

This newsletter
Devoted to pet bird
Enthusiasts is
Published monthly by
The Rainbow Feathers
Bird club of Michigan
A 501(c) (3) club

April 2018 Volume 21 Issue 4













UPCOMING MEETING DATES:

MAY 20th - THIRD SUNDAY

JUNE 10th - BIRD FAIR

JUNE 24th- FOURTH SUNDAY

JULY 22ND -FOURTH SUNDAY -PICNIC

RAINBOW FEATHERS BIRD CLUB

Who we are and what we are about

- Non Profit club with members throughout the tri-county area, single bird owners, or just thinking of getting a bird, families, breeders, exhibitors, all are welcome.
- > Support scholarships for avian vet students
- > Yearly Bird Fair
- Club Library for members
- Grooming available
- > Avian rescue/relocation programs
- Monthly meetings with programs of interest to members.
- Monthly newsletter
- Periodic Service projects
- > Field Trips
- Educational Programs upon request
- Make-it-take-it workshops And more......

Come join us and have your feathers preened by other Pet Bird Enthusiasts

Rainbow Feathers Bird Club Elected Officers:

President – Dave Carol 734-422-5981

Email – sweettweeters@comcast.net

Vice President – Steve Plafchan 734-513-0030

Email – splafchan@twmi.rr.com

Secretary-Kathe Cote 313-728-2211

Email – gardenfrog1967@yahoo.com

Treasurer and Membership Secretary –

Tammy Carol 734-422-5981

Email – <u>sweettweeters@comcast.net</u>

Board of Trustees -

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Henry Jedrzejek-734-427-3187

Email- <u>bigduke@comcast.net</u>

Mary Perva 517-672-9528

Email-maryperva@rocketmail.com

ALL HEALTHY AND CLIPPED BIRDS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME TO ACCOMPANY THEIR HUMAN COMPANIONS TO THE MONTHLY MEETINGS. WE MEET AT THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 6443 MERRIMAN ROAD BETWEEN FORD AND WARREN IN GARDEN CITY. MEETINGS START AT 2:00 PM.

Anyone interested in becoming a member please contact Tammy Carol @ 734-422-5981 or by e-mail sweettweeters@comcast.net

EDITORS BULLETIN

BOARD

Steve Plafchan is now doing the newsletter. All ads and articles will be due the 1st of the month for publishing in the current month's newsletter. Please send all items to Steve at 11021 Henry Ruff, Livonia MI 48150 or email to splafchan@twmi.rr.com.

Everyone is encouraged to submit articles for the newsletter – this is YOUR newsletter.

Articles and/or pictures copied from other publications must be accompanied with written permission from original publication and author; this needs to be provided to the editor along with the article and/or picture.

Editor reserves the right to approve and/or edit any articles submitted prior to publication.

Ads will be run free for members having a one-time sale (baby birds, etc.). Those wishing to run ads multiple times or for a business must purchase a business membership.

CLUB WELFARE



Please contact Jean Jedrzejek at 734-427-3187 or e-mail her at bigduke@comcast.net if you

know of any club member who is in the hospital or has lost a loved one.



MONTHLY SNACK LIST

A few years ago we stopped soliciting volunteers to bring food to our meetings. Instead, it was agreed that the format be a potluck venue. We ask that "Everyone", please join in and contribute a main dish, veggie, salad, or dessert. Our meetings will be a potluck fair enjoyed by one and all. YUM!!



- Ask owner's permission to handle/feed bird(s) and remember to return bird to the owner.
- Wash hands prior/after bird handling.
- When bringing companion birds to club meetings, only bring birds that you have had vet checked and in your possession for at least 30 days.
- Clean up after yourself and your bird(s) before you leave.



OVER THE RAINBOW BRIDGE

Sadly, we must once again report on the crossing of another feathered club member. Thunder the Cockatiel who owned Cindee and Michael Rosenthal crossed over the rainbow bridge last month. Thunder was fifteen years old and a wonderful companion of Cindee and Michael; he will be missed and forever remembered. To Thunder we dedicate the following verse.



The Rainbow Bridge

Just this side of heaven is a place called Rainbow Bridge.

When and animal dies that has been especially close to someone here, that pet goes to Rainbow Bridge.

