



TEACHER'S PET NOTES



Cindee Ersek Battin
610-459-2631 or cbattin@yourhelpfulneighbor.org

P.O. Box 452, Glen Mills, PA. 19342
www.yourhelpfulneighbor.org/TeachersPets



Dear Clients and Friends,

Teacher's Pets is now taking reservations for upcoming vacations. The dates that you have already requested are: _____.

My husband, Chris, continues to help me with pet sitting and many of you have already met him. If you would like to schedule a get acquainted visit, just give us a call. Chris has a service business of his own. It is called "Your Helpful Neighbor." Information about it can be found on the last two pages of this newsletter.

If neither of us is available when you need a pet sitter, as always, I will do my best to provide a sub and will set up a get acquainted visit prior to your pet sitting needs.

Thank you so much for inviting Teacher's Pets to care for your dear family members. Your continued trust and satisfaction with the care that your pets receive is of utmost importance. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,
Cindee Battin
Pet Sitter Since 1997



A Cat's Prayer

Now I lay me down to sleep,
I pray this cushy life to keep.
I pray for toys that look like mice.
For grocery bags where I can hide,
Just like a tiger crouched inside.
I pray for gourmet kitty snacks,
And someone nice to scratch my back.
For window sills all warm and bright,
For shadows to explore at night.
I pray I'll always stay real cool
And keep the secret feline rule
To never tell a human that
The world is really ruled by cats!

Cindee and Chris are Red Cross Pet First Aid educated.



Just this side of heaven is a place called Rainbow Bridge.



When an animal dies that has been especially close to someone here, that pet goes to Rainbow Bridge. There are meadows and hills for all of our special friends so they can run and play together. There is plenty of food, water and sunshine, and

our friends are warm and comfortable.

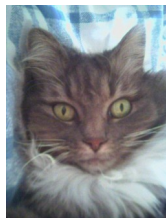
All the animals who had been ill and old are restored to health and vigor. Those who were hurt or maimed are made whole and strong again, just as we remember them in our dreams of days and times gone by. The animals are happy and content, except for one small thing; they each miss someone very special to them, who had to be left behind.

They all run and play together, but the day comes when one suddenly stops and looks into the distance. His bright eyes are intent. His eager body quivers. Suddenly he begins to run from the group, flying over the green grass, his legs carrying him faster and faster.

You have been spotted, and when you and your special friend finally meet, you cling together in joyous reunion, never to be parted again. The happy kisses rain upon your face; your hands again caress the beloved head, and you look once more into the trusting eyes of your pet, so long gone from your life but never absent from your heart.

Then you cross Rainbow Bridge together....

Author unknown...



In Memory of Sunshine Battin

1991 - 2009

IF IT SHOULD BE

If it should be that I grow weak
And pain should keep me from my sleep,
Then you must do what must be done,
For this last battle cannot be won.

You will be sad, I understand.
Don't let your grief then stay your hand.
For this day, more than all the rest,
Your love for me must stand the test.

We've had so many happy years.
What is to come can hold no fears.
You'd not want me to suffer so;
The time has come -- please let me go.

Take me where my need they'll tend,
And please stay with me till the end.
Hold me firm and speak to me,
Until my eyes no longer see.

I know in time that you will see
The kindness that you did for me.
Although my tail its last has waved,
From pain and suffering I've been saved.

Please do not grieve -- it must be you
Who had this painful thing to do.
We've been so close, we two, these years;
Don't let your heart hold back its tears.

--- Anonymous ---

Pet First Aid Kit March 2007 *Talking About Disaster: Guide for Standard Messages Pet First Aid Kit-1* First Aid Kit for Pets:

A fully equipped household first aid kit contains almost all of the supplies you may need for your pets. A simple first aid kit for your pets should include these additional items in a waterproof container: • Latex (or hypoallergenic material) gloves, • Gauze sponges (a variety of sizes), • Gauze roll, 2-inch width, • Elastic cling bandage, • Material to make a splint, • Adhesive tape, hypoallergenic, • Non-adherent sterile pads, • Small scissors, • Tweezers, • Magnifying glass, • Grooming clippers or safety razor, • Nylon leash, • Towel, • Muzzle, • Compact emergency "blanket" (available in the camping department of many stores), • Water-based sterile lubricant, • Hydrogen peroxide (3 percent), • Rubbing alcohol, • Topical antibiotic ointment, • Antiseptic towelettes, • Insect sting stop pads, • Cotton-tipped swabs, • Instant cold pack, • Epsom salts, • Baby-dose syringe or eye dropper, • Sterile eye lubricant, • Sterile saline wash, • Safety pins (medium size 4), • Tongue depressors, • Diphenhydramine, if approved by your veterinarian, • Glucose paste or syrup, • Styptic powder or pencil, • Plastic card (such as old credit card) to scrape away stingers, • List of emergency phone numbers including those for your pet's veterinarian, an afterhours emergency veterinary hospital, and the National Animal Poison Control Center (1-888-426-4435) and money to make a phone call. • Petroleum jelly, • Penlight with batteries (AA), • Clean cloth, • Needle-nose pliers, For a complete list of items for your pet first aid kit and detailed information on how to provide first aid for your pets, consult *Pet First Aid* by Barbara Mammato, DVM, MPH, a handbook sponsored by the American Red Cross and The Humane Society of the United States.



