Pet Care Solutions By Tawnya Ann Bobst RDH, B.S. Certified Aromatherapist

One morning as I was getting ready for work, I noticed that my beautiful white toy poodle was acting strangely. She was shivering, hiding in the closet and panting. This behavior was totally bizarre for her. On my way to work, I dropped her off at the Veterinarian. He said that her temperature was very high. (My first lesson, take the temperature.) He did blood work and an ultrasound. She had a wicked urinary tract infection. I had no idea that she was so sick. How could I have missed it? Had she become ill overnight? What had I missed?

The Veterinarian put her on a round of antibiotics and she responded very well. I was not so well. The guilt was eating at me. There was something missing. I had taken the Animal Intensive course with Dr Melissa Shelton. She gave the presentation of a lifetime. Entertaining, informative, passionate. I gathered my notes from her class and went through her Animal Desk Reference. It seems that I could have given her K&B tincture for UTI, but I didn't know that she had a problem. I had noticed some thick sticky urine on the paper but I sleep with 3 dogs. No one was having any symptoms so I just ignored it.

I vowed to really make sure that I wasn't missing anything when it came to my dog's care. I bought the "Here We Go Again, Holistic Pet Care Series". Ana Maria interviewed many natural pet care specialists. Light bulbs went on. Her recordings are available for purchase with proceeds going to her shelter. Each one of her guests has contact information included.

Some tips from what I learned from the series and from other personal use:

- 1. No tap water. Tap water has chlorine, fluoride, chemicals, toxins. Use distilled water to detox. If you want the water to have minerals, let it sit in the sunlight for a time. Or add mineral essence to it. Use hard plastic bottles, BPA free.
- 2. Dry dog food is heated to such high temperatures that it is devoid of enzymes and nutrients. Feed raw or freeze dried or dehydrated raw. Don't feed lots of veggies or grain. Avoid dairy, soy, wheat, corn, food dyes. Use Organic meats.
- 3. Wash the dogs with Dr Bronner's castile soap and add a few drops of essential oils to the shampoo. Leave shampoo on several minutes to kill fleas. Use Thieves household cleaner for a final rinse for fungus and skin issues.
- 4. Don't use spot flea treatments, chemical pesticides in the yard, cleaning chemicals in your house. No glade plug-ins, artificial fragrances, or dryer sheets. Thieve's household cleaner is safe and effective. You can wash cat's in it too.
- 5. Mix your own flea spray in glass bottle. Use distilled water or witch hazel and add purification, lavender or orange oil. Spray daily. Oils will help boost the dog's immune system. Fleas are attracted to sicker dogs.
- 6. Spray the yard with cedarcide oil for ticks/fleas. www.cedarcide.com
- 7. Diffuse oils to kill bacteria in the air and to produce negative ions.
- 8. Play soft music for correct energy in the house. No yelling. Calm energy.
- 9. Do Doggie massage with oils on your hands. Rub the oils on your hands in a circular fashion. Massage the dog. Start with small amount.
- 10. Raindrop Therapy- see www.oilyvet.com or www.raindroptraining.com

- 11. Take the dogs outside for "grounding" effects. It is good for people to be grounded, i.e. walk the beach barefoot. Sunlight is good. Exercise.
- 12. T Touch therapy. www.mytinytouches.com
- 13. Keep up with teeth cleaning. Brush the teeth. No xylitol.
- 14. Detox after vaccinations- Ningxia red is a great tonic.
- 15. Limit vaccinations and do titers. http://drjeandoddspethealthresource.tumblr.com
- 16. Use oils instead of medication. i.e. copahiba for arthritis, lavender for burns.
- 17. Emergency kit with oils in it. See Animal Desk Reference by Dr Shelton.
- 18. Avoid antibiotics/steroids. Some oils act like natural steroids.
- 19. Give Life 5 probiotics for bowel health. Mightyzyme Enzymes for digestion.
- 20. Observe urine and feces. Check for blood, consistency, etc.
- 21. Check ears. Ear recipe www.saralivingwell.com
- 22. Check the skin. Blow dry after washing to see problems.
- 23. Peace and Calming and Lavender oil is great for separation anxiety.
- 24. For more info, www.tawnyasessentialoils.weebly.com