Many of you are aware that one of SCAV’s major member benefits involves monitoring of legislation that affects animal welfare as well as businesses. The SCAV Office receives an average of four calls monthly with specific business related questions. For example, callers want to know about record-retention, sales tax, rabies vaccination, displaying licenses and much, much more. SCAV also offers members merchant processing discounts, advertising discounts, complimentary or reduced pricing to continuing education courses and more. In addition to SCAV, there are other professional organizations that advocate for businesses and provide valuable, money-saving benefits.

NFIB, the National Federation of Independent Businesses, represents 350,000 business owners. Benefits include daily business advice; discounts on workers’ compensation, equipment, shipping and more; information on implementing the Affordable Care Act; grading of legislators on small business issues; research on economic issues; resources for marketing your business; and a bunch more. Annual membership dues are less than $200.00. Visit www.nfib.org for more information.

The South Carolina Farm Bureau is a grassroots, non-profit organization celebrating and supporting family farmers, locally grown food, and rural lands through legislative advocacy, education, and community outreach. With more than 110,000 members that include farmers, fishermen, lawyers, restaurateurs, veterinarians, community leaders and more, the SC Farm Bureau also features many member benefits. Some of these include discounts on merchandise, transportation, insurance, and more. The SC Farm Bureau has offices in 46 counties. Visit www.scfb.org for more information.

The South Carolina Chamber of Commerce has “The United Voice of Business” as their tag line. The Chamber’s agenda lists improvements in infrastructure, workforce development, tax reform, energy and environment, health care and economic development. Allied local groups exist across the state. The Chamber offers various levels of membership and you may view these at http://www.scchamber.net/membership.aspx

These are the key business organizations with primary goals of saving members money and advocating for business interests. SCAV encourages you to visit their websites and consider becoming members of one or more of them.
ATTENTION SCAV MEMBERS:
Submit Awards Nominations

Honor colleagues and associates who have made contributions
to the profession or animal-related activities.

Awards Presentation at
SCAV’s 2014 Annual Conference at the Spartanburg Marriott, October 16–19

Nomination categories include:

VETERINARIAN OF THE YEAR
Presented to the veterinarian who has served SCAV, the community and his fellow
veterinarians in such a way as to exemplify the highest ideals of the profession.

DISTINGUISHED VETERINARIAN OF THE YEAR
Presented to one or more senior veterinarian(s) who has/have served the
veterinary profession during the years of his/her/their practice.

• TECHNICIAN OF THE YEAR
Presented to a South Carolina licensed veterinary technician who has made
outstanding contributions as a professional in the past year.

• VETERINARY CLINIC EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR
Presented to the veterinary clinic employee who has made outstanding contributions
of service as an employee of a veterinary clinic who is not licensed in SC as a veterinary
technician or as a veterinarian.

• HUMANITARIAN OF THE YEAR
presented to a veterinarian or non-veterinarian who has been responsible for
exemplary contributions to the health and welfare of animals.

Please send detailed Letters of Nomination by September 19 to
Randy Basinger, Chairman, SCAV Awards Committee
1048 Jones Road, • Irmo, South Carolina 29063 • P: 803/603/0896 • F: 803/254/3773
Or you may email them to vetsurgdoc@gmail.com

Nomination Deadline: September 19, 2014
South Carolina ranks as the fifth-best state in which to do business, according to Chief Executive magazine’s annual Best & Worst States for Business survey.

The Palmetto State, which moved up from No. 8 in 2013, drew four stars, the magazine’s top rating, for taxations and regulations, workforce quality and living environment, the annual survey of CEOs showed.

South Carolina’s development trend indicator registered a “neutral” rating. The magazine recognized that the state has managed “to boost highway infrastructure spending without penalizing business.” Last year the General Assembly approved $100 million in additional transportation spending, some of which will be leveraged in borrowing for road projects.

“South Carolina and Texas seem to be very pro-business, a good environment to start or bring a business to,” one unidentified CEO commented in the report.

