

## TCHS FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER



**OUR FRIENDS AT  
TCHS ARE  
SWEETER THAN ANY  
VALENTINES  
CANDY!!**

## TOP 10 PET TOXINS OF 2010 **Veterinary Medications**

In 2010, the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center (APCC) in Urbana, IL, fielded more than 167,000 phone calls about pets exposed to possibly poisonous substances.

### **Human Medications**

Human medications are once again at the top of the list of pet toxins for 2010. Almost 25 percent of our calls concerned human medications accidentally ingested by pets. The most common culprits include over-the-counter medications (ibuprofen, acetaminophen), antidepressants and ADHD medications.

### **Insecticides**

About 20% of the calls to the APCC are about insecticides. Insecticides are commonly used on our pets for flea control and around our houses to control crawling and flying bugs. The most serious poisonings occurred when products not labeled for use in cats were applied to them. Always follow label directions.

### **Rodenticides**

Baits used to kill mice and rats are mostly grain based. Not only does this attract rodents, but it attracts dogs and cats. There are several different types of rodenticides that can cause seizures, internal bleeding or kidney failure. Always make sure these items are placed in areas that pets cannot access.

### **People Food**

Xylitol, grapes, raisins, onions and garlic are commonly ingested by our pets. Grapes and raisins can cause kidney failure in dogs, while onions and garlic can cause anemia if enough is ingested. Xylitol, a sugar alcohol used to sweeten sugar free gums and mints, can cause low blood sugar and liver failure in dogs.

Many medications made for our pets are flavored for ease of giving. Unfortunately, that means that animals may ingest the entire bottle of medication if they find it tasty. Common chewable medications include arthritis and incontinence medications. Contact your veterinarian if your pet ingests more than his proper dose of medication.

### **Chocolate**

Chocolate contains methylxanthines, which act as stimulants to our pets. The darker the chocolate, the more methylxanthines it contains. Methylxanthines can cause agitation, vomiting, diarrhea, high heart rate, muscle tremors, seizures and death.

### **Household Toxins**

Cleaning supplies, such as bleach, acids, alkalis and other detergents, can cause corrosive injury to the mouth and stomach. Other household items such as batteries and liquid potpourri can cause similar problems. Always keep these toxins behind securely locked doors.

### **Plants**

Both house plants and outdoor plants can be ingested by our pets. Lilies can cause life-threatening kidney failure in cats, while sago palms can cause liver failure in dogs and cats. Keep house plants and bouquets away from your pets.

### **Herbicides**

Many herbicides have a salty taste, and our pets will commonly ingest them. Always follow label directions and keep pets off treated areas until they are dry.

### **Outdoor Toxins**

Antifreeze, fertilizers and ice melts are all substances that animals can find outdoors. Keep these items in securely locked sheds or on high shelves where pets cannot get to them.

**JOIN US MARCH 18TH THRU THE 20TH AT THE MEDFORD HOME SHOW!!**

**TCHS HAS RESERVED A BOOTH AT THE ANNUAL HOME SHOW. STOP IN, VISIT THE KITTIES AND SEE WHAT TCHS HAS TO OFFER YOU!**



**Rib Lake Elementary students present Deb Kennedy a check for \$200 from a bake sale that was held at the school. THANK YOU!!!!**

**NEXT SCHEDULED GENERAL MEETING IS THURSDAY, MARCH 3RD AT 5:30 AT THE LIBRARY.**

Facebook is featuring a new photo album labeled "Pet Paradise". Pictures are of pets with their new adopted families. Below is a pic of "Archie" with his new best friends!



**FIND US ON FACEBOOK AND CLICK "LIKE"!**

## **PET(S) OF THE MONTH**



**TIERRA AND MILES. BEST FRIENDS FOREVER. YOU'LL BE THEIR VALENTINE EVERY DAY AND THEIR LOVE HAS NO LIMITS.....DO YOU HAVE ROOM IN HEART FOR BOTH?**

### **FEBRUARY IS NATIONAL SPAY/NEUTER MONTH**

Every year over 20 million animals end up in a shelter. Over 15 million of them are killed (euthanized is the nice term). Of those animals **61% of the dogs and 75% of the cats are killed**. Very few of these are claimed and there are many more that die from disease, starvation, animal attacks and cars! Anyone who sees these facts must agree that not neutering an animal is contributing to mass cruelty and irresponsibility! **DON'T LITTER. HAVE YOUR PET SPAYED OR NEUTERED. It is the single most important thing you can do to prevent animal cruelty!**

