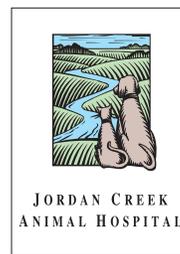




SUMMER 2008

Gazette

A newsletter for people and their pets



3401 E.P. True Parkway
West Des Moines, Iowa 50265

in this issue:

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Summer CARE TIPS FOR YOUR PET

It's hard to believe that summer is finally here! It seemed like winter was never going to end. Now that the warm weather has arrived, please read on for some help in keeping your furry friend safe and comfortable.

WEATHER

- Provide plenty of fresh drinking water at all times.
- When outside, keep your pet's kennel well-ventilated and positioned near a well-shaded area where your pet can avoid midday sun and heat.
- Avoid excessive exercise during hot weather. Overexertion can cause heat stress or stroke. Safe outdoor temperatures for pets vary by breed and size. Ask our doctors or technicians for a recommendation specific to your pet.

Warning: If you suspect heat stress or stroke (e.g., collapse, extremely heavy panting, excessive drooling), wet your pet thoroughly with cool (not cold) water by immersion or spray your pet with a garden hose and call us immediately.

SKIN AND BODY

- Keep your pet well-groomed. Long hair and hair mats can decrease your pet's ability to keep cool and contribute to skin disease. So, regularly brush your pet and trim hair as needed.
- Also keep in mind that if you have your pet's hair cut short, he is more susceptible to sunburn.
- Make sure your pet's vaccinations are up-to-date. Pets usually have more contact with other

animals during warmer months and disease can spread more easily.

PARASITE PREVENTION

- Use monthly flea, tick, and heartworm preventives. Some pets, depending on their lifestyle, should take these preventives year-round. Remember, it's often easier and cheaper to prevent parasites than to treat them when a pet is infested or infected. Be sure to bring in a fresh stool sample at least once a year.
- To reduce pets' access to parasites and discourage parasite breeding, keep your yard clean of feces, dump any standing water (even in watering cans or flower pot saucers), cleanup leaf litter, and trim bushes and trees.

TOXIC SUBSTANCES

- The poisons that kill common pests (like rodents, snails, and slugs) are lethal to pets too, if consumed. So limit your pet's access to places where these poisons are stored in and around your home.
- Lawn herbicides can also poison pets, so keep your pet out of the yard while spraying herbicides and off the grass for three days afterward. Washing pets' paws thoroughly with soap and water before coming back inside will help remove herbicidal residue.

MOTOR VEHICLES

- The temperature inside a car can easily climb to 120 degrees when a vehicle is parked in the summer sun. **NEVER** leave your pet unattended in a vehicle.

Contact us by calling 515-224-9500 or visit our website at www.jordancreek.myvetonline.com



Home Away from Home

In addition to providing veterinary care, we also offer boarding for patients of Jordan Creek Animal Hospital.

Guest Services

Our modern facility is equipped with central air and heat. The kennels are kept clean and comfortably accommodate your furry family member. Dogs are individually walked three to five times daily (depending on the boarding package selected). The final walk for the day is scheduled after 8 PM, similar to your dog's home schedule. Additional playtime and extended walks are available upon request.

At our kennel, cats have their own room that is separate from the dogs. Your cat can enjoy relaxing while looking out windows overlooking our kennel reception area as well as exploring and playing in the cat room.

Baths and nail trims are available for boarding guests (appointments can also be made for baths and nail trims without boarding). We offer pets premium brand pet foods, or if you'd like, you can bring your own. You can also bring your pet's favorite toys, bed, and/or blanket.

Caring Staff

Our well-trained staff truly loves animals and strives to make your pet's stay enjoyable. Appetites and behavior are monitored daily. Because we offer boarding services to Jordan Creek Animal Hospital clients only, we are familiar with your pet's medical history and personality. A veterinarian is available 24 hours a day in case any medical attention is required.

Daycare Services

When you can't get home for lunch or have a day trip and can't bring your pet, daycare is available. Daycare services include kenneling as well as outside exercise times.

Puppy daycare is also available. Puppy daycare allows your puppy to become accustomed to new environments, meet new people and animals, learn that Jordan Creek Animal Hospital is a fun and safe place to visit, and continue housetraining while you are at work or out of town. Puppy daycare consists of day kenneling as well as individual exercise and play times.

Tour

If you would like to take a tour of the kennel, please stop by! We would be glad to show you our facility!

Reservations

To schedule a boarding reservation, please give us a call and our friendly kennel manager or hospital staff will be glad to assist you. As much advance notice as possible is appreciated, especially for major holidays, which fill up quickly.



WELCOME!

We're happy to welcome Claudia Larson and Carissa Colvin to our veterinary family. Claudia and Carissa joined us as veterinary technicians this spring. They both graduated with degrees in Veterinary



Claudia Larson



Carissa Colvin

Technology – Claudia graduated from Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC) and Carissa graduated from Kirkwood Community College. We are excited to have Claudia and Carissa as part of our staff! Please say "hi" to them the next time you stop in!

Congratulations!

Amy King and her husband welcomed a new baby, Ethan, into their family on March 26, 2008.

Tanya Harrington and her husband are thankful for their new addition, Nathan, born on May 23, 2008.



Monthly Meetings

The doctors and staff at Jordan Creek Animal Hospital feel that monthly employee meetings are essential to promoting communication and educational opportunities.

