



# THE GOLDEN "VIEW"

YOUR PLACE FOR THE LATEST HAPPENINGS AT

GOLDENVIEW VETERINARY HOSPITAL (GVH)

**FALL/WINTER 2011**

## A MESSAGE FROM DR. KRIS:

### Happy Holidays And Warm Wishes For A Wellness New Year

As 2011 begins to wind down, GoldenView Veterinary Hospital is gearing up for a new year focused on keeping our wonderful clients and patients healthy and happy.

With the economy wreaking havoc on all of our budgets, GVH wants to help you prevent illness and detect disease in your pets early, when treatment is most effective and less costly. Early Detection programs are available for all of our patients and may include simple diagnostic testing for young animals, and twice yearly examinations for our senior pets.

How do these Early Detection programs help keep GVH clients healthy? Part of the programs is regular parasite testing. Did you know that there are numerous parasites carried by our dogs, cats, ferrets, birds, reptiles, etc., that can easily infect humans, especially children? In humans, these parasites can cause digestive problems, liver and lung damage, partial or total blindness, and itchy skin lesions. There are also numerous bacterial infections that our pets can carry that also cause human illness, including Leptospirosis, Salmonella, and Chlamydia. Keeping your pet healthy translates into helping keep you, the Pet Parent healthy also!

Healthy pets are happy pets. Another component of keeping our pets healthy includes routine vaccinations. Many of the vaccines that GVH recommends are boosted annually. This used to include the Feline "distemper" vaccine (FVRCP). However, updated research has shown that immunity from this vaccine lasts for several years. The American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA) and The Association of Feline Practitioners (AAFP) both recommend boosting this vaccine every three (3) years. GVH is immediately transitioning to this new protocol, eliciting meows of happiness from our furry feline friends!

We are honored to be given the opportunity to help you manage the health of your pet family members. Please always feel welcome to contact us with questions, concerns or suggestions of how we can improve. Enjoy the holiday season! Stay safe and warm! We look forward to seeing you soon!

Dr. Kris



### The Old Dog House— Compassionate Hospice Care

**By Patti, CVT**

Nestled in the mountains near Cripple Creek is a haven for elderly canines that have found themselves without a home or family and most likely would have been euthanized. The 2 compassionate women behind this special sanctuary, Sindy and Pam, have dedicated themselves to providing the best possible medical and home care to these dogs until it's time for them to cross over the Rainbow Bridge. Their current census is 30 and all the work is done by Sindy & Pam. The Old Dog House averages about 4 adoptions annually. It is challenging to find homes for older dogs with the extensive medical issues most of the residents have. It is part of our mission at GVH to participate in philanthropic endeavors and we have "adopted" The Old Dog House as our charitable fundraiser this holiday season. Our goal is to raise \$3000 for the Old Dog House. This will enable them to buy a Ford 9N tractor to help them maintain the half mile of dirt road leading to their facility. GVH will be gratefully accepting financial donations of any amount until December 31st during this Holiday season. Help us make a difference with a donation to a very worthy

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cause! For more info on this organization, visit: [www.Olddoghouse.org](http://www.Olddoghouse.org)



The holidays get busy so make your boarding reservations early! Camp GoldenView is the ULTIMATE boarding experience for your bird or exotic pet!!

## NEW & IMPROVED FACEBOOK PAGE!

Check out the new graphics, Facebook deals and learn more about our patients and staff! Perhaps your pet will be one of our Featured Facebook Friends!!

LIKE US on Facebook  
(GoldenView Veterinary  
Hospital)



# Holiday Safety Tips

By Gayla, CSR.

With the holiday season upon us, it is a good time to remind pet owners of the household hazards found during the holiday and winter months.

- Foil wrapping, strings, and other trash may retain a delicious odor, causing pets to think that the item is food. Ingestion of these items can cause intestinal upset or even blockage. Make sure all trash from holiday meals and festivities is securely disposed of.
- Many decorative plants can be deadly when ingested by pets. These include natural holly and mistletoe. Lilies can be deadly to cats and should be avoided if possible. Christmas tree water can be laden with bacteria and/or pesticides.
- Many holiday decorations, like tinsel and ribbon, are irresistible to cats and can cause gastrointestinal obstructions. Glass ornaments can be easily broken and all those extra extension cords can cause severe burns to inquisitive puppies that like to chew..
- Antifreeze has a sweet taste that is appealing to many pets. Once symptoms of ingestion are noticed it is often too late for effective treatment.