There are meadows and hills for all our

special friends so they can run and play together. There is plenty of food and water and sunshine, and our friends are warm and comfortable. All of the animals that have been ill and old are restored to health and vigor; those who were hurt or maimed are made whole and strong again, just as we remember in our dreams of days and times gone bye. The animals are happy and content, except for one small thing. They miss someone very special to them who had to be left behind. They all run and play together, but the day comes when one suddenly stops and looks into the distance,

The bright eyes are intent; the eager body quivers. Suddenly she begins to break away from the group, flying over the green grass, her wings carrying her faster and faster

YOU have just been spotted, and when you and your special friend meet, you cling together in joyous reunion ~ never to be parted again. The sweet sounds of happy tweets play your ears; your hands again caress the beloved's head, and you look once more into the trusting eyes of your pet, so long gone from your life but never absent from your heart ~

Then you cross~...the Rainbow Bridge together!



BIRTHDAY GREETINGS to:

LIZ MONTANA	JUNE 1
JANIE LYNCH	JUNE 2
COLLEEN PETERS	JUNE 2
MIA LYNCH	JUNE 5
KIM STEVENS	JUNE 5
JESSICA GREENWOOD	JUNE 7
CINDEE ROSENTHAL	JUNE 23
JASON MILLER	JUNE 25
JILL DOMEIER	JUNE 28

From the prez:



I have to say, I was pleasantly surprised at the turnout for April's meeting. About 51 people showed up even with it being the first real spring day we have had in a long time, but you guys were there. We even added to our flock and voted new members in - something I always like doing.

Speaking of doing things, we are getting busy. We are back into the swing of doing the education programs and we are booking them like crazy. Also, our bird fair is coming up just as fast and we will need help in the morning at, and I

am sorry, 6 AM to be ready to greet the vendors and help them in, help through the day with various things, then help at the end getting the vendors all packed up and loaded up. The vendors really appreciate this because it helps get them home faster or where ever they are off to next, so you help is greatly welcomed and appreciated. We also need help at Steve's the day before to load all the used cages in the U-Haul as well as the raffle items. So we meet there and load things up to have it ready for the day of the fair. We are also participating once again in the Garden City Flea Circus Pet Adoption Event on the Saturday before the fair and need help setting up the pop-ups and meeting and greeting the people, but it is fun and we have a good time. Please pray for good weather! I figure if we start now, it will happen so I'm starting now!

We do have fun at these events and that is because we love to show people our feathered kids and educate the public about these incredible creatures. The other reason we have fun is we truly like each other and it shows to the organizers as well as the public at large. So, keep looking at the upcoming events because things are getting added all the time and we would love to have you there. I never worry about doing these events because we have the best people in the world as members of Rainbow Feathers. Your care and passion for our feathered friends comes through one hundredfold and more. I say this all the time but I truly mean it more than vou can ever know YOU GUYS ROCK!!!!!

> Your Prez Dave



VOICE OF THE VEEP

This is already becoming a very busy summer for our club. As of this writing, Tammy has scheduled about sixteen senior shows, two library shows, two school shows, two multi-day outdoor events (with the potential for one more) and two indoor adoption fairs. I am bringing this up because I would like to invite and encourage all of our members to join us at an event.

Most of the events are one-day events and only last about 11/2 hours. Inside adoption, events are usually 4 to 6 hours but you do not have to be there all day. Multiday events and outdoor events can be up to 10 hours in a day but the same rule applies: you do not have to be there all day. I am bringing this up because there is an open invitation for all members to come and join us. They are a lot of fun and trust me there will be plenty of birds to help with; you do not have to bring a parrot.

The Garden City Flea Circus is Saturday June 2nd it is an outdoor event in the parking lot on the North-East corner of Ford Rd. and Middle Belt. Dave and I will be setting up two Pop-ups at 8:00 AM for the show that starts at 10:00 AM and lasts until 4:00 PM. We would love to have anyone stop by to help or to just check us out.



Out and About With Pookie

The shows that we perform and participate in have restarted for 2018 and the demand for our club to do a show is like having a "Willie Wonka" golden ticket. The popularity of our programs and our presence grows in demand almost on a daily basis. I am bringing up this fact because there was a meeting of the feathered club

members in our club concerning the companion humans we deal with each day.

If you recall Ricky, (U-2) recently performed in the production of a television commercial. This entitled him to become a card-carrying member of SAG (Screen Actors Guild). He has taken the position of our primary representative of all the feathered show members for performing in senior shows, library shows, school shows, outdoor fairs, festivals and any other events. Why do we, the feathered members need professional representation? That is quite simple - we are demanding credit and compensation for our time and effort.

