



Little Apple Veterinary Hospital



Manhattan, Kansas

LITTLE APPLE VETERINARY HOSPITAL NEWS

March 2011

We are AAHA!

We are AAHA-accredited and celebrating!!! Our hospital was recently (11/18/10) evaluated on almost 900 rigorous veterinary standards of excellence. We are proud to be one of the 15% of AAHA-accredited hospitals in the United States and Canada. AAHA Standards of Accreditation cover patient care, pain management, anesthesia, surgery and more that are crucial to the delivery of high-quality veterinary care. Who is AAHA? AAHA (American Animal Hospital Association) was founded in 1933 and is the only association that provides voluntary accreditation to companion animal hospitals. We are one of approximately 3,000 traditional hospitals and numerous referral hospitals in the United States and Canada that are AAHA-accredited and have made a commitment to meeting the highest standards of veterinary care. To be accredited by AAHA, our hospital must demonstrate an exceptional level of medical care and client service. Here are a few examples of how AAHA's standards impact you and your pet. The standards require us to provide diagnostic services (x-ray and laboratory) so that we can quickly and accurately diagnose your pet. Not only that, but because we have an onsite pharmacy (another standards area), we can begin treatment immediately. AAHA standards also require that medical records be thorough and complete which helps us better understand your pet's medical history and how past health issues might be impacting their current medical status. AAHA's standards cover every aspect of our hospital to assure your satisfaction with the level of care both you and your pet receives. We are proud to be an AAHA-accredited practice and believe this helps keep us on the leading edge of veterinary medicine and focused on continuous improvement to assure we can offer the quality and range of services you expect and deserve for your pet. We understand that your pet holds a valued place in your life and your heart, so we have made it our goal to respect and honor that special bond by providing the best possible care for your pet. As part of that goal, we have chosen to be accredited by the American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA) and have our hospital measured against the most rigorous published standards in the veterinary industry. Please visit www.healthypet.com for more information on accreditation and pet health care.

Dental Special

If your pet has gingivitis (red gums), plaque/tartar, bad breath, or difficulty in chewing, then they may need their teeth cleaned. In this newsletter, we are offering a **10% off Coupon** for dentals & dental products. Whether clients use this coupon, mention this newsletter, see our sign, hear our radio ads, visit our website or check out our posters, you must mention the special when you make your appointment or before you check out in order to receive your discount. Please help your pet to have the dental care it deserves, and call **539-0191** for an appointment now! (Offer ends 03/31/11.)

The following tips are brought to you
by Merial, maker of



Winter Weather

When the weather outside is frightful...don't forget to watch out for your furry friends. Despite their fur coats, winter can be challenging for dogs and cats. Here are a few seasonal tips to help you protect your pets from extreme weather.

- * Keep pets inside when the temperature is below freezing.
- * For outdoor pets, be sure they have proper shelter and that their water is not frozen.
- * After walks in the snow or anywhere that rock salt or other chemical de-icers are in use, be sure to wipe off your dog's legs and belly to prevent them from licking and ingesting those substances.
- * If your pet gets stuck outside in freezing weather for a long time, it may get hypothermia. Signs include a slow pulse, shallow breathing, disorientation, collapse and unconsciousness. If wet, dry your pet thoroughly, and then place warm (not hot) water bottles wrapped in towels around your pet. The ears, paws and other poorly insulated parts of the body may have frostbite; **DO NOT RUB OR APPLY SNOW OR WATER TO THESE PARTS.** Thaw the area slowly and get your pet to the Veterinarian as soon as possible.
- * Don't leave your cat or dog in a car during cold weather.
- * Antifreeze is a lethal poison for dogs and cats. Clean up any spills and consider using products that contain propylene glycol instead of ethylene glycol.

Keep These Poisonous Foods, Drinks and Plants Away from Pet

Our holiday traditions of candy and good cheer may not be so cheerful to our pets. Food, drink and plants that make our lives special sometimes can be harmful, even deadly, for our four-legged friends. In 2009, the ASPCA's Animal Poison Control Center took over 17,000 calls regarding pets ingesting, and being poisoned by,

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Poisonous foods and plants,

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“people” food. Foods that are dangerous for your pet include:

- Grapes and raisins
- Onions, garlic and chives
- Macadamia nuts
- Chocolates, coffee and caffeine
- Avocados
- Alcohol
- Yeast dough
- Milk
- Salt
- Raw/undercooked meat, eggs and bones

To find other foods that may be dangerous (or not) for your pet during the holidays and all year-round, visit www.aspc.org/pet-care/ask-the-expert-poison-control/people-foods.html.

Dangerous Plants

Another nearly 8,000 calls were made to the ASPCA regarding pet poisoning caused by common houseplants. Here's the ASPCA's list of the top 17 plants that may harm your pet:

- Lilies
- Yew
- Marijuana
- Amaryllis
- Sago palm
- Autumn crocus
- Tulip/narcissus bulbs
- Chrysanthemum
- Azalea/rhododendron
- English ivy
- Oleander
- Peace lily
- Castor bean
- (aka Mauna Loa peace lily)
- Cyclamen
- Pothos
- Kalanchoe
- Schefflera

To find out which plants are toxic or non-toxic for your pet, visit the ASPCA's online listing at www.aspc.org/pet-care/poison-control/plants.

