



Sand Creek
ANIMAL HOSPITAL
Exceptional Veterinary Care

Sand Creek Animal Hospital Quarterly Newsletter

January 1, 2026

<https://www.sandcreekanimalhospital.com>

Special Edition

*Saying Goodbye and Wishing
Luck to Dr. Matthew McDaniel
and Dr. Anne Marie Carmichael*



As most of you know, our beloved founders, Dr. McDaniel and Dr. Carmichael retired, as of January 1, 2026. The two of them went to vet school together, and opened up this practice as young graduates in 2002. At that time, the practice was on Sand Creek Road, and just ten short years later, they were able to fully design and open their very own building, at the location we all know and love today on Wolf Road!

There is quite a lot to say about Dr. Carmichael and Dr. McDaniel as bosses, as veterinarians, and as people. Anyone who has had the pleasure of calling either of them their veterinarian knows they are both incredible doctors, whose commitment to Fear Free medicine has truly made such a difference for the animals in their care.

When it comes down to it, what sets them apart as leaders in veterinary medicine is their commitment to fostering a safe and happy environment for not only their patients, but the people who work with them. Anyone who has been a part of our practice over the years would certainly agree that you could not ask for doctors who are more hospitable and empathetic. From the good times, like our annual pool parties at the McDaniel/Carmichael house and our holiday potluck lunch feasts, to the tougher times, these two have always been there for anything we could ever need or want! To say the least, this place will never be the same without the two of them.

Many of you, our clients, have shared stories, memories, and photos of special times you've had with our founders. We cannot thank you all enough for the outpouring of love and support from you all, and those sentiments will be shared with Dr. McDaniel and Dr. Carmichael! We would also love to share some of the photos we have gathered over the years.



Sand Creek Animal Hospital will be having an Open House on 3/7/26. Please keep an eye out for an email with further details. Dr. McDaniel and Dr. Carmichael will be in attendance, and it will be a fantastic opportunity to get to know some of the other associate veterinarians!

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/>

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