Because of this, we will be closed from **1:30-2:30 PM** on the following Wednesdays: **July 16, August 13, and September 17.**

THE IMPORTANCE OF

Microchipping Your Pet

Can something the size of a grain of rice help a lost pet find her way home? Well, just ask the Richey's, who live in Las Vegas. Their 14-year-old Pekingese, "Toy," disappeared from their backyard in October 2003. They searched for 6 months before adopting another dog. About 1400 miles away and nearly 2 years later here in Des Moines, the Animal Rescue League (ARL) brought "Toy" in and scanned her for a microchip. Thanks to her microchip, the ARL was able to contact "Toy's" owners in Las Vegas. Mr. Richey then flew to Des Moines to be reunited with "Toy."

Implantation of a HomeAgain microchip is a simple procedure. It only takes a few seconds for the veterinarian to

inject the microchip under your pet's skin between the shoulder blades. The needle can be intimidating, but little or no pain is felt by your pet when done. If you have a puppy or kitten, we can implant the microchip at the time of the spay or neuter.

After having your pet microchipped, you must register her with HomeAgain, which includes providing contact information and paying an activation fee. You will also be responsible for a small annual membership fee. If you move or change phone numbers, you must update your contact information with HomeAgain. For those who adopt a pet from a shelter, it is very likely that your pet is already microchipped, so please remember to register your pet with the microchip provider. The shelter

will give you information about the microchip at the time of adoption.

If a lost pet is found by animal control, a shelter, or a vet clinic, the pet is scanned with a device that displays a unique alphanumeric code if a microchip is present. That code can then be called in to the microchip provider and contact information for the owner will be provided.

Even if your dog or cat never goes outside, you can't predict a natural disaster, such as a tornado. To help give your pet the best chance of being identified should she ever become lost, have her implanted with a microchip. Over 400,000 dogs and cats have been united with their owners thanks to HomeAgain microchips.

Special Offer!

\$39.99

HomeAgain

MICROCHIP PROMOTION

For a limited time, HomeAgain is offering a special microchip promotion. A fee of \$39.99 includes the **microchip's implantation, activation fee, and 1-year membership fee.** So, please call now to schedule an appointment – this is a great time to give yourself peace of mind about your pet!

HOMEAGAIN MEMBERSHIP –What's Included?

- On-call support by trained counselors to assist in your pet's recovery
- E-mail alert instantly sent to shelters, vet clinics, and pet rescuers in the area surrounding where your pet was lost
- Tool to create a lost pet poster with your pet's picture so you can begin the search for your pet
- Immediate engagement of a network of pet rescuers to actively look for your pet
- 24/7 network of veterinarians to help you by phone in the case of a medical emergency
- Pet ID Card
 - Includes: pet's photo and identifying information, microchip number, veterinarian's contact information, and emergency contact information
- Lost pet medical insurance
 - Provided by PetFirst Healthcare
 - Covers up to \$3,000 (less a \$50 deductible) of medical treatment for injuries your pet suffers while lost

NOTE: If you choose not to pay the annual membership fee after the first year, your pet's microchip will remain active in HomeAgain's network, but you won't be eligible for the additional features.

New Holistic Food for Your Pet

We now carry a new brand of food called Artemis. After careful research, we felt this food would meet the needs of our clients wanting a more natural, higher protein diet for their pets. Stop by for a free sample!

Barley Grass Extract – Contains one of the highest natural levels of SOD (superoxide dismutase) and also provides chlorophyll, a natural detoxifier

Green Tea Extract (caffeine free) – Contains a rich supply of polyphenols, a source of antioxidants

Natural DHA – Enhances brain function and visual development

Superior Grade Protein – All of the proteins are selected from USDA inspected plants

Fresh Protein Inclusion – Chicken, Turkey, Lamb, Salmon – Enhanced nutrient profile and palatability

Multi Protein Source – Covers the complete amino acid profile

Select Vegetables and Fruits – Potatoes, Carrots, Peas, Apples, Tomatoes, Blueberries, Spinach, and Cranberries

Custom Vitamin and Mineral Package – Superior vitamins and chelated minerals for better nutrient absorption

Balanced Level of Omega 3 and 6 – Vitally important for healthy skin and lustrous coat

Artemis Pet Food Company guarantees your pet will thrive and be satisfied or 100% money back!



Acupuncture Update

Dr. Kueter and Dr. Wilke have passed their exam for acupuncture certification. They only have to complete a short internship and a case study report to officially be certified acupuncturists!

Hopefully by the time you read this we will have received 2 new items to increase the effect and duration of our acupuncture treatments.

The first new service will be electro acupuncture. Our new equipment will run a small electrical current through the body's own energy channels. This will make the results more rapid and longer lasting.

The second piece of equipment is a LACER. This provides low level photon energy for the body. It is a vibrating energy source and can be used to stimulate a specific acupuncture point or a larger, more general area. It has been shown to influence the following:

- accelerating the healing of wounds
- stimulating cell replication
- increasing the production of DNA and RNA
- stimulating collagen production (the main supportive protein of the skin, tendon, bone, cartilage and connective tissue)
- stimulating the immune system
- improving circulation

With LACER, a probe is used to treat acupuncture points. The probe produces no sensation and therefore is VERY helpful when performing acupuncture on pets that are sensitive to needles. It is also very helpful for eye injuries.

MEET THE STAFF/our editors for this issue of Pet Gazette



Dr. Kim Wilke, is originally from Madawaska, Maine and attended vet school at Iowa State University. She is married and has two adorable children, a daughter and a son. She also has a cat, Kit, and a poodle, Charlie. Her favorite activities and interests include auto racing, photography, camping, reading, and playing with her children.



Shannon Kurth, RVT is originally from Cedar Rapids, Iowa and moved to Des Moines in 2004. She received her Associate of Applied Sciences degree in Veterinary Technology from Kirkwood Community College. She is married and has two cats, Gracie and George. Shannon enjoys being outdoors, going to movies, and playing with her cats.