

Open House Activities Are Scheduled This Weekend

Pet Owners Get The Complete Package At Total Pet Care

BY KERRI RALLS

MIRROR REPORTER

Since 1998, Total Pet Care has been offering just what its name implies – all the goods and services to keep pets happy and healthy.

“We try to be as all-inclusive as possible,” said president and general manager Dan Shook.

Located just off I-475 on Briarfield Boulevard in Maumee, Total Pet Care offers complete veterinary care, surgical care, dog daycare, boarding services and professional grooming.

Veterinarians perform surgeries, physical exams and free dental evaluations.

Registered veterinary technician and office manager Kim Heninger said the dental evaluation is the second most important thing pet owners can do for their animals.

“It’s not just about pretty teeth,” Heninger said. “Bacteria can transfer from teeth to vital organs.”

The most important part of an animal’s exam, however, is a fecal exam, Heninger said.

According to Heninger, some intestinal parasites, which are found in feces, can be transferred to humans.

She recommends getting pets checked every year to make sure they, and the family, stay healthy.

The surgical aspects include spaying, neutering, broken bone repair, declawing and many others.

Often, the vets will also check on the dogs and cats boarded at the facility.

Described by employees as “luxury boarding,” Total Pet Care’s facilities include separate 4-by-8-foot “suites” for dogs and two-level “condos” for cats, Heninger said.

“Our view is about human interaction,” Heninger said.

The facility’s philosophy is based on play with humans because of the possible dangers of canine interaction, such as kennel cough.

However, if a customer requests pet interaction, the



Leslie Mack plays with one of the puppies that will be up for adoption at Total Pet Care’s open house on Saturday, May 6 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Total Pet Care, a full-service veterinary clinic, often works with local animal rescue groups to make sure animals are healthy and help find them good homes.

staff will provide playmates, like Heninger’s five-month-old bullmastiff, Savannah.

“We treat all of the animals like our own, and a lot of times, our own are in the boarding area,” Heninger said.

The boarding facility features the suites and a stream of flowing water to calm the dogs.

Total Pet Care provides the food and bedding, and is managed by a registered vet technician who takes the animals outside at least four times per day, Heninger said.

If a pet doesn’t need boarding, but requires some daily supervision, Total Pet Care also offers dog daycare.

“Our daycare dogs are spoiled,” Heninger said.

They receive a lot of human contact and extra attention.

Daycare costs \$12.00 or less, depending on how many days are prepaid.

Heninger said it’s not uncommon for the vets to check on the animals, both boarded and in daycare.

“You can bring your pet in to be boarded (or for daycare) and can get the whole experience,” Shook said.

If a veterinarian or vet technician sees a problem, he or she will take care of it.

“On basic procedures, if an animal needs something additional done, then we’re able to do it,” Heninger said.

Any serious problem that would cost money to correct would be discussed with the pet owner first.

In addition, Total Pet Care offers professional grooming services.

Three experienced groomers work to keep animals looking pretty seven days a week.

“Going somewhere else is going to get you just a grooming,” Heninger said.

But at Total Pet Care, the groomers also check the animals for problems.

Heninger said in the past groomers have found infections or tumors.

“We do have vets, so we can examine (the animal) quickly and let the owner know there’s a problem,” Heninger said.

Often, these are things that “go unnoticed by other groomers,” said Heninger.

With this all-inclusive serv-

ice comes prices that are all-inclusive, as well. To Shook and his team, that means quoting accurate costs right from the start.

“It’s a core belief of ours that the price you were quoted is the price you will pay,” Shook said.

Costs are given upfront and no work is performed unless approved by the pet owner.

Additionally, if an animal is going to see a vet, there is no daily charge for admission.

The pet can be dropped off for the day to see the vet, or a number of appointments can be booked in one day. Pets can see the vet, get groomed and more.

Shook emphasized that Total Pet Care welcomes business on all fronts. Even if they don’t provide your vet services, they’d be happy to do grooming, boarding or daycare.

Also, they encourage pet owners to call or come in if they have a pressing question or issue with their pet.

“If anyone feels their pet needs to be seen, we will work things into the schedule at no additional charge,” Shook said.

Total Pet Care also offers 24-hour on-call emergency service for an extra fee.

As if the clinic doesn’t do enough to take care of you pet, it offers tools to take home, as well.

Puppy and dog training classes take place once a week over six weeks and are led by a registered vet technician.

The classes, which teach through a positive reinforcement method, cost \$100.

The staff at Total Pet Care encourages training classes, rather than a do-it-yourself method at home.

“(The classes teach) not only training but socialization to teach your dog to listen to you,” even when there are environmental distractions, Heninger said.

Training classes feature a new lesson each week, “more than just sit and stay,” Heninger said.

Additionally, Total Pet Care offers Best Breed dog food, which is specially formulated for different breeds.

Developed by Dr. Gary Cotton, the founder of Total Pet Care, the food, which costs about \$1.00 per pound, is an all-natural, high-quality option for pets.

Finally, pet care is doing its best to keep up with technology.

“One in three pets will escape from its owner,” Heninger said.

To help locate the lost pets, Total Pet Care offers microchipping, inserting a small microchip at the back of the dog’s neck.



Kim Heninger, a registered veterinary technician, and her bullmastiff puppy, Savannah, spend some time at Total Pet Care’s boarding facility. With a focus on human interaction, the boarding suites at the veterinary clinic can house over 100 dogs. A separate facility gives cats an opportunity to lounge and play, as well.

The microchip is tied to a number, which links pet to owner. If a lost dog is found, it can be scanned to find the owner.

Heninger said Total Pet Care scans all of its lost patients, as does the Toledo Area Humane Society.

Total Pet Care works often with the Humane Society and other local rescue groups, hosting different adoption events and performing veterinary services.

“We believe it’s important to be involved in the community,” Shook said.

To celebrate eight years in the area, Total Pet Care and other local businesses are holding an open house

on Saturday, May 6.

The event will include discounted nail trimming, heartworm testing and microchipping, as well as pet portraits and a meet and greet with veterinarian Dr. Debbie Hoffman.

Even if you don’t have a dog now, the open house can help get you one.

An adoption event sponsored by All Rovers Rescue Friends will take place from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. All puppies are spayed or neutered and have received all shots, courtesy of Total Pet Care.

For more information, visit www.total-pet-care.com or call (419) 861-4474.



Total Pet Care, located on Briarfield Boulevard in Maumee, offers one-stop shopping for pets. The clinic offers vet services, surgical care, boarding, dog daycare, grooming and training classes. To celebrate its eighth year, the clinic is holding an open house on May 6, compete with discounted services, pet portraits, veterinarian meet and greets and a puppy adoption.

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