



ESTABLISHED 1977





**Courtenay
VETERINARY CLINIC**

... we care for your
four footed friends



250-338-7721
1380 CLIFFE AVENUE

SMILE! FEBRUARY is DENTAL HEALTH MONTH!

Did you know? A little bit of cat trivia

Catnip can affect lions and tigers as well as house cats. It excites them because it contains a chemical that resembles an excretion of the dominant female's urine.

Cats love to hear the sound of their own name and your voice, so talk to them often.

Cats can donate blood to other cats.

Cats are sometimes born with extra toes. This is called polydactyl.

Cats average 16 hours of sleep a day, more than any other mammal.

Cats can get bored. They show their boredom by excessive licking, chewing, or biting.

Cats have carpal pads on their front paws that help to prevent them from sliding on a slippery surface when jumping.

Cats bury their feces to cover their trails from predators.

Cats can have freckles. They can appear anywhere on a cat's skin and even in its mouth.



Cats have true fur, meaning that they have both an undercoat and an outer coat.

Cats can see up to 120 feet away. Their peripheral vision is about 285 degrees.

Cats lack a true collarbone and can generally squeeze their bodies through any space they can get their heads through.

Cats have AB blood groups just like people.

Cats have about 100 different vocalization sounds. In comparison, dogs have about 10.

The SCOOP Around Town

Mark your calendars for the 5th Annual Pet Lovers Lane! Due to popular demand, **Pet Lovers Lane** is being held at Simms Millennium Park in Courtenay on Saturday, June 16. The hours are 10am to 3pm. Lots of exhibitors, mini-workshops and pet experts will be on hand. This is a free event. Leashed dogs are welcome! The Scoop on Pets is proud to sponsor this annual event.

Abundance of catnip in your garden you want to give away? A local student is looking for some. Call Rhiana at 250-890-0777.

THE SCOOP ON PETS

**Come on, you know
you're a pet lover...
take one, they're
FREE!!!**



**Your Own Bi-Monthly
Pet Publication**

**Issue No. 35
JANUARY/FEBRUARY '12**

The Scoop On Pets, Linda Graceffo, Publisher
201-576 England Avenue, Courtenay, BC V9N 2N3 • 250.871.3323 • www.TheScoopOnPets.ca

The SCOOP on Samara

Two Samoyed pups were born on April 1, 2000 to a new breeder in Washington State. She was not happy – they were not absolutely perfect 'show stock'. The two were dropped off at an animal shelter only to be collected by Northwest Samoyed Rescue and dubbed Hannah and her Sister. The little twosome passed through the hands of four foster homes before Sister, now named Aspen, was adopted in Custer, Washington and Hannah arrived in Victoria, BC.

He asked his wife, Carol "How about Samara?" The little dog leapt off the floor and landed on top of him – she has answered to the name she chose ever since.

children and works with special needs kids as well as seniors. She serves as demonstration dog for orientation and evaluation of new Therapy Dog teams.

Needless to say, Samara was not adopted out and by the age of two, had qualified as a St. John Ambulance Therapy Dog. A lady we will call Edith, 89 years old and depressed, was declared on her death bed with a heart attack and pneumonia when visited by Samara. With hugs and return visits, Edith recovered and returned to her seniors residence and all she would talk about was the dog that renewed her will to live. Anne Wilde, a long-time resident at St. Joseph's Hospital, is an animal lover. "I love the dogs, and I have one favourite and it's Samara!" she declares regularly.

Samara, the once unwanted little pup, now has over 1600 hours of community service and was the first Therapy Dog ever at the National Investiture ceremony of St. John Ambulance in Ottawa.

This would not last as the new owner had health issues and the now 11 1/2 month-old pup was collected by Canadian Samoyed Rescue and passed to the representative in Courtenay, Dave Fletcher. The rather small Samoyed had answered to four names so far, but she arrived with Puissant. That didn't match her Russian ancestry! Dave started looking for appropriate names, even if she was only to be a foster dog.

Samara was the second dog on Vancouver Island certified to work with



Ozzie, Samara & Dave Fletcher





Specializing in all a
good life has to offer

To find out more about a good life for your animal
friend, visit us at 463 5th Street or call us at 338.6716





Now located at:
WAGZ - 463 5th Street
(parking & entrance at the back)

Tel: 250.338.1078 | Open: Mon-Fri





www.woofys.ca
facebook



3X or TRIPLE
**Woofy's Frequent
Buyer Points**

Must present coupon at time of purchase. One coupon per purchase.

Offer Ends
February 28, 2012

COURTENAY
2400 Cliffe Avenue
250-338-0455
#12 - 795 Ryan Rd.
250-338-0424

COMOX
Comox Centre Mall
(lower level)
250-339-2272

**CAMPBELL
RIVER**
2056A S. Island Hwy.
250-923-5881



Van Isle
VETERINARY HOSPITAL

Mon - Fri 8:00am - 8:00pm
Saturday 8:00am - 4:00pm

250-334-8400
www.vanislevet.com

Pets Have Emotions too.
Rescue™ Remedy can have an immediate calming effect in any stressful situation.



