



Sand Creek
ANIMAL HOSPITAL
Exceptional Veterinary Care

Sand Creek Animal Hospital

Monthly Newsletter

December 1, 2024

<https://www.sandcreekanimalhospital.com>



What's New at Sand Creek

**Exceptional veterinary care,
education, and peace of mind.**

What's New?

Please join us in welcoming our newest staff member, Diego! He is very comfortable with larger dogs, as his family has lots of German Shepherds. Diego is our newest veterinary assistant. If you come in for an appointment and he is helping you and your pet, be sure to say hello and welcome him to the team!

Our website has gotten a makeover! If you haven't yet checked it out, be sure to see the new look. If you have trouble navigating the new layout or have questions, please give us a call!



Featured Adorable Pet

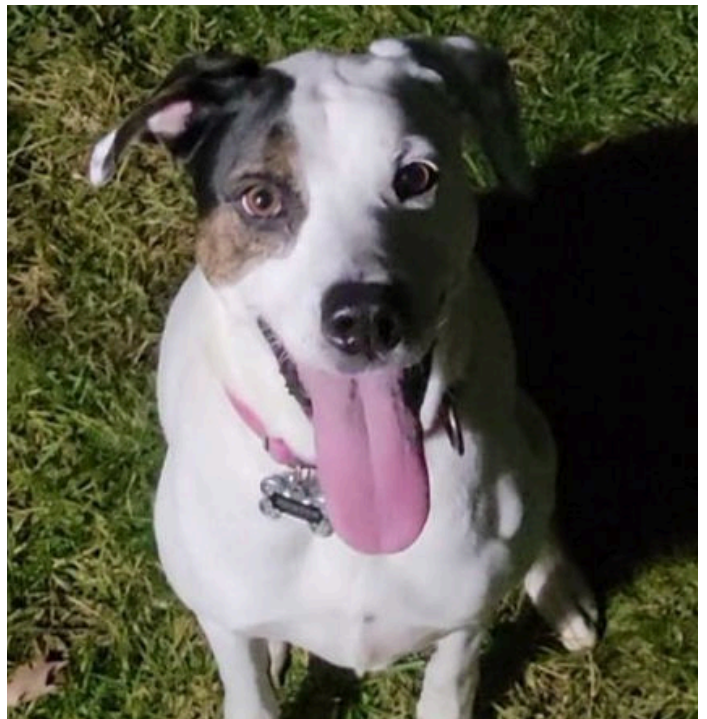
Meet Ella! She is currently in a foster home with Homeward Bound Dog Rescue. We featured Miss Ella in last month's newsletter, and she is still available so we thought we would give her one more month, so please share her beautiful photos with your friends! Next month we will feature a new adoptable pet.

Hi, I am Ella, and I am a 2 1/2 year old super pretty Hound mix girl who weighs in at 45 lbs. I was an owner surrender and I have really figured things out in my foster home. I am calming down, fitting in and sleeping on the bed at night. I am an energetic girl so an active family is a must!

Not to toot my own horn, but I am a genius! Easy to train and I know how to sit, lay down, touch my nose to your palm, paw, to shake your hand, and stay! I am fully potty trained and can stay home all day without any accidents! I don't like the crate so much, but can be left free in the house while you are gone. I am picky about my doggie friends but socialized dogs of similar size may be my besties, but no cats, no kitties, nu-uh, no way. I do like to explore freely and be able to burn off this energy so a fenced in yard would be necessary.

Enter your application today so my foster mom can set up a meet and greet for us!

Learn more about Ella here: <https://www.petfinder.com/dog/ella-65472629/ny/albany/homeward-bound-dog-rescue-of-ny-ny480/>



Winter is Upon Us

Snow Safety

Many of us experienced the first snowfall of the season this Thanksgiving! For those of you with dogs, remember that even the dogs who love to play in the snow can get too cold pretty quickly. Some dogs will tolerate wearing boots and jackets - if you think your dog will let you put protection on their feet, this can be a great way to keep their toes warm while they romp around! For those of you with older dogs, it is best to keep them on a leash on icy areas to avoid them slipping and getting hurt.

If you are salting your property, be sure to use pet safe salt - the salt can collect in between your dog's toes, and if it's not pet friendly salt, can cause problems if your dog licks it off their feet.

If your dog is hurt or if you think they could have frostbite, please call our office as soon as possible to schedule an appointment. Remember - we do have a doctor on call each night until 9 pm, and over the weekends if you need us when we are closed. If you need immediate assistance and we are closed and there is no doctor available or it's past the time that our on call doctors are available, please call one of the emergency rooms in Latham:

- Upstate Veterinary Specialties: 518-783-3198
- Capital District Veterinary Referral Hospital: 518-785-1094

The Winter Holidays are Coming!

