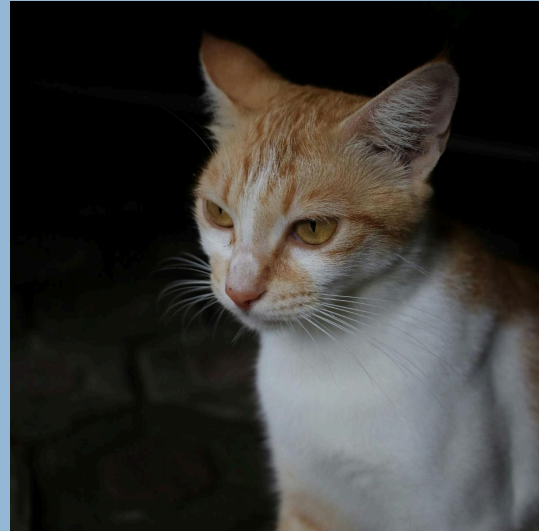


# Morrisville Cat Hospital Newsletter



August 2025 - 163rd Edition

**Greetings!**

**Happy August!**

Announcements:



## **Catch Our Vets in Action!**

We're excited to share that doctors from Morrisville Cat Hospital will be featured speakers at Community Tails, a free speaker series hosted by APS of Durham! These community events are a great way to learn more about pet health, behavior, and how to keep your furry family members thriving. Come out, bring your questions, and connect with local experts—yes, including our very own feline-focused veterinarians! Our team is passionate about sharing knowledge and supporting the well-being of cats (and all pets!) throughout the Triangle.

Event Details & RSVP:

<https://www.apsofdurham.org/event/community-tails-why-is-my-cat-vomiting/>

All events are free and open to the public!

Events will be held monthly from 6:30pm-8pm at Pour Taproom (202 Corcoran St, #200) in downtown Durham.

## **Important Update: Credit Card Processor Transition**

We're upgrading our credit card processing system in mid-August to better serve you! As part of this transition, we will no longer have access to the card information currently saved on file. This means you may be asked to

re-enter your preferred card the next time you visit or make a payment. We appreciate your patience and understanding during this change, and we're here to help make the process as smooth as possible.

### **Appointment Check-In & Visit Options: Curbside or “Purr” Side**

We're happy to offer two visit options to help make your cat's appointment as smooth and stress-free as possible:

#### “Purr” Side Appointments

Prefer to accompany your cat during their visit? Our “Purr” side option allows you to stay with your kitty from check-in to check-out. Whether you walk in or call from the parking lot, we'll bring you directly to your exam room when it's ready. Available for wellness, sick, and progress exams.

#### Curbside Appointments

Need a hand or prefer to stay in the car? We're happy to help. With curbside service, a team member will safely transport your cat into the hospital while you speak with the medical team by phone. You can check out over the phone or from your vehicle.

#### Check-In Instructions

When you arrive, you may either walk into the lobby or call our dedicated check-in line at 919-896-3724 from your car.

Prefer to walk in? If you're more comfortable heading straight into the front lobby, you're welcome to do so! We are always happy to assist clients who prefer curbside or need help getting their cat into the building—just let us know what works best for you.

### **New Drug for Cats with Subclinical Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy**

#### **Clinician's Brief**

Sirolimus, now available for veterinary use, offers a promising option for managing heart thickening in cats with early-stage hypertrophic cardiomyopathy. This drug targets mTOR signaling to reduce cardiac enlargement without significant immunosuppressive concerns at approved doses.

**[Read More](#)**





## How to Identify the Rabies Virus in Cats

Kinship

Though often linked with dogs, rabies infects more cats in the United States. While rare in vaccinated indoor cats, understanding signs and risks is vital to keep pets and people safe from this highly contagious and almost always fatal disease.

[Read More](#)

## The Answer to a Cat's Loud Meow Might Be Buried in Its Genes

BBC News

Cats vary wildly in how vocal they are, and scientists now believe genetics may explain why. A Japanese study asked cat caregivers to report their cats' behaviors and submit DNA, revealing possible links between vocal tendencies and feline genetics.

[Read More](#)



## Triage Body Temperature as a Predictor of Outcome in Cats

Clinician's Brief

Body temperature plays a key role in emergency triage. In human medicine, low temperatures often signal higher mortality and admission rates. Until now, its predictive value in cats facing emergency care had not been thoroughly examined.

[Read More](#)



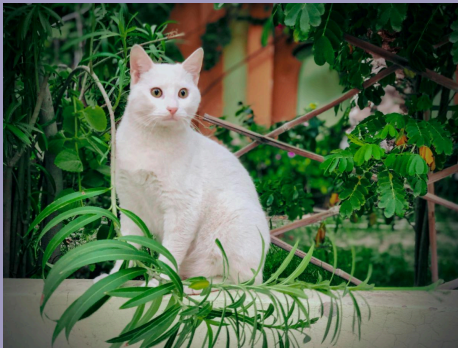
## Detection of Pathogens within Ixodid Ticks Collected from Domestic Cats Across the US

Parasites & Vectors

Ticks are an ongoing threat in the U.S., yet cats are often excluded from research. This study tested 802 ticks from 512 cats to assess exposure to harmful pathogens, uncovering that cats may silently host disease-carrying ticks near human homes.



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## From Stealth to Signals: How Artificial Intelligence Is Transforming Feline Medicine

dvm360

Cats instinctively hide illness, a trait rooted in survival that complicates timely diagnoses. Despite millions of pet cats, most don't get annual checkups. Their subtle behavior changes often go unnoticed, creating a critical gap in veterinary care.

[Read More](#)

## Why Do Cats Wag Their Tails? A Cat Behavior Expert Explains

Reader's Digest

Cats use tail movements to express emotion and intention. A swish might signal curiosity, annoyance, or something in between. Decoding those flicks can reveal what your cat is really feeling — and help you respond with care and understanding.

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## **If Your Cat Bites You, This Is What They're Actually Trying to Say**

AOL.com

Cat bites often carry emotional cues, from stress or affection to discomfort or a call for attention. Experts reveal that these actions, especially during petting, may stem from overstimulation, signaling a gentle warning rather than outright aggression.

**[Read More](#)**

## **Talking to Clients About Cats & Major Life Changes**

Clinician's Brief

Cats may resist disruption, but most adjust if changes aren't constant. Major shifts, like moving or a new pet, can cause serious stress. Early vet visits offer key chances to prepare caregivers for feline responses to change.



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## **Veterinarian Says 'Worst Call You Can Get' Is About Cats with 1 Key Symptom**

Newsweek

A viral TikTok video has alarmed cat caregivers after a veterinarian shared the most dreaded call he receives — when a cat suddenly can't move its back legs. The underlying cause is often a hidden heart condition that leads to a painful blood clot.

**[Read More](#)**

## Adorable Cat Helps Scientists Discover New Virus (For Second Time)

ScienceAlert

A Florida cat named Pepper helped scientists uncover two new viruses by delivering dead animals to his caregiver, a virologist. One find revealed a rare orthoreovirus in a shrew, offering new insight into viruses possibly affecting humans.

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