



Joey's News

Caring for Elderly Pets

BY IULIANA MIHAI, DVM, MVMCS



Pets are more than simple animals; they are our friends, our family members. They are part of our everyday life and are with us when we cry or laugh.

Every pet is different and ages at its own pace. For this reason, as your dear and beloved pet is getting older, it is important to know the telltale signs that indicate your fluff is getting old.

Pets get old at different ages, depending on the species and breed. For example, large dogs age faster than small ones and are considered seniors around the age of seven. Cats, on the other hand, are considered seniors at around 11 years of age.

To determine when a pet is considered senior, in addition to breed and species, genetics, nutrition, health, and the

environment in which the pet lives are also taken into account.

Key Signs of Aging in Pets and What to Do

As much as we would like our pets to live forever, they will age and need special care. Taking care of an elderly pet requires patience and time. You have to allocate your pet time every day for feeding, exercising, and socializing — three elements that are essential for a long and healthy life.

Here are some tips that will help you ensure your pet has a long and happy life:

Physical Activity

One of the first signs pet owners notice in their old furry friends is a decrease in physical activity. The decrease in physical

CONTINUED ON PG 2



FROM OUR FOUNDER...

Huge shout out to one of our vets! Not long ago, a Michigan law firm reached out to Joey's Legacy for assistance with a case involving a feline kidney transplant that implicated a large veterinary school in wrongdoing. Apparently, they weren't able to find an expert to work

CONTINUED ON PG 7

HAS YOUR PET BEEN A VICTIM?

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CARING FOR ELDERLY PETS | CONTINUED FROM PG 1

activity depends on breed, weight, and genetics. However, there are active pets, even if they are old.

Usually, previously active pets no longer play or run as much, and some may need help getting into bed, up the stairs, or onto the couch. To help your pet, you can place stairs or a stool or box to facilitate getting into bed, onto the sofa, etc.

With advancing age, pets' joints become stiff and painful, which favors muscle atrophy because pets aren't as active as before. To prevent this from happening or at least delay the onset, it is recommended to start giving your pet (especially dogs) joint supplements.

Appetite and Diet

Another sign your pet is getting old is a change in appetite. You may have noticed your pet no longer eats its usual food with the same pleasure or has a decreased appetite. In this case, it is best to consult the vet (to exclude various health problems that manifest with appetite loss) and change its diet to one suitable for its age and medical condition.

Health Problems

Senior pets also tend to develop degenerative health issues, such as heart or kidney problems. This happens because their organs are aging and can no longer perform their

functions properly. Unfortunately, this is something you can't avoid or stop from happening, but a proper diet, daily exercise, regular visits to the vet, and much love can delay the onset.

Another disease common to senior pets is cancer. Although it can occur at any age, most types of cancer become more common with old age. This happens because the body's cells deteriorate from the sun, diet, or toxins accumulate. Some breeds are also more prone to cancer, such as Golden Retrievers, Boxers, German shepherd, or Rottweiler dog breeds, or Persians, Bengals, or

