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03/18/2009	Vet Ophthalmologists to Examine Service Dogs for Free	Veterinary Practice News	<p>Vet Ophthalmologists to Examine Service Dogs for Free Posted: Wednesday, March 18, 2009, 2:14 p.m., EDT</p> <p>Paul Gerding, Jr., DVM, Dipl. ACVO, of Eye Care for Animals in St. Charles, IL examines K-9 Hawk during last year's ACVO National Service Dog Eye Exam Day. More than 150 board-certified veterinary ophthalmologists are scheduled to provide free eye exams to service dogs as part of the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists' Second National Service Dog Exam Day, which runs May 3-9.</p> <p>The goal is to preserve the sight and health of working dogs, including guide dogs, handicapped assistance dogs, detection dogs and search and rescue dogs.</p> <p>"Many of ACVO's ophthalmologists generously provide similar services to their service dog clients throughout the year," said Stacey Daniel, executive director of the organization. "Our hope is that by checking these animals' vision on the national day of service, we will be able to help a large number of dogs better assist their human friends."</p> <p>To qualify, dogs must be active working dogs certified by a formal training program or organization or enrolled in a formal training program.</p> <p>Veterinarians interested in participating can register here.</p> <p>Owners or agents for the dogs can register the animal beginning April 1 here. Once registered, the owner or agent can locate a participating</p>	52,192	\$28,248.08

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			<p>ophthalmologist to schedule an appointment.</p> <p>More than 180 ACVO diplomates volunteered last year by screening the ocular health of about 1,500 service dogs. The combined effort equated about \$500,000 worth of donated services.</p> <p>National Service Dog Eye Exam Day has gained support from these nonprofit organizations: American Animal Hospital Assn., American Veterinary Medical Assn., state veterinary medical associations in the U.S. and Canada, American Society of Veterinary Medical Assn. Executives, Veterinary Hospital Managers Assn., Veterinary Ophthalmic Technicians Society, Guiding Eyes for the Blind, American Assn. of Detection Dogs, North American Police Dog Assn., National Narcotic Detection Dog Assn., Patriot Paws Service Dogs, Paws with a Cause, Department of Homeland Security and Service Dogs of America. Additional organizational support is pending.</p> <p>Sponsors include Hill's Pet Nutrition of Topeka, Kan., OptiGen of Ithaca, N.Y., and Kong Veterinary Products of Irwindale, Calif. <HOME></p>		
03/20/2009	National Service Dog Eye Exam Day - Working / Service Dogs ...	dogster.com	The American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists (ACVO) will host a free eye exam for service dogs across America and Canada during veterinary medicine week beginning May 3, 2009. Check out http://www.acvoeyeeexam.org to register and to find a certified veterinary ophthalmologist near you.	0	\$0.00

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03/22/2009	Calling All Service Dogs-What's Your 20? veterinary technicians ...	vtarc	<p data-bbox="737 289 1270 751">ACVO's National Service Dog Eye Exam Day brings together veterinary ophthalmologists and thousands of service dogs for free exams May 3-9 Meridian, ID—Guide dogs, handicapped assistance dogs, detection dogs and search and rescue dogs selflessly serve the public with no compensation. The week of May 3, the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists® (ACVO®) is launching the 2nd ACVO® National Service Dog Eye Exam Day sponsored by Hill's Pet Nutrition, OPTIGEN, and Kong Veterinary Products to help serve these dogs who dedicate their lives to serving us. More than 150 board certified veterinary ophthalmologists will provide free sight-saving eye exams to thousands of service dogs.</p> <p data-bbox="737 784 1270 946">To qualify, dogs must be “working dogs” certified through a formal training program or organization. The mission of ACVO's National Service Dog Eye Exam Day is to preserve the sight and health of these animals whose partners depend upon them.</p> <p data-bbox="737 979 1270 1190">“Many of ACVO’s ophthalmologists generously provide similar services to their service dog clients throughout the year,” says Stacey Daniel, executive director of the organization. “Our hope is that by checking these animals’ vision on the national day of service, we will be able to help a large number of dogs better assist their human friends.”</p> <p data-bbox="737 1222 1270 1466">How to Register Dogs must be active “working dogs” that were certified by a formal training program or organization or currently enrolled in a formal training program to qualify. The certifying organization could be national, regional or local in nature. Specific service groups are listed on the website. Owners/agents for the dog(s) will register the animal via an online registration form</p>	4,000	\$0.00

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			<p>beginning April 1. Once registered, the owner/agent can locate a participating ophthalmologist in their area to schedule an appointment.</p> <p>To learn more about and register for ACVO's National Service Dog Eye Exam Day, please visit www.ACVOeyeexam.org.</p> <p>For more information, photos and interviews with participating veterinary ophthalmologists, service dogs (and their owners) and ACVO representatives, please contact: Julie Robbins, Fetching Communications, 813.412.3354, Julie@fetchingcommunications.com.</p>		
03/23/2009	Service Dogs Eligible for Free Eye Exams	DVM, The Newsmagazine of Veterinary Medicine	<p>Service dogs eligible for free eye exams Mar 23, 2009 DVM NEWSMAGAZINE</p> <p>Meridian, Idaho -- The American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists (ACVO) is offering up its services in May to a group that never fails in its service to others. Guide dogs, handicap assistance dogs, detection dogs, and search and rescue dogs will be able to take part in the second annual ACVO National Service Dog Eye Exam Day in various locations the week of May 3. Dogs must be certified "working dogs" through a formal training program or organization to qualify. Owners can register for the free sight screenings beginning April 1 at www.acvoeyeexam.org.</p> <p>The free screenings will involve more than 250 board-certified veterinary ophthalmologists and is sponsored by Hill's Pet Nutrition, OPTIGEN and Kong Veterinary Products.</p>	57,811	\$3,971.92

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03/25/2009	Service Dogs Eligible for free eye exams	Dogs, Dogs, Dogs!	<p>March 25, 2009</p> <p>Service dogs eligible for free eye exams</p> <p>DVM 360 - The American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists (ACVO) is offering up its services in May to a group that never fails in its service to others.</p> <p>http://veterinarynews.dvm360.com/dvm/Veterinary+news/Service-dogs-eligible-for-free-eye-exams/ArticleStandard/Article/detail/588876?contextCategoryId=44925</p>	14,000	\$6,284.88

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03/30/2009	Caring for vision of dedicated guide dogs	New York Daily News	<p>Caring for vision of dedicated guide dogs Monday, March 30th 2009, 4:00 AM</p> <p>They help the blind and nearsighted move about town, and find hidden drugs and lost people.</p> <p>But service dogs sometimes need help, too.</p> <p>That's why Dr. Alexandra van der Woerdt, an ophthalmology veterinarian with the Animal Medical Center, in conjunction with the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists, will give free eye exams for registered service dogs May 3 through May 9.</p> <p>Last year, some 60 dogs and their owners visited van der Woerdt and ophthalmology technician Yasmin Hormaza, at the Animal Medical Center's facility on E.63rd St. in Manhattan during the program's first year.</p> <p>"AMC has had a program for Seeing Eye dogs for many years," van der Woerdt said. "Last year I called up one of the people involved with police dogs, so we had a bunch of police dogs come in."</p> <p>Like humans, dogs can suffer a variety of vision problems, from cataracts to glaucoma and many other ailments, she said.</p> <p>"Cataracts are very different in dogs versus in people," she said. "In people, they are usually associated with old people, like your grandmother would have cataract surgery. But in dogs, it's usually a genetic abnormality, or a secondary symptom of another disease, like diabetes."</p> <p>Cataracts also occur more frequently in certain breeds. Poodles and Bichons can develop the disease in four to seven years; Labradors in four to six, she said.</p> <p>"I have seen a cocker spaniel blind with cataracts</p>	718,174	\$155,450.35

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at 6 months of age," she said. Cataracts are usually treated with surgery.

Basic vision testing for dogs "is still fairly crude, because you can't ask them to read a chart," van der Woerd said.

But two pieces of equipment are available to the ophthalmology veterinarian.

One is a slit-lamp biomicroscope used to check for abnormalities in the cornea, iris, lens and other parts at the front of the eye. Van der Woerd said she also examines the fundus, "basically, it's the retina," at the back of the eye. The other tool is a Tonopen, used to check the animal for glaucoma and pressure in the eyeball.

Treatments can vary.

"If it's something we can medically manage, we send them home after treatment and follow up later," van der Woerd said. "If it requires surgery or additional testing, we schedule another visit."

Van der Woerd said she signed up for the national program because "these animals are incredibly important for the people they work for. The need is straightforward for the guide dog. They have to have good eyes to be able to guide their charges."

Despite their own impairment, blind owners often notice their animals are having vision problems.

"Some of them come in and say, 'My dog's left eye is squinting,'" she said. "They know their dogs so well, they pick up on it somehow."

The doctor said she has occasionally come across animals whose vision is so impaired that they must be taken out of service.

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03/31/2009	Link to the ACVO National Service Dog Eye Exam Event	Veterinary Research Communications	<p>"What is more common is I see an abnormality and I say, 'What I want you to do is go back to your school and have them evaluate the dog to make sure he is still doing his work properly.' If he is, we will just follow him closely," she said.</p> <p>The free exams are available to service dogs that are registered with the ACVO at this Web site: www.acvoeyeexam.org.</p> <p>Dogs registered and trained with the Delta Society are also eligible. For information, call Hormaza at (212) 838-8100, extension 8691.</p> <p>Also go to the Web site, www.acvo.com.</p> <p>crichardson@nydailynews.com</p>	0	\$52.47

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04/01/2009	National Service Dog Eye Exam Day	Momentum - National MS Society Magazine	<p>Apr 01, 2009</p> <p>National Service Dog Eye Exam Day: May 3, 2009</p> <p>The American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists (ACVO) has invited the National MS Society and our members with Service Dogs to participate in the Second Annual ACVO National Service Dog Eye Exam Day to be held during the week of May 3, 2009. Over 140 board certified veterinary ophthalmologists will volunteer their time for this event and provide complimentary 'eye wellness examinations' to certified Service Dogs. The Service Dog owner/agent will incur no costs for these services. In order to participate in the event Service Dogs should fall into one or more of the following categories: guide dogs, handicapped assistance dogs, detection dogs, police dogs, or search and rescue dogs. Dogs must be active 'working dogs' that were certified by a formal training program or organization or are currently enrolled in a formal training program. The certifying organization could be national, regional or local in nature.</p> <p>For more information, to include how to register, please go to www.ACVOeyeexam.org. You can read more about the 2008 event at http://acvoeyeexam.org/press/release7-08.pdf.</p>	0	\$0.00
04/01/2009	NAVTA calendar	NAVTA Journal		0	\$0.00

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04/01/2009	Free eye exams for Georgia's service dogs!	Atlanta Dogs Examiner	<p data-bbox="737 289 1207 423">Free eye exams for Georgia's service dogs! April 1, 6:49 AM · 3 comments 3 comments Share This Feed Dr. Stacy Andrew, ACVO Diplomate - GVS photo</p> <p data-bbox="737 456 1270 646">Welcome to April! There are a lot of good reasons to celebrate April here in Georgia, not the least of which is that April rarely has really cold weather, so spring might finally be here for good. Today is April Fool's Day, an occasion for silliness, and since that usually makes people laugh, that's a great thing, too.</p> <p data-bbox="737 727 1270 889">But there's one more reason that this day is a really good one, a reason you probably don't know: today is the first day owners of service dogs can register for a free (yes, no charge at all) eye exam at Georgia Veterinary Specialists to be given on May 8th.</p> <p data-bbox="737 922 1270 1222">This is part of a nationwide effort by the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists to be sure that every working service dog has an eye exam. Often, early detection of eye problems means that the dog can be treated and continue his service. Since eye problems in dogs can be hard to detect, even for a veterinarian, this special day of service-dog screening is important for the health of the Atlanta area's many dogs who work every day - guide dogs, assistance dogs, detection dogs, police dogs and search and rescue dogs.</p> <p data-bbox="737 1255 1270 1360">To be eligible, the dogs must be working dogs with certification from a formal training program or organization. To set up an appointment for the screening, owners first register here.</p> <p data-bbox="737 1393 1270 1466">Dr. Stacy Andrew, the ophthalmologist at Georgia Veterinary Specialists in Sandy Springs, will be donating her time on May 8th to ensure that all</p>	0	\$0.00

