

Pet Gazette

Best Care Animal Hospital is having an Open House!

We would love to see everyone at Best Care for our open house! A date will be announced soon! What is an open house at an animal hospital all about? Glad you asked.

We will be giving tours of our newest facility. You will have the opportunity to get an inside look at what goes on behind those closed exam room doors. You will be able to see our state of the art facility and the equipment we use to diagnose and treat your pet. Have you always wondered what our surgery room is like? What equipment is used to monitor your pet while under anesthesia? What do we mean by "hospitalizing" your pet? You'll be able to see for yourself. Staff members from all 3 hospitals will be available to answer any question you may have about our equipment and how it benefits you and your pet.

One of the exciting things you will see during this open house is our new physical therapy equipment. We will have demonstrations showing you what we do to rehabilitate pets after surgery and injury and how this therapy can benefit pets with arthritis.

Wait till you see our "Luxury Suite" accommodations for your canine kids. All the comforts of home so they too can enjoy their own little "vacation". Now you can go away and know your doggie darlings are just as comfortable in their hotel room as you are in yours.

We will have educational booths set up, raffles, contests, and food & drinks for both you and your dog.

Heat Stroke and Hyperthermia

Heat stroke and hyperthermia don't just happen during the hot summer months. Our pets here in Florida are at risk in the spring time months too. There are many activities that involve you and your pet being outside for extended periods of time. Playing Frisbee, throwing the tennis ball or even just laying outside by the pool your pet could be overheating and you may not even notice till it's too late.

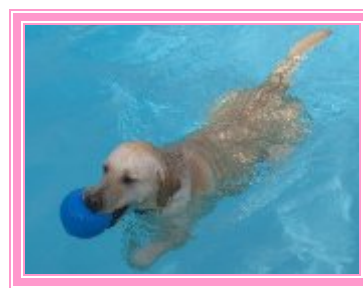
Hyperthermia is a condition where an animal's body temperature rises dangerously high. Animals are susceptible to hyperthermia due to their bodies have inadequate cooling mechanisms, which is why we as owners need to provide water, shelter, and select times which are cooler for exercise when the pavement has cooled (morning and evening).

Hyperthermia can occur quickly for example, hyperthermia can happen while you get groceries and your pet is left in the car will no air conditioning and the windows rolled down, even if you park in the shade.

Signs of heatstroke or hyperthermia can include:

- Rapid panting
- Bright red tongue and gums
- Thick sticky saliva
- Lethargy
- Vomiting (with or without blood)
- Diarrhea
- Disoriented

If you notice that you pet is exhibiting signs of heatstroke contact your veterinarian immediately. Prompt action is necessary to help the chances of your pet's survival.



Did You Know Best Cares grand opening will have...?

1. Games and contests
2. Prizes
3. Human and pet goodies
4. Educational stations such as dog and cat behavior counseling, physical therapy demonstrations, parasite prevention, Ultrasonography weight management and best of all The Pet Gazette booth
5. We will have hospital tours focusing on our doggie daycare area and our state of the art dog and cat suites.



★ Pet Super Star ★

Simon

Our Pet Super Star for this month is one of the bravest and sweetest dogs I have ever had the pleasure of meeting. Simon was a 10 year old Jack Russell Terrier, who had a number of problems. From idiopathic vestibular disease (a disease which causes the patient to be off balance and is often accompanied by a head tilt), Protein losing enteropathy, (a disease which inhibits the patient from absorbing protein), liver disease and an unknown hind leg neuropathy to name a few. But Simon had a great set of chompers (a patients teeth). This past year has been exceedingly hard, for both Simon, his human parents Michelle and Bryan and the whole Animal Care Center family. He has had to undergo a number of diet changes, tests and blood transfusions. All the while Simon kept his happy-go-lucky Jack Russell attitude, coming in almost daily for blood work and routine exams. Everyone who would walk through our treatment area they were greeted with a "squeek,squeek" from Simon in his large corner cage. Simon Loved his squeaker toys.

Last month was a very emotional time for all of us at Animal Care Center, Simon lost his fight with his many sicknesses last month. We will miss him very much and he will always be remembered.



Simon



New Comfortis™ – the latest breakthrough in flea protection

Comfortis™ is the first FDA-approved, chewable, beef-flavored tablet that kills fleas and prevents flea infestations on dogs for a full month.

Here are just a few of the features that set Comfortis™ apart from other flea products you may have used in the past:

- Beef-flavored, palatable, chewable tablet
- Easy to give with no mess
- Starts to kill fleas in 30 minutes
- Lasts a full month
- Kills fleas before they can lay eggs
- Approved by the FDA
- Demonstrated safe for dogs and puppies 14 weeks and older
- Spinosad, the active ingredient, is environmentally friendly

Comfortis™ offers proven flea protection plus these family-friendly features

Along with fast-acting, month-long flea protection, Comfortis™ offers these additional benefits:

- With Comfortis™, you can play with your dog immediately after treatment. No need to isolate pets. Just treat and play.

- Because Comfortis™ is administered orally, there's no risk of application site reactions.
- Comfortis™ won't stain carpeting, upholstery or clothing.
- Comfortis™ can't be rubbed or shaken off.

Spinosad is the active ingredient in Comfortis chewable tablets. The introduction of spinosad for use in agriculture resulted in the receipt of a Presidential Green Chemistry Challenge Award in 1999 by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The most common adverse reaction recorded during clinical trials was vomiting. Other adverse reactions were decreased appetite, lethargy, redness of the skin, hyperactivity and excessive salivation.



Meet the Staff

Bryce

Meet Bryce a friendly face to many of our boarding guests at Animal Care Center. Bryce has worked as a kennel technician for four years while attending college at USF studying Criminology. Bryce has also worked as a housing deputy at the county jail and is know a reserve officer for the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. In his spare time he enjoys riding motorcycles, 4 wheelers and flying small Cessna Planes. Abby, Bryce's six month old yellow lab mix enjoys spending time with him while he tends to his salt water and fresh water fish tanks. Bryce is an important part of our team.



Bryce

Sara L. Anderson, D.V.M.

A recent transplant to Florida, Dr. Anderson is the newest member of the Animal Care Center team. Her professional interests include behavior, ophthalmology, dermatology and emergency medicine. Dr. Anderson was awarded her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree in 2005 from The Ohio State University. For five years before and during veterinary school, she worked at a small animal hospital in central Ohio. After graduation she completed an internship at a mixed animal hospital located in Eastern Ohio. There she helped provided routine medical and surgical services, as well as 24-hour emergency care. Most recently, Dr. Anderson worked as an equine veterinarian in Las Vegas, Nevada. Although she loved working with her 1000 pound patients, she is happy to be back in the small animal arena.

Before becoming a veterinarian, Dr. Anderson worked for several years in public relations and marketing in Boston and Washington, D.C. She completed her undergraduate degree at the University of Pittsburgh, and upon graduation accepted a fellowship to attend Boston University, where she received a Master of Arts in international relations. Originally from the Pittsburgh area, she is an avid Steeler fan. For fun she enjoys running and biking on the Pinellas Trail, playing with her dogs, traveling and watching movies (but no horror flicks!).



Dr. Anderson