

# IVH Monthly News

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We're on the Web!!  
idahovethospital.com



## Fun and Facts:

- Idaho Vet Hospital can now text message your pets reminders to you. Let us know if you'd like to be on the text reminder list.
- There are only three animals with blue tongues: the black bear, the Chow Chow dog and the blue-tongued lizard.
- A giraffe can clean its own ears with its 21 inch long tongue.
- The most dangerous animal, according to the number of people they have killed, is the hippopotamus.
- A rat can survive for longer without water than a camel can



## Parasite Prevention: Why it matters

Most people have heard of Heartworm, Hookworm, Whipworm and Roundworm, but what many people may not realize is that two out of four of these parasites are zoonotic. What does this mean exactly? Zoonosis is defined as any disease of animals that is communicable to humans. It is very important to keep our pets updated on Heartworm and parasite prevention not only for their health but for our family's health as well. Hookworm and Roundworm are zoonotic parasites and can be transferred by penetration of the skin or ingestion. Children are more susceptible to these parasites because they often put unclean fingers in their mouths and near their faces. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention 1 to 3 million people are estimated to be infected by zoonotic parasites every year in the United States. Infections from these parasites in animals and humans can affect the skin, brain, intestinal tract, liver, lungs and even cause blindness. Although Heartworm and Whipworm are not zoonotic, it is still very important to protect and prevent your pet from getting these parasites. The easiest way to do this is by purchasing a monthly dewormer from your Veterinarian. We highly recommend Interceptor, a four in one oral medication that protects against all four of these parasites and comes in a convenient flavored monthly dose.



## Alaska's Chilly Dogs

The Iditarod sled dog race is an annual event that takes place every March across the great state of Alaska. Sled dog racing is very popular in Alaska, Canada, Norway and other countries as well. The annual event is the Super Bowl of the sport, with dogs coming from all around the world to compete. The race is 1100 miles long and over 1200 dogs compete with 16 dogs per team. Veterinarians are posted at checkpoints throughout the race to ensure proper care for the dogs. Dr. Calhoun has had the opportunity to be a part of the Iditarod Veterinary Team for the past two years. Although arctic conditions can be challenging to work in, it has been a very rewarding experience for Dr. Calhoun and he says "the dogs have been a pleasure to interact with." For pictures of Dr. Calhoun and the Chilly Alaskan Sled Dogs, visit our website.

