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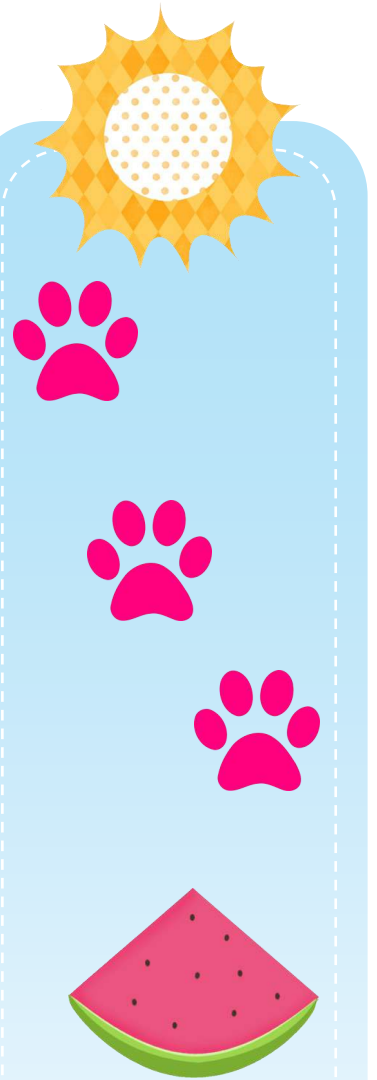
August 2018
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The Quarterly Paws

WELCOME!...

Welcome to the 2nd issue of Riverside Drive Animal Care Center's Newsletter! We hope you'll find this second edition just as interesting and entertaining as the first. Be sure to read the Client Questions column and if you have any questions of your own, feel free to email me (carcher@riversideanimalcare.com) and I will do my best to include them in future issues! So sit back, take a "paws" in your day, and enjoy!

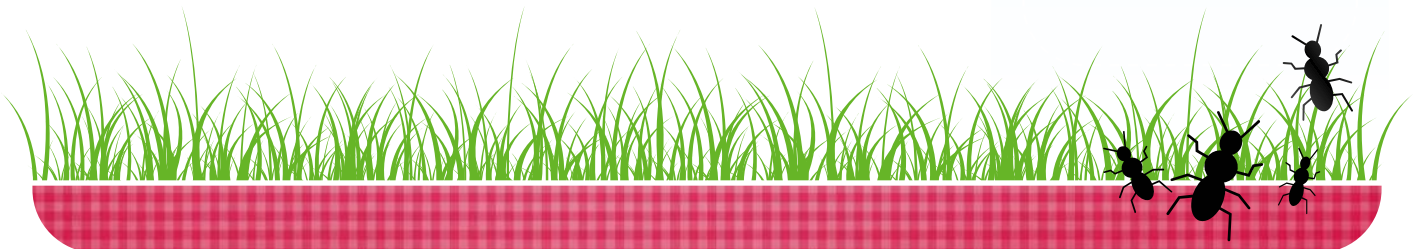


Inside this issue

- Neuter Surgery
- Fear Free and Cat Friendly
- Travel Tips with Pets
- Employee Spotlights
- Kennel Tips

Important Dates

Sunday, September 23



SAVE THE DATE!!!!!!.....SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 NOON-4PM

Riverside Drive Animal Care Center is hosting
their very first Charity Fundraising Event!

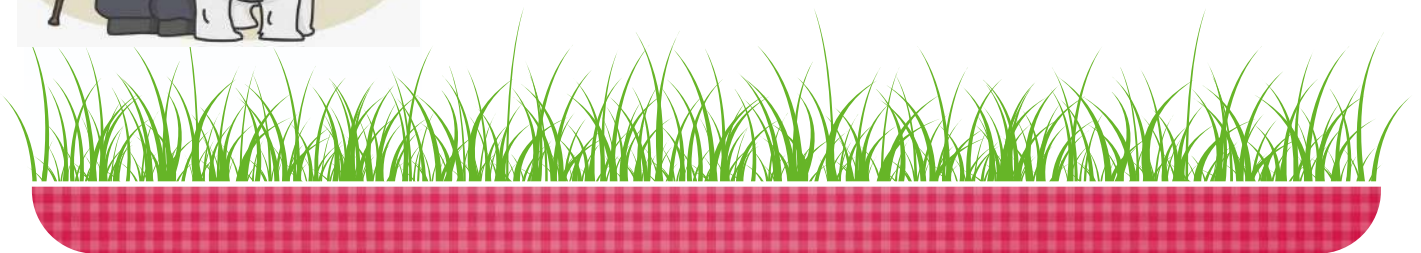
You probably know of LifeCare Alliance, a non-profit organization that has many wonderful programs, including Meals On Wheels, that provides assistance to many of Ohio's elderly and medically challenged population.

