

Holiday Safety Always Rules!

Keep your furry loved ones safe during the holidays!

1. Take out the trash! Don't leave the garbage can unattended after the table is cleared and everyone is relaxing in another room. Fido would love nothing more than to get a hold of turkey bones, stuffing with raisins, buttered corn, and baby onions. Many food items are toxic or dangerous to pets!
2. Provide a refuge! Visitors, noise and a break in routine can be overwhelming for your loved one. A room with a bed and a few approved chew toys can help keep her occupied and ease some of her stress.
3. Don't leave your pet alone with the kids! If you are not sure how your pet will react with the new "grandbabies" pulling at his tail and ears, sitting on top of him or running past him while screaming, then lodge the pet or supervise at all times!
4. If you plan on taking Fido with you to Grandma's house don't forget his "normal" items: his everyday diet, medications, current vaccine records and familiar toys. Also, get the name, number and directions to the local vet/emergency vet hospital just in case something happens while you are away in an unfamiliar city.
5. Decorations can be dangerous! Tinsel, cords to Christmas lights, glass ornaments and even gift wrap can be a hazard to dogs and cats. Keep cords tucked, glass ornaments up high and no tinsel in a cat household. Wrap your presents but hold off on ribbon and bows until the last minute!
6. Guests love to bring gifts to the host, and every host loves a good box of chocolates. However, even a small amount of chocolate can be toxic to your pets. Don't store chocolate out on a counter or table; put it in a cupboard or pantry where pets do not have access.

Styling Salon



Did you know that we offer a wide variety of styling services other than just a basic bath and cut?

Perhaps a fresh blueberry and vanilla facial? Dogs love it! This facial massage feels good & helps remove tear and saliva stains.

A holiday paw-dicure? Select a flattering shade of puppy polish to add some paw pizzazz!

How about a splash of color? We offer creative fur coloring, with pet-safe, non-toxic, semi-permanent fur dyes to give ears, tail or body a dramatic look!

What fun for the Howl-a-Days!

**December Special at the Pet Care Center:
Purchase a "Vacation Orientation" Package for your pup and he will receive:**

- *a 15 minute comfy time and
 - *a 15 minute game time and
 - *a 15 minute group play time
- all for only \$19.99
This is a \$24 value!!**

Employee Biography: Dr. Sabrina Keigley

Season's Greetings!

This is such a wonderful time of year: spending quality time with family, remembering all we have to be thankful for, and helping others!

I look forward to not only spending time with my husband, 2 sons (ages 8 and 13), our collie, and 2 cats, but also with my family at Forever Friends. We have such a wonderful team!

I truly enjoy seeing the impact our team makes on so many families each day! Your pets are so precious to us! No one pet is "just like" any other. We love to hear about how each pet is unique and special; this helps us tailor recommendations to keep him/her healthy.

We are excited to share new information gained at the American Holistic Veterinary Medical Association four day meeting in September! I spent several hours learning more about how nutrition can impact the health of our pets (young, senior, healthy and ill). This means a lot to me as what our furry "kids" eat can have a great impact on their overall health. I also spent several hours learning more about herbal remedies and how they can complement conventional ("modern") medicine. If you are interested in learning how nutrition and/or herbal remedies could impact your pet's health be sure to tell one of our team members when you call!

In closing, we'd like to announce that Lance, my collie, and I are now members of Caring Therapy Canines. This is a local group of therapy dogs and their people who volunteer their time to bring comfort to others. Lance will be able to share his wolfy grin and loving demeanor with others not fortunate enough to be surrounded by furry companions.

I hope you all have a wonderful holiday season!

Dr. Keigley



Breed Spotlight

Dr. Forthofer's breed of choice is the Labrador Retriever.

He and his three black labs travel everywhere together and enjoy most of their time together in the great outdoors.

Few breeds so richly deserve their popularity as the Labrador Retriever.

Devoted, obedient and willing to please, the Lab is good with children, other dogs and other pets. It can be a calm house dog, playful yard dog and intense field dog, all on the same day. It is eager to please, enjoys learning and excels in obedience. It is a powerful breed that loves to swim and retrieve.

Labs needs daily physical and mental challenges to keep it occupied, however; a bored Lab can get into trouble. Dr. Forthofer can cite many examples to confirm this statement!

Major health concerns can include gastric torsion, elbow dysplasia and ACL tears (knee ligament tears). If you are adopting a pure breed you may want to test for hips, elbows and eyes. The life span of a Lab can be 10-12 years.

Dental Notes by Ashley Houseworth, RVT

Have you ever settled in from a long day, snuggling with your best four-legged pal, got a loving kiss on the nose, and thought, "What IS that smell?" This is one of many signs that your pet may have gingivitis, or worse: periodontal disease.

Often times, discoloration of the teeth and bad breath are the main symptoms you may notice at home. Many pets will continue chewing their food and playing with toys even with sore gums or even broken teeth!

Forever Friends wants to help you keep your pets healthy, and a very important part of doing so is to keep his/her mouth free of plaque and tartar build up that leads to gingivitis and periodontal disease. This can be as easy as setting up a consult to establish a dental health plan!

We offer many tools to help you and your pets to keep that beautiful smile in tip-top shape! Call to set up your consult today to achieve and maintain your pet's best smile possible!

Water Works:

Give Your Best Friend The Gift Of Good Health This Holiday Season

In the colder months it can be difficult to get your dog outside to get the proper exercise he needs to remain in peak condition. Just like with humans, the colder, damp weather can also make stiff, sore, arthritic joints even more painful. Some dogs just don't like being outside when it's cold.

So why not bring your dog to swim in our indoor heated hydrotherapy pool? Hydrotherapy can be extremely beneficial for dogs with sore joints, but not only that, it can also help strengthen muscles in healthy dogs to help avoid future problems. To learn more about the many benefits of hydrotherapy contact us today.

For a limited time.....Purchase any swim package between now and December 31, 2009 and you will receive a free holiday toy for your pet!

Forever Friends Pet Care Center and Hospital

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