



## The truth about cats and dogs

My cat has been very ill and veterinary medications have not helped her. How do I go about finding a holistic veterinarian?

If you wish to learn about holistic medicine for your cat, there are several ways to proceed. Experts suggest that you work with your own veterinarian who may be able to refer to a qualified holistic veterinarian. Two organizations can point you toward a holistic veterinarian. They are International Association for Veterinary Homeopathy, Dept. CF, U.S. National Secretary, Susan Wynn DVM, 334 Knollwood Lane, Woodstock, GA 30188 (770) 424-6303; e-mail: wynn@emory.edu

The Academy of Veterinary Homeopathy, Dept. CF, 751 168th St., North Miami, Florida 33162-2427 (305) 862-1690; e-mail: aavh@naturalholistic.com; www.aavh.com

The major professional and educational organization for holistic veterinary care is the American Holistic Veterinary Medical Association at 2214 Old Emorton Rd., Bel Air, MD 21015. Phone (410) 569-0795. Information is from Cat Fancy Magazine, February 1998.

In our house we have 3 cats. All three keep jumping on our kitchen counters. How can we stop them?

Cats learn quickly the kitchen counter is a place where food is prepared and left unattended. For health and safety reasons, it's a good idea to discourage this. Harmful

bacteria carried on a cat's feet can contaminate food preparation surfaces. Cats may also jump on the stove where they risk severe burns.

Don't tempt your cats by leaving food on counters. Yelling only teaches your cat to jump up when you're not around. Instead, use a method that will deter your cat. One approach is to tie a black thread as a trip wire on a precarious pile of cans on the counter. When your cat jumps up, the cans will fall with a crash. Another approach is to place shallow baking pans full of water on the counter's edge so your cat will sink its feet when it lands.

What dogs are more prone to bloat? We have a lab mix dog we rescued recently.

A recent study at Purdue University evaluated risk factors that predispose dogs to bloat. In a review of over 100 cases of bloat in dogs, the risk was found to be higher for males as well as for dogs that are underweight and eat only one meal a day, eat too quickly, or have a fearful or aggressive temperament.

Researchers also considered factors specifically related to diet and nutrition, yet none of the following appeared to play a role: amount of dry food eaten, whether dog food was moistened, number of snacks and finicky eating habits. (AKC Veterinary News, May/June 1997).

Bev Cornell will answer pet questions in care of: The Observer, 33411 Grand River, Farmington 48335.

## WEDDINGS & ENGAGEMENTS



**SHEENY-MURPHY**  
Amy Ann Murphy and Thomas H. Sheeny were married.

**PARKER-GILBERT**  
Jennifer L. Parker and Justin M. Gilbert were married Sept. 12, 1997, at St. Martha Catholic Church in Okemos.

The bride is the daughter of Tom and Lynn Parker of Grand Lodge and a graduate of Michigan State University.

The groom is the son of Greg and Sherry Gilbert of Novi and a graduate of Farmington High School and Michigan State University. He is currently employed as an engineer.

A reception was held at the University Club in East Lansing and the newlyweds honeymooned on a Caribbean cruise.

Nov. 1, 1997, at Links at Pinewood in Walled Lake. The bride is the daughter of Robert and Jacklyn Murphy of Farmington and a graduate of Madonna University. She is currently attending Central Michigan University working on an MSA degree and is employed as a counselor for educational support services at Madonna University.

The groom is the son of Michael and Coicann Sheeny of Farmington and is currently attending Local 68 Union School as an electrical apprentice. He is employed with Webb Electric.

The couple honeymooned in Las Vegas and make their home in Livonia.



**WESTERKAMP-RAMSAY**  
Robert and Joy Westerkamp of Farmington Hills announce the engagement of their daughter

Deborah to James Ramsay, son of William and Elizabeth Ramsay of Plymouth.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Kalamazoo College with a B.A. degree and is currently enrolled in the paralegal program at Oakland Community College. She is employed by the law firm of Foley & Mansfield.

The groom is a graduate of the University of Michigan with a B.S. degree in industrial and operations engineering. He is currently employed as a management consultant for Priet Waterhouse.

A February 1999 wedding is planned at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Livonia.

## OCC marks women's history

"Equity for Women" a discussion of what women have accomplished thus far and where they need to go from here, is slated for Tuesday, March 17, at Oakland Community College, Orchard Ridge campus.

Barbara Bonaigore, president of the American Association of University Women of Michigan, is presenting the 1 p.m. program, which is free and open to all. It is sponsored by the college Womencenter. The event is in celebration of March as Women's History Month and of

1998 as the 160th anniversary of the first Women's Rights Convention in Seneca Falls, N.Y.

Bonaigore, of Rochester Hills, was formerly on staff at State University of New York in Brockport. In 1996, she was honored by Women's Action for New Direction with their "Wompiet Leading the Way" award.

The college is located at 27065 Orchard Lake Rd., south of Twelve Mile and I-696. The program will be held in Room 409, Building J.

## NEW VOICES



**ROUSSEL BABY**  
Catherine and Gerald Rousael of Farmington Hills announce the birth of their daughter, Sydney Catherine, on Feb. 8, 1998 at St. Mary Hospital in Livonia. Her sister is Morgan.

The grandparents are Robert and Joyce Huse of Northville and Joseph and Jeannine Rousael of Livonia.

## Foster parents are needed

The St. Vincent and Sarah Fisher Center is looking for dedicated foster and adoptive parents.

There is a need in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties to provide safe and loving homes for infants, children, adolescents and teens who have severe emotional problems, have been victims of abuse, or have other special needs.

Orientation will be held twice daily at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 19 and Thursday, May 14 at the Sarah Fisher

center's foster care and adoption building located at 29475 Inkster Rd., between 12 Mile and Northwestern Highway, Farmington Hills.

The sessions last two hours. Information regarding qualifications and training will be provided.

It is not a lifetime commitment but is a commitment that can change a child's life. Please call the St. Vincent and Sarah Fisher Center's foster care and adoption department at 626-7527, Ext. 3305.

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