

# Kickingbird Happenings

*Kickingbird Animal Clinic & Supply Center*

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## Annual Dental Cleaning Special

To promote & encourage dental hygiene – we are offering a **\$25 DISCOUNT** on a Dental Cleaning Procedure for your pet from January 6th – March 11th. Contact the clinic today to take advantage of this special!

## Influenza Concerns

There has been an increasing amount of press coverage concerning both swine flu (H<sub>1</sub>N<sub>1</sub>) and canine influenza virus (H<sub>3</sub>N<sub>8</sub>) as it relates to household pets. Many of you may be aware that there have been reports of cats and ferrets coming down with H<sub>1</sub>N<sub>1</sub>. While this is true the number of cases is extremely limited and there has been only one reported pet death and there have been no transmissions from pets to people. The cases documented so far show that it's the pets who are contracting the virus from people. So, the pet has not been proven to be a risk to people—just the opposite.

Canine Influenza was first reported in the United States in 2004. It was thought to have been an equine virus that jumped to dogs. It's original spread was primarily among racing greyhounds and was associated with an alarmingly high mortality rate. Since then more complete studies and observations have shown that the canine influenza strain is primarily seen in racing greyhounds and kennels—both situations being associated with close contact and high stress levels. Therefore, our household pets are so far seen as a low risk group. Furthermore, when infection has been found, the severity of

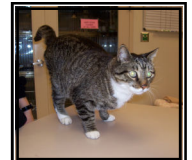
disease has been mild to moderate. As with any infection, the very old, weak or young are at a higher risk. A canine vaccine has been introduced and while it does not prevent infection it does lessen the severity of the disease. As of this time we are not recommending the vaccine to the general dog population but if you have dogs that are in close contact with other dogs in a stressful situation (like show dogs, kennels and possibly working dog breeds) you might want to vaccinate by calling the clinic to set up an appointment. The vaccine consists of a two shot series with a three week interval between shots.

## PETS OF THE QUARTER

We have the best pets and owners around and are lucky to have them as clients! Our employees nominate a "Pet of the Quarter" they feel is deserving for various reasons and we will highlight a couple of those pets in this article each quarter. We hope you enjoy learning about them as much as we enjoy caring for them!

### "Buzz" Jett-Desouza

Buzz is a 10-year-old Domestic Shorthair Grey Tabby Cat that was diagnosed with anemia (IMHA). He was in need of a blood transfusion in November and has been flourishing ever since. The donor kitty belongs to our employee, Emily Morrow, who was generous to give up some blood for Buzz. We are happy to report by his wonderful owners, Neil & Darryln Jett-Desouza (and son, Jon), that Buzz is doing great and improving over time!



"Buzz" Jett-Desouza—one resilient kitty!

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"Kava" Nordhues—one sweet pooch!

### "Kava" Nordhues

Kava is a 9-year-old black Labrador Retriever who has been a long-term boarder at our clinic. Kava loves people and enjoys spending every minute she can with all! In her younger days, she would like bath time so much that she would run and jump into the bathtub all by herself! Our staff loves caring for Kava because she and her owner, Elaine Nordhues are always so sweet!



## EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

Each month, employees vote on a co-worker that is deserving of being recognized as the Employee of the Month. That employee wins gift certificates to a dinner or movie, a prime parking place when they come to work and their picture and biography displayed in the lobby. We are proud to recognize those that go above and beyond in their job. This article will list the recent winners of the award and why they were nominated.

### August

Emily Yearwood, a Tech Shiftleader, was nominated because she works hard and smart, has taken on new responsibilities and has great ideas.

### September

Shayla Hendrix, the Operations Coordinator/HR Director, was nominated because she has attention to detail, is hard-working and "awesome".

### October

Alisha Houk, a Receptionist Shiftleader, was nominated because she is dependable, loyal, hard-working and knows so many customers!

### November

Annie Wiley, a Receptionist Shiftleader, was nominated because she's helpful, hard-working, fun to work with and doing great as a new leader!

## The Season of Giving

By Dr. Parks

The holiday season is upon us and I for one feel blessed. This country we live in is still the greatest nation on earth. While we all encounter daily worries and troubles, in the whole, most of us have much to be grateful for. But not all of our fellow citizens are so blessed. Some lack the basic necessities. My heart goes out especially to the young and old. Children are so innocent. Maybe being a veterinarian leads me to have empathy for those who depend on others for their well being—just as our pets do. If the holidays are truly a time of good will then I encourage us to let our actions show it. We can model for our children by giving of our time or money to help the less fortunate. Show them it truly is better to give than to receive. The warm feeling of helping others will long outlast the feeling of unwrapping a gift. In these times of self-gratification and political correctness it's easy to just mind our own business and not make a stand on values. Middle America, and especially Oklahomans, are the salt of the earth. Let's show it by giving a helping hand to those who need it, those who don't want a handout—just a gesture of kindness. Happy Holidays!



## BOARDING REMINDER

The holiday season is the time for traveling and we hope that you look into our exceptional boarding services for your pet while you are gone. Holidays tend to book up far in advance so make your reservations ASAP! We have limited space available and would like to remind you to limit the number of personal belongings you bring to leave with your pet. **We ask that you NOT bring large beds or blankets and no more than 2 toys during the boarding stay.** Excessive belongings restrict the amount of room your pet has to move around as well. We do encourage belongings because toys will occupy their time and the familiar smell may be calming. Hope we get the opportunity to care for your pet soon!

