



**VCSG**

# Veterinary Care & Specialty Group

3201 Broad Street  
Chattanooga, TN 37408  
info@vcsgvets.com  
www.vcsgvets.com

*24/7/365*



**423-591-0270**

**February 2021**

In this edition.....  
Daisy's Tale Christmas Eve Gift (pp. 1, 3)  
Ask the Vet (pp. 2-3)  
Upcoming event - Journal Club (p. 1)

## A Gift from Daisy's Tale on Christmas Eve



Daisy

**Connect with us on  
social media!**



@VCSGvets



@vcsg\_24\_hour\_emergency\_vet

**Journal Club  
Wednesday, March 3  
8:30 a.m.**

**Dr. Ray Rudd  
All Are Welcome!**

**Details coming soon  
on our website.**

Izzy is a happy puppy who will be one year old in March. Izzy belongs to a family with seven children! On Christmas Eve, the mother of these children, was finishing the Christmas shopping when she got a frantic phone call from her 17-year-old daughter.

Hana told her mother that Izzy's head was "split in half, and she was bleeding everywhere!" They are not positive how the injury occurred, but there is a possibility that Izzy tried to go under a piece of barbed wire fencing or was hit by a falling door frame in a building that was being renovated on the family property. The family rushed Izzy to VCSG for emergency medical care. They described our doctors and nursing staff as "amazing." After assessing Izzy, one of our doctors met with the family to let them know about Izzy's condition and the proposed treatment. Needless to say, Christmas shopping for seven children had decreased available funds needed for Izzy's medical care.

At that point, Daisy's Tale offered a very special Christmas gift to Izzy's family. According to the mother of the family, they "were beyond grateful. It was definitely a needed blessing by Daisy's Tale. Without it, I couldn't tell you where Izzy would be now. But, thankfully, she is up running around like her normal hyper self. She will get to celebrate her first birthday soon."

(Continued on page 3)



# Veterinary Care & Specialty Group

423-591-0270

24/7/365

## Vader's Friends of the Month



Vader Pullen



## Ask the Vet: What to Expect When Your Pet Has an Emergency Stefanie Sullivan, DVM

Emergencies can be scary, especially when they involved your beloved pet.

It is always wise to contact the emergency clinic or your Veterinarian to let them know you are on your way, so they can be prepared for your arrival. It helps to have a copy of your pet's medical records on hand, as well as any medications they may be taking. If your pet ingested a toxin or medication, information on the toxin or medication can help us treat them more quickly and appropriately. For instance, when it was ingested, how much, the milligram and name of the medication or toxin are all important pieces of information. You can always bring the package or medicine bottle with you.

When moving or transporting an injured animal (especially in the case of trauma), minimize motion of its head, neck, and spine. A flat, firm surface of wood, cardboard, or thick fabric can be used to provide support. If the animal acts confused or disoriented after trauma, keep the head level or slightly elevated during transport. If the pet is painful or scared, they may attempt to bite. A shoe string or strip of cloth may be used as a muzzle. This will protect you from getting bitten when moving the animal.

Placing cats in boxes can minimize stress during transport. The box should have holes large enough so that you can see the cat.

In emergency medicine, the most life-threatening problems are treated first. When you arrive at the veterinary hospital, the veterinary staff will make a rapid assessment of your pet's physical condition and assign priority of care to each problem. They will ask about the current situation and probably for a brief medical history. Several observed problems or a history of problems may warrant immediate treatment regardless of physical findings. In these cases, we may take your pet straight back to get started on treatments. This ensures that your pet has the best chance it can. An IV catheter may be placed, and we may start diagnostics (blood work, X-rays, blood pressure, etc.) to get a better idea of what may be the cause for your pet's signs and symptoms. We will keep you informed of their progression and prognosis.

Emergency patients present special challenges, because underlying problems may not be evident for 24 to 48 hours. Many variables contribute to the overall success of emergency treatment, including



# Veterinary Care & Specialty Group

423-591-0270

24/7/365

(Continued from previous page)

the severity of the illness or injury, the amount of blood or fluid lost, age of the animal, previous health problems, and time delay in beginning therapy.

Reasons to rush your pet to the ER:

- Severe trauma (hit by car, dog fight, etc.)
- Frostbite or exposure to cold for prolonged periods
- Profuse bleeding that doesn't stop within five minutes
- Painful eyes, squinting, pupils that are different sizes or larger/smaller than normal
- Frequent vomiting/diarrhea, with or without blood
- Retching or unproductive vomiting, particularly if the stomach or abdomen looks distended
- Difficulty breathing, non-stop coughing, choking, strangulation
- Cluster of seizures within a 24-hour period or a seizure that doesn't stop after several minutes
- Suspected poisoning, insect bite reaction, snake bites, etc.
- Fractured bones, severe lameness or inability to move legs
- Heat exhaustion or stroke
- Near drowning
- Protruding eyeball
- Collapse or unconsciousness
- Paralysis or severe neck/back pain
- Painful or bloated abdomen
- Prolonged labor or difficulty giving birth
- Extreme lethargy
- Prolapsed rectum or uterus

A first aid kit can come in handy until you are able to get medical care for your pet. You can purchase a ready-made pet first aid kit or make one yourself. A pet first aid kit generally includes basic items similar to those of a human first aid kit. The first aid kit should have a secure lid and be kept where you can find it quickly.

Here are a few items recommended:

- Muzzle (a shoe lace or strip of cloth can work well in a pinch)
- Bandage materials (gauze, sterile pads, stretch bandage, bandage tape)
- Duct tape or packing tape
- Small scissors
- Cotton balls or swabs
- Saline solution
- Antibiotic ointment
- Bulb syringe
- Tweezers or forceps
- Thermometer (for rectal use)
- Disposable gloves
- Lubricating jelly
- Betadine

If you ever find your pets in an emergency situation, we are always here to help. We are open 24/7 to ensure your pets get the treatment they need and deserve.

24/7/365

## Daisy's Tale Christmas Eve Gift (continued from page 1)



Izzy's Family



Find out more about  
Daisy's Tale!

[www.daisystale.org](http://www.daisystale.org)



Izzy