

## LOCAL EVENTS CALENDAR

### Run for Rural Medicine

Saturday April 5<sup>th</sup> 9:00am  
UNBC Northern Sports Complex  
Peggy 981.8642 for more information

### North Cariboo BCSPCA Barbecue

Saturday April 5<sup>th</sup> 11:00am  
Queensway Auto World (both locations)  
Norma 562.5511 for more information

### Single Car Garage

Saturday April 5<sup>th</sup> 7:00pm \$10  
Artspace (above Books & Company)  
cafevoltaire@shaw.ca for details

### Soul Fried

Benefit party for Linda Day \$10  
Sunday April 6<sup>th</sup> 4:00pm to 6:00pm  
Northwood Motor Inn (Ball Room)  
964.2103 for more information

### Technology Tips Breakfast Series

Chamber of Commerce Talk  
Tuesday April 8<sup>th</sup> 7:30am to 8:30am  
Innovation Resource Centre  
562.2454 for more information

### Prince George Farmers Market

Saturday April 19<sup>th</sup> 9:00am to 2:00pm  
St. Michael's Church  
Trisha 964.1917 for more information

### Northern BC Home Garden and Recreation Show

Friday April 25<sup>th</sup> to Sunday April 27<sup>th</sup>  
4:00-9:00 ~ 10:00-8:00 ~ 10:00-4:00  
Kins I, II & III at the Exhibition Grounds  
563.3306 for more information

## THE IMPORTANCE OF FASTING BEFORE ANAESTHESIA

If you or a loved one has ever had to go under anaesthesia, you are aware that fasting is required. The same goes for your pet. Fasting is "primarily the act of abstaining from some or all food, drink or both, for a period of time."

After having been given an anaesthetic, pets lose many of their normal reflexes. Primarily the reflex that keeps food in the stomach, preventing it from coming back up toward their mouth and then down into their lungs (known as "down the wrong tube").

Experienced in a normal state, this reflex causes the body to cough and protect the lungs from food and fluid entering them. Under anaesthesia, this reflex is almost non-existent and the consequences of food going into their lungs can be very severe. Fasting can truly be a matter of life and death. So stay strong as they beg you with their big, sweet "please feed me" eyes.

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

1. Will my pet awaken while under?  
Waking up during an operation is extremely unlikely. Our technicians have numerous indirect ways of telling how "deep" your pet is. Routine monitoring and equipment as well as modern techniques further decrease the likelihood of waking
2. Will they be awake during surgery?  
Operations may be performed without general anaesthetic. Depending on the type of surgery, regional anaesthesia (also known as local anaesthesia) may be used. Your pet may be wide-awake, calm and drowsy or completely asleep
3. Will they come to afterward?  
Anaesthetic drugs wear off quite quickly once administration ceases. Your pet's risk of complications is extremely rare during an operation and not much more likely than if they hadn't had an anaesthetic

### LOOKING FOR A SECOND CHANCE...

Among our staff struts a chocolate colored fury on four legs. "Hershey" is a 5-6 month old terrier mix (most likely of the pit bull kind). He is in need of a family who will care and provide for him and allow him a second chance at being the wonderful dog he is growing up to be.

Hershey came to us under unique circumstances and we have cared for him, tending to his injuries, for some time now. We are finally in search of a happy, healthy home for him to live out the rest of his years. If you or someone you know is looking for a companion who is extremely devoted, please call us at your convenience.

Hershey has been around children, cats, dogs and horses. He is well socialized and truly adores people. Hershey has endless energy and really loves car rides. He will be an excellent family addition. To an approved home only ☺

### THIS DAY IN APRIL IS...

- April 1 - National Sourdough Bread
- April 2 - National Peanut Butter & Jelly
- April 3 - National Find A Rainbow
- April 4 - National Reading A Roadmap
- April 5 - National Raisin & Spice Bar
- April 8 - International Bird
- April 10 - Golfer's
- April 11 - National Cheese Fondue
- April 15 - Rubber Eraser
- April 17 - National Cheeseball
- April 18 - Look Alike
- April 21 - Kindergarten
- April 23 - National Cherry Cheesecake
- April 24 - Pigs In A Blanket
- April 26 - Hug An Australian
- April 28 - National Blueberry Pie
- April 30 - Oatmeal Cookie

# How Are We Doing...?

Your satisfaction and the health of your pet is our main priority. As our motto states, "Compassionate Care for Quality Of Life," we are dedicated to providing quality services for our community to improve the well being of pets large and small.

