

Fourth QUARTER

2019







November is National Diabetes Awareness Month. Diabetes is the inability to produce or use insulin correctly. Insulin is what allows glucose to transfer from the bloodstream into the cells. When cells are deprived of glucose, they are not receiving the energy that they need to function properly. Glucose deprivation of the cells can cause noticeable changes in your pet. Unfortunately, diabetes does not have a cure, but diabetes can be managed to help your pet live a long and healthy life.

As pet owners, there are several signs of diabetes that you can be watching for. Pets with diabetes may urinate more than normal. Lethargy can be another sign of diabetes. Lethargy can be caused by many different things, but your pet can also become lethargic from the lack of energy their cells are receiving when they are diabetic. It is important to consult your veterinarian if you are seeing these symptoms in your pet.

Most diabetic pets require insulin injections and a special diet to help with glucose regulation. Managing pet diabetes is possible and can allow them to have a long healthy life. Some cats can eventually be managed with diet alone. Our doctors and staff are here to answer any questions you may have, and if your pet has diabetes, we will be there every step of the way.



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Conner's Journey

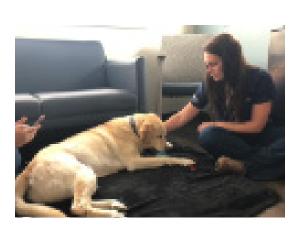
Conner, also known as Professor Yellow or Fantastic Yellow Beast, is a 10 year Labrador Retriever owned by Dr. Reynolds and his family. He is loved by many. Conner has an infectious personality and a tail that is always wagging. Conner enjoys helping Dr. Reynolds with his daily chores on the farm. He loves to ride in the Gator. One of his favorite things to do is to come to work with his dad and visit all of his friends. He has a routine when he comes to the clinic. He barges in enthusiastically greeting everyone in sight, then proceeds to the scale to be weighed (he likes to keep tabs on his figure). Conner has saved numerous lives in our area as a blood donor.

One morning Dr Reynolds received a call from one of his sons that Conner was suddenly unable to use his back legs. He had been playing fetch, cried out, and was unable to use both of his hind limbs. Dr Reynolds rushed home to check on him. Conner had no feeling in his right hind leg and very little in his left hind leg. He was unable to stand. Dr Reynolds was fairly certain he had suffered an injury to his spinal cord.

Conner was immediately transported to Oregon State University College of Veterinary Medicine for a CT scan. He was diagnosed with a type 3 disc herniation. This occurs when a small portion of a normal disc ruptures at high velocity into the spinal cord, causing bruising, edema, and swelling of the spinal cord. This type of disc rupture has variable outcomes. With many patients never regaining function of the affected limb(s). Conner was given a grave prognosis for return to function with both of his hind legs, particularly his right. This disease cannot be treated surgically and there is no way to prevent its occurrence.

Conner returned to Stayton Veterinary Hospital for supportive care. He was treated with antiinflammatories, laser therapy, and acupuncture. Conner regained the ability to use his left hind leg within a few days, but was still unable to move and use his right leg. There was a concern that Conner would potentially need to have his right hind leg amputated. Along with his laser therapy Conner had acupuncture treatments with Dr. Livesay three times per week, by his third session his mobility in his right hind leg had greatly improved. Not only were the sessions helping his mobility, but he also seemed to really enjoy them. We are so happy to report that Conner is now able to run! He isn't as agile as he used to be and sometimes forgets that he can't do the things he used to, but he is happy and pain free. Conner never lost his fantastic personality. He still loves his Gator rides, but now needs help getting in.







February: Dental Month Mark it on Your Calanders

Annual Dental Exams:

Our veterinarians recommend annual, or for some pets biannual, dental exams for both cats and dogs. Oral health plays a major role in your pets overall health.

Dental disease can lead to:

- Heart disease
- Kidney disease
- Liver disease

Dental disease does not always present as visible tartar or bad breath. Teeth can look spotless, but having redness around the gumline is a form of dental disease.

Dental x-rays can reveal dental disease beneath the gum line. Without radiographs, some dental disease can go undetected.



Canine Influenza



Canine Influenza, also called the dog flu, is a contagious upper respiratory virus that can be easily transferred between dogs. There have been outbreaks across the United States of Canine Influenza. Canine Influenza is spread through sneezing, coughing and also coming into contact with contaminated items.

Dogs that visit dog parks, grooming facilities, and boarding facilities, or doggie day care, are at a higher risk. There is not a season for Canine Influenza like there is with human influenza. Luckily, there is a vaccine available to help protect your dog. The vaccine protects your dog against the H3N2 and the H3N8 strands of Canine Influenza. It's time to talk to your veterinarian about getting your dog vaccinated if they aren't already.

Happy Holidays!

During the month of December, be entered to win fun prizes when you donate to our SOS fund.

SOS Fund:

The SOS Fund is Sweet Home Veterinary Hospitals charitable fund. These funds are used at the clinic's discretion for patients and clients in critical cal conditions or situations.

Donations can be made at the clinic or or over the phone.

Your donations are appreciated!



Pumpkin Dog Biscuits

Ingredients:

2 Tbsp Peanut Butter

- 2 Eggs
- 2 1/2 C ups Whole Wheat Flour
- 1/2 tsp Salt
- 1/2 tsp Cinnamon
- 1/2 Cups Pumpkin (about half a can)
- 1 dog bone shaped cookie cutter

Combine all ingredients and mix until blended. Use rolling pin to work the mixture flat, then use your dog cookie cutter. Bake at 350° for 35 – 40 minutes, let cool.

Sweet Home Veterinary Hospital

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