



Cat Tales

Winter

This is why we recommend Micro Chips!!!

No one ever plans on losing their pets, but it happens. Even house cats get out!

In September, we found a very hungry, older, de-clawed cat on our door step looking for help. After bringing him in and checking him for any injuries, we gave him a warm bed and lots of food. After his long nap, we crossed our fingers and looked for a micro chip. Yeah! He had one. After calling the 800 number for the owners information, we were given a phone number in North Carolina. That number was not the owner but friends that had been listed as an alternate contact. They contacted the owner via email and he flew into Chico and was reunited with his cat. Wiggy had been missing for 3 days.....

We received this letter from Bradley Wilde:

"Thank you all for taking care of Wiggy when he showed up unexpectedly on your front porch. Needless to say I was worried sick as to how he got there and if he was okay.

I am here on vacation from my job at the U.S. Embassy in Budapest and had to go back to Washington for some consultations. At some point Wiggy must have gotten out of my parents house. Given his age, 14 years old, it is a miracle he managed not to get hit by a car or attacked while he was alone in the 'wilderness'.

Thank God I had Wiggy micro-chipped and registered. Without that you never would have been able to reunite the two of us and I would have lost my faithful companion of 14 years. I am so, so glad I took the precaution of micro-chipping and registering him. I strongly recommend that your clients do the same. Again, my heart felt thanks for all you did to get my previous Wiggy back to me".

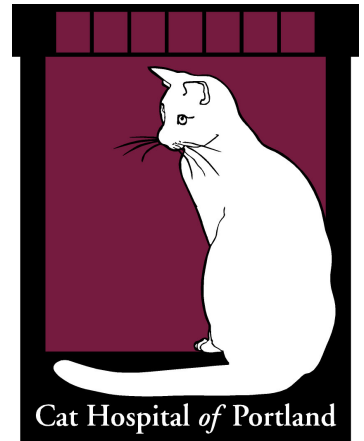
*Best wishes,
Bradley Wilde
Vice Consul
Embassy of the United States of America*



Without a micro-chip this story would *not* have had a happy ending.
In honor of all lost pets that have found their way home due to micro-chips,
Chico Hospital for Cats will be having a Micro-Chip Special until November 30th.

For \$55,00 we will micro-chip your cat

Please take advantage of this opportunity to give your furry friends
the best chance possible of getting home.



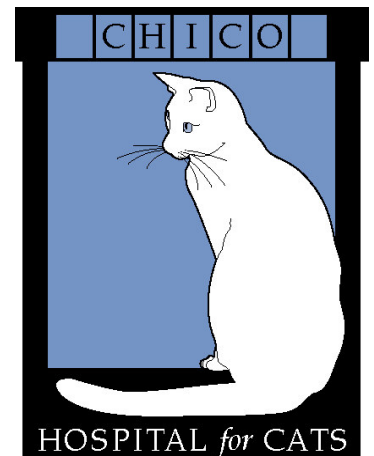
Cat Hospital of Portland

Cat Hospital of Portland

8065 SE 13th Avenue
Portland, OR 97202
503.235.7005
www.portlandcats.com

Chico Hospital For Cats

548 W. East Avenue
Chico, CA 95926
530.892.2287
www.chicocats.com



HOSPITAL for CATS



The Mystery

Mystery is a kitty with a secret. Her physical exam was normal, no fever, nothing my hands could find. But her owner felt that her appetite was off and she was drinking more water than usual. She had lost a bit of weight. The change wasn't dramatic, but her owner spent a lot of time with her and thought that something was not quite right. These clues are important and we needed to see where they led us.

There is a foundation or baseline that makes sense to get started. We often begin with some blood and urine sent off to the lab. These tests give us information on systems we cannot evaluate otherwise: liver, kidneys, pancreas, thyroid and electrolytes. More information comes from the complete blood count which reveals the presence of infection, clotting ability, and red blood cell health. The urine tells us how well the kidneys are functioning in addition to the presence of abnormal cells, crystals or infection. Added together, these tests give us a picture of overall health or illness.

For Mystery, that was all we needed. Her liver was a bit inflamed because of her thyroid gland. That gland was producing too much hormone causing a decrease in appetite, weight loss and over consumption of water. By starting the medicine to correct that problem early, before she became quite ill from her thyroid disease, we avoided more serious symptoms. A month later, she had gained a little weight and her owner's "feeling" that something wasn't right was replaced with the observation that Mystery's mood had improved too. She was even beginning to play a bit again.

When we recommend such tests, it may be to follow up on subtle signs of illness. It may also be to reduce the risk of anesthesia by planning a procedure based upon these tests. If all the tests are normal, we use them as a baseline for future evaluation. Whatever the reason, these are very powerful aids in our effort to help our patients.

Pets and Holiday Stress

No matter how friendly your pets may be with friends and family, they can become stressed with all the activities that the holidays bring. Cats especially can have difficulty with changes in their routine. If they are shy or frighten easily consider keeping them safe in a quiet room with their toys and a TV or radio to interfere with new noises. If you haven't already, make sure all the pets have a collar and name tag (micro-chipped would be great!) since more company means more open doors and opportunities to get outside undetected. And as always, dietary discretion is key to a healthy pet during the holidays. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to call us.

Outdoor Enclosures

If you have a cat like our Random, you know how hard it is to keep them indoors and safe. Have you ever considered an outdoor enclosure? Building an enclosure will allow your cat to enjoy the smells, sounds and excitement of outdoors while staying out of harms way. Keep in mind that not only do you want your cat(s) to stay inside, you want uninvited animals (dogs or wildlife) staying out. So a secure wire fencing, door and roofing are important. When planning, be sure to include shelter from the weather. Fiberglass or plexi-glass panels work well. If attaching to the side of your house, consider a wall that has house access such as a laundry room or bathroom window so your cat can come and go easily. Multiple levels for climbing will help keep your cat in shape as well as stimulated. Secured tree trunks are ideal. Maybe even consider plantings of catnip or wheat grass.

Whether simple or elaborate, the ideas are endless.....

Thank you to our creative client in Portland for sending a picture of her enclosure (pictured on the left). She used the walls of two buildings and a fence as part of the enclosure.

If you have already created an outdoor enclosure, please send us a picture. If you need ideas, come see ours, it's under construction and will be completed soon!



YIKES, THE HOLIDAYS ARE HERE AGAIN.....

In case you have not been in recently, we have added a cat boutique with some **great** cat items. Think of us when starting your Christmas shopping as we have cat (or small dog) carriers, beds, toys and even dishes. We have something special for your kitty and even your cat loving friends!

We are open
Monday through Friday from 8:00 am till 6:00 pm.

Call us if you would like us to hold an item for you. 503.235.7005