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04/01/2009	Free eye Exams for Service Dogs	Trends	<p>service dogs whose owners want them checked will be checked at no charge.</p> <p>So if your furry friend is a service dog for you, sign up today for the free screening. And if you know someone who shares their life with a service dog, please share this story with them. Service dogs, more than any other dogs, rely on all of their senses every day, so a free eye exam is a great April gift for both the dog and owner.</p> <p>Free eye exams for service dogs Veterinary ophthalmologists in the United States and Canada will be giving away free eye exams to working service dogs next month.</p> <p>The American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists (ACVO) is hosting its second ACVO National Service Dog Eye Exam May 4-8, and hopes to examine 5,000 dogs this year. Active working dogs that are certified by a formal training program, or currently enrolled in a formal training program qualify for the free exam. Handicapped assistance dogs, detection dogs, police dogs, search and rescue dogs, and Delta Society-certified therapy dogs may participate.</p> <p>Visit www.acvoeyeexam.org for more information</p>	16,000	\$1,246.56
04/02/2009	National Service Dog Eye Exam Day	United States Department of Agriculture		0	\$0.00

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04/02/2009	Service Dogs get free eye exams at CSU	worldnews.com	<p>Dogs who help blind people and others with disabilities, as well as police and search and rescue dogs, will be given free eye exams next month by Colorado State University veterinarians.</p> <p>The exams will mark national National Service Dog Eye Exam day and will be conducted at the James L. Voss Teaching Hospital at CSU from 8:30 a.m.-noon and 1:30 -3:30 p.m. on Friday, May 8. The hospital is at 300 W. Drake Road in Fort Collins.</p> <p>Exam day is sponsored by the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists and is the largest public service effort in the history of veterinary ophthalmology, according to CSU spokeswoman Dell Rae Moellenberg.</p> <p>Free exams, she said, will help preserve the eyesight of thousands of service dogs across America. In 2008, more than 1,500 service dogs nationally and in Canada had free eye exams, and veterinary ophthalmologists performed \$500,000 worth of services.</p> <p>At CSU, canine eye exams are normally an \$85 service.</p> <p>Eligible service dogs include guide dogs, handicapped assistance dogs, detection dogs, police dogs, search-and-rescue dogs, and certified, therapy dogs from the Delta Society. Other dogs who qualify for the service include, but are not limited to, those from local pet therapy groups including the Larimer Animal People Partnership and Human Animal Bond in Colorado, according to CSU.</p> <p>Dogs must be active working dogs certified by a formal training program or organization or currently enrolled in a formal training program to qualify, CSU said.</p>	0	\$0.00

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			<p>Appointments are required. Owners must go through two steps to secure an exam:</p> <p>Register online at www.acvoeyexam.org to qualify.</p> <p>Owners and agents must call CSU Veterinary Hospital at 970-297-4137 to schedule an appointment.</p> <p>Registration begins April 1 and closes April 29.</p> <p>The free exams will be provided by specialized veterinarians in the university's ophthalmology section at the hospital.</p>		

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04/03/2009	See Spot See	Denver Post, The	<p>See Spot see: CSU to aid service dogs By Monte Whaley The Denver Post Posted: 04/03/2009 12:30:00 AM MDT Updated: 04/03/2009 01:19:07 AM MDT</p> <p>Service dogs, including guide and police dogs, will get free eye exams next month at Colorado State University veterinary hospital.</p> <p>National Service Dog Eye Exam day, May 8, is sponsored by the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists. Canine eye exams typically cost \$85, said CSU spokeswoman Dell Rae Moellenberg.</p> <p>Eligible service dogs include guide dogs, handicap-assistance dogs, detection dogs, police dogs, search-and-rescue dogs, and certified therapy dogs from the Delta Society. Other dogs that qualify for the service include, but are not limited to, those from local pet therapy groups, including the Larimer Animal People Partnership and Human Animal Bond in Colorado, according to CSU.</p> <p>Dogs must be active working dogs certified by a formal training program or organization or currently enrolled in a formal training program to qualify, CSU said.</p> <p>Owners must go through two steps to secure an exam:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Register online at acvoeyeexam .org. • Call the CSU Veterinary Hospital at 970-297-4137 to schedule an appointment. Registration closes April 29. 	507,892	\$7,993.60

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04/03/2009	North Denver News - Calling All Service Dogs: Colorado State ...	North Denver News	<p>Offers Free Eye Exams to Service Dogs Written by Staff Thursday, 02 April 2009 As part of the second National Service Dog Eye Exam Day, the James L. Voss Teaching Hospital at Colorado State University will provide free screening eye exams to eligible service dogs from 8:30 a.m. - noon and 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. on Friday, May 8. The hospital is at 300 W. Drake Road in Fort Collins.</p> <p>This national day is sponsored by the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists and is the largest public service effort in the history of veterinary ophthalmology. Free exams will help preserve the eyesight of thousands of service dogs across America. In 2008, more than 1,500 service dogs nationally and in Canada had free eye exams, and veterinary ophthalmologists performed \$500,000 worth of services. At Colorado State, canine eye exams are normally an \$85 service.</p> <p>Appointments are required for the exams. To schedule an appointment, service dog owners must go through two steps. First, service dog owners and agents must register online at http://www.acvoeyexam.org to qualify for a free exam. Then, to secure an appointment, owners and agents must call the CSU Veterinary Hospital at (970) 297-4137 to schedule an appointment. Registration begins April 1 and closes April 29. Space is limited.</p> <p>The free exams will be provided by specialized veterinarians in the university's ophthalmology section at the hospital. The complimentary eye exam will screen guide dogs for vision problems. Additional services are optional and regular fees will apply.</p>	17,000	\$1,699.02

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Qualifying service dog groups include guide dogs, handicapped assistance dogs, detection dogs, police dogs, search-and-rescue dogs, and certified, trained therapy dogs from the Delta Society. Qualifying dogs include, but are not limited to, those from local pet therapy groups including the Larimer Animal People Partnership and Human Animal Bond in Colorado. Dogs must be active working dogs certified by a formal training program or organization or currently enrolled in a formal training program to qualify.

The Veterinary Teaching Hospital is part of the College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences at Colorado State.

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04/03/2009	Free eye exams to service dogs May 8	Today at Colorado State University	<p>As part of the second National Service Dog Eye Exam Day, the James L. Voss Teaching Hospital at Colorado State University will provide free screening eye exams to eligible service dogs from 8:30 a.m.-noon and 1:30-3:30 p.m. on Friday, May 8. The hospital is at 300 W. Drake Road in Fort Collins.</p> <p>Public service effort This national day is sponsored by the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists and is the largest public service effort in the history of veterinary ophthalmology. Free exams will help preserve the eyesight of thousands of service dogs across America.</p> <p>In 2008, more than 1,500 service dogs nationally and in Canada had free eye exams, and veterinary ophthalmologists performed \$500,000 worth of services. At Colorado State, canine eye exams are normally an \$85 service.</p> <p>Appointments required Appointments are required for the exams. To schedule an appointment, service dog owners must go through two steps. First, service dog owners and agents must register online to qualify for a free exam. Then, to secure an appointment, owners and agents must call the CSU Veterinary Hospital at (970) 297-4137 to schedule an appointment.</p> <p>Registration closes April 29. Space is limited.</p> <p>The free exams will be provided by specialized veterinarians in the university's ophthalmology section at the hospital. The complimentary eye exam will screen guide dogs for vision problems. Additional services are optional and regular fees will apply.</p> <p>Qualifying service dogs Qualifying service dog groups include:</p>	0	\$0.00

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •guide dogs •handicapped assistance dogs •detection dogs •police dogs •search-and-rescue dogs •certified, trained therapy dogs from the Delta Society <p>Qualifying dogs include, but are not limited to, those from local pet therapy groups including the Larimer Animal People Partnership and Human Animal Bond in Colorado. Dogs must be active working dogs certified by a formal training program or organization or currently enrolled in a formal training program to qualify.</p> <p>The Veterinary Teaching Hospital is part of the College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences at Colorado State.</p>		
04/04/2009	Free eye exams for service dogs	Seattle.com	Apr 2, 2009 ... To learn more about and register for ACVO?/Merial? National Service Dog Eye Exam , please visit www.ACVOeyeexam.org	0	\$0.00
04/08/2009	Free Eye Exams - ACVO	Pitbulltalk.com	<p>Free Eye Exams - ACVO by Jessie's_mom on April 8th, 2009, 4:09 pm</p> <p>If you are interested -- as part of the ACVO/Merial National Service Dog Eye Exams for 2009, the event is going to be held the week of May 3-9, 2009. Dogs must be registered first, and then an appointment made with one of the participating vets.</p> <p>This is for service dogs, SAR, drug detecting, accelerant sniffing, etc. dogs -- including therapy dogs certified by Delta Society and Therapy Dogs, Inc.</p> <p>Here's the website link: http://www.acvoeyeexam.org/</p> <p>The website has all the necessary links and information to do this, if anyone is interested.</p>	0	\$0.00

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04/09/2009	Free eye exams for service dogs at Ohio State Veterinary Hospital	Community Employment Assistance Network	Free eye exams for service dogs at Ohio State Veterinary Hospital	0	\$0.00

Columbus, OH – Veterinary ophthalmologists from The Ohio State University Veterinary Hospital will offer free eye exams for service dogs on Monday, May 4 and Wednesday, May 6 at the Veterinary Hospital, 601 Vernon Tharp St.

Drs. Anne Metzler and David Wilkie, board certified by the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists, are two of more than 150 board certified veterinary ophthalmologists across the U.S. and Canada offering these eye assessments to thousands of service dogs nationwide as part of the ACVO®/Merial® National Service Dog Eye Exam Day.

This is the second year that ACVO®/Merial® has sponsored the event and the first time that Ohio State has participated. Service dogs include those who assist people with physical limitations, as well as search and rescue dogs, lead dogs, and pilot dogs.

“We decided this would be a nice service to provide,” said Dr. Metzler. “We really have no idea how many participants we’ll get.” A variety of specific assessments are performed on the dogs as part of the exam. “We look at several things,” she said. “To assess vision, we can check the dog’s response to motion near the eye, and observe them navigating through an obstacle course. We also talk with the owners. Often owners may have noticed changes in behavior

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			<p>such as bumping in to objects or missing a treat, which could indicate a vision problem.” Medical exams include looking at the eyelids, cornea, lens, retina and optic nerve for abnormalities.</p>		
			<p>In order to participate, dogs must be working dogs that were certified by a formal training program or organization or currently enrolled in a formal training program. The certifying organization could be national, regional or local in nature. Specific service groups are listed on the web site; owners or agents for the dog(s) will register the animal online at www.acvoeyeexam.org.</p>		
			<p>Once registered, the owner or agent can call The Ohio State University Veterinary Hospital at (614) 292-3551 and ask to speak to Kelley Norris or Chris Basham to schedule an appointment. The exams are sponsored by Merial, Hill's Pet Nutrition, OPTIGEN, and Kong Veterinary Products.</p>		

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04/09/2009	Free eye exams for service dogs at Ohio State Veterinary Hospital ...	Ohio State University	<p data-bbox="737 285 1270 480">Free eye exams for service dogs at Ohio State Veterinary Hospital Columbus, OH - Veterinary ophthalmologists from The Ohio State University Veterinary Hospital will offer free eye exams for service dogs on Monday, May 4 and Wednesday, May 6 at the Veterinary Hospital, 601 Vernon Tharp St.</p> <p data-bbox="737 505 1270 724">Drs. Anne Metzler and David Wilkie, board certified by the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists, are two of more than 150 board certified veterinary ophthalmologists across the U.S. and Canada offering these eye assessments to thousands of service dogs nationwide as part of the ACVO®/Merial® National Service Dog Eye Exam Day.</p> <p data-bbox="737 748 1270 919">This is the second year that ACVO®/Merial® has sponsored the event and the first time that Ohio State has participated. Service dogs include those who assist people with physical limitations, as well as search and rescue dogs, lead dogs, and pilot dogs.</p> <p data-bbox="737 943 1270 1325">"We decided this would be a nice service to provide," said Dr. Metzler. "We really have no idea how many participants we'll get." A variety of specific assessments are performed on the dogs as part of the exam. "We look at several things," she said. "To assess vision, we can check the dog's response to motion near the eye, and observe them navigating through an obstacle course. We also talk with the owners. Often owners may have noticed changes in behavior such as bumping in to objects or missing a treat, which could indicate a vision problem." Medical exams include looking at the eyelids, cornea, lens, retina and optic nerve for abnormalities.</p> <p data-bbox="737 1349 1270 1464">In order to participate, dogs must be working dogs that were certified by a formal training program or organization or currently enrolled in a formal training program. The certifying</p>	0	\$0.00