## Humor Headquarters



### 10 WAYS YOU KNOW YOU'RE AN OKIE:



1. It doesn't bother you to use an airport named for a man who died in an airplane crash.
2. You have used the phrase "fixin to" in the last 12 months.
3. Someone you know has used a football schedule to plan their wedding date.
4. You listen to the weather forecast before picking out an outfit.
5. You can properly pronounce Eufala, Gotebo, Okemah and Chickasha.
6. You hear people say "ya'll" instead of you guys.
7. You've ever had to switch "heat" to "A/C" in the same day.
8. You know in which state Miami and Miami are in.
9. You refer to the state capital as "The City".
10. You are 100% Oklahoman if you have ever had this conversation:  
"You wanna Coke?"  
"Yeah"  
"What kind?"  
"Dr. Pepper"





## PET STORE SPOTLIGHT

### THE GRAIN FREE ADVANTAGE

Just as in the human world, an overabundance of high-calorie carbohydrates in a pet food diet can lead to obesity, diabetes and overall listlessness. EVO® is appropriate for many dogs and cats and stands out as a healthful food alternative for pets who will perform better on a grain free diet to help fight these conditions:

- **Pets With Food Allergies** – If your pet is allergic to wheat, corn, gluten (found in certain grains), or other grains, EVO could bring the relief your pet needs which can improve skin, coat, and gastrointestinal problems.
- **Overweight Pets** – EVO helps pets maintain a healthy body weight

through a high-protein and low-carb diet. This approach helps decrease fat mass while maintaining lean muscles.

- **Diabetic Pets** – Due to the low carbohydrate content, EVO helps pets maintain steady blood glucose levels following a meal. This is traditionally accomplished with a high fiber diet but EVO achieves this through a low carb strategy. Lead your pet to better health with EVO. EVO gives pet owners the nutritionally balanced means to reduce total carbs while maintaining ideal protein from highly palatable meat, not cooked grains or grain by-products. Like all of Natura's products, EVO

uses nothing less than superior food products in a consistent, balanced formulation that is produced in a controlled and wholesome way for our beloved four-legged friends. Kickingbird Pets acknowledges that EVO is not right for every dog. However if your dog suffers from one of the problems described, you may want to set up an appointment and discuss this as an option with one of our Veterinarians.

*\*\*Don't forget to ask about our food co-op program to save money on every food purchase!*

**\$3 off**

**13.2# or Bigger of**

**EVO**

**Dog or Cat Dry food**

Expires: 2/28/10

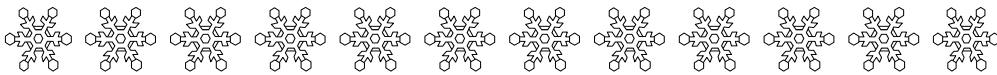


### Prevent Pet Loss!

- Get your pet micro-chipped! Lifelong identification in a nationwide database just in case.
- Engrave your pet's Rabies tag with your personal information for a safe return home!



"Whoever said you can't buy happiness forgot about puppies."  
- Gene Hill

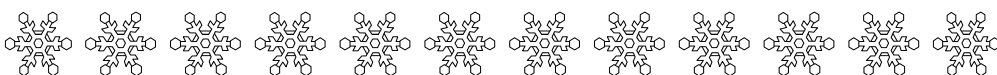


## WINTER PET CARE TIPS

Winter poses special risks to pets. Give your pet a safer, healthier cold weather season by following these tips:



- Keep indoor pets in a dry, warm area free of drafts. Elevate your pet's bed off the floor if necessary.
- Provide outdoor dogs or cats with a dry, insulated pet house or shelter out of the wind and cold. Staying warm demands extra calories, so feed your pet accordingly when temperatures drop. Bring your pet inside or at least in the garage if the wind chill or other weather conditions become severe.
- Remove ice, salt and caked mud from your pet's paws and coat at once. Contact us immediately if you suspect your pet has frostbite. Frostbitten skin may turn reddish, white or gray and it may be scaly or sloughing.
- Cats and kittens often nap on car engines to keep warm. Knock on the hood or honk the horn; then wait a few minutes before starting the car.
- Pets like the smell and taste of antifreeze, but even a small amount can be fatal. Thoroughly clean up spills at once. Tightly close containers and store them where pets can't get to them.
- Many holiday plants and treats are toxic to pets—plants include Christmas rose, holly, mistletoe, poinsettia, philodendron and dieffenbachia; treats include chocolate and turkey, chicken or rib bones. Keep these out of your pet's reach.
- Always have fresh, clean water available.



### Pet Store Hours

9:00 am—7:00 pm M-F  
8:00 am—6:00 pm Sat  
Noon—5:00 pm Sun

### Clinic Hours

7:00 am—7:00 pm Mon  
7:00 am—6:00 pm T-F  
8:00 am—5:00 pm Sun

### Boarding Hours

Check-in: ~10:00am-4:00pm  
Check-out:

7am—10am *no charge*  
10am—2pm *1/2 day charge*  
2pm—close *full day charge*

**\*\*Remember to make reservations for holiday boarding ASAP because we fill up months in advance!**

### Doctors' Hours

7:30 am—7:00 pm Mon  
7:30 am—6:00 pm T-F  
8:00 am—1:00 pm Sat