Top Ten Poisons

Surprisingly “people” food and plants aren't the top issues when it comes to pet poisoning. In 2009, the ASPCA Animal Control Poison Center received over 140,000 calls about pets exposed to poisons. Here are the top 10 for 2009:

- Human medications: 45,816 calls
- Insecticides: 29,020 calls
- People foods: 17,453 calls
- Plants: 7,858 calls
- Veterinary medications: 7,680 calls
- Rodenticides: 6,639 calls
- Household cleaners: 4,143 calls
- Heavy metals: 3,304 calls
- Garden products: 2,329 calls
- Chemical hazards: 2,175 calls

If you suspect your pet has ingested something poisonous, contact the LAVH at **785-539-0191** or the ASPCA's Animal Control Center's 24-hour hotline at (888) 426-4435. For the ASPCA's call, a \$65 consultation fee may be applied to your credit card. For more information, visit www.aspc.org/pet-care/poison-control/top-10-pet-poisons-of-the-year.html.

Arthritis

If your pet is showing signs of stiffness, such as difficulty with stairs or climbing into the car, we can examine your pet for arthritis. These old dears are also more likely to be a bit grouchy, as it hurts to move away, especially from bouncy children. New and safer medications are now available for arthritis. We also have a scientifically formulated prescription diet (Hill's j/d) that our Veterinarians can prescribe. Older pets need more frequent visits than young adults and the reward is improving and extending your friend's golden years. After 6 years of age, a checkup every 6 months is much more likely to find treatable problems, before it is too late!

Safe Havens for Your Cat*

Guests in your home can be very stressful to your cat. From your cat's point of view, noisy strangers are invading her home or her owner is disappearing for long periods of time, making her anxious about when dinner is going to be served or when she'll have some playtime with you. Keeping your cat's schedule consistent will help keep her stress levels down. Incorporate an extra ten minutes of playtime daily to help her burn off some holiday anxiety.



Make sure her litter box is out of the way of foot traffic and that she has easy access to it even while guests are staying over. Ditto for her water and food bowls. If your cat is shy around strangers, you may want to put her in your bedroom with some of her favorite toys and soft music playing while people are over. Leave her space to hide—open closet doors or make room under your bed. Also make sure you know where she is at all times. Many cats run out of open doors while guests are coming in and out. Holiday time is a good time to make sure she's microchipped and check to see that your [online profile](#) contains your current contact information. A Home-Again collar tag is another great way to keep kitty safe, and it's a fun gift, too—[order one today!](#)

***Source:** <http://petid.homeagain.com/2010newsletters/december/Cat-Proofing-the-Holidays.aspx>

A microchip ID really makes a difference for lost pets:

Lost pets with microchip ID are recovered from shelters & reunited in almost 3 out of 4 cases. Up-to-date owner contact information can help make it 4 out of 4!

HomeAgain helps lost pets beat the odds—we reunite over 10,000 lost pets with their families every month.

Tell your friends and family about HomeAgain.



Lost Pet Awareness



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Diabetes and Pets

If your pet drinks a lot, urinates a lot, and eats a lot, yet is losing weight at the same time, your pet may have Diabetes. Diabetes mellitus is an increase of the glucose in the blood.

Did you know that more than 1.4 million U.S. companion animals have been diagnosed with diabetes? If you do the math, that's one in every 500 dogs and one in every 200 cats. While some believe that obesity is the leading factor in the increase of diabetes in dogs and cats, others attribute the increase, especially in cats, to the loss of their more active lifestyle.

At the LAVH, if your pet is diagnosed with diabetes, we can run bloodwork on a frequent basis in order to get the pet on a maintenance program of medication to control glucose levels. Even though diabetes is a chronic disease, it can be well controlled with minimal disruption of their lives while maintaining their pet's quality of life. (Source: *Veterinary Practice News*, 11/2009)



Twice a Year Checkups

Because of a cat's nature to hide illness, we are now recommending twice-a-year checkups for all of our feline patients. Please call the Little Apple Veterinary Hospital at 539-0191 to make an appointment today for your feline friends.