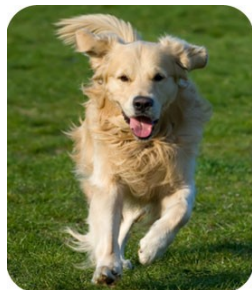
This Information can be found in its original format at: https://www.redcross.org/images/pdfs/code/First_Aid_Kit_for_Pets.pdf

Places to Take Your Dog

Concord Township has a Dog Park at Bush Hill Farm: 30 Bethel Road!

Check it out. It is on Bethel Road between Featherbed and Garnet Mine Roads. There are 2 fenced in dog play areas, one for small dogs and one for large dogs. There is even a canine water fountain. Inside the gated areas is a wonderful place for you to let your dog romp to thier heart's content without a leash. It is especially appreciated by those living in communities without fenced in yards where dogs must be leashed at all times.

Thank you Concord Township and all those who worked hard to get this park approved and ready for a 2009 opening.



For long walks on a leash, try the paved trails next to the Rachel Kohl Library on Smithbridge Road (also in Concord Township).

Darlington Trail, Delaware County... This park is located in Middletown Township with parking available on Darlington Road, $\frac{1}{2}$ mile from Route One, not far from the Wawa Store at Route One and Stoneybank Road. These days, I know of a beautiful Greater Swiss Mountain Dog named Winnie who walks these woodland trails and creek sides with her mom, Shellie.

Brandywine Creek State Park is in Delaware. Being a Delaware State Park, there is a fee charged during the peak season: Memorial Day through Labor Day and weekends in May, September and October. The main entrance is on Adams Dam Road between Rockland Road and Route 92 (Thompson's Bridge Road). It served as the winter hike destination when I taught Junior and Senior High School. The students loved this grand park and its many hills and trails along the Brandywine River.

Cindee - Teacher's Pets

At Giggly Bites Bakery & Marketplace

You and your dog and cats will find handmade baked treats and other cool stuff, along with a fun shopping experience.

Giggly Bites treats are crafted from high quality human grade ingredients - no fillers, artificial colors, added salt, sugar or preservatives - so you can feel good about giving them to your best friend.

Giggly Bites offers special recipes for dogs with food allergies or on restricted diets. Our products include a line of wheat, corn and soy free options. If one of our recipes does not fit, we will be glad to customize a recipe for you.

15% OFF WITH
MENTION OF THIS AD!

Olde Ridge Village Chadds Ford PA
610-358-DOG(S) (3647) giggly@gigglybites.com

Pet Sitting

Can't always be there for your pet?
Call Teacher's Pets at 610-459-2631
Pet Sitting and Dog Walking
Since 1997.

Veterinarian Recommended
Member of Pet Sitters International
Bonded and Insured

www.yourhelpfulneighbor.org

Litter Boxes - Preventing Accidents

1. It is recommended that you have at least one more box than you do cats. If you have one cat, you should have two boxes. If you have four cats, you should have five boxes.
2. Boxes should not be placed near the cat's water and food dishes.
3. Keep boxes in a quiet and out of the way place with easy convenient access to your cat but not to the family dog. Cats prefer their boxes to be away from bright lights, loud noises and vibrations such as laundry machines.
4. If you have more than one floor, it is best to provide a box on each floor.
5. Use a litter with an attractant such as Dr. Elsey's cat Litter or Elsey's litter additive.



Myles, our cat, has not had an accident since switching to a litter with an attractant. Thank you Myles!! He did have problems before the switch. As a special reward for being so good, Chris and I gave him a subscription to Cat's World Magazine. He has been suspiciously quick to tell us that he only reads the articles.



Cindee and Chris Battin of Teacher's Pets

Delaware Dog Parks:

Tally Day Bark Park at 1300 Folk Road, Wilmington DE. 302-395-5654 has separate fenced areas for large and small dogs.

