



# The Scoop

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## Helping Kitty Overcome Back to School Blues

August 2013

### In this issue:

- [Back to school blues](#)
- [The Cat's Pajamas adoption marathon](#)
- [Cat photography tips](#)
- [Hazards of picnic fare](#)
- [Consider Kitty Camp for fall cleaning ease](#)
- [Breed: Ojos Azure](#)
- [Trivia contest/win free catnip](#)
- [Cat's Meow: Decorative scratch pads](#)

### 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](mailto:NurseHotline@thecatpracticepc.com) If your cat has symptoms of illness, it's still best to make an appointment with your veterinarian.

### Back to School Blues Can Affect Kitties Too

With kids going back to school, cats can get stressed due to less attention and a quieter house. Cats are most comfortable with a regular routine, so disruptions can cause changes in litter box habits or behavior issues including aggression. Some cats can even become ill.



#### Help get your cat get through the back to school blues by:

- Creating a "safe space" for kitty in a part of the house not affected by household activities. Stock it with food, litter, water, toys, scratching posts and soft beds or perches.
- Use Feliway (feline pheromone spray or diffuser available at The Cat Practice) to help kitty relax.
- Leave on Pandora or other Internet radio station with "Meditation" or "sleep" sounds; or leave on soft classical or pet relaxation tunes.
- Set aside regular daily times for grooming and play so kitty doesn't feel ignored.

#### 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>

### 65 Cats Found Homes at 48-Hour Adoption Marathon



Pet Supplies Plus of Bloomfield Hills hosted **The Cat Pajamas 48-Hour Adoption Marathon Aug. 9-11** resulting in 65 cats and kittens going to good homes. Pet Supplies Plus in Bloomfield Hills is also home to *Kitty City*, one of the area's first open-air adoption environments for cats. (Pictured at left.) *Kitty City* allows prospective adopters to interact with the cats, see their personalities and find your new best friend!



### Does Your "Kitty Got Talent?"



Have a talented feline? We're looking for kitties to star in our video series! Contact [tabitha@thecatpracticepc.com](mailto:tabitha@thecatpracticepc.com)

### How to Get Your Feline to be More Photogenic

Want to get the best photos possible of Oscar or Bella basking in the sun? Tips from a commercial photographer who photographs lots of pets include choosing a comfortable setting, getting the best natural light and helping kitty to relax. See more tips at: <http://www.vetstreet.com/>



### Picnic Fare Can Mean Trouble For Felines

Plans for Indian summer often include picnics or barbecues as long as the weather cooperates. In planning your outdoor meals, keep kitty in mind as many traditional picnic items can be harmful to your cat. Keep your outdoor fun safe for your pet by following these tips:

#### DON'T GIVE CATS:

- Leftovers such as ribs, hamburger meat, chicken wings or pulled pork.
- Meats dressed in barbecue sauce or cooked in spiced broth since they often contain onion and garlic, both toxic to cats.
- Spare ribs and chicken wings which can easily splinter and be accidentally ingested.



#### DO GIVE CATS:

A small portion of chicken, pork or fish that's un-seasoned and cooked separately in a little water or in the microwave.

### 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](http://thecatpracticepc.com/aarc.htm)

### Looking for Homes / Official Cat Adoption Site

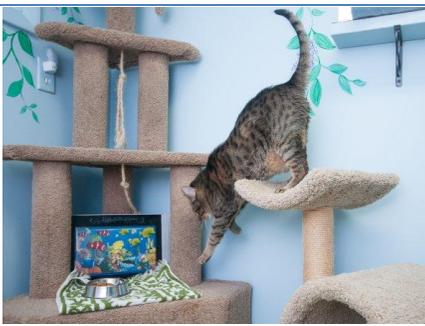
See the adoptable cats and kittens in our lobby and on [our Facebook page](#). Also, we are now an [official adoption outreach center of Oakland Pet Adoption Center](#) in Auburn Hills so we are getting new kitties as often as we can adopt them out!

## Make Fall Cleaning a Breeze With Kitty Camp

If you have fall cleaning in your future – or want to get a home renovation project done before the winter holidays – consider boarding your kitties at The Cat Practice's Kitty Camp. This is a great way to make sure that cats do not get

under toe or escape through open doors.

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 having work done at home, are away or have guests. For information – or to register – go to [thecatpracticepc.com/boarding.html](http://thecatpracticepc.com/boarding.html) or call 248-540-3390.



### A Cat's Not Just a Cat!

#### Breed Profile: Ojos Azules



With a name meaning "blue eyes" in Spanish, it's no wonder that the most prominent feature of this rare breed is its brilliant, dark-blue eyes. Ojos Azules is a relatively new breed of cat that originated in New Mexico in the 1980s. Their coats are frequently tortoiseshell, with long or short coats that require minimal brushing.

These beautiful cats are friendly, outgoing and active. They would be a wonderful addition to any home with or without other pets. Given their rarity, it may be challenging to find an accredited breeder.

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

### Cat Trivia

**True or false:** The hooks on a cat's tongue that help with grooming are made out of cartilage.

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

**Last month's trivia answer:**

False - Although calico cats are almost always female, rare males can carry an extra copy of the gene that creates the calico coloration.

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

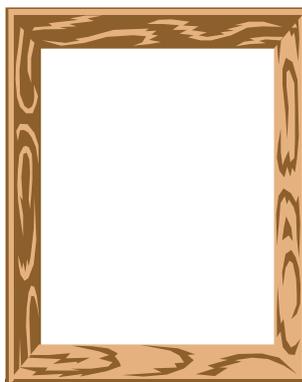
### Cat's Meow Tip: Artsy Way to Make Scratch Pad Part of Your Décor!

Here is way to create a cat scratching pad that will become part of your décor!

1. Use an interesting picture frame that fits your room.
2. Fit the frame with a piece of felt glued where the picture should be.
3. Secure the frame at cat-scratch height on your wall with damage-free sticky tape or a nail.

Kitty gets all the fun of a scratch pad you get a piece that blends into your room! -- **Contributed by Emily McNeilly of The Cat Practice.**

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



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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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](mailto:Tabitha@thecatpracticepc.com).

### Our Hours:

Monday - Thursday: 8 am – 9 pm

Friday: 8 am – 8 pm

Saturday & Sunday: 8 am – 6 pm

*Way down deep, we're all motivated by the same urges. Cats have the courage to live by them.*

- Jim Davis



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