

## LOCAL EVENTS CALENDAR

### **N. Cariboo SPCA Spaghetti Dinner**

Saturday May 3<sup>rd</sup> 5:00pm  
St. Michael's Church 5<sup>th</sup> & Victoria  
562.5511 for more information

### **Cancer Society Relay For Life**

Saturday May 10<sup>th</sup> & Sunday May 11<sup>th</sup>  
Masich Place Stadium 10:00am  
Erin 564.0885 for more information

### **Annual May Day Parade**

Saturday May 17<sup>th</sup> 11:00am  
Starts at 7<sup>th</sup> & Dominion  
Angie 564.1952 for more information

### **Spring Antique Show**

Sunday May 18<sup>th</sup> & Monday May 19<sup>th</sup>  
Huble Homestead Historic Site  
Visit [hublehomestead.ca](http://hublehomestead.ca)

### **PGSS Graduation Ceremonies**

Friday May 23<sup>rd</sup> 1:00pm  
CN Centre  
Email [webmaster@pgss.sd57.bc.ca](mailto:webmaster@pgss.sd57.bc.ca)

### **Executive Assistants Conference 08**

Wednesday May 28<sup>th</sup> to Friday May 30<sup>th</sup>  
Coast Inn Of The North  
563.0121 for more information

### **Stroll For Liver Walk/Run**

Saturday May 31<sup>st</sup>  
Fort George Park  
Visit [liver.ca](http://liver.ca)

## SOMETIMES EVEN THE STRONGEST SUFFER ANXIETY

Separation anxiety is the most common form of anxiety in dogs. Other anxieties include fear of car rides, loud noises and social interactions. Do you ever come home to destroyed objects or have to face an angry neighbor because of your dog's barking and howling?

As pack animals, dogs innately dislike being left alone. So much so that they may go to almost any extent to get you to come back. Their behavior may include barking and crying, destroying shoes, plants and pretty much anything "yours." They may even defecate on the floor, furniture or your bed.

Most will accept your absence and wait patiently for your return. Others panic and experience what is known as separation anxiety. This type of anxiety is most commonly seen in dogs that have been abandoned or passed from home to home. The thought of being abandoned, to them, is unbearable.

Try not to lose your patience, as the behavior is alterable. You must first accept that your dog is very dependant upon you and that as a leader, you will take the steps needed to make him/her feel safe and secure.

The best way to begin this process is by crate training. Dogs are den animals and seek comfort in secure, clean and semi-lit nesting areas. Their crate should never be a place of punishment; it should always remain a safe space that they look forward to entering when they are experiencing fear.

A dog of any age can be crate trained so it doesn't matter if you're dealing with a new puppy or an older dog you've just acquired. Patience is an asset when dealing with an anxiety-ridden dog. Proper introduction to their crate is of great importance, taking effort and plenty of time. Stay tuned for tips on crate training... ☺

## MISTAKES COMMONLY MADE DURING DOG TRAINING

There are several oversights that we as humans, tend to incur while training our four legged friends. Due to an inherent instinct to control, humans often fail to utilize body language and intention when training.

Dogs are very good interpreters of intention and know exactly how hard and for how long they can push you before you enforce your intentions. They use this to their advantage.

If you're NOT PAYING ATTENTION they may quickly go off to chew the table leg or furniture, which they will be done gnawing on by the time you notice and it will be too late to correct them without having caught them in the act.

A puppy's natural inclination is to stay by your side, consequently, beginning training at a young age is the most effective way to nail down the basics. If you PUT IT OFF FOR TOO LONG, you may create an intolerable and untrained monster nobody likes being around.

Connecting actions to commands is the most significant part of training and is done by positive reinforcement. FAILING TO REWARD GOOD BEHAVIOR creates confusion if it is the behavior you are consistently looking for.

It takes only one simple oversight to undo hours of prior training. Being CONSISTENT in your intentions is so important. Give in just once and they know it worked and will work again.

