



DOG DAYCARE LTD.

SOCIALIZATION  
FUN PLAY  
EXERCISE

LOVE & HEAD RUBS

## Spot News: February 2008

2008 North Shore News Readers Choice Awards.

Spot wants to know....what do you feed your dog?

Valentines Treats.

Health and Education: Oral Papillomas.

Meet Gibsone.

February Birthdays.

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### 2008 NORTH SHORE NEWS READERS CHOICE NOMINATIONS

The 2008 NS News Readers Choice Awards are here. In 2007 **A Spot For Spot Dog Daycare** was voted a finalist for Favourite Pet Daycare by you. Thanks to all of you who voted for us, as recognition is a great honour. Check out the North Shore News February 6<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> for the ballots to be filled out for **Spots** category of Favorite Pet Daycare 2008. Once filled out drop your ballot off at the North Shore News offices at 100-126 East 15<sup>th</sup> Street, North Vancouver, or leave them with us and we will drop it off for you. This year we want to win!!

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### Spot wants to know .... what do you feed your dog?

At **Spot** we are expanding our retail area and will be carrying a range of dog food based on feedback from you. Send us an E-mail at [info@aspotforspot.ca](mailto:info@aspotforspot.ca) or speak with us at the shop and let us know what type of brand, flavour and size of dog food you would like to see here at **Spot**. It's all about convenience as we become your "One **Spot** Shop".

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### Valentine Treats

Did You Know...certain types of candy and other goodies that are so popular during this romantic time of year can be harmful to pets?

**Chocolate** is a treat we all love but can make pets very ill. Depending on the form involved, it can contain high amounts of fat and caffeine-like substances known as methylxanthines. If ingested in significant amounts, chocolate can potentially produce clinical effects ranging from vomiting and diarrhea to panting, excessive thirst and urination, hyperactivity, abnormal heart rhythm, tremors, seizures and even death in severe cases. Typically, the darker the chocolate, the higher the potential for clinical problems from methylxanthine poisoning. White chocolate has the lowest methylxanthine content, while baking chocolate contains the highest. As little as 20 ounces of milk chocolate, or only two ounces of baking chocolate can cause serious problems in a 10-pound dog. While white chocolate may not have the same

potential as darker forms to cause methylxanthine poisoning, the high fat content of lighter chocolates can still lead to vomiting and diarrhea, as well as the possible development of life-threatening pancreatitis, an inflammatory condition of the pancreas.

**Candy** sweetened with the sugar substitute called Xylitol can result in serious such as depression, loss of coordination and seizures. These signs can develop quite rapidly, so it is important that pet owners seek veterinary treatment immediately.

**Thorns** from roses and other flowers would hurt and/or cause harm if played with, bitten, stepped on or eaten/swallowed. They hurt you know that imagine what it would be like on a little paw pad.

**Candles** may be romantic but watch curious little paws. Do not leave candles unattended. Burns or even a fire is not romantic.

**Alcohol** if ingested can cause vomiting, diarrhea and lack of coordination, tremors or even death from respiratory failure depending on the amount ingested. Keep in mind that they are not only smaller than us but often metabolize substances differently making them more susceptible to alcohol in smaller amounts.

**Because they cannot eat chocolate or get flowers how about some treats and a toy for your loving dog. For the month of February all Planet Dog toys and Natured Logic Dog treats are 20% off.**

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## HEALTH AND EDUCATION

**Oral Papillomatosis** (Warts in the mouth aka Puppy Warts)

As you well know, dogs that lead social lives are exposed to various viruses, bacteria and parasites. They can be exposed in the pet store aisle, dogpark, daycare, boarding facility or even training classes.

Oral papillomas, also know as puppy warts are one such virus.

**What are they?** Oral Papillomas are benign growths that grow on the lips and in the mouth of dogs younger than two years. The infection is caused by the canine papilloma virus. They are not contagious to us but are contagious to other dogs. Good news is your dog's immune system makes antibodies that prevent re-infection.

**What do they look like?** The most common appearance is inside the mouth, between the lips and gum line. Initially papillomas are small and pink but over a 3-6week period assume a rough grayish-white cauliflower-like appearance. There are usually multiple growths in and around the same region and yes they are unsightly but they usually don't bother the dog at all. A trip to the vet can confirm that this is in fact what your dog has just to make sure it is not something to be concerned about. Your vet should always examine any growth on your dog as there are several other benign growths that occur on dogs that look similar to warts.

**Treatment:** Oral papillomas usually disappear on their own without treatment within 6-12 weeks, but because it can take months for the warts to go away on their own some dog owners may opt to have them removed by your vet. Best course of action is to talk with your vet.

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## Meet Gibsone



Photos by Kate Morris

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**February Birthdays:** Bear Seppanen, Emma Phillips, Gracey Price, Kelly Lacey, Sophie Moses, Stella Mastrangelo, Josie Gazeley, Watson Ashworth, Mika White, Lola Bastien, Shelby Lincoln, Piper Rayess, Patch Lindsay, and Moe Turner. Come see us on your birthday for a free day of daycare. Happy Birthday!!

**LOVE & HEAD RUBS!!**

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