Brandywine Dog Park in Wilmington DE. 302-577-7020 is unfenced along the Brandywine River in the Wilmington Zoo Region.

Clip and Save These Important Numbers:

Phone Numbers:

- **Teacher's Pets: Pet Sitting** 610-459-2631
- **Animal Poison Control Center** 888-426-4435
- **Delaware County SPCA** 610-566-1370
- **Delaware SPCA** 302-998-2281
- **Delaware Humane Association** 302-571-0111
- **Chester County SPCA** 610-692-6113
- **My Regular Vet:** _____
- **My 24 Hour Emergency Vet:** _____

TEACHER'S PET'S POLICIES

Office Phone:
610-459-2631

Cell Phone:
610-220-9342

Please call Teacher's Pet's Cell Phone, 610-220-9342, with all changes to a schedule that is for currently happening visits or visits that are within the five or ten day periods mentioned in "CANCELLATIONS."

Teacher's Pets maintains a "Minimum Care Standard" to best assure the wellbeing of your pet. These standards are as follows:

- Dogs are visited a minimum of three times per day if parents are away more than 48 hours.
- Dogs confined to crates between visits will have a minimum of three visits per day.
- Cats and caged animals such as birds and guinea pigs are visited a minimum of one time per day.

At Teacher's Pets, we take seriously the excellent care of your pet. Our policies are designed with that thought in mind. We update them only when we see that doing so will improve our ability to provide excellent and professional services to you and your pets.

TEACHER'S PET'S *BEST OF SHOW* POLICY:



As a current client of Teacher's Pets, you earn a free visit for each new client that you refer to Teacher's Pets once that client has scheduled and paid for four visits.

RESERVATIONS

Many reservations are made over the phone. If you leave a message regarding specific visits needed, you will receive a call back with 24 hours. We also need to talk a few days before you go away to reconfirm the dates and time as well as discuss any changes in your pet's routine. Please provide a phone number of where you can be reached at this time as well as the phone number for your emergency backup neighbor.

Please try to make reservations at least two weeks ahead of time. During the summer months, however, one month or more is recommended.

CANCELLATIONS

Should you need to cancel your reserved visits, follow these guidelines to avoid charges:

10 days notice is required to cancel reservations for holiday periods.

5 days notice is required to cancel reservations for non-holiday periods. 50% of the total bill will be charged if less notice is given. 100% will be charged if less than 24 hours notice is given.

There is a more lenient policy for those needing regular midday walks of 3 to 5 times per week.

CHECK IN UPON RETURN

When you return from your trip, please call Teacher's Pets as soon as possible, (610-459-2631). Don't worry about calling at odd hours. The machine will pick up. Many clients have given the excuse of being too tired or to busy to call. If that call is not given within 12 hours of your return, your pet sitter worries about your pets. If extra visits are made, you will be charged, even if you are home.

PAYMENT

Payment is due at the time of the first visit. Please leave payment on the kitchen counter before you leave for your trip.



Clients who book regular, midday walks may pay at the end of each week. Please leave payment for your sitter on the day of the last visit for the week.

SUPPLIES

Please leave all necessary supplies where they can be easily seen. The kitchen counter and below the kitchen sink are the best places. Items that pet sitters often hunt for include: trash bag liners, doodie bags *without holes*, cleaning supplies, soap to wash bowls and hands, extra rolls of paper towels, pet food and kitty litter. If a special trip is made for any necessary supplies, you will be charged. The charge is the cost of one visit and the cost of the items.

ID

Please be sure that your pets have current ID. Whether it's micro-chipping or regular tags, proper identification is essential to your pet's return if he or she strays.

In addition, a current license is required by law for dogs. Applications are found at all veterinary offices and municipal buildings.

HOME ACCESS

Please be sure Teacher's Pets has a current key to your doors. If you add a storm door, a key to that door is needed as well. If you change your alarm keypad code, alarm code, or company notification is essential. Teacher's Pets HIGHLY ENCOURAGES YOU TO USE YOUR SECURITY ALARM SYSTEM WHILE YOU ARE AWAY. Clients who have garage door keypads must also provide a key to the house. If the electricity is out, the garage door will not open.



HOME ACCESS AND THE TWO KEY SYSTEM

Teacher's Pets is moving to a two key system. One key is for the pet sitter and one is for the locked back up file.

If you do not wish to keep a key on file with Teacher's Pets, there will be a pick up and drop off fee of at least \$10.00 for each trip to your home. Two keys will still be required.

