



Monday - Friday 10 to 6
Saturday 9 to 4
Sunday Closed

December 10th results...

A great big thank you to everyone that attended our December 10th customer appreciation party. We had a wonderful time seeing everyone and we were thrilled to be able to offer everything on sale. The best part of the evening is seeing what great customers we have. You all helped to overflow five donation boxes for area shelters. To those of you that couldn't make it and stopped in later with donations for the shelters a big thanks to you too! Check out the great letter from some appreciative cats at the end of this month's newsletter!



Check the Date...

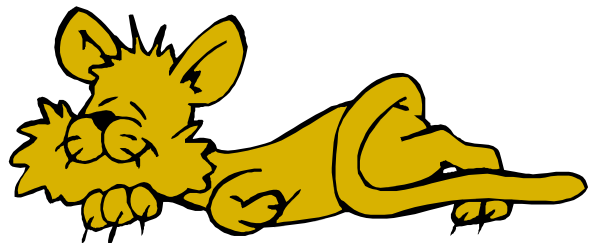


The *Cats of Greece* calendar is now available. This desk calendar sits up in a display stand and features photographs taken by Laurie Haag. This year's cat calendar is inspired by a summer trip Laurie took to Greece. All the proceeds from the sale of these calendars are being donated to the Iowa Humane Alliance Spay and Neuter Project. Calendars are \$10 each.

Start Your Engines...

Why and how do cats purr? You would think if we can put a man on the moon we should be able to answer both of those questions. It is not as easy as you think. How a cat purrs is not quite clear. It is possible that the sound is generated by the hyoid bone, which is a small flexible bone in the cat's neck. When air is pushed through your cat's voice box, it causes the bone to vibrate. Another theory is that the purr is caused by movement of muscles in the larynx as air is breathed in and out. It might be these vibrations that are responsible for making the purring sound. The only real fact about how a cat's purr is produced is that there is no consensus. What makes the purr distinctive is that it is produced during both inhaling and exhaling and that big cats that roar do not purr.

Even if we were to figure out how they purr there is also the question of why. Most experienced "cat wranglers" know that cats don't purr only when they are content and happy. They also purr during tense or traumatic moments. Some speculate that this behavior might be related to the healing power of the purr. The purr may release endorphins, which help soothe or calm the cat. The measurable Hertz of a cat's purr lies between 25 and 150. Coincidentally (or not) it has been found that sound frequency in this range can stimulate bone growth and healing and reduce pain while healing proceeds. No matter how or why a cat purrs there is no doubt that having a purring cat on your lap is one of life's joys.



Just Lick It...

Just when you thought there was nothing new in the way of a training treat...here's the Lickety Stik. It is so tasty to your dog that the biggest problem you will have is keeping them from chewing the bottle. There are over 500 licks in each bottle and is a good fun way to give your pooch that positive reward for a job well done.



Adoptable dog of the Month, Kiki...

Kiki is a highly energetic, very outgoing, confident terrier puppy. Kiki would be excellent at dog sports such as flyball or agility - anything that challenges her physically and mentally. Kiki can be demanding for attention, but she is also very smart and will learn quickly with consistent training and a committed owner.

Adoptable cat of the Month, Neko ...

Neko (Japanese for cat) is a young adult fellow. He is one of those great cats that knows his name. He loves to play, cuddle and show you how wonderful he is. Kiki and Niko are available at the Iowa City Adoption Center, call (319) 356-5295 or visit www.icanimalcenter.org to learn more about any of the dogs and cats at the Center.



Thanks to You...

Dear Leash on Life staff and clientele,

Thank you so much for the overwhelming generous mountain of donated kitty treats, toys, canned food galore, other yummy food and litter.

Leash on Life is our favorite place to shop and has the most generous clientele in the world!

We have all been enjoying extra awesome tasty food this past week and have been working up a good appetite playing with all of our new toys. Thank you for remembering us!

Most sincerely,

All the Witty Kitties