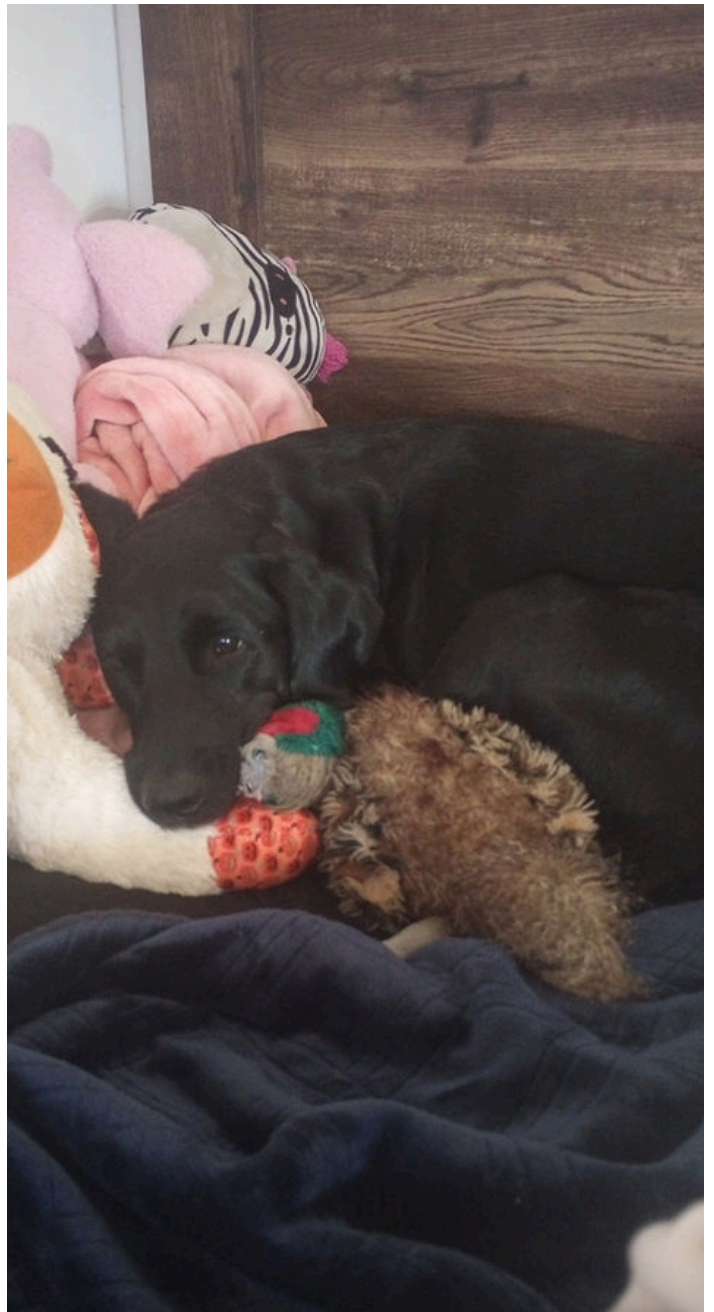
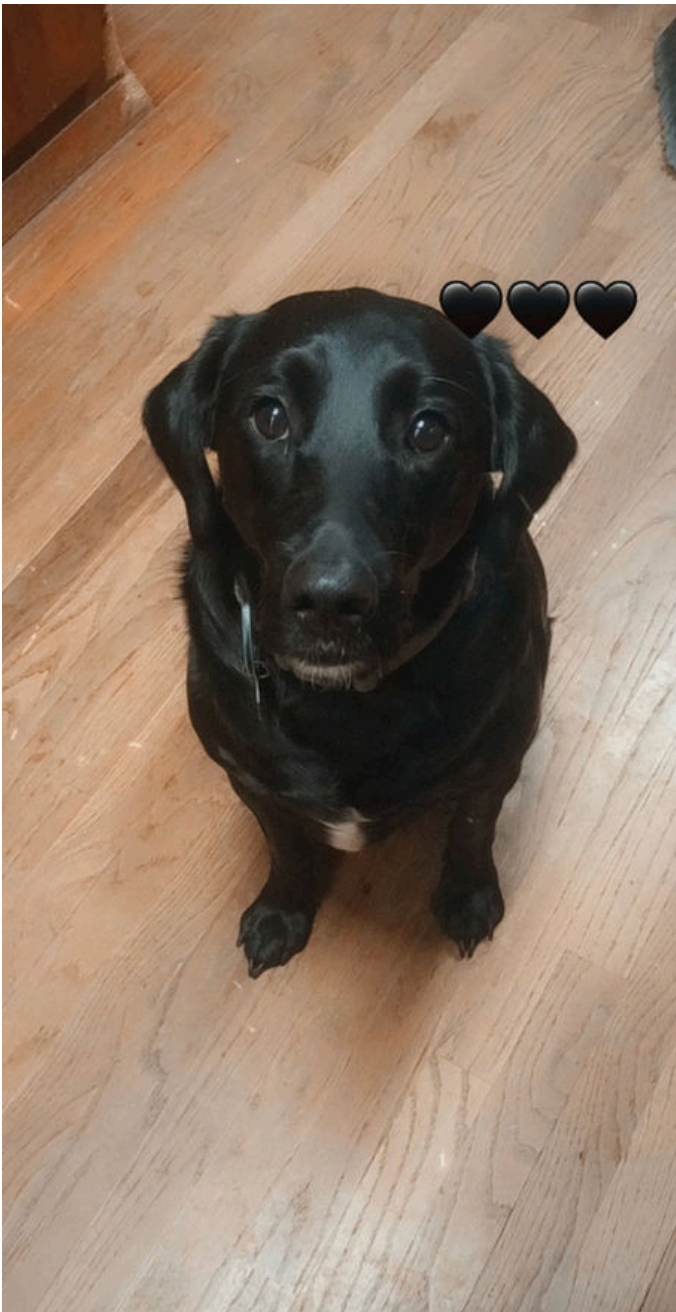
For those of you who celebrate Christmas, Hanukkah, or any other winter holidays, please remember to keep some things in mind for your pets' safety:

