



**Sand Creek**  
ANIMAL HOSPITAL  
*Exceptional Veterinary Care*

# Sand Creek Animal Hospital

# Monthly Newsletter

January 1, 2025

<https://www.sandcreekanimalhospital.com>

---

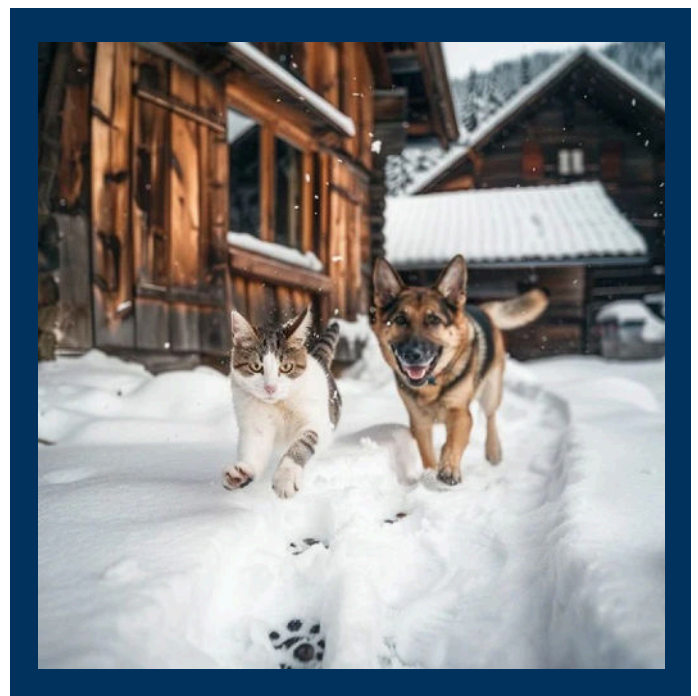


## What's New at Sand Creek

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

Meet the newest members of the team!  
Joining us as veterinary assistants are Nicole  
and Becca. If either of them help you at your  
next appointment, be sure to welcome them!  
We are also welcoming back Layla, another  
of our veterinary assistants who comes to  
work with us when she is home from college.

[Read more on our website](#)

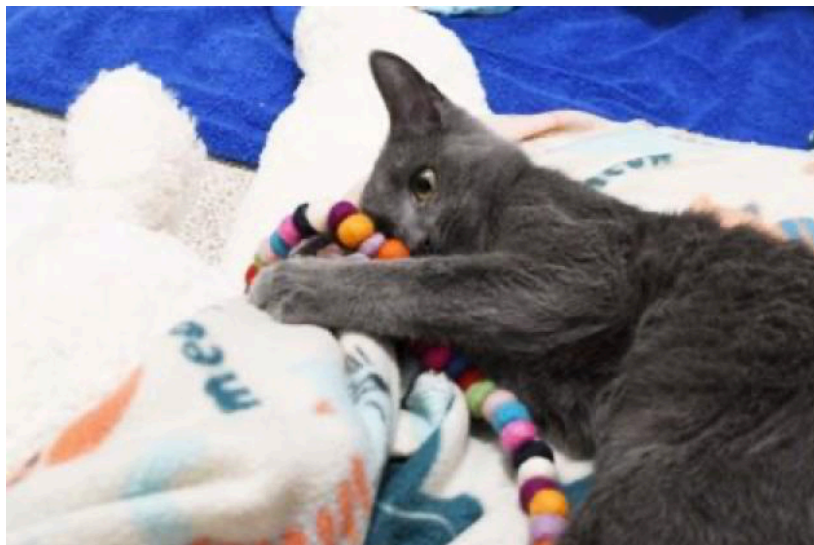


# Featured Adorable Pet

Meet Peter Pan! He is available for adoption at the Animal Protective Foundation in Glenville.

This is what our friends at the APF had to say about Peter Pan: "We have a 4 month old kitten named Peter Pan with megaesophagus secondary to a birth anomaly. This condition requires he be fed in a raised feeder (which we will provide) and being held upright after he eats for 10 minutes (twice a day). He is super sweet and loving. He has quite the personality - certainly seeks the joy and adventure in life. We are having a hard time finding him a home. He has been with us for a few months now. If you know of any potential adopters please send them our way."

If you are interested in meeting Peter Pan, please contact the APF at (518) 374-3944 ext. 120. Adopting Peter Pan will require his new family to sign a medical waiver.



# Winding Down After the Holiday Season

Stay inside this winter and teach your dog (young or old) a new trick!

It can be easy to fall into the trap of not working with our dogs when the weather is cold and we can't go outside as much to exercise them. Remember, dogs need enrichment all year round. This winter, try taking a training class with your dog to teach them a new trick or two!

