

January
2009

CLIENT
INFORMATION
& EDUCATION

Cascade Pawprints

Make a New Year's Resolution for your Pet: Good Nutrition for Good Health!

Keep your pet healthy in 2009 by avoiding table scraps, candy, and other inappropriate treats. Follow up with a New Year's resolution on your pet's behalf by feeding Hills' ® Science Diet pet food and treats.



Hills makes a variety of high quality, nutritionally balanced foods for each stage of your pet's development and needs. Help your pet lose unhealthy pounds by establishing a weight loss program with your veterinarian and the Hills' Science Diet pet food he/she recommends. Help your pet live a longer, healthier life!



Voted the Best of G.R.!

Cascade Hospital for Animals has been voted the Best Animal Clinic in Grand Rapids by the readers of Grand Rapids Magazine. This is the fifth straight year that we have been honored with this distinction, and would like to thank you for your patronage and support. We appreciate that you have entrusted us with the health care of your beloved pets over the years.

We recognize that you have your choice of veterinarians, and are honored that you have chosen us! You, and your four-legged family members are valued and appreciated by us not only as clients but as friends.

Our best wishes go to you and your families for 2009. We look forward to continuing to serve you and your pet's needs, and we hope you take advantage of our *Open House* and *Client Education Seminars* that we have planned for this year (information on the back page).

Thank you again and happy new year!



**Cascade
Hospital
for Animals**

Exceptional Medicine...Compassionate Care

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Only the Best for your Best Friend!

KITTY KORNER



Litter Box Avoidance Issues?

Before assuming your cat is avoiding the litter box because of a behavioral situation, always rule out a medical problem—this could save his life, if a painful urinary blockage causes your cat to avoid the litter box, which he associates with painful urination. Once it has been ruled out, here are some ideas and reasons why he/she may be avoiding the litter box:

- Litter not cleaned frequently enough
- Not enough boxes for # of cats in the household (we recommend 1 more box than # of cats)
- Scented litter _ Ewww!
- Box in high traffic area—no protection from kids, other pets, noise etc.
- Litter boxes moved from original area
- Change in litter brand or type

These are a few things that can be remedied to make kitty's litter box more welcoming. Also, Cat Attract®, a natural chlorophyll product can help retrain kitty to use the litter box.

Pets Need Dental Care Too!

February is National Pet Dental Month.

At Cascade Hospital for Animals we have made a strong commitment to dental health, and have made a significant investment in our dentistry equipment to offer the best of dental procedures for your pet. A dental procedure is a comprehensive procedure performed under general anesthesia that allows a comprehensive evaluation and therapeutic treatment of your pet's teeth and gums.

The American Veterinary Medical Association estimates more than 80 percent of dogs and 70 percent



of cats have oral disease by the time they are three years old.

Due to the popularity of dental month in prior years, we have decided to extend it to include the month of January as well.

During the months of January and February, we are offering a \$25.00 discount on a dental cleaning as long as you have your pet's blood drawn prior to the day of the dentistry being performed.



An accurate estimate on how much a dental procedure will cost cannot be made without first examining the patient. During the initial exam, we will give you an estimate of the procedure. Prevention is always a method to help keep costs lower, as advanced dental disease can be costly. So the best thing for your pet's health and your wallet is to address dental health issues early, thoroughly and regularly!

Exceptional Medicine...Compassionate Care

MEET THE DOCTOR



Dr. Steven J. McBride

*Chief Surgeon and
Medical Director*

Dr. McBride joined Dr. Siegle in practice in 1989. He is a graduate of Michigan State University College of Veterinary Medicine (1987). Dr. McBride has a special interest in orthopedic and neurological surgery. He has completed many hours of post-graduate training in these areas at Michigan State University as well as Ohio State University. He lives in the Lowell area with his wife Kathy and their cat Stache. In his personal time, he enjoys hiking, backpacking, kayaking, kickboxing and sailing.

Ask The Vet

Q: What chew toys should my pet chew on?

Stephanie—Wyoming

A: There is a fine line between a chew toy that is easily chewed up and swallowed, and being too hard that it could possibly damage the teeth. Two tips in determining if a chew toy is too hard:

1. *If you cannot make an indentation in the toy with your fingernail, the treat or toy is too hard.*
2. *If it would hurt to hit yourself in the knee with it the treat or toy is too hard.*

We offer a variety of toys and treats that not only keep your pet

busy, but also aid in the prevention of plaque build up on your pet's teeth. If your pet's weight is an issue, we also have some treats that are low in calories and are a healthier alternative to the treats found at your local supermarket.

Submit your question to Ask The Vet at chfa@chfa.net. If we use your question, you will win a \$25.00 gift card !

The Cascade Difference

At Cascade Hospital for Animals we provide the highest level of care available for our patients. We are very proud of the advancements that have been made in veterinary dental care and anesthesia in recent years. We have invested in state of the art equipment; such as Digital Radiology, Digital Ultrasound, Endoscopy, lab equipment and continuing education for our doctors and staff. We want our clients to understand the difference be-

Not all veterinary services are alike.

tween the type of care that we offer and the other services that may be available at other hospitals.

Ultimately, it is always the owner's decision to choose the level of care for their pet. We will always be advocates for the health, comfort and well being of your pet. It is our responsibility to offer the tests and procedures that will keep your pet healthy and free from disease. If you would like to learn more, or have a specific question or questions, we welcome the opportunity to answer them.

\$5.00 Off Canine Grooming

Call 949-0960 for your appointment today!

Limit one coupon per pet

Valid January 2nd through March 15th, 2009

All vaccines, including semi-annual Bordetella (kennel cough), and semi-annual fecal results must be current.

Coupon cannot be combined with any other promotional offer, nor can it be applied to a previous purchase.

Enjoy the Newsletter?

To receive future copies, please e-mail us at chfa@chfa.net with newsletter sign-up in the subject line.

Need Help in Keeping your Pet Happy and Healthy ?

It is our philosophy to educate and involve our clients in every aspect of their pet's care. As a result we have had wonderful turn-outs at our **Client Education Seminars**. At these seminars, a doctor and / or staff member will discuss, inform and answer questions about a selected topic that you have requested. The topics and dates are listed to the right, so we hope you will find one or more of interest and join us for an evening.

CHFA 2009 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Date	Event
Wednesday January 28 th at 7:00PM	"Dentistry for Your Pet's Health" Presented by Dr. Lynn Happel
Wednesday February 18 th at 7:00PM	"Feline Behavioral Issues & How to Resolve Them" Presented by Tamara Norton and Medical Application Segment by Dr. Cherie Anderson
Wednesday March 18 th at 7:00PM	"Pets, Parasites & People: Fleas, Ticks & Worms" Presented by Dr. Gregory Paplawsky
Wednesday April 15 th at 7:00PM	"Importance of Pet Grooming with Demonstration" Presented by Molly Hulbert
Sunday May 17 th from 12:00PM – 4:00PM	Cascade Hospital for Animals' Open House
Wednesday May 20 th at 7:00PM	"Pet Allergies: How You Can Take Control" Presented by Stephanie Clifford, L.V.T.
Saturday June 13 th Starting at 8:00AM	3 rd Annual Health Paws Health Cause Fun Run Walk

The Client Education Seminars are held at our hospital, and are complementary to our clients and guests. It is strongly encouraged that you RSVP as seating is limited.

Open 7 Days a Week!



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