At every show and event, twenty to thirty feathered members attend and we are what the crowds are there to see. There is not one single patron at a show or visiting the club booth to see Steve, Dave or Tammy! They all come to visit with us! The people want to hold all of the feathered members; they want to view our beautiful plumage, they want to marvel at the awesome colors of our feathers and their softness. People want to hold us and to have us sit on shoulders and perch on their arms. Pictures; also the cameras are always snapping away for memories of our visit to show their friends and family and the comments we receive. Accolades galore some of the things we hear are; they are so beautiful so friendly; I have never held a parrot, I have never held a bird. It's us the feathered club members they come to see and play with.

Hence the enlistment of Ricky to be our SAG representative. We are compiling a list of demands and conditions to present to the companion humans of our club. Some of our conditional bargaining points include

but are not limited to the following items. French fries at all outdoor events, if there is not a vendor selling fries, drive to the nearest McDonald's and buy some. Comfortable and cool traveling conditions along with a second pop-up tent at outdoor events so we can all have our own perch with food and a cool beverage dish. We are also requesting that there be an official Guild representative elected from among the feathered members whom will attend at all events. His duties will include monitoring the companion humans for proper treatment so they are not injured or harmed during the shows. We all know that proper and ethical treatment of all companion humans is paramount.

Chirps and Squawks
Pookie



THE ADVENTURES OF STEVE AND DAVE the



Two Unusual Cockatiels in Plymouth!

It was an unusually nice day in September, a nice day for picking up a couple of Cockatiels and fortunately it was not too far to go. So, off to Plymouth, Michigan they went to pick up a pair of

Cockatiels. Riding around on this splendid late summer day was a treat for the Rangers. No wind, no rain, no winters snow could stop the Rangers (whoa, I just had a Supreme moment and if you got that you are probably old like me). Anyway, it was a beautiful late summer day as they arrived at their destination. They were greeted at the door and ushered into the house to where the two Cockatiels lived. So, Ranger Dave took a good hard look at them and noticed something odd about these two and brought to Ranger Steve's attention and he was equally amazed. Although these birds appeared white, and I mean snow white, they had dark eyes. Yes, from a distance they appeared to be white faced lutino's (or albino if you wish) but they lacked the main characteristic of an albino and that was red eves. This left them both baffled! How could this be? They should have pink eyes, but they did not. So, they scooped up these two little mysteries and were off to Ranger Central to further ponder this mystery. The only thing they knew about them was the family lost interest in them and they needed a new home. This something that is far too common an occurrence in many rescue animals - the owners just lose interest and surrender the birds then move on to the next thing. So, Ranger Dave, being connected in the bird breeding world, reached out to a Cockatiel breeder and was able to solve the mystery. These two birds were what they called clear pied, which means that unlike a normal pied Cockatiels that have gray markings along with the white and can be quite striking, these birds were totally devoid of any gray markings and this not to common but it does happen. The most important thing is that they were healthy birds and would soon find their forever home and the best part is they went together, to be together forever! Another happy

ending! The Rangers could not rest for long because it wouldn't be long before they got the call again and were off (to another rescue we do not discuss their mental state) but they could handle it because they are the **RESCUE RANGERS!!!!!**

Keep your eyes on this space for next month's exciting installment Multi-Tasking in Harrison Twp. and Sterling Heights!



Avast ye Mates



CAPTAINS CORNER

Well, just when you think you have heard it all, something comes along

that makes you almost fall out of your tree, and you can't believe it you really heard it. Even Pookie, Sparky, and J.B. were left absolutely stunned because like myself, they have NEVER heard this before. I mean it came out of the blue and really had all of us doing a double take. It happened so fast that we all had to rehear it (glad it was repeated) or we would have never believed it. Oh, you want to know what we heard? Sorry I'm still having a hard time, as is Pookie, Sparky, and J.B. wrapping my head around it. One of the residents at the senior show called Pookie's, Sparky's and J.B.'s pet human Steve pretty. Yes, she said he was pretty, not handsome, but pretty. Now you can imagine

that there was an awkward silence among all of us birds thinking she needed her prescription for her glasses updated. It is true she did call him pretty but that would be like calling my pet human Dave tall, dark and handsome, instead of what I call him short, squat, and goofy looking. None the less, it happened and we now have the image of Pookie, Sparky, and J.B.'s pet human dancing around the house singing, I Feel Pretty. It sticks with you, trust me. Well I guess we will just have to move on from this but the first pet human that starts singing I feel pretty gets a walnut to the noggin, that's a promise!