Please inform your sitter of any individuals who have access to your home. Teacher's Pets must have their name, phone number and expected schedule of their involvement in your home. Please tell the individual to

(Continued on page 7)

leave a note each time so the sitter is not worried. It's an uncomfortable feeling to be in a client's home and to know that someone has been there. Any details of sharing the pet sitting responsibilities with a friend or family member must be reviewed with your sitter beforehand.

LOCKED DOORS

Teacher's Pets requires all homes to be kept locked when unattended. On occasion, we are working with clients who choose to keep their home unlocked. For the security of your home, your pets and the pet sitter, we require all doors to be locked between our visits to your home. *Teacher's Pets reminds home owners to secure all window locks prior to leaving.*

LOCKSMITH

If the pet sitter is required to employ a locksmith to gain entry into a client's premises due to a malfunction of the lock or failure of a client to leave a key, it is the



responsibility of the client to reimburse the sitter for all costs incurred. This includes charges for extra time and trips to the client's home. Fortunately, this has happened only once.

FILE UPDATES

Please consider updating your pet's care information by sending it to Teacher's Pets. Sometimes months or even years go by before needing a sitter again. Please include anything that is different, such as diet, medication, illnesses, veterinarian, etc.

PLANTS

Your plants are important too. Please leave specific

instructions on how to care for them. Make sure that indoor plants are placed in containers that do not leak. If you don't want to get new liners, at least put them in a tub or sink. During summer months, there will be an additional charge for watering gardens or substantial plantings. That charge is \$8.00 per fifteen minutes. This way, time will not be taken away from your pets.

HOLIDAY PERIODS

There is a \$3.00 charge added to the cost of each visit during a holiday period. Even with this fee, the cost per visit remains within the range charged by pet sitters in our area. Please be understanding when booking visits for these periods.

Holiday periods are: Christmas Eve through New Year's Eve, President's Weekend from Friday to Monday, Easter Week, Memorial Day Weekend from Friday to Monday, Fourth of July (4 Days), Labor Day Weekend Friday to Monday, Thanksgiving: Thursday to Sunday.

WEATHER EMERGENCY

If you plan to do any traveling, especially during the Winter months, it is absolutely necessary to have a neighbor back up to care for your pet. If you would like help in making this neighbor connection, just ask. I'm happy to help.



Wyeth, the little man who started it all...

1993-2007

OTHER SERVICES PROVIDED

- On a limited basis, overnight stays in the pet's own home.
- Errand service to vets and pet stores.
- Litter box consults to help cats who think "outside the box."
- Help to those having difficulty getting their pet to the vet.
- Grief support to those who have lost a pet.
- Home and Grounds Care Services by Chris Battin through his business "Your Helpful Neighbor." See pages nine and ten.

Cindee and Chris are proud to Introduce to you the Art of George Carruth !

Having lived for many years in north west Ohio, I (Chris) became aware of the sculpted treasures of George Carruth which are designed and created completely in Ohio. When I moved back to Pennsylvania, I discovered that these gorgeous items were no where to be found. I introduced them to Cindee very early in our reborn relationship by giving her a Carruth Butterfly.



Cindee and I have returned from Bowling Green Ohio with a nice selection of Carruth Art for your review and consideration for purchase. It was a real challenge to narrow the field to these selected items. In time, we hope to have more for you to view in person. We can, of course, order anything that you see in print.



From the History page at www.carruthstudio.com, you will find this: Over the past 25 years, George Carruth has become one of America's most collected sculptors. Commissions include custom designs for the White House, the National Cathedral in Washington D.C. and more.

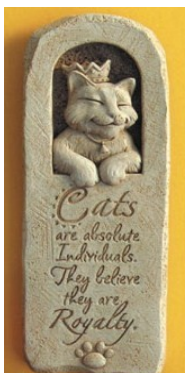
The material is a strong weather resistant stone/cement composition, designed to withstand the most severe weather conditions. Many popular designs have been installed into terrace walls, fireplaces, home foundations and patio walls, giving a personalized custom look. Commercial installations include schools, a library, clock tower and botanical gardens. Surprisingly, most sculptures end up indoors, in sun rooms, kitchens, family rooms and work spaces! With over 300 different sculpted images, you are sure to find the perfect gift to accent any home, garden or work space.

You can download our personalized and frequently updated catalog by going to www.yourhelpfulneighbor.org and then clicking on the "Carruth" link on the right. You can also go to www.carruthstudio.com to see the entire on line catalogue but keep in mind that the retail prices there are higher than ours.

These art sculptures come in a variety of sizes. There are very few pieces that are over \$50.00 and most are well under that.

Please contact Chris at 610-368-2038 or email at cbattin@yourhelpfulneighbor.org to learn more, see more or to place an order.

