



The Scoop

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June is Adopt a Shelter Cat Month

June 2013

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News and Events

New Nurse Hotline

The Cat Practice has set up a new email "hotline" for questions you may have about your kitty's health. NurseHotline@thecatpracticepc.com
If your cat has symptoms of illness, it's still best to make an appointment with your veterinarian.

More cat lover news: Read Cat Chat

Oakland Press blogger Caren Gittleman brings you all kinds of cat lover news, cool cat stories, new products and more. Go to: <http://opcatchat.blogspot.com>

Does Your "Kitty Got Talent?"



Have a talented feline? We're looking for kitties to star in our new video series! Contact tabitha@thecatpracticepc.com

Save on Wellness Exams for Senior Cats!



Save 10% off senior wellness exams and get free blood pressure checks, free nail trims and more! AARC is open to cats 15 years and older. thecatpracticepc.com/aarc.htm

Kitty Camp

Cats staying in our Kitty Camp enjoy frequent attention and plenty of play and exercise in our Kitty Playroom. Boarding your cat is a great alternative while you're away, have guests or are having work done at home. For information – or to register – go to thecatpracticepc.com/



June is Adopt-a-Shelter-Cat Month

Pet Adoption Offers Many Advantages Over Buying

If you are thinking about a new cat or other pet, consider adopting over buying from a pet store or breeder. Adoption offers many advantages:

- So many people are amazed at the affection and gratitude shown by adopted pets; they understand that they have been brought into a loving home.
- Adoption staff can usually provide information on each pet's distinct personality and behaviors.
- Pets put up for adoption have been screened for health and behavior issues.



Added note: Although kittens and puppies are cute and fun to watch, adopting an adult with a developed personality can be the best decision you've ever made!

BUYING FROM A BREEDER: If you decide to buy from a breeder -- there are many reputable ones -- but remember to ALWAYS visit where the kittens or puppies were raised and ask for a tour to check on conditions of the facility and how pets were treated.

Local adoption resources:

The Cat Practice We often have KITTENS up for adoption in the spring and summer. Visit our lobby, watch for kitten postings on Face book or call us at 248-540-3390. For ADULT cats, consider the following:	
Kitty City open air adoption environment Pet Supplies Plus -Bloomfield Hills /248-333-7545 and White Lake Twp. /248-889-4131	Oakland County Animal Control www.oakgov.com/petadoption 248-391-4100
City and municipal shelters Check online for local city and township shelters and animal control offices in your area.	Pet Finder / www.petfinder.com Features pets with shelters /rescue groups that can be searched by species, breed and zip code.

Check the Health of Your Newly Adopted Kitty

It's not uncommon for cats coming into a new environment to become stressed and show signs of illness. Runny noses and watery eyes can be common in cats coming from shelters. Fortunately, these symptoms typically signal nothing more than a common cold.

How can you make sure that you new kitty is healthy?

- Make sure that the adoption facility provides paperwork with dates of:
 - FVRCP (distemper), rabies and feline leukemia vaccines
 - Deworming
 - Feline Leukemia (FELV) and FIV tests
- Schedule an immediate appointment with your regular veterinarian who will provide a more thorough exam than a shelter. Be sure to bring the above paperwork!



How to Introduce a New Cat Into Your Home

Bringing home a new cat – or any pet – can change the dynamic with any existing pets. If you have other pets – and are bringing home a new kitty, follow a few steps to make the transition easier for them – and for you!

- A slow, controlled introduction gives your new kitty the best possible chance of becoming part of a happy, balanced family.
- Choose a room for the new kitty to be alone and become acquainted with your home. Provide a new litter box, new bed and mix of new toys and toys used by your other pets so that new kitty becomes familiar with their scent.
- See more new kitty guidelines at: <http://thecatpracticepc.com/kittencare.htm>.



Experts predict tick population explosion in 2013

According to *Veterinary Practice News*, tick populations in many areas are likely to explode this year due to warmer winters, suburbanization, an increase in white-tail deer and migratory bird populations. Be sure to talk to your veterinarian about flea and tick protection for your pets.

