



fanzine

CASE OF THE MONTH LUCY SHERAR



Lucy was referred to Frisco Animal Hospital after being diagnosed with a ~50% Achilles tendon tear at VRSS in Englewood. The Achilles tendon is the large tendon that connects the calf muscle (the gastrocnemius) to the back of the ankle, just like it does in people! Having a strong Achilles tendon is very important for being able to run and play, and surgery for a torn tendon can be complicated. Dr. Daly was able to confirm the extent of the damage with a recheck ultrasound scan,

and noted that some healing had taken place since the original scan at VRSS, which was great! Instead of surgery, we ordered a custom, adjustable ankle brace from TheraPaw, and injected the tendon with Platelet Rich Plasma – made from Lucy's own blood right here in the clinic - to encourage healing and minimize scar tissue formation. The ankle brace allows us to customize how much movement occurs in the ankle joint, and helps to protect the tendon while the leg is healing. Once healing was confirmed on recheck ultrasound a few weeks later, Lucy started a program at home of therapeutic exercises to strengthen the **DRE** tendon, progressing the difficulty of the exercises as we slowly allowed more range of motion in the brace. Due to the severity of the initial tear, Lucy will likely wear a lightweight support wrap whenever she runs and hikes, but she has graduated out of her big brace, is comfortable and happy, and most importantly the tendon has healed extremely well! No surgery needed, just some special treatments, physical rehabilitation, and a dedicated owner!

RECOVERING



FUREVER REMEMBER

SUGAR ARLAUD

This world lost a beautiful soul, "Sugar" Arlaud, on November 16, 2020 after a tough battle with bone cancer.

Sugar was an independent and tenacious Alaskan Malamute that lived a spoiled, deserving life after being rescued from a hoarding dog-mill situation by her owner, Trace, years ago. She was rescued along with her sister Spice, whom joins her in Dog Heaven. It took years (yes, years!) for Sugar to trust any human around her – even Trace. Trace was diligent about socializing her and making her feel comfortable in her own skin until she became the loyal, loving companion she was up until the very end of her life. Her strong, determined spirit helped her through a lot of medical conditions, including the cancer.



Most dogs with bone cancer have an average life expectancy of 3-6 months...but not Sugar. She fought it for a full year! We know she is resting peacefully now, but we will be Furever Blessed to know this sweet girl..



FRISCO FUN FACT



Frisco Fun Fact

Featuring: Christina

When Christina isn't managing at FAH, she enjoys her side hustle of doing wedding makeup! In fact, she even did Dr. Danielle's BEAUTIFUL makeup for her wedding back in July!



HOSPITAL NEWS

We are sad to announce that Dr. Fatora will no longer be a part of FAH. We have been so thankful for the care and service he has provided over the years and we wish him the best in his future endeavors!



Happy Birthday to our lead tech, Diane!
We love working with such a passionate and knowledgeable stress-free influence!



Join us in giving Dr. Kyle German a warm welcome into the FAH family!
We are so excited to have him back on the team and he is looking forward to providing exceptional care for your fur babies!.





LOCAL SHOUTOUT

DOGSONG ANIMAL TRAINING AND BEHAVIOR, LLC

The holidays have passed at the end of a year that has been nothing less than uniquely challenging. The impacts of the pandemic coupled with longer hours of darkness are a perfect storm that can potentially amplify our negative emotions.

And did you know emotions have an odor? Ask any dog! Our dogs possess approximately 300 million olfactory receptors in their noses versus our 6 million, and the part of their brain that is devoted to analyzing smells is 40 times greater than ours.

Research suggests a multitude of benefits pet ownership brings, including a positive impact on feelings of loneliness and social exclusion. This is a significant daily gift, which is even more profound in these current times. It is a reminder of the rich and textured value of our pets who improve our physical, mental, and emotional well being. It is also a reminder that the gifts our pets provide us mandate our thoughtful reciprocation in forms that are most appreciated by their species.

Dogs are social beings. Dogs live in the moment. A creative dog may find ways of entertaining her/himself when their favorite human is otherwise occupied, but many are dependent upon the diverse activities of engagement we humans provide. Dogs' needs are best met with physical and emotional support, opportunities to socialize with humans and other dogs, as well as mental stimulation, such as training.



Our physical and emotional health benefits from time spent outdoors walking and engaging with our dogs.

That activity can lower our heart rate, arterial pressure, and systolic blood pressure. Caring for our dogs releases oxytocin- the bonding hormone that calms us and increases our trust in others. A reduction in the stress and anxiety hormone cortisol has been demonstrated when we touch our animals. Adopting an animal is a good deed that tends to make us healthier and happier. Investment of our time and resources in our pets directly benefits all recipients! Such a simple win-win! How many of us can attest to the multitude of smiles and laughter our pets bring to us daily? As we transition to 2021, let us take a moment to confer a large dose of appreciation with gratitude and respect for all our amazing pets, as well as our Summit County working dogs- avalanche, search and rescue, therapy, law-enforcement, scent detection, guide and service, and working dogs-in training, all of whom so unconditionally offer themselves while enhancing the quality and texture of our lives.