



NEWSLETTER



Back to Basics.....

Almost a year ago one of our favorite clients wrote an inspirational note to me about this newsletter. Her suggestion at the time was that we use this space to help you to:

“BE YOUR PET’S BEST PAL.”

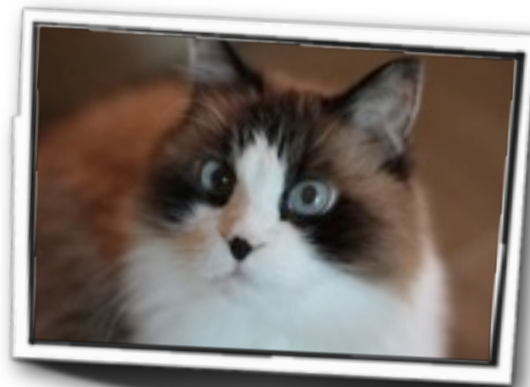
On that note, I hope to use this space to cover basic subjects for you, such as: what we are looking for during an annual well visit, flea/tick prevention and pet safety. I would like to discuss vaccination schedules and vaccines recommended in our region.

Of particular concern to our veterinarians is the epidemic of obesity in our dogs and cats which seems to closely resemble the trend in people in our country.

October is **“National Pet Wellness Month”**. The American Animal Hospital Association recommends that pets have a well visit at least yearly as they age faster than we do. Older pets

may need to have exams every six months to catch issues before they become serious.

Our philosophy of wellness exams at Paradise Animal Hospital includes getting to know our patients and their families as they mature and age in hopes of optimizing their health and limiting preventable diseases.



Summer, 2010

We have had a busy summer at the animal hospital! Many of you who have been in with your pets have noticed some changes in our staff over the summer. We are very happy to welcome back both Dr. Tinanoff and Dr. Kellner who took time off to welcome new babies into their families. They will both have limited schedules for the remainder of the year, so please give us a bit of extra time and patience when scheduling your appointments. Thanks to all of our clients for the extra patience over the summer with the relief doctors and those of us who filled in for your doctors.

We also have several new faces at the hospital. You may have a chance to meet Joanna at the front desk when you check in next time, Amanda or Rebecca, our newest veterinary technicians may be assisting with your pet’s care as an inpatient in the hospital.

Samantha may set up your appointment in the office. Not least, Cody our all around assistant, may have helped in the exam room or in the treatment area. Please join us in welcoming them to our team!

For your pet's annual wellness exam:
Annual Well Visit Check List

- Be sure to bring the vials of all medications that he /she takes on a regular basis.
- Bring a list of your questions and concerns.
- **Bring a stool sample!**
- Be prepared to collect a urine sample from your older pet.
- Mention any new or continuing problems such as :
 - cough
 - diarrhea
 - vomiting
 - eating or drinking more or less than usual
 - excessive panting
 - weight gain or weight loss
 - scratching
 - urination
 - new lumps
- Depending on your lifestyle and your pet's age, we may ask about your pet's:
 - ability to exercise comfortably
 - exposure to fleas and ticks and heartworm prevention
 - instructions and prescriptions from referral veterinarians
- During a wellness exam we "check-out" our patients from top to bottom. This includes:
 - vital statistics (weight, temperature, +/- blood pressure, etc.)
 - eyes
 - ears
 - teeth and gums
 - nose
 - lymph nodes
 - heart and lungs
 - skin
 - abdomen
 - joints and muscles
 - reproductive organs
 - (and other parts as well..)
- We develop an individualized plan for the prevention of disease and parasites for your dog and cat. This may include vaccinations, heartworm preventative and flea and tick control, when appropriate.

