

ANIMAL HOSPITAL NEWS



Animal Hospital of Cornelius, PA

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CRASHED

With how caught up we all are in our technology, sometimes it's hard to believe dog-kind had ever managed itself just fine and dandy *without computers*. But believe it or not, once upon a time - (and some of you very well remember) we once organized, communicated and improved upon all aspects of our lives without using computers. School assignments could be completed without Wikipedia or Google and friends used to hang out, bark and look at each other, not just sit around in a room together and pay attention to nothing but our smartphones.

My name is Alex and I run a small business. We distribute medical supplies to hospitals in the southeast. Even when I am not at work though, I stay plugged in - managing my investments, keeping informed on my favorite sports teams, Facebooking, monitoring my kids' Instagram posts, reading books by my favorite

author on my Kindle Fire, I could go on and on about how I utilize technology in my life. My own doctor says I am going to wind up with a curved spine and degenerative joint disease from all the time I spend hunched over a screen or carpal tunnel syndrome from all the texting on one device or another. He also critiqued my weight and lack of exercise. I jokingly replied, "I don't climb trees anyways Doc, and my paws still dig just fine." Dr. Jones responded that it was not a laughing matter and that I should take my health more seriously. "Sure, sure Doc, take it easy, I was just saying that in my line of work, using technology was a requirement, and that I wouldn't be taken seriously if I wasn't able to communicate to the customers on their preferred media. I know I should eat better, but finding the time is next to impossible." Vets can be so serious

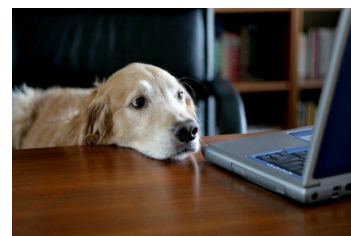
you know. But I do like how my doctor treats my health issues as if they were his own.



Well I have been going to see Dr. Jones all my life, but never for anything more serious than a skin rash, oh except for that special male procedure that we don't need to mention. My wife had the female equivalent procedure too, just to make doubly sure. But getting back to today - here I am getting

transported to the hospital, after having a bit of a fit so to speak. I guess I should have taken Dr. Jones' advice a little closer to heart if you'll pardon the pun.

My computer system at work had fallen prey to a terrible Crypto-wall virus three days ago, and after three days of no network, no Wi-Fi, and no database ability to process transactions or orders, we were resigned to "Going Old-school." Handwriting orders and shipping documents, we at least still had a telephone system. Our customers were very gracious with our explanation of computer trouble, but man was I stressed out! I stayed late working with IT, in-house



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ALL A BOARD!!!

Are you planning a vacation? Need to go out of town on business? Are you concerned that you won't be able to find someone trustworthy to care for your



pet have special needs, health issues, medication, or a special diet? Do you have special requests? We understand that each pet is unique, and we will make every effort to ensure that your pet is safe, happy, and healthy during his or her stay with us. We'll provide individualized tender loving care until you return and your pet will go home looking forward to their next stay with us.!

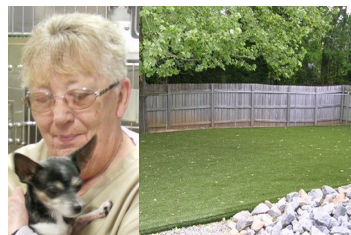


pet while you're away? If you need to travel and can't take your pet along, why not plan to have your best friend stay with us? Traveling can cause enough stress and anxiety – you don't want to worry about whether your pet is being well cared for. We offer a convenient solution by providing boarding in our safe, clean, and comfortable environment. Our professional and friendly staff takes great care of our pet guests. Does



Our outside pet play area is fielded with the Ultimate K9 Grass Turf. This synthetic turf

looks and feels natural and provides the benefit of antimicrobial protection, is also anti-bacterial, durable and safe for

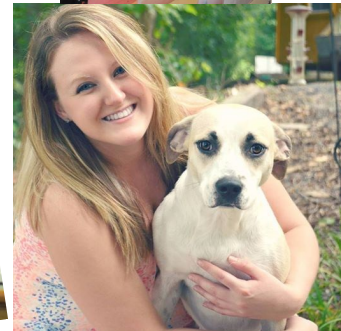
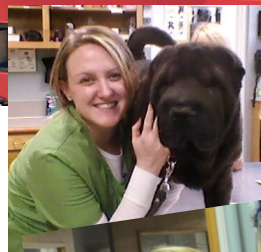


our canine friends. We do not socialize our boarders, meaning your pet will receive individual walk and play time with our technicians in our spacious yard multiple times per day. Call today to learn about our accommodations and boarding policies, or to schedule your pet's stay. **Be aware we book up for holidays, so call and make sure you reserve space for your pet today.**

