



Chatfield Veterinary Hospital

CVH Summer '07 Newsletter

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Hours of Business

- Monday 7:30-7:00
- Tuesday 7:30-7:00
- Wednesday 7:30-7:00
- Thursday 7:30-7:00
- Friday 7:30-6:00
- Saturday 8:00-2:00
- Sunday-Closed

September is National Senior Care Month

The good news is that dogs and cats are now living longer. Nothing contributes more to the longer lives of our pets than the special care owners provide. This includes regular wellness visits to your veterinarian and advanced diagnostic and early treatment methods. Dogs and cats age faster than we do, so health problems can develop rapidly. Approximately 22% of dogs and 18% of cats older than 7 are affected by disease that is only detectable with an advanced diagnostic workup. Fortunately, many diseases can be treated

and have favorable outcomes if diagnosed in the early stages. Routine testing, combined with twice-a-year exams, can reassure you of your older pet's continued good health or help your veterinarian begin treatment early, giving you and your pet a formidable advantage over disease and the effects of aging.



Senior Wellness Package - September Only!

Services Include:

- Senior Wellness Exam
- Senior Bloodwork w/ Urinalysis
- 2 View Chest Radiographs & 2 View Abdominal Radiographs
- The total package is discounted by \$100.00 for September only!

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Dr. Julie Harrington Joins Our Staff!



Dr. Harrington was born and raised in Louisiana, but has lived in Colorado for over 10

years after living in several southern states. Julie recently received her Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) degree from Colorado State University.

In addition to her all-round veterinary skills, Dr. Harrington is certified in veterinary acupuncture, and is excited about adding this service for our patients. She views acupuncture as another "tool in the toolbox" which can be very beneficial to patients. By stimulating the nervous system with thin

needles at specific points on the body, pain can be alleviated, muscle spasms relaxed, certain disease processes can be combated, and overall pet health and quality of life can be enhanced.

To introduce our new acupuncture services, we will offer an introductory rate of \$45 for an hour session through the end of October 2007. Call now for a consultation to learn more about acupuncture and see if your best friend may benefit.

We Want Your Dog! For Doggy Daycare



Doesn't this look like fun? Your dog would have a blast at Doggy Daycare!

Is your

dog lonely during the day, have separation anxiety, and chew everything in sight? Do you wish you could have taken them for one more walk? Well, Doggy Daycare is your solution! A typical day entails constant supervision, playing fetch and Frisbee, chasing or being chased by other dogs, pool time, being brushed and loved by our staff, and even a midday nap so they don't get over-tired. We also have an outdoor webcam (as well as indoor cameras in all our luxury boarding suites) that you can access from any internet terminal to view your pet while you are at work or on vacation. We ask for proof that your dog is

current on all vaccinations (bordetella, distemper-parvo combo and rabies), spayed or neutered, not aggressive with dogs or humans (we can arrange a trial day), and not able to jump or climb our 6-foot fence. Doggy daycare is open Monday to Wednesday, 6:30 AM to 7:00 PM, closed Thursday, and Friday from 6:30 AM to 6:00 PM. Tuesday's are reserved for dogs under 20 pounds. Please let us know any special schedules or behavior concerns you may have. We are here to help and work with you and your dog to make their stay the best experience possible.

Doggy Daycare Rates/Package Deals

There is no psychiatrist in the world like a puppy licking your face.

3 Day Package	\$66	\$22/Day
5 Day Package	\$105	\$21/Day
10 Day Package	\$200	\$20/Day
20 Day Package	\$360	\$18/Day
	\$23/Day on a day-by-day basis	

5 Half Day Package	\$67.50	\$13.50/Day
	\$15/Half day on a day-by-day basis	

Who Let The Dogs Out? Laura & Cara!

Laura LeGrand is our new Daycare and Boarding Manager. She moved to Colorado from California 5 years ago to attend Bel-Rea Institute of Animal Technology. Laura is experienced as a veterinary technician's assistant and has also managed other Doggy Daycares. She has a

beautiful daughter named Cadence who is already a dog lover like her mom and a Bernese Mountain Dog mix named Crazy. Laura looks forward to working with your dog and if there is anything you would like her to help you with, she'd be more than happy to.



Laura (left), Cara (right)

Cara Dillon recently joined our daycare & boarding staff. Although new to Chatfield Veterinary Hospital, she has years of experience working in other dog boarding and veterinary facilities. Cara also has a love of dog training. Cara's mixed border collie, Fiona, has been doing agility for the

past 4 years, and hopes to enter her first competition soon. Cara's ultimate goal is to become a certified dog trainer and use her skills as a dog trainer at Chatfield Veterinary Hospital. We think you will be impressed with her abilities and caring attitude!

Atopic Dermatitis - by Dr. Laura Conklin

As veterinarians, we are required to diagnose and treat a multitude of diseases. One of the most common questions we hear from clients is "Why is my dog scratching so much? Is it fleas?" In Colorado, the answer is usually not fleas, although summer-time infestations do occur. There are 3 main reasons that dogs scratch and appear itchy: fleas and other skin parasites, food allergies, or environmental allergies. True food allergies are relatively uncommon, and occur in only about 10% of dogs. The most common reason that dogs are constantly scratching is due to environmental allergies (similar to hay fever in people).

Allergies, or technically, *atopic dermatitis*, occurs in approxi-

mately 40% of dogs. The signs can range from excessive licking of the paws, underleg or groin region, recurrent and chronic ear infections, biting or chewing at the body, fur loss, a malodor or "doggy smell", and outright skin infections. This condition can range from very mild to so severe that dogs can become lethargic and quite ill. When humans experience hay fever, we typically manifest the symptoms as runny or itchy eyes, sneezing, etc. Dogs exhibit their discomfort in their skin, which is why the signs can be so varied and complex.

Treatments include prescription anti-histamines, bathing with dermatologically-formulated shampoos on a regular basis, precisely formulated fatty acid

supplements, or systemic medication to help suppress their body's overzealous response to allergens and pollens.

I always tell my clients that this condition can be very frustrating because it typically can't be cured, but with consistent treatment and the right products, most cases can be controlled and their dog will feel like chasing the Frisbee instead of chasing after their itchy tails!

Well, I'm off to bathe my two dogs that have atopic dermatitis...of course they insist on making me equally as wet as they are! Happy summer adventures!



"Spencer"

Meet Spencer, he needs a good home.

Spencer is an 8-year-old special needs male cocker spaniel who has come across Colorado from Grand Junction looking for a long-term home.

Spencer has cataracts that limit his sight, but he finds his way around his foster home just fine, and gets along well with the other dogs there. He would do best in a quiet, adult home where he can learn the lay of the land, and get lots of attention and loving. Spencer has passed a full veterinary health exam, is neutered, up-to-date on his vaccinations, heartworm negative, and has microchip identification.

If you would like to give Spencer a lap to call his own, contact Susan at sblummanick@aol.com

We Have A New Clinic Cat - "Sassy"

Sassy is a 2-year-old British Shorthair, odd-eyed, white kitty. Odd-eye means she has one yellow eye and one blue eye! She is an EXTREMELY friendly and naughty kitty who certainly lives up to her name (what is it about computer keyboards that attracts cats?) Sassy has been living here at CVH since May 2007. It took her only a short while to learn the ropes and fit right in. You will often find her

cuddled up with dogs in the lobby or working her way onto people's laps while they wait in our reception area. She has no fear and is not shy about introductions!! We hope that you can meet and enjoy Sassy while you visit with us!

