

THE FREE CATCH CHRONICLES

Your one-stop monthly paper of trivia, laughter, and VSC news!



- ? **Weekly TPR**
? **TRIVA QUIZ!**
? **T- TV Movie Quotes**
? **P- POP quiz! Vet med Q's**
? **R- Random Factoids**

T: "Your mother was a hamster, and your father smelt of elderberries!"
P: Which mammal has the fastest resting heart rate?
R: What is hotter? A bolt of lightning or the surface of the sun?
*Answers can be found on R&R Website

Department Shout Out: Cardio

The Cardiology team is dedicated to providing exceptional care that helps improve the quality of life for patients with both congenital and acquired heart disease. Behind the scenes, they are balancing a full schedule of appointments alongside consults for the entire hospital, all while managing countless phone calls and emails. Their goal is always to see consults as quickly as possible without compromising the high-quality care each patient deserves.

This month is especially exciting for Cardio! On **August 5th**, the team performed all three of the hospital's interventional cardiac procedures: **PDA occlusion, balloon valvuloplasty, and pacemaker implantation**—an impressive showcase of the advanced cardiac care they provide.

A friendly reminder from Cardiology: When requesting an echocardiogram, please be sure to enter the patient's **current weight** in the health status. Accurate weight is essential for the measurements used during the echocardiogram and helps the team provide the most accurate assessment possible.

Employee of the Month August 2026

Dr. Karen Turner

Recognized for

WORKING TOGETHER

Whether collaborating with fellow clinicians, technicians, or support staff, Dr. Turner consistently demonstrates that exceptional patient care is a team effort.



Tell us about your history:

Dr. Turner's career is nothing short of inspiring. After five years in general practice and another five in emergency medicine, she took on an incredible challenge. In 2011, while working part-time in both the ER and rehabilitation, she earned both her **Certified Canine Rehabilitation Practitioner (CCRP)** certification and her veterinary acupuncture certification in the same year. She later added veterinary chiropractic certification to her impressive credentials before growing her rehabilitation practice full-time. That journey eventually brought her to VSC, where she'll celebrate three years this coming January.

What you love about VSC: When asked what she loves most about VSC, Dr. Turner's answer was simple: the people. She takes pride in being part of a team that delivers gold-standard medicine and loves how every department comes together to provide exceptional patient care. For her, teamwork is what makes VSC so special.

Fun Facts: Dr. Turner enjoys pickleball, golf, and spending time with her two dogs: Teak, 4-year-old Boxer, and Nora, her delightfully "crusty" 8-year-old Shiba. Fun fact: she's also a dual citizen of the United States and the Netherlands!

Keep an Eye Out!

EXTENDED to August 12th

Last day to donate pet supplies to
Our House of Hope

August 12th @ 7:30a

VSC Tech Talk:

"Don't Cry, It's Just a CRI"

by Dr. Bennett, DVM, DACVAA
(Lunch Room)

Scan the QR code →
for more R&R details



Employee Anniversaries

Kaila Piper (SRS) - 5 years
Judi Lendino (ECC) - 6 years
Gabrielle Hybki (SRS) - 8 years
Dan Valentine (Porter) - 8 years
Sarah Sheeks (FD) - 9 years
Kathryn Younan (IM) - 10 years
Haley Veltri (RT) - 11 years
Dr. Robert Armentano (IM) - 14 yrs
Corban Langman (SRS) - 15 years
Dr. Hylton Gelb (VIS) - 16 years
Jennifer Higgins (Onco) - 16 years
Dr. Mimi Noonan (IM) - 17 years
Desi Pietruszka (IM) - 17 years
Laina Jacobs (Neuro) - 22 years
Dr. Todd Ryl (ECC) - 24 years

ASKING Cardio:

If your pet could write your
performance review, what
would it say?

Tammy M: "My mom is the best baby-talker to all the pets she sees! She gives them a lot of love, treats, and puts their owners at ease! Her clients love her!"

Heather B: "15 years of dedicated service. Doesn't feed me as much or as often as I like, even though I might vomit. Also makes me nebulize; but it does double as a spa treatment. She is very generous with buying toys and scratchers. She is the best place to nap!"

Megan P: "3/10. I only gave 3 stars for her comfy body to sleep on. Does not keep my food bowl full and does not provide endless treats. She snores. She likes to harvest my poop...it's weird."

Dr. Leah Kruckman: "Her food service is slow...otherwise she's a 10/10."

Kelsey B: "She could really up her treat game!"

ASKING Cardio cont:

Natalie N: "My mom thinks she is so funny, but I only tolerate her jokes for the pets and stinky cheese!"

Amber P:

★★★★★ Overall Rating:
Highly recommend continued employment. Consistently delivers meals, treats, belly rubs, and emotional support, though leaving the house without us and slow response times to treat requests remain concerns. We enthusiastically recommend an immediate promotion to Senior Human, with compensation including unlimited cuddles, extra walks (or lap time), and a much larger treat budget.

Signed,

🐾 Nessa and Zayla

VSC's August 2026 Food Pantry Project

Donation Center:



**Recipe cards on KK's desk

Insect Spotlight 🌿: The Katydid

Katydidids are common throughout Illinois, and they have a unique trait—they can hear with their knees! Tiny hearing organs on their front legs help them find mates and listen for bats flying overhead.

Congratulations on earning a
SITO bonus
again this
quarter! Keep
up the great
work.



Show us your \$30/day?

Congratulations to Dr. Timothy Grote (DVM/Residency trained in radiology) and Leah Kienitz (DVM residency trained in surgery) for completing their residencies and officially joining the VSC team!