



THE PAWPRINT

October 2011

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Animal Care Clinic is joining the Social Media Revolution!

New Website Launched....

We launched a brand new website in July of this year. In addition to information about our services and location, it contains detailed information about our staff, and links to the ACC Blog, current adoption cats, and current animal related events and fundraisers in the Portland metro area. You can still access your Pet Portal and the online pharmacy through the new website as well. We'll be adding more features and photography as time goes on. If you have wants, needs or suggestions, please contact us!



Facebook and Twitter....

If you haven't yet visited our Facebook page, please do! We're having fun posting interesting and relevant links, and up to the minute photos of the goings on at Animal Care Clinic. Twice a week we are featuring a rescue dog up for adoption at Clackamas County Dog Services. Facebook fans receive notice of the latest blog postings and the latest additions to the new website. We're taking baby steps now, but we hope to thank our Facebook fans by offering free offers and coupons to our friends in the near future.

The ACC Blog....

We are just beginning to post to our blog on a weekly basis. Recent topics include First Aid for Pets, Pet Sweat, and Happy Cat Month (or Four Things You Can Do To Keep Your Cat Happy). Look for a Four for Friday posting weekly, as well as other topics as they come along. Let our staff know if you have a topic that you would like to see addressed!



The ACC Cat Adoption Program

Meet Patch!

Patch is a 7 year old tabby cross. He's a sweet, social, and vocal little man. For more information and photos of Patch please visit us at: www.animalcarevets.com.

Outgoing Adoption Information:

- All cats and kittens adopted from ACC receive the following services:

parasite control, age appropriate vaccines, microchipping, FeLV/FIV testing, wellness bloodwork, & spaying/neutering if necessary
- Adoption Fees are \$50 per cat/\$75 per kitten.
- Please visit our website for complete program information.



VISIT us:

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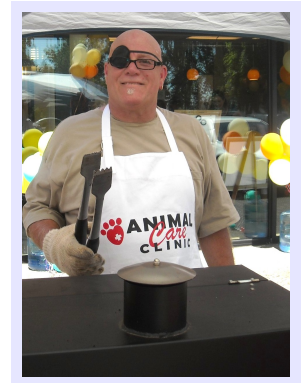
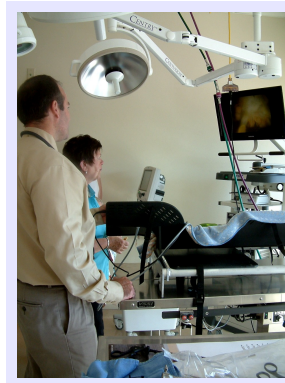
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Thanks for a Successful Open House!

We would like to thank all of the wonderful clients, vendors, and staff members that made our August Open House a success! And a very SPECIAL thank you goes to Jerry Sprague who manned the grill in 90 degrees weather for the full 3 hours!

We had approximately 150 people come through the clinic. Dr. Brent demonstrated the new laparoscopic surgical equipment on a green pepper. Dr. Debbie had a station all about physical therapy and rehabilitation. ACC vet techs, Rachel and Linnea, had kid stations for games and face painting. A wonderful selection of items were raffled off later in the afternoon.

All in all, the Open House was a success. If you came for a visit and a tour – thanks for coming! If you donated your time, your services, or your products – thank you! Thank you all for helping us to get off on the right foot in our new digs!



Feature: What's the Big Deal About Blood Screening for Senior Pets?

We are often questioned about the importance of bloodwork. A key component of any wellness plan for an older pet should be annual, and even better, biannual bloodwork and laboratory screening tests. These tests typically include a Complete Blood Count, which can detect anemia, infection, chronic inflammatory conditions, blood clotting problems, and even some cancers. A serum chemistry panel screens for many different illnesses in their early stages, including kidney, liver, and/or pancreatic disease, diabetes, and hormone imbalances. Most senior wellness screening packages also include a thyroid test and a urinalysis, which provide valuable information about thyroid levels and kidney and bladder function and health.

That's the type of information that senior wellness screening provides. Here are the reasons why it's so important:

1. **It's much easier to treat a condition diagnosed in it's early stages than to play catch up after the disease has significantly progressed.** It's also typically much less expensive. Almost every pet will develop at least one serious medical condition in their senior years. Regular bloodscreening allows us to diagnose these medical conditions as early as possible. The chances of successfully treating geriatric disease is directly dependent on how soon the condition is caught.
2. **It is the nature of cats and dogs to hide the symptoms of their illnesses.** This is one reason why pets can seem perfectly healthy one day and critically ill the next. They will hide disease until it is no longer physically possible to do so. Often a client will bring in a geriatric pet that shows no concrete signs of illness on exam. But then lab results reveal urinary tract infection, chronic inflammation, or kidney disease. The ability to diagnose these illnesses before they are too advanced to hide is one beauty of regular senior wellness screening.

