



(Bev Cornell, a retired veterinary technician and wildlife rehabilitator, and her trusty dog, Bristol, will answer pet questions. Write to Bev & Bristol in care of: The Farmington Observer, 33411 Grand River, Farmington, MI 48335.)

I wish to buy a Golden Retriever puppy this summer. I have heard that young Golden Retrievers can have kidney disease, true?

An in-depth study reviewed the clinical findings on 12 Golden Retrievers diagnosed with juvenile renal disease. Six presented at less than one year of age, and the remainder were less than 3. The average age of all dogs at presentation was 12 1/2 months.

Unfortunately, too few dogs were studied for researchers to conclude whether males or females are affected more often.

Classic signs of advanced renal failure were observed including vomiting, anorexia, weight loss, increased urination and thirst. Lab tests revealed dilute urine, elevated kidney enzymes and blood phosphate levels and anemia without evidence of regeneration finding consistent with advanced kidney failure.

Kidney biopsies revealed a disorder called renal dysplasia where on a microscopic level the kidneys don't develop normally during gestation and therefore cannot function in

growing and adult dogs. Two dogs had evidence of concurrent urinary infections, perhaps explained by the theory that dysplastic kidneys are more susceptible to infection.

In this group, juvenile renal dysplasia progressed to advance kidney failure at a young age.

The median age at death (natural or by euthanasia) was 18 1/2 months. The oldest dog didn't survive past four years.

Familial renal disease has been reported in many breeds. The severity of the disease age at presentation and which microscopic defect is responsible varies. (Journal of the American Veterinary Medicine Association, Aug. 15, 1996).

Please don't buy a Golden Retriever because of this answer. I know many Golden Retrievers and they have not had kidney disease. Because you are aware of this potential, you can be selective on the breeder you buy your puppy from. A good breeder will be honest with you when you ask the question about the possibility of kidney disease in the breeder pups. Don't be afraid to ask lots of questions. Golden Retrievers make wonderful pets.

Come meet Bev Cornell and her friendly dog, Bristol, at the 12 Mile Road branch of the Farmington Public Library on Tuesday, June 24, at 2 p.m.

Lockup nets profits for society

Hundreds of unsuspecting folks got a surprise last month. Uniformed officers showed up to cart them off to jail.

They weren't caught on the wrong side of the law, rather it was all part of the American Cancer Society's Great American Lockup.

The "prisoners" raised bail money to benefit the work of the society. And more than \$750,000 was raised.

The Great American Lock Up raises funds to provide programs

and services to local cancer patients and their families as well as nationwide research to find a cure.

Last year the society spent nearly \$95 million on research and has funded 28 Nobel prize winners to date.

Society research has been responsible for the Pap Smear, Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI), Mammography, the Prostate Specific Antigen and Ultrasound Imaging.

CENTENARIAN

Annabelle Binn Hubrecht of Farmington Hills celebrates her 100th birthday on May 6. She is a resident of Detroit Baptist Manor.

Mrs. Hubrecht was born in 1897 on a farm near Niles, Michigan. She graduated from Grand Haven High School in 1916, obtained a teaching certificate, and taught grades one through eight for three years in a one room country schoolhouse.

Her first car, which she purchased at age 21 together with her father, was a Ford Model T. In 1923, she married Herbert Hubrecht. In 1925, the couple moved to Detroit. Their only child, Herbert, was born in 1926. Her husband died in 1986, and Annabelle moved to Grand Rapids.

daughter-in-law, Betty, Annabelle has four grandchildren: Beth Zubak, Gail Brouwer, Robert and Lynn Ann Hubrecht. She also has two great-grandchildren, Benjamin and Olivia Brouwer.

In addition to her son and

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Two queens meet



Two misses: Annette Hohl, Miss Farmington/Hills met the reigning Miss America Tara Holland recently in East Lansing. Holland was there to promote her platform of fighting illiteracy. State Rep. Andrew Raczowski arranged for the two women to meet.

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