Another CEO noted South Carolina’s ability to attract “very heavy foreign investment,” such as BMW and Michelin, and its “rapidly growing aerospace sector” that has drawn Boeing Co. and more than 200 other aerospace companies.

Other states in the top five are Texas, Florida, Tennessee and North Carolina. The states rated worst for business are California, New York, Illinois, Massachusetts and New Jersey.

The rankings are crucial, as CEO sentiment drives investments in offices, factories and other facilities that bring jobs to a region.

“High taxation is the chief impediment to attracting new business, and the states that rank as the best for doing business are those with lower corporate and income tax rates,” said Marshall Cooper, CEO of Chief Executive magazine and ChiefExecutive.net. “However, the holy grail comes from combining that with quality workforces and living environments. But this is not rocket science. Every state can improve if they engage with business leaders and find out what they need to create new, high-quality jobs for citizens.”

Source: Staff Report, colanews@scbiznews.com, Published May 12, 2014
Veterinary Economics
Financial Health Study

By Marie B. Queen

How’s your practice doing? Are things picking up? Will you be able to sell your practice someday? Or, maybe buy one, if you’re a younger veterinarian surveying the market opportunity? How will student loan debt factor in? Most veterinarians know how they feel about their own financial status – and their practice’s, if they own one – but how does that status compare with what our colleagues are experiencing?

Veterinary Pet Insurance® and Veterinary Economics paired with Brakke Consulting to find the answers, and to share them with the veterinary profession. The result: The VPI®-Veterinary Economics Financial Health Study.

“In recent years we’ve seen studies and articles suggesting that the Great Recession paired with the rise of ‘Dr Google’ as a source for veterinary medical advice, has made the practice of veterinary medicine more difficult,” said Dr. Carol McConnell, DVM, MBA, Chief Veterinary Officer for VPI. “We wanted to find out what the financial situation really is for veterinary practices, and veterinarians individually.”

While 88% of respondents said that they “like having the freedom to do what they want for a living,” the results as revealed in the study were mixed. Many practitioners and practices reported doing better in 2012 as compared to previous years – and as a profession, our salary compares favorably to most Americans. Nevertheless, there are clearly challenges on the horizon that the profession itself may need to change to meet to stay relevant.

A high-level executive summary of the VPI®-Veterinary Economics Financial Health Study was presented at the North America Veterinary Conference in January. Then, at the Western Veterinary Conference less than a month later, VPI presented an expanded version of the summary, along with a panel discussion of experts who offered advice on ways to move the profession forward financially. The most viable potential solution: practice ownership - as a way for our younger veterinary colleagues to pay off their student loans faster; and develop a strong position for future financial health.

McConnell said, “There is a mis-perception out there among veterinarians that student debt will prohibit practice ownership, and that’s not true. As long as a veterinarian has a strong credit history, continues to follow their student debt re-payment schedule, and buys a practice with sufficient excess earnings to service a practice loan, there are a number of lenders and practice brokers in line to help assist our next generation of prospective veterinary practice owners.”

Veterinary Economics has concurrently launched their yearlong “Leadership Challenge: An Ailing Profession” series designed to better define our financial problems and present solutions, along with highlighting the VPI®-Veterinary Economics Financial Health Study at their three CVC conferences this year.

The VPI®-Veterinary Economics
Financial Health Study

Veterinary Economics was key in attracting veterinarians to participate in a national survey of nearly 1,200 primarily companion animal practitioners, balanced to reflect the profession’s ratio of practice owners to associates. Veterinary Pet Insurance used proprietary information and ongoing industry research to develop a survey that best reveals the actual financial state of the profession.

Key findings:

- Veterinary salaries remain comfortable relative to most Americans. A third of veterinary incomes increased last year, while a fourth decreased. Mean household incomes did better. Mean personal income of veterinarians who owned practices was $110,000, while mean personal income of associate veterinarians was $84,000. By comparison, mean personal income for an American worker is $42,693 (U.S. Department of Commerce).

