

Newfie News



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Helping Newfs and Their Owners During Times of Illness

It is devastating news when pet parents learn their beloved Newf has a serious illness or needs major surgery. And the emotional heartbreak is exacerbated if paying for treatment is a financial burden.

The Newfoundland Club of America (NCA) Charitable Trust Barrister Fund Grant Program may be able to help. The program is available to assist limited income or financially stressed Newfie owners facing critical care veterinary treatment to prevent premature euthanasia or surrender to rescue, and to relieve the emotional strain on the owner. Grants for veterinary treatment - up to \$1,500.00 - are available.

YOUR GIFT
THEIR FUTURE



Continued on page 5

A Healthy Newfoundland from the Inside Out

Just like humans, a dog's nutrition is the cornerstone to their health. Affecting everything from fur to organs, good nutrition can help them generally feel better. Your Newf's appearance, attitude, and behavior are all keys to what's happening on the inside, and observation can help take the guessing game out of your dog's health.

Laurie Emerson of Graham, WA is a certified pet nutrition coach. Laurie has a degree in Animal Science from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo and has worked in the veterinary field and research for about 10 years. "I've always been interested in the chemistry of things, including dog food," she said.

There are many signs of a lack of good nutrition in your dog. Laurie pointed to what she considered the top 3. "Coat is number one," she said. "You can tell by looking at a dog's coat if it's healthy." The coat should be shiny and soft. There should not be a lot of shedding or breaking hair (fur). Skin is the second sign of good nutrition. "It should not be dry, flaky or itchy. Of course, allergies can be a contributing factor to skin condition as well as nutrition," Laurie said. Thirdly, Laurie looks at the eyes. "They should be bright and the dog should be happy and energetic."

Continued on page 4

What's Inside

Who's at TNP? Available
Dogs Update **Page 2**

Upcoming Events
Page 2

Expert Excerpts
Page 2

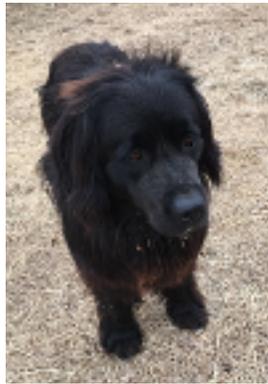
TNP Alumni
Page 3

Who's at TNP?

Zelma and Wally

Zelma and Wally are seeking a home where they can both enjoy long walks, lots of cookies and cuddles. And Zelma would appreciate lots of swim time.

Owners who are savvy about Wally's SAS (a heart condition) would be a benefit, even though he is asymptomatic. Otherwise, both dogs are healthy.



Zelma



Wally

The ideal home will have traditional fencing, minimal stairs, and no other pets; however, an older dog (9 and up) would probably be okay.

Upcoming Events

June Open House Canceled

The TNP Open House for June 7 has been canceled. The safety of guests and TNP staff remains top of mind during this national health crisis. Open Houses will resume when it is safe to do so.

Check the [TNP website](#) and Facebook page for the most recent announcements regarding the Open House schedule.

Home Checks and Adoptions Temporarily Suspended

That Newfoundland Place has suspended home checks, which are needed to get homes approved and ready for a new family member. TNP has had many requests for home checks and will keep everyone advised as to when they will resume. Adoptions are also temporarily suspended until restrictions from COVID-19 are lifted.

Be sure to check the TNP Facebook page for more information.

Expert Excerpts

*With Dr. Lauren Flanagan of
Pepperell (MA) Veterinary Hospital*

Ears are one of the features on dogs that make them distinctive and add to their personality. The floppy ears of a Newf add to the unmistakable profile of their massive head. But like other dog breeds that have ear flaps that hang downward, Newfoundlands are more likely to experience problems and infections with their ears.

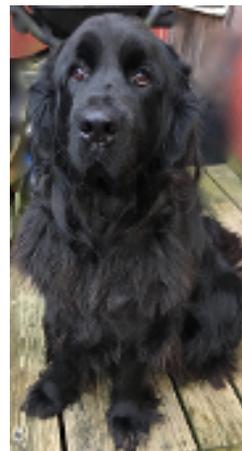
Wax build-up is common for Newfs and can easily be seen as it is black or brown. For routine ear cleaning maintenance, in dogs with healthy ears, I usually recommend once every two weeks using a cotton ball soaked with a balanced ear cleaner and wiping around the external ear canal and only as deep into the canal as your finger can reach.