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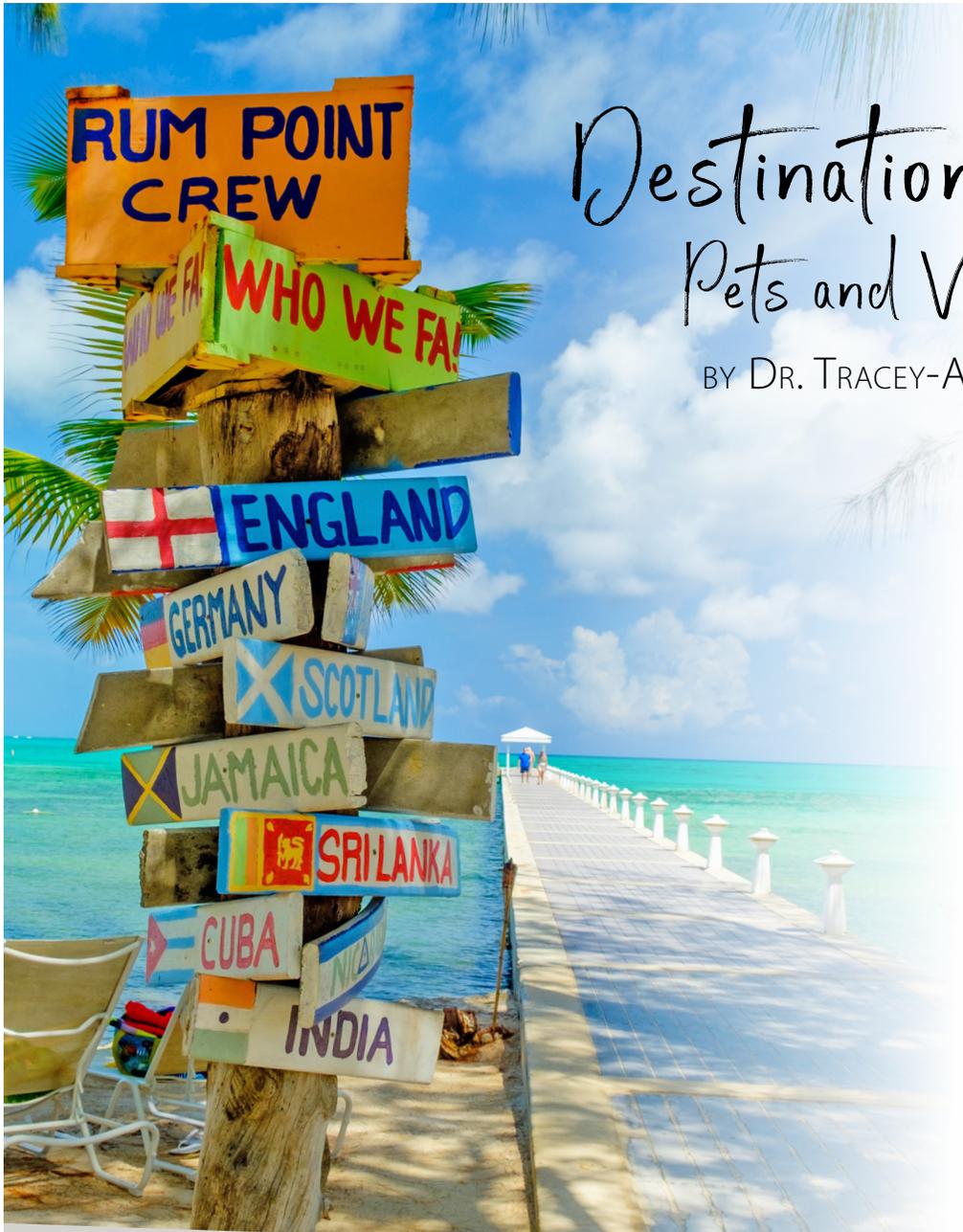
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Destination Cayman – Pets and Veterinary Care

BY DR. TRACEY-ANN BUCHANAN, DVM

needs to be sufficient veterinary care available to meet the needs of these four-legged buddies.

Veterinary Hospitals/Clinics

Currently, the island has four main veterinary clinics which provide excellent care to pets. Staff are usually very helpful and each clinic is equipped with basic diagnostic tools such as x-rays, ultrasound and in-house blood work analyzers. The veterinary staff are able to medically and surgically manage most concerns that pets may have and if additional diagnostics are needed via reference laboratories such as IDEXX, samples can be easily sent off overseas via an appropriate courier service to be analyzed. There are currently no facilities that offer MRI/CT scans and so if any patient requires additional diagnostics with these equipment, they would likely have to be referred into an appropriate hospital in the United States.

CONTINUED ON PG 7

If you have ever considered taking a vacation in the Cayman Islands or thought about even moving there with your pooch but are hesitant because you wonder what the standard of veterinary care there will be, there is no need to fear. In this article, we will discuss what veterinary care is like in the Cayman Islands and considerations for other pet services on the island.

The Cayman Islands is a small, overseas, British territory that consists of three islands, the largest of which is Grand Cayman where the majority of the population resides. Pet owners can often be seen walking their pooches along sidewalks, beaches and parks as well as taking them for a car ride across the island. Of course since there are so many pet owners on the island, there



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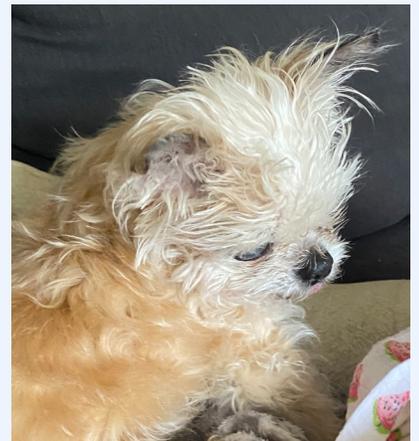
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CARING FOR ELDERLY PETS | CONTINUED FROM PG 2

