Healthy Holiday Gifts for Pets

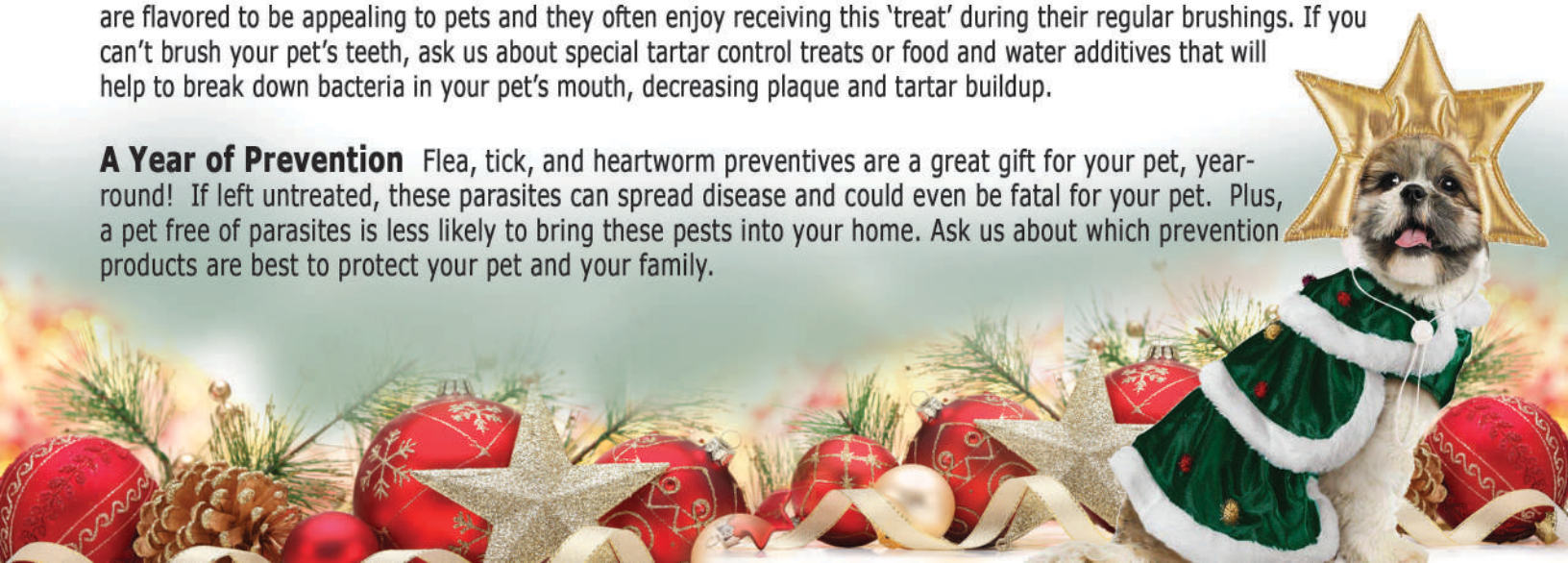
This holiday season no one should be left out, including our faithful companions. Avoid the usual gourmet treats and elegant collars and pamper your pet with these fresh, healthy gift ideas.

Pet Insurance Being prepared for a health emergency is a great gift for you and your pet. Whether you opt to purchase pet health insurance, or just put away a little extra each month, this gift is a great way to help defray the costs associated with unexpected veterinary medical procedures.

Exercise Perhaps the greatest gift we can give our pets is time spent together. An extra few minutes of playing fetch or chasing the laser pointer are simple, inexpensive ways to bond with your pet while keeping them fit and trim. In addition, many interactive toys can now be purchased for dogs and cats. These toys not only stimulate your pet intellectually, but help to keep them entertained and ward off boredom.

Microchip If your pet isn't already microchipped, this is an excellent gift for the holidays. Microchips are inexpensive and can be quickly implanted at our veterinary office during a routine visit. This gift opportunity is a simple way to put your mind at ease and ensure that you and your pet will be reunited if they are lost. If your pet is already microchipped, please make sure your contact information is up-to-date.

Disaster Preparedness Kit An emergency kit is something no one wants to think about, especially during the holidays. But, having a disaster plan that includes our pets, is a wonderful gift for you and your pet. These basic kits often include food and water for at least 5 days, pet food and water dishes, medications and your pet's medical records, cat litterbox and cat litter, pet carriers and leashes, and blankets or beds. Store your kit in the same location as the kit for your family and make sure everyone in the household knows where it is. Also, consider adding a rescue alert sticker to your home to let people know that there are pets inside.

Healthy Teeth and Gums Keeping your pet's teeth and gums healthy will provide a lifetime of health and happiness for your pet. Overtime, poor dental hygiene can cause damage to your pet's heart, lungs, liver, kidneys, and compromises nearly every aspect of his or her health. If possible, begin a dental regimen with your pet at a young age. Animal specific toothpastes are flavored to be appealing to pets and they often enjoy receiving this 'treat' during their regular brushings. If you can't brush your pet's teeth, ask us about special tartar control treats or food and water additives that will help to break down bacteria in your pet's mouth, decreasing plaque and tartar buildup.

A Year of Prevention Flea, tick, and heartworm preventives are a great gift for your pet, year-round! If left untreated, these parasites can spread disease and could even be fatal for your pet. Plus, a pet free of parasites is less likely to bring these pests into your home. Ask us about which prevention products are best to protect your pet and your family.