

KATS' TALES

Volume 8, Issue 7



Kingdom Animal Shelter
1664 Memorial Drive
P.O. Box 462, St. Johnsbury, VT 05819 (802) 741-7387
www.kingdomanimalshelter.com

July
2017

LEAVING YOUR CAT HOME ALONE: WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW By Christie Long, DVM

Macaulay Culkin made being home alone famous for kids everywhere, but what about the cat that's left home alone? Is it safe? What things should you plan for if you want to leave your cat home alone for a few days? Read on to find out! *What and How to Feed* Many cats are dry food addicts. While you may be tempted to fill up a bowl with kibble and take off for the weekend, consider an alternative approach. Many cats will gorge themselves on dry food when left to their own devices, but canned food isn't a great choice either, since it tends to go bad quickly when left out. First of all, let's just agree that three days is the maximum amount of time you should leave your cat alone with no human interaction. If you're going to be gone any longer than that, hire a pet sitter to come by and feed or interact with your beloved at least every other day. Automatic feeders are useful when you need to feed a cat reliably over several days. Consider investing in a quality model, and be sure to give it a test run for at least a week before you leave, to ensure that it opens and offers food, as you expect it should, based on the way you set it. *Water, Water, Everywhere* Cats tend to drink very conservative amounts of water. Especially if you feed a very dry diet while you're gone, you can count on your cat drinking more in your absence. So be sure and have plenty of fresh water out in easily accessible locations. *Up Your Litter Box Game* Since you're not going to be around to clean the litter box, it stands to reason your cat will likely need one or two additional boxes to use in your absence. This is especially true if your cat is known to be picky about how clean the litter box is kept. Add an additional box to ensure that you don't come home to a mess, especially since bad litter box habits are easily developed but hard to break. *Keep a Friend Up-to-Date* When you're traveling, anything can happen, so make sure that you tell a friend or family member that your cat is home alone. That way, if something happens that results in your being detained from returning, they can step in and make sure your cat is cared for. (continued next issue)

(Source: <http://PetCoach.co>; retrieved 07/16/2017)

L
A
R
R
Y



EISENHOWER

Larry and Eisenhower are two gorgeous thirteen-year old brothers. Their owners moved and could not take the boys

with them, so it was a very hard separation. They are both affectionate, friendly, playful, interested in all around them and deserve a quiet, safe home in their elder years. Larry is hyperthyroid; he gets a small pill twice a day, which he downs quite easily. Please consider giving these senior fellas a loving home.

THREE ESSENTIAL SUMMER TIPS FOR CATS by Karen Nichols (conclusion)

External Hydration Not necessarily popular with cats, it does provide a temporary respite from the heat. Soak a medium-sized towel with water until it is saturated. Drape it around your cat, then squeeze out the towel's water onto the cat, and rub a bit so that the water reaches the skin. The towel method is less traumatic than a bath, and quicker and easier to administer **FURMINATE** – Keep your cat groomed With each heat wave, your cat's body is likely to shed mountains of fur. This is prime hairball season, so take care to groom your cat daily with the **FURminator®** or other deshedding tool. There have been cases where hairballs the size of baseballs were removed from the stomachs of cats, and most of these cases are preventable with regular grooming. Signs of a major hairball problem and possible impaction are retching, inability to poop, diarrhea, loss of appetite, or a swollen abdomen. See your veterinarian immediately if you suspect your cat is impacted **EDUCATE** – Keep an eye out for heatstroke symptoms in your cat-Keep tabs on your cats during hot weather, and monitor them for signs of heatstroke. Take a minute or two now to educate yourself about the symptoms and emergency treatment for hyperthermia. Heatstroke is life-threatening, and knowing proper first aid can save your cat's life. The symptoms of heatstroke in cats include: rapid panting, bright red tongue, red or pale gums, thick, sticky saliva, depression, weakness, dizziness, vomiting (sometimes with blood), diarrhea, shock, and coma. If you suspect that your cat is a victim of heatstroke, take her temperature. It should be between 100.5 and 101.5 F. A temperature above 104 is a definite warning sign of hyperthermia. Keep in mind that cats who suffer from heatstroke once increase their risk for getting it again and steps must be taken to prevent it on hot, humid days. Snub-nosed breeds (like Persians and Himalayans) are especially vulnerable.

(Source: <http://www.catster.com> newsletter 5/26/17; retrieved: 5/302017)

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Oct. 1 Autumn on the Green, Danville 2018 KAS Cat Calendar debut!
- Oct. 21 Yard Sale Butler's Bus Service, Lyndonville

KAS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Helen Morrison – President
Jennifer Smith – Vice President
Klari Emmons – Secretary
David Gile – Treasurer
Rod Lauman – Board member
Nancy Rivet – Board member



****NEW MONTHLY FEATURE**** JUNE ADOPTIONS-- "FUR-EVER HOMES" found for: Monroe, Betty Boop, Kenoki, Charlie, Louie Louie, Brandy, Ivy, Fern, Gigi, Tommy Thomas, Hercules, Cecilia, Lola, and Mary

Did you know...Cat people are 11% more likely to be introverted than dog people.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT The purpose of the Kingdom Animal Shelter is to facilitate the placement of stray and unwanted animals and pets in desirable homes; to establish and maintain an animal shelter and associated procedures that promote health, care and handling; and to prevent overpopulation and the prevention of cruelty to animals. The animals in our care, our guests, are never euthanized merely because we lack space or because the animal's stay with us has exceeded a predefined amount of time.

Please forward this to your friends, family, co-workers, or anyone interested in supporting our shelter. If you no longer wish to receive emails from Kingdom Animal Shelter, please hit "Reply" and change the subject line to UNSUBSCRIBE. Kingdom Animal Shelter respects your privacy and will never share or sell your email address or other information.