![Mean Personal Income](chart)

- Veterinary visits and practice revenues are improving, with large practices faring better. Some 57% of respondents reported an increase in veterinary visits, with 48% reporting an increase in profitability vs. 35% reporting flat or a decrease. More practices owned by younger veterinarians report revenues bouncing back, while those owned by older veterinarians report higher revenues overall. Veterinarians who worked in larger practices on average earn more and experience fewer income declines.

![2012 Patient Visits & Profitability](chart)

- Veterinarians feel uncertainty about their financial health and future. Less than half of veterinarians who are owners (41%), and less than a third of associates (31%), rated their personal financial condition “well” (8-10 on a 10-point scale). A fourth of owners and 30% of associates said they were doing “poor-
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ly” (0-5 on a 10-point scale). Male and older veterinarians were more likely to be doing well than female and younger veterinarians. Those not doing well had much less confidence in their ability to manage finances.

### Personal Financial Sentiment

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- Significant numbers of veterinarians provide a secondary income in their households. Veterinarians are not all primary breadwinners in their families. While 91% of male veterinarians and 71% of female veterinarians said they were the primary breadwinners or shared breadwinner responsibility, 29% of female vets and 7% of male vets said their incomes were secondary.

- Practice owners feel uncertainty about the health and future of their businesses. A third of owners said their practice was doing well. Another third said their practice was doing poorly, with the other third in the middle. While practices owned by older veterinarians tended to generate more mean revenue, those owned by younger veterinarians experienced the most improvement in 2012 vs. 2011. Practices not doing well were much more likely to have significant credit card debt, but not necessarily more debt overall.

- High debt burdens. Almost one-quarter (22%) of practice owners carried student loan debt, with an average balance of $66,110. Almost half (49%) of associate veterinarians are carrying student loan debt, with an average balance of $112,082. For some associates, debt servicing requires nearly 40% of their monthly income. Additionally, associate veterinarians were more than twice as likely to have additional student loan debt in the family (11% vs. 23%). Associate veterinarians were more likely to have other forms of debt (auto loans, credit card).

- Retirement dreams delayed. Working harder, longer. More than a quarter (27%) of practice owners said they were planning to delay retirement because of the poor financial condition of their practice. The lack of confidence in their practice’s financials was noted by 58% of practice owners who said they work more hours than they would like because the practice needed the revenue. Among practice owners, 69% said they would like to work less but they needed the income. Only a third of owners reported that they believe the sale of their practice will provide them with a comfortable retirement income.

“While none of us enjoy being the bearer of this news, the results didn’t come as a surprise to many industry-watchers, or indeed to many veterinarians,” said Dr. McConnell. “But veterinarians are smart, ambitious and resourceful. When you show them the data, they’ll find a way to move forward. We felt it was time to help start the conversation, and we aim to be part of the solutions we find together.”

The expanded summary (PDF) is available for download at Dr. McConnell’s website for the veterinary community, VPIvetchannel.com.

## June is Adopt A Cat Month

Help get more cats into more homes where they will receive better care! This year, CAtalyst Council is Partnering with the American Veterinary Medical Association, the American Humane Association, and Petfinder.com to make this Adopt A Cat Month the most successful one ever!

The AVMA has a couple of podcasts available on “The Joys of Owning a Cat” and “How to Choose the Purrfect Feline Friend.” These public service announcement is available in both English and Spanish. Visit www.avma.org and enter Adopt a Cat in the search box to hear these podcasts titles.

### Incorporating a Cat Friendly Practice

The Cat Friendly Practice (CFP) program, developed by the American Association of Feline Practitioners, contains the tools for practices to integrate a feline perspective and embrace the standards needed to elevate care for cats.

