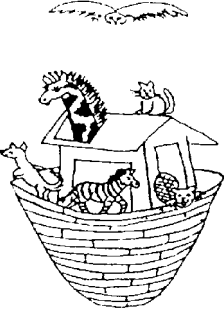


PET POURRI



DAMARISCOTTA VETERINARY CLINIC NEWSLETTER

DR. CHRISTINE WELCH

Fall / Winter 2023-24

www.damariscottavetclinic.com

Proactive Pet Care

A preventive care blood panel is like a window into the body. Since pets age more quickly than we do, diseases progress more rapidly in them than in humans. A preventive care blood panel will help to detect many diseases, at an earlier stage, often even before your pet is displaying symptoms.

More than 10 percent of pets brought to veterinary clinics for checkups have some type of underlying disease or abnormality, according to published research. Many of these pets appear normal upon physical examination, and their abnormalities would go undetected without a wellness screen – a blood test designed to detect these silent problems.

The process of disease development in pets can be slow and insidious. When an organ system starts to fail, that organ will compensate to bring function back to normal. Over time, this compensating mechanism will fail, as well and the pet will become ill. Once the pet is in organ failure, treatment options are limited.

Being proactive with your pets' care is far better for your pet and more cost effective to you, than reactive medicine. For pets under 8 years of age, we can perform simple in-house blood tests that will check your pets': liver, kidneys, blood sugar, and hydration. The test can also alert us to infection, inflammatory disease and anemia.

Since the likelihood of disease increases as our pets' age, we recommend more extensive testing for pets 8 years or older. Our Senior Profile includes a complete blood count (CBC), more inclusive chemistry profile, and thyroid function tests. A urinalysis is also encouraged at this time to give a full picture of health.

A CBC tests for anemia, infection, inflammation and overall health of red blood cells. These are conditions that a doctor cannot see while doing a physical exam alone.

A Chemistry Profile surveys many of the organ systems of the body to make sure they are working properly such as the liver, kidneys, pancreas, muscle and bone.


A Thyroid test helps to detect any malfunctioning of the thyroid gland that may cause too much or too little of the hormone.

Early detection of disease is key! Once a problem has been identified, we can make appropriate treatment recommendations at a point when treatment will make the most difference. Often, a simple diet change is all that is needed to avoid major health problems.

SPECIAL CARE INSTRUCTIONS
Feed daily
Yearly checkups
Love forever

A yearly checkup is as essential as food and love.

Learn more



partners FOR HEALTHY PETS



HAPPY HALLOWEEN



trupanion™
Protect your pet. And yourself.



Medical Insurance For Your Pet



Happy Fall



Thanks for buying local!

If we don't have it in stock, visit our website -
www.damariscottavetclinic.com

**Click on the "shop on-line now" button
at the top of page**

DID YOU KNOW

...A cat grooms for cleaning and cooling purposes? By causing hairs to lay in a certain direction, they can control the amount of air that reaches the skin.

...chicken "by-products" consist of the head, neck and viscera? Sounds a little gross but think about it—when your cat catches a mouse what does it chow down on first? That's right, the head, neck and viscera!

...itchy ears in dogs does not immediately mean ear mites?—yeast and bacterial infections are usually to blame.

...a female flea can lay up to 50 eggs a day? Which can hatch out in 2 to 12 days into the larval stage for 7 to 14 days then into a cocoon lasting anywhere from 7 days to 6 months before hatching into a flea.

...many substitutes for the grains in pet food contain more carbohydrates than corn?

...puppies don't know how to swim? They can dog paddle a little bit but this is not swimming and they can tire easily.

...Xylitol sweetener is poisonous to pets. Keep foods and medications with Xylitol in them out of reach of pets.

...oral disease is the most common health problem in pets? Bad breath is one of the first signs of a problem. Most pets by age 3 have some form of dental health issue.

...ticks do not jump? They live on the ground and crawl up grass blades to hitch a ride on you or your animal to acquire a blood meal. They continue to crawl up that is why they can commonly be found on your head.





Prevent Pet Poisoning



Each year thousands of pets suffer and many die from ingesting poisons. Common household items such as plants, food and chemicals are harmful to pets if ingested.

Non-ingested poisons are also of great concern as they can be inhaled or absorbed through the skin.

For more information on toxins and poisons visit:

www.petpoisonhelpline.com

PETMEDIC Urgent Care Vet Clinic

200 Lower Main St A-275, Freeport, ME 04032

[\(207\) 805-5398](tel:2078055398)

<https://petmedicurgentcare.com>

Monday –Friday 12 pm to 10 pm

Saturday/Sunday 10 am to 7 pm

[For non-emergencies](#)



For pet anxiety



207-273-1100

191 Camden Rd, Warren, (Route 90)

Whole Food Supplements

Whole food supplements supply complete nutrition, energy and the building blocks for repair, regeneration and healing.

We believe that nutritional supplements have a firm place in keeping pets healthy and in treating illness.