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			<p>organization could be national, regional or local in nature. Specific service groups are listed on the web site; owners or agents for the dog(s) will register the animal online at www.acvoeyeexam.org.</p> <p>Once registered, the owner or agent can call The Ohio State University Veterinary Hospital at (614) 292-3551 and ask to speak to Kelley Norris or Chris Basham to schedule an appointment. The exams are sponsored by Merial, Hill's Pet Nutrition, OPTIGEN, and Kong Veterinary Products.</p>		
04/09/2009	Free Eye Exams for service dogs	Tampa Pet News Examiner	<p>Free eye exams for service dogs April 9, 1:46 PM · 1 comment 1 commentShareThisFeed Sign up now for free eye exams for your service dog. The American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists will offer its second annual National Service Dog Eye Exam Day in May.</p> <p>"Our hope is that by checking these animals' vision on the national day of service, we will be able to help a large number of dogs better assist their human friends," said ACVO executive director Stacey Daniel.</p> <p>Exams will take place between May 3-9, 2009. Last year, ACVO participating members examined 1500 dogs across the country. Check out this video to see exams of the dogs who serve your community.</p> <p>To qualify, dogs must be active "working dogs" that have been certified by a formal training program or organization, or currently enrolled in a formal training program to qualify. You must register your dog for the exam to find an ophthalmologist in your area who is participating.</p>	140,000	\$0.00

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04/12/2009	National Service Dog Eye Exam Day	North Carolina Canine Emergency Response Team	<p>National Service Dog Eye Exam Day</p> <p>The American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists (ACVO), in association with Pet Health Systems will host an unprecedented event in veterinary medicine, the week of May 12, 2008. Over 140 Board Certified ACVO board certified will donate their services to provide eye examinations to America's Service Dogs. See link below for more information.</p> <p>http://acvoeyeexam.org/</p>	0	\$0.00
04/15/2009	Center Participates in Dog Eye Exam Day	Tampa Bay Newspapers	<p>Center participates in Dog Eye Exam Day</p> <p>Article published on Wednesday, April 15, 2009 LARGO – Thomas R. Miller, DVM, MS, DACVO, will participate in the ACVO/Merial National Service Dog Eye Exam Day during the week of May 3 at Tampa Bay Veterinary Specialists and Emergency Care Center, 1501A Belcher Road S.</p> <p>Sponsored by Merial, Hill's Pet Nutrition, OPTIGEN and Kong Veterinary Products, the program allows veterinarian ophthalmologists to help serve these dogs who dedicate their lives to serving humans.</p> <p>Dogs must be "working dogs" certified through a formal training program or organization.</p> <p>Owners of registered dogs may call 535-3500 to schedule an appointment.</p>	94,660	\$0.00

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04/15/2009	ACVO/Merial National Service Dog Eye Exam Week	Yelp.com	<p>ACVO/Merial National Service Dog Eye Exam Week</p> <p>Category: Other</p> <p>When: Monday, May 4, 9:00 AM</p> <p>Where: Ophthalmology Department at VCA Veterinary Specialty Center 20115 44th Ave W Lynnwood, WA 98036</p> <p>How: Official Website</p> <p>Tickets</p> <p>Cost: Free</p> <p>Submitted by: Susan J.</p> <p>What/Why: Calling All Seattle area Service Dogs - What's Your 20?</p> <p>ACVO/Merial National Service Dog Eye Exam brings together veterinary ophthalmologists and thousands of service dogs for free exams May 3-9</p> <p>Seattle, WA - Guide dogs, handicapped assistance dogs, detection dogs and search and rescue dogs selflessly serve the public with no compensation. The week of May 3, VCA Veterinary Specialty Center of Seattle - Ophthalmology Department, a member of the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists (ACVO), is participation in the ACVO/Merial national Service Dog Eye Exam Day sponsored by Merial, Hill's Pet Nutrition, OPTIGEN, and Kong Veterinary Products to help serve these dogs who dedicate their lives to serving us. Dr. Susan Jacobi is one of more than 150 board certified veterinary ophthalmologists across the U.S. and Canada who will provide free sight-saving eye exams to thousand of service dogs nationwide.</p> <p>To qualify, dogs must be "working dogs" certified through a formal training program or organization. The mission of the National Service Dog Eye Exam is to preserve the sight and health of these animals whose partners depend upon them.</p>	0	\$0.00

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"Many of ACVO's ophthalmologists generously provide similar services to their service dog clients throughout the year," says Stacey Daniel, executive director of the organization. "Our hope is that by checking these animals' vision on the national day of service, we will be able to help a large number of dogs better assist their human friends."

How to Register

Dogs must be active "working dogs" that were certified by a formal training program or organization or currently enrolled in a formal training program to qualify. The certifying organization could be national, regional or local in nature. Specific service groups are listed on the website. Owners/agents for the dog(s) will register the animal via an online registration form beginning April 1. Once registered, the owner/agent can call VCA Veterinary Specialty Center of Seattle to schedule an appointment.

To learn more about and register for ACVO/Merial National Service Dog Eye Exam, please visit <http://www.ACVOeyeexam....>

About the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists

The American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists is an approved veterinary specialty organization of the American Board of Veterinary Specialties, and is recognized by the American Veterinary Medical Association. Its mission is "to advance the quality of veterinary medicine through certification of veterinarians who demonstrate excellence as specialists in veterinary ophthalmology." To become board certified a candidate must complete a DVM degree, a one year internship, a three year approved residency and pass a series of credentials and examinations. For more information, please visit <http://www.ACVO.org>.

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04/16/2009	ACVO/Merial National Service Dog Eye Exam Day	Ohio.gov	<p>The following non-profit organizations have supported the National Service Dog Eye Exam: American Animal Hospital Association, American Veterinary Medical Association, state veterinary medical associations in the U.S. and Canada, American Society of Veterinary Medical Association Executives, Veterinary Hospital Managers Association, Veterinary Ophthalmic Technicians Society, Guiding Eyes for the Blind, American Association of Detection Dogs, North American Police Dog Association, National Narcotic Detection Dog Association, Patriot Paws Service Dogs, paws with a Cause, Department of Homeland Security and Service Dogs of America. Additional organizational support is pending.</p> <p>The Ohio State University Veterinary Teaching Hospital is participating in the ACVO/Merial National Service Dog Eye Exam Day sponsored by Merial, ...</p>	0	\$0.00

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04/16/2009	Free Eye Exams for Guide Dogs	myvisiontest.com	<p>Free eye exam for guide dogs Dr. Alexandra van der Woerd, a New York veterinary ophthalmologist provides free eye exams for service dogs.</p> <p>Last year, some 60 dogs and their owners visited van der Woerd at the Animal Medical Center's facility on E.63rd St. in Manhattan during the program's first year.</p> <p>Like humans, dogs can suffer a variety of vision problems, from cataracts to glaucoma and many other ailments, she said.</p> <p>"Cataracts are very different in dogs versus in people," she said. "In people, they are usually associated with old people, like your grandmother would have cataract surgery. But in dogs, it's usually a genetic abnormality, or a secondary symptom of another disease, like diabetes."</p> <p>Related News</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Arkansas man wants to give blind veterans hope •Blind Dave's 7-day marathon ends in London •Emergency services for the vision impaired <p>Cataracts also occur more frequently in certain breeds. Poodles and Bichons can develop the disease in four to seven years; Labradors in four to six, she said.</p> <p>Basic vision testing for dogs "is still fairly crude, because you can't ask them to read a chart," van der Woerd said.</p> <p>But two pieces of equipment are available to the ophthalmology veterinarian.</p> <p>One is a slit-lamp biomicroscope used to check for abnormalities in the cornea, iris, lens and other parts at the front of the eye. Van der Woerd said she also examines the fundus, "basically, it's</p>	0	\$0.00

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the retina," at the back of the eye. The other tool is a Tonopen, used to check the animal for glaucoma and pressure in the eyeball.

Treatments can vary.

"If it's something we can medically manage, we send them home after treatment and follow up later," van der Woerdt said. "If it requires surgery or additional testing, we schedule another visit."

Van der Woerdt said she signed up for the national program because "these animals are incredibly important for the people they work for. The need is straightforward for the guide dog. They have to have good eyes to be able to guide their charges."

The doctor said she has occasionally come across animals whose vision is so impaired that they must be taken out of service.

"What is more common is I see an abnormality and I say, 'What I want you to do is go back to your school and have them evaluate the dog to make sure he is still doing his work properly.' If he is, we will just follow him closely," she said.

The free exams are available to service dogs that are registered with the ACVO at this Web site: www.acvoeyexam.org.

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04/16/2009	PetLifeRadio.com - Episode 6 Celebrating National Service Dog Eye Exam Week!	PetLifeRadio.com	Does your service dog qualify for a complimentary screening eye exam? Dr. William Miller and Stacey Daniel from the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmology (ACVO) join us to talk about National Service Dog Eye Exam Week. The week of May 3, 2009 over 140 ACVO board certified veterinary ophthalmologists will donate their services to provide FREE eye examinations to Service Dogs across America and Canada. Join us as we talk about this exciting event and about the importance of eye care for working dog teams! More details on this episode MP3 Podcast -Celebrating National Service Dog Eye Exam Week! with Marcie Davis	0	\$0.00
04/17/2009	Center participates in Dog Eye Exam Day	topix.com	Apr 17, 2009 Center participates in Dog Eye Exam Day Thomas R. Miller, DVM, MS, DACVO, will participate in the ACVO/Merial National Service Dog Eye Exam Day during the week of May 3 at Tampa Bay Veterinary Specialists and Emergency Care Center, 1501A Belcher Road S. Sponsored by Merial, Hill's Pet Nutrition, OPTIGEN and Kong Veterinary Products, the program allows veterinarian ophthalmologists to ... Read full story from Tampa Bay Newspapers	0	\$0.00

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04/21/2009	Service dogs can get free eye examinations	Daily Herald, The	<p>Service dogs can get free eye examinations</p> <p>Local service dogs can get free eye exams in Lynnwood during the week of May 3-9. Registration is required for the free exams is required.</p> <p>The ophthalmology department of the VCA Veterinary Specialty Center of Seattle offers the free exams to guide dogs, handicapped assistance dogs, detection dogs and search and rescue dogs. Registration is a two-step process: register online by visiting www.-ACVOeyeexam.org (click on "dog owners/participants") and call the veterinary center's Lynnwood office at 425-697-6106.</p> <p>The VCA Veterinary Specialty Center of Seattle is at 20155 44th Ave. W.</p>	54,634	\$3,023.62

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04/22/2009	Service dogs in NY, CT and NJ receive free eye exams in May	mycentraljers ey.com	<p>Katonah Bedford Veterinary Center in Bedford Hills, NY is teaming up with The American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists® (ACVO) to take part in the ACVO/Merial® National Service Dog Eye Exam event, May 4 – 8, 2009.</p> <p>This event will provide free sight-saving eye exams to service dogs throughout New York, Connecticut and New Jersey. Registration ends April 29th.</p> <p>How to Register: In order to qualify, dogs must be active “working dogs,” certified by a formal training program or organization or currently enrolled in a formal training program. The certifying organization could be national, regional or local in nature. *Specific service groups are listed on the website at www.acvoeyexam.org. *Owners/agents for the dog(s) must first register online at www.acvoeyexam.org. *Once registered, the owner/agent can contact Katonah Bedford Veterinary Center to schedule an appointment. The KBVC phone number is: 914-241-7700. *Registration Ends April 29th</p> <p>This will be the second year Katonah Bedford Veterinary Center has participated in this national event. Last year, more than 1,500 service dogs were examined across the U.S. and Canada, by more than 150 board certified veterinary ophthalmologists. “These dogs are doing wonderful things for their owners,” according to Dr. Cory Mosunic, Board Certified Veterinary Ophthalmologist at KBVC. “Being out of work, even for a few days is a big deal for these dogs, so we’ll be looking for any retinal disease or early cataracts.</p> <p>We’re also looking for things that will limit their vision down the road, whether it’s an ingrown hair or anything that can result in the scratch of the cornea. It’s a complete ocular exam.”</p>	0	\$0.00

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To learn more about and register for ACVO's
National Service Dog Eye Exam Day, please visit
www.ACVOeyeexam.org.

