PHOENIX — Next week is the perfect time to stop and thank the special dog, cat and/or other pet(s) in your life for the unconditional and unwavering way they love you each and every day. May 7-13 is National Pet Week dedicated to celebrating pets that enrich our lives.

The American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) created National Pet Week in 1981 to honor America’s more than 200 million pets and encourage responsible pet ownership.

"We live busy lives and often forget or neglect to thank our pets for being our best friends, never judging us even when we’re at our worst, snuggling and for the countless ways they bring us joy, so this is a great excuse to do something special for them," says Linda Nofer with Puppies 'N Love and Animal Kingdom pet stores.

It's the 35th anniversary of National Pet Week and veterinarians encourage owners to do the following:

- Take time to choose the appropriate pet for your family/lifestyle & commit for life
- Socialize your pet so he/she lives a happy, healthy life
- Take dog(s) for frequent walks to exercise both mind and body
- Take pet(s) for routine veterinary exams
- Have pet(s) spayed/neutered
- Include your pet(s) in your family's emergency plans

"We are in the business of bringing pets and people together, so all next week anyone who has ever purchased a puppy at any of our five locations in the Valley and Tucson can stop by one of our stores (puppies/dogs welcome too) for a free Amigos Pet Treat," says Frank Mineo, owner of Puppies 'N Love and Animal Kingdom pet stores.

Note to media: Please contact Linda Nofer at (480) 510-2353 for entrance into a store to obtain puppy and pet b-roll (see locations here) or schedule live shots and/or interviews. We have weekly puppy parties that make great video and live shot opportunities. Click here to see the puppy party schedule. We also have broadcast quality b-roll we can supply.