Our goal as a team is to look beyond the surface and discover what motivates you. Are you a beef or dairy farmer interested in herd health, a feline owner treating diabetes, an equine owner looking to improve your competition, a goat farmer producing milk or a canine owner interested in companionship?

Relationships require commitment and we are committed to

happiness, friendships, loyalty, trust and partnerships! We try to view a situation from every angle to find the best outcome for you and your pet.

You know your pet best and are the greatest source of information to assist us in edifying any areas for concern. Sometimes it takes several tries to find the culprit of a health ailment and unlike people, animals aren't able to share with us what's bothering them. The more effort that both sides put into it, the better the results.

Your comments and suggestions are always welcome. ☺

## Manager's Message...

Call me whiney but does anyone else long for green pastures and sunny days barbecuing potatoes and corn on the cob? Winter came rather early and seems to be taking its sweet time to get on out of here. As a horse person, the itch to get working on solid ground and galloping down the trails is becoming unbearable! Admittedly, the thought of wiping 12 paws each and every time the beckon to go outside and frolic is fulfilled seems less than appealing. Oh, not to forget the mud splashed on their bellies, which of course I've missed with the rag and before you know it, they're on the bed rolling around in my blankets with that, "ha, ha, she won't be mad because we're waaaaay too cute," looks on their faces! I think it best if mother nature just skip the meltdown and soar directly into dry ground and warm weather. Of course that's just one horse-loving, dog adoring, barbecuing summer enthusiast! I say summers on its way, oh yes!

Q. Why did Tigger look in side the toilet?

A. He was looking for Pooh

Q. What kind of animals need oil?

A. Mice, because they squeak

Q. What kind of phone does the ocean have?

A. A shell phone ☺

**What you might like to know about "Diabetes;"** Insulin is an animal hormone, produced by the pancreas, causing liver and muscle cells to take in glucose, storing it in the form of glycogen. A shortage of insulin produces a build up of glucose in the blood, causing the condition known as diabetes. Therefore, diabetes simply put, is a shortage of insulin. During digestion, your pet's food is broken down into components useable by the body. For example, carbohydrates are converted into various sugars. The most important of those sugars is glucose. Glucose provides the body cells with energy after it has been absorbed from the intestines into the blood. When the blood contains high concentrations of glucose, the kidneys begin to excrete glucose in the urine. Signs of diabetes in your pet include, but are not limited to: drinking a lot of water, urinating too much and too frequently, constant hunger, weight loss despite hunger, sleeping more and/or being less active. You may also notice clouding of the eyes in dogs or walking on the hocks in cats (like a rabbit). The diagnosis only becomes definite when glucose is found in the urine in combination with high levels in the blood. We can help you establish a treatment plan and assist you in leading a normal life ☺

### VISIT OUR NEWLY ESTABLISHED RETAIL SECTION FOR...

MediCal, Royal Canin and Hill's Prescription diets

Toothbrushes and Toothpaste for your dental needs

Pill Poppers for regular administration of medication

Leashes, Collars and Halti's

Seat Belts for your pet's safety when travelling

Hypoallergenic Dog & Cat Treats no more itching☺

Toe Nail Clippers and Bloodstop powder for those close clips

Horse Dewormer Quest Plus, Quest, Equalan & more

Oatmeal Shampoo great for sensitive skin

Breathalyser water additive for cats & dog

**...IF WE DON'T HAVE WHAT YOU NEED - JUST ASK!**

**Holiday Closures: Monday May 19th Tuesday July 1st Monday August 4th Monday September 1st**

DR. CHRISTINE MURDOCH, Owner & Veterinarian  
DR. JODYNE GREEN, Associate Veterinarian  
KELLY-ANNE HEINRICHS, Office Manager  
MIKAYLA VANDELDE, Veterinary Administrative Assistant  
SHANNON CARROLL, Administrative Assistant

KELLY MAITLAND, Registered Animal Health Technician  
KRISTY JOHNSON, Registered Animal Health Technician  
KEBRINA HORROCKS, Registered Animal Health Technician  
KACIE HALONEN, Veterinary Assistant  
ALEXYS CHURCH, Kennel Attendant