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04/22/2009	Service dogs in NY, CT and NJ receive free eye exams in May	Home News Tribune	<p>Katonah Bedford Veterinary Center in Bedford Hills, NY is teaming up with The American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists® (ACVO) to take part in the ACVO/Merial® National Service Dog Eye Exam event, May 4 – 8, 2009.</p> <p>This event will provide free sight-saving eye exams to service dogs throughout New York, Connecticut and New Jersey. Registration ends April 29th.</p> <p>How to Register: In order to qualify, dogs must be active “working dogs,” certified by a formal training program or organization or currently enrolled in a formal training program. The certifying organization could be national, regional or local in nature. *Specific service groups are listed on the website at www.acvoeyexam.org. *Owners/agents for the dog(s) must first register online at www.acvoeyexam.org. *Once registered, the owner/agent can contact Katonah Bedford Veterinary Center to schedule an appointment. The KBVC phone number is: 914-241-7700. *Registration Ends April 29th</p> <p>This will be the second year Katonah Bedford Veterinary Center has participated in this national event. Last year, more than 1,500 service dogs were examined across the U.S. and Canada, by more than 150 board certified veterinary ophthalmologists. “These dogs are doing wonderful things for their owners,” according to Dr. Cory Mosunic, Board Certified Veterinary Ophthalmologist at KBVC. “Being out of work, even for a few days is a big deal for these dogs, so we’ll be looking for any retinal disease or early cataracts. We’re also looking for things that will limit their vision down the road, whether it’s an ingrown hair or anything that can result in the scratch of the cornea. It’s a complete ocular exam.”</p>	76,000	\$5,098.79

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To learn more about and register for ACVO's
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www.ACVOeyeexam.org.

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04/22/2009	Service dogs in NY, NJ and CT to receive free eye exams in May	Courier News	<p>Katonah Bedford Veterinary Center in Bedford Hills, NY is teaming up with The American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists® (ACVO) to take part in the ACVO/Merial® National Service Dog Eye Exam event, May 4 – 8, 2009.</p> <p>This event will provide free sight-saving eye exams to service dogs throughout New York, Connecticut and New Jersey. Registration ends April 29th.</p> <p>How to Register: In order to qualify, dogs must be active “working dogs,” certified by a formal training program or organization or currently enrolled in a formal training program. The certifying organization could be national, regional or local in nature. *Specific service groups are listed on the website at www.acvoeyexam.org. *Owners/agents for the dog(s) must first register online at www.acvoeyexam.org. *Once registered, the owner/agent can contact Katonah Bedford Veterinary Center to schedule an appointment. The KBVC phone number is: 914-241-7700. *Registration Ends April 29th</p> <p>This will be the second year Katonah Bedford Veterinary Center has participated in this national event. Last year, more than 1,500 service dogs were examined across the U.S. and Canada, by more than 150 board certified veterinary ophthalmologists. “These dogs are doing wonderful things for their owners,” according to Dr. Cory Mosunic, Board Certified Veterinary Ophthalmologist at KBVC. “Being out of work, even for a few days is a big deal for these dogs, so we’ll be looking for any retinal disease or early cataracts. We’re also looking for things that will limit their vision down the road, whether it’s an ingrown hair or anything that can result in the scratch of the cornea. It’s a complete ocular exam.”</p>	0	\$0.00

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To learn more about and register for ACVO's
National Service Dog Eye Exam Day, please visit
www.ACVOeyeexam.org.

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04/22/2009	Service Dogs Receive Free Eye Exams in May	Hudson Valley Black Press	April 22nd, 2009 Service Dogs Receive Free Eye Exams In May	42,500	\$423.40

Katonah Bedford Veterinary Center in Bedford Hills, NY is teaming up with The American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists® (ACVO) to take part in the ACVO/Merial® National Service Dog Eye Exam event, May 4 – 8, 2009. This event will provide free sight-saving eye exams to service dogs throughout New York, Connecticut and New Jersey. Registration ends April 29th.

How to Register
In order to qualify, dogs must be active “working dogs,” certified by a formal training program or organization or currently enrolled in a formal training program. The certifying organization could be national, regional or local in nature.

*Specific service groups are listed on the website at www.acvoeyeexam.org.

*Owners/agents for the dog(s) must first register online at www.acvoeyeexam.org.

*Once registered, the owner/agent can contact Katonah Bedford Veterinary Center to schedule an appointment. The KBVC phone number is: 914-241-7700.

*Registration Ends April 29th

This will be the second year Katonah Bedford Veterinary Center has participated in this national event. Last year, more than 1,500 service dogs were examined across the U.S. and Canada, by more than 150 board certified veterinary ophthalmologists. “These dogs are doing wonderful things for their owners,” according to Dr. Cory Mosunic, Board Certified Veterinary Ophthalmologist at KBVC. “Being out of work, even for a few days is a big deal for these dogs, so we’ll be looking for any retinal disease or early

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cataracts. We're also looking for things that will limit their vision down the road, whether it's an ingrown hair or anything that can result in the scratch of the cornea. It's a complete ocular exam."

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04/23/2009	Service dogs can get free eye exams in May	West Milford Messenger, The	<p>Service dogs can get free eye exams in May</p> <p>Participants must register by April 29</p> <p>Bedford Hills, N.Y. n Katonah Bedford Veterinary Center in Bedford Hills, N.Y., is teaming up with The American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists® (ACVO) to take part in the ACVO/Merial® National Service Dog Eye Exam event, May 4n8. This event will provide free sight-saving eye exams to service dogs throughout New Jersey, New York, and Connecticut.</p> <p>In order to qualify, dogs must be active “working dogs,” certified by a formal training program or organization or currently enrolled in a formal training program. The certifying organization could be national, regional, or local in nature. Specific service groups are listed on the Web site at www.acvoeyeexam.org. Owners/agents for the dogs must first register online at www.acvoeyeexam.org.</p> <p>Once registered, the owner/agent can contact Katonah Bedford Veterinary Center at 914-241-7700. The deadline for registering is April 29.</p> <p>This will be the second year Katonah Bedford Veterinary Center has participated in this national event. Last year, more than 1,500 service dogs were examined across the United States and Canada by more than 150 board certified veterinary ophthalmologists.</p>	0	\$160.00

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04/23/2009	Eye Exams for Service Dogs	WAND-TV	EYE EXAMS FOR SERVICE DOGS WAND-TV (Decatur, April 23) -- Tune in tonight on the 5 o'clock news when Dr. Ralph Hamor will discuss the opportunity for certified service dogs to get a free eye examination at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital as part of the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists	0	\$0.00
04/24/2009	Service dogs can get free eye exams in May	dogtrainingfa stmethods.co m	More info... Participants must register by April 29 Bedford Hills, N.Y. n Katonah Bedford Veterinary Center in Bedford Hills, N.Y., is teaming up with The American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists (ACVO) to take part in the ACVO/Merial National Service Dog Eye Exam event, May 4n8. This event will provide free sight-saving eye exams to service dogs throughout New Jersey, New York, and Connecticut.	0	\$0.00
04/24/2009	Service Dogs in New Jersey Get Free Eye Exams - register by April 29th	Scarlet Scuttlebutt - East Brunswick,NJ ,USA	This event will provide free sight-saving eye exams to service dogs throughout New York and Connecticut. Registration ends April 29th. Service Dog groups ...	0	\$0.00

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04/24/2009	Service Dogs Can Get Free Exams	Free Lance-Star, The	<p data-bbox="737 289 1087 313">Service dogs can get free exams</p> <p data-bbox="737 345 1268 480">Service dogs in Virginia, Maryland and Washington are being offered free eye exams in May as part of the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists/Merial National Service Dog Eye Exam event.</p> <p data-bbox="737 513 1255 618">The exams are available at SouthPaws Veterinary Specialists & Emergency Center in Fairfax by Dr. Nancy Bromberg, a board-certified veterinary ophthalmologist.</p> <p data-bbox="737 651 1247 756">Owners must register for an exam by April 29 at acvoeyeexam.org before calling SouthPaws (703/752-9100) to schedule an appointment. Exams will be given May 4-8.</p> <p data-bbox="737 789 1247 894">To qualify for the vision screening, dogs should be either guide dogs, handicapped assistance dogs, detection dogs, police dogs or search and rescue dogs.</p> <p data-bbox="737 927 1255 1026">The dogs must be active "working dogs" certified by a formal training program or organization or enrolled in a training program. See acvoeyeexam.org.</p>	47,065	\$2,246.76

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04/24/2009	Crazy for Critters Free Eye Exams for Service Dogs	Miami Herald	<p>Free Eye Exams for Service Dogs ACVO/Merial National Service Dog Eye Exam</p> <p>The American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists, together with Merial, Hills's Pet Nutrition, OPTIGEN, and Kong Veterinary Products, will launch the 2nd National Service Dog Eye Exam Week from May 3-9. To qualify for free ophthalmic exams, dogs must be "working dogs" certified through a formal training program or organization. To learn more about and register for this event, please visit www.ACVOeyeexam.org.</p> <p>We are fortunate to have three SVFMA board certified veterinary ophthalmologists participating in this program. Thank you Dr. Karl A. Schmidt, Jr. (Animal Eye Specialty Clinic, 305-652-0448), Dr. Lorraine G. Karpinski (Pinecrest Veterinary Hospital, 305-278-1300), and Dr. Teresa Tucci (Veterinary Specialists Incorporated, 305-246-1701) for your dedicated service.</p>	288,179	\$51,639.50
04/25/2009	National Service Dog Eye Exam Day The Doggie Chronicles	Doggie Chronicles	radio interview featuring Dr. Miller	0	\$0.00

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04/27/2009	Westchester Health News Service Dogs Receive Free Eye Exams	Westchester Wire.com	<p>Bedford Hills, NY – Katonah Bedford Veterinary Center in Bedford Hills, NY is teaming up with The American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists® (ACVO) to take part in the ACVO/Merial® National Service Dog Eye Exam event, May 4 – 8, 2009.</p> <p>This event will provide free sight-saving eye exams to service dogs throughout New York, Connecticut and New Jersey. Registration ends April 29th.</p> <p>How to Register In order to qualify, dogs must be active “working dogs,” certified by a formal training program or organization or currently enrolled in a formal training program. The certifying organization could be national, regional or local in nature.</p> <p>*Specific service groups are listed on the website at www.acvoeyeexam.org.</p> <p>*Owners/agents for the dog(s) must first register online.</p> <p>*Once registered, the owner/agent can contact Katonah Bedford Veterinary Center to schedule an appointment. The KBVC phone number is: 914-241-7700.</p> <p>*Registration Ends April 29th</p> <p>This will be the second year Katonah Bedford Veterinary Center has participated in this national event. Last year, more than 1,500 service dogs were examined across the U.S. and Canada, by more than 150 board certified veterinary ophthalmologists. “These dogs are doing wonderful things for their owners,” according to Dr. Cory Mosunic, Board Certified Veterinary Ophthalmologist at KBVC. “Being out of work, even for a few days is a big deal for these dogs,</p>	1,218	\$0.00

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			<p>so we'll be looking for any retinal disease or early cataracts. We're also looking for things that will limit their vision down the road, whether it's an ingrown hair or anything that can result in the scratch of the cornea. It's a complete ocular exam."</p> <p>About Katonah Bedford Veterinary Center Katonah Bedford Veterinary Center is a member of the BrightHeart Veterinary Network. BrightHeart is the national network of advanced-care veterinary facilities that works closely with referring veterinarians to ensure the delivery of the highest standards for diagnostic and therapeutic pet care. For more information about KBVC and Dr. Mosunic, visit www.kbvetcenter.com. For more information about BrightHeart Veterinary Centers, visit www.brightheartvet.com.</p>		
04/27/2009	Free eye checkups for service dogs	Journal and Courier, The	<p>Free eye checkups for service dogs</p> <p>Free eye exams for service dogs are available from May 4 to 8 from ophthalmologists at Purdue University's School of Veterinary Medicine. To qualify, dogs must be certified by a formal training program or organization as a service dog. Eye exams will be scheduled on a first-come basis.</p> <p>Dog owners can register online at www.ACVOeyeexam.org. Once registered, the owner can call the Purdue veterinary hospital at (765) 494-1107 to schedule an appointment.</p>	36,788	\$2,129.42
04/28/2009	Health and fitness calendar-Eye Exams to Service Dogs	Miami Herald	<p>Eye Exams to Service Dogs: The American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists offers free eye exams to service dogs. For eye exam registration or more information, including a list of participating veterinary ophthalmologists, go to www.ACVOeyeexam.org; May 1-9.</p>	288,179	\$63,375.75

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04/29/2009	Free eye exam for working dogs. Register by tomorrow. Paws 'n' Claws	Journal News	<p data-bbox="737 285 1270 399">Sorry for the late notice, but this was sent to me while I was away. Anyway, there's still time. This (kind of) just in from the Katonah Bedford Veterinary Center.</p> <p data-bbox="737 423 1270 699">Bedford Hills, NY – Katonah Bedford Veterinary Center in Bedford Hills, NY is teaming up with The American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists® (ACVO) to take part in the ACVO/Merial® National Service Dog Eye Exam event, May 4 – 8, 2009. This event will provide free sight-saving eye exams to service dogs throughout New York, Connecticut and New Jersey. Registration ends April 29. (How to do so after the jump).</p> <p data-bbox="737 699 1270 862">How to Register In order to qualify, dogs must be active “working dogs,” certified by a formal training program or organization or currently enrolled in a formal training program. The certifying organization could be national, regional or local in nature.</p> <p data-bbox="737 886 1270 943">*Specific service groups are listed on the website at www.acvoeyeexam.org</p> <p data-bbox="737 967 1270 1024">*Owners/agents for the dog(s) must first register online at www.acvoeyeexam.org</p> <p data-bbox="737 1049 1270 1162">*Once registered, the owner/agent can contact Katonah Bedford Veterinary Center to schedule an appointment. The KBVC phone number is: 914-241-7700.</p> <p data-bbox="737 1187 1270 1219">*Registration Ends April 29th</p> <p data-bbox="737 1243 1270 1464">This will be the second year Katonah Bedford Veterinary Center has participated in this national event. Last year, more than 1,500 service dogs were examined across the U.S. and Canada, by more than 150 board certified veterinary ophthalmologists. “These dogs are doing wonderful things for their owners,” according to Dr. Cory Mosunic, Board Certified Veterinary</p>	139,756	\$21,018.00

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			Ophthalmologist at KBVC. "Being out of work, even for a few days is a big deal for these dogs, so we'll be looking for any retinal disease or early cataracts. We're also looking for things that will limit their vision down the road, whether it's an ingrown hair or anything that can result in the scratch of the cornea. It's a complete ocular exam."		

