

# Arbor Animal News

A Quarterly publication from Arbor Animal Clinic

July 15, 2010

## Doctor's Corner:

### External Parasites



When the weather warms up, and it certainly has, we see many more cases of **flea and tick infestation**. As common as these critters are, it is important to remember that they are potentially a serious health risk to your pets as well as your human family members. **The importance of prevention cannot be overstated.** The health risks from fleas and ticks are listed below.

Ticks can cause anemia and a type of paralysis in dogs and carry and transmit the organisms that cause Ehrlichiosis, Lyme's, and Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, which people can also get from ticks. They can also give dogs Relapsing Fever, Hemobartenellosis, Babesia, Hepatozoonosis, and Tularemia. Cats can get Cytauxzoon, Relapsing Fever, Ehrlichia, Q Fever, Tularemia, and Hemobartonellosis. Pretty scary!!!

Fleas commonly cause a severe skin allergy, anemia, and tapeworms in both dogs and cats but they also are part of the cycle for Cat Scratch Fever in humans. And...believe it or not *The Plague* (that's right: the plague as in bubonic plague!) in both cats and humans.

We recommend a **year round prevention** program for all cats and dogs for fleas and ticks (as well as mosquito carried Heartworm Disease). Please speak to one of our vets if your pets are not fully protected from these common but serious pests!



Happy 4th of July!

### Staff Notes:

**Drs. Dulaney, Faight, Davies, and Hartwell** have all made their television debuts on KEYE TV's We Are Austin Live show on Fridays from 4-5 pm. We do a short segment focusing on an animal health issue of interest. Watch us if you can!

**Nancee Swanson** has now been our Hospital Manager for thirteen years! We are fortunate to have her expertise in quality control and wonderful leadership.

We have a Veterinary Extern with us from June 21 to July 11. She is **Liz Skinner**, who will be a graduating senior at Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine this year. Liz began her career here at Arbor as an animal caretaker and will become Dr. Skinner next May. We are so glad to have her train with us and are so proud of her!

### Fun Facts: Did You Know?

~ At the end of the Beatles' song "A Day In The Life", an ultrasonic whistle, only audible to dogs, was recorded by Paul McCartney for his Shetland Sheepdog.

~ Cats are known to have been domesticated by 1600 B.C. in Egypt. Most authorities agree that the modern cat, *Felis catus*, is derived from the Kaffir cat, *Felis libyca*, also known as the small African bush cat or African wild cat. Meow!

## Big Changes: Done!

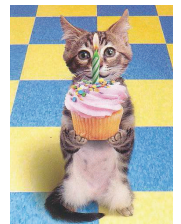
We are putting the final touches on our clinic remodel. Our new Cat Boarding room and Treatment room are completed as well as our new digital radiography and lab equipment. Please ask our staff to show you around! We also have our new paperless recordkeeping system in place. This was a big undertaking and we hope that you all will see the improvements this will bring to you and our practice.

### Staff Pet Photo Contest

Thank you to all of you that voted for our staff's pets in our photo contest. The winners are: "Bugs" (Deborah Boesch) Best Cat "Luke" (Gayleen Mayerle) Best Dog and "Cooter and Piper" (Gayleen) Best Friends Photo "Charles" (Kimberly Bundrick) for Best Overall Photo



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Happy 20th Birthday!

Arbor Animal Clinic celebrates its twentieth year of service to Austin dogs and cats July 16th. Thank you to all of our wonderful clients for letting us be your vets!