Siamese cats. Here is what you can do to prevent cancer:

- Apply sunscreen to pets that are hairless or have a light-colored fur.
- Provide your pet with an appropriate diet for its age, breed, and medical condition (if any).
- Take your pet to the vet regularly - once a year until the age of six, then twice a year.
- Do not expose your pet to toxins, cigarette smoke, or any other factors that could cause health problems.

Dental disease, vision and hearing loss represent other signs that your pet is getting old. Dental problems can be prevented if you brush your pet's teeth regularly. Use only veterinary toothpaste and never human toothpaste because it contains high concentrations of fluoride and/or xylitol (artificial sweetener). These two ingredients can be toxic to pets if ingested.

If your pet loses its sight, don't worry because it usually happens gradually, and your fluff has time to adjust to the new conditions. For this reason,

CONTINUED ON PG 6

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CARING FOR ELDERLY PETS | CONTINUED FROM PG 5

pet owners often find out that their pooch or kitty is blind only after an ophthalmological exam is performed. They are so adapted to the environment in which they live that they know how to orient themselves even without seeing.

Behavioral Changes

Another sign that tells you your pet is old is house soiling. Some old pets can urinate more often or can't hold it for too long (urinary incontinence). Here's what you can do to help your pet in this case:

- Take your dog outside several times a day to urinate, if its medical condition and your time allow it.
- Place pet pads in the places where your dog often eliminates.
- If you have cats, place more litter boxes around the house or use pet pads if they have joint problems.
- Use diapers or liners, especially if your pet cannot move.
- Change your pet's regular diet to a veterinary diet for urinary tract health.

Environmental Enrichment

Cognitive problems can also occur with age. Cognitive dysfunction syndrome (CDS) is basically the pet equivalent of

Alzheimer's disease, especially in dogs. In this medical condition, dogs present certain symptoms, such as staring blankly, vocalizing out of the blue, pressing their head against the wall or surrounding objects, disorientation, confusion, irritability, anxiety, night walking, etc.

To prevent or delay the onset of the disease, you can enrich your pet's environment and change its diet. Environmental enrichment involves the integration of toys or puzzle-type games or other elements that allow the pet to explore, climb, hunt, and experience new smells or aromas. All of this has a positive effect on your pet's mental health, leading to an improved quality of life and slowing down cognitive degenerative changes.

Temperature

Old pets are unable to regulate their body temperature as they used to. Here's what to do to help regulate your senior pet's temperature:

- Keep a comfortable temperature in the house.
- Warm your pet with classic or electric blankets or put hot water bottles around its body – make sure the water is not too hot to burn your pet's skin.

- Use clothes, especially in the cold months whenever you take it out for a walk.

Even if we don't want our pets to get old, it is something we have to accept. With a little effort, time, dedication, and love, we can make the aging process easier and ensure our pets lead long and healthy lives. 🐾

Luliana Mihai is a veterinarian with 12+ years of experience in pet pathology, laboratory, and cancer. She finished college at the University of Agronomical Sciences and Veterinary Medicine of Bucharest, Romania (EAEVE member) and has a master's degree in pet pathology and studied epithelial cancers for her Ph.D.





DESTINATION CAYMAN | CONTINUED FROM PG 3

Mobile Veterinary Services

Many pet owners still have difficulty taking pets into the clinic and some pets simply don't do very well with the bumpy car ride and change of environment which can make an already fractious pet even more terrified. Mobile veterinary services have become more popular on island recently and many people have been utilizing their services. These

services can come in handy especially for clients who may find it difficult to get an appointment at one of the veterinary clinics due to a full schedule or simply don't have the time to go in-clinic. The range of services provided by these mobile veterinary companies differ and may be limited due to lack of an appropriate surgical facility or portable diagnostic equipment. The types of

services provided by mobile veterinarians are usually listed on their website but clients can request more information.