Plan Now for July 4 Fireworks

While July 4 is a fun time for families, the noise of fireworks and firecrackers can absolutely terrify cats and other pets. Start planning now to create safe places for your kitty.



- Provide a sheltered space for kitty by covering a table with a long table cloth or lining a cardboard box with a favorite blanket.
- Use Feliway (a simulated cat pheromone) to help reduce the stress caused by loud noises. (Available in both a diffuser and as a spray.)
- If your community has fireworks in close proximity to your home, consider boarding your cat. Be sure to tour the boarding facility to see how cats are cared for before boarding Fluffy!

From the American Animal Hospital Association

Michigan Bill Advancing to Add Bitter Agent to Anti-Freeze

According to the American Animal Hospital Association, sweet-tasting antifreeze may not be tempting to pets and kids much longer as legislation to add a bittering agent to the formula is continuing to advance through Michigan government. The Senate passed [Senate Bill 0029](#) - referred to as the "engine cooling bittering agent act" - nearly unanimously. The bill will now move on to the House. SB0029 gives manufacturers a deadline of January 1, 2015, to add bittering agent, denatonium benzoate, to their engine coolant products. It would then be illegal to sell any non-bitter engine coolant products in Michigan. Senator Steve Bieda, bill sponsor, said the legislation will help prevent the pain that people experience when their children or pets are poisoned by engine coolant. "Every year hundreds of children and thousands of animals are harmed by ingesting antifreeze mistakenly," said Bieda on [his website](#). "We can prevent serious injury to children and family pets by taking the simple step of making antifreeze bitter so that it loses its appeal."

A Cat's Not Just a Cat!

Breed Profile: African Shorthair (Sokoke)



These rare, independent, spirited cats are active athletes requiring a lot of vertical space for climbing and acrobatics. Although these beautiful cats can adapt to life in a smaller home, they would do best with access to an outdoor enclosure for climbing and mental stimulation. Unlike many other cat breeds they also like to swim!

African Shorthairs are generally sociable towards other cats and dogs. Their natural intelligence, coupled with their social attitudes make them great candidates for people who like to train cats. Generally healthy, the Sokoke usually only requires regular brushing and veterinary visits, just like any cat!

Image published under the Wikimedia Creative Commons License - [Sokoke](#)

Cat Trivia

Question: True or False? Prior to 1760, male cats were called rams.

– Be FIRST to email us with the RIGHT answer at Tabitha@thecatpracticepc.com and win a free bag of organic catnip! See next month's issue for the answer!

Last month's trivia answer:

Answer: True! Cats are born naturally left or right-pawed!

Congrats to Jennifer Kueber who was first to reply with the correct answer and claim the free bag of catnip!

Cat's Meow Tip: Make Litter Box Clean-up Easy with Cooking Spray!

Make litter box clean-up easier by spraying with a non-flavored cooking spray to lightly coat the box before you add the litter. The dirty litter will slide right out! – **Contributed by Emily McNeilly, The Cat Practice**

Do you have a cat care tip that is just the Cat's Meow? Email Tabitha@thecatpracticepc.com. If we run it, you get a FREE bag of organic catnip. Limit to 75 words.



[boarding.html](#) or call 248-540-3390.

Looking for Homes / Official Cat Adoption Site

See the adoptable cats and kittens in our lobby and on [our Face book page](#). Also, we are now an [official adoption outreach center of Oakland Pet Adoption Center](#) in Auburn Hills so we are getting new kitties as often as we can adopt them out!

Follow us in the News!

Check our website regularly for updates on our recent news coverage. thecatpracticepc.com/press.htm.

Are You Getting The Scoop?



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

Contact Us:

If you have story ideas for The Scoop or would like more information, please contact Tabitha at Tabitha@thecatpracticepc.com.

Our Hours:

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

The cat could very well be man's best friend but would never stoop to admitting it.

– Doug Larson



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.



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