You will not injure your dog's eardrum if you use this method. Never insert anything further into the ear canal unless you are directed to do so. I also recommend using a drying agent for ears after baths or swimming as a preventative measure.

If your Newf does get an ear infection, determining the cause can be tricky, thus the treatment plan can also take some time. Next month we will take a closer look at ear infection and maintenance.

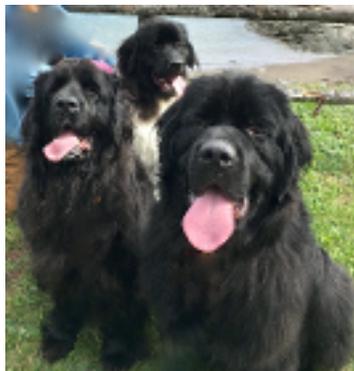
TNP Alumni

Gary and Melanie Keiser have a house full of love in Newfane, Vermont. The couple adopted Pema (formerly Piper) just over four years ago, in April 2016, from TNP. At just over a year old, she was their fourth Newfoundland, but their first rescue. "After our last Newfie died, we decided we wanted to do rescue," Gary said. They did some research and found the TNP website.



Pema

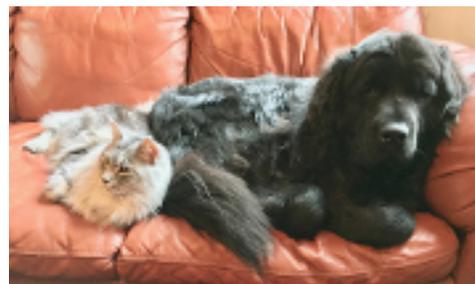
Rescue was a new challenge, not having known the dog's complete background. But the Keiser's were undeterred. "Pema took a little extra time to adjust," Melanie said. "She was skittish, went to the bathroom on the floor and was afraid of grass and water. And her leg was weak and toed out causing her to stumble likely because she had been tightly kenneled before being rescued by That Newfoundland Place. We had to be careful with her until she was about 18 months old." Their patience paid off and Pema has become "an absolute sweetheart," Gary said. "She's beautiful. She has a perfect show dog shape and is very smart," Melanie added.



l to r: Pema, Daisy, Oakley

The Keiser's turned to TNP again in the fall of 2018. While in California visiting their children, Gary noticed that siblings Daisy (then Paisley) and Oakley had been available for a while on the website and texted Cathy about availability. Cathy asked if they would be interested in taking both and Gary agreed to visit TNP in a couple weeks when they returned to meet Daisy and Oakley. "We got in to Logan [airport] and then Brattleboro [VT]. We got home and I literally jumped in the car with Pema to drive to TNP," Gary said. A short time later, Gary was driving back to Vermont with Pema and 8-month-olds Daisy and Oakley in tow.

Pema has become a nana with the other dogs. If there is too much roughhousing, she will bark to put them in their place. A vocal Newf, Pema was described as "bossy" by TNP staff. Gary now understands why. They also share the house with two cats – calico Tata and coon Frannie, who has just started to re-gain control over the couch from Daisy and Oakley.



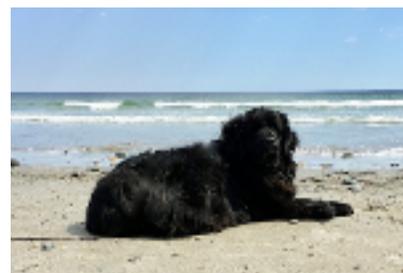
Frannie and Pema

The dogs have all enjoyed more freedom, and Gary and Melanie have had a break from 3-4 walks on leashes a day with 3 giant dogs, since a fence was installed on the large property in early April. A stream runs through the yard that all the dogs enjoy and the siblings especially love running around the open space. The family also often goes to the ocean, another favorite spot for the Newfs. Daisy and Oakley jump right in, but Pema is happy to just wade around and is especially fond of hikes.



Oakley and Daisy

Three Newfs may be extra work, but Gary said, "it's been a fantastic experience all around. We've gotten the best end of the deal."



Pema

A Healthy Newfoundland from the Inside Out Continued from page 1

There is much debate in the dog world as to the ideal diet for dogs, but in general, they all need protein and fat in their diet. "The level depends on the life stage and activity of the dog," Laurie said. "Nutrition depends more on the level of activity than the type of dog. Dogs that are active all day versus dogs at home on the floor will need more protein and energy in their diet."

