



The Scoop

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Happy New Year!

January 2017

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A Purr-fect Place to Get in From the Cold: New Cat Cafe in Ann Arbor

If you are looking for a warm, friendly place to get in from the January cold, consider the [Tiny Lions Lounge & Adoption Center](#) in Ann Arbor.

Operated by the [Humane Society of Huron Valley](#), Tiny Lions features free Wi-Fi, café tables, lounge chairs (ideal for snuggling and reading), shopping in a cat-lovers store, and of course, cats! The cats wandering around are available for hanging out, petting and playing. All of the cats are also available for adoption. Bring your own food and non-alcoholic beverages or grab something from the coffee shop next door.



Admission to Tiny Lions is \$7 per hour or \$4 per half hour. Watch for special events like movie night and yoga. You can also rent the café for birthday parties or other gatherings.

Tiny Lions Lounge & Adoption Center is at 5245 Jackson Rd, Suite A1 in Ann Arbor. It's open Tuesday through Saturday 10-7, Sundays 10-5 and closed Mondays. For more information, call 734.661.3530 or email tinylions@hshv.org.



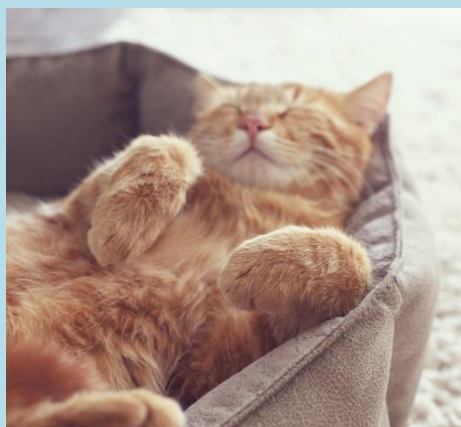
Photos used with permission from Humane Society of Huron Valley.

Keep Indoor Cats Warm During Winter Months

Even indoor cats can get chilled during cold winter months, especially in homes that dial down the thermostat to conserve energy during the day. Make sure that kitty has cozy places to keep warm, which is especially important for older kitties and those with stiff joints or arthritis. Consider:

Heated cat beds

Some heated cat beds are semi-enclosed and others are round with raised sides or flat like a heating pad. Choose a style based on your cat's regular bedding style. For safety, choose a bed that only heats up when in use, and returns to room temperature when the cat steps off. Look for a bed with a removable cover for easy cleaning.



Window perches

If your cat likes to sit on the window sill, likely drafts can make this uncomfortable in winter. Place a padded window perch on the sill which could be a plush towel or piece of blanket or fleece. You can also find heated window perches.

Sunny windows

Look for places around the house that get the most sunlight. Place a chair or cat tree near windows where sun is the strongest. Be sure to leave curtains open.

Well-placed litter boxes

Some homes might have litter boxes in the basement or garage, both of which can get cold for kitty. This can be especially uncomfortable for older kitties or ones that do not handle the cold well. Instead, move litter boxes into the house.

Cozy living

Cats should never be confined to the garaged or basement, not even just for sleeping. A cold, damp environment is not only uncomfortable for your kitty, but is also unhealthy.

News and Events:

See Our New Archive of Cat's Meow Tips

Each issue of The Scoop brings you creative and thoughtful ideas to help you best care for your kitty. See ALL of these tips archived at <http://thecatpracticepc.com/catsmeowtips.html>

Kitty Camp

Cats staying in our Kitty Camp get frequent attention and plenty of play and exercise in our Kitty Playroom. Consider boarding your cat while you're away, have guests or are having work done at home. Go to thecatpracticepc.com/boarding.html or call 248-540-3390.



Important

Contact information:

The Cat Practice Hospice and End of Life Care. Contact hospice nurse Laura Kramek for a consultation at 248-540-3390.

Nurse hotline. Get answers to questions about your kitty's health. Email: NurseHotline@Thecatpracticepc.com

AARC wellness exam savings for senior cats. Go to thecatpracticepc.com/aarc.htm

Adoptable cats and kittens. Visit our lobby and [Facebook page](#).

Story ideas for The Scoop. Contact larsen.christina.joy@gmail.com

February is National Pet Dental Health Month



Brushing is Best Thing You Can Do for Cat's Teeth

By age 3, many cats already show signs of dental disease. In cats, dental disease affects a cat's gums (gingivitis) and causes plaque build up on the teeth, which, if not removed, leads to serious periodontal disease affecting structures that support the teeth.