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04/29/2009	UM College of Veterinary Medicine Ophthalmologists Giving Free Eye Exams to Service Dogs	UM College of Veterinary Medicine	<p>MU College of Veterinary Medicine Ophthalmologists Giving Free Eye Exams to Service Dogs</p> <p>Guide dogs, handicapped assistance dogs, detection dogs and search and rescue dogs selflessly serve the public with no compensation. On May 7 and 8, the ophthalmology team at University of Missouri College of Veterinary Medicine Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital is giving back to these dedicated animals by participating in the Service Dog Eye Exam Day. MU CVM ophthalmologists Dr. Cecil Moore, Dr. Elizabeth Giuliano and Dr. Jacqueline Pearce will participate in the event to provide free potentially sight-saving eye exams to area service dogs. The three MU CVM veterinarians are board certified through the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists.</p> <p>The goal of Service Dogs Eye Exam Day is to screen service dogs to identify if any of them are affected by conditions that might potentially impact their ability to perform in various service capacities, such as guide dogs for the blind, other assistance dogs, police dogs, etc. The screening also helps breeders to avoid perpetuating potentially serious genetic eye conditions within their breeding programs.</p> <p>“Our objective in participating in Service Dogs Eye Exam Day is two-fold,” Giuliano noted. “If we do identify an ocular condition in one of these extraordinary animals, the human partner who depends on the dog can determine if they would be better served by retiring the dog from active service. And, of course, as veterinary ophthalmologists, we want to make the owners of the dogs aware of medical or surgical interventions that might preserve vision to extend duration of service as well as quality of life.”</p> <p>National Service Dog Eye Exam Day is</p>	0	\$0.00

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			<p>sponsored by Merial, Hill's Pet Nutrition, OPTIGEN, and Kong Veterinary Products. To qualify, dogs must be "working dogs" certified through a formal training program or organization.</p>		
			<p>How to Register Dogs must be active "working dogs" that are certified by a formal training program or organization or currently enrolled in a formal training program to qualify. The certifying organization could be national, regional or local in nature. Specific service groups are listed at www.ACVOeyeexam.org. Owners/agents for the dog(s) will register the animal via an online registration form beginning April 1. Once registered, the owner/agent can call the MU CVM Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital at 573-882-7821 to schedule an appointment.</p>		
			<p>About the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists The American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists® is an approved veterinary specialty organization of the American Board of Veterinary Specialties, and is recognized by the American Veterinary Medical Association. Its mission is to advance the quality of veterinary medicine through certification of veterinarians who demonstrate excellence as specialists in veterinary ophthalmology. To become board certified a candidate must complete a DVM degree, a one-year internship, a three-year approved residency and pass a series of credentials and examinations. For more information, visit www.ACVO.org.</p>		

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04/29/2009	Service Dogs to Receive Free Eye Exams	Dog Channel - DogChannel	<p>More than 150 board-certified veterinary ophthalmologists are scheduled to provide free eye exams to service dogs as part of the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists' 2nd National Service Dog Exam Day, which runs May 3 through 9.</p> <p>The goal is to preserve the sight and health of "working dogs," including guide dogs, handicapped assistance dogs, detection dogs, and search-and-rescue dogs.</p> <p>"Many of ACVO's ophthalmologists generously provide similar services to their service dog clients throughout the year," said Stacey Daniel, executive director of the organization. "Our hope is that by checking these animals' vision on the national day of service, we will be able to help a large number of dogs better assist their human friends."</p> <p>To qualify, dogs must be active working dogs who were certified by a formal training program or organization or currently enrolled in a formal training program.</p> <p>Owners/agents for the dog(s) can register the animal via an online registration form. Once registered, the owner/agent can locate a participating ophthalmologist in their area to schedule an appointment.</p> <p>More than 180 ACVO diplomates volunteered in last year's event by screening the ocular health of about 1,500 service dogs. The combined effort equated to about \$500,000 worth of donated services.</p> <p>National Service Dog Eye Exam Day has gained the support from the following nonprofit organizations: American Animal Hospital Association, American Veterinary Medical Association, state veterinary medical associations</p>	0	\$0.00

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			<p>in the U.S. and Canada, American Society of Veterinary Medical Association Executives, Veterinary Hospital Managers Association, Veterinary Ophthalmic Technicians Society, Guiding Eyes for the Blind, American Association of Detection Dogs, North American Police Dog Association, National Narcotic Detection Dog Association, Patriot Paws Service Dogs, Paws with a Cause, Department of Homeland Security, and Service Dogs of America. Additional organizational support is pending.</p> <p>Sponsors include Hill's Pet Nutrition, OptiGen, and Kong Veterinary Products.</p>		
04/30/2009	ACVO/Merial National Service Dog Eye Exam Event	Dog Talk Newsletter		250	\$0.00
04/30/2009	Keeping an Eye on Dogs' Sight	Waterbury Republican-American		53,000	\$0.00
04/30/2009	National Service Dog Exam	ABC 33/40 News at 6 PM - WJSU-TV	The Veterinary Eye Center, located at 3783 Pine Lane SE in Bessemer, close to Birmingham, AL. Mention eye exam event.	0	\$0.00
05/01/2009	Free Eye Screenings For Service Dogs! May 5-8!	tucson.craigsl ist.org	Apr 30, 2009 ... In order to receive the complimentary examination, dogs must be registered at www.acvoeyeexam.org after April 1 and then Veterinary ...	0	\$0.00

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05/02/2009	Eye Exams for Service Dogs	Pittsburgh Post-Gazette	<p>Eye exams for service dogs Service dogs can get free eye exams next week. Dog that qualify lead the blind, assist people with disabilities or work as detection dogs or search and rescue dogs.</p> <p>The dogs must have gone through a formal program at approved training organizations. Go to www. ACVOeyeexam.org to see if a dog qualifies. An appointment with a local veterinary ophthalmologist can be set up after the dog is registered on the ACVO Web site.</p> <p>In Pittsburgh this service will be offered on Wednesday, Friday, and next Saturday at the Animal Eye Clinic of Pittsburgh at the Pittsburgh Veterinary Specialty and Emergency Center, 807 Camp Horne Road, Ohio Township.</p> <p>This is the ACVO/Merial National Service Dog Eye Exam Day sponsored nationwide by Merial, Hill's Pet Nutrition, OPTIGEN and Kong Veterinary Products.</p>	212,075	\$3,965.47

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05/03/2009	Looking Out For Service Dogs	WOWT-TV - Online	Looking Out For Service Dogs	0	\$0.00
			<p>Free eye exams offered this week Posted: 9:04 PM May 3, 2009 Last Updated: 11:49 PM May 3, 2009 Reporter: Jaime McCutcheon Email Address: sixonline@wowt.com 3 comments</p> <p>----- -----</p> <p>Looking Out For Service Dogs</p> <p>----- -----</p> <p>A A A Service dogs perform many tasks, helping law enforcement, those with medical conditions and the visually-impaired. One program is giving them free help to keep on working.</p> <p>"Rusty is kind of a combination assistance/guide dog, not so much on the guide dog side, but Hannah is legally blind and she has developmental disabilities," says Sheri Thilking of Omaha.</p> <p>It took three years for Rusty to come into daughter Hannah Thilking's life. Now the two are inseparable.</p> <p>"She must have sat and petted on him and rubbed him for a good 40 minutes and just kept saying, this is my buddy, this is my friend." A friend who helps get Hannah down and around the path of life.</p> <p>"We walked down the whole length of the mall,</p>		

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			<p>just me and her and him and we got down to the end and I just started crying and they said what's the matter and I said this is the first time that I have not had to hold on to her, guide her around people, guide her around objects, she just did it by herself with his help."</p> <p>Hannah has some independence for the first time with the help of Rusty's eyes. "His eyesight is probably his number one thing that we have to take care of and always make sure because basically he's Hannah's eyes."</p> <p>"The week of May 4th is the National Service Dog Event for the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists," says veterinary ophthalmologist Dr. Tonya McInay, which means free eye exams for trained service dogs.</p> <p>"Basically checking for any kind of disease such as cataracts or retinal problems or potentially tumors or anything that may prevent them from performing their service, what their job is."</p> <p>Dr. McInay's office is doing the free service dog exams this week, but you need to register online.</p>		

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05/03/2009	Free Doggie Eye Exams	WCMH-TV	<p>COLUMBUS, Ohio—This week is National Service Dog week. Ophthalmologists from MedVet Medical and Cancer Center for Pets are offering free complete ophthalmic examinations to service dogs. These dogs include guide dogs, handicapped assistance dogs, detection dogs, police dogs and search and rescue dogs. By offering these free services the hope is the service dog's health is improved and potential disease averted so they can continue their jobs of helping people.</p> <p>To schedule an eye exam for your service dog, contact MedVet Medical and Cancer Center for Pets at (614) 846-5800. The free service will be offered on Monday, May 4 and Friday May 8, 2009.</p> <p>For additional information, stay with NBC 4 and refresh nbc4i.com—Where Accuracy Matters.</p>	0	\$0.00

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05/04/2009	the 2nd Annual Service Dog Eye Exam event	WFMZ-TV	<p>The American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists (ACVO), in association with Pet Health Systems, will host the 2nd Annual Service Dog Eye Exam event in veterinary medicine the week of May 4, 2009. ACVO board certified veterinary ophthalmologists will DONATE their services to provide eye examinations to America's Service Dogs. Pet Health Systems will provide a lifestyle assessment, a biochemical profile, and complete blood count through their Pet Wellness Report and PRIMARY CARE VETERINARIANS ONLY. Through this program, these two organizations will DONATE services in excess of \$900,000.00 to Service Dogs. Best of all, the dog's owner/agent will incur NO COST for these services. It is anticipated that through these efforts Service Dog health can be improved and potential disease averted.</p> <p>Valley Central Veterinary Referral Center is a state of the art specialty center for small animals which will participate in this event. On Monday May 4th our Ophthalmology department at VCVRC will examine service dogs at NO CHARGE. The first goal for the "Service Dog Eye Exam Day" is to aid the service dogs across the US and Canada. The second goal is to create a data base that can be used in the future to track eye disease in service dogs and possibly relate those ocular problems to the work the dogs do.</p> <p>Valley Central Veterinary Referral Center 210 Fullerton Ave Whitehall PA 18052 610 435 1553 Website: VCVRH.com</p>	0	\$0.00