CALLING YOUR DOG BACK TO YOU AND THEN GIVING HIM TROUBLE for not obeying a command is perhaps the most harmful training error, actually teaching him not to come to you.

Negative attention is better than none at all and dogs will use this over and over to get what they want. This is the most common mistake in dog training. Attention of any kind when a dog misbehaves REWARDS THE WRONG BEHAVIOR. What to do? Are you ready...? Ignore it ☺

# Fresh Information...

Are you a horse owner? Do you provide regular dental care for your horse? Is dental health important to you? We believe it is and would like to arm you with information that determines why it is so important. Domesticated horses do not wear their hoofs the way that wild horses do and therefore we trim and/or shoe them. Domesticated horses do not wear their teeth the way wild horses do; therefore proper dental care is imperative. If you have ever questioned the value and importance of dental care, consider that in nature horses forage for various grasses, shrubs, natural minerals and vitamins, wearing their teeth more rigorously and thoroughly than if in a pasture or on a hay diet.

Commercial supplements such as corn, oats, barley and beet pulp also cause abnormal wear due to the chewing action needed to grind manmade materials. Horses are grazers and use their teeth up to 16 hours per day if granted the opportunity. Consequently, it is vital for them, as herbivores, to chew their food thoroughly. Consider our use of bits as a contributing factor in dental health. If there are sharp points in the mouth, the bit will push the soft tissue into them, causing severe pain. Bits can also injure the tongue and other structures in the mouth. Head tossing can be an excellent indicator of pain. Stay tuned as we approach fall and focus more on horse dentistry ☺

## Manager's Message...

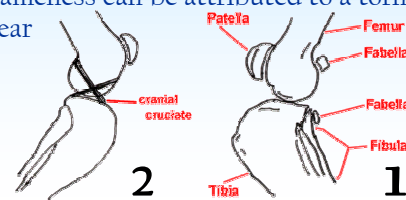
Big thanks to everyone interested in the health and future of our beloved Hershey. After many months with us, he has found a loving home with other four-legged friends and many acres to romp and play on. He has been a very special addition to our clinic and we will miss him ☺ We hope his new owners will visit often!



It is with mixed emotions that we announce the departure of our adored administrative assistant, Mikayla ☺ She is leaving us to travel abroad in search of sheep farms, worldly experiences and warm sunshine. We wish her all the best in New Zealand and hope she will pop in to say hello every now and then. She has loved getting to know each of you and will miss all of the furry friends she has come to know over the past year. Happy adventures, Mikayla ☺

Congratulations to Helen and Estill Fawcett for making the senior lawn bowling provincials! We wish you the best of luck ☺

**What you might like to know about "Cruciate Ligaments," in dogs** The knee consists of the kneecap (patella), femur, tibia and fabellae (Image 1). Cushion-like cartilage called medial and lateral menisci, absorb shock and decrease bone on bone friction. The cranial cruciate (anterior) ligament and the posterior ligament cross inside the knee joint (Image 2). The cranial cruciate prevents the tibia from slipping forward out from under the femur. Once a ligament is ruptured, movement occurs as the tibia slides forward like a drawer (called draw). A veterinarian, who manipulates the knee for movement, determines the severity. This is the most common knee injury seen in dogs. Most sudden hind leg lameness can be attributed to a torn cruciate ligament. Indication of this type of injury includes abrupt soreness and/or the inability to bear weight on a hind leg. Although improvement may be seen after rest, if left untreated, arthritis will quickly set in and intermittent lameness will occur. Acute stages are seen within days after the injury, chronic stages seen weeks or months later. Common breeds affected by this include the Pit Bull, Labrador Retriever, Rottweiler, Akita, Newfoundland, St. Bernard and Neopolitan Mastiff. Further information on this type of injury and methods of treatment are available upon request.



## VISIT OUR 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, Eqvalan, Panacur & 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