

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- The Eyes Have It
- Mac's Mews

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# Meal Deal – Choosing The Ideal Diet

Choosing the right food for your pet can sometimes seem a daunting task with such a huge range to choose from. To make matters more complicated, as with humans, our pet's dietary requirements alter as they



grow from puppies and kittens, into adulthood and eventually old age.

The good news is that with life-stage diets, we are able to feed our pets a correctly balanced diet for every stage of their lives.

Puppies and kittens, because of their rapid rate of growth,



need higher levels of energy, protein, fatty acids and other nutrients. Specifically formulated growth diets ensure controlled growth

and healthy joint development. Puppies of large and giant breeds also have different dietary requirements and require their own specially formulated diets.

Adult pets with their major growth phase now complete, require a balanced diet to keep them fit and healthy, but with lower levels of the nutrients mentioned above. To achieve this, adult pets require (continued on page 2)

## A Message From Dr. Mattox



Our hospital now offers wellness plans with affordable monthly payments as low as \$14/month. Currently these payment plans are only available for wellness visits with a range of service

options regarding vaccinations and wellness screening. San Antonio Animal Hospital focuses on preventative care, which allows for early diagnosis to reduce your pet's risk of contracting serious, costly and sometimes fatal diseases. By partnering with you to

make sure your pet receives proper vaccinations, parasite control and good nutrition, we can help your pet live a longer, happier life. Please contact us for details on the wellness plans that are available.

## The Eyes Have It!

Do you find that your pet's eyes are dull, sticky or have a mucus discharge? Is there reddening of the white parts of the eye or the membranes surrounding the eye? If your pet is showing any of these symptoms, call our office for an appointment.



Healthy Canine Eye

While many cases may be a simple case of conjunctivitis which will clear up fairly quickly with appropriate treatment, a more serious

problem that is seen fairly commonly in dogs is "dry eye".

Dry eye is caused by a reduced or total lack of tear production. Tears lubricate the movements of the eyelids and provide oxygen and nutrients to the cornea. If left untreated, the eyes gradually become more and more inflamed since they are unable to cleanse and lubricate properly with insufficient tears. This can become painful and affected dogs often rub at their face causing further inflammation, eventually resulting in loss of vision.

Early diagnosis is the golden rule. The good news is that a diagnosis of dry eye can be made with a simple test to determine tear production.



Medication, usually in the form of an ointment or drops, can improve tear production and reverse the signs of "dry eye", maintaining vision and keeping pets comfortable.

## Meal Deal - Choosing The Ideal Diet (continued from page 1)

carefully balanced adult/maintenance diets.

Older pets also benefit from specially formulated senior diets.

These have a reduced calorie content to help prevent weight gain in older age, higher fiber to prevent constipation

and changes in protein and mineral levels to reduce the workload of internal organs such as the kidney, liver and heart.



San Antonio Animal Hospital recommends Hill's Pet Nutrition and Prescription Diets.

We are happy to discuss the best option for your pet to ensure they have a healthy diet.

# Mac's Mews.....



Mac

Humans have proven themselves to be the dominant species due to our communication, critical thinking and predatory skills. However, there are other animals on the

planet that also show signs of high intellect.

Pigeons have highly developed memories. Hence, they're ability to find their way home.

Pigs are highly intelligent

and can play video



games as well as chimpanzees.

After months have passed, squirrels can find the places where they hid their food.

Rats are extremely resourceful and can almost always find an escape route.



Ants have a very complex form of communication which warns of approaching enemies.

Until next month...

*Mac*

## Nap Time

When you're searching for a pet bed there are few simple steps to take. For starters, look for a bed that offers comfort as well as style. Pet beds are going to be part of your home décor.



Pet beds are an affordable, practical item. If you find your pet sleeping in

multiple rooms of your house, then a bed should be provided wherever fluffy chooses to sleep. In the same way a human bed can improve posture and improve the quality of rest, pet beds can accomplish this for our pets.

Pet beds provide a cozy, safe place for pets to nap.



## Adoptable Pets

Lions & Tigers & Cats Oh My!!!!



Our \$50 adoption fee includes initial vaccinations, spay / neuter & microchipping.

See our kitten videos on Facebook.

[www.facebook.com/sanantonioanimalhospital](http://www.facebook.com/sanantonioanimalhospital)



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## Dr. Hooks At Work



Being in a rural community means that you'll never know what might come through our front door.

This bobcat was hit by a car in front of the Flying J.

Dr. Hooks tried her best to save it, but she ultimately succumbed to her injuries.