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05/05/2009	Free Eye Exams this Week across the US and Canada	newsguide.us	<p data-bbox="737 277 1272 699">Tribute to Service Dogs: Free Eye Exams this Week Across America and Canada ACVO®/Merial® National Service Dog Eye Exams unites veterinary ophthalmologists with thousands of service dogs for free exams May 3-9 Many of ACVO's ophthalmologists generously provide similar services to their service dog clients throughout the year. Our hope is that by checking these animals' vision on the national day of service, we will be able to help a large number of dogs better assist their human friends. to advance the quality of veterinary medicine through certification of veterinarians who demonstrate excellence as specialists in veterinary ophthalmology.</p> <p data-bbox="737 716 1272 1268">(Vocus/PRWEB) May 4, 2009 -- Guide dogs, handicapped assistance dogs, detection dogs and search and rescue dogs selflessly serve the public with no compensation. The week of May 3, the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists® (ACVO®) is launching the 2nd ACVO®/Merial® National Service Dog Eye Exam Day sponsored by Merial, Hill's Pet Nutrition, OPTIGEN, and Kong Veterinary Products to help serve these dogs who dedicate their lives to serving us. More than 150 board certified veterinary ophthalmologists in the U.S. and Canada will provide free sight-saving eye exams to thousands of service dogs. ACVO/Merial To qualify, dogs must be "working dogs" certified through a formal training program or organization. The mission of ACVO's National Service Dog Eye Exam is to preserve the sight and health of these animals whose partners depend upon them.</p> <p data-bbox="737 1284 1272 1464">"Many of ACVO's ophthalmologists generously provide similar services to their service dog clients throughout the year," says Stacey Daniel, executive director of the organization. "Our hope is that by checking these animals' vision on the national day of service, we will be able to help a</p>	0	\$0.00

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			<p>large number of dogs better assist their human friends.” To learn more about and register for ACVO®/Merial® National Service Dog Eye Exam, please visit www.ACVOeyeexam.org.</p> <p>About the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists The American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists® is an approved veterinary specialty organization of the American Board of Veterinary Specialties, and is recognized by the American Veterinary Medical Association. Its mission is “to advance the quality of veterinary medicine through certification of veterinarians who demonstrate excellence as specialists in veterinary ophthalmology.” To become board certified a candidate must complete a DVM degree, a one year internship, a three year approved residency and pass a series of credentials and examinations. For more information, please visit www.ACVO.org.</p> <p>The following non-profit organizations have supported the National Service Dog Eye Exam Day: American Animal Hospital Association, American Veterinary Medical Association, state veterinary medical associations in the U.S. and Canada, American Society of Veterinary Medical Association Executives, Veterinary Hospital Managers Association, Veterinary Ophthalmic Technicians Society, Guiding Eyes for the Blind, American Association of Detection Dogs, North American Police Dog Association, National Narcotic Detection Dog Association, Patriot Paws Service Dogs, Paws with a Cause, Department of Homeland Security and Service Dogs of America. Additional organizational support is pending.</p>		

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05/05/2009	Dog's Eye View	Guelph Mercury, The	<p>Dog's eye view</p> <p>May 05, 2009 Mallory Bresolin Special to the Mercury</p> <p>Bob had his eyes examined yesterday. Everything was fine, but he had to take the rest of the day off work.</p> <p>The four-year-old German shepherd, was taken to the University of Guelph's Ontario Veterinary Clinic for a free eye exam. The American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists offers the service annually for service dogs.</p> <p>"Just because I didn't see anything this year, doesn't mean I won't see something next year," said Nick Whelan, associate professor of veterinary ophthalmology at the University of Guelph.</p> <p>Monitoring the eyesight of service dogs is crucial because of the work they do. The eyesight of five service dogs was checked.</p> <p>"Animals are such an important part of people's lives," said Whelan, which is why the OVC decided to take part in the event.</p> <p>Whelan needed to dilate Bob's eyes with drops before he could do the exam. For a thorough examination, "I look at the front part, then the middle, then the back of the eye," said Whelan. He says each breed has different issues when it comes to eyesight.</p> <p>Labrador retrievers, who are most often used as seeing-eye dogs, "have a specific type of cataract," said Whelan. He likened the cataract to putting a dab of Vaseline in the middle of a dog's eye. German shepherds like Bob, however, are more likely to have pigment problems in their</p>	14,000	\$30.59

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05/06/2009	Tribute to Service Dogs: Free Eye Exams this Week Across America ...	Individual.com	<p>eyes.</p> <p>The dogs are instructed not to work for the remainder of the day, which means the owners may have to make other arrangements to get home.</p> <p>Bob's eyes are "going to stay dilated for the rest of the day," said Whelan, who didn't see any problems with Bob during the exam.</p> <p>Before leaving the clinic, Bob's owner, Joanne Sephton put a mask on Bob to keep the light from straining his dilated eyes.</p> <p>Sephton said the assistance dog wasn't nervous for the exam. "He loves it here."</p>	0	\$0.00

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05/07/2009	Rocklin participates in national program to protect service dogs' vision	Placer Herald	<p>By Lauren Weber, The Placer Herald</p> <p>For service dogs, eyesight is key.</p> <p>They rely on sight to direct their sight-impaired owner or track down a runaway criminal.</p> <p>Because a strong sense of sight is essential for service dogs, a weeklong, national partnership with local veterinary ophthalmologists was put into place.</p> <p>Throughout the week, guide dogs, detection dogs and search and rescue dogs have been in and out of the Animal Eye Center in Rocklin for their annual eye exams, at no cost.</p> <p>It's all part of the national campaign called ACVO/Merial National Service Dog Eye Exam Day. Certified dogs can visit the center and receive a quick and painless eye exam.</p> <p>Dr. Lana Linton of Animal Eye Center on Pacific Street, said this is the second year the Rocklin clinic has participated in the free exams.</p> <p>"It's our way of making sure these service dogs with their eyes so important, that they're doing well," Linton said.</p> <p>Animal Eye Center is a member of the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists and is one of the many service centers providing animal eye care for free through Saturday.</p> <p>Tuesday morning, Linton's first appointment was with Bear, a 2-year-old standard schnauzer in the midst of training to become a search and rescue dog, and Big B, a 12-year-old poodle who is a therapy dog.</p> <p>Dottie Michelmore of Carmichael, the owner of Bear and Big B, brought her dogs in as a</p>	13,000	\$1,236.95

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precaution – neither had any previous eyesight problems.

Michelmore said she heard about the free exams through the Sacramento County Sheriff Search and Rescue organization she belongs to with Bear.

Bear is about half way through his training to be a trailing dog, in which he will track scent articles such as a piece of clothing with a human scent. Michelmore said it takes about two to three years to complete training with pretend searches conducted three times a week.

“The dogs have the instinct to track, it’s just how strong of an instinct,” Michelmore said. “He loves the tracking part of it.”

Big B’s calmness lends itself to work as a therapy dog. The black poodle visits people at Kaiser Permanente Hospital in Sacramento where he shows off his tricks and visits with patients.

Tuesday’s appointment began with eye drops for the dogs, making their pupils dilate. After about 20 minutes, Bear and Big B were ready for their annual checkup.

With each eye exam, Linton examines the eye, eyelids and pupils, checks the animal’s depth perception and uses an indirect optiscope to look at the retina. Some dogs are more susceptible to genetic eye disorders and diseases such as cataracts, Linton said, so she also checks for that.

Linton said she recommends annual exams, especially with retinal diseases that show up at an older age.

Linton found a small, benign eyelid tumor in Bear that was “no big deal” and an age-related cataract in Big B, but neither were anything to bring up

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concerns.

“Your retina looks sharp,” Linton said of Bear’s eyes.

Linton also tested eye tracking in bright light, dim light and darkness by dropping a cotton ball to see if the dog followed the drop.

The exam concluded with tricks and treats for the canines and a promise to be back for next year’s check up.

Although this year only attracted about a dozen free service dog appointments to Rocklin, Linton said approximately 1,500 free eye exams were administered nationwide during last year’s campaign.

Linton is one of more than 150 board-certified veterinary ophthalmologists across the U.S. that provide free eye exams to service dogs during the week.

“Our hope is that by checking these animals’ vision on the national day of service, we will be able to help a large number of dogs better assist their human friends,” said Stacey Daniel, executive director of the organization, in a news release.

For more information, go to acvoeyeexam.org.

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05/07/2009	Free eye exams in Lynnwood help keep service dogs on the job	Daily Herald, The	<p>Free eye exams in Lynnwood help keep service dogs on the job</p> <p>By Chris Fyall Herald Writer</p> <p>LYNNWOOD -- Otto can pick up his owner's fallen credit cards, her car keys, her crutches. Sometimes, he evens pushes elevator buttons for her.</p> <p>But Otto, a beautiful 9-year-old chocolate Lab, cannot do any of that without good eyesight.</p> <p>That's why Karen Hazelrigg, who has post-polio syndrome, brought him to Dr. Susan Jacobi at Lynnwood's VCA Veterinary Speciality Center of Seattle for a free checkup Tuesday afternoon.</p> <p>Jacobi is an animal eye doctor and is volunteering her time for the service dogs this week. The exams normally cost \$135. She is one of about 150 veterinary ophthalmologists across the United States and Canada participating in a program sponsored by the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists.</p> <p>More than 1,500 dogs are signed up across North America, veterinary college officials said. Registration closed on April 30.</p> <p>Protecting the vision of service dogs is the program's goal.</p> <p>"Our hope is that by checking these animals' vision on the national day of service, we will be able help a large number of dogs better assist their human friends," said Stacey Daniel, the program's executive director.</p> <p>With a dog as patient as Otto, an eye exam is a relatively simple affair. Jacobi gave him various eye drops and shined a series of lights into his</p>	54,634	\$3,726.86

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			<p>eyes. Through it all, Otto wagged his tail like it was his job.</p> <p>After 45 minutes, he got a clean bill of health. Mostly.</p> <p>If he were a voracious reader -- instead of a dog - - he might need reading glasses, Jacobi said. Of course, that's normal for a dog his age, she said.</p> <p>Otto's health didn't come as a surprise for Hazelrigg.</p> <p>After his last blood test, things looked so good that doctors half-wondered if Otto hadn't cheated, Hazelrigg said.</p> <p>"He apparently has the blood of a 2-year-old," she said.</p> <p>Still, it was important to hear that his eyesight was solid, too.</p> <p>Hazelrigg and her husband, Nigel, drove all the way from Point Roberts, the peninsula near the Canadian border, for their appointment.</p> <p>The checkup was worth the hassle.</p> <p>"It is a great offer," Hazelrigg said. "Otto is a great dog."</p> <p>Chris Fyall: 425-339-3447, cfyall@heraldnet.com.</p>		

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05/07/2009	Animal Eye Doctors Offer a Salve for Working Dogs' Souls as Well as Sight	Washington Post	<p>Animal Eye Doctors Offer a Salve for Working Dogs' Souls as Well as Sight</p> <p>By John Kelly Thursday, May 7, 2009</p> <p>To be perfectly honest, most of the working dogs who padded into the SouthPaws veterinary clinic in Fairfax yesterday morning don't really depend on their eyes for their jobs. It's their noses that bring in the paychecks: the smell of an injured person trapped under a collapsed building, the telltale scent of a stick of Semtex hidden in a glove compartment.</p> <p>But a dog's eyes are important, too, and so every year, Nancy Bromberg, animal ophthalmologist, is among veterinarians offering a free vision check for the working dogs and therapy dogs of the Washington area.</p> <p>Grizzly was her first patient, a border collie in training to be a search and rescue dog.</p> <p>How does that training work, I asked owners Marci and Chris Larson of Bristow.</p> <p>"I get lost," Chris said.</p> <p>Grizzly jumped up on a carpeted platform, and Dr. Bromberg shined a lamp in his big dark eyes.</p> <p>Dogs have some of the same eye problems humans do: glaucoma, cataracts, retinal degeneration. Dogs have the further complication that most can't resist bounding into bushes or tall grass.</p> <p>"Foreign matter in their eyes can get compacted, or they might get a seed in their third eyelid making them more likely to get a corneal ulcer," Dr. Bromberg said.</p>	715,181	\$83,524.50

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What a minute. Third eyelid?

Yes, Dr. Bromberg said, dogs have three eyelids: a top one, a bottom one and a third one underneath the lower lid that "comes up from the inner corner and sweeps across the eye like a windshield wiper and cleans debris."

Fun fact to work into future cocktail party conversation: A gland at the base of the dog's third eyelid produces 50 percent of its tears.

Dr. Bromberg looked into Grizzly's eyes, examining the eyelids, the conjunctiva and the surface of the cornea. Then she squeezed a few drops of the same stuff you and I get to dilate our pupils and sent him to wait in another room.

Dr. Bromberg knew from the age of 6 that she wanted to be a veterinarian. She was raised in a fourth-floor walk-up apartment in Brooklyn, but her family always had pets: dogs, birds, a turtle, a hamster. She never owned a horse, but she learned to ride one not far away in Canarsie. At vet school at the University of Pennsylvania, she gravitated toward the animal eye and made it her specialty.