Cheers Captain Morgan



Squawks from Hawks

Hi all feathered and nonfeathered Club

members, I am Hawks with the latest and greatest news.

The April meeting was great, with fifty-two People in attendance of which fourty-nine were members and five were guests and three joined our flock. Now the feathered members, there were two Greys, six Macaws and eight Cockatoos, with twelve other type of parrots.

We had the phone ringing off the hook for programs in the month of May. There are ten shows, and one is a double in one day. They are coming in faster than ever. I hope I can keep up with them. I'm looking forward to doing the shows with Duke and the gang. We have some new feathered members in the shows. We all are looking forward to doing the shows every month.

God bless, till we meet again

This is Hawks signing off for now



WHY? JUST, WHY??

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Sometimes people just leave you shaking your

head wondering that eternal question why? This is one of those times.

A guy calls saying that they have this big white bird and they have had it for 8 years. They got it as a baby and all has been fine up until about two weeks ago. I stopped him and asked if this could be an Umbrella Cockatoo and he said yeah, that's it, that's what it is. He continues with well we noticed that one of its eyes looked funny but didn't think it would get this bad. That was about two weeks ago, and now the eye is so full of sh*t that I don't think it can see out of that eye. I told him well, you need to get this bird to the vet. It obviously has a major problem going on here that needs treatment right away. He says you take birds to the vet, really? I said yes and I can give you several vets in your area or close that treat birds. He then says something that is my biggest pet peeve. Well, I knew when we were thinking about getting him that we could only afford to take the dog to the vet but we got him anyway hoping this wouldn't happen. He then goes on and says that's why I called you to take him to get this taken care of. I said so you are going to surrender him over to our rescue and he says no, he paid too much for him and isn't that what we do get them fixed up. I interrupted saying and then we adopt them out. He started to get angry with me and told me I was out of my mind if I thought for one minute I would just hand over his bird. By now I kept thinking

why get an animal you know you can't afford all the care it needs. I was fuming. I told him that the rescue could not take a visibly sick bird not knowing what was going on. He starting getting a little loud, saying I am not turning this bird over to you for nothing, I am keeping him. He then hung up and all I could do was hope that he used his head and took him to the vet before he lost his eye but I will never know. This is the kind of thing that just makes me so very angry they got this bird knowing they couldn't (at least they said they couldn't) afford the vet care. They would have been better off passing on another pet if all they could afford was one. This just reinforces what I tell people. If you can't afford to provide everything a large parrot needs then don't get a parrot. They don't ask to come into our houses, we bring them in and before we do that we need to make sure we can provide all they need for a long and happy life.



MAY I HAVE YOUR ATTENTION

As you know, we are approaching a very busy

season of both outdoor and indoor events. The Garden City Flea Circus, Our bird fair, the Guardians for Animals pet expo, the All American Family Pet Expo and possibly the Ypsilanti Heritage Festival to name a few of many events that we will be attending.

Along with doing these events comes something that we have become accustom to and that is drawing huge crowds.

With that being said there are certain rules that must be followed to insure that birds do not go missing and the owner does not have heart failure wondering where that bird is. So I would like to pass on to you the

rules of etiquette for doing high traffic events. If you have someone else's bird other than your own always follow these rules. First let the owner of the bird know that you have that bird so they know where and who the bird is with. Second stay within eyesight of the bird's owner. We love the fact that many of us can handle each other's bird and it gives the owner peace of mind when they can see where their bird is. Third and most important never ever hand a bird to someone and then walk away. With the huge crowds we attract it would be very easy for someone to steal a bird if you take your eyes off of it for even a few seconds. Fourth, always take the bird back from the person you have handed it to and never let them hand it to someone else. Finally, return the bird either back to the owner or its time out stand, if you put it on the stand let the owner know that you have done so. This will help avoid the owner having panic attacks and keep everyone happy, relaxed and the event fun for all!