BUT... Did you know they also have a program called Senior PetCare?!

Through this program, eligible seniors throughout five Ohio counties, receive pet food, supplies, toys, and veterinary care which enables them to keep their companions in the home instead of being surrendered to area shelters. It also means no more sharing their Meals on Wheels food with their pets!



In the spirit of giving back to the community and helping both humans and pets in need, we invite you to join us for an afternoon packed with fun! We'll have a bouncy house for children, burgers and hot dogs, games for all ages, hospital tours, opportunities to "Talk With a Doc", many great raffle items and much more! Our friend Matt from LifeCare Alliance will also be here to answer any questions about the program. Be sure to mark your calendars and stop over for a fantastic day of food, fun, and community caring!!



We all love our dogs and naturally believe our own is certainly the most popular (and cutest) one around! Check out the list and see if the rest of the country agrees!

10 Most Popular Dog Breeds in 2017

1. Retrievers (Labrador)
2. German Shepherds
3. Retrievers (Golden)
4. French Bulldogs
5. Bulldogs
6. Beagles
7. Poodles
8. Rottweilers
9. Yorkshire Terriers
10. Pointers (German Shorthaired)

What dog breed came in at #100?

The Leonberger!



So if your own dog breed didn't make the cut, maybe the name will! Check out the top 10 popular names and maybe your cutie will be in the list!

Male

1. Max
2. Charlie
3. Cooper
4. Buddy
5. Jack
6. Rocky
7. Oliver
8. Bear
9. Duke
10. Tucker

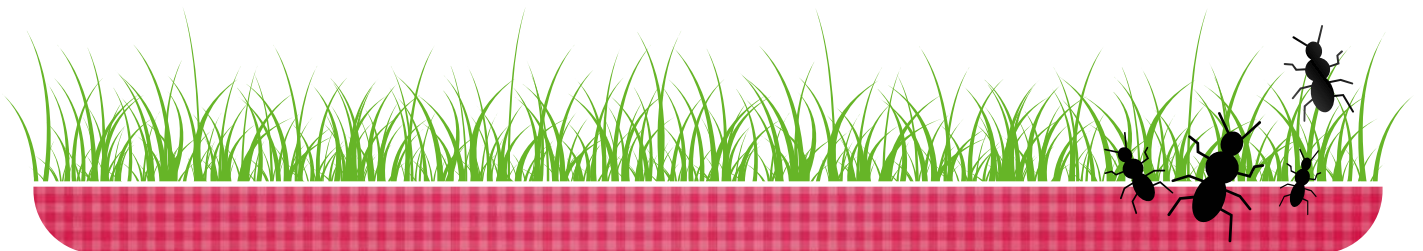
Female

1. Bella
2. Lucy
3. Daisy
4. Luna
5. Lola
6. Sadie
7. Molly
8. Maggie
9. Bailey
10. Sophie

What names came in at #100?

Male: Mac

Female: Oreo



We Love All Cats!



By Erin Blevins, RVT

Welcome to the quarterly newsletter from Riverside Drive Animal Care Center. We are continually learning and trying to improve how we take care of you furry family members. One way we are trying to improve is with Fear Free. Many of you may ask, "What is Fear Free?" Well let's discuss it. Founded by Marty Becker, DVM, he enlisted many experts that included veterinary technicians, boarded veterinary internists, pain specialists, anesthesiologists, shelters, trainers, groomers, and many more experts to devise a definition of fear, stress and anxiety in our pets and how to reduce and minimize this during veterinary, grooming and other visits your furry family member may need throughout their lifetime. They developed an online course for veterinarians, veterinary technicians, groomers and trainers to educate them on how to recognize signs of fear, stress and anxiety as well as training techniques to reduce and minimize these signs.

