

10 November 2009

PEOPLE, PETS AND DIABETES

This Saturday marks World Diabetes Day, a campaign led by the International Diabetes Federation.

Local Professor, Trisha Dunning, has recently been appointed as a vice president for the International Diabetes Federation, which calls upon her expertise to address the global diabetes epidemic which now affects 285 million people worldwide.

As part of the World Diabetes Day festivities, Prof Dunning, together with local vet and radio personality, Dr Jack Ayerbe, will present 'People, Pets and Diabetes' this Friday.

The two hour public lecture will focus on keeping your pets, and yourself, healthy.

Prof Dunning will tell a story about a girl with a dog named Pete.

"Many people are unaware that pets can get diabetes. My aim is increase awareness about diabetes in our pets," Prof Dunning said.

"Pete, the dog, is well loved by his young owner who begins feeding him too much."

"Little did she know, the dog developed diabetes. The similarities between cases in pets and cases in people are strong."

Dr Jack Ayerbe from Newtown Veterinary Clinic said there has been an increase in diabetes in the pet population.

"Diabetes in pets is avoidable and we shouldn't see it as much as we are," Dr Ayerbe said.

"There is a correlation between keeping us and our pets healthy."

Dr Ayerbe will talk about how we can keep our pets healthy and avoid diabetes.

Friday's event is being held at the National Wool Museum from 10am – 12pm. Refreshments will be provided.

For more information, please call 5260 3276.