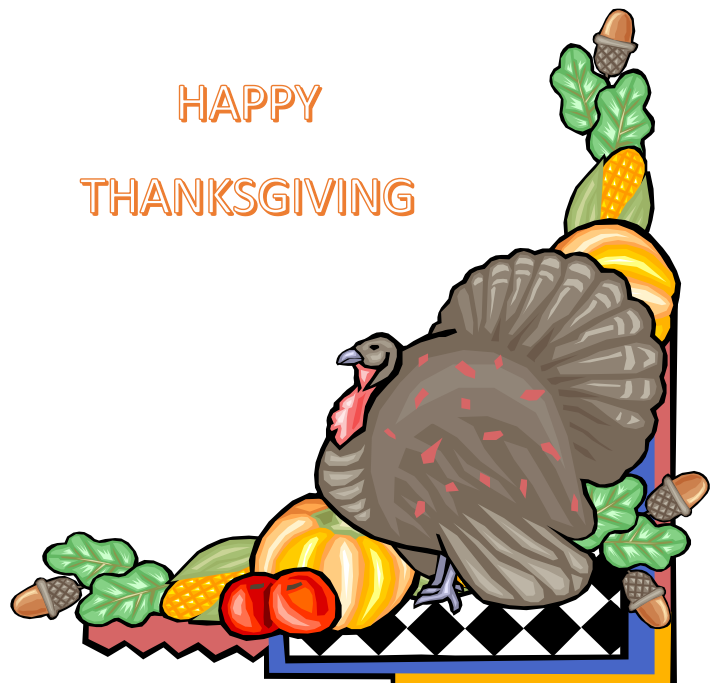
We carry Standard Process whole food supplements for nutritional support.

Without proper nutrition healing can be delayed or incomplete.

For more information visit

standardprocess.com

HAPPY
THANKSGIVING





A Blast From The Past

Bubba's World



Many years ago, in the early 90's, we had a regular column in the local newspaper called "Bubba's World"

Bubba was a tom cat, that we "reformed" and he lived out the rest of his years at the clinic. Here is our first column introducing Bubba. ENJOY!

Hi, My name is Bubba and I am a cat. Not just any cat, you understand but the "owner" of a local veterinary practice. I live at my clinic with two other cats, and we would like to share some of our experience with you.

I came to own the practice about two years ago when I made a successful career change. I had followed a pretty lady cat home one cold night, and she led me to a kitchen window. I had been living on my own for some time and was cautious of this new place. The lady cat climbed a ramp to the window and soon it opened – interesting. After awhile I went to investigate, climbed the ramp and pressed my face to the glass. Inside were people and they were eating. I realized how hungry I was, and I must have made a noise because the lady sitting inside looked at me. Amazingly, the window opened and she spoke to me; she even asked me if I was hungry! After awhile I went through the window and the lady and a little girl gave me a whole can of food!

After eating I went back to the window and asked to leave. She accommodated me, and I left with resolve to return. The lady turned out to be a reliable source of food without expecting much of me. Pretty soon I was meeting her at the door when she and the girl would drive up in their car. I had only one little problem here. They had other cats besides the charming lady cat and I got into a scuffle with one of the men of the house. Next time I came for dinner, the lady invited me in, fed me and put me in a box!

Before I knew it, I was at the clinic' the lady turned out to be a veterinarian! They did some poking, prodding and a bit of jabbing and I then found myself having the run of the office. Before they knew it, they had a new boss.

Now I live a life of leisure with all the food I can eat. By day I watch clients come and go with their pets and by night I guard the place for the former boss. Sometimes I even let her think she still owns it.

This is the true story of Bubba and Dr. Welch and the little girl in the story, Dr. Welch's daughter Amanda now works here as a veterinary technician.

Tips for getting your cat to the vet:

****Top loading carriers work best. Keep the carrier out where that cat can go in and out of it at his leisure. Put a favorite toy and a few treats in the carrier to encourage them.**

****Cats travel better on an empty stomach so do not feed them for several hours before the trip. Using a product called Feliway, a feline pheromone product, sprayed in the carrier helps them to feel safe and calm.**

****If possible, take your cat on short rides so they can get used to riding and not always equate it with going to the vet.**

To help your cat have an easier visit to the vet be sure to handle them at home in a similar way to how the vet would handle them in the office. Handle their paws, ears, tail and face as if examining them. Groom them regularly as much as they allow you to.

The five silent killers of cats are kidney disease, hyperthyroidism, diabetes, cardiac disease and cancer. Please have your cat visit the veterinarian at least once a year and more if they are over the age of 8.



OFFICE HOURS

by appointment

Monday, Thursday, Friday

8 to Noon and 1 to 5

Tuesday 8am to Noon & 2 to 5pm

Wednesday/Sat. 8am to Noon
(doctor is not in)

House calls available.

Please call for an appointment

563-3934

After hours emergency

273-1100

www.damariscottavetclinic.com

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Accounts not paid in full within 30
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month and 1.5 % interest per
month.

Thank you for your understanding
in this matter.