In case you haven't looked into official training classes with your dog, here are a few of the places other clients have had good experiences with:

Good Choice Dog Training - Albany, NY; (518) 337-3954; [goodchoicedt@gmail.com](mailto:goodchoicedt@gmail.com)

At Home Dog Trainer - Ballston Spa, NY; (518) 248-1781; [www.athomedogtrainer.com](http://www.athomedogtrainer.com)

Good Doggy Saratoga - (518) 290-0062 [www.gooddoggysaratoga.com](http://www.gooddoggysaratoga.com)

Some other fun enrichment activities you can do over the winter to keep your dogs busy:

- Try feeding one or more meals out of a puzzle toy. This is a great way to encourage your dog to use his brain while he eats!
- Try hiding treats around one room or your whole house and see how long it takes for your dog to find them all.
- If your dog has a Kong, try filling it with some kibble, put a little water in, and seal it with peanut butter, then put it in the freezer. Once frozen, this is a treat that will keep your dog occupied for hours!
- If your dog isn't food motivated, consider taking your dog out on an outing - lots of stores allow dogs to visit, and getting out of their routine is a great way to stimulate their brains.
- Ball pits! Believe it or not, dogs can have just as much fun as kids do in a ball pit! Try making your own at home with a kiddie pool. Be sure to supervise your dog so you don't lose any balls in all of the fun.



## Cats need enrichment too!

While cats typically don't need quite as much enrichment from their people as dogs do, they can benefit from regular playtimes and activities. Here are some ideas:

- Kitty Kongs! Just like dogs, cats can eat snacks or small meals out of kitty-sized kongs.
- Wand toys and laser pointers to activate your cats' prey drive and chasing instincts.
- Tunnels - especially in multi-cat homes, tunnels are a great way to encourage healthy play.
- Bird TV - just be sure to supervise the first few times so your TV doesn't end up on the floor!
- Change something in your home - something as simple as moving a piece of furniture will encourage your cat to investigate. They are very curious creatures who will want to check things out.

## If you're still hearing New Year's fireworks...

- Sometimes the fireworks can continue for a few weeks into the new year. If your pet is anxious about loud noises, remember to keep them inside, or on a leash when outside. Loud noises can make some dogs bolt out of fear. If your pet takes any medication for anxiety and you would like more to have on hand for fireworks, please call our office to order medication or discuss starting medication.



## January is...

Adopt a Rescued Bird Month!

If you are interested in adopting a bird in need, consider Northeast Avian Rescue (NEAR)

<https://rescueparrots.org/>

## Events

Out of the Pits Dog Rescue will be having multiple adoption clinics and fundraisers in January! If you are looking to add a member to your family, or just want to pet some dogs and check out their merchandise, be sure to visit them:

Saturday, January 4, 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm

Adoption Clinic at Ace Hardware - Slingerlands

1900 New Scotland Road, Slingerlands, NY

Sunday, January 12, 9:00 am - 11:00 am

Fundraiser

Coffee Cups with Pups - Stacks Espresso Bar - Troy

13 Third Street, Troy, NY

Friday, January 17, 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Fundraiser

