rider with a helmet.

Get in the habit of checking the weather before heading out. Rain can interfere with your vision and will reduce your tires’ grip on the road.

If you have to drive in wet conditions, avoid making sudden stops and turns, and be gentle with the throttle and steering.

Be extra cautious with road hazards such as potholes and rocks. Even a seemingly harmless bump can cause your bike to spin.

More than 60 percent of motorcycle and vehicle collisions are the fault of the car driver, so be aware of your surroundings in front, behind, and beside your bike while on the road.

Driving a motor vehicle on any roadway is dangerous, and motorcycle and vehicle collisions are the fault of the car driver. Be extra cautious with road hazards such as potholes and rocks. Even a seemingly harmless bump can cause your bike to spin.

Motorcycle safety begins with the bike purchase. Buy and ride only what you can handle. Choose a bike that you can easily lift on and off the stand, and make sure that you are able to put both feet flat on the ground when seated.

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“A quick look at motorcycle safety

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MEMES

The real holiday is February 15th. When the Chocolate is 50% off ...

YEAR DATING IS COOL BUT ...

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