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We Are Open For In House Care.

Our First Issue

I would like to welcome everyone to enjoy our first news letter. We are so excited and looking forward to our grand opening of Raining Cats and Dogs Boarding Retreat and meeting all of you and your pets.

We will try very hard to offer you a new bi-monthly newsletter and we hope you will contribute your pets photos and stories to the newsletter as well.

Each issue will have new recipes, health news, safety tips, information on puppy behaviors and much



much more.

Spring is such a great time of the year. It wakes our body, mind

and soul. We have included many articles that pertain to the Easter holiday, spring safety and reminders. At this time we are working so hard on our web page and thanks to my sister Connie Nickelsen, it has been enjoyed by so many already. You can take a look at :

www.rainingcatsanddogsretreat.com

Thank you,
Laura Talbot

Special Thanks

I would like to give a special thanks to my family who supported me. To my husband who spent many hours building the Retreat and putting up with me changing my mind one to many times. To my sister who spent many hours putting the best web site together for me and giving me great advice. To the BDO Jump Start Program who helped me learn the ins

and outs of starting a business. I recommend them to all individuals who would love to be a business owner. To my dear friend Mary who gave me the opportunity to critique my grooming skill. She introduced me to some great people and their Bichons too. Thank you to all my friends who inspired me, gave me the will to continue, ideas and their ear which,

I'm sure I took advantage of at times. And of course my animals who remind me everyday why I needed to provide other pet lovers, a place where their pets could be safe and provided with care.

Thank You

Spring Time Safety Tips



Pet owners love to take their pets out for a walk during the spring. Please remember to bring a bag along to pick up your dogs feces so it can be disposed of and keep our spring community clean.

Thanks,

As I walked out the door this morning I was welcomed by a warm spring breeze. My three Australian Cattle Dogs were looking up at me, asking to go for a walk in the back of our property, which is full of delightful trails we can't access in the winter time.

While watching my dogs investigate their new spring surroundings I was reminded of all the tips that I read about over the years relating to spring safety. Well here are some safety tips that you may want to be reminded of to keep your dog out of harms way.

My dogs love to walk on the frozen ice of our pond and listen to the bubbling of the water down at the spring. Please remember that the banks surrounding its water source is very soft and could lead to a pet falling in if they get to close. Ice is breaking up and even though most dogs are good swimmers, they can get hypothermia very quickly. Oh great, the smell of spring that I least desire. Skunk. Yeah, those

slow walking animals that can pack a mean punch of spray with an odor that just seems to stay. Remember that there are many animals waking up in the spring and that means bears as well.

Litter. As the snow melts it reveals all kinds of garbage. Observe your dog on walks to insure that they don't pick up anything from the ground. Foreign objects can get entangled in the intestines and cause serious injury to your pet. Vehicle fluids also pool in the melting snow. It is best not to let your animal drink from puddles. Antifreeze is a sweet tasting liquid that attracts animals and it is lethal. Melting snow also reveals animal feces. Insure your dog stays clear.

Happy Easter. What a great time to enjoy new flowering bulbs, chocolate bunnies and decorations. There are a few things I really want my reader to be watchful for this holiday.

Easter Lily is a beautiful flower and one of my favorite but I will not bring one into

my home. The plant is very toxic to cats and even potentially lethal.

Chocolate is loved by many pet owners and even dark chocolate is known for its health values in humans. Unfortunately, ingested in large doses by dogs could lead to nervous system issues.

The Easter grass in your Easter baskets that help cushion your Easter treats they can lead to serious intestinal damage if ingested by your cat. So again just make sure it is out of their reach.

Spring is an enjoyable season for man and beast and can be enjoyed even more if we remember our safety tips. If you have anything to add please email me or add it to the forum which is a great way to communicate with other pet owners.

www.rainycatsanddogsretreat.com

Spring Brings Puppies



There is nothing like having a new puppy in the spring. The warm weather encourages us to spend most of our time playing, training and house breaking our puppy.