The Cat Friendly Practice program seeks to transform and elevate the delivery of feline veterinary care by:

- Laying the groundwork for the delivery of care to the underserved feline population.
- Identifying trends and baseline species information essential for understanding cats.
- Acknowledging the essential role of the cat owner in the veterinary visit.
- Providing support to veterinarians and their teams to create a cat friendly practice environment.
- Outlining strategies for introducing changes in the delivery
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Antimicrobial Resistance Learning Site

Recognizing that a large proportion of antimicrobials are used for food animal production, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) funded the development of the Antimicrobial Resistance Learning Site (AMRLS), which is a suite of educational materials aimed at teaching and promoting the prudent use of antimicrobial agents in veterinary practice. Contributors include Michigan State University, the University of Minnesota, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Below is an overview information from the website www.amrls.cvm.msu.edu. This website also includes modules on pharmacology, microbiology, veterinary public health, and species-specific case studies.

Since their introduction, antimicrobials have revolutionized man’s approach to treatment, control and prevention of human and animal infectious diseases. The modern antibiotic era markedly improved survival rates and longevity as catastrophic disease outbreaks were controlled and previously fatal infections became clinically manageable. Overall, these changes greatly improved the quality of human life and animal welfare.

However, the emergence and spread of antimicrobial resistance has become as a major problem. This global phenomenon has raised the alarming possibility of subsequent generations returning to the pre-antibiotic era when common infections were often fatal due to the lack of effective treatments. Medical history and research has shown that the prevalence of resistant bacteria and resistant genes increase in response to the selective pressure created by the use of antibiotics. Evidence is mounting that much of the problem is rooted in the inappropriate and excessive use of antimicrobials, and that one of the most effective counter measures is to practice prudent and judicious antimicrobial usage. To achieve this societal change, we must empower health care professionals with the resources and information they need to facilitate sound decisions pertaining to antimicrobial usage.

The worldwide animal industry is estimated to use more tons of antibiotics than does human medicine. For the growing antimicrobial resistance problem to be effectively contained or reversed, responsible antimicrobial use in the human medical community must be accompanied by a corresponding effort among veterinarians and others in the food animal and companion animal industries. Veterinarians should be leaders in the appropriate use of antimicrobial agents for their patients, and should also understand how the use of antimicrobial agents in animals may affect the health of humans. Veterinarians should also advise their clients regarding the appropriate use of antimicrobial agents purchased over the counter, and should engage in educational activities that acknowledge themselves as the health professionals that are best able to regulate and control the public’s access to antibiotics used for animals. This website examines the emerging problem of antimicrobial resistance in animals and humans, and is intended for use in veterinary courses in microbiology, pharmacology, infectious disease, public health and species-specific veterinary medicine.

Backyard Chickens 101: A Quick Guide for Small Animal Veterinarians

Backyard poultry are increasing in suburban and even urban areas. The animals are often obtained as sources of fresh eggs, but many become pets after their egg production has ended. In addition, many of these animals are treated more as pets than as production animals even during their production cycle, and the owners and their families may become very bonded to them.

Companion animal practitioners may be requested to provide veterinary care for backyard chickens or livestock. This can present challenges for some companion animal veterinarians who might receive calls or walk-ins involving these kinds of animals, especially for those who have rarely worked with such species or have not dealt with them since veterinary school. These animals present unique challenges because they may be treated as pets by their owners but remain food animals in the eyes of the state and federal laws and regulations.

Here are the top 5 things that can help when small-animal veterinarians receive unexpected calls from clients about pet chickens (AVMA members only).

- Consult or refer. Create and keep a list of local veterinarians who regularly treat birds, as well as any nearby veterinary facilities or teaching hospitals with poultry specialists.
- Know the legalities regarding treatment options. If you choose to treat a backyard chicken, be aware that there are very few drugs approved for use in chickens (chickens kept exclusively as pets included), and you must not cause food safety problems with the eggs or meat, or run afoul of FDA’s rules.
- Seek advice. Use other expert resources to guide you, such as extension veterinarians and diagnostic labs, if you choose to start treating backyard chickens.
- Educate yourself. Learn more about avian/poultry medicine by reading poultry texts and manuscripts and attend relevant continuing education sessions if you want to start treating pet chickens.
- Consider your credentials and coverage. In order to perform some duties, you may need additional credentials, such as Category II USDA accreditation or liability insurance.