Delaying dental care can cause serious health problems including:

- Loose and infected teeth
- Abscesses and throat infections
- Kidney, liver and heart damage

The best way to prevent dental disease is with **REGULAR BRUSHING**. Check out our [Me-Yow Tube video on Easy steps for brushing your cat's teeth!](#) See more about the importance of [dental care for your cat on our website](#).



\$200 Off All Dental Treatments Through End of February

In honor of National Pet Dental Health Month (February), The Cat Practice is offering a **\$200 discount off all dental treatments now through the end of February 2017**. Giving your cat a thorough dental exam and cleaning is a great way to start the new year!

During dental treatments, cats are sedated while their vital signs are closely monitored. Fluids are given to keep kidneys functioning during the procedure. Sedation enables your veterinarian to:

- Take dental x-rays to look for diseased tooth roots. (60% of dental disease is found below the gum line.
- Thoroughly clean your cat's teeth above and below the gum line.
- Examine the oral cavity for changes, sore areas, swelling or masses.
- Perform any necessary extractions.
- Polish teeth to smooth out surfaces.

PRIOR to a dental procedure:

Before a dental procedure, make sure your cat is healthy enough for general anesthesia.

- Routine blood work checks organ function and rules out illness.
- An echocardiogram rules out an underlying heart condition. (Especially important if your cat has a heart murmur).

A Cat's Not Just a Cat!

Breed Profile: Dilute Mixed Breeds

Mixed breed cats have body types, coats and color patterns similar to a specific breed, but are not purebreds. A cat may resemble / have traits of a Persian cat, but without a genealogy, would be a "mixed breed" or "Persian mix" and so on.



A mixed breed cat is "dilute" when the color of the coat is less intense. For example, cream or tan is the dilute version of red. Beige or fawn is the dilute version of cinnamon.

Mixed breed cats make wonderful pets and the dilute variation makes for a lovely coat. The varied genetic make-up can minimize health concerns that may be dominant in a purebred. If you have a dilute mixed breed cat, watch out for dental disease (all cats) as well as possible allergies, skin conditions and skin cancers.

[See our comprehensive list of cat breeds and related health conditions.](#)

Cat Trivia

True or false: Cats will often stop eating when they have a sore tooth.

Be **FIRST** to email us with the **RIGHT** answer at larsen.christina.joy@gmail.com and win a free bag of organic catnip! See next month's issue for the answer!

Last month's trivia answer:

True, cats are more resistant than other species to venomous snake bites.

Congrats to Michelle B. of Birmingham who was first to reply with the correct answer and claim the free bag of catnip!

Cat's Meow Tip: Treat Jars can be Hidden Hazard

My cats know treats are in a glass jar on the counter and come running when I open the jar. But I never thought they would help themselves! In the middle of the night the sound of glass breaking is startling. Fortunately I was home and quickly cleaned up the mess before kitties had a chance to get into the broken glass. NEVER leave treats on the counter and NEVER put them in a breakable jar!

-- Contributed by: *Linda Wasche, Sylvan Lake*

Do you have a cat care tip that is just the Cat's Meow? Email larsen.christina.joy@gmail.com. If we run it, you get a FREE bag of organic catnip. Limit to 75 words. See past [Cat's Meow Tips](#).



Wi-Fi available
Ask at our front desk



Are You Getting The Scoop?

To sign up, send us an email at meowmail@thecatpracticepc.com or call 248.540.3390

Follow Us in the News!

Check our website regularly for updates on our recent news coverage.

thecatpracticepc.com/press.htm

Our Hours:

Monday - Thursday: 8 am – 9 pm
Friday: 8 am – 8 pm
Saturday & Sunday: 8 am – 6 pm

*If you yell at a cat,
you're the one who is
making a fool of
yourself.
– Unknown*

Follow us:   

Wellness/early detection

Chronic conditions

Medical/surgical care

Geriatrics/hospice

Kitty camp boarding

The Cat Practice commitment to cats and their people:

- Spot health conditions early to avoid more costly care later.
- Treat the whole patient looking out for physical and emotional wellbeing.
- Respect each cat as an individual with his/her own distinct personality & heredity.
- Avoid surgery at all cost. (The exception: all cats should be spayed or neutered!)
- Provide alternatives for care whenever possible.
- Partner with cat families through knowledge sharing.
- Make oral hygiene and preventive dental care a priority.

The Scoop is published monthly by The Cat Practice.



875 South Worth
Birmingham, MI 48009
248-540-3390

www.thecatpracticepc.com
meowmail@thecatpracticepc.com

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