The goal is to help the emotional well-being of pet owner and pet to increase the human-animal bond by reducing the fear, stress and anxiety in both the human and pet component. Many owners are just as stressed as their pets are when going to the veterinarian's office. These techniques learned in Fear Free help the veterinarian and technician to recognize these signs and what is needed to reduce them. Occasionally this includes using anti-anxiety medications for the pet. Wouldn't we all like to have something to calm us down before we went to our doctors? As well as the training techniques may help to calm, if your pet is at a level of fear, stress, or anxiety that cannot be overcome, the best option is to help them through the situation with medication which may include fully sedating your furry family member. If you have

time to work with the veterinarian or their technician, we can do "Happy Visits" with you and your furry family member on a weekly basis to try and reduce these signs. These visits may be on your own or one-on-one with a Fear Free certified technician to come up with an individualized plan for you and your pet. This requires time and dedication from both you the pet owner and we at Riverside Drive Animal Care Center. We want to do what we can to make your visit the most looked forward to part of your day or week instead of the most dreaded part of your day or week.

We are also Cat Friendly. We try to cater to our feline friends by having rooms dedicated to just felines. We do our best to minimize feline/canine interactions. Though many feline family members live with canines, they may not appreciate the stranger lurking around the corner. Felines are very reactive to what is happening in their surroundings. Cat Friendly has helped us improve our handling techniques with felines and has allowed us to improve the care we strive to give to all of the furry creatures that come to see us. As we do our best to improve our facility we have two boarding areas also dedicated to just felines.

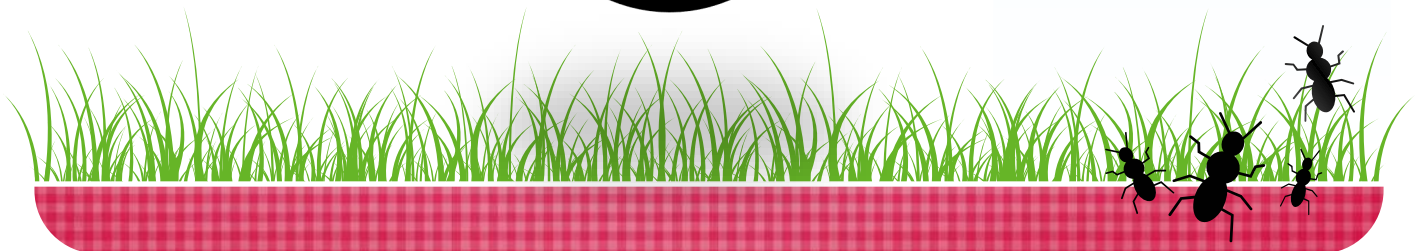
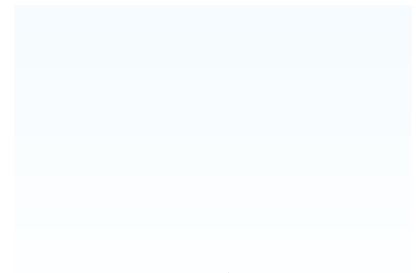
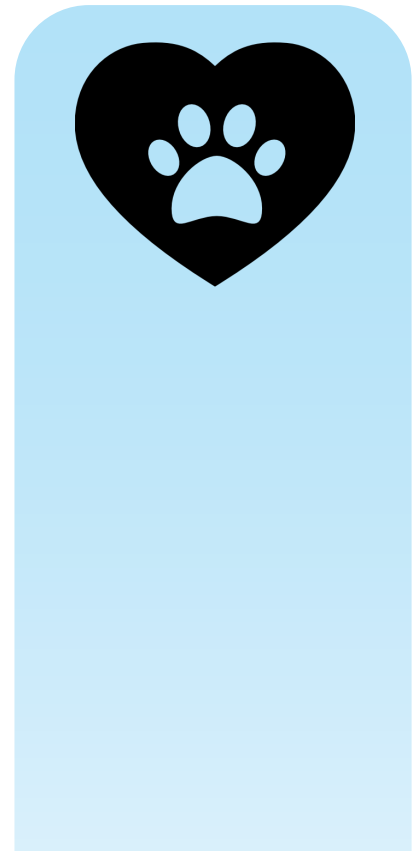
We again have gone through a set of standards devised by American Association of Feline Practitioners (AAFP). We are an endless source of resources for you and your pet whether it is your running mate in the morning or your furry alarm clock for dinner. For more information on both Fear Free and Cat Friendly practices you can visit the following websites:
www.catvets.com American Association of Feline Practitioners
www.fearfreepets.com Fear Free
www.fearfreehappyhomes.com Fear Free.