As Grizzly waited for his eyes to dilate two armed and uniformed Pentagon K-9 officers came in with their bomb-sniffing dogs: Fibi, an excitable yellow Lab, and Sasha, a regal-looking Dutch shepherd.

"When we're working, I'm just the guy with the leash," said Sasha's handler, who, being a DOD guy, didn't want his name used. "And I hand her the toy."

Next up was another Pentagon dog, a brown-and-white border collie named Bonzi. He had a spot on his left iris, a little freckle-like thing called a nevus. It hadn't gotten any worse in the year

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since Dr. Bromberg had last seen him. Then came Jessie, a pit bull mix therapy dog. Her owner, Samantha Duvall, takes Jessie to libraries in Spotsylvania County, where children read to her, appreciating a nonjudgmental audience.

Some dogs go blind, of course. Glaucoma robs them of their vision, the world slowly blinks out. "But they adapt just fine," said Dr. Bromberg. They adapt so well that "some owners think their dogs have gotten their vision back when they haven't."

Although a little vision problem might be okay for some dogs -- Bonzi's handler said a one-eyed bomb-sniffing dog just moved from the Pentagon to the Secret Service -- it's not all right for others. Seeing Eye dogs spring to mind.

What does Dr. Bromberg see when she looks into the eyes of a dog? Does she see fatigue or stress? Do these working dogs worry that the economic downturn will leave them unemployed? Are they haunted by the bomb they may not find, the person they may not rescue?

No, what she sees is color, glorious color. At the back of a dog's retina is something called the tapetum lucidum. It's a layer of reflective cells, and it's what allows dogs to see so well in the dark.

It's different in every dog -- even in the same dog. The tapetum can be golden or emerald. In puppies it's often the pale purple of a hyacinth. When she gazes into their dilated pupils, Dr. Bromberg sees the Northern Lights, an explosion of jewel tones dancing just this side of their brains, the stained-glass windows to their canine souls.

It's almost Friday already. Join me tomorrow at noon for my weekly online chat. Go to

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<http://www.washingtonpost.com/discussions>.

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05/08/2009	Free Eye Exams for Service Dogs	seattle.backpage.com	We are the ophthalmology department of the VCA Veterinary Specialty Center of Seattle. During the week of May 3 we are offering free eye exams for all Service dogs in the area. Please see information below. We'd like to help as many dogs and their owners as possible.	0	\$0.00

Susan Jacobi Dr.med.vet., MS, DACVO
VCA Veterinary Specialty Center of Seattle
20155 44th Avenue West
Lynnwood, WA 98036
Tel: 425-697-6106
Fax: 425-608-7658

Calling All Seattle Area Service Dogs - What's Your 20?

ACVO/Merial National Service Dog Eye Exam brings together veterinary ophthalmologists and thousands of service dogs for free exams May 3-9

Seattle, WA - Guide dogs, handicapped assistance dogs, detection dogs and search and rescue dogs selflessly serve the public with no compensation. The week of May 3, VCA Veterinary Specialty Center of Seattle – Ophthalmology Department, a member of the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists® (ACVO®), is participating in the ACVO®/Merial® National Service Dog Eye Exam Day sponsored by Merial, Hill's Pet Nutrition, OPTIGEN, and Kong Veterinary Products to help serve these dogs who dedicate their lives to serving us. Dr. Susan Jacobi is one of more than 150 board certified veterinary ophthalmologists across the U.S. and Canada who will provide free sight-saving eye exams to thousands of service dogs nationwide.

To qualify, dogs must be "working dogs" certified

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			<p>through a formal training program or organization. The mission of the National Service Dog Eye Exam is to preserve the sight and health of these animals whose partners depend upon them.</p> <p>“Many of ACVO's ophthalmologists generously provide similar services to their service dog clients throughout the year,” says Stacey Daniel, executive director of the organization. “Our hope is that by checking these animals' vision on the national day of service, we will be able to help a large number of dogs better assist their human friends.”</p> <p>How to Register Dogs must be active “working dogs” that were certified by a formal training program or organization or currently enrolled in a formal training program to qualify. The certifying organization could be national, regional or local in nature. Specific service groups are listed on the website. Owners/agents for the dog(s) will register the animal via an online registration form beginning April 1. Once registered, the owner/agent can call VCA Veterinary Specialty Center of Seattle to schedule an appointment.</p> <p>To learn more about and register for ACVO®/Merial® National Service Dog Eye Exam, please visit www.ACVOeyeexam.org.</p>		
			<p>About the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists The American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists® is an approved veterinary specialty organization of the American Board of Veterinary Specialties, and is recognized by the American Veterinary Medical Association. Its mission is “to advance the quality of veterinary medicine through certification of veterinarians who demonstrate excellence as specialists in</p>		

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			<p>veterinary ophthalmology." To become board certified a candidate must complete a DVM degree, a one year internship, a three year approved residency and pass a series of credentials and examinations. For more information, please visit www.ACVO.org.</p> <p>The following non-profit organizations have supported the National Service Dog Eye Exam: American Animal Hospital Association, American Veterinary Medical Association, state veterinary medical associations in the U.S. and Canada, American Society of Veterinary Medical Association Executives, Veterinary Hospital Managers Association, Veterinary Ophthalmic Technicians Society, Guiding Eyes for the Blind, American Association of Detection Dogs, North American Police Dog Association, National Narcotic Detection Dog Association, Patriot Paws Service Dogs, Paws with a Cause, Department of Homeland Security and Service Dogs of America. Additional organizational support is pending.</p>		

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05/10/2009	VSRDA Dogs Benefit from Free Eye Exams	Virginia Search and Rescue Dog Association	<p>VSRDA Dogs Benefit from Free Eye Exams</p> <p>Sirius and Cooper received free eye exams from Nancy Bromberg, a veterinary ophthalmologist at SouthPaws Veterinary Specialists & Emergency Center on May 4, 2009. For the past few years, Dr. Bromberg has been part of this free event, in partnership with AVCO/ Merial. These exams are annually offered to service dogs; to include military dogs, police dogs, SAR dog and therapy dogs.</p> <p>In past years, Dr. Bromberg has caught several issues requiring attention on several VSRDA dogs!! We thank her for her time and attention to detail.</p> <p>The event was covered by the Baltimore Sun and there is a news article and video illustrating the exam.</p> <p>•Video with Cooper and Sirius http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/health/balto.hs.dogs11may11,0,2894007.story</p>	0	\$0.00

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05/11/2009	Eyeing dogs' sight	Baltimore Sun	<p>Eyeing dogs' sight Vets donate time to give service dogs a checkup By Meredith Cohn meredith.cohn@baltsun.com May 11, 2009</p> <p>Tali's pupils were dilated, so ophthalmologist Nancy Bromberg dimmed the lights and began peering deep into his big brown eyes. She declared them healthy a few minutes later, except for a little allergy-related irritation.</p> <p>That's good news for Tali, a 6-year-old who lives in Columbia with Meg Meyers and needs good eyesight to continue working.</p> <p>Sure, Tali works for back scratches and cookies, but nonetheless, he has an important job. The soft, brown field spaniel is a therapy dog who regularly makes the rounds as a goodwill ambassador in a residential high school for girls. He has done similar work in an assisted-living facility.</p> <p>"We need to make sure they're healthy so they can help others stay healthy," said Nancy Bromberg, a veterinary ophthalmologist at SouthPaws Veterinary Specialists & Emergency Center in Fairfax, Va., of the dogs she spent last week examining. "Sometimes we can identify minor problems and treat them, or we can identify more major problems early."</p> <p>Related links Eye exams for service dogs Photos Annual exams The American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists recommends annual exams for dogs, either with a primary vet or an ophthalmologist. The group plans to hold the free exam event next year. Registration and information will be on its Web site, acvo.org.</p>	232,138	\$24,463.82

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			<p>Unleashed: A blog for pet lovers</p> <p>Diseases of vision affect twice as many women as men In all, Bromberg expected to see about 40 dogs from Maryland, Virginia and Washington. As part of an annual event, the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists arranged for about 170 veterinary ophthalmologists around the country to offer free exams for up to 2,000 dogs. The animals aid in search and rescue, offer assistance to disabled people or give time and attention to those who just need the unconditional love of a dog.</p> <p>There are an estimated 40,000 to 60,000 American service dogs, but no one really knows the exact number because there is no central registry, said Michelle Cobey, a spokeswoman for the Delta Society, which had no role in the screenings. The society connects those in need of service and therapy animals with trainers, partially though its Web site, deltasociety.org.</p> <p>The dogs can't work in any field without good eyesight, but they can't tell anyone when there is a problem, said Stacey L. Daniel, executive director of the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists. The group started the free exam program last year, seeing about 1,500 dogs.</p> <p>Most of the nation's 310 practicing veterinary ophthalmologists already were waiving their \$50-\$100 examination fee for service dogs, so the group decided to organize the effort to reach more dogs. The group also aims to collect useful data on problems with specific breeds or kinds of service dogs.</p> <p>"A seeing-eye dog, ironically, might be losing his sight, and the person [he's assisting] may not know," Daniel said. "That may put the person's life at risk. ...That's the most extreme example. Most dogs we see are healthy."</p>		

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			<p>Tali was one of the healthy ones. He left his exam with a prescription for the allergies and will continue working with National Capital Therapy Dogs Inc. He wasn't always the model service dog. Meyers called him a "cuckoo puppy." But he demonstrated his warm personality and ability to obey commands and became certified three years ago.</p> <p>"He's made a lot of people happy," Meyers said. "He puts them at ease. He makes them laugh. No matter what you do, he's there wagging his tail."</p> <p>Other dogs, it seems, were born to help. Cooper, a German shepherd who works for the Virginia Search & Rescue Dog Association, is one. He recently went on a two-day search for a blind hiker lost on the Appalachian Trail. The man was found after he lit a fire.</p> <p>Autumn Manka said her husband insisted on adopting Cooper and putting him to work helping others. Same with David Wyttenbach, who adopted a German shepherd he named Sirius Black (yes, named for the Harry Potter character). Sirius is still in training. But, it's not too soon to make sure his eyes are healthy.</p> <p>"People think of dog noses being important, but they don't think about the eyes," said Wyttenbach. "But they're pretty important. They get a lot of sticks, dust and pollen in them. They need to be checked."</p> <p>This time, Bromberg found nothing to worry about with Sirius or Cooper, but she said it's good to check. German shepherds are prone to pannus, a disease can lead to blindness if not controlled early.</p> <p>"No problems," said Bromberg. "That's what we want."</p>		

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05/13/2009	Doc, do I need glasses?	Oakland Tribune, The	"OLLIVANDER," a service dog owned by Veronica Morris of El Cerrito gets a free full eye exam from Dr. Duane Flemming at the Contra Costa Animal Eye Clinic in Pleasant Hill. During the exams May 3-9, Flemming checked for signs of eye disease, dilated the pupils and looked at the lens and back of the eyes of canine patients that included guide dogs, handicapped assistance dogs, detection dogs, and search and rescue dogs.	68,426	\$0.00
05/14/2009	Doggie Eye Exams	Bucks County Courier Times	Dr. Robert Peiffer of CARES (Center for Animal Referral and Emergency Services) in Langhorne checks for inherited diseases that affect dogs' vision this evening as the center participates in National Service Dog Eye Exam Day. Here Dr. Peiffer checks seeing eye dog, Eagle, using a bio microscope as Eagles' owner, Lisa Davidson of Warminster (right) keeps him calm. Eagle is a 6-yr-old black lab/golden retriever mix.	67,000	\$215.44

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05/20/2009	More Than 1500 Service Dogs Receive Free Sight Saving Eye Exams	Yahoo! News	<p>ACVO®/Merial® National Service Dog Eye Exam event is highly successful in pairing veterinary ophthalmologists with service dogs throughout the U.S. and Canada</p> <p>Meridian, ID (Vocus) May 20, 2009 -- She has been blind for 13 years. So, when Lisa Davidson, of Warminster, PA found out about the ACVO/Merial National Service Dog Eye Exam event, she was elated. She completely relies on her guide dog, Eagle for assistance. "I think it's great these animals are being represented because they have a very special job to do," says Ms. Davidson. "Eagle has opened many doors for me, to allow me to become independent. It's so important that his eyes are working."</p> <p>And, that's exactly the reason behind the event. Stacey Daniel, executive director of the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists (ACVO) says, "If we can assist more dogs, then the dogs can better assist people." The effort, which took place the week of May 4th, 2009 brought together more than 150 board certified veterinary ophthalmologists across the U.S. and Canada to provide free sight-saving eye exams to more than 1,500 dogs. "This event was such a success due to the outstanding support of our volunteer ophthalmologists, our sponsors and the service dog community," adds Ms. Daniel. "All were instrumental in helping these dogs."</p> <p>Lisa Davidson took Eagle to the Center for Animal Referral and Emergency Services in Langhorne, PA to get his free eye exam. Board certified veterinary ophthalmologist, Dr. Robert Peiffer, examined the 6 year-old black lab/golden retriever mix and gave Eagle a clean bill of health. "In these exams, we hope to identify any health issues in their early stages," says Dr. Peiffer. "Early detection and treatment are the keys to fast recovery."</p>	533,000	\$0.00

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At Katonah Bedford Veterinary Center, in Bedford Hills, NY, Pele, a young Labrador retriever was examined by board certified veterinary ophthalmologist, Dr. Cory Mosunic. "We're looking for any retinal disease or early cataracts," says Dr. Mosunic. "We're also looking for things that will limit their vision down the road, whether it's an ingrown hair or anything that can result in a scratch of the cornea. It's a complete ocular exam." Pele is from Puppies Behind Bars, an organization providing psychiatric service dogs to soldiers coming home from Iraq and Afghanistan. "I'm deeply appreciative of the veterinarians that participate in this," says Puppies Behind Bars President and Founder, Gloria Gilbert Stoga. "I think it's a wonderful service."