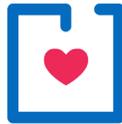
Standard of Veterinary Care on Island

Each veterinary facility, whether mobile or brick and mortar has capable veterinarians and veterinary support

CONTINUED ON PG 8



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FROM OUR FOUNDER... | CONTINUED FROM PG 1

with. I referred Dr. Bernadette Alisantosa to them. She reviewed the records and provided an opinion letter that was used in litigation, and allowed the plaintiff to prevail in the case. The law firm made it clear that they only want Dr. Alisantosa (Dr. A) to work with them going forward.

One of our California law firms also engaged with Dr. Alisantosa on a case recently, and in that case the plaintiff prevailed as well. No doubt, the next time they need one of our vets they will ask for Dr. A to consult with. So grateful to have Dr. A. on our team! 🐾

Scott Fine founded Joey's Legacy in 2017 to bring attention to the minority of "bad actors" in the field of veterinary care. Joey's Legacy is here to assist people through all aspects of the negligence/malpractice process from grief support to case reviews to legal support.



DESTINATION CAYMAN | CONTINUED FROM PG 7

staff who are able to provide the best care possible to their patients. Each facility is privately owned and clients can expect to experience a more intimate relationship with their pet's doctor, bearing in mind that this may be limited if there is a high flow of patients. In addition to routine spays and neuters, the veterinary surgeons are able to

perform a range of orthopedic, dental, body cavity and soft tissue surgeries. Patients with chronic debilitating diseases such as kidney disease, heart disease, endocrinopathies, osteopathies or even others with ailments that need medical management are able to be appropriately managed in-clinic or by the mobile veterinary teams. After hours

emergency services are currently offered by all the major clinics.

Access to Drugs/Pet Pharmacy

Each veterinary practice has access to import various drugs available across the world into the island. However,

CONTINUED ON PG 9

CYTOPOINT SAFER THAN APOQUEL? UH NO...

I have had so many members tell me they opted for Cytopoint injections in their itchy dogs because they were told by their vet it is safer than immunosuppressant Apoquel, even saying its natural, which it is NOT. Pet parents, eager to stop their dogs itch, won't generally ask anymore questions if a vet says its safe and natural.

(IL-31). It is an injectable medication, administered under the skin. Its marketing agenda, other than profit making, is it relieves itch within 24 hours, and can last from 4 to 6 weeks, if it works at all. IL 31 is involved with itching by activating sensory nerve cells. IL 31's job is to also trigger cell mediated immunity against pathogens. So by blocking IL 31 you could be opening the door for disease.

tissues. By blocking IL 31, it could cause diseases like IMHA, arthritis, granulomatosis, scleroderma, lupus,

CONTINUED ON PG 13

What is Cytopoint? Cytopoint (lokivetmab) is a monoclonal antibody (a man made protein that acts like antibodies in the immune system) against the cytokine interleukin 31

IL 31 also regulates balance of the cells that create red blood cells. And it's involved in the regulation of connective

Emma's Corner

BY JENNY BELLANDI



*Emma's Corner is an extension of the Facebook group,  Bringing Awareness to the Link between Apoquel and Cancer in Dogs, which was started by me in an effort to warn others about this immunosuppressant drug, and ultimately show members a better path for the TRUE overall health of their companion animals. Emma's Corner was born for this newsletter to assist in educating Joey's Legacy pet parents as well. **NOTE:** The statements made in Emma's corner do not replace veterinary care. My advice is always seek a natural-minded veterinarian when possible.*





DESTINATION CAYMAN | CONTINUED FROM PG 8



the importation of certain drugs may be limited based on if the veterinarian has a license that enables them to access certain medications from a particular country/state. The cost of these medications will vary based on original price, shipping fees and customs charges.

Incidence of Malpractice

Veterinarians on the island are registered with and are governed by the Cayman Islands Veterinary Board. If a pet owner suspects that a veterinarian has provided service below the acceptable standard which has caused harm to their pet, they can report the matter to the Cayman Islands Veterinary Board for that issue to be investigated. Currently, there has been no known or published record of veterinary malpractice on the island. Whether this is due to no or few reports by clients or whether the incidence is poorly regulated is at this time unknown. However, the small nature of the island and close-knit relationship of the veterinary community would make it difficult to conceal such concerns of malpractice and so it is believed that the incidence is rare to non-existent currently.

