

**Poisonous: A Tale of Lilies, etc.**

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So pretty....all the lilies that we'll be seeing as Easter and Spring approach, **Unfortunately, these lovely plants can be fatal if eaten by your cat.** Sadly we were unable to save the life of a cat who was recently brought to us after ingesting a "peace lily" plant (above on right). **ALL PARTS OF THE EASTER LILLY PLANT ARE POISONOUS.** Even a small amount can cause kidney failure in cats. If your pet should ingest any part of an Easter or other lily, notify your vet immediately. The faster treatment is begun, the better the outcome!

**EASTER GRASS** is another problem this time of year— animals cannot digest it! It becomes a foreign body and may tangle or become lodged somewhere or cause damage to the intestine that requires surgery.

**CHOCOLATE poisoning help calls increase 200% at Eastertime!** The toxins cause vomiting, diarrhea, hyperactivity, abnormal heart rhythm, seizures, and even death. Baker's and dark chocolate are the most toxic. If you suspect your pet ate chocolate, call your vet or the 24 hour ASPCA Poison Control Center (888-426-8500).

Another common early spring poisoning risk occurs when gardeners get out their fertilizers, insecticides, and herbicides. Some are very pet toxic! Store these products away from areas where pets may be. READ and FOLLOW package directions carefully. **Heed all manufacturer's pet warnings.**

**Inside this issue:**

Massage Therapy Benefits	2
Quote of the Month	2
City Line's FREE APP	2
Easter Bunny Photos	3
On the Lighter Side	3
Canine Flu Update	3

**City Line March Special— Flu Shots**

**Canine flu is spreading!** City Line Veterinarians strongly recommend that your dog be vaccinated for the H2N2 and H3N8 influenza with Bivalent vaccine that is safe for dogs 7 weeks or older. If your dog has any potential of social contact with other dogs outside your home (dog park, grooming, day care, boarding), then influenza protection is strongly advised and may be required in some animal care settings.

**This March there is a 20% discount on flu shots, normally \$41.** Initially two immunizations are required 2-4 weeks apart, followed by an annual single dose. **We hope you'll take advantage of this savings to protect your dog. No appointment needed. See Page 3 for canine flu updates!**

**CANINE INFLUENZA**

**SYMPTOMS TO LOOK OUT FOR:**

- COUGH
- SNEEZE
- RUNNY NOSE
- NASAL DISCHARGE
- LOSS OF APPETITE
- LETHARGY
- FEVER



**February Pet Observances:**

- Mar 4-10 Professional Pet Sitters Week
- Mar 18-24 Nat'l Poison Prevention Week
- Mar 13 K-9 Veterans Day; Feast of Saint Gertrude of Nivelles, Patron Saint of Cats
- Mar 23 Nat'l Puppy Day
- Mar 28 Respect Your Cat Day

# Massage Therapy

One year ago this month marked the arrival of our **Certified Massage Therapist, Sarah Zinger**. She received her certification from the *National Board of Animal Acupressure and Massage* in 2016. Canine massage therapy promotes health and well being in several ways: relaxation; pain reduction; relief of muscle tension, soreness, spasms and weakness; stimulation of muscle growth; and calming of hyperactivity and anxiety. It's very helpful for mobility problems, arthritic conditions, or even maintaining agility in working dogs. Treatment sessions are structured according to the animal's condition— \$60 for a 40 minute session, or 4 session

packages for \$210.

Sarah loves her work and has a “way” with her clients. Treat your dog to a massage soon and see the results for yourself. Please call for appointment availability (309-524-5696), or if you would like to discuss the advisability of massage therapy for your dog.

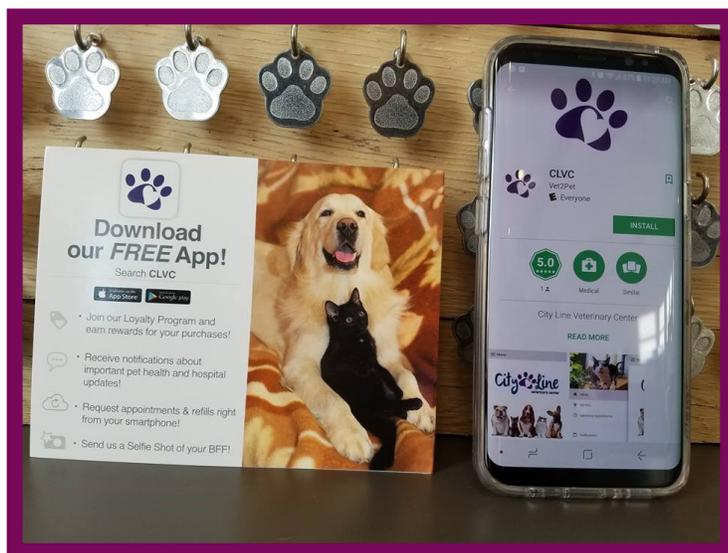


## Quote of the Month

**Lots of people talk to animals... Not very many listen, though....That's the problem.**

**Benjamin Hoff, *The Tao of Pooh***

## Have Our FREE App Yet?? App Store CLVC!



Our **FREE App** has many advantages. You can receive notifications of pet health tips, pet care guidance, and *City Line* updates. You may request prescription refills from your smartphone and/or order your food. Use it to send us photos for our newsletter. **You can also join our Loyalty Rewards Program and track your stamps.** (Earn a loyalty stamp for every \$100 spent per PAID invoice and a stamp for each groom. Earn 16 stamps and your reward is a \$100 credit on a future visit.)

Get our App by going to the *Apple App Store* and search **CLVC**. It's **FREE** and has no expiration date. **Call us if you need assistance finding our App (309-524-5696).**

# Easter Bunny Returns!!

Back by popular demand—the Easter Bunny will arrive at City Line to have his picture taken with our pets on Saturday, March 24th from 11:00 AM until 2:00 PM. A \$5.00 donation will be given to an area shelter. He will have a healthy treat for all pets participating. See you on Saturday the 24th with your Easter bonnet or just your usual relaxed Saturday attire. All are welcome!



## On the Lighter Side



It's not easy being a dog when your person thinks you look good in hats!

## Update: Dog Flu Spreading

**Canine influenza has now spread to 46 states** and has sickened thousands of dogs across the country in the last 2 years. It has an 80% morbidity (causing disease symptoms) and 10% mortality. It is highly contagious and symptoms might not appear until well after a dog has already become contagious. Nearly ALL dogs (regardless of breed or age) will become infected once

exposed because the disease is new and there has not been sufficient time for dogs to develop immunity with exposure.

In Illinois there continue to be outbreaks which have forced several agency closings in the Chicago area during 2017. With warmer weather approaching, travel and outdoor

activities will increase the risk of exposure. **Flu vaccination is the best way to protect your dog.** Be flu ALERT—keep your distance from coughing and sneezing dogs. Inquire about your day care or boarding facilities' vaccination policies. Don't allow your dog to share food or water bowls, toys, bedding—the virus can live on surfaces up to 48 hours, on clothing 24, and on hands 12 hours.