



April 9, 2009

## Vet helps keep pets healthy

Q. Tell us about your business, including the types of services and/or products you feature.

We care for cats, dogs and most pocket pets (guinea pigs, hamsters, pet rats and rabbits and more). Our services and facilities are designed to assist you in preventative care for your healthy pets, early detection and treatment of diseases and illnesses, dental care and complete medical and surgical care as needed during your pets lifetime. We also provide boarding and bathing.

Q. What makes your business unique?

Our entire healthcare team is committed to listening to you and providing personal attention to the unique concerns of each individual owner. We get to know you and your pets. We ask questions. We listen. We involve you in decisions involving your pet's health. We are pet lovers ourselves — we have over 30 pets among us!!

Q. How did you first decide to open your own business?

I felt it was important to serve pets and their owners in the local area where I lived. I wanted to live, work and raise my children in the local area. I am happy I made this decision and am glad to be a part of this great community. I first moved to the Huron Valley area in 1991 and have experienced the changes since then in a positive way.

Q. Do you have a funny tidbit or story to share with our readers about your experience so far as a small business owner?

The health of pets is paramount to most pet owners. At Highland Veterinary Hospital, we frequently check the gastrointestinal health of pets by running intestinal parasite screenings. We acquire a stool sample, and under the microscope we check for different types of worms that can wreak havoc on our pet's systems. These parasites are prevalent and we diagnose them frequently. Sometimes, however the diagnosis is more than a little strange.

Last summer, a very excited Labrador Retriever named Chloe came in to have her annual vaccines and tests completed. Luckily, Chloe had been doing rather well, and aside from being a wild girl, she had no problems to report. Chloe's owner brought in a stool sample for her parasite screen and behind the scenes one of our technicians began to set up the test. About a half a minute into setting up the sample, the technician noticed something rather peculiar and called me over to inspect. I was shocked to see a black, miniature magnum gun staring up at me from the specimen. Chloe luckily tested negative for intestinal parasites, but we had to break the harsh news to her owner that Chloe was carrying a concealed lethal weapon. We advised her that the G.I. Joe action figures should stay off the menu indefinitely!

## Additional Facts

Details

Business Name: Highland Veterinary Hospital

Business address: 1255 S. Milford Road, Highland, MI 48357

Name: Jennifer Groehn, owner and practicing veterinarian

Hometown: Have lived in the area since 1991 - 18 years in both Milford and Hartland.

Business opened: I purchased the practice in March 2002 from the former owner who retired.

Number of employees: 12. Includes our technicians, receptionists and assistants and two additional doctors- Dr. Coreen Grolle who has worked part time for the past three years, and Dr. Susan Berg who previously worked in the Huron Valley area and has recently returned and joined our team.

Hours: Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Wednesdays and Fridays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Phone: 248-887-3755

Website: Coming soon - .com

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