Sarah Brune, BFRP, Inner Harmony Healing
250.331.3228 www.bachflowerscanada.com

CareFree Pet Care Services
"Go Away With Confidence"

- 🐾 Security Checks
- 🐾 Dog Walking
- 🐾 House Sitting

(250) 218-1022
carefreepetcare@hotmail.com
www3.telus.net/carefreepetcare

Providing Pet & Livestock Care At Your Home






PET HOLISTICS
Specializing in Emotional and Trauma Release for Your Pet's Optimal Health

250-897-6471
Rhonda McGinn & Linda Irving, Practitioners
petholistics@gmail.com • www.PetHolistics.ca

Canine Conduct
Teaching the Human End of the Leash

- Puppy & Manners Class Sessions - 3 locations
- Private Training or Coaching in your home or at our training grounds
- Specializing in teaching coping skills for fearful or aggressive dogs
- In-home Boarding

Jane Neve, Trainer, Vancouver Island Regional Representative for C. A.P.P.D.T. Member of V.I.A.T.A. & A.P.D.T.

www.CanineConduct.ca • 250-898-3173

The SCOOP Advertiser Profile

The Comfy Couch - Small Dog Daycare

The Comfy Couch Small Dog Daycare opened in the Comox Valley in March, 2011. Nicole Barber is the sole owner of this new home based business in East Courtenay. She has lived with loving dog companions all her life. Starting a small business for dog daycare seemed to be the perfect match. The name of this daycare came to her as she watched her dogs lounging around her home, sometimes outside on the daybed but mostly on one of her couches in her home.

Nicole's daycare provides a loving environment for small dogs and is set up to ensure your pet is treated as if they were in a home away from home. The dogs have the run of the house, deck and yard as well as two walks a day. She does not have crates in her home, only nice comfy beds in the bedroom for sleeping. Only three dogs at a time are at the daycare which ensures plenty of one-on-one care either day or night. Because Nicole worked outside her home and is also a pet owner, she realized that people needed very flexible hours for pick-up and drop-off of their pets. She also realized that pets get just as bored as we do, so your pet's daily walks are always different. The area where her daycare is situated is surrounded by great parks and green walkways.

Nicole truly loves animals and they certainly respond to that. She knows how to deal with dogs that

require medication and the extra care senior pets need. As Nicole was in the military for many years, she understands how the stress of a new home or environment can really affect your pet. Nicole is also a foster home for rescue dogs and has dealt with a wide range of issues which are mostly cured with lots of love and attention.

If you have a small dog that needs daycare for a day or month, be assured that your special pet will be well cared for and treated just like a member of the family. **Comfy Couch Small Dog Daycare** can be reached at comfycouchdogs@yahoo.ca or phone 250-338-2731.



Beeswax Candles Are Pet Friendly

Submitted by Wanda Crowder, BEEcoming Candles

Did you know that according to the Canadian Lung Association, burning paraffin candles produces chemicals that are as toxic as second hand smoke? Unfortunately, the candles that most people burn are made from paraffin wax, a cheap sludge product left over from the oil refining process. When it burns, paraffin releases such hazardous compounds and carcinogens as mercury, acetone, benzene, lead, soot and particulate matter may be released either from the wax or the wick. These toxins are all detrimental to not only our health, and even more so to that of our pets!

Another major concern is scented candles, since they emit additional powerful pollutants into the air that can seriously harm or even kill your pets. This is especially true for birds because they are even more sensitive to contaminants in the air than most other animals. Since seven out of ten homes burn candles on a regular basis, and that number increases during the winter months, the potential for such airborne toxins to negatively impact our beloved pets is significant. So, what then is a healthy alternative to paraffin candles?

Beeswax candles are a renewable energy resource that burns cleaner

and produces less soot than those made from petroleum-based paraffin wax that can irritate your pet's respiratory tract and skin. Also, during the burning process beeswax candles produce negative ions which first attracts then neutralizes such pollutants as pet dander, pet and other odours, mould, bacteria, dust, viruses and other airborne toxins. Since beeswax is the by-product of honey not petroleum, the only scent you will smell is the natural sweet aroma of honey, and no added artificial scents that are especially irritating to our pets. Additionally, if your pet accidentally eats beeswax they are non-toxic. All of these factors make beeswax a safe and healthy candle to burn if you have domestic pets, and even more so if they are exotic pets.

For more information about beeswax candles and your pet(s) contact Wanda Crowder of BEEcoming Candles by phone 250-871-6887 or her website www.BEEcomingCandles.ca.



house of dogs
pet resort ltd

1970 Anderton Road, Comox
339-2955
boarding

Personalized care for your pets— dogs AND cats! Heated floors, in/out covered runs, secure yard, individual play time that is safe and fun for all. No hidden fees!

New! **barkers dozen** card
Prepay 12 days boarding... get 1 FREE!

grooming
HydroSurge Bathing System, hand drying, full service for all breeds. Regular grooming helps maintain your dog's good health!

Only need a little space!
Book now:
250.871.3323



Rocky's Dog Bones, etc
Knicknacks & Paddywhacks
Come buy your dog a bone

DOG BONES
Grass Fed, Hormone Free
Locally Grown Bison Bones
HOME DELIVERY

phone: 250 331 2628
email: dogbones@telus.net



Moe's WAGS TO WHISKERS CARE

- PET/HOUSE SITTING
- PRIVATE DOG WALKS
- BONDED
- REFERENCES AVAILABLE



Maureen 250-339-0507 or 250-218-1759 (cell)
"In home care for your precious pet"

Over the Rainbow Crafts

BoneFide Dog Coats
Hand-made fleece dog coats, raincoats, bandannas, "Happy Sack" carriers, and wholesome dog biscuits

Janet Campbell
250-339-9891
boneafidedogcoats@gmail.com
www.handmadedogcoats.com



the COMFY COUCH
SMALL DOG DAYCARE
The Home Away From Home!



comfycouchdogs@yahoo.ca
250.338.2731

Have you called Welcome Wagon Yet?
Bridal Showcase February 5
Penny: 250-703-0709
New to the Comox Valley
Carol: 250-338-1786
New or Expectant Mom
Charissa: 250-336-2275



www.welcomewagon.ca