- Pet safe holiday treats: We all want to share our holiday food with our pets, but remember that too much rich food that your pet is not used to eating can cause issues with their digestive system. If sharing meats, remember to keep the portions small, and do not add gravy, skin, or anything that has been heavily salted or seasoned. Do not give your dog or cat anything that was cooked with onion or garlic, and do not feed your pets anything containing grapes, chives, nuts, and xylitol. Remember to also keep a close eye on your pets when the holiday spread is out so they don't sneak any snacks behind your back!
- If you are giving gifts to your pet, remember to choose safe toys that your pet can't choke on. You should avoid giving your dogs rawhides - those beautiful big bones at the pet store shaped like candy canes are very cute, but can cause digestive problems, and are also a choking hazard, so please avoid those!
- If you are decorating for the holidays, remember to keep any string, twine, hooks, tinsel, and ornaments out of your pets' reach! Cats are notorious for chewing and swallowing things like string, and that can cause serious medical problems. If your Christmas tree has a water base, be sure to not let your pets drink from it - they can contain harmful chemicals.
- If you have family or friends visiting, remember to consider your pets - having guests can be stressful, especially for dogs with anxiety issues who are used to a specific routine. If you have a large party planned and you think you'll need support from us to keep your pets safe and stress-free, please give our office a call to discuss. Remember to also give your guests a heads up to not let your pets slip out the door when they are arriving and leaving for holiday functions. Cats in particular can be very sneaky, and we don't want any lost pets this holiday season!
- Holiday plants - keep your pets away from poinsettias, mistletoe and ivies! These are toxic to pets. If your pet ingests any of these, please call Animal Poison Control at 888-426-4435.

Employee Pet of the Month

This is Toby! He belongs to Abby, one of our Client Service Representatives at the front desk. His birthday is 12/31, and he will be turning 2 this year! He may look like a regular lab, but Toby is actually a Labradoodle. Abby adopted Toby when he was just 8 weeks old from a previous coworker. His favorite treats are Carob dog cookies, and he loves cuddling and playing with his favorite toy, his lamb chop stuffie.

Dr. Adele Rock is his doctor, and she had this to say: "Toby is a very cute, sweet boy. He did a great job facing his fears when he was here. His mama should be proud!"



Learn More

If you've ever been interested in learning more about how to deepen your relationship with your pet, the team here at Sand Creek Animal Hospital has some suggestions for further reading.

Books:

- [Decoding Your Dog: Explaining Common Dog Behaviors and How to Prevent or Change Unwanted Ones: Amer. Coll. of Veterinary Behaviorists, Horwitz, Debra F.: 9780544334601: Amazon.com: Books](#)
- [The Other End of the Leash](#)
- [Don't Shoot the Dog](#)
- [Control Unleashed](#)
- [The Cautious Canine](#)
- [Doggie Language](#)

Trainers who work with families with children:

- [Pooch Parenting](#)
- [The Family Dog USA](#)
- [Family Paws Parent Education](#)

Fear Free Veterinary Care

Here at Sand Creek Animal Hospital, we practice what is known as "fear free" medicine - that means we do anything and everything we can to ease our patients' anxiety when they visit us. All of the staff that interact with pets regularly are Fear Free Certified, which includes an educational course on how to handle fearful animals. Learn more here: <https://fearfreepets.com/>

Community Support: Pet Loss

Did you know that there are many options in the capital district for pet loss support? If you or someone you know has lost a pet and are struggling, there are options out there for support. Upstate Veterinary Specialties offers an hour long group every second Tuesday of each month at 6 pm. Patrons may attend in person or virtually. Learn more here: <https://www.uvsonline.com/wellbeing-support/>

For those who do not feel comfortable attending a group, The Association for Pet Loss and Bereavement offers a private chat room for those struggling with pet loss. Their website also has many other resources for those in need. Learn more here: <https://www.aplb.org/>

If you have a specific need for support or further resources, please do not hesitate to reach out to us, by email, phone, or text. Here at Sand Creek Animal Hospital, we are all here to help and support our clients and their families. There are even options for those of us who are suffering from the loss of a pet for behavioral reasons. If this applies to you, you may benefit from the group "Losing Lulu." Learn more here: <https://www.losinglulu.com/>

Contact Us

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