

PAWSITIVELY SPEAKING

News and Information from  Central Texas Animal Hospital

Hidden Dangers in Your Pet's Environment

We've all seen the lists of items that we are not supposed to GIVE our pets – grapes, chocolate, onions, bones.... The list goes on. But what about those items that your pet picks up on his own? Just like with children, we want to do everything we can to protect our pets.

Janice (our groomer) recently had quite a scare when one of her babies ate something she shouldn't have. In July, she underwent emergency surgery...

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My husband and I had gone to the coast for the weekend. Sunday afternoon we were packing up and I decided to give the girls (we have 3 chi's total) a carrot – this was a normal treat for them. They only had the small end of one. Monday morning I noticed Tiki had spit up a small amount of her breakfast, no big deal. Tuesday I fed everyone and left for work. That evening they had dinner and I noticed Tiki seemed a little off. Later I found where she had thrown up breakfast and dinner. Wednesday morning she wasn't interested in food and I could tell from her eyes she didn't feel good. I took her to work with me and put her name on Dr. Neans' side of the board as an ADR - that means "ain't doin right". Although we did get her to eat a little bit of canned food, Dr. Neans suggested we do blood work. I filled him in on the history of the last few days. He examined her and in palpating her tummy we heard a tiny squeak from her. In the back of my mind I thought there's something going on with that car-



This is Tiki, a 6 pound Chihuahua, she just celebrated her 8th birthday. Just for fun she was 8 weeks old here in Dr. Neans' shoe.

rot, it's the only thing different she'd had.

By Thursday morning, Tiki had gotten worse - she felt so bad with no interest in food. Blood work came back normal. I said "could she have a carrot stuck somewhere?" An x-ray was done and Dr. Kunze (Board-certified radiologist) happened to be there doing an ultrasound. He looks at x-ray with Dr. Neans, there was nothing definitive so he did an ultrasound. Dr. Kunze saw something right past the stomach, the question was, if it's a carrot do we give it more time to pass or do we cut her open. Obviously we cut her open and I am very thankful we did. It was the end of a POINTY PECAN SHELL that would have never passed. If we had waited there would have been damage to her intestines and with her being so little....

I'd also like to share about her recovery. Thursday night Dr. Neans took Tiki home with him - he wanted to make sure her IV continued running all night. (I have witnessed him doing the same for other animals so it wasn't just because I work here.) I will say it was hard for me not to bring her

home. She also spent Friday at the clinic continuing with an IV, it was important for her to eat a little without throwing up, we were watching for signs that things were moving along. She did throw up a little but by the end of the day was doing well with the small amounts of food. She evened pooped! Remember her intestine was cut open and apparently they stop working when that happens. Friday afternoon she came home free of IV and I was left to care for her. She was so happy to be home, her eyes had their shine back. She really seemed back to normal is just a couple of days, her appetite was back and there was good pooping. It became a chore to keep her calm until her incision was healed.

We always know when our little ones don't feel good and I learned how important it is not to delay in having them looked at because it can take time for diagnosis. I know that God has a hand in every part of my life and cares about the animals too and find it amazing that everything fell into place to save Tiki. – Janice

Region 7 – Selected Second Quarter Rabies Case Summaries

Rabies is a public health concern and pet owners are LEGALLY REQUIRED to keep dogs and cats up to date on their rabies vaccines. Puppies/kittens are required to be vaccinated by 4 months of age by a licensed veterinarian and to be re-vaccinated within 12 months and regularly (according to county and local ordinance) after that.

Williamson County: On May 2, 2017, a Williamson County resident witnessed a juvenile black cat being attacked by his neighbor's three dogs. While attempting to save the cat from the dogs, the man's right hand was bitten by the cat. Unconcerned about the wound to his hand, the victim re-turned home. The following day, the man saw the same cat wandering around his yard. When it noticed him, it turned and charged, chasing the man inside his home. He proceeded to call animal control to report a "crazy cat from a scary movie". Williamson County Animal Control responded and was able to capture the animal. Rabies testing conducted at the DSHS lab indicated that it was

