

Morrisville Cat Hospital Newsletter



February 2024- 145th Edition

Dear Wendy,

Happy Valentine's Day!

Announcements:

Paws 4 Ever Wags and Whiskers Gala:

Paws 4 Ever has their upcoming annual fundraiser "Wags and Whiskers Gala" on April 13th at Chapel Hill's Ardenwood Farm. This is their one fundraiser of the year, and they hope you will attend! Animal lovers from around the Triangle will be there to celebrate animal welfare. More information can be found at:

<https://paws4ever.org/wags-and-whiskers/>



Veterinarian explains seizures in pets
VMBS

Signs that a pet is having a seizure can be obvious, but sometimes they are vague and may include biting at nothing, facial twitching, acting dazed and not responding to their name, says veterinarian Christine Rutter, a clinical associate professor of emergency medicine. A veterinarian may suggest blood tests or imaging to diagnose the cause of seizures and can recommend a management plan. Emergency care is needed if seizures last more than three or four minutes, the pet has more than two seizures in a 24-hour period, or the pet's behavior does not return to normal a couple hours after the seizure, Dr. Rutter says.



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Cat Caregivers' Perceptions, Motivations, and Behaviors for Feeding Treats: A Cross Sectional Study

PLOS One

There is an abundance of research focusing on the nutritional needs of the cat, though aspects surrounding treat feeding have received far less attention. Feeding practices have the potential to cause nutrient imbalances and adverse health outcomes, including obesity.

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Urethral Obstruction Survey for Caregivers

University of Saskatchewan

A professor at the University of Saskatchewan is seeking veterinarian support to distribute a survey to clients to gather data on urethral obstruction in male cats. Caregivers are asked to participate in the survey if they have/had a male cat that has been diagnosed with a urinary tract obstruction (blockage) resulting in the inability to urinate that is NOT the result of stricture, stones, or cancer. This survey has been approved by the University of Saskatchewan Behavioral Research Ethics Board.



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Purina pushes back against social media rumors

NBC News

A rumor circulating on social media sites questioning the safety of Purina pet foods is false and has stoked fear and confusion, according to a company statement. Purina's quality assurance department investigated and found no evidence supporting claims of sick pets associated with diet and found no health or safety problems with the



company's foods, and some of the people making the claims refused to send samples for testing or share veterinary records.

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Do Cats Really Hate Us?

Live Science

Scientific research on how cats view us is mixed, but one thing is clear — they don't adore us the way dogs do.

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Cats shouldn't be judged by their color.

The Conversation

Many people ascribe certain personality traits to cats based on coat color, and those preconceived notions skew cat personality surveys and can have harmful results, such as biases that discourage adoption of black cats, write animal behaviorist Susan Hazel and PhD candidate Julia Henning. Genetics may affect feline personality traits, but a cat's environment and upbringing probably have a greater impact, and "it's best to think of your cat, and any cat, as the individuals they are," Hazel and Henning write.

Why Does My Cat Hate Other Cats? 7

Possible Reasons

Catster

Cats thrive in various environments and can live happily with others in feral colonies, with one or two companions, or on their own. However, domestic cats are, by nature, solitary creatures who hunt on their own and are territorial.

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Experts: Cats won't get hooked on catnip, silver vine

The Conversation

Catnip, cat thyme, silver vine, valerian and Tatarian honeysuckle affect some cats' minds and moods, but not all cats respond to the plants' smells in the same way. Scientific evidence suggests that exposure to the plants is safe and won't induce psychosis or lead to addiction or withdrawal, though cats can become habituated and desensitized, write veterinarians Mia Cobb and Anne Quain.

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The Ohio State University Feline Chronic Kidney Disease CARE Study

Ohio State University

This research study aims to describe the degree of caregiver burden experienced by individuals involved with the long-term management of cats diagnosed with chronic kidney disease (CKD). The questionnaire is open to all cat caregivers over the age of 18. To be eligible to participate in this study you must currently be the primary caregiver (at least 50% of care) for at least one cat diagnosed with CKD, or have done so within the past year.





How Big Is a Cat Brain? Vet Explains Feline Anatomy

Catster

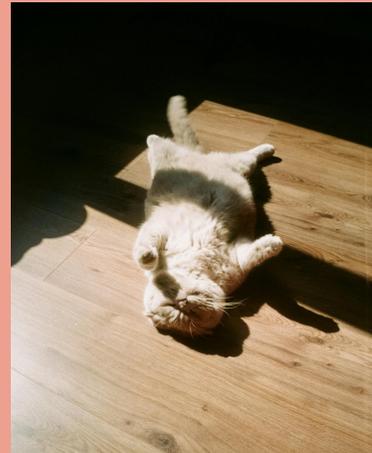
If you own a cat, you've probably wondered how intelligent they are. After all, sometimes they can be silly goofballs, while at other times, they can find their way to harass you in the bathroom in the pitch black of night with their mouse toy.

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Cat Twitching in Sleep: Vets Reveal What Those Cute Kitty Movements Mean

Woman's World

If you have a cat, you know your little guy spends much of the day sleeping and looks super cute while doing it. Cats are capable of going from zooming across the room to napping on the couch in a matter of minutes, and it's always a delight to watch them sleep.



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Sorry I Barfed On Your Bed

(and Other Heartwarming Letters from Kitty)

by **Jeremy Greenberg**

"Dear Stain Pretreater,

Thank you for running in here after hearing my prebarf howl, but I'm afraid you're too late. There will be no, "Quick, grab the kitty and put him in the yard!" this time. And although it is most unkittylike to apologize for anything, I am sorry I barfed on your bed. I was sleeping on it, and now have to get up. For that, I am truly sorry.

In the future, I will make more of an effort to barf in the appropriate place, such as on the bathroom rug. That way you'll have a nice present to step into barefoot in the middle of the night. I don't know why this barf snuck up on me so quickly. Maybe I caught a bug?

Love,
Isaac"



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