The Southeast Veterinary Conference scheduled June 22-25 at the Myrtle Beach Marriott will include two presenters who will address backyard poultry. Marcy J. Souza, DVM, MPH, DABVP (Avian), DACVP, will discuss “Backyard Poultry: What to do when they become pets: and Zoonotic diseases and practical biosecurity on Monday, June 23. Lauren Powers, DVM, DABVP will also present on backyard poultry on Wednesday, June 25. For more information about the SEVC, visit www.scav.org

The AVMA would like to thank Kayleigh Bull, University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine Class of 2015, for her contributions to this document.
Dear SCAV Member,

We listened to our members who are tired of credit card processing companies constantly calling and promising great deals only to fall far short of promised expectations and rates.

Many of you have recently been contacted by Total Merchant Services, (TMS) a credit card processor, on behalf of the SCAV. For those members that have responded, thank you. We are happy that you are well pleased with the rates, exceptional customer service and level of professionalism. For those that have yet to respond, we encourage you to please take a moment to consider what our Industry Partner has to offer your practice.

The Board of Directors of the South Carolina Association of Veterinarians selected Total Merchant Services from a number of credit card processors to become the “Preferred Provider” for our Association. The companies were examined carefully and the decision was based on a number of key elements including reputation and level of benefits. TMS has responded by making a further commitment to become an Industry Partner and supporting our Conferences. They also continue to provide the SCAV with additional support, which further enables us to provide programs benefiting all the members and furthering the science.

However, our Industry partner needs your support in order to continue to provide the SCAV members with these exceptional savings.

We are excited to have Total Merchant Services as the SCAV Preferred Provider. They will be exhibiting at the upcoming Southeast Veterinary Conference June 22-25th, 2014 in addition to our Fall Conference in Spartanburg. They are also one of SCAV’s Industry Partners.

The Preferred Provider Program offered to our members through Total Merchant Services is worthy of consideration. No other credit card processor offers this level of benefits. Here are just a few.

Through our SCAV Preferred Pricing, TMS will guarantee you the lowest rate, period.
TMS does not require any type of monthly, annual or multi-year contract.
TMS will reimburse your SCAV dues for up to 2 Veterinarians ( $420.00 value*) This is an annual benefit paid year over year throughout the life of your practice partnership with TMS.
There is no cost for the equipment ($795.00 value). You are not required to rent or purchase the equipment. The equipment is high speed, secure and smart card ready!
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Your South Carolina representatives are Michael Bumgardner (843.607.6515), mike at tmsnc.com, and Don Bobo (919.349.3600), sbobo@tmsnc.com. Together, they have over 40 years experience in the medical industry. Have your office manager contact them for a complimentary cost analysis today!

Sincerely,

Marie Queen
SCAV Executive Director

*Based on volume
Questions and Answers Regarding Jerky Pet Treats

What is the issue?

FDA continues to investigate ongoing illnesses, predominantly in dogs whose owners report exposure to jerky pet treats from China. Since 2007, FDA has become aware of an increasing number of illnesses in pets associated with the consumption of jerky pet treats. As of May 1, 2014, FDA has received approximately 4,800 reports of pet illnesses which may be related to consumption of the jerky treats (These include 1800 complaints received since FDA’s last update in October 2013). Most of the reports involve jerky products sourced from China. The majority of the complaints involve dogs, but cats also have been affected. The reports involve more than 5,600 dogs, 24 cats, three people and include more than 1,000 canine deaths. There does not appear to be a geographic pattern to the case reports.

