

Patton Veterinary Hospital Midnight's Mewsings

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Layout done by : Shayla McGinnis

Employee Spotlight



**Tiffany Main,
Practice Manager**

Hometown:

York, PA

Education:

Undergraduate Degree: Health Science Administration, Minor in Business from Slippery Rock University in Slippery Rock, PA

Pets: 2 dogs

Background: During school, Tiffany worked for an Arabian horse breeding farm operated and owned by a veterinarian. After graduating, she worked for many years as a business manager in the long-term health care industry. Eventually, Tiffany decided to combine her experience in business with her love for animals. She will soon be taking the test to get her certification in veterinary practice management.

Community Events

Contributed by: **Kristi McArthur, Nurse**



This holiday season, the Patton Veterinary Hospital teamed up with the York County Agency on Aging and the Meals on Wheels Program to help raise pet food and other pet related items for those in need with animal companions. We accepted donations at the hospital November 1st through December 17th in order to get the items distributed in time for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Your response was overwhelming! Thanks for your help in making the holidays paw-sitively special!

Pet First Aid Kit

Contributed by: **Bryanna Manning, Client Relations Specialist**

With the winter months approaching, it is more important than ever to be prepared for the worse. The snow makes traveling more difficult, with a great risk for vehicle accidents and becoming stranded. Since it is becoming more and more popular to travel with your pets, here is a guide to help create a survival kit for your furry friend.

Pet Emergency Kit

Use the following guidelines to create this important travel kit.

-  Always have a collar with ID tag, city license tag and rabies tag on the pet. PVH also offers micro-chipping which does help if a pet is ever lost.
-  Proof of current shots and health records in a waterproof container such as a freezer bag.
-  Current photo of pet.
-  Food and water bowls with enough food and water for three days. Remember to keep the food in a watertight container.
-  Pet carrier with bedding
-  Plastic bags to dispose of pet droppings and other waste
-  Leash

-  Medications
-  Toys
-  Manual can opener for canned food
-  First Aid kit
-  Grooming supplies
-  Paper towels/wet wipes
-  Flashlight and spare batteries
-  Cat litter and litter box

The most important thing you can do to protect your pets and the rest of your family when the unexpected happens is to plan ahead.



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Christmas Toys

Contributed by: Julie Gauldin, Behavior Coordinator



Dear Santa Paws,

“Christmas is coming, the goose is getting fat.” At least that’s what the song says. I don’t really know about the goose but I’ve noticed I’m developing love handles and so is my mom - but don’t tell her that. And so for Christmas, my dearest Santa Paws, I would like the following toys.....



The Almost Indestructible Ball is this huge ball that you can fill with water or sand. When it rolls it weebles and wobbles in different directions and is lots of fun to chase. Its cousin is the Tug N’ Toss Ball. It has a handle so my siblings and I can fight over it or toss it across the yard, run after it, and fight some more. However, if you can crack an extra large Kong in half like my sister Zoey – this may not be the toy for you.



Next of course is the wide variety of Kong toys. But this year I want the Airkong toys. They are just like tennis balls but come in different sizes and shapes. They can’t be filled like the rubber Kong toys (sorry Zoey) but they are still just as fun!



In memory of my sister Irene I want a Dental Rope. Irene would chew, swing, chew, swing (knock stuff off the coffee table), and chew for hours. Only when she was sleeping could I steal it and chew on it myself. Mom loves them because they help keep our teeth clean. I love them because they make my gums all tingly while I’m chewing. At least when Irene would bark at me for stealing her Dental Rope her breath was minty fresh.



Another toy my mom and I love to play with are the Softbite Flexible Discs. They are basically a nylon frisbee. I like these because they are easy to pick up. Regular frisbees are great but I have a tough time

getting them out of the grass. My mom laughs at me because I paw and paw at it until I can pick it up. With the flexible discs I can just bite at the middle to pick it up and go. What a great invention!!!

A stocking full of Slobber Stoppers would be the ultimate! Mom and I have BIG fun with these. Slobber Stoppers are a tennis ball(s) and rope toy all in one. I chew the tennis ball and mom has the rope to throw it for me. See I get a little slobbery when I play so while the tennis ball is dripping with drool my mom can still throw it with the dry rope end. These also make great ‘drag around the seven pound Dachshund’ toys. Daisy the Dachshund thinks she can beat me at tug-o-war. I even give her the rope end. I weigh over forty pounds. She weighs seven. Who do you think wins??

