

INDEPENDENCE VETERINARY CLINIC



Quarterly Newsletter Volume

9



Client Appreciation Week

We enjoy spoiling our clients! Client appreciation week will be held the week of August 4th-9th to recognize our outstanding clients.

Monday and Saturday—Spin and Win Wheel! Clients spin the wheel for great prizes.

Tuesday—Ticket Tuesday! Clients fill out a ticket to win a free microchip.

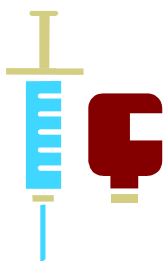
Wednesday—Whacky Whisker Wednesday! A fun day at IVC to bring your kids and pets. We will have face painting, pin the tail, go fish, and tons of chances to win great prizes.

Thursday—Tasty Treats Thursday! Yummy treats will be served for both the client and the pets!

Friday—Yappy Hour Friday. Team members will distribute non-alcoholic beverages to clients and Pup Martini's to your pets.

New Product—Convenia!

This just in!! IVC now has an injectable antibiotic called Convenia. Do you have trouble giving your pets pills, or let's face it sometimes just forget a dose? Well then, be sure to ask us about Convenia. Convenia is an injectable antibiotic that is safe and effective. One injection of Convenia will last up to 14 days, just like a 14 day supply of antibiotics! It is only used to treat bacterial skin infections. But for those pets that need it, Convenia begins to work in just a few days. Be sure to let us know if your pet has had any problems with any antibiotics in the past. Be sure to ask us if Convenia is appropriate for your pet's condition. We'll be happy to discuss it with you.



- On May 24th, IVC welcomed People and Pets Photography to our clinic. We had a great time while clients and staff members had portraits taken of themselves and their pets. During the day, we collected \$210 in donations for Animal Care and Control of Charlotte.
- Dr. Michelle Bryan hosted a great continuing education seminar for pet sitters and employees of grooming and boarding facilities on Monday, May 26th. The seminar, entitled "The Good, The Bad, and the Ugly", focused on many procedures that are routine at our clinic and that will be helpful for these animal professionals. Attendees discussed anal expression, ear plucking, medication administration, and subcutaneous fluids among other helpful topics.
- On July 19th, many members of the IVC staff attended a Red Cross Certification Course on Human CPR and First Aid. This was an excellent opportunity for the staff to learn the valuable and lifesaving skills of CPR and first aid. In addition, Dr. Michelle Bryan will be teaching courses in Pet First Aid and CPR. Her first course will be held Sunday July 20th, then again August 16th at Best Friends Pet Care in Pineville. There will be a course held at IVC as well on September 27th at 2:00pm. If you are interested, please contact us for more information.
- Coming soon....IVC will host our first annual Client Appreciation Week August 4th-9th. Each day will have a different theme but all guarantee fun and prizes for all who attend.



Why Fido *Shouldn't* Celebrate Our Nation's Birth



Well, it's that time of year again: barbeques, beaches, bursts of fireworks...and badly upset canines. Fireworks can be very upsetting and potentially dangerous for man's best friend, so here are some tips on how to keep Princess or Prince safe and happy during your summer time celebration.

Do not take your dog to fireworks displays. No matter how much your dog is part of your family, this is a place where he will feel constantly uneasy because of sudden, very loud noises and very large bursts of light in the night sky. Remember, you can reassure a child by talking them through their fears, but your dog will simply be frightened and bewildered by these unpredictable noises and flashes.

Since you're leaving your dog at home, he/she may still feel uneasy, because your neighbors may have a small fireworks party of their own. When Princess hears the loud bangs, she may become very destructive. Try to leave her in an area that doesn't have any items that she can chew or otherwise destroy – except for her favorite Kong! Your dog also may try to escape the noises. Make sure that you don't leave her outside; dogs have been known to become so agitated that they dig under fences to flee or strangle themselves with their chains in their distress. Leave the television or a soothing CD on while you're away, so the noises don't come as such a shock to your little girl.

Consider your dog's past behavior. If he usually becomes tense during thunderstorms, he'll probably be terrified by fireworks. Speak to your veterinarian about the possibility of a prescription sedative for Prince – and don't wait until the last minute! We are happy to consider giving your pet a medication, if you give us enough time to fill the prescription. Please be aware that your dog must have visited Independence Veterinary Clinic for an exam within the last year; sedatives may not be the correct therapy for your dog, so we will offer you other options if medicine is not our preferred method of calming your dog.

If you're having a private fireworks party at your house, make sure your dog is away from the action. He could be badly burned if an absent-minded neighbor accidentally touches him with a sparkler, or if he decides to chase a bottle rocket across the street. Again, dogs tend to try to escape from the loud noises, so if he isn't safe in your house, he may run away because of his agitation.

If you have any questions about making this a safe, happy summer for your four-legged kids, give us a call!!



Becky's Yogurt Pups

Homemade dog treats recipe.

Ingredients:

16 ounces plain nonfat yogurt

3/4 cup water

1 tablespoon chicken bouillon granules

Instructions:

Dissolve bouillon in water.

Combine water and yogurt in blender and blend thoroughly. Pour into small containers for freezing, then cover and freeze. Once frozen, serve to your baby as a tasty, cold treat.



