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"Dachshunds are ideal dogs for small children, as they are already stretched and pulled to such a length that the child cannot do much harm one way or the other." -Robert Benchley

"My dog, she looks at me sometimes with that look, and I think maybe deep down inside she must know exactly how I feel. But then maybe she just wants the food off my plate." -Unknown

"Did you ever notice when you blow in a dog's face he gets mad at you? But when you take him in a car he sticks his head out the window" -Steve Bluestone

"Dogs are wise. They crawl away into a quiet corner and lick their wounds and do not rejoin the world until they are whole once more." -Agatha Christie

"A dog doesn't care if you're rich or poor, big or small, young or old. He doesn't care if you're not smart, not popular, not a good joke-teller, not the best athlete, nor the best-looking person. To your dog, you are the greatest, the smartest, the nicest human being who was ever born. You are his friend and protector." -Louis Sabin



A Cat's Prayer

Now I lay me down to sleep,
 I pray this cushy life to keep.
 I pray for toys that look like mice,
 And sofa cushions, soft and nice.
 I pray for gourmet kitty snacks,
 And someone nice to scratch my back,
 For windowsills all warm and bright,
 For shadows to explore at night.
 I pray I'll always stay real cool,
 And keep the secret feline rule.
 To NEVER tell a human that,
 The world is really ruled by CATS!

-Author Unknown

The SCOOP Around Town

Poocha-A-Palooza - Go Swimming in the pool with your dog! at the Courtenay memorial outdoor pool in Lewis Park on Saturday, September 3 from 11am to 1pm. Social dogs are welcome. Admission is by donation to the SPCA. This event is organized by the CRA and sponsored by Woofy's Pet Foods.

BCSPCA Paws for a Cause... Walk for the Animals on Sunday, September 11 will be held again at Marina Park in Comox. Please stop by **The Scoop on Pets** tent to pick up your free notepad!

Woofy's Pet Foods - HowLOWeen Pet Costume Contest. Comox Mall (upstairs) Saturday, October 29, 2011 at 1:00pm. Dress your Pet in a Fun or Frighting Costume. For More Info contact their Comox Store 250-339-2272.

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THE SCOOP ON PETS

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Your Own Bi-Monthly Pet Publication

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The Scoop On Pets, Linda Graceffo, Publisher
 201-576 England Avenue, Courtenay, BC V9N 2N3 • 250.871.3323 • www.TheScoopOnPets.ca

The SCOOP on Charlie

Charlie came into our lives just as our two beloved cats of 15 years were leaving. At such a sad time, Charlie was there to bring back joy and laughter to our home. He's an orange and white tabby, which coincidentally are the same colours as a clown fish. He really is our little clown and fittingly his best friend, Linus, is a beta fish. He plays with his fish which resides in a large bowl up on our eating bar. He watches him swim around and then wraps his paws around the bowl as if to hug him, or he will go up to the top of the bowl and pat his fish on the head gently with his paw. Linus loves him and plays along, hiding and then appearing or going right up to Charlie's tongue as he's lapping at the water.

Charlie will shake a paw for a treat, maybe he was a dog in his previous life? We sometimes compare him to a Beagle because he is always

sniff-sniff-sniffing everything! He loves going outside on his leash and will pretty much put his harness on himself. If you hold the harness in front of him he walks his head right into it.

We always enjoy Charlie's amazing acrobatics when there is a fly in the house. Who needs a fly swatter when Charlie is around? Speaking of acrobatics, Charlie somehow discovered



that he can leap from the eating bar in the kitchen to his cat tree which is six feet away and quite a sight! Visiting friends are amazed when they see him do this. We always want to hold up a perfect 10 scorecard for him as he soars through the air in a graceful arch.

This spring we discovered that Charlie is a hummingbird whisperer. He has hummingbirds hover right in front of him at the window for extended periods of time. This has happened on four different occasions at different windows! Not only do we think he's a sweet boy, but birds do too.

Charlie lives with us, his mom and dad, Naomi and Nico, in mulBerryLand and has inspired a few different paintings which can be seen by going to www.mulBerryLand.com.

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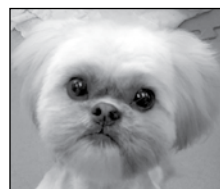
The Dog Nose....Rocky's Dog Bones, etc.

