

# CVC Newsletter

March 2004

Countryside Veterinary  
Clinic, Ltd.

601 Center Parkway  
Yorkville, IL 60560

Phone (630) 553-7436

Fax (630) 553-9516

www.countrysidevetpets.com

## Litter Box Problems

If your cat suddenly stops using the litter box, don't automatically assume that the problem is a behavioral one. First, we should rule out any underlying medical problems. Cats may also eliminate outside the litter box if they have a urinary tract infection, bowel disease, or bladder stones. Make sure that the litter boxes are conveniently located, cleaned daily, and placed far enough away from the cat's food and water bowls. Most cats prefer unscented scoopable litters without plastic liners. Always provide more than one litter box, as some cats prefer to urinate and defecate in separate spots and this also gives them a choice if one of the boxes is soiled. Consider one litter box per cat, plus one extra in that house. Multiple cat households should have one more litter box than the number of cats that they have. Cat attract is a new product that may entice cats to use the box more consistently. Once a medical problem has been ruled out, your veterinarian can discuss conservative treatments for behavioral elimination problems, as well as oral behavioral modifying medications that may be helpful. To have your cat examined in order to rule out a medical problem and to discuss treatment options, make an appointment with us at Countryside Veterinary Clinic, 601 Center Parkway (630) 553-7436. Medication and a possible change of diet may be necessary to keep the problem under control.

## Anemia

In humans and animals, anemia develops when the number of red blood cells decreases or when the red blood cells fail to carry enough oxygen to body tissues. Internal and external parasites are a common cause of anemia in animals. Ulcers and other sources of internal bleeding may also cause anemias. Anemia can also develop secondary to chronic disease processes such as kidney failure and cancer. There can even be an immune component to many anemias. Anemic pets can exhibit fatigue and weakness due to a lack of oxygen. They may breathe more rapidly as the body tries to increase oxygen levels. Pets with anemia require immediate veterinary care to try to identify the source of the anemia and to attempt to correct the underlying problem. Veterinarians will perform a thorough examination of the anemic pet and recommend the necessary laboratory tests to aid in the diagnosis and treatment. Proper treatment will depend upon your pet's particular type of anemia.



### Pet of the Month

#### Tony & Dominic

Tony and Dominic went to live with the Herrmann family several years ago when their uncle had to move and was no longer able to keep them. They both went to live with family so he could still see both dogs and be a part of their lives. When the Herrmann family took both dogs in they thought they were doing something nice for family. They soon came to realize how much they needed Tony and Dominic. They fit right in with their family and everyone loves them very much and enjoy every minute of their time together. Dominic passed away on February 1. Everyone misses him but feel very privileged that they were allowed to have him in their lives.



## CVC Team Announcements

### Congratulations!

Karen is this month's "Employee of the Month". Karen joined our practice this past fall and has proven to be an important part of our team already. Karen is currently attending college and will soon be graduating as a certified technician. She is eager to learn and assimilates new concepts quickly. In addition to her technical skills Karen is compassionate with people and pets. She is described as a joy to work with and her team spirit is demonstrated by her pleasant, willingness to assist everyone. To show appreciation Countryside Veterinary Clinic awards Karen "Employee of the Month".

#### Anniversaries

Amy C.	3 years
Jean Ann	12 years

#### Birthdays

Cassie H.	March 3
Jill M.	March 6
Dr. Megan	March 23

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To: Our Valued  
Countryside Veterinary  
Clinic Clients