Thank you for considering the art of George Carruth.



"YOUR HELPFUL NEIGHBOR"

SINCE 1996

Christopher W. Battin
610-368-2038 or cbattin@yourhelpfulneighbor.org

P.O. Box 66, Concordville, PA. 19342
www.yourhelpfulneighbor.org



Dear Neighbors,

Since 1996, I have been assisting home owners with the care of their house and grounds. Many of my clients are senior citizens who do not feel comfortable doing some of the tasks that they used to do.

It is my goal to be of service to people who have lived for many years in their home and would prefer to remain there for as long as they choose to do so. I enjoy "filling in" when they sense that they should not do a particular home or grounds care task. For those jobs of which they are comfortable doing part, I do what they are not comfortable doing.

Home owners often schedule with me on a regular basis. "Regular" for some people is one four hour period each week. For others, it is

every other week or perhaps once per month. During warmer months, we emphasize outside tasks. On rainy days or colder months, we emphasize indoor work. Of course, as needed, outdoor needs can be met year round as weather conditions permit and indoor tasks can be done on clear and warm days any time of the year.

Anything that I learn about those I serve through "Your Helpful Neighbor" remains confidential. I don't share stories or information with anyone without permission to do so.

Feel free to call or email with questions, thoughts or comments.

Sincerely,
Chris Battin

"Your Helpful Neighbor"
is insured for your
peace of mind.

A Partial List of Home Services Includes:

Indoor Home Maintenance such as Painting, Window Washing, House Keeping, Paper Shredding, Attic/Basement Clean Out, Preparing Home for Sale

Outdoor Home Maintenance such as Lawn Mowing, Gutter Cleaning, Garden Planting, Seasonal Cleanup, Garden Maintenance, Shrubbery Trimming, Deck and Fence Staining

Other Services include: Holiday Setup, Companionship, Jobs that may be unique to your home and More!!

"Your Helpful Neighbor" Serves:

Concord and Bethel Townships, Garnet Valley, Chadds Ford, Longwood, Unionville, Kennett Square, Chester Heights, Glen Mills, Thornton, Aston, Upper Chichester, Edgemont, Wawa Region, Westtown, Parts of West Chester and Media

Cindee and I are proud to call St. John's Episcopal Church, at the corner of Concord and Cheyney Roads, our church home. Let us tell you about St. John's or check them out yourself some time at www.saintjohnsconcord.com.

Their number is 610-459-2994.

"Your Helpful Neighbor's" rates are straight forward.

Four hours of service scheduled in one block of time is \$100.00. Under four hours is \$30.00 per hour calculated in 15 minute increments up to a total not to exceed \$100.00. Generally, these intervals start at 8:00am, 1:00pm or 6:00pm. A scheduled 8 hour day is calculated as 2 four hour blocks.

The exception to this is lawn mowing. This charge is based on how long it takes and whether I use your equipment or my own.

Supplies that are purchased for a job are billed at the purchase price + the time involved to purchase the items.

I work with my clients to establish a schedule that achieves all of your home and grounds care needs without breaking your budget.

For those people with email:

I do send out information as needed for those who are interested.

Occasionally, I will send out a notice telling you of an opening in my schedule for the following day or perhaps later that same day. These openings are generally the result of inclement weather that has not permitted me to start a job somewhere else. The first person to respond back to that email by phone or email will be able to fill that block of time at a discounted rate. If you use email, be sure that I have your email address correct by sending an email to me at cbattin@yourhelpfulneighbor.org. I do not distribute email addresses to anyone.



Mission and Goals:

- ✓ To make it possible for you to live in your own home as long as you choose to do so by providing every service that you need.
- ✓ Treat you as a "neighbor" with dignity, honesty, and integrity.
- ✓ Respond to you as an individual with your own set of needs.
- ✓ Make the effort to respond by phone to inquiries for assistance in a timely manner.
- ✓ Hold in strict confidence any personal information learned.
- ✓ I will recommend a more appropriate service provider if needed.
- ✓ To leave you feeling safe in the knowledge that I am concerned for your best interests by providing the best, most reliable, and trustworthy service possible.

Quotes from Neighbors:
"Chris, if you didn't exist, I'd have to invent you."
Ruth, a retired widow

Your ongoing help has permitted us to stay in our home."
Mrs. M.



As a current client of *Your Helpful Neighbor* or *Teacher's Pets*, you earn a free hour of service from *Your Helpful Neighbor* for each new client that you refer once that client has scheduled and paid for four hours of service from *Your Helpful Neighbor*.