This is the time of the year when we all welcome our favorite visitors and their four-legged companions. Carol Elliott, owner of Rocky's Dog Bones, etc. in Merville, is in the thick of having hundreds of pounds of dough made for specialty bake-at-home dog cookies - not only for visitors to gift to their hostess' pooch, but for them to take home for their own dog.

"We started making bake-at-home cookie dough before May," she said. "We have to; otherwise, we would never have been able to meet the demand at this time of year because everything is hand-mixed, hand-rolled and pressed, frozen and packaged in a home kitchen." In addition, all recipes are taste-tested on Elliott's own pets: "they proved winners with all four dogs", she said.

"We started out because we were very worried about all the chemicals, colourings and preservatives that were in commercial pet treats and wanted to offer our own pets a healthy alternative," she said. "It turned out that many other people on the Island felt the same way."

Elliott says, "Pet owners are looking to provide their dogs with a lifestyle that is as healthy as their own. This means plenty of exercise and a good diet that includes high quality treats. Pet owners are looking for treats made with natural ingredients - no fillers, no artificial color, no chemicals and no preservatives, and one's with no wheat



or gluten. And, they want containers that are recyclable!"

This year two of the specialty cookies are Cranberry Banana and Bison Crackle. Both are made from natural, human-grade ingredients. Cranberry Banana is a pretty, wheat-free biscuit made with bananas, oatmeal, and speckled with ground cranberries - dogs can't digest whole cranberries. The antioxidants in the berries are good for both animals and humans. Bison Crackle made from tallow and broth, bison crackling that comes from 100% grass-feed island-grown bison, gluten-free flour, and unsweetened apple juice. There is also Peanut Butter Bar and Pumpkin & Spice cookie dough. Some of our natural ingredients may surprise you. For example: Molasses which furnish fuel for heat or energy and is rich in enzymes and minerals and Oatmeal which supplies carbohydrates and amino acids and is a good source of iron and fibre.

On the other hand, there are some things you should never, ever give your dog. Alcohol of any kind, but did you know about avocados, chocolate, coffee, yeast dough, onion powder and some baby foods?

To ask questions from the expert about doggie treats, you are invited to come and ask Carol at the *Saturday morning Farmers' Market held at the Courtenay Exhibition Grounds from 9 am and noon.*

Canine First Aid

Puntledge Veterinary Clinic

Emergencies come in all forms, automobile accidents (hit by car injuries), bite wounds, burns, heatstroke, poisoning, seizures, and more.

What is first aid?

First aid is initial treatment given in an emergency situation. The purpose is:

- To preserve life
- To reduce pain and discomfort
- To minimize any risk of permanent disability or disfigurement

Priorities:

- Keep calm and try not to panic.
- If possible, get help so that you can aid your dog while someone helps with restraint, transportation, etc.
- Contact your veterinarian as soon as possible
- If there are suspected internal or limb injuries, keep your pet as still as possible
- Try to keep your pet warm, wrap it in a coat or even a newspaper. Shock often follows most emergencies
- Take your dog to the veterinary hospital as soon as possible
- Drive carefully and observe the speed limit

What is shock?

Shock is a complex condition often following an acute injury or emergency. A life-threatening fall in blood pressure is a dangerous part of shock. Signs include rapid breathing and heart rate with pale mucous membranes, (gums, lips or under the

eyelids). The feet or ears may feel cold and your dog may vomit and shiver. Most pets become quiet and unresponsive.

What should I do?

Keep the pet as quiet as possible and try to conserve heat by covering it with coats or newspapers. If necessary, apply the A, B, C of first aid:

- A** Airway
- B** Breathing
- C** Cardiac function

Airway. Anything that obstructs the airway prevents oxygen entering the lungs. Do your best to clear the mouth and throat of any obstruction (vomit, saliva or foreign bodies such as sticks or balls). Be careful, your pet may bite in panic.

Breathing. If your dog is unconscious and does not appear to be breathing, try gently pumping the chest with the palm of your hand, at the same time feeling just behind the elbow to detect a heart beat (pulse). Close the muzzle with your hand and blow into the nostrils. This is best accomplished by covering the pet's nose with your mouth. Be careful. Injured pets may bite you out of fear. If you are unsure about the health or vaccination status of the injured pet, avoid contact with bodily fluids and blood.

Cardiac function. If you are unable to detect a heartbeat or pulse or it appears weak and slow, try pressing on the chest with your palm. Five (5) chest compressions followed by one to two (1-2) deep breaths is a simple form of animal cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR).



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