FDA has received adverse event reports for many sizes and ages of dogs, and for multiple breeds. About 60 percent of the reports are for gastrointestinal illness (with or without elevated liver enzymes) and about 30 percent relate to kidney or urinary signs. The remaining 10 percent of cases involve a variety of other signs, including convulsions, tremors, hives, and skin irritation.

FDA continues to investigate these illnesses in conjunction with Vet-LIRN laboratories and State partners. FDA has also worked with colleagues in academia and industry, and met with the Chinese regulatory agency responsible for pet food to ensure that they are aware of U.S. requirements for pet food safety and to develop collaboration on sharing information to support FDA’s investigation.

FDA has also hosted Chinese scientists at our veterinary research facility to further our scientific cooperation.

Can you characterize the approximately 1,800 complaints received since the Oct. 22, 2013 update?

It is typical for FDA to receive a sharp increase in reports immediately after releasing an update. The October 2013 was our most comprehensive update yet, and included a novel approach: reaching out directly to veterinarians through the American Veterinary Medical Association. We intentionally designed this outreach in order to receive information about new or ongoing cases currently under veterinary care.

About 25 percent of the reports were what we refer to as “historic” cases: illnesses that occurred several months or even years previously. The remaining cases were more recent, but may or may not have received veterinary attention.

What is the goal of FDA’s joint study with CDC?

Because the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is involved with public health issues that affect both human and animal health, FDA requested their expertise in collaborating on a study comparing cases of sick dogs with “controls” (dogs who have not been ill). The goal of the study is to compare the foods eaten by the sick dogs (cases) to those eaten by the dogs that did not get sick (controls), in order to determine whether sick dogs are eating more jerky pet treats than in healthy dogs are.

Investigators first identified about 100 cases of kidney illnesses in dogs reported to FDA since July 1, 2013, regardless of jerky pet treat exposure. The cases included dogs diagnosed with Fanconi or Fanconi-like illness, or dogs that were 5 years of age or younger and...
had kidney failure. Cases were selected solely on this case definition and not on what food they consumed. Investigators then identified approximately three control (not ill) dogs within a 100-mile radius of each case by “cold-calling.” It took more than 12,000 phone calls to identify less than 300 controls. We interviewed the owners of both the case and control dogs using a detailed questionnaire that included in-depth questions about the types of foods the dogs ate, as well as other factors that could lead to renal disease.

The data collected during this investigation will allow federal investigators to better understand what is making pets sick. The study is still ongoing, and we will share results when they are completed, hopefully before the end of 2014.

#AskFallon Video Featuring “Most Interesting Man in the World” Actor Challenges Tonight Show Host to Fight Pet Cancer

Dog lover Jonathan Goldsmith, the actor who portrays “The Most Interesting Man in the World,” has a challenge for fellow dog lover and Tonight Show host Jimmy Fallon. Goldsmith is helping Morris Animal Foundation to #AskFallon to participate in the Foundation’s upcoming Unite to Fight Virtual Pet Cancer Walk.

The Unite to Fight Virtual Pet Cancer Walk is a virtual fundraising campaign in which pet owners from around the world pledge to take their pets for a walk on June 22, 2014. Goldsmith has joined the fight and is asking Fallon (#AskFallon) and all pet lovers to join him in this effort to support pet cancer research funded by Morris Animal Foundation.

Cancer touches many of us, and it takes the lives of more dogs and cats than any other disease. Morris Animal Foundation, a nonprofit organization that invests in science that advances veterinary medicine for animals, has been funding pet cancer research since 1962. There is still more work to be done, which is why the Foundation launched its Unite to Fight Pet Cancer Campaign.

“Morris Animal Foundation is working with the best veterinary scientists in the world to help us better understand pet cancer,” said David Haworth, DVM, PhD, president/CEO of Morris Animal Foundation. “The #AskFallon challenge via social media will help our Foundation reach many pet owners who are not quite familiar with the work we are doing to make the world a better place for their pets.”

