

# Animal WELLNESS

For a long, healthy life!

**4 EASY WAYS TO KEEP HIS TEETH CLEAN AND *healthy***

**DOGS OF IQALUIT**

We travel to the Canadian Arctic to help an animal rescue in need.

**Natural fixes for doggie breath**

**BEAT the WINTER BLUES**  
– and keep you and your dog fit!

**TOP 4 BEHAVIORS every dog should know**

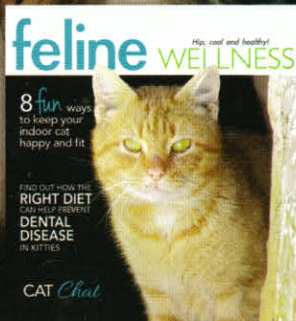
**PET FOOD RECALLS**  
– what's being done?

**3 tips to SAVE on VET BILLS**

Understanding **HOLISTIC CANCER care**

## *Envy* & **Zain**

These border collie rescues are inseparable – and their photogenic poses are taking the world by storm!



FEBRUARY/MARCH 2017  
Display until March 15, 2017

\$6.95 U.S./Canada



VOLUME 19 ISSUE 1

AnimalWellnessMagazine.com

**BONUS INSIDE!**



# COCOCOC

## Therapy

By Matthew Berk



The founders of this company have a lifetime's knowledge of quality coconut oil and its health benefits, for both pets and people.

In recent years, coconut oil has been showing up in more and more household kitchens. And as word of its health benefits continues to grow, people are also sharing coconut oil with their dogs and cats. Sisters Charisa Antigua and Carmina O'Connor (pictured at right), who founded CocoTherapy in 2009, represent the third generation of a "coconut family". They watched their grandmother making coconut oil from scratch when they were children, and grew up with an in-depth understanding of its healing powers. The sisters founded CocoTherapy to share this knowledge with others – and because they've seen firsthand the positive health effects coconut oil has on dogs and cats as well as people, their company focuses on products for pets.

"I had a little Yorkie named Violet who had severe allergies at just one year old, despite a good, raw, grain-free diet," explains Charisa. "Knowing she needed more support, we gave her coconut oil. In time, we were able to wean her off prednisone and support her with wholesome foods and natural supplements, along with our company's coconut oil."

According to the CocoTherapy website, coconut oil is very therapeutic for pets with skin conditions and gastrointestinal issues, and aids in the maintenance of the immune system, metabolic functions, and bone health. The company offers a variety of products, including virgin organic coconut oil, chips and treats, and even a hairball remedy for cats, made from organic coconut fiber.

While there are many different brands of coconut products on the market now, high quality products are difficult to find. CocoTherapy's coconut oil is cold-pressed, USDA-certified organic, non-GMO and therapeutic-grade. "We want to create safe, all-natural products that people trust and feel good about

giving to their pets. Our goal is to improve the overall health and well-being of the animals who use our products, while at the same time taking care of our natural resources by being environmentally responsible." Charisa and Carmina pride themselves on making products in their own manufacturing plant, thereby eliminating cross-contamination.

Social responsibility and support for all animals is an important part of CocoTherapy's mission. Along with regular donations to animal welfare groups and shelters, they extend their aspirations to a program called Violet's Friends in Need (VFIN), created to provide financial assistance for families who need help paying for urgent or critical veterinary care. A percentage of every purchase you make from CocoTherapy goes toward this fund.

It's no surprise that passion is as much a part of Charisa and Carmina's company as the coconuts they raise and harvest. "Hearing wonderful stories and seeing the animals we've helped is the most rewarding part of what we do. When we hear about the dog who no longer itches or scratches, or a cat who no longer vomits, it simply reinforces why we do what we do." 🐾