CONTINUED ON PG 11



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EXPERT TEAM MEMBER SPOTLIGHT – *Lisa Boswell, esquire*



Licensed in Florida, Colorado, Montana, and Wyoming, Lisa specializes in the area of Equine and Animal Law. Earning her degree from Nova Southeastern University's Shepard Broad Law Center, she was a staff member of the first comprehensive international research and legal citation manual. Lisa's interest in Equine Law lead her to author an article on horse slaughter legislation. Ms. Boswell is a life-long equestrian and a member of the Florida Bar's Animal Law Section. 🐾



FROM THE FILES OF INSPECTOR BARK...

Part 2: When you hear the words "No Kill" what comes to mind?

Continued from the previous newsletter. This "NO KILL" myth is not what you think it is. We are seeing more and more HOARDING of dogs and cats over the past 2-3 years and it's getting worse. Shelters are even giving out dogs and cats for free; clearing the shelter is another method that is harming our animals. Isn't a shelter supposed to be a safe haven for the animals? Several shelters throughout the country are being pressured to show a high percentage rate when it comes to "live release" rates. This boils down to one thing. **The bottom line.**

When a shelter reports to their superiors that they are reaching a "No Kill" goal that seems to be the main objective they are trying to achieve. Shouldn't the main objective be where are these animals heading once they leave the shelter? Sadly, that is not the case.

CONTINUED ON PG 11



[a voice for the voiceless...]

– OUR MISSION –
Joey's Legacy sole purpose is providing a place of comfort and solace when a family member has been taken from us unexpectedly. We provide emotional and legal support to assist and bring closure to those who experience feelings of helplessness and hopelessness in times of tragedy and despair.

VICTIM'S SPOTLIGHT – *Tammi*

10 weeks... 10 weeks... it feels forever and yet it feels like yesterday. 10 weeks since she died in my arms on the 9th of October.

I miss her so much. It hurts so much. 🐾





DESTINATION CAYMAN | CONTINUED FROM PG 9

Other Pet Services on Island

Doggy daycare and boarding services are quite popular and many pet owners can make use of these services when they travel or are away from home for a prolonged period of time. Pet sitter services are also available to those who prefer to have someone stay at home with their fur-baby. Other pet services on island include:

- Dog walkers
- Grooming services
- Pet supplies/Food

- Pet Taxi Service
- Pet import/Export services
- Pet photo studio

The Cayman Islands may be quite small, however quality pet care is of utmost priority and the veterinary teams as well as other pet service providers recognize the need to make our animal companions comfortable and receive the best care possible. 🐾

Dr. Tracey-Ann Buchanan is a small animal veterinarian from Jamaica who has been in practice for almost 5 years. She earned her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (D.V.M.) degree from the School of Veterinary Medicine at The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus in Trinidad which is an AVMA ECFVG (Educational Commission for Foreign Veterinary Graduates) listed institution. She believes in holistic medicine and has grown to understand more about compassion being a key part of client communication to help owners when their pets are unwell.



Her initial years of practice were spent in a small animal veterinary clinic, however now she is currently the chief veterinarian for a prominent mobile veterinary service company in the Cayman Islands. Dr. Tracey-Ann has written many blogs on small animal wellness and patient care. When she is not on the road making home visits to see her patients, she enjoys gardening and creative/inspirational writing.



Celebrations of Life
DISPLAYS – GET YOURS!

INSPECTOR BARK | CONT'D FROM PG 10

On December 2, 2022 in Brick, NJ, a quiet residential neighborhood was taken over by fire engines, police cars, humane officer vehicles and more to confiscate over 180 dogs and cats stacked like sardines living in their own filth, unable to move, with high ammonia levels in a 1200 square foot brick house. The 2 adult women and a minor daughter were living in an SUV in the driveway since the smell was unbearable. This is not only a rogue rescue scamming the general public, but they also believe that every dog and cat should live. Is this the way the “NO KILL” mentality thinks? Yes it is.

With the amount of money that is being raised you would think this mentality would rather fix the problem, which is OVERPOPULATION of dogs & cats. We need to start mandating spay & neuter laws throughout the country. We need to nip this in the bud, sooner than later.

EMAIL ME, I will be happy to share some research & articles on this subject matter with you. info@inspectorbark.com

“Never be afraid to speak up for what is right. The animals have no voice; therefore we must be their voice.” 🐾

— Darcy Butkus





FB GROUP POSTS THAT ARE JUST TOO GOOD TO MISS...

