

OCTOBER 2009

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UPCOMING EVENTS



Halloween Pictures

Bring in your pets with their spookiest costumes for pictures.

Saturday, October 10, 2009  
12:00 pm – 4:00 pm



Christmas Pictures

Despite his very busy holiday schedule, Santapaws is coming to Pet X Supplies & Tack for pictures.

Saturday, December 12, 2009  
12:00 pm – 6:00 pm

and

Sunday, December 20, 2009  
12:00 pm – 4:30 pm



Pet X Supplies is partnering with the Humane Society of Livingston County to offer some discounted services to help you care for your pets in these tough economic times!

The third Saturday of every month from 11am until 3pm we will be offering:

- Rabies - \$10.00
- Distemper - \$8.00
- Distemper w/ Lepto - \$16.00
- Bordetella - \$8.00
- Feline Leukemia/FIV Test - \$30.00
- Heartworm Test - \$24.00
- Microchip - \$25.00

PET FOOD SPOTLIGHT



Unlike the marketing companies that sell – but don't actually make – today's commercial pet foods, Champion Petfoods stands apart as a family-owned and-operated pet food maker with a 25 year tradition of quality.

At Champion, their mission is clear and strong – **to produce world-class pet foods from fresh regional ingredients.**

Produced exclusively in their very own award-winning facilities in Sunny Alberta, their ACANA brand pet foods are sold in 45 countries and are certified by the Government of Canada to meet every know international pet food regulation or standard.

As a "boutique" producer, they don't use commodity ingredients from suppliers or

brokers they don't know and will never meet. Instead, they focus upon world-class ingredients raised or fished within their own region by people they know, trust, and that are delivered to their door **fresh each day.**

They maintain a high standard of excellence and take great pride in their reputation for producing pet foods that are considered to be the World's Best.

But perhaps what sets them furthest apart from the marketers and multinationals is their true passion for dogs and cats. Just like you, they are first and foremost pet lovers, and it is with their own pets in mind that they developed ACANA – a food to nourish your dog or cat as Nature intended.



Wild or domestic, cats need engaging play!

Cats are natural hunters. Even when living amongst humans and well-fed, a cat's motivation to hunt remains strong. With no natural prey in their indoor environment, they express their hunting instincts by chasing imaginary prey. Play-N-Squeak® interactive cat toys are meant to fuel your cat's natural hunting instinct safely and vent pent-up energy.

What makes Play-N-Squeak toys truly unique and remarkable is the RealMouse™ electronic sound module included in every toy. It produces an amazingly realistic mouse squeak that cats love. In fact, the squeak is the same frequency and sound level as a real field mouse!

Play-N-Squeak toys are perfect for healthy mental and physical stimulation because they

let cats exercise their natural instincts, which in turn keeps them alert, agile and healthy.

New for 2009 are four kitten toys. We recommend kittens be at least 6 weeks old before you introduce toys to them. Kittens have the primal instinct to attack objects. This play stimulates predatory behavior. If your kitten is supplied with lots of toys, she'll learn this behavior early on.

With Play-N-Squeak toys, your kitten will stay healthy mentally and physically, will learn important social skills and coordination, plus get lots of exercise! This will prevent health problems like obesity and being entertained can head off behavioral problems associated with boredom. Kittens love to play at this age and Play-N-Squeak interactive toys help them develop their skills.

## Can cats and dogs get swine flu?

Pet parents of dogs and cats can relax for now, say ASPCA veterinarians. While the 2009 H1N1 virus - a faster moving and possibly more debilitating strain of influenza than the typical seasonal flu - has become an international concern, the virus, referred to as swine flu when first identified, appears to present little risk of infecting dogs and cats. However, viruses can mutate quickly and taking important preventative measures remains essential.

“Many species can become infected with influenza viruses, but the current 2009 H1N1 virus, which is a mixture of genetic material from different species, has not been identified in animal populations in the United States to date,” says Dr. Miranda Spindel, Director of ASPCA Veterinary Outreach. “These viruses are notoriously unpredictable, though, and it is important that we remain vigilant.”

In terms of other animals who are susceptible, Dr. Spindel warns that influenza or flu viruses are occasionally transmitted from people to pigs, and the 2009 H1N1 virus has also been identified in turkeys. Pet parents of Vietnamese Potbellies, African Pygmies and other pet pigs should monitor their animals' health closely, notify their veterinarian of any signs of illness and speak to their veterinarian about influenza type A vaccines. And ferrets are susceptible to most human flu viruses, so pet parents should take extra care to prevent exposure of pet ferrets to people or other ferrets with flu symptoms.

Meanwhile, flu season is upon us and pet parents should take common-sense preventative measures to keep their dogs and cats healthy:

- If your dog is exhibiting flu-like symptoms, including coughing, nasal discharge or fever (normal dog and cat temperature is 101 to 102.5 degrees), play it safe and avoid taking him to places like dog parks, where he can pass on germs or come into contact with unvaccinated or sick dogs.
- Avoid letting your cat roam freely outside.
- If your dog comes into frequent contact with other dogs or is kept in a kennel, the ASPCA recommends that you discuss with your veterinarian whether vaccination against canine influenza may be appropriate. Note: canine influenza and H1N1 are not the same virus.
- Talk to your vet about what flu vaccines are currently available, and be sure all your pets get vaccinated!
- Don't let your pet share water bowls, food dishes or toys with other animals.
- Make sure your pet is eating, drinking and playing as he normally does each day. If you notice your pet behaving unusually, or if he has flu-like symptoms, check in with your veterinarian immediately.

### Quick Tip:

With Halloween just around the corner, make sure to keep your pet away from candy buckets and trick-or-treat bags. Chocolate contains theobromine, which is poisonous for cats and dogs, many of whom have a sweet tooth. Unsweetened (baker's) chocolate is the most toxic type. It contains 8-10 times as much theobromine as milk chocolate. If you suspect your pet of "overindulging," call your vet for advice.