Raising puppies of my own, I needed help time to time with behaviors that my puppy developed and answers on how I could resolve them. I

would recommend that you speak to your breeder first. They will know your breed of dog best and will know tricks to correct the issues quickly.

Thunder Bay has many organizations that are advertising dog training classes on a regular basis. I recommend using their services. You would be amazed how their advice will

help you be a great dog trainer. Your puppy will have the opportunity to meet new people and dogs, which is a very important part of your puppy's development. Training your puppy will not only improve your puppy's life but yours as well. Your vet and boarding retreat provider will also thank you for having such



Yummy Puppy Treats

These easy frozen doggie treats can be made in ice cube trays or those Tupperware-type popsicle trays. Your dog will love the cool treat!

Frozen Doggie Treats

- **1 tablespoons honey**
- **3 tablespoons peanut butter**
- **1 ripe banana --**
16 ounces plain yogurt



Mix the peanut butter, honey, and fruit together until well blended—mash with a fork or use the blender. Add the fruit mixture to the yogurt and mix well. Freeze in ice cube trays. Crack trays and release treats as needed!

Your dog will love this popsicle-like treat on a hot day!



Kitty Cat Delights

Savoury Cheese Treats

- 3/4 cup white flour
- 3/4 cup shredded cheddar cheese
- 5 tablespoons grated parmesan cheese
- 1/4 cup plain yogurt or sour cream
- 1/4 cup cornmeal

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees Fahrenheit. Combine cheeses and yogurt. Add flour and cornmeal. Knead dough into a ball and roll to 1/4 inch. Cut into one inch sized pieces and place on greased cookie sheet. Bake for 25 minutes. Makes 2 dozen.

Before my morning coffee...



I might as well be a dog.

Helpful Tips to Make Your Boarding Experience Great

1. Choose a boarding retreat that will best suit your pets needs. Visit different facilities and ask questions. Don't forget to book your stay.

2. If you are planning to provide your own food, purchase enough for the duration of your pets stay. If you would like the boarding retreat to provide the food let them know in advanced what brand your dog eats on a regular bases. Changing your pets food could cause your dog to have a very upset stomach. Some boarding kennels will only offer one kind of food so make your decision wisely.



3. If you would like you can provide your pet with a blanket (that can be easily washed) to provided them with the smell of your home while you are gone. Or there may be a favorite toy

that they just can't live without. Some kennels will not allow bedding and toys at their kennel. Raining Cats and Dog Boarding Retreat wants your dogs and cats stay to be the closest thing to home. Your pets favorite things are welcome.

4. Remember to bring their collar (dogs). Raining Cats and Dogs love to go on long nature trail walks. If you forget your collar or your pet needs a new one, check out our high quality and very reasonable priced pet accessories at your convenience.



5. Make sure that you know where the boarding kennel is located, the drop-off and pick-up times and the cost per day. Our Boarding Retreat is very flexible and understands that pet owners are on busy schedules. Please provide us with the

time that you would like to drop off your pet and we will accommodate you. Pick up and drop off services are available for your convenient for a small fee. For your convenience we provide an online form you complete at home. It is a one time form that would only need to be changed if your dogs needs change. This information will be used to coordinate your dogs modified care program and will stay on record. Beware of kennels that don't ask questions about your dogs habits, fears, and special needs. If they show very little interest in your pet when it arrives it may indicate what kind of care they will receive.



Arrival Day

Your pet will adjust much better if you don't make a fuss when you leave. Pets feed off your emotions and your anxiety. Give your pet a pat goodbye and leave just like you would if you were going to the store. Raining Cats and Dogs will spend time with your pets before they go into their retreat. We feel that the better they feel with us the better they will adapt to their surrounding. If you have any questions please feel free to call us



Providing quality care that is modified to meet the needs of each individual pet.