



# Gulf Coast Veterinary Center



## January-March 2023

Bringing in the New year with lots of exciting news and tips to get you through the first quarter of year with all the different events upcoming!

You can help keep your pets safe and comfortable this New Year's Eve by following just a few simple steps.

- Be sure to always keep your pet inside and curtains closed to help shut out any of the fireworks, some pets are not bothered by the noise, but others are.
- Try not to reward your pet for being scared. We know it may be difficult not to cuddle and comfort them during this time but it's best to try and ignore the sounds and help keep their anxiousness to a minimum by distracting them with toys or turning on the tv or radio to disguise the sound. Your pet may just want to hide and that is ok.
- It can also help to make sure your pet has a belly full of food that way they are sleepy and relaxed when all the commotions do start.
- If you're aware your pet gets to upset and can't handle the fireworks, be prepared to have alternative calming options available. Please call our office with any questions and we can prescribe meds to help them through the night!

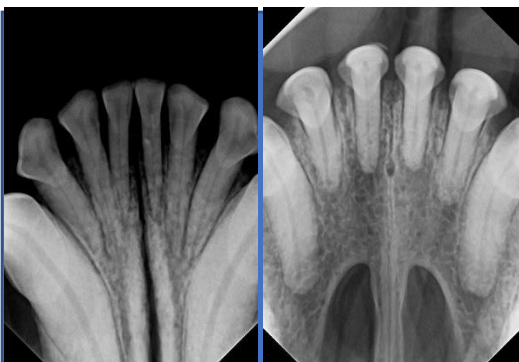
## QUARTER ONE SPECIAL

We are excited to let you know that we are bringing back our dental quarter starting January 1<sup>st</sup> – March 31<sup>st</sup>! With that you will receive 10% of your pets physical cleaning (not including extractions, bloodwork, or medications). If you have more than one pet in the household and would like to do a dental cleaning for both on the same day you will receive 20% off their cleaning service. Call our office to get your fur babies on our schedule to get those teeth fresh and clean!



Just as we need to visit the dentist so should your pet! There are a few things that can be a sign that it's time for your pet to get their teeth cleaned.

- A foul odor coming their mouth
- Painful area around the mouth or refusing to eat
- Only chewing on one side of the mouth
- Tartar (hard deposit of buildup on the teeth)
- Abnormally red or swollen gums
- Grinding of the teeth or excessive drooling



### Meet Carrington!

She is one of our experienced Vet technicians that has been working in the field for 2 years! She loves taking care of your fur babies and her favorite part of the job is getting to know every patient and building a bond with them. Also, seeing a patient go from a depressed lethargic state to a new happy and healthy personality after just a few days of treatment is the most rewarding part of her job and she is happy to be a part of the Gulf Coast team!



### Meet Datsun!

He is a 6-month-old bull terrier who is full of love and energy. He enjoys playing outside and digging holes in the yard, when inside you can find him cuddling one of his 3 human sisters! (Ari is his favorite). Datsun has two fur siblings as well Turbo and Dola they are a chihuahua and a husky! He loves coming to see us at Gulf Coast because he knows he is such a ham and we all adore him.



### Happy new year!

With the new year comes the new year's resolutions. Everyone resolves to exercise more and to eat better in the new year. Dr Mathes is resolving to help her patients eat better in the new year too! She is taking a food therapy course through the Chi Institute. Through this course, she'll be able to formulate home made diets that are complete and balanced and will aid in the prevention and healing of medical problems specifically for your pet! They say, "Food is the medicine you take every day". Let's all take some steps be a little healthier in the 2023 year!

-Dr. Mathes

"Pets are humanizing. They remind us we have an obligation and responsibility to preserve and nurture and care for all life."

— James Cromwell

**VALENTINE'S DAY**  
SAFETY TIPS FOR YOUR PETS

- Xylitol**: A sugarless sweetener that is in many candies & gums that is toxic to pets!
- Flowers**: Of certain kinds are deadly to pets. Keep them away!
- Chocolate**: Highly toxic to cats & dogs! Keep them away!
- Candles**: A fire hazard when pets are in the mix!
- Decorations**: Can become choking hazards!

**St. Patrick's Day**  
Pet Safety Tips

- Be(er) Careful**: Alcohol is toxic to pets and should never be left unsupervised. It can cause immediate physical symptoms and lead to potential kidney damage.
- Irish Goodbye**: Keep your pet on a leash or in an enclosed area during parties to ensure they don't get spooked and run away.
- Kilt-astrophe**: Animals can become overheated when wearing costumes. If your pet is dressing up, then be on the lookout for signs your pet is too warm or may be uncomfortable.
- Party Animal**: Make sure your pet has a safe refuge they can go to escape the noise and chaos if you are hosting the celebration.
- Wear Green**: If your pet insists on celebrating the day with some green, ensure that any dyes or coloring are pet-safe and won't affect sensitive skin or be harmful if ingested.
- Erin Go NO**: Avoid giving treats from the table, instead provide your pet with their own safe snack away from potential dangers.

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