Animal Temperaments

Here, at IVC, we see lots of different temperament types in dogs, cats, ferrets, and rabbits. Most pets are friendly, loving animals, and would never bite or scratch anyone. However, much press attention has been given recently to the danger of pets, particularly dogs identified as pit bulls or pit bull mixes. Breed specific legislation outlaws particular breeds of dogs that are perceived by the public as being aggressive. We at Independence Veterinary Clinic love all of our four-legged children, regardless of species, breed, or behavior, but we think our clients could benefit from a refresher course on basic animal safety.

No animal is 100% safe. Much attention has been paid to pit bull attacks, but other dog breeds and even cats have caused serious injuries and even fatalities. There are several factors of which to be aware when approaching an animal.

Is this a family pet or a residential animal? This question simply seeks to distinguish the nature of the socialization to which this pet has been exposed. Is she a beloved inside cat, or is she a dog that is chained in the backyard with minimal human contact? Is this a dog that is taken on long walks in the neighborhood, or is this a cat that only shows up when she is hungry? Distinguishing between the two types of animals is imperative when approaching a strange animal. Feral cats may lash out at humans, and poorly socialized dogs are completely unpredictable, so try to avoid approaching these animals.

Does the pet look healthy? Even a family cat might lash out if she's suffering from a disease or malnutrition. In the same vein, a cherished dog may nip at a stranger if he attempts to touch her painful foot. Pay attention to the condition of the animal before you attempt to make friends.

Does the owner seem to see the pet as potentially dangerous? This is especially important when considering large breed dogs. Does the dog have on a choke collar or a muzzle? Is the owner struggling to control him or is the dog shrinking away from all contact? These are all major warning signs that this dog needs to be left alone! When in doubt, simply do not approach the animal.

If you'd like to approach someone's pet, just ask permission first. Never let your child approach strange pets—be they cat, dog, horse, or ferret—without expressed permission from the owner. Always approach the pet slowly, with your hand out for her to sniff, and don't make any sudden movements. Don't ever put your face anywhere near his muzzle when he is in a vulnerable position (such as lying on this back) or when giving out food or treats. Even normally docile animals can be very aggressive with food!



Even with all the precautions listed above, this is NOT a definitive guide on how to be safe around all types of animals. Don't approach an animal if you have any misgivings. When in doubt, leave the pet alone! At Independence Veterinary Clinic, we strive for safe human-pet contact. Should you suffer from an animal bite, the best action is to seek medical care. An urgent care facility should be able to treat any wounds and give you medications to prevent infection. As always, if you have any questions or concerns about animal safety issues, please feel free to call us at IVC.

Senior at Seven Program

We have a brand new program for your senior pets! Since pets age faster than we do, it's very important that we keep up with their health! The Senior at Seven Program consists of two annual visits. They include annual vaccines, diagnostic testing, x-rays, and comprehensive examinations. Your pets can receive all of this in an affordable package. You also get 10% off dental cleanings, arthritis medications, and vitamins. Ask any of our staff members about signing up for the Senior at Seven Program.

Visit A (Yearly Visit done at time of regular yearly exam and vaccinations)		Regular price
Senior Comprehensive Physical Examination		42.00
Glaucoma Screen		25.50
Pain Score	Incl.	
Electrocardiogram (EKG)		17.50
Blood Pressure Measurement		25.50
Senior Comprehensive Blood Testing		125.95
Heartworm Test		44.00
Fecal Parasite Screen		29.50
Vaccinations Needed:		
Canine Rabies 3 Year		22.00
Canine Bordetella		22.25
Canine DHP-P		26.00
	Canine Total	\$ 380.65
Feline FVRCP in 3 year		26.00
Feline Leukemia Virus 3 year		30.50
PureVax Feline Rabies		23.75
	Feline Total	\$ 390.65
Senior Program Members pay		\$275.00

Visit B (6 Month later senior visit)		Regular price
Senior Comprehensive Physical Examination		42.00
Glaucoma Screen		25.50
Pain Score	Incl.	
Electrocardiogram (EKG)		17.50
Blood Pressure Measurement		25.50
Thoracic Radiographs (Chest x-rays)		99.95
Senior Comprehensive Blood Testing		56.75
Urinalysis		29.99
		\$ 297.19
Senior Program members pay		\$252.60
Additional Senior Savings Include:		
5% off Arthritis Medications (Tramadol, Rimadyl, Metacam)		
10% off Arthritis Vitamins (Dasuquin, 3v Caps)		
10% off Dental Cleanings (February Dental Month Excluded)		
Maximum Savings on Services -\$ 160.80		

Wisdom Panel DNA Testing

The Wisdom Panel is a DNA test that will determine what breeds your dog is made up of. If you have always been curious about his/her characteristics and what traits they have, this might be the test for you. The Wisdom Panel tests for 130 AKC registered breeds that could be in your baby. This test can help with future diagnostics, if your pet should ever get sick. The more you can understand about your pet's health and background, the better the relationship will be. If you are tired of not knowing, stop the guessing now and try the Wisdom Panel—you may be surprised.



2328 Crown Point
Executive Drive
Charlotte, NC 28227
Phone: 704-841-1313
Fax: 704-847-8893

www.independencevet.com

Highlighting Our Team

Anika Hassan

Born and raised in San Francisco California, Anika has been living in Charlotte since August 1998. She has one child, a 19 year old daughter. She currently only has two pets, a Pitbull named Foxy, and a 20 year old Ball Python named Ky. She loves being a part of the IVC team and we love having her.



Janie Reynolds

Janie has been a part of our team for 2 months now. She is 21 years old, and has a 7 month old Lab/Springer spaniel mix named Banner. Janie loves working with us and is always excited to learn new things about our patients.