

# *I VH Monthly News*

*Volume 2, Issue 12  
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Check us out on  
Facebook to get to know  
our staff a little better!

## *Fun and Facts*

- Do you have an idea for our newsletter? Send it to [beth-any@idahovethospital.com](mailto:beth-any@idahovethospital.com)
- 79% of pet owners admit to buying their pets presents on holidays
- Two dogs were included in the survivors of the Titanic, a Pekinese and a Pomeranian
- What kind of dog was Scooby Doo? A Great Dane of course!

## *Birthdays*

- Cora: Dec. 13th
- Hilary: Dec. 25th

*Merry Christmas*



## *Holiday Hazards*

It's that time of year again and with all of the excitement of entertaining our friends and family on the Holidays we can sometimes forget that our pets are on our heels eyeing the ham on the counter or the pudding on the table. Many of the delicious foods we eat on the Holidays can make our pets very sick and the decorations we put up can be a potential hazard for all pets. Poinsettias are the most prominent plant used as decoration during the Holidays and they are extremely toxic to our pets. If you have a poinsettia in your house, be sure to place it out of reach to pets. Tinsel can also be very dangerous for cats and birds because it is shiny and stringy; it's naturally appealing to them. They may try to eat it which can lead to a bowel obstruction. Be sure your feline and avian friends are kept away from the Christmas tree to ensure their safety. Also, Fido may think it's a good idea to open presents while you're not home, so make sure any presents, especially consumable ones are stored in a place your canine friends cannot reach while unsupervised. On New Years, make sure all streamers and fireworks are kept away from pets and never give a pet alcohol.

If you've noticed your pets getting anxious around the holidays you may want to try an appeasing pheromone to help calm them down. This pheromone cannot be smelled by humans and is effective enough to calm multiple pets. The canine version is called D.A.P. (Dog Appeasing Pheromone) which we carry in the collar or plug in. The feline version is called Feliway and we carry it in the plug in. Both plug in's temporarily come with a \$10 mail in rebate. If you have any more questions regarding holiday hazards for your pet, feel free to call us. Have a Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year!

## *Swine Flu Update*

On November 12<sup>th</sup> it was reported by [www.DVM360.com](http://www.DVM360.com), a reliable veterinary information source, that there have been three more cases of swine flu reported in ferrets. These ferrets have all been from the same house hold and the owners of the ferrets did exhibit swine flu symptoms so it is likely they passed it to their pets. In addition, the AVMA has reported there have been a few cases of cats contracting the H1N1 virus from sick owners and one cat in Utah has died due to the illness. The important thing to remember is that our pets are not exempt from the germs that we can spread with coughs or sneezes. Wash your hands before and after handling pets to ensure they do not get any of these contagious illnesses.