MEET MESO!... OUR UNDISCOVERED TALENT!

We have many talented people that work here at RACC, many of them work behind the scenes but do such a great job they deserve to be in the spotlight! Our own Meso Lee is definitely one of those people! Meso, who has only lived in Dublin for about a year now, is one of our hard-working kennel technicians that makes sure your pet is safe and cared for while boarding. Meso originally is from Findley, Ohio where she met her high school sweetheart Jon. She moved to Chicago and after 4 years, became a graduate of The School of The Arts Institute of Chicago in 2015. After re-uniting with Jon in college through Facebook, they started dating and after Jon was involved in a terrible car accident, Meso knew she wanted to return to Ohio and be by his side during his recovery. One thing that has remained a constant for Meso is her unbelievable artistic talent! She loves to draw all kinds of animals with colored pencils and watercolors being her mediums of choice. She is so talented in fact, that she has her own website showcasing just a sampling of her work...www.behance.net/mesolee

So what does Meso like to do in her spare time? Playing with her 17-year old Shih Tzu, Pucca and her 5- year old cat, Julio tops the list! But she also enjoys eating out with Jon, going to the theatre, discovering new things in the area, playing the piano and playing the violin. We are so fortunate to have this talented, hard-working woman as part of our team! Be sure to check out her website and if you have any questions or are interested in having a portrait of your own pet drawn, you can contact her at mesoleeart@gmail.com. In addition, Meso will have one of her animal portraits up for raffle at the fundraiser on the 23rd ... look for it!



Procedure of the Quarter- Neuter

Why Should I Neuter My Pet?

By: Dr. Brian Gorby, DVM

Through the ages of owning domesticated pets there has been an age-old question, Should I spay or neuter my pet? Today we'll discuss the reasons to continue castration and the benefits it will have on your new friend. Also, we'll touch on the debate of when the time is correct.

The best place to start is concerning the increased life span your pet could enjoy. According to an Article published in USA today (May 7, 2013) castrated male dogs live on average 18% longer than those intact. Reasons for this increased life span include the decreased urge to roam. Intact male dogs have a much higher incident of both dog fights and accidents involving cars. These events can be both expensive and/or life-threatening. Unaltered pets also have a higher incident of benign and neoplastic conditions involving the prostate and the testicles themselves.

Another factor to consider are behavioral issues involving intact male pets. These can include increased marking or inap-

propriate urinations in the house, aggression to both other pets and people and again the increased urge to roam or escape the yard. Excessive literature has been published outlining the factors testosterone plays on the development of these issues. Castration will remove the source of testosterone production and decreasing these risk factors.

Lastly, we'll consider when is the best time to castrate our male pets. Recently published literature has looked at that Golden Retriever, Labrador Retriever and Vizsla breeds and the impact age of castration makes on their long-term health. Each study indicated there was a benefit to waiting until the pet reached puberty to decrease the risk of orthopedic conditions later in life. In the Golden Retriever the studies also indicated a decreased in cancer rates.

Deciding to if and when to neuter you pet is a big decision but overall it is considered advantageous in the long-term health of your pet. If you would like to discuss any of these issues all the doctors and technicians of Riverside Drive Animal Care would happy to sit down for a conversation.

Client Questions



Q: Is it possible for my dog to get kennel cough even if he has had the Bordetella vaccine?

A: Yes! The Bordetella vaccine, given once per year, is a wonderful defense against kennel cough but just like the flu vaccine for humans, nothing is ever a guarantee. Kennel cough is typically not fatal but can cause a lot of discomfort for your pet, eventually turning into pneumonia if left untreated, and cause a lot of sleepless nights for the whole house. So while there are no guarantees, increase the odds of prevention by getting your pet the Bordetella vaccine!

Q: What is the best age for a kitten to be spayed?

