



Fall 2012



## Coming Events

**Monday, October 8**

The UW Veterinary Student Holistic Medicine Group will be hosting Dr. Jody on Monday, October 8 at 11:30 a.m. as she discusses Practical Applications of Alternative Medicine.

# Anshen News

Dear Friends and Clients,

Happy Autumn!

Making a homemade diet can be a healthy and wonderful bonding process with our companion animals, as well as being one of the best ways to prevent illness. Feeding your companion a homemade diet is something you can do every single day to help keep your animal healthy.

When you choose to make your animal's food you should also commit to regular visits with your primary care veterinarian. We physically examine your animal at each appointment (including body weight and condition and coat color and texture) but we do recommend 2-3 physical exams per year so that your veterinarian can evaluate

Also on Monday, October 8, Dr. Jody will be on WORT's Access Hour 89.9FM at 7 p.m. speaking about alternative veterinary medicine. Please call in with your questions; Dr. Jody would love to talk to you! 608-256-2001

Tuesday, October 9 and Tuesday, October 16

Dr. Jody discusses Traditional Chinese Medicine-based pet nutrition at Willy St.

Co-op West on Tuesday, October 9 at 6 p.m. and at Willy St. Co-op East on Tuesday, October 16 at 6 p.m. Join us, and bring your questions!

And finally, Dr. Jody will be presenting a horse demo on Monday, October 15 at Meinpferde Farm (1643 Cty. Highway BB) at 7:00. Please email Anshen with any questions.

your animal's activity level, perform an ophthalmic exam, and administer a stool exam to determine if there are any digestive issues. Problems found in these areas can suggest an imbalance or nutritional deficit or excess such as too much or little taurine, iron, protein, calcium, or phosphorous.

Many veterinarians are unfamiliar with homemade diets so as animal caretakers we often must make the first step in discussing the necessary monitoring tests. It is important to have a CBC (Complete Blood Count) to monitor red blood cell quantity and size, as well as to make sure the patient is not anemic or has an iron deficiency. Electrolytes are important to monitor because calcium, phosphorous, sodium, chloride, and potassium are regulators of skeletal muscle cells, brain cells, bone health and other metabolic maintenance. Albumin is a protein that is important to monitor when feeding a homemade diet. Please discuss with your primary care veterinarian which parameters you should have monitored on a regular basis. Remember prevention is always better than treatment.

## Duckette's Story

Duckette is our 12-year old Lab. About nine months ago he started having coughing and throat clearing episodes. We did not think much of it at first but as time went on, the episodes become more frequent and intense, so intense that he occasionally coughed up his dinner.

Our primary vet is Dr. Kristine Collins of Sauk Point Veterinary Clinic. Dr. Collins offered a preliminary assessment of laryngeal paralysis. The diagnosis was confirmed while Duckette was under sedation for a routine dental cleaning. Without treatment, Duckette would likely have to battle severe respiratory infections, as his throat would no longer completely close off as he ate or drank, causing food and water to enter his lungs. Dr. Collins explored treatment options with us. Surgery was one option, but recovery was difficult, it was a significantly invasive operation, and the post-operative results were not overly impressive as a "cure."

Dr. Collins provided a referral to Dr. Andrea Lanphear of Anshen Veterinary Acupuncture. Dr. Lanphear explained that acupuncture was a viable treatment for Duckette to strengthen and stimulate the "throat muscles." The treatment also included a low level electrical current as part

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of the therapy (electro-acupuncture). Since this option was much less invasive (and lower in cost than surgery), we elected acupuncture as a treatment option. Surgery was still an option in the future if Duckette did not improve.

The results were almost immediate as the episodes of throat clearing were much less frequent and severe. The episodes seemed to pick up a bit in the few days before his next treatment but then were again almost non-existent just after treatment. After six sessions, Duckette is significantly improved and the sounds of Duckette's uncomfortable and intense throat clearing are no longer a frequent occurrence in our house.

Veterinary acupuncture is a very special practice. Thanks to Dr. Lanphear (and Dr. Collins' referral), Duckette is far more happy and healthy than what he was before treatments.  
Tammy and Chuck Fox



## Focus On--Heartland Farm Sanctuary

"Heartland Farm Sanctuary, located in Verona, Wisconsin, is the only dedicated farm animal sanctuary in Wisconsin. Heartland is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to provide care for farm animals in need, nurture people through the human-animal bond, and foster respect and kindness toward animals and each other."

Heartland is a wonderful organization that Anshen is proud to be associated with. There are many ways to become involved with this fantastic farm; for more

[information about Heartland, please click here.](#)



Clark, a Heartland goat, receives acupuncture.

### **Patient Profile: Pumkin**

Pumkin, a 6 year old male Moluccan Cockatoo, came to see Dr. Jody after having a prolapsed cloaca (a rectum-like organ which was hanging outside of his body) for over two weeks. Using western medicine, this is treated with anesthesia and surgery but often results in euthanasia, especially when the prolapse lasts such a long time. Pumkin is such a cuddly bird and a sweetheart that he allowed acupuncture calmly. After treatment Pumkin went home, where his cloaca returned to its rightful place. Pumkin takes Chinese herbs for pulling prolapsed organs back in; they have kept his cloaca in place. Now Pumkin is gaining weight and happily enjoying life with his family.