Employees of the Month

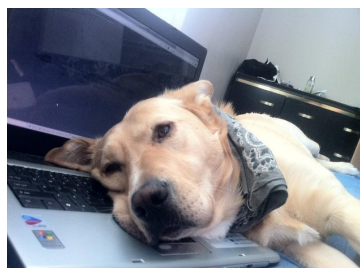
Congratulations go out to Lauren Berry as she has earned recognition as our March 2015 Employee of the Month! Lauren serves as one of our Client Service Representatives and has been with the Animal Hospital of Cornelius since May of 2013. Lauren recently ran in the Spartan Sprint here in Charlotte. It is a 4 and a half mile run with 20 plus obstacles and tests of strength. Like in the race and helping her teammates over obstacles, Lauren is always helpful to her team here at the Animal Hospital to deliver compassionate care and service to our patients.

Congratulations are also in order for Ashley Rhyne as our Employee of the Month for April 2015. Ashley has been an employee here since June 2013 as a veterinary technician. Ashley is a diligent worker and provides consistent support to our doctors and the patients here. Ashley is generous with her service to others, and always has a cheerful attitude to share too. These two talented women have great senses of humor and their laughs are contagious. Thanks Lauren and Ashley for all the great effort you provide! Terrific job!



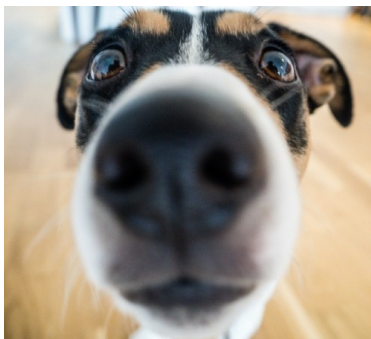
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and telemetry based, trying to get a restored database back on-line for my team to work from. We just took for granted that our back-up would just restore instantly, but even our cloud back-up was dial-up slow as our several years worth of database was a gigantic file. Without our server, our Wi-Fi was disabled, so our on-site hand-held devices were using data plan time causing extra expense. We weren't able to process payments to customer accounts. It was a nightmare I tell you! In my frustration, here on day three, I had let the extortionist, unhelpful technical support cats from the database software provider have an earful. I mean, we pay them for their software support an exorbitant amount every quarter, and they were trying to bilk us for more just re-setting up the software *they sold to us* "because it was due to a recovery from a virus". I truthfully had had enough and may have sworn a little. I don't do that, so obviously I was a little put out. After slamming down the phone, I just laid my head on my keyboard.



"Boss? Hey Boss?!! You don't look so good. Are you alright?" Spencer put his face right up to mine. "Uh-oh," he said, "this looks like the same thing that my dad had when he ate those mushrooms from the yard, well minus the vomiting. And the excessive drooling too, yeah that and the convulsions, so maybe not just like, but very similar. Spencer put his face so close that his nose was almost in

my eye, but I was too exasperated to move. I had been tech-supported into a coma.



Fast-thinking flip-phone Phil, the last vestige of techno hold-out in our office called for emergency responders who were now rushing me to Dr. Jones' office.



Phil is always talking about how stress free his life is and how he never worries about updating a Facebook page or texting while driving, because his phone doesn't even access the internet. He also has to press so many buttons to text anyone the least little thing that it makes it a built-in restriction. I used to tell him that he didn't know what he was missing and that the 1990's were calling and wanted their phone back, but I am not laughing at him now.

As we arrive to Dr. Jones' hospital, I am rushed through treatment on a gurney, straight to the surgical suite. I barely know what is going on, as I have blood drawn, an IV started, and they place an oxygen mask over my mouth and nose. I have my temperature taken the bad way (BTW - I don't care how accurate it is!) and an echocardiogram was done non-invasively. Dr. Jones came in

very serious and gave instructions to his technicians, and they moved immediately to draw up medications as he reviewed my medical chart and the reports of the diagnostics they had performed. As he began to examine me, he uses his stethoscope to listen to my heart. My thoughts wander to my family, had they even been informed yet? Were they on their way here? What would they do if things turned worse? All of this because some silly computers went on the fritz. How did we become so dependent on them? If those hot shot cats hadn't tried to ransom



my server recovery back to me, it may have gone less stressfully. Moreover, how had I let the very devices that were supposed to make my life easier, so consume my time that my diet and exercise were last on my list. If I get out of this, I know that changes were imminent. No more relying on cats for ANYTHING! Calm down Alex, I think to myself - worry about that later.