A: Kittens usually reach sexual maturity between 4 and 6 months of age so this is generally the best time to have them spayed or neutered. It is, however, safe to do at any age so even adult cats should have the procedure done



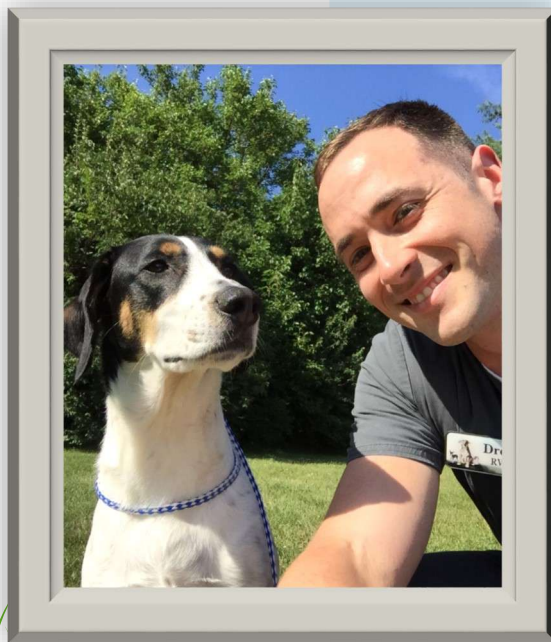
Spotlight on Drew!

Chances are you've seen Drew Landgrave take wonderful care of your pets as he is one of our fantastic registered vet technicians and in fact, a supervisor! But what you probably don't know about Drew is that he was in the Navy, is a world traveler, can fix just about anything that breaks around our clinic, and he creates beautiful woodwork pieces (we sure have a lot of artistic talent here!) ...he's our own superhero!

We've been lucky enough to have Drew as part of our team for about 3 years now but before joining our family, he lived in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Drew decided to enlist in the Navy where he served for 8 exciting years. Being stationed in Japan, the first part of his service was as a cook and the later part working in IT. Once out of the military, Drew knew he wanted to get into the medical field so he began going to school to become a physical therapist. He loved the work but became frustrated when patients would "give up" on themselves and their rehabilitation. He decided to take his medical knowledge to the animal world where as he says, "Animals have a strength humans don't, they don't know they can give up". After becoming a registered vet technician, he worked at several vet clinics but never felt he was able to reach his

full potential...thank goodness he found RACC! Drew believes this is the absolute best veterinary hospital he has ever worked at due to our advanced abilities and knowledgeable staff. He now can finally use his knowledge to the fullest!

So what does Drew like to do in his spare time? Well, he met his lovely wife Lindsay, who is also in the medical field (but for humans) when he was in high school, in of all places, Australia and together they travel... everywhere! He has been to over 23 countries and 6 continents so far with his last vacation was in Antarctica (brrrr) and next year, it's off to Africa. When at home, they both enjoy spending time with their two cats Edie and Lucy and their hound mix Hannah. Thanks for being such a great member of our team Drew!



SQUEEZE IN THAT LAST TRIP OF THE SEASON...TRAVEL TIPS FOR PETS ON THE GO

There is no doubt about it...we are definitely in the dreaded dog-days of summer. The temperatures are up and the kids are starting to get a little bored. Sure, there's the pool, movie theatres, and the occasional trip to the ice cream store but what if you could fit in one last summer vacation? There's still time and if you decide to take Rover along with you, here are some great travel tips and destinations to consider. And of course if you decide that Rover should stay in town, we have a wonderful kennel to make sure he has his own vacation fun in a safe environment while you're gone!

The first big tip is PLAN AHEAD! Even if your pet is used to driving around town, going on a real road trip is a different matter.

Make sure your pet has proper identification. Have a collar that includes your cell phone number and if your pet is not micro-chipped, consider having it done at our office before the trip begins. Unfortunately, pets can sometimes get away from owners at rest stops or when stopping for meals so having proper ID is essential. Another good idea is to have all vaccines up-to-date and bring along a copy of current vet records to show if asked.

Prepare for car sickness. There are certain medications that help prevent Spot from getting sick (and messing your car interior) which our doctors would be more than happy to discuss with you. No point in letting nausea ruin the ride especially when it's not necessary. With that being said, bring along towels, pet wipes, or a blanket just in case. Emergencies can also occur while away from home so if planning a car trip, ask one of our doctors about our pre-made pet emergency kits that are great for on-the-go!

Pack a cooler. Not just one for the family but also a small one for the dog. Fill it with bottled water, a bowl, fresh pet food, treats, a favorite toy and maybe a chew toy to keep Fido busy. Don't forget to include any medications he may need as well.

Find out your hotel's pet policy far in advance. This can include not just the guest rooms but also inquire about any policies relating to their restaurants, common guest areas, and outside grassy spaces. Find out if there are any nearby restaurants that are pet-friendly. Some offer sidewalk seating for those with pups and some have water bowls and special



But what if you decide it's better to not have your pet travel with you?

