



■ Labour and Social Development Minister Jameel Humaidan received a group of disabled people, led by Riyadh Ahmed Al Marzooq. Talks focused on preparations to launch the Bahrain Society for Persons with Disabilities as well as projects and initiatives that serve handicapped people. It was also agreed to organise an event marking UN International Day of Persons with Disabilities, observed around the world annually on December 3. The National Committee for Persons with Disabilities will take part in the celebration.



■ The Labour and Social Development Minister received a document dedicated to His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa. He met Ali Fardan and Nasser Al Gallaf, who submitted the edition under the theme "Tribute to Khalifa". The document compiles prizes and medals conferred on HRH the Premier, as well as Arabic, English and French poems in his tribute.

Training for graduates

THE Works, Municipalities and Urban Planning Affairs Ministry received students from Bahrain University as part of a summer training project required for their graduation.

The students were specialised in civil, architectural, mechanical and electrical engineering, in addition to accounting, media and

chemistry sciences.

The project aims to collaborate with universities and training institutes to prepare and qualify human cadres to enter the labour market. The students were distributed among different directorates. The training takes place in July and August, and students are granted a certificate from the ministry.



■ Action plan for the 2016-17 academic year was the focus of an annual strategy workshop organised by Bahrain Polytechnic for key staff members from all departments and directorates. Senior and executive staff explored progress and discussed priorities. The institute's information and communications technology team has developed a new tool through which staff members can track the progress and achievements of every department and directorate. The workshop was held at the polytechnic's campus in Isa Town. Above, staff members during the workshop.

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PET CARE with Hansel

Vet Hansel answers your questions about pet care in this weekly advice column, created in partnership with the Bahrain Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (BSPCA). It will also be highlighting each week some of the animals in the BSPCA sanctuary, in the hope of finding each of them a loving home.

Question: Our dog Wobbles has a problem that is driving him, and us, nuts. He's always sliding around on the ground and carpets on his rear end. Our veterinarian says Wobbles has an anal gland that is giving him trouble. What can we do to help him?

Answer: Dogs and cats have anal sacs located on each side of the opening of their rectum. The duct emptying each sac opens at the point where the skin and rectum meet. The sac is made up of many small glands and the sac can accumulate glandular secretions which is generally squeezed out during bowel movements.

Dogs are more prone to anal gland issues than cats. They will slide themselves along on their bottom in an attempt to empty each gland. In the process they can leave a very foul odour wherever they scoot, including beds and carpets. Often the dog will suddenly turn and chew on his tail.

Wobbles may have anal sacs that have filled with normal glandular secretions or the sacs may have

become infected. Once in a while the sacs will even break open through the skin to the outside if there is severe infection and this should be treated by your vet.

Food allergy can also be associated with chronic anal sac disease. If this is suspected as being the cause of your dog's problems, then your veterinarian will recommend that your dog be on a special diet that will eliminate the offending allergens.

Your veterinarian will be examining the secretions expressed from the glands and treating any infections. If the sacs are simply filling up and not expressing on their own, you might ask your veterinarian if she would teach you how to express glands.

Occasionally the anal sacs must be removed surgically if they become chronically infected or cause continuing discomfort to the dog. This is not as drastic as it sounds since the anal glands have no function. It is believed that they originally were used by animals to spray the boundaries of their ter-

BSPCA'S CAT OF THE WEEK IS SAKEENA

Breed: Domestic Short Hair
Colour: Grey and Black Tiger
Sex: Female
Age: Approximately 17 weeks
Neutered: No

Sakeena is an adorably silky puss, very pretty and delightful to be around. She has an appealing and charming character and wins over everyone who meets her. Her gentle purring and soft cheek rubs melt the hearts of everyone that comes to see her. Sakeena has been in the cat house for five weeks but she will not stay with us for very long, so if you are considering adopting a cat, come and have a look at Sakeena before she finds herself a family to love. Sakeena is fully vaccinated.



■ Sakeena

nature. She is very sociable with the other dogs and loves to be around people, readily accepting newcomers to the shelter. Mirinda would make a wonderful addition to any household and offers years of pleasure and companionship to the lucky family who decide to take her home. Come and visit Mirinda at the shelter. Mirinda is neutered, vaccinated and tick treated.

– By BSPCA
Pet Reporter
Ghazi Almoayed

● If you are interested in adopting Sakeena, Mirinda or any of the other cats, kittens, dogs and puppies, please visit the Animal Welfare Centre in Askar. From the Alba roundabout, take the road sign-posted Askar and Durrat Al Bahrain and at the third signal take a right on to the truck road and after approximately 800 metres you will see the AWC on the right side, just before the flyover. Or, log onto the website www.bspca.org for directions. The shelter is open from 9am to 5pm on Sundays and 9am to 1pm on Fridays, Saturdays and public holidays. It accepts animals 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

BSPCA'S DOG OF THE WEEK IS MIRINDA

Breed: Mix
Shih Tzu
Colour: Brown & beige
Coat: Long
Sex: Female
Age: Approximately nine months
Neutered: Yes

Mirinda is a beautiful and graceful young lady with a warm, loving and friendly



■ Mirinda

ritory to warn other animals to stay away.

Cats are less likely than dogs to have anal gland problems. Their problems are usually mechanical obstructions of the sacs rather than infections.

Expressing the secretions solves the problem.

● Dr Hansel Geo is a veterinary consultant and surgeon for the BSPCA and Charis Vets. Please send questions to bspca@batelco.com.bh