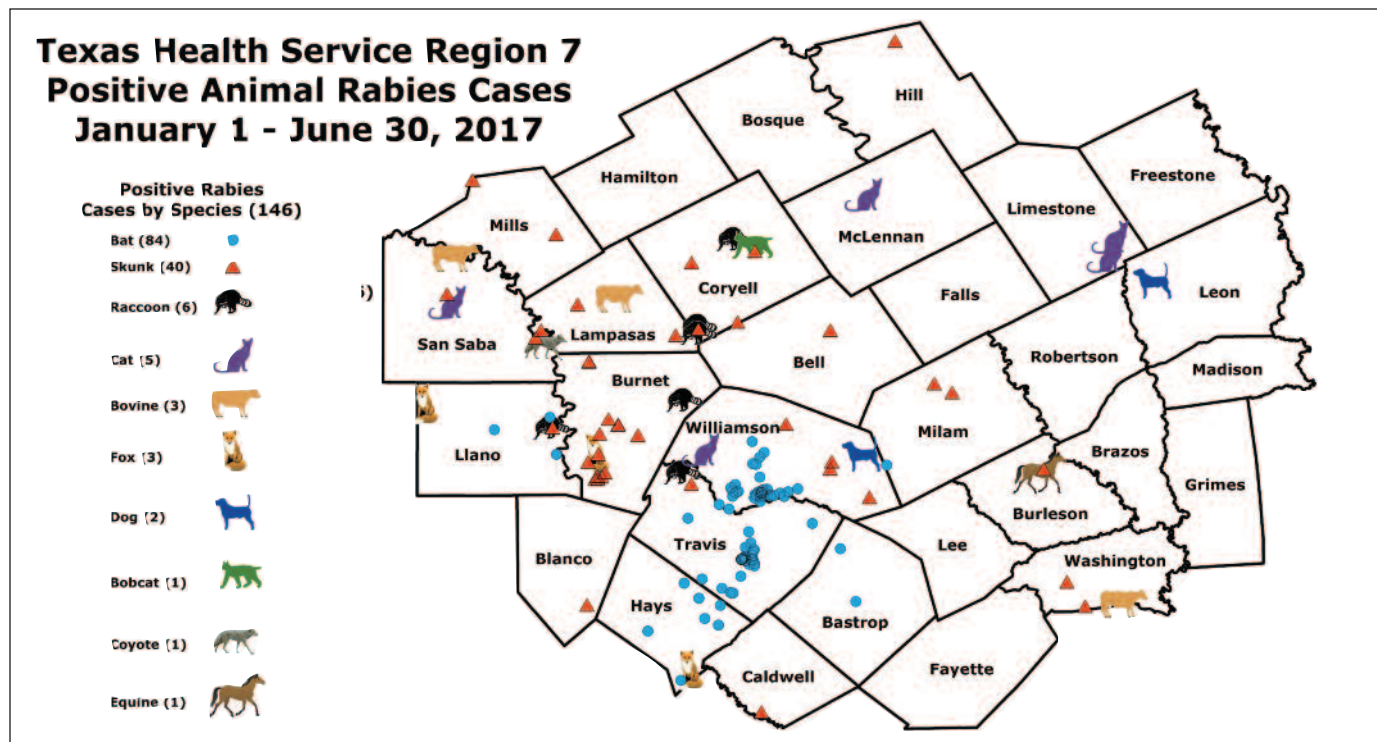
infected with a skunk variant of the rabies virus. In interviews with nearby residents, Williamson County Animal Control Officers were able to identify a second victim who reported being bitten by this same rabid cat on May 1, 2017. This incident occurred when the woman noticed a black cat dragging the carcass of her pet duck. Angered that it had killed the duck, she used a purse to try and shoo it away. The cat lunged and latched onto the woman's leg, biting and scratching her repeatedly across the thigh. Eventually, both exposed individuals received rabies post-exposure prophylaxis. The three dogs involved in the altercation with the cat were given rabies booster vaccinations and placed in home confinement.

Coryell County: On the evening of May 26, 2017, a bobcat was found in the town of Gatesville that had reportedly chased a person in the area outside a local restaurant. Law enforcement arrived on the scene and described finding a crowd of onlookers watching the bobcat. At one point, the animal began running toward a

group of bystanders but changed course and ended up chasing another individual, who took shelter inside the restaurant. It clawed at the restaurant's door, took shelter briefly under a parked car, and then reportedly ran directly into a glass door at a nearby hotel. Ultimately, local law enforcement officers were able to safely euthanize the bobcat and submit its carcass for testing. After testing positive for rabies, an investigation into the incident found that no known people or animals were at risk of having been exposed to the virus due to this rabid bobcat.

*** Remember to be aware of any uncharacteristic and/or aggressive behavior in any of our region's high risk mammals (bats, skunks, raccoons, foxes, and coyotes) as well as in other wild carnivore species and stray domestic canines and felines.

For more information on rabies in Texas, including monthly and annual rabies reports and maps of animal rabies cases, please visit www.Texasrabies.org.



Operation Reunite – helping displaced pets find owners

Central Texas Animal Hospital is partnering with the Houston SPCA, TVMA & TVMF to make a difference in the lives of pets and pet owners who were impacted by Hurricane Harvey.

Help Make a Difference

We are looking for volunteers to foster pets who were displaced by the disaster. The ultimate goal is to return as many of these animals to their owners within 45 days of the animal being delivered for fostering.

Central Texas Animal Hospital will provide the veterinary care to the foster animal(s) during the 45 day period and the TVMF will provide funds to the person fostering the animal(s) to help offset their expenses.

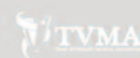
Once the original owner notifies the Houston SPCA that they have identified their pet through the online animal database, we will facilitate the reunification between the pet and the owner at our clinic.

If an animal is not claimed at the end of the 45 days, the animal will be rehomed.

Contact our clinic at 512-251-BARK and let the person answering know that you want to help by fostering an animal for Operation Reunite.



OPERATION REUNITE
Veterinarians Reuniting
Pets with Families





"Serving Texans for more than a century" (In dog years)

1200 Pecan Street West
Pflugerville, TX 78660
512.251.BARK
www.ctah.biz



Hours:

Monday – Friday: 7-6
Saturday: 8-Noon

For after-hours emergencies contact:

**Emergency Animal Hospital
of NW Austin
512-331-6121**
or
**Emergency Pet Care
of Round Rock
512-961-5200**

Central Texas Animal Hospital
1200 Pecan Street West
Pflugerville, TX 78660

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Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
20% Off of Basic Dental Exam/Cleaning Package (save \$40) September-October				
20% off of Vaccines Mon – Thurs				
Professional Cat and Dog Grooming by Janice Tuesday – Thursday by appointment				
Saturday	Open every Saturday 8-noon			

Offer expires 10/31/17. Does not apply to other tests/treatments/products.



PetDesk

For more information, and to download the app, visit
petdesk.com

With our PetDesk App, you can:

- Request Appointments
 - Access vaccine records
 - Request Medicine Refills
 - Access our online pharmacy
- Accessing your pets' vaccine records is very helpful when taking them to groomer, dog park, or in times of emergency.*