As of April 5th, 2018

****2018****

Tues, May 15th - Senior Show South Lyon Senior Care & Rehab 700 Reynolds Sweet Parkway South Lyon, MI 48178 Set-up 1:30pm; Start 2:30pm

Wed, May 16th - Senior Show

American House 1660 S. Venoy Westland, MI 48186 Set-up 1:00pm; Start 2:00pm

Thurs, May 24th - School Show

Hale Creek Elementary 16200 Harrison Romulus, MI 48174 Set-up 1:30; Start 2:00 pm (note 1/2 hour set-up)

Fri, May 25th - School Show

Memorial Elementary 30001 Marquette St. Garden City, MI 48135 Set-up 9:00am; Start 10am 2 programs back to back like last year

Thurs, May 31st - Senior Show

Oakmont Parkway 36725 Utica Road Clinton Twp., MI Set-up 1:30 pm; Start 2:30pm

Sat, June 2nd Garden City Flea Circus

Parking Lot at the Corner of Middlebelt & Ford Road
Starts at 10 AM til 3 PM
Set-up is between 8 & 9am
We will be setting up a pop-up
This is an outdoor event

Fri, June 6th – Senior Show

Sunrise West Bloomfield 7005 Pontiac Trail West Bloomfield, MI 48323 Set-up 2:00 pm; Start 3:00pm

Fri, June 8th - Senior Show

St Joseph Care Center Felician Sisters 36800 Schoolcraft Rd. Livonia, MI 48150 Set-up 1:00pm; Start 2:00pm

Sun, June 10th - Rainbow Feathers Bird Fair

VFW Post 345 27345 Schoolcraft Rd. Redford MI, 48239 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Wed, June 13th - Senior Show

Brighton Gardens 15870 Haggerty Road Plymouth, MI 48170 Set-up 1:30pm; Start 2:30 pm

Fri, June 15th – Senior Show

Sunrise of Northville 16100 N. Haggerty Road Plymouth, MI 48170 Set-up 5:00pm; Start 6:00pm

Sat, June 16th - Adoption Fair

Pet Supplies Plus 2224 S. Main St. Ann Arbor, MI From 12 PM to 4 PM

Thurs, June 21st – Senior Show

Independence Village of White Lake 935 Union Lake Rd. White Lake, MI 48386 Set-up 1:30pm; Start 2:30pm Sat, June 23rd Senior Show Waltonwoods at Twelve Oaks ssssIndependent Living) 27475 Huron Circle Novi, MI 48377 Set-up 12:30pm; Start 1:30 pm

Thurs, June 28th – Senior Show American House 5859 W. Maple Road West Bloomfield, MI 48322 Set-up 2:30 pm; Start 3:30pm

Sat, June 30th – Senior Show White Lake Township Library 7527 E. Highland Road White Lake, MI 48383 Set-up 10:00am; Start 11:00am

Fri, July 6th – Senior Show Sisters of Mercy - McAuley Center 28750 W. 11 Mile Road Farmington Hills, MI 48336 Set-up 2:00pm; Start 3:00pm

Tue, July 10th - Library Show River Rouge Public Library 221 Burke River Rouge, MI 48218 Set-Up 2:00pm; Start 3:00pm

Tue, July 24th - Library Show Ecorse Public Library 4184 West Jefferson Ecorse, MI 48229 Set-Up 12:00pm; Start 1:00 pm

Ypsilanti Heritage Festival Fri, Aug 24th – 12:00PM to 8:00PM Sat, Aug 25th - 10:00AM to 8:00 PM Sun, Aug 26th - 11:00AM to 6:00 PM

Sat, Sept 8^{th -} Canary and Finch Breeders Bird Fair

Livonia Elks Lodge #2246 31117 Plymouth Rd. Livonia, MI 48150 \$3.00 admission 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

** Our Club Has A Booth At This Event**

Sat, Sept. 22nd - Senior Show Huron Woods Towsley Health Building 5361 McAuley Dr. Ann Arbor, MI 48106 Set-up 1:30pm; Start 2:30 pm

Sat, Nov. 3rd - Senior Show Huron Woods Towsley Health Building 5361 McAuley Dr. Ann Arbor, MI 48106 Set-up 1:30pm; Start 2:30 pm

PET EXPO

Fri, Nov. 9th - 2pm to 8pm Sat, Nov. 10th - 10am to 8pm Sun, Nov. 11th - 10am to 5pm Suburban Collection Showplace 46100 Grand River Novi, MI 48374

We will be setting up on Thursday Nov. 8th most likely around 9:00 am.

Please remember no birds will be allowed through the front door.

NOTE**NOTE***

There has been some confusion from the loyal readers of Bird Droppings as to which events they are allowed to bring their own bird(s) to. As a point of reference and for future information please we want everyone to be aware that when you see the line:

Our Club Has a Booth at This Event
following or "Educational Show" preceding
an event listing it means we are attending
the event in an official capacity representing
our club and rescue. At these events all club
members are welcomed to bring their
feathered companions with them. Also
please note that our space is very limited at
some of these events but don't let this stop
you from joining us, we will find a way for
you and your birdie buddy to fit in and enjoy
the fun.

