## Detection is the BEST Selection! with Wellness Monit Oring

At South Town Animal Hospital, we monitor your pet's health annually through regular lab work. This basically includes blood work and testing of a fecal sample. Early detection is our goal since most animals typically do not show if they are unwell. It is best to catch any potential issues early and it is healthy prevention.

Typical blood work for all dogs is usually a heartworm test. It is important to test for heartworm yearly before dispensing prevention because if a pet is positive it can be dangerous to give them a dosage. At South Town Animal Hospital, we provide a discount to your annual blood test when you purchase a year of heartworm prevention from us.

Typical blood work for cats are viral testing for FIV and Feline Leukemia. These tests can be done at all ages and are especially recommended for outdoor cats.

As pets age, we practice the "senior at five" rule, which means once a pet reaches five years of age they are considered a senior. More in-depth monitoring panels will be suggested to help provide an 'overall' picture of your pet's health and are recommended yearly or semiannually. These panels check values such as liver, kidney, pancreas, calcium levels, muscle enzymes, thyroid, glucose, platelets, red blood cells and white blood cells. The values can help indicate or detect infections, anemia, disorders, immune system health, and various cancers. In addition, blood work can be required to monitor the effects that certain prescription drugs may have on your pets system.

As important as blood work is, there is another type of testing that can be crucial to your pet's well-being which is checking a fecal sample for parasites your pet may have picked up. Having internal parasites can cause your pet to feel unwell and have symptoms such as bloating and diarrhea. Since parasites can be transmissible to humans as well - it is all that more important to check.

At South Town Animal Hospital we are big proponents of preventative care versus reactive care. This helps aid our mission of healthy pets longer lives.

## **\$10 OFF** Next heartworm blood test with purchase of year supply of Heartworm Prevention