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3. **Older pets age the equivalent of 4-7 human years in a 12 month period of time.** A lot can change during that amount of aging! This is why bloodwork is recommended twice yearly in geriatric pets. If a pet develops a condition soon after an annual exam, that condition has the chance to progress significantly before the next
4. annual exam. For this reason, every major professional veterinary organization that publishes health recommendations for the "over fifty" crowd recommends bloodwork and a physical exam every 6 months.

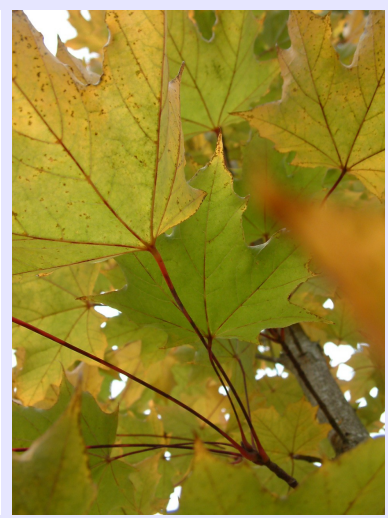
It is one of the bittersweet aspects of loving and living with an animal that they age much more quickly than we do. On average, dogs are eligible for senior wellness screening around the age of seven – this is equivalent to about 50 years of age in many dog breeds – although giant breeds age more quickly. Cats are considered middle aged between the ages of 7 and 10.

Regular senior wellness screening and exams are important. Early detection of disease can allow us to keep our pets happy, healthy, pain-free, and WITH US for as long as possible. And that's a wonderful thing.



Bring in your furry trick or treater for a comprehensive annual exam before the end of October and take home a free bag of Lean Treats for their goody bucket!

Happy Halloween from ACC!



Four Pet Tips for Fall:

1. **Cold, wet and drafty weather is hard on old joints.** Provide your elderly, arthritic pets with a warm, dry place to get away from drafts this fall. Heated beds or pads are always a luxury for these old guys. Watch your pet for signs of pain - including slowing down, loss of appetite, and/or reluctance to climb stairs or rise from a down position. We have lots of options available for treating the pain of arthritis at Animal Care Clinic! Give us a call if you think your furry friend could use some relief.
2. **Your running partners should glow in the dark.** Earlier nights means evening runners and walkers are often out in dark, drizzly weather. When traveling on the streets, it's a good idea to not only wear reflective gear on your own body, but on your pets as well. Collars and harnesses are available with reflective tape woven into their weave.
3. **Make sure your pet is wearing identification on Halloween night.** If your house gets a number of trick or treaters, consider putting your pet in a separate room away from the front door during peak trick-or-treating. The constant noise and strange sights and sounds can be stressful to many cats and dogs. Keep current tags on your pet in the event that he darts out the front door in the midst of the hubbub.
4. **Keep the treats to yourself.** It's the beginning of the holiday season. We all know that chocolate can be toxic to pets. But rich, fatty foods can be deadly as well. Poultry bones, bacon drippings, and all the normal ingredients for prepping standard holiday meals are yummy in our tummies - but bad news for pets. When you get the urge to splash the bacon grease on the kibble....think P.A.N.C.R.E.A.T.I.T.I.S, and don't do it. We'll talk about pancreatitis in detail in the November Paw Print.



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Upcoming Events and Fundraisers in the Portland Metro Area



The Cat Adoption Team

Whisker Wonderland Silent & Live Auction

- Saturday, November 5th @ the Portland Hilton
- Last year's event raised more than \$130,000 for homeless cats and kittens!
- For more details or to buy tickets visit:
<http://catadoptionteam.org/whisker>



Animal Aid, Inc.

Cute Critters in Costumes Photo Contest

- Saturday, October 22nd, 12-4pm
- Western Pet Supply, 6908 SW Bvtn-Hillsdale Hwy
- Dress up your little critter in his favorite Halloween costume to be professionally photographed. Photos will be judged and prizes will be won. Proceeds from photo sales go to benefit the rescued animals who are supported by Animal Aid, Inc. programs.
- For more info visit: <http://www.animalaidpdx.org/events/cuteCritters.php>



The Oregon Zoo

Howloween

- October 29-30th, 11am-4pm
- Bring your kids in costume to the zoo for this Halloween tradition. A scavenger hunt leads to fun stations around the zoo. Goody bags full of prizes and treats will be given out for completed hunts.
- For more info visit:
<http://www.oregonzoo.org/Events/Calendar/2011/11oct.htm>



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