When selecting a dog food, Laurie recommends considering age and size of the breed. Newfs, with more muscles and denser bodies, will need different nutrients than a toy breed. But the ingredient label may be a bit tougher to decipher than what's actually in the bag or can. "The ingredient label on dog food is listed by weight, heaviest first. Any ingredient that has a high-water content will be listed first, meat, for example," Laurie said. It does not necessarily mean that the first ingredient is the most prominent in the food or an indicator of quality. Laurie recommends this tip when reading labels: "Look for ingredients that shouldn't be there like additives and chemicals."



Photo credit vmabney/Flickr



If pet parents decide to change foods, the switch should be gradual, over the course of about a week. "Dogs can have digestive issues with a sudden change," Laurie said. "And it may take about a month to see any changes, depending on the level of nutritional deficiency in the dog. Sometimes the change is subtle and you don't see it right away. Watch for upset stomach, loss of appetite or increased scratching as those signs could indicate a reaction to the new food."

Laurie said that less than 10% of dogs have a true allergy to food, which is almost always from a protein. An obvious sign of allergy would be vomiting. Dry, flaky skin is usually the result of a sensitivity to an ingredient but of course we don't want our Newfs to suffer with itchiness, so food sensitivity may also be a reason to change foods.

Nutrition is a lifelong investment in your dog. "Lack of essential nutrients over time can cause all kinds of issues," Laurie said, including loss of bone density due to mineral deficiencies and lack of amino acids, needed for building strong muscles in the heart, liver and other muscles. Other ailments related to diet include diabetes, crystals in the urine, and some heart conditions.

Of course, consult your veterinarian if you see any changes in your Newf's appearance or behavior, but be sure to discuss nutrition as a possible contributing factor. Good nutritional health can help your gentle giant lead a longer, healthier life.



Photo Credit Pet Care Rx

For more tips on a healthy dog, check out Laurie's fact sheet "10 Signs of a Healthy Pet": <file:///C:/Users/Owner/Downloads/10%20Signs%20Your%20Pet%20is%20Healthy.pdf>

Grant Criteria:

- The Newfoundland is owned, has been cared for and has not been neglected based on current veterinary evaluation of overall condition.
- The disease or condition being treated is not terminal and the Newfoundland has a reasonable chance for a full recovery or pain-free maintenance.
- Money is used toward diagnosis, prognosis, proposed treatment, and predicted lifespan of the Newfoundland.
- Full report and documentation submitted to NCA Trust after treatment.



The Program can also help with a secondary veterinary opinion. The NCA Charitable Trust can provide veterinary referrals and resources for a second opinion using Rescue, regional club members, volunteer NCA veterinarians via email or phone. Grants for secondary veterinary opinion - to confirm diagnosis and prognosis – are available up to \$250.00

For more information on requesting a grant, contact info@ncacharities.org or Cathy at TNP.

The (NCA) Charitable Trust Barrister Fund Grant Program has been working towards a safe and healthy future for every Newfoundland since 2003. The Charitable trust, established in 1983, is also devoted to Newfoundland rescue groups (like TNP) and research to improve the health of Newfoundlands and preserve and protect the breed.

“The NCA Charitable Trust puts the resources of devoted Newfoundland fanciers right where they can do the most good, rescuing Newfoundlands in need, supporting research for healthier Newfoundlands now and in the future, and sponsoring scholarships for young breed fanciers who will one day be the guardians of our gentle giants. As part of the only organization in the United States devoted solely to the well-being of these magnificent dogs, the Newfoundland Club of America fully supports the work of the Charitable Trust, and hopes that every NCA member and Newfoundland owner will do the same,” said Roger Frey, president, Newfoundland Club of America, on the NCA Charitable Trust website.

Grants are based on available funds. **The NCA Charitable Trust is funded solely through the donations of dedicated Newfoundland enthusiasts.** There are a number of ways to give. Visit: <https://www.ncacharities.org/givingcenter.html> for more information.

Source: <https://www.ncacharities.org/index.html>

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That Newfoundland Place Inc. is a nonprofit corporation organized and operated exclusively for charitable purposes. Specifically, this organization has been formed to prevent cruelty to animals. Our mission is to offer quality of life to senior dogs of various breeds, to assist in rescue, rehabilitation, and re-homing of dogs in need, with a focus on Newfoundland dogs, and to provide humane education as related to care and life quality. of animals. Cathy Derench, President