(A note from Zach and Tyler, the kennel managers)



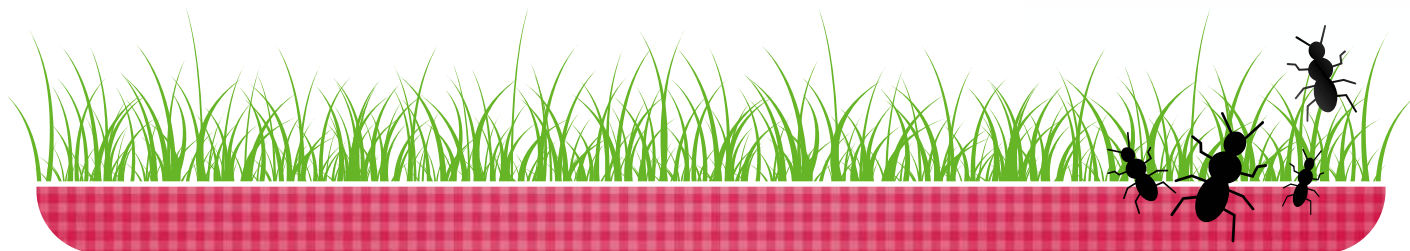
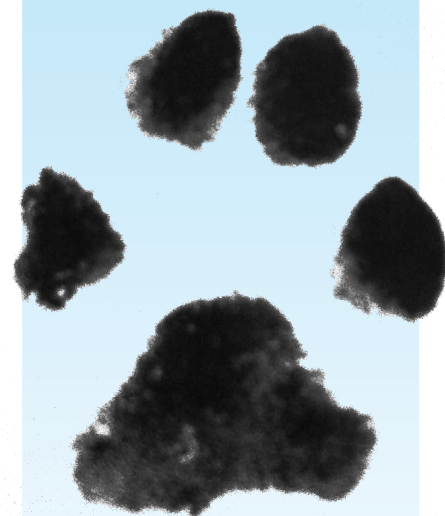
Unfortunately, the family pets can't always make the trip.

So packing for vacation also means making sure the cat and dog have everything they'll need for their stay with us! We have put together a checklist to help you make sure your pet is ready for their own vacation here at Riverside Drive Animal Care Center!

- ◇ **Vaccinations** – We require all pets staying with us be up-to-date on all their vaccines. The check-in process will be faster and you won't have to worry about missing your flight if you ensure your pet's vaccines are current before their stay
- ◇ **Food** – We are happy to provide our own food, but if your pet is on a special diet or has a sensitive stomach, you may want to bring your own. Make sure to bring extra just in case your flight gets delayed!
- ◇ **Medicine** – It's also a good idea to pack extra meds as well. If your pet's meds are prescribed and filled by our doctors we can usually refill them with no problem if they run out. Be sure to bring all meds in their original containers as this is required for us to maintain our AHAA accreditation and it allows us to be sure we're giving meds as prescribed
- ◇ **An Old T-Shirt or Sweater** – If your pet likes having something familiar with them during their stay, this is a GREAT alternative to towels/blankets. We have TONS of towels and blankets in our laundry but if we come across a t-shirt, we'll know it's yours!
- ◇ **Treats** – Not all pets have the same tastes so it's hard to find something yummy that all of our guests like. If your pet likes the occasional treat, be sure to pack these for their stay

WHAT IS BEST LEFT AT HOME:

- * **Beds/Blankets/Pillows** – We are happy to provide blankets and pillows for your pet's comfort! Many pets become "chewers" or "shredders" when they get nervous and some will have accidents. We would rather our linens get shredded than yours and we would hate to lose your belongings in our mountain of laundry
- * **Bowls** – We have lots and lots of bowls! And we provide clean bowls at every meal! No need to add more weight to your pet's travel bag!
- * **Toys** – Most pets are too distracted by all the sights, sounds, and smells here to play with their favorite toy. And we would feel awful if we misplaced it! If your pet is a chewer, bring a bone that's easy to replace rather than their favorite stuffed animal





Till Next Time...

Hopefully you enjoyed this "paws" in your day and were able to pick up a few helpful tips along the way!

A huge thanks goes out to all the great employees at RACC for contributing to the newsletter and for making this the best and most fun place to work!

Look for the next edition in late fall and please take time to be with your pets today, you won't regret it and they'll love you even more for it!

Thanks,

Cathy Archer

Newsletter Coordinator

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