PAULA SIMONS, DVM is one of our newest veterinarians. Dr. Simons is an ER/Critical Care resident at Cornell University Veterinary Specialists in Stamford, CT. Dr. Simons works closely with veterinary specialists in the areas of cardiology, surgery, dermatology, internal medicine, dentistry, anesthesia, oncology, radiology and ophthalmology. If we need a specialist, she will help us engage with the appropriate individual. If you have an older case that is waiting for a specialist's opinion, feel free to [CONTACT SCOTT](#).

DID YOU KNOW?...that many of our veterinarians have been working with attorneys for years, reviewing cases for potential negligence and writing opinion letters that the attorneys use for their clients' cases. Fees charged in those cases are much higher than fees charged to our members, simply because we are a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization and they want to assist victims wherever they can. They didn't just start reviewing records when Joey's Legacy came along. Pass this along to a confused friend, if you have one.

Others are also calling for new legislation. In this case the TC PALM newspaper calls for **FLORIDIANS TO UNITE** around *Florida Law Must Treat Pet Owners More Fairly in Veterinary Malpractice Cases*. We agree! Read full article [HERE](#). 🐾

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CYTOPOINT SAFER THAN APOQUEL? UH NO... | CONTINUED FROM PG 8

polymyositis, just to name a few. Many vets, even the drug company, are saying it doesn't affect the immune system. While its not a whole immune system suppressant like Apoquel, it does affect part of the system. IL 31 is important between the immune and nervous system. Its role is to multiply and tell the difference between cells in the body, good and bad. So by blocking IL 31, it very likely it will cause immune system confusion, thereby awakening cancer and accelerating tumor growth, creating automimmune diseases, just like Apoquel. Yet still, we are all told it doesn't effect the immune system and is not considered an immunosuppressant drug. We are told it's safe. We are told it's natural...

If Cytopoint works for a dog nothing is cured but the itch signal. The drug company simply turned off IL 31 with a monoclonal antibody. If IL 31 makes a dog itchy then just shutting off that signal is the popular cure, but what more sinister issue could be brewing? Another fact is the body can form antibodies against Cytopoint too. If this happens, then the medication will lose its effectiveness and never regain it.

Side effects are vomiting, diarrhea, lethargy, and pain at the injection site. What they aren't disclosing can be found in the EMA reports, with a lot more possible issues being monitored. They include, blood and lymphatic disorders, neurological disorders, respiratory tract disorders, eye disorders including

blindness (some after the first shot), immune disorders, IMHA, immune mediated thrombocytopenia, and death. Yet the drug company says Cytopoint is not immune-suppressive, and there are no warnings of awakening cancers, disease, or concerns about tumors.

Feed your animals real food (not processed kibble with dead nutrients), stop the monthly toxins and repel naturally, do not blindly vaccinate and always TITER first, stop reaching for drugs to cover up every issue, and allow the microbiome to heal. Most dogs have leaky gut due to the constant protocols that we are led to believe is the key to real health, the first sign is usually itchy skin. Don't let your family member be a victim of the profit game anymore. 🐾



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...DID YOU KNOW?...

The statute of limitations for veterinary malpractice cases is generally 1-3 years from the date of the malpractice.



The Jig is Up!

- SCOTT FINE, Founder Joey's Legacy

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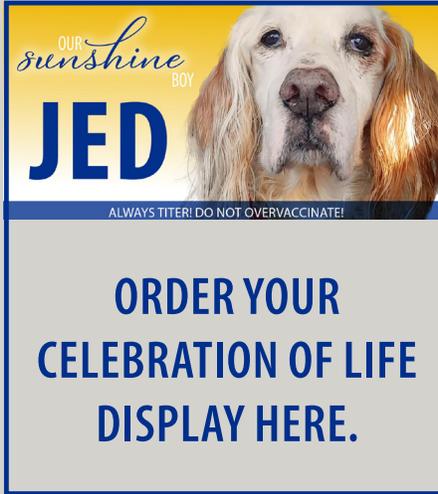


Joey's Legacy presents... *january 2023* in honor of / in memory of

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	 5	"Fair Winds and Following Seas." You will forever live on in our hearts. EMELIA 6	7
 8	Caretaker of all who crossed our threshold. BOGEY 9	10	11	Happy "Gotcha" Day! MURPHY 12	 13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	 23	In Memory Of BARRY BLACK 24	25	 26	 27	Happy Birthday MS. ELOISE 28
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