

Morrisville Cat Hospital Newsletter



December 2024 - 155th Edition

Greetings,

Happy Holidays!! We hope everyone has a lovely and safe holiday.

Announcements:

Protect Your Purr-fect Companion! ☐

Unexpected vet bills can catch anyone off guard. Give yourself peace of mind and ensure your cat gets the care they need with pet insurance! From routine checkups to emergencies, insurance can help cover costs so you can focus on what matters most—your furry family member's health.

Not sure where to start? Ask us for recommendations or resources to find the right plan for your cat. Your cat's health is priceless, but it doesn't have to break the bank! 🐱☐

All I Want For Christmas Is...A Home!

Say hello to Junior! This amazingly sweet boy is looking for his fur-ever home. He's a laid-back easy going kind of guy, perfect for snuggles! Until treats are involved. He's very food motivated and loves CatTV. Reach out to us today to learn more about adoption and how you can welcome this sweet boy into your family!



MORRISVILLE CAT HOSPITAL



This Ancient Paw Print on a Pottery Fragment in Jerusalem is the Oldest Known Evidence of a Cat Kneading
Smithsonian Magazine

Archaeologists uncovered an ancient jug fragment in Jerusalem showing a cat's paw print, likely made while the clay was soft. The markings, found during a Mount Zion excavation, offer the oldest known evidence of feline kneading behavior.



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A Physicist and His Cat 'Reveal' the Equation of Cat Motion

Galician Institute of High Energy Physics via Phys.org

Cats, the undeniable rulers of social media and our homes, have now inspired physics research. Anxo Biasi, from IGFAE, developed a playful physics model based on his cat, Eme, showcasing classical mechanics concepts using equations to describe feline behaviors influenced by human presence.

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Investigating the Effect a Single Dose of Cannabidiol Has on Measures of Stress in Cats When Being Transported in a Carrier and Meeting a Novel Person in an Unfamiliar Environment

Frontiers in Veterinary Science

Cats often face stressors like travel and meeting strangers. Though cannabidiol (CBD) products for pets are popular, this study found no significant impact of a single CBD dose on stress markers or behavior in cats under controlled stress conditions.



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Antiviral Discovered to Speed Recovery and Reduce Corneal Disease in Kittens with Herpesvirus

UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine

UC Davis researchers found that famciclovir, an antiviral for feline herpes, significantly quickens recovery in kittens with respiratory infections, reducing corneal disease risk. Kittens receiving the drug alongside doxycycline healed up to five days faster.



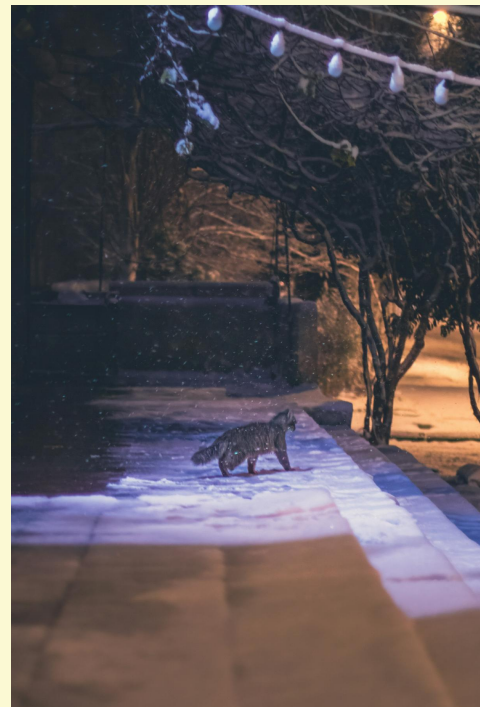
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Cat Brains Age Like Ours — and Could Help Scientists to Understand Cognitive Decline

Nature

Cats' brains show signs of aging similar to humans, making them promising models for studying age-related decline, unlike mice. A broad study compares brain development across mammals, hoping to illuminate the causes of brain diseases like Alzheimer's. Researchers now explore diverse species in aging studies.

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Household Threats for Pets

Texas A&M Today

Many household items, like cords and batteries, can seriously harm pets. Dr. Shayna Doyle highlights common dangers and symptoms to watch for, especially as pets explore. Items like sugar-free gum, peanut butter, and certain medications can be toxic.

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Evaluation of Laboratory Findings Indicating Pancreatitis in Healthy Lean, Obese, and Diabetic Cats

Journal of Veterinary Internal Medicine

Obesity links to diabetes and possibly pancreatitis in cats, but evidence is limited. This study evaluated lean, overweight, and diabetic cats, finding higher pancreatic enzyme levels in heavier cats. Age increases enzyme levels and reduces certain vitamin concentrations.

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Automated Video-Based Pain Recognition in Cats Using Facial Landmarks

Scientific Reports

Mammals express emotions through facial behaviors, with pain-linked expressions in animals being extensively studied. Traditional pain recognition via manual analysis is biased and labor-intensive. This study introduces a fully automated AI system using video data for improved accuracy in recognizing feline pain.

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How Do I Get My Cat Used to a Harness? 10 Vet-Approved Tips

Catster

Introducing your cat to a harness requires patience and positive reinforcement. Begin by allowing your cat to explore the harness, rewarding them with treats



for positive interactions, and gradually increasing the duration they wear it indoors before attempting outdoor walks.

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Rockin' Around the FeastiviTREE: Fancy Feast Introduces its First Cat-Friendly Holiday Tree

Purina

With twinkling lights and enticing ornaments, a decorated holiday tree can often become a precarious playground for curious cats. This year, to mark the 40th anniversary of Feastivities, Fancy Feast's holiday celebration, and to keep playful paws out of trouble, Fancy Feast has created the FeastiviTREE — a feline-friendly holiday tree built to withstand even the most spirited felines, so cats and cat lovers can celebrate the season together in style.

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How Many Calories Should a Cat Eat? Vet-Reviewed CatFeeding Guide

Catster

Indoor cats typically require about 20 calories per pound of body weight daily, while outdoor cats may need up to 35 calories per pound due to higher activity levels. It's essential to adjust feeding amounts based on individual factors like age, weight, and activity to maintain optimal health.

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Prepare well in advance of taking cats on trips

USA Today

Cats should have a hard-sided carrier and spend ample time in it to get accustomed to it before traveling, says Feline Veterinary Medical Association President Ashlie Saffire. Carry the crate like a box instead of swinging it by the handle, feed the cat inside the crate, and take the cat on drives, gradually lengthening the time, and try calming sprays, drug-free calming treats or anti-anxiety drugs, Dr. Saffire and other experts suggest.

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[Sorry I Barfed On Your Bed](#)



(and Other Heartwarming Letters from Kitty)
by Jeremy Greenberg

"Dear Attention Giver,

I'm a very concerned little kitty. I've jumped onto your computer five times in the past twenty minutes, graciously offering to let you scratch my head. Yet every time, you push me off. What could possibly be more interesting than petting me until I inexplicably tire of you, swat your hand, and then run away? What were you about to do? Go onto a social network, maybe a chat room? Don't you know that people get adorable kitties like me so they don't have to have social lives? How can our relationship blossom if you try to develop normal human relationships?

And who is that whisker-faced trollop on your screen? What does she have that I don't? Why don't you stop fantasizing about some cat who doesn't even know you exist, and give me a head scratch. Pleeeeease. You feed me, so I care about you a lot. I know that some cats are aloof. But I'm not one to play hard to pet.

Love,
Snow"



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