Select the right bird for you and your family

By Don J. Harris, DVM



Exotic birds can be delightful pets—just ask any of the millions of companion bird owners throughout the world who

enjoy a rewarding and satisfying relationship with their feathered friends. Creating a longlasting positive relationship with your bird may be the result of

Choosing the right bird for you and your family in the beginning. This crucial first step is part of being a responsible pet owner, but it is often overlooked in the rush to acquire a new bird. Identifying what characteristics you want in a bird, and researching different species and their characteristics can go a long ways in establish long helping а and relationship. Rarely will one bird fit more than a few of the desired characteristics. You may acquire a bird and expect it to speak, only to eventually realize this particular

species never talks. Others may discover that a large colorful macaw is also a large

intolerably noisy creature. Many potential owners have expectations that cannot possibly be fulfilled by the species they choose. The best way to obtain the "perfect" pet is to first determine which

Low maintenance

Amazon and smaller

Cleanliness

Most smaller species

Some bird owners may want to avoid certain "unpopular" characteristics like those listed below. Others may not see these same characteristics as undesirable. It's up to bird owners to weigh all characteristics of a species or an individual bird to make the best decision.

Loud

Macaws, Cockatoos

Messy

Macaws, Mynahs, Toucans

Aggressive

Female Eclectus, Male Amazons In the end, individuals interested in owning a bird should first decide what they expect from a pet bird.

Once this question is answered, an appropriate species can be identified and researched. Only then can the potential for a long and mutually beneficial relationship be realized.

This article was reprinted with permission from Zupreem®



CLUB T-SHIRTS

Good news! Tracy Hilka who is Bella Embroidery is now going to

make our club shirts. The price for t-shirts, including our logo embroidered on it, is \$10.00 for sm. to xl and \$12.50 for 2xl to 5xl. These are Gildan brand #8000 50/50 t-shirts, there are lots of colors.

What you do is go to her website.

www.sportswearcollection.com/bellaemb

Then type Gildan in the search box (this will put you on the Gildan page). Look down the page and find Gildan DryBlend 50/50 T-

shirts #8000 Click on the icon and this will open the page with all the colors and sizes. Choose your size and color(s) and add it to your Cart.

On the cart page there is a place for comments when you place your order, in this box tell Tracy you would like your shirt embroidered with the Rainbow Feathers Bird Club Logo. When she receives your order, she will send you a PayPal ® invoice In a short time, you will receive your new club shirt in the mail.

If you don't have internet access or a PayPal ® account you can contact me, Steve Plafchan and we'll figure out a solution to get you a shirt.

She has many items available (hats, tote bags, etc.) that she can put our logo on if you wish. She has given us a catalog full of things you can order, all the prices are retail and she receives a wholesale price so you will have to talk to her about pricing. (IE prices will be less than what's listed in the catalog.)

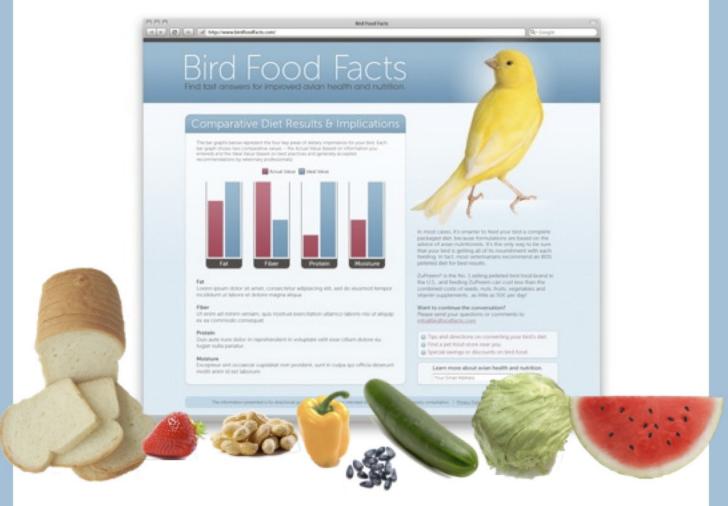




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Are you going out of town or on vacation? Do you have a feathered friend that is staying at home? Susan can help you with your problem she will birdie sit your bird(s) at her house. For more information on rates and care specifics contact by phone or e-mail

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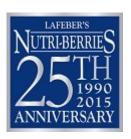
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