Be sure your pet does not have access to areas where anti-freeze may pool. If you suspect your pet may have ingested anti-freeze, contact us immediately for emergency care instructions.

- Cold temperatures are hard on our pets too! Without proper shelter, pets can suffer from frostbite and hypothermia, just like we do. Older pets, pets with arthritis and even puppies may be more severely affected by cold weather. Keep everybody indoors whenever possible or provide insulated, wind and weather resistant enclosures for your pet when he is outside!
- Ice melt can be irritating to skin, paws and mouth. Look for Pet Safe Ice Melt.
- Space heaters can be a fire hazard, especially if knocked over by a over playful puppy. Fireplaces can be dangerous as well. Make sure your fireplace has a screen or glass door to protect your pet from getting burned, and keep those embers under control. Smoke from fireplaces can be deadly to your birds! If you have a wood burning fireplace, it is advised that you not use it if you have birds living in your home. If you have a gas fireplace, be sure that it is properly vented.
- Scented candles, air fresheners and potpourri can be harmful or toxic to pet birds.

The oil in the scent can cause health problems, or even death in birds. For a good alternative to air fresheners, simmering cinnamon with citrus gives your home a warm holiday feel, and it's natural. Another safe alternative would be bees wax candles with LEAD FREE WICKS. Candles should never be burning if birds are out of their cages because even "clipped" birds can potentially fly into an open flame.

We wish everybody, and their companion pets, a wonderful & safe Holiday season.



**OXBOW**

**PRODUCTS**

**SETTING THE STANDARD**

**Comprehensive dietary needs for rabbits, rodents, guinea pigs, chinchillas AND MORE!**

**Complete product line available at**

**GoldenView Veterinary Hospital**

## ONLINE STORE

Get the convenience you want from the veterinarian you trust! You can request prescription refills or order non-prescription products from your Pet Portal 24/7. When you buy from GVH's Online Store, you can be confident that all products come from reputable sources and are properly shipped and stored. All products are guaranteed and handled by FDA-approved facilities. For products not available at the online store, we are happy to Special Order them. Access your Pet Portal through our website at [www.goldenviewvet.com](http://www.goldenviewvet.com) and let us help you and your pets!

**GVH'S**

**ANNUAL BIGGEST LOSER CONTEST!!**

Does your dog, cat or exotic pet need to "slim down?"

Sign up NOW for the GoldenView Weight Loss Challenge!

The pet that loses the largest percentage of body weight wins a

\$100 Gift Certificate!

- ◆ Monthly weight check required
- ◆ Progress is tracked for you
- ◆ Contest ends April 30, 2012!
- ◆ Free initial assessment!



## Annie's Fund: Helping Pets in Need! By Patti, CVT

We've been able to help several animals these past few months. Zuul, our previously featured Annie's Fund recipient is still looking for his forever home! We recently received Kealoha, a 2 year old male guinea pig. GVH is currently rehabilitating Kealoha and then will place him with a new caregiver. We've also been able to medically assist a Red Eared Slider turtle and 2 baby squirrels. The annual parking lot sale in August was successfully raised significant funds to help these animals! Thanks to all who donated and attended the sale!

# Welcoming New Team Members!

By Jan, CSR

**Marilyn** is our Boarding Coordinator. She graduated in 2010 with a BS in Biomedical Sciences and is currently working towards a Masters in Public Health. She began work in the medical device industry but her life-long love of animals prompted her to return to the veterinary field. Marilyn has years of experience with animals including volunteering at animal shelters, doggy day-care facilities and working in the Ophthalmology Department at CSU's Veterinary Teaching Hospital. Marilyn's own "kids" include two Red Heeler cross dogs and a very animated Jardine's parrot.



Marilyn

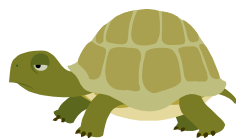
**Betsy** joined our team as a Veterinary Nurse in September. She graduated from Bel-Rea School of Veterinary Technology in 2007. Prior to joining GVH, she received extensive training as a Lab Technician at a veterinary diagnostic lab. Betsy tells us she is owned by her two kitties, Jasmine and Mojo and her

rescued Great Pyrenees mix, Cami. Betsy enjoys outdoor activities, including snow boarding and hiking. She also enjoys making jewelry and knitting.