And last but not least.....for the greatest mom in the whole wide world I would like her to have the Chuckit Retriever Toy. Why do I want her to have this toy? You ask. So she doesn’t ever have to pick up another spit ball, oh I mean soggy tennis ball ever again. The Chuckit Retriever Toy is a long plastic handle with hooks on the end that slide around a tennis ball. Then your mom (or dad) can ‘chuckit’ across the yard. I get to fetch the ball, mom’s hand stay slobber free, and we both are ‘chuckin’ our luv handles.

I guess that does it for my list. Oh yeah lots of bones and treats would be cool too.

Luv, Vance

p.s....I’ve been a very good boy this year...just don’t ask my mom about it.



The FISH Philosophy

Contributed by: Tiffany Main, Practice Manager



Every Monday, for two hours, the Patton Veterinary Hospital (PVH) closes its doors and focuses on communication and continuing education for all staff members. We do this because we recognize the importance of thorough communication techniques and the need for constant learning throughout the hospital.

Not long ago, the staff focused on the ideas generated from the book FISH! by Stephen C. Lundin, Ph.d, Harry Paul and John Christensen. After the entire staff read the book we divided into four groups. Each group was given a topic of interest, as defined in the book. For the next couple of weeks, the groups presented their interpretation of each topic and discussed how to bring the FISH concepts to PVH. These four con-

cepts are: Choose Your Attitude, Play, Make Their Day and Be Present.

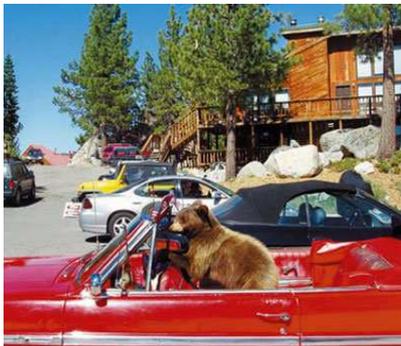
After several weeks of FISH focus, we continue to have reminders around the hospital of these concepts, such as the fish named Dr. Brett in the back break room and silly pictures posted here and there to encourage smiles and laughter. What we have found is by bringing these four concepts to life, we can’t help but have a great day, and in turn infect those around us with contagious smiles.

If you have had a FISH experience, we encourage you to share it with any staff member. We are always FISHING for new ideas.



Tails of Interest

Contributed by: Julie Good, Office Manager



This past July, in Nevada, a bear cub came down from the mountains to grab a pizza. He helped himself to the barbecued-chicken-and-jalapeno pizza, as well as some liquor, in the back seat of a convertible parked in a residential area. The picture in the paper shows the bear at the wheel of the car, apparently too intoxicated to drive away.

In other bearly believable news, Jack, a 15. lb cat who lives in West Milford, New Jersey, defended his backyard from an interloping black bear. Jack chased the bear up a tree – twice! Jack’s owners found him hissing at the bottom of the tree, and the bear cowering in the branches. When the bear came down, Jack chased him up a different tree. Worried that Jack might actually harm the bear J, his owners persuaded him to leave his territory undefended long enough for the bear to make his escape. This cat truly believes that size doesn’t matter – it’s all in your heart!

In Need of a Loving Home

Contributed by: Jessy Hoover, Nurse

“Girlie” is an affectionate little kitty looking for a new home. She is approximately one year old, and is a pastel colored-calico, with gray, orange and white fur. “Girlie” was used to being an indoor-only kitty when her previous owners decided to abandon her and her eight-week old kitten after getting a new puppy. They were left outside to fend for themselves. Luckily for them, only hours after being dropped off, a PVH staff member found them and brought them to another staff member to foster. The kitten found a great home quickly, but it hasn’t been so easy for “Girlie”. Everyone seems to be looking for a kitten! Since being rescued, “Girlie” has been spayed, vaccinated and dewormed. She gets along great with other cats, and loves to play and cuddle...she can’t seem to get enough attention! “Girlie” is looking for a loving home with lots of time and attention to give, and where she would be an indoor-only kitty. If you are interested in hearing more about “Girlie”, please contact Jessy Hoover at PVH.



Reptile Wrangler

Contributed by: Julie Good, Office Manager



Ok, maybe they’re not warm and cuddly, but reptiles and amphibians make fascinating pets. (And some of them actually do like to cuddle – snakes and iguanas will seek out your body heat, hopefully with your permission!) They’re fun to watch, a good way to teach kids responsible pet ownership (with Mom and Dad’s assistance) and a window into jungle, aquatic or desert life that we might not normally get a chance to see.

