

## The DogChannel Newswire (10-23-09)

**Dogs help children learn to read; more owners holding dog weddings; and other news.**

Posted: October 23, 2009, 5 a.m. EDT

### Official Obama Family Portrait Is In, Bo Is Not

The official portrait of the first family is in. There's Sasha, casually draping her arm over the shoulder of the president of the United States. Older sister Malia embraces her mom, first lady Michelle Obama. Hold on, isn't someone missing? Where's Bo, the first dog? Reuters reports.

[Read now >>](#)

### More Owners Uniting Their Dogs in 'Mutt'-rimony

Carole Bigwood sewed the white wedding dress, baked the wedding cake, and beamed as her little baby girl walked down the aisle to meet her tuxedoed groom. So what made this wedding different from your average nuptials? It was her two dogs getting hitched, MSNBC reports.

[Read now >>](#)

### Learning to Read? Try Talking to a Dog

The philosophy is simple. Children who are just learning to read often feel judged or intimidated by classmates and adults. But reading to a dog isn't so scary. He won't judge, he won't get impatient, he won't laugh or correct if the child makes a mistake. In a nutshell, dogs are simply excellent listeners, CNN reports.

[Read now >>](#)

### Confiscated Wolf May Be Dog After All

The "wolf" recovered from an Austin home Sunday could very well be a dog, according to local officials and a wolf expert, and might be returned to its owner. The roughly 1-year-old Dakota is staying at the Austin city pound in the meantime, the Austin Daily Herald reports.

[Read now >>](#)

### A Refuge Ruled by Dogs and Horses

An unmarked driveway leading to Denis and Ann Leary's country house here greets visitors with foreboding security cameras and signs warning, "Beware of Dogs." And if you follow the arrows to the house, there is indeed a good chance of being assaulted by dogs — only not by snarls and snapping jaws, but by licks and sniffs and thwacking tails, The New York Times reports.

[Read now >>](#)