



NEW - Petly Wellness Plans

We are very excited to announce our new Petly Pet Wellness Plans! Our plans will help your pet live longer through affordable preventative care. Petly Wellness Plans don't just treat illness, but help to prevent it by ensuring that you stay on track with key services such as vaccinations, dental hygiene and nutrition. Petly Wellness Plans also assist busy pet owners by notifying them of upcoming appointments, so you never have to worry about missing an important checkup or vaccine.

For more details on our Petly Wellness Plans, click the link below or give us a call.

<http://falmouthvet.com/wellness-plans.html>



NEW - Pharmacy Technician

As we strive to improve your experience, as well as to ensure the safety and quality of all medications prescribed, we will be designating a pharmacy technician to oversee all prescription requests as of April 1st, 2015. With this newly created service, we must ask that you plan for a 24-hour turnaround in order for us to fill all prescriptions, including flea, tick and heartworm medication effectively. Please be sure to plan ahead so your prescription is ready for pickup when you arrive.



FVH Announcements

Food orders - All orders for dog and cat diets are now being placed on Fridays. Delivery of these diets will be on Wednesday or Thursday of the following week. Please keep this in mind when calling for your pal's food, as we don't want you to run out!

New lobby coming soon - update!

With an expected start date of March 30th, we are happy to report that we will have a whole new client service area coming soon. Additional renovations are also slated for our treatment and food storage areas.

Watch for progress reports and updates on our [Facebook](#) page.



Heartworm

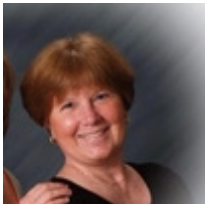
Heartworm disease is a serious and potentially fatal condition in dogs and cats that is transmitted by mosquitos. Because we tend to notice mosquitoes mostly during warmer months, we mistakenly consider heartworm only a summertime threat. Pet owners, take notice: heartworm disease can affect our pets at any time, even during winter months, which is why it is important to continue preventative treatment all year.

Veterinarians recommend an annual blood test that detects the presence of heartworms (in addition to three tickborne diseases) so that your pet can be treated, ideally, before showing any clinical signs of the disease.

Fortunately, a monthly pill or topical solution, prescribed by your veterinarian, can be given to dogs and cats to prevent heartworm disease. Falmouth Veterinary Hospital recommends Sentinel, Heartgard Plus, or Revolution for heartworm and internal parasite prevention.

Mosquitoes can live in your house for an extended period of time, and you can never be sure exactly when they will die in the cold or return in the spring. If your dog or cat is bitten by a mosquito during the spring or summer months, the heartworms will continue to grow well into the winter months; hence, the need to continue preventative treatment!

Stay one step ahead of this potential threat: protect your pets from heartworm disease by limiting exposure and by providing preventative treatment year-round, even during these chilly months.



Iris Roberts' Retirement

At the end of the day on April 3rd, Iris Roberts, our hospital manager for 20 years, will take off her work shoes and put on her retirement shoes - or skis, flip flops, sneakers, you-name-its.

Iris has been with us since 1995! She has watched our practice grow from a quiet, 3-doctor practice to the vibrant, 7-doctor veterinary hospital of today. She has been with us through all kinds of issues: growth spurts, staffing concerns, leaky roofs, building renovations, new equipment, new computer systems, digital X-ray, and so much more.

Her long hours and dedication helped us get to where we are now, and the Falmouth Vet staff will miss her dearly. We would all like to wish her the very best for her retirement.



Dr. Ahlers Retirement

After over 30 years of practicing veterinary medicine, Dr. Thomas Ahlers would like to announce his retirement from full-time practice.

Dr. Ahlers received his DVM degree from the Ohio State University in 1984. That year, he and his wife moved to Maine to raise their family. He joined Dr. Jeff Smith at Forest Avenue Veterinary Hospital, and they had a successful partnership for 24 years, until they sold the practice in 2008. He joined Falmouth Veterinary Hospital shortly thereafter.

In addition to over 30 years of experience as a veterinarian and practice owner, Dr. Ahlers was the former president of the Downeast Veterinary Society and served as the treasurer of the Maine Veterinary Medical Association (MVMA). He is also past president and a longtime board member for the Animal Emergency Clinic in Portland.

Dr. Ahlers is looking forward to more time with his three grandchildren, pets, and many hobbies, including rehabbing houses, golf, tennis, boating, fishing, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, or anything else that allows him to enjoy the Maine outdoors!

Luckily, we will still see him occasionally, as he will still be around to fill in as needed for our doctors who are away on vacation or attending continuing education events. However, we will miss seeing him every day and wish him the best!



Welcome Dr. Laurence O'Hara!

Dr. Laurence O'Hara grew up in North Wales in the United Kingdom, and he received his Bachelor's degree in Biological Anthropology in 2000 from Cambridge University, Gonville and Caius College in the UK. He then earned his Vet MB with a Special Merit in Veterinary Surgery in 2003. He started his career as an equine vet, and after several years in practice, he went to the Royal Veterinary College in London to undertake a residency in Equine Surgery. He subsequently realized that his main love was small animal practice, and he returned to exclusively small animal practice several years ago. His wife is from Millinocket, and after spending several summer vacations in Maine together, they decided that this was where they wanted to live and raise their family. He joined Falmouth Veterinary Hospital in March 2015.

Professionally, he has a particular interest in surgery, but loves all aspects of general small animal practice.

Dr. O'Hara lives in Falmouth with his wife Toni and their son Geoffrey. He is looking forward to working in the area and becoming a part of the local community. He enjoys trail running and snowshoe racing with his two dogs, Zoe and Baxter. A fun fact: Dr. O'Hara represented Great Britain in the world snowshoe racing championships in Quebec this year. We should explain that not many people run on snowshoes in the UK! When he isn't outside playing, he enjoys woodwork, cooking and playing the guitar.



Beth Bosse, technician, and her husband Peter welcomed Noah into their family in late 2014. He is a happy and active guy who spoils his parents by sleeping 6-7 hours most nights. Noah strives to befriend Ernie the cat who is enjoying him from afar.



Kristin Harmon, veterinary assistant, recently adopted Micky from the Animal Refuge League in Westbrook. This handsome fellow is very loving and is settling into his new home quite well.