Reptiles (and amphibians) vary as far as difficulty of care. If you are just starting out, as either an adult or a child, you want a “starter” reptile, such as an anole or green tree frog. Never begin with a delicate, complicated creature like a Jackson’s chameleon – these guys are very expensive and tricky to care for.

If you are considering a reptile for a pet, make sure you do some research. A decent pet store is a good place to start (but don’t get all your information there). Look for a store that keeps their reptiles clean and well-fed, and employees that answer your questions with confidence and enthusiasm. But don’t stop there – if you’ve found a pet that you’re interested in, and a store that seems to have healthy reptiles, get a book on that species. Make a list of everything that they recommend for your potential pet, and make sure you either already have it or can afford to buy it.

Don’t forget, this pet will need to eat. Can you get to the store to buy crickets/mealworms/salad fixings several times a week? Can you afford to supply these items as your pet’s size and appetite increases? If you go

away, do you have someone who can take care of your cold-blooded friend and won’t be creeped out by him/her? If you are buying something that’s going to grow (iguanas and some snakes can grow to four feet or more) can you accommodate that, either with a gigantic cage or a room of their own? Do you mind cleaning up shed skin or stinky reptile poop on a daily basis? Don’t buy a pet just because it’s “cool” – make sure you can be there for him/her in the long run.

Stores are not the only source of reptile pets – there are local/regional reptile rescues (though they will usually only adopt an animal to someone with reptile experience), or you may come across someone looking for a good home for a pet they can no longer care for. Just make sure the little guy is healthy, and that, as above, you have everything you need before you bring them home.

Even though the smaller, less complicated reptiles can be inexpensive, that doesn’t mean they’re disposable. When you bring your new friend home, he is your responsibility just as much as any fuzzy kitten or puppy. It’s an interesting fact that even a small lizard like an anole can recognize their caretaker’s face, as opposed to those other weird face-blobs peering into their little glass or wire world. They know YOU, and they’re depending on you!

In further issues (when room allows), we’ll look at specific reptile breed care. Or, if you have any questions, please ask a staff member. We’re not experts, but many of us are interested in reptile care and have reptiles ourselves.



Kitty Corner contributed by **Bryanna Manning,**
Client Relations Specialist

S S T E N N I S B A L L T S Z
O Q W S N M U N L N K H S B S
V S U E X K V F W A D A C T F
S E R E H P M L K I R W A U U
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Y I F E L L W H X V O X M L Y

CAT GRASS
CET DENTAL CHEWS
FRISBY
GREENIES
MILKBONES
ROPEBONE
SQUEAKY TOY
YOGURT DROPS
CATNIP
DIZZY BALL
FURRY MICE
KONG
MOIST TREATS
SLIPPERS
TENNIS BALL

Lend A Paw

During the holidays don't forget our homeless furry friends. Please do your best to help shelter animals find presents under their tree.

SPCA

3159 Susquehanna Trail North
York, PA 17406
(717) 764-6109
www.ycspca.org

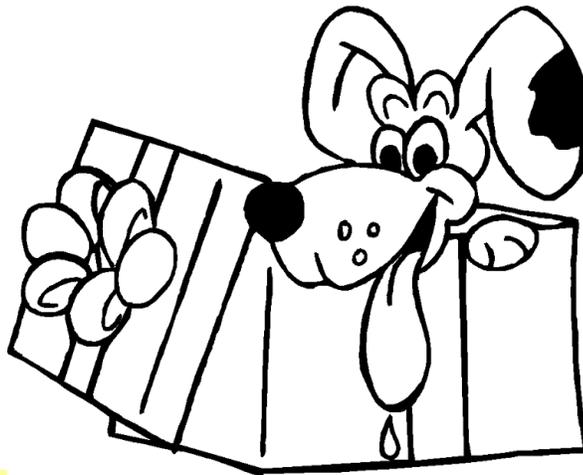
Animal Rescue Inc.

2 Heritage Farm Drive
New Freedom, PA 17349
(717) 993-3232
www.animalrescueinc.org

Color Me!

Did You Know?

The common belief that dogs are color blind is false. Dogs can see color but it is not as vivid a color scheme as we see.



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WE'RE ON THE WEB!!
www.pattonvethospital.com