Anyone can participate in the Unite to Fight Virtual Pet Cancer Walk! Register today and take a stand against pet cancer with the iconic actor who plays the Most Interesting Man in the World, Jonathan Goldsmith. With any luck perhaps the funniest dog lover in the world will join us, too! Help us recruit Jimmy Fallon by tweeting him yourself @jimmyFallon with the hashtag #AskFallon.

About Morris Animal Foundation:

Morris Animal Foundation is a nonprofit organization that invests in science that advances veterinary medicine for companion animals, horses and wildlife. It is a global leader in animal health science, and its funding helps more species in more places than that of any other organization in the world. Since its founding in 1948, Morris Animal Foundation has invested more than $70 million toward 2,000+ studies that have led to significant breakthroughs in diagnostics, treatments, preventions and cures for animals. Learn more at http://www.MorrisAnimalFoundation.org

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The Veterinarian Update, Late Spring 2014
Don’t leave pets unattended in parked cars. As reported by AVMA writer Michael San Filippo, there is no excuse to leave your dog to die in an unattended vehicle. And yet, every year, you hear the same story: Dogs left unattended in a car or truck, suffering in the rising temperatures, becoming sick and sometimes dying as a result. Earlier in June in Phoenix, a dog died after being left alone in a vehicle for over an hour while its owner went shopping. The temperature outside was 110 degrees. But it doesn’t have to be sweltering outside to make it dangerous to leave dogs inside a vehicle. The temperature inside a vehicle can rise almost 20 degrees in just 10 minutes. In 20 minutes, it can rise almost 30 degrees, and the longer you wait, the higher it goes. At 60 minutes, the temperature in a vehicle can be more than 40 degrees higher than the outside temperature. Even on a 70-degree day, that’s 110 degrees inside the vehicle. Even on a day that doesn’t seem hot to you, a vehicle can quickly reach a temperature that puts pets at risk of serious illness and even death. Cracking the windows makes no difference.

Be prepared when traveling with pets. Tell your clients they’ll need a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (also called a health certificate) when traveling across state lines. Educate your clients about properly restraining pets with an appropriately-fitted harness or in a carrier of the appropriate size. “Appropriate size” means that they can lay down, stand up and turn around, but it’s not so big that they will be thrown around inside the carrier in case of a sudden stop or a collision. No heads or bodies hanging out the windows, please, and certainly no pets in laps!

Air travel with pets is safest when pets travel in the passenger cabin. Clients should check with air carriers because some do not allow pets to fly in the passenger cabin. In July 2010, the U.S. Department of Transportation released statistics that showed short-nosed breeds of dogs—such as pugs, Boston Terriers, boxers, some mastiffs, Pekingese, Lhasa Apssos, Shih tzus and bulldogs—are more likely to die on airplanes than dogs with normal-length muzzles. In fact, over the last 5 years, approximately one-half of the 122 dog deaths associated with airline flights involved these short-faced breeds. 25 of the 122 dogs that died over the 5-year period were English bulldogs, followed by 11 pugs, the only other breed in double digits.

Running with canines during the summer may be hazardous. Inform your clients about the hazards of running with their “best friend” during the summer time, mid-day heat. Short-haired dogs fair better at summer time running than long haired ones. Like humans, dogs that run on grass or dirt trails incur less injury to their joints and pads than those who run on gravel or concrete. Frequent water stops are also recommended for both.
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**Important Dates for 2014**

**June 22–25**
Southeast Veterinary Conference in Myrtle Beach at the Marriott Grande Dunes

**October 16–19**
SCAV Annual Conference at the Spartanburg Marriott

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**SCAV Schedules its Annual Conference at the Spartanburg Marriott**

The 2014 SCAV Annual Conference is scheduled October 16-19 at the Marriott in downtown Spartanburg; Schedule of trainings and events will be posted to the website in July.

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**Classified Ads**

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**Sold! Charleston Tri-County Area** – Congratulations to Drs. Glen and Susan Haynes on the sale of their practice Westbury Veterinary Clinic to Dr. Pamela Willis-Austin. (SC16G)

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