Betsy, CVT

**Liz** came aboard the GVH ship as a Veterinary Nurse in August. After graduating from Bel-Rea in 2005, she obtained experience in general practice and emergency care. She has a strong interest in exotic pet medicine, pain management and hospice care. Liz is busy working toward a Veterinary Technician Specialty certification in pain management. She will obtain her Canine Massage Therapy certification this month. Liz is proudly owned by Dachshunds, a Leopard Gecko, ferrets and one Chihuahua.



Andrea, VTA & Liz, CVT

**Andrea** returned to GVH in September as a Veterinary Nurse Assistant. Andrea was a Client Service Rep from 2005-2006, and has done relief work over the years for us. As she put it "she couldn't stay away!" She is enrolled in the Veterinary Technology program through distance education and should be eligible to sit for her CVT exam in about 12 months. Andrea lives with a variety of companion animals and has a special interest in turtles and rabbits.

We welcome each of these outstanding women to GVH and look forward to working with this highly professional team of knowledgeable and caring individuals to serve the needs of our very special patients and their families.



(c)Blueghost Studio

# GVH Events

## Client Education Series!

SAVE THESE DATES!

Thursday, January 26, 2012

### Laser Therapy and Massage:

Helping Pets Manage Pain

Learn more about these complimentary therapies and how they can improve quality of life for your dog, cat or exotic pet.

6 pm- 8pm

There is no charge for this class but pre-registration is required.

Saturday, March 24, 2012

### Toy Making for Your Bird

We will show you how to pick safe materials, recognize safe design and help you construct toys to take home for your feathered friends.

2 PM-5 PM

There will be a small fee to cover materials—you will take toys with you!

Watch for more information and registration coming your way in January, 2012

## HELP US BUY A TRACTOR!!

Nov 1-Dec 31, 2011 GVH will accept donations to help buy a tractor for

The Old Dog House

(www.olddoghouse.org)

- ◆ 501(c)3 sanctuary and hospice care for elderly dogs with medical needs in Colorado  
Donations are TAX DEDUCTIBLE
- ◆ 100% of the funds collected go toward buying the tractor

## FACELIFT FOR GOLDENVIEW VETERINARY HOSPITAL!

We are excited about some technology and cosmetic changes at GVH. We recently installed computer work stations in our exam rooms. This will allow us to be more efficient with our time and medical record keeping. GVH is committed to being as "green" as possible and having computer work stations

helps us become closer to paperless. As our staff and Dr. Kris get used to using this system, we ask for your patience with the process!

Additionally, new photos are being added to the exterior of the building! A montage of animals that are seen at GoldenView Veterinary Hospital will be exhibited. A very special THANK YOU to Karen Anderson of Avian

Suites in Minneapolis and Sarah Cutright DeBauche of Blue Ghost Studio in Lakewood for providing wonderful, high quality photos to us. If you need people or pet photography, give Sarah a call! See her website for more information [www.blueghoststudio.com](http://www.blueghoststudio.com)

**10% OFF!! GVH Clients receive 10% OFF in November at BlueGhost Studio!**



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Current Resident or:

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## MONTHLY PROMOTIONS

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### OCTOBER

#### Hibernation Anticipation!

In winter, **Box Turtles**, **Desert Tortoises** and **Russian Tortoises** have a physical need to hibernate.

**SAVE 20%**

On the wellness exam, fecal and blood work necessary to ensure they are prepared to safely hibernate!



### NOVEMBER



#### Exotic Wellness Month!

Receive **10% OFF**

Wellness

Laboratory Testing

for your bird or exotic pet.

\*Exam required.

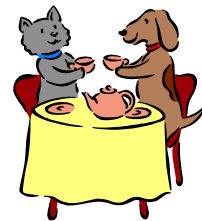


### DECEMBER

#### Nutritional Awareness!

**FREE WEIGHT CHECK AND NUTRITIONAL COUNSELING!**

(Appointment Required)



FOR MORE INFORMATION ON OUR MONTHLY PROMOTIONS, VISIT [WWW.GOLDENVIEWVET.COM!!](http://WWW.GOLDENVIEWVET.COM!!)