Dr. Jones administered some medications, and fluids and I was beginning to feel like myself again. The oxygen mask was able to be pulled away and I was allowed to rest awhile in a comfortable, quiet recovery room. Dr. Jones went over the findings with me, my blood analysis and gave me a treatment plan that would, if I committed to it, make this type of episode of almost no risk to me in the future. "I hate to be an I told you so, but...." Dr. Jones said, "I know, I know, believe me - I know. I just wish I

would have heeded your advice sooner." I replied.

My family was there in the lobby waiting for me as I was led out of the exam room and surrounded me, showering me with hugs. It was a true family moment, and I was glad they were there.

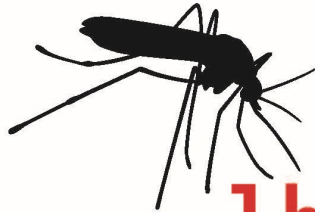
After we were home, we spent the evening talking and relaxing, and staying together in the living room of our home. No one wandered off to even check the dings and train whistle signals of text messages being received. It was terrible that it took an event like this for us to "re-connect." Even if for only one evening. It was a gift, really in a weird sort of way. I laughed to myself that maybe Dr. Jones should have examined my head and not just my heart. They following day, I stayed home from work. I did receive a nice call from the staff checking in on me and received news that we were back on line and able to key in the orders and handle business as usual. I told them that things had a way of working out like that. Flip phone Phil was his usual self, telling me some good jokes about the sweet life without computers. He said he had a good comic strip from an old news paper that seemed to fit our predicament—except that it was a dog tech support instead of the reality of our own cat software tech group. I told him that I would see him soon and hung up. I know there is a happy medium for use of technology with Phil on one end, and my former self on the other. Somewhere in the middle is where I login and post a like on Dr. Jones' Hospital Facebook page, and thank him and his staff for helping me, and for caring about all of us dogs, treating us like family. They even help cats, and though I can't completely understand why, I believe I'll trust the good Doctor.

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HEARTWORMS THAT LIVE IN A PET'S HEART, LUNGS OR BLOOD VESSELS CAN GROW MORE THAN 12 INCHES IN LENGTH >>>

PROTECT YOUR PET

Heartworm disease is prevalent in
ALL 50 STATES.



1 bite

It only takes **1 bite** from an infected **MOSQUITO** to spread heartworm disease to a pet.



It is estimated that a **MILLION** dogs in the U.S. have heartworm disease today.



Pets should be **PROTECTED** from heartworm **12 MONTHS A YEAR.**

It takes approximately **6 months** after being bitten by an infected mosquito for a dog to test positive for heartworms.

DOGS SHOULD BE TESTED FOR HEARTWORM EVERY 12 MONTHS.

Heartworm **PREVENTION** is much less expensive than treatment. Treatment can **COST MORE THAN**

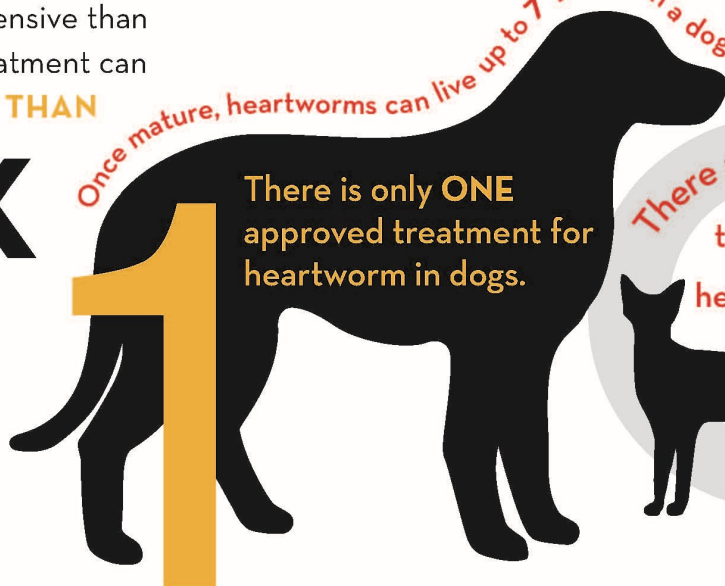
15x

that of a year's worth of heartworm preventive.

Once mature, heartworms can live up to **7 YEARS** in a dog.

There is only **ONE** approved treatment for heartworm in dogs.

There are **ZERO** approved treatments for heartworm in cats.



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