

COUNTRYSIDE'S PAWPRINT PRESS

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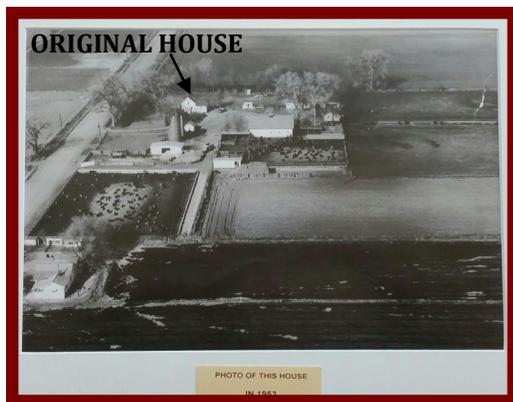
3820 S. Timberline Road, Fort Collins, CO 80525

Winter 2017

**HAPPY NEW YEAR
2017!**

Countryside's 25th Anniversary

**Join us in celebrating
our big milestone!**



**From an early 1900s country farmhouse
to a fully renovated veterinary hospital,
this 117-year old building has seen many
changes over the years.**



FOR SALE!

LOOKING WEST



WELCOME TO COUNTRYSIDE!

**Countryside Animal Hospital
is a proud part of the
Fort Collins veterinary community.**



**The groundwork is set
for hospital extensions.**



DR. SPEIGHTS RUNNING THE SHOW



CLIENT PARKING LOT



EARLY BEGINNINGS

**Check out our future
newsletters to learn more
about the history of
Countryside Animal Hospital!**

Countryside's Superstar

ARLO

Meet Arlo! This spunky 10 yr old Bichon Frise also doubles as an escape artist. Early one Sunday morning in June, one of our employees, Sharon, was woken up by her husband telling her there was a frightened little white dog in their front yard. When Sharon



approached him she could see that he did not appear to be in very good shape but allowed her to put a leash around his neck. Slowly and timidly he came into their garage. It was pretty evident he had been on his own for a while as he was very dirty and hungry. He had so many twigs and leaves stuck in his matted fur that he wasn't able to move his back legs freely.

Sharon sat with him for hours in her garage earning his trust with canned dog food and treats. She used scissors to cut away the mats that were binding his back legs together. She and her husband were then able to take him to Countryside and scan him for a microchip. Unfortunately there wasn't a microchip found nor a collar, so identifying him and finding his owners was not a readily viable option. He was given a bath and a warm place to stay for the night. On Monday morning we were able to contact Larimer Humane Society and filed a "found" dog report. During the few days that he was in our possession, Countryside decided to take care of him until either his rightful owners could be found or we would find him a new home in the event that it became necessary. If finding him a new home became the option, we wanted him to be in tip-top shape. A plan for his health care was put into action including:

- **Blood work and vaccinations**
- **Fecal and urine tests**
- **Pain medication for back pain**
- **A complete grooming for his matted fur and nails**
- **Dental cleaning**

A few days later Larimer Humane Society called and they had a match for a "lost" report that had been filed. As it turns out, his owners Colin and Jessica had been out of state on vacation when they learned Arlo had escaped from his own backyard while under the care of their pet sitter. Colin and Jessica left their vacation early to come home and be reunited with Arlo. It was a

tearful and wonderful reunion. Arlo was so happy to see them! Based on our initial examination, Arlo's owners agreed to proceed with his recommended dental cleaning a few days later. At the same time a HomeAgain microchip was placed in the event Arlo ever decided to wander again.

It had been noted that Arlo seemed rather painful in his abdomen as well. While Arlo was under anesthesia, Dr. Hoobler-Riek did a quick x-ray only to discover he had an enlarged spleen. At that point an ultrasound was going to be needed in order to proceed with further diagnostics. The next day an ultrasound was performed at Four Seasons Veterinary Specialists, which confirmed a large mass on Arlo's spleen.

He was brought back to Countryside for a Splenectomy. This surgical procedure is the removal of the spleen, which is an organ involved in the production and removal of blood cells along with forming part of the body's immune system. According to Dr. Hoobler-Riek, the mass attached to Arlo's spleen was the size of a grapefruit! After the surgery, Arlo spent that night at the Veterinary Emergency and Rehabilitation Hospital for continued care and monitoring. At his post-surgery recheck exam and suture removal at Countryside, Arlo was 2 pounds lighter and doing well!

His family couldn't be happier to have their adventuresome pup back. Since June, Arlo has "cut down on his excursions away from home," describe Colin and Jessica. He was even kind enough to show his family the hidden hole in the fence for them to patch up. Little trickster! After his Splenectomy, Arlo has been "jumping around like he's a puppy again." At home, Arlo enjoys sitting in the front window at home people watching, the freedom of his doggie door, and letting the neighbor dogs know who is boss. On occasion, Arlo will chase squirrels too if the mood strikes. Wintertime brings fun in the snow and evenings spent curled up by the fireplace for Arlo.



What an amazing journey Arlo!!

SMILE!



February Is National Pet Dental Health Month

Ready, set, BRUSH! Although caring for your furry companion's oral hygiene is a concern all year long, just like us, pets need regular dental care to feel their best and enjoy a much happier mouth. Fresh breath and pearly whites are always a bonus too!

Plaque, tartar, gingivitis, cavities and root abscesses can all cause poor dental health. Oral disease can lead to serious consequences for pets, including infection, severe pain and organ damage while putting a strain on the animal's immune system. With regular oral health maintenance at home such as brushing, dental exams and professional dental cleanings performed by a veterinarian, many of these problems can be avoided and possibly eliminate the need

for tooth extractions. There are also supplemental products such as **DuoClenz dental chews**, **Healthy Mouth water additive** and **Royal Canin Dental diet** formulated specifically to prevent tartar buildup for our pets.

Tips for brushing your pet's teeth:

***ANIMAL TOOTHPASTE ONLY!!**

A little goes a long way.

*You can use a small human toothbrush, an animal toothbrush, a finger brush or wrap a piece of gauze around your finger.

*Focus on the gumline and larger teeth.

*Even if some teeth go without a brushing, just getting animal toothpaste in their mouth helps.

***Common signs it may be time for an oral checkup with your veterinarian include:**

- Bad breath
- Red swollen gums
- Yellow-brown tartar along the gumline
- Oral bleeding
- Pain when gums and mouth are touched
- Frequent pawing at their face and mouth
- Excessive drooling

It is important to note that a painful mouth may cause a change in your pet's eating behavior or routine as well. Your pet can experience inappetence or an unwillingness to eat hard foods due to oral soreness.



Sometimes the unexpected happens too! Naturally, both dogs and cats are susceptible to tooth fractures and injuries. Teeth can be broken by chewing on a hard object or enduring blunt force trauma to the face, for example. Inflammation and infection are two common complications associated with fractured teeth.

If your pet has a fractured tooth, your veterinarian may recommend taking x-rays of your furry friend's mouth to review the full extent of the fracture and determine how to proceed. In addition to the dental care involved with fractured teeth, assessing your pet's overall oral health with a full examination is suggested in case there are other issues at hand.



BEFORE



AFTER CLEANING