\$1000 OFF* BATH & BRUSH

*\$10 off special does not apply to haircuts, shave-downs or full grooms. Offer valid at **Little Apple Veterinary Hospital**, Manhattan, KS. Limit one offer per coupon, one coupon per customer. Coupon may be used multiple times. Not good with any other offer. Subject to state and local taxes. Other restrictions may apply. No cash value. **Coupon expires March 31, 2011.**



10% OFF Dentals & Dental Products

Offer valid at **Little Apple Veterinary Hospital**, Manhattan, KS. Limit one offer per coupon, one coupon per customer. Coupon may be used multiple times. Not good with any other offer. Subject to state and local taxes. Other restrictions may apply. No cash value. **Coupon expires March 31, 2011.**



Using Toys*

Interactive toys are great for both dog and owner, especially balls and flying discs. However, your dog should never be allowed free access to these types of toys. If he chews and swallows the toy or its parts, he can choke or his intestines can become blocked. Toys to watch out for include:

- Rope or toys made of string
- Any ball that is small enough to get stuck in a dog's throat
- Soft or plush toys, like those made of fabric

Listed below are toys that are safe for a dog to have free access to, as long as the toys are too large for the dog to swallow:

- Rubber toys designed to be stuffed with treats
- Nylon bones and other nylon shapes
- Very large balls (bowling ball size)

*Source: <http://petid.homeagain.com/2010Newsletters/december/Choosing-the-Right-Toys-for-Your-Dog.aspx>

SPECIAL OFFERS – Sometimes, our vendors send special coupons to our clients. If you would like to opt out, and not receive these special offers by mail, please call us or send us a note.

Weaver Hotel

Would you like a quiet night away at a beautifully refurbished hotel only 40 minutes north of Manhattan? Let us pamper your pets while you get pampered at the Weaver Hotel in quaint Waterville, Ks. Visit their website at www.weaverhotel.com, or call **785-363-2515** to make reservations or to learn more about this 1905 landmark of railroad history!



Happy Birthday!

We celebrated our 5th year at our new location on October 24th, 2010. We can't believe that five years have already passed! The Little Apple Veterinary Clinic was started in Manhattan in 1988, and in 22 years, veterinary medicine has come a long way. Vaccinations have reduced infectious viral diseases by 95%. While we still see usually fatal cases of Canine and Feline Distemper as well as Parvovirus, these rarely occur in adult, immunized pets. Vaccination, together with parasite control, have increased the average pet's life span from the 8-10 years of the 70s to very near 20 years for our smaller breeds today. Here's to all the pets in our LAVH family, Happy Birthday to You, and may you have many, many more!

Prevent Heartworm Disease

Heartworms are transmitted to dogs by mosquitoes. Without the protection of a heartworm preventative, your pet could get heartworm disease — a potentially deadly illness of the heart and lungs. All dogs are at risk for heartworm disease no matter where they live. Once a dog is infected with heartworms, treatment can be expensive, difficult and unsuccessful.

Mosquitoes transmit immature heartworms from infected dogs to healthy dogs. Other carriers of heartworm disease include wolves, foxes, ferrets, coyotes and raccoons. Some common signs of heartworm infection in dogs include coughing, difficulty breathing and sluggishness. Heartworms live in the heart and lungs of infected dogs, and left untreated, heartworm disease may be fatal to your dog.

In addition to heartworms, your dog is also at risk for hookworms and roundworms, intestinal parasites that can cause dangerous infections. That is why it is important to provide your dog with preventatives like a monthly dose of HEARTGARD® Plus or Interceptor®.

Extending Life

There are no miracles involved, just three simple principles that are as important for your pet as they are for you.

The first is sound nutrition, based on more than which TV star promotes a brand of food. (We feature Hill's Science Diet food for all of your pet's dietary needs, and it's guaranteed!)

The second is dental health, prevention more than treatment. Dental infections affect 35 % of our patients, spreading infection to their heart, liver, kidneys, lungs, and brain, shortening lives by as many as four years.

Finally, a test of your pet's blood, urine, and feces once a year will help us detect diseases early enough to make a real difference. Our veterinarians can tell you what makes sense for your companion, but doing it is a commitment you must make to your pet's life, health and welfare. It's so little when we consider the love that they share unselfishly with us every single day.

The Little Apple
Veterinary Hospital
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Manhattan, KS 66502

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Current Resident or

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*"The Little Apple Veterinary Hospital,
the Veterinarians in the Little Apple
with the Big Hearts!"*

Ask for a Veterinarian

When you call the LAVH, please know that you can ask for a particular veterinarian to see your pet. When calling for an appointment, just ask the receptionist, and they will schedule you accordingly. Our staff of Veterinarians includes: Dr. Leslie (Clark) Blackwell, Dr. Ben Gardner, Dr. Amy Hanson, Dr. Jennifer McMeans, Dr. Jill Speier, Dr. Don Peterson (Saturday only), and of course, Dr. Liz Lindquist, our LAVH owner and operator. Since we are open extended hours as a convenience for our clients (M-F 7-7 and Sat. 8-5), we need several veterinarians on staff to cover all of the hours we're open during the week. Some days, four veterinarians are working together to accommodate our clients' needs, but most of the time, there are at least two veterinarians available to see you and your pets. It is best to have an appointment, but keep in mind that we see emergencies first, then appointments, and then walk-ins. New in town? We are **always** accepting new clients at the LAVH. Please arrive 10-15 minutes prior to your scheduled appointment to fill out the appropriate paperwork required for your visit. Stop in and visit with one of our Veterinarians soon. You'll be glad you did!

Dr. Liz Lindquist & Associates