

CVC Newsletter

February 2005

Countryside Veterinary
Clinic, Ltd.

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National Dental Health Month

Periodontal disease is the most common cause of bad breath in dogs and cats. As plaque and tartar form, bacterial accumulate causing infection. This infection may then enter the bloodstream affecting the heart, liver and the kidneys. According to the American Veterinary Dental society, 80% of dogs and 70% of cats show signs of oral disease by age 3. Most susceptible are senior pets, small breed dogs and cats. Signs of infection include bad breath, yellow or brown crust on teeth, tooth loss and abnormal drooling. Behavior patterns may change, including mannerisms such as going to the food dish but not eating, swallowing food whole, dropping food from the mouth, changed chewing patterns or an overall subdued behavior. Talk to your veterinarian about your companion's dental health needs and preventive care.

General anesthetic allows your veterinarian to safely use dental instruments and to scale beneath the gum line where bacteria may hide. Schedule and appointment in our dental suite today.

Tapeworm Infection

Tapeworm infestation may sound horrible, however, these parasites carry the least direct health threat when compared to other intestinal worms. Tapeworms are contracted from an intermediate host while eating or grooming. These hosts include fleas and small rodents and animals such as mice, rats, squirrels, and rabbits. The tapeworms live in the pet's intestines and consist of a head with a long, flat segmented body. The segments, which can reproduce, are passed in the animal's feces. because the tapeworm's head remains in the intestine, it continues to produce new segments. The first indications of tapeworm infection are the tiny white segments moving in your pet's stool or in the hair.

Your pet probably won't have any obvious physical symptoms, however, if left untreated tapeworms can cause problems. Although routine fecal floatation do not usually show tapeworm eggs, by examining a stool sample your veterinarian may detect the presence of tapeworm segments and provide proper treatment. Routine frequent fecals checks and deworming are important for predatory dogs and cats who may ingest infected prey. This will help protect your companion against other intestinal parasites also.



Pet of the Month Thumper

We just love our Thumper. We adopted him last November after losing our beloved Beagle, Bailey Jane. Thumper came to us from a shelter in West Virginia that did not have room for him and our friend at the Humane Society just knew that he would be perfect for our family. He needed a home and we needed him. He's so grateful to have a home, he gives kisses all the time and loves to just sit and have his belly rubbed. He craves attention and our 4 year old son gives him plenty of it. We didn't think we could welcome another pet so soon, but it's as if Thumper just knew how to win our hearts. He told us he just loves his vets at Countryside Clinic Too.



Congratulations!

Michalene is this month's "Employee of the Month". She has been a member of our healthcare team since November 2003. Michalene is a Client Relations Specialist. This position entails many different responsibilities with the greatest focus on assisting clients with their pet's needs on the phone or while here for a visit. In addition to her position responsibilities she continually seeks out ways that helps us to exceed in our delivery of care. Michalene consistently has an upbeat, professional and personable demeanor when interacting with clients as well as our team members. Michalene's dedication to patient care and client service is outstanding and to show appreciation Countryside Veterinary Clinic awards her "Employee of the Month".

CVC Team Announcements

Birthdays

Dr. Karen	February 3
Dr. Jennifer	February 4
Dr. Gary	February 5
Kendal H.	February 12
Alissa	February 20

Anniversary

Julie	4 years
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To: Our Valued
Countryside Veterinary
Clinic Clients