Pints for Pit Bulls at Upper Depot Brewing - Hudson

708 State Street, Hudson, NY

Saturday, January 18, 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm

Adoption Clinic at Stretch Zone - Colonie

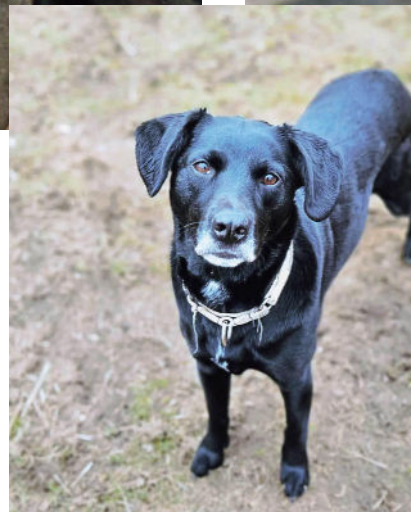
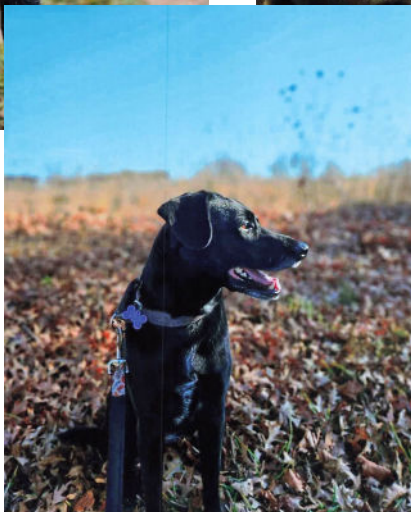
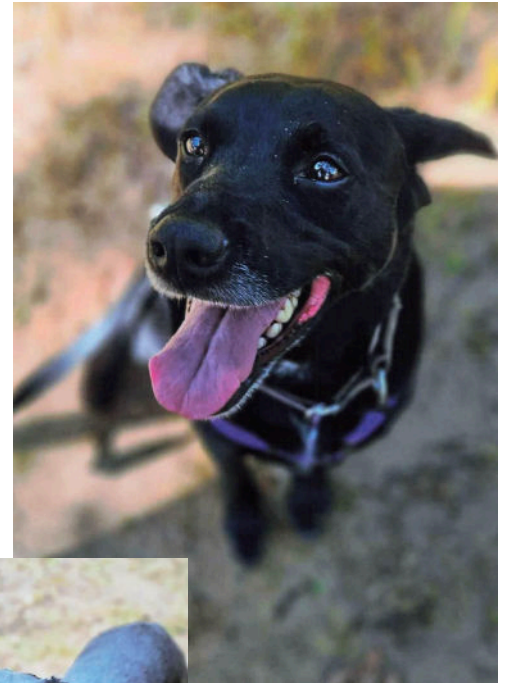
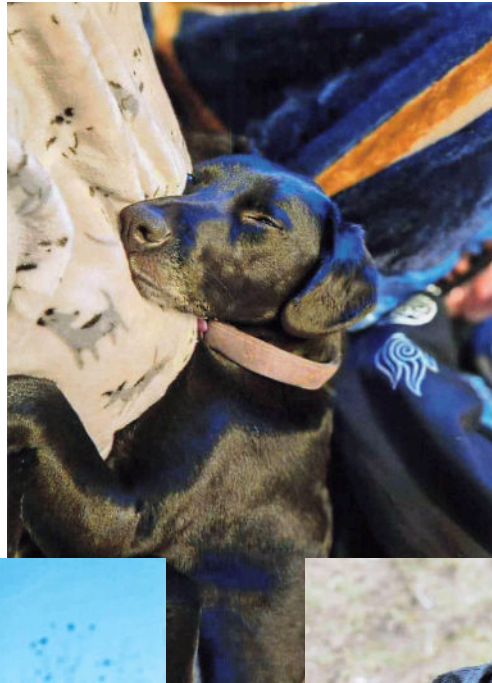
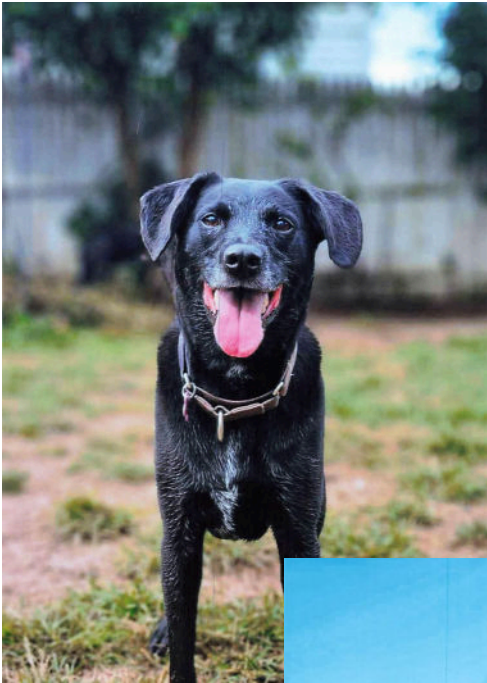
98 Wolf Road, Colonie, NY

# Employee Pet of the Month

This lovely lady is Dixie! She is owned by Tabitha, one of our Client Service Representatives/Veterinary Assistants. She's a 6 year old lab and hound mix. Tabby has owned Dixie since she was a young pup of just 11 weeks old, and was adopted from Lucky Puppy Rescue.

Dixie is a lover of all things food - her favorite treat is anything she can get her paws on! When she gets excited, she throws her hips around and bumps her doggie siblings (and parents) with her butt, and she loves to jump up and give hugs.

Natasha, one of our technicians, said "In the few times I've met Dixie she's been the sweetest girl ever. Always looking for snacks and snuggles. Also a very stylish lady!" Dr. Bewick, Dixie's doctor, said this: "Dixie is a pleasure to work with and very well behaved. She's a very friendly and active young lady."



# 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

Email: [info@sandcreekanimalhospital.com](mailto:info@sandcreekanimalhospital.com)

Website: [www.sandcreekanimalhospital.com](http://www.sandcreekanimalhospital.com)

Phone: (518) 446-9171