

HVAH Newsletter



December, 2014
Hunt Valley Animal Hospital
11206 York Road
Cockeysville, MD
21030

www.huntvalleyanimalhospital.com

410-527-0800
Fax: 410-527-0041

Pancreatitis & Pets

Holiday seasons often bring a spike in pancreatitis in our canine and feline patients.

The pancreas, an organ near the stomach, helps digest food and control blood sugar.

When the pancreas becomes inflamed and irritated your pet may show signs of loss of appetite, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain, dehydration, low body temperature, and even trouble breathing. If your pet begins to experience these symptoms, he/she should visit one of our veterinarians as soon as possible. The doctor will most likely run blood tests and possibly take abdominal x-rays to diagnose the condition. Pets usually recover from mild cases, however severe cases may require hospitalization. The doctor may recommend that no food, water, or medications be given by mouth for the first 24 hours allowing the pancreas time to rest. Your pet may be required to be fed a low-fat or bland diet for a few weeks or for the rest of his/her life.

Some known causes of pancreatitis are side effects to some medications and fatty foods such as bacon grease, table scraps, etc.

Keep your garbage secure, and don't cave in to the "puppy eyes" and



"Meet Our Staff" Spotlight in on ...



Joyce

Joyce became part of the HVAH family in December, 2009, and is an intricate part of our foundation. She has been in the veterinary field for twenty years, receiving an Associates Degree in applied science from Essex Community College, and becoming an RVT eighteen years ago.

Joyce celebrates her birthday May 30th, and is all about her family - marrying her "first love" Carl. Their family circle became complete after adopting their precious children, Makenzie and Kenneth eight years ago. Their Baltimore home currently includes two boxers "Nina" & "Dane", one boxer mix, "Jasper", and three mischievous cats, "Prancer", "Streaky", and "Miranda" - the oldest now 18.

Joyce's main goal in life is to be the "best" mother and wife possible. She is very intuitive to others thoughts and feelings and loves to give to others. She is quick to lend a hand, offer insight, & thrives on helping others via a kind smile or word. When others are happy, Joyce is happy!

What some may not know about Joyce is that she has always had an interest in flower arranging, even taking a one year floristry course in college. As much as she enjoys it, she just couldn't give up her life's dream of becoming a veterinary technician.

SOFT PALATE SURGERY

Many pet breeds are known for, and even prized for, their flat-nosed or short-nosed appearance. While this characteristic is especially prevalent among many "toy" breeds such as Pugs, French Bulldogs, Shih Tzus and Pekingese, it also is recognized in Boston Terriers, English Bulldogs, Boxers and even Mastiffs. Unfortunately the cosmetic appeal of this feature is outweighed, from a veterinary standpoint, by the limits it places on a pet's ability to breathe. The combination of reduced nasal capacity and laryngeal obstruction from the soft palate can cause problems such as snoring, loud breathing, gagging and oxygen deprivation. Fortunately, at Hunt Valley Animal Hospital we can correct this issue, known as brachycephalic syndrome, with soft palate surgery.

We encourage pet owners with animals who suffer from brachycephalic syndrome to contact Dr. Frank or Dr. Johnston for a consultation. We will be happy to examine the animal's airways, nasal structure and breathing efficiency to determine whether soft palate surgery can help.



Going away for the holiday's? *Don't forget your pet!* Call to schedule boarding today!

The holiday's are busy boarding times at HVAH, don't get into a *pinch*, call today!

410-527-0800

Dogs must be current on their "bordetella", "DHPP", & "rabies" vaccines prior to boarding.

Cats must be current on their "FVRCP", and "rabies" vaccines prior to boarding.



Happy Ending

"Otis"

(formerly Sampson)



"Otis" came to us through the local shelter, "Defenders of Animal Rights" with a broken leg. At only a few months old, he required orthopedic surgery to repair the damage.

"Otis" is recovering wonderfully in his "forever home" with new parents Julia & Alex! "Otis" is such a sweetheart and we couldn't be happier!

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

What am I?

I am primarily a darker green color with paler green and more yellow on my under parts. My feathers are edged in a dusky black, particularly on my neck. The color of my crown is bright scarlet with the bases of those feathers edged in yellow. There is a violet blue band going from my eyes down. My cheeks are an iridescent light green and there is a lilac coloring behind my eyes. There are colors of violet blue and red on my wings.



Green Cheeked Amazon Parrot



Grooming By Kathleen

Call today to speak to our groomer, Kathleen!
Grooming is by appointment only - available most days!
410 * 527 * 0800



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