

# Morrisville Cat Hospital Newsletter



December 2025 - 167th Edition

Greetings!,

**Happy Holidays!**

Announcements:

## **Honoring Our Beloved Cats 2025: Holiday Memorial Service & Tree**



At Morrisville Cat Hospital, our annual Holiday Tree is a heartfelt tribute to the cherished cats who have crossed the Rainbow Bridge during the year. We invite you to join us for our Holiday Memorial Service on Saturday, December 13th at 1:00 pm.

## **Christmas Gift List for Cats:**

### 1. Cat Essentials

Organic, made in the USA and these are what we are using on all of our exam tables now!

[https://www.catsessentials.com/collections/cute-cat-beds?srltid=AfmBOopOiZbtyEOaJzYAPAcYpl8T8-pkFn8qiy2\\_tdS3Du0Tg3\\_B1Kkm](https://www.catsessentials.com/collections/cute-cat-beds?srltid=AfmBOopOiZbtyEOaJzYAPAcYpl8T8-pkFn8qiy2_tdS3Du0Tg3_B1Kkm).

### 2. Catnip:

Simply the best: <https://yeowwww.com>

### 3. Best chasing toy:

Sounds like a bird in flight - Da Bird: <https://www.dabird.com>

### 4. Rescue approved!

Based in North Carolina: <https://carolinescats.myshopify.com>

## Why Cats Get So Loud When You Break Out Their Dinner

Kinship

Cats often vocalize when food appears, leaving caregivers wondering why. Experts say meows signal hunger or excitement and help cats communicate with humans. The behavior may be instinctive, learned, or simply a way to ensure their needs are met.



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## Age-dependent Increase in Small Intestinal Permeability and Sex-dependent Absorptive Capacity in Cats (*Felis catus*)

Journal of Animal Physiology and Animal Nutrition

Researchers examined how aging affects digestive health in domestic cats. Using a sugar absorption test, they found that older cats had higher intestinal permeability. The findings suggest age-related changes may reduce nutrient absorption and impact feline wellbeing.

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## Announcing the 2025 Transportation of Cats in Motor Vehicles Position Statement

FelineVMA

The Feline Veterinary Medical Association (FelineVMA) has published an update to the Transportation of Cats in Motor Vehicles Position Statement in the Journal of Feline Medicine and Surgery. The 2025 Transportation of Cats in Motor Vehicles Position Statement highlights the importance of transporting cats safely while minimizing stress during travel. It encourages veterinary professionals to educate cat caregivers on best practices for safe transport. "This update underscores how improper transport can increase feline stress and compromise welfare," said Ilona Rodan, DVM, DABVP (Feline), AdvCertFB, Chair of the FelineVMA Feline Welfare Committee. "The revised version also



provides new recommendations regarding the proper placement of carriers."

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## 15 Common Kitten Diseases and Disorders

The Spruce Pets

Kittens face numerous health risks in their early weeks, from parasites to respiratory infections. These threats can quickly escalate, especially when combined. Knowing the symptoms helps caregivers act fast and potentially save their pet's life.

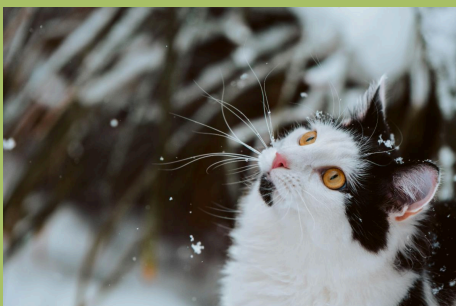
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## Why Do Cats Mother Other Animals? The Truth Behind Interspecies Relationships

Kinship

Cats often display maternal behavior toward animals of other species, sparking curiosity and affection. Experts suggest this stems from instinct, social bonding, and environmental factors. These interspecies relationships reveal surprising emotional depth in feline behavior.

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## California Latest State to Ban Cat Declawing for Nonmedical Reasons

American Veterinary Medical Association

California has joined six other states in banning cat declawing for nonmedical reasons. The new law allows the procedure only for therapeutic purposes. The state veterinary association opposed the bill, citing professional discretion.

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## Variations in Body Condition Score, Inflammatory, and Metabolic Biomarkers Predict Cognitive Changes in Clinically Healthy Senior Cats

Frontiers in Aging Neuroscience

Researchers examined immune and metabolic biomarkers in 90 healthy senior cats to explore links with cognitive aging. Behavioral changes were assessed alongside inflammation markers like IL-1 $\beta$  and IL-10. Findings suggest routine bloodwork may help detect early cognitive decline.

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## Adipose Gene Expression Related to Body Condition Score and Individual Variations in Hospitalized Cats

Scientific Reports

Researchers analyzed fat tissue from 81 cats to understand obesity-related gene expression. They found that body condition was influenced by sex, IGF-1, and inflammation-related genes. Variability in mitochondrial genes suggests potential for personalized energy regulation strategies.

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## Speaking Cat: What Every Veterinarian Needs to Know About Feline Communication

Vet Candy

Cats are skilled communicators, but even trained professionals often misread their stress signals. A recent study found that subtle cues like ear position and tail movement are frequently misunderstood. Recognizing these signs is vital for reducing stress and preventing injuries in clinical settings.

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## 20 Surprising Cat Facts You've Never Heard Before

Good Housekeeping UK

Even experienced cat caregivers may be surprised by how expressive and instinct-driven their pets are. Experts say cats thrive when they can hunt, scratch, and play freely. Understanding feline behavior starts with recognizing their need for control and natural routines.

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## How to Catify Your Home: 9 Vet-approved Simple Ideas

Catster

Creating a Cat Friendly home doesn't require major renovations. With a few thoughtful changes, you can enhance your cat's comfort and wellbeing. Experts share nine easy ideas to help your feline thrive indoors.



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## Greeting Vocalizations in Domestic Cats Are More Frequent with Male Caregivers

Ethology

Researchers observed domestic cats greeting humans at home to uncover behavioral patterns. Findings suggest greetings are multimodal and influenced by caregiver sex. The study highlights how these interactions may reflect emotional states and strengthen social bonds.

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## Why Do Cats Love Boxes? Evolution Has an Answer

Popular Science

Cats often ignore pricey toys for simple boxes, a behavior rooted in instinct. Experts say enclosed spaces mimic hunting hideouts and offer security. This quirky preference may hint at deeper feline needs and stress signals.



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