Dogs participating included active "working dogs" that were certified by a formal training program or organization or currently enrolled in a formal training program. Specific service groups are listed on the website at www.acvoeyeexam.org.

Plans for next year

This is the second year for the ACVO/Merial National Service Dog Eye Exam Event. Plans for next year are already underway and will likely take place again the first week of May 2010. People are invited to learn more, by visiting www.acvoeyexam.org.

Sponsors:

Sponsors for the 2009 ACVO/Merial National Service Dog Eye Exam Event include: The American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists, Merial, Kong Veterinary Products, Optigen and Hills.

About the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists

The American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists® is an approved veterinary specialty organization of the American Board of

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			<p>Veterinary Specialties, and is recognized by the American Veterinary Medical Association. Its mission is "to advance the quality of veterinary medicine through certification of veterinarians who demonstrate excellence as specialists in veterinary ophthalmology." To become board certified a candidate must complete a DVM degree, a one year internship, a three year approved residency and pass a series of credentials and examinations. For more information, please visit www.ACVO.org.</p> <p>The following non-profit organizations have supported the National Service Dog Eye Exam Day: American Animal Hospital Association, American Veterinary Medical Association, state veterinary medical associations in the U.S. and Canada, American Society of Veterinary Medical Association Executives, Veterinary Hospital Managers Association, Veterinary Ophthalmic Technicians Society, Guiding Eyes for the Blind, American Association of Detection Dogs, North American Police Dog Association, National Narcotic Detection Dog Association, Patriot Paws Service Dogs, Paws with a Cause, Department of Homeland Security and Service Dogs of America. Additional organizational support is pending.</p>		

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05/20/2009	More Than 1500 Service Dogs Receive Free Sight Saving Eye Exams	topix.com	<p>More Than 1,500 Service Dogs Receive Free Sight Saving Eye Exams PRWeb</p> <p>May 20, 2009</p> <p>Original PRWeb article: More Than 1,500 Service Dogs Receive Free Sight Saving Eye Exams Meridian, ID (Vocus) May 20, 2009 -- She has been blind for 13 years. So, when Lisa Davidson, of Warminster, PA found out about the ACVO/Merial National Service Dog Eye Exam event, she was elated. She completely relies on her guide dog, Eagle for assistance. 'I think it's great these animals are being represented because they have a very special job to do,' says Ms. Davidson. 'Eagle has opened many doors for me, to allow me to become independent. It's so important that his eyes are working.'</p> <p>And, that's exactly the reason behind the event. Stacey Daniel, executive director of the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists (ACVO) says, 'If we can assist more dogs, then the dogs can better assist people.' The effort, which took place the week of May 4th, 2009 brought together more than 150 board certified veterinary ophthalmologists across the U.S. and Canada to provide free sight-saving eye exams to more than 1,500 dogs. 'This event was such a success due to the outstanding support of our volunteer ophthalmologists, our sponsors and the service dog community,' adds Ms. Daniel. 'All were instrumental in helping these dogs.'</p> <p>Lisa Davidson took Eagle to the Center for Animal Referral and Emergency Services in Langhorne, PA to get his free eye exam. Board certified veterinary ophthalmologist, Dr. Robert Peiffer, examined the 6 year-old black lab/golden retriever mix and gave Eagle a clean bill of health.</p>	0	\$0.00

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			<p>'In these exams, we hope to identify any health issues in their early stages,' says Dr. Peiffer. 'Early detection and treatment are the keys to fast recovery.'</p> <p>At Katonah Bedford Veterinary Center, in Bedford Hills, NY, Pele, a young Labrador retriever was examined by board certified veterinary ophthalmologist, Dr. Cory Mosunic. 'We're looking for any retinal disease or early cataracts,' says Dr. Mosunic. 'We're also looking for things that will limit their vision down the road, whether it's an ingrown hair or anything that can result in a scratch of the cornea. It's a complete ocular exam.' Pele is from Puppies Behind Bars, an organization providing psychiatric service dogs to soldiers coming home from Iraq and Afghanistan. 'I'm deeply appreciative of the veterinarians that participate in this,' says Puppies Behind Bars President and Founder, Gloria Gilbert Stoga. 'I think it's a wonderful service.'</p> <p>Dogs participating included active 'working dogs' that were certified by a formal training program or organization or currently enrolled in a formal training program. Specific service groups are listed on the website at www.acvoeyexam.org.</p> <p>Plans for next year This is the second year for the ACVO/Merial National Service Dog Eye Exam Event. Plans for next year are already underway and will likely take place again the first week of May 2010. People are invited to learn more, by visiting www.acvoeyexam.org.</p> <p>Sponsors: Sponsors for the 2009 ACVO/Merial National Service Dog Eye Exam Event include: The American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists, Merial, Kong Veterinary Products, Optigen and Hills.</p>		

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05/20/2009	More Than 1500 Service Dogs Receive Free Sight Saving Eye Exams	bio-medicine.org	<p>ACVO®/Merial® National Service Dog Eye Exam event is highly successful in pairing veterinary ophthalmologists with service dogs throughout the U.S. and Canada</p> <p>Meridian, ID (Vocus) May 20, 2009 -- She has been blind for 13 years. So, when Lisa Davidson, of Warminster, PA found out about the ACVO/Merial National Service Dog Eye Exam event, she was elated. She completely relies on her guide dog, Eagle for assistance. "I think it's great these animals are being represented because they have a very special job to do," says Ms. Davidson. "Eagle has opened many doors for me, to allow me to become independent. It's so important that his eyes are working."</p> <p>And, that's exactly the reason behind the event. Stacey Daniel, executive director of the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists (ACVO) says, "If we can assist more dogs, then the dogs can better assist people." The effort, which took place the week of May 4th, 2009 brought together more than 150 board certified veterinary ophthalmologists across the U.S. and Canada to provide free sight-saving eye exams to more than 1,500 dogs. "This event was such a success due to the outstanding support of our volunteer ophthalmologists, our sponsors and the service dog community," adds Ms. Daniel. "All were instrumental in helping these dogs."</p> <p>Lisa Davidson took Eagle to the Center for Animal Referral and Emergency Services in Langhorne, PA</p>	0	\$0.00

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05/22/2009	Let There be Sight	Record Review	Let There Be Sight By Sarah Hodgson	2,000	\$0.00

Until recently I hadn't given much thought to the inner landscape and flocculating chemistry of the eye. What I can tell you of my own eyes is limited: they're brown, they twitch uncontrollably when I've had too little sleep and too much caffeine, and recently I was fitted for bifocals. My ocular ignorance, however, was brought to a happy conclusion when I met with canine ophthalmologist Dr. Cory Mosunic at the Katonah Bedford Veterinary Center last week. Describing a canine ophthalmology, she compared the similarities between our species as you or I might discuss varieties of apples.

I first received word of the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists® (ACVO) National Service Dog Eye Exam event through my editor. Providing free sight-saving eye exams to service dogs throughout the Northeast during the week of May 4th, the National Eye Exam sought to increase the public's awareness of this medical specialty in pet animals. And truth be told, I had no idea.... I'll share with you some of the things that I learned.

Arriving at the Katonah Bedford Veterinary Center, I met the scheduled patient, Aiko and his handler/owner Lee Gospodinoff. The 9-year-old German Shepherd Dog had been retired from a 5 year stint in the North Castle Police Department where he worked detecting narcotics, apprehending criminals and tracking lost persons. An impressive pair, I was drawn to the normalcy in their relationship. The two had trained together since Aiko's puppyhood and had received medals and honors in competitions and for their work both in the force and during Hurricane Katrina. Entering the exam room, it warmed me to see a happy recognition between the dog and doctor. After a lengthy behind-the-ear scratch and a long, loving yet mindfully probing glance deep into Aiko's eyes, Dr. Mosunic explained her procedure

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			<p>to me. First she would measure Aiko's eye pressure for Glaucoma. (Note to self: What exactly is Glaucoma?) Then she would use her ophthalmoscope to see the retina (Note to self: What exactly would this show her?). I had many unanswered questions, but first I observed the examination.</p> <p>In speaking with Dr. Mosunic later I was fascinated with her breezy enthusiasm and openness to share her knowledge, talking about vision and ocular degeneration like one might explain the rules of a well-loved game known by heart. She had a confidence born of study and intuition. For example, I question the cloudiness that comes over a dog's eyes as he ages. She described protein fibers that are constantly regenerating but never shed. Who knew? Most of her human patients mistake the graying of an aging dog's eyes as a sign of cataracts, but it may not be. What are cataracts then? A cataract is a disease inside the lens of the eye that may cause blindness if left untreated. Fortunately, early detection and removal will reverse its affects. Whipping out books from her shelf, she also shared her knowledge of the painful affects of glaucoma; a far more serious condition that causes increased pressure within the eye. If left undetected/untreated the pet suffers both blindness and continuous discomfort. (Final note to self: schedule an eye exam soon, both for myself and for Whoopsie.)</p> <p>If word count were not reining me in, I would go on and discuss the many other eye conditions Dr. Mosunic treats: from puppyhood abnormalities like cherry eye and entropion as well as other congenital diseases that can strike at any age. Suffice it to say there is good reason to have your pet's vision checked out by a canine ophthalmologist. So much of the degeneration and subsequent pain can be treated and/or prevented with routine eye exams.</p>		

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In the end, Aiko was given a nearly clean bill of health. It seems he suffers--as all aging mammals do--from nuclear scleroses: his youthful lens flexibility enabling focus on objects both near and far, is giving way to the rigidity of age. Far sighted, he'd need glasses to read or recognize his captive's mug shots. Oh well Aiko-- save a pair of fashionable specs, you'll just have to rely on your all powerful sniffer.

Sarah is a bestselling author and columnist who draws on over twenty years of experience to help people and dogs share the common ground of understanding. For more information visit her site at whendogstalk.com or contact her at 914.241.1111 or sarah@whendogstalk.com.

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05/22/2009	Guide Dogs Get Free Eye Exams	Dog Channel - DogChannel	<p>Guide Dogs Get Free Eye Exams National event benefited thousands of working dogs and their owners. Posted: May 22, 2009, 5 a.m. EDT</p> <p>Cory Mosunic, DVM, examines Pele.</p> <p>More than 1,500 service dogs got free eye exams as part of the recent American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists' (ACVO) national service dog eye exam event.</p> <p>The effort took place the week of May 4, 2009, pairing veterinary ophthalmologists with service dogs throughout the United States and Canada. The goal is to better assist visually impaired people by helping guide dogs, according to Stacey Daniel, executive director of the ACVO.</p> <p>During the eye exams, more than 150 board-certified veterinary ophthalmologists were checking dogs for any retinal disease or early cataracts. They also look for things that may limit their vision in the future, said Cory Mosunic, DVM, of Katonah Bedford Veterinary Center, such as an ingrown hair or anything that can result in a scratch of the cornea. "It's a complete ocular exam," Mosunic said.</p> <p>Dogs participating included active working dogs who were certified by a formal training program or organization or enrolled in a formal training program. Plans for next year's event are underway for the first week of May.</p> <p>Sponsors include Hill's Pet Nutrition of Topeka, Kan., OptiGen of Ithaca, N.Y., and Kong Veterinary Products of Irwindale, Calif.</p>	0	\$0.00

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70				4,560,752	\$471,225.75