



Wags and Purrs Comfort Corner

Professional Pet Care Specialists



There are many wonderful things to look forward to in March –St Patrick's Day, daylight savings time, Spring, and with it, the warmer weather! However, did you know Professional

Pet Sitter's week is also in March? March 3rd through the 9th is Professional Pet Sitter's Week! This week acknowledges and celebrates all those individuals who spend their time and energy to provide the best care for furry family members.

Professional Pet Care Specialists go far above and beyond part-time, hobbyist or app based pet sitters and it's very important for a loving pet parent to know the differences between them.

A Professional Pet Care Specialist will have a clear criminal background check and will background check all employees before allowing them into client's homes. App-based pet sitters will not be background checked, and unfortunately, the internet is full of stories of stolen goods, destroyed homes and lost or killed pets.

A professional will be insured and bonded and licensed, if applicable. Having an insured and bonded professional not only means they are protected but so are you! Unfortunately, accidents happen, such as a pet injuring themselves during play time, such as an ACL tear. What if the pet bites someone while in the pet sitter's care? A neighbor or high school kid won't be able to pay these damages out of pocket and app based dog walkers are not insured through the company.

Health Tip for the Season

'Tis the season for colds, sniffles, stomach viruses and much worse! By using a Professional Pet Care Specialist instead of a kennel, your pet won't be exposed to dangerous germs and potentially life-threatening illnesses.

For more information on the benefits of hiring a Professional Pet Care Specialist vs using a kennel, our blog post [Kennels vs Pet Sitters](#) is full of important information every pet parent should know.

Training Tip for the Season

If you have a [reactive dog](#), please make your Professional Pet Care Specialist aware. If your dog is afraid of men, kids, bicycles, other dogs or cars, the Professional Pet Care Specialist will

As the safety of their furry clients is always on their minds, a professional will be knowledgeable in pet first aid and emergency procedures. A Professional Pet Care Specialist will be certified or will have completed PSI's Certificate in Professional Pet Sitting Program and/or participated in pet-care training, such as pet first aid. Would your sister or neighbor know what to do if your pet choked on a toy or started having a seizure? What if they were injured or bitten by another dog while out walking? A Professional Pet Care Specialist would know what to do! A professional would never let anyone approach your dog out of safety for both the dog and the person.

A Professional Pet Care Specialist trains for this, and will be knowledgeable in nutrition, training, behavior and diseases and will be available to help with questions and work with you and your vet with any diagnosis to keep your pet safe and healthy.

Professional Pet Care Specialist are devoted to their clients, both human and furry, will continuously educate themselves in proper pet care and work tirelessly, sometimes 24/7, to build a business on dependability, responsibility and trust. Only trust a professional pet services provider with the safety of your four-legged family members, home and possessions!

A real Professional Pet Care Specialist will make your pet a priority and treat them as family! No matter the weather conditions, they will make sure they get to your pet. In addition to getting to your pet, a Professional Pet Care Specialist will have weather related policies in place for the safety of your pet.

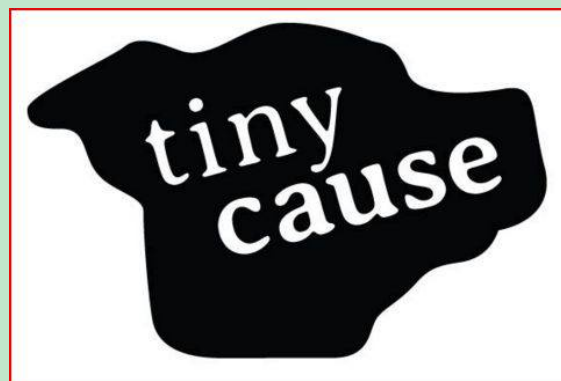
When you've found a good Professional Pet Care Specialist, who loves and cares for your pet like you do, take the time to tell them how much they mean to you and your pet, maybe even do so during Professional Pet Sitters Week!

work with the pet to make sure they aren't being put into situations where they are uncomfortable and may be able to help your pet overcome their fears through positive reinforcement.

Pet Sitter Tip for the Season

A Professional Pet Care Specialist will be running a business, and therefore will book up quickly, make sure you are booking your appointments in advance to guarantee your space. Professional Pet Care Specialists would like to be there for all of their furry friends, but unfortunately, that's not a physical possibility. If a pet parent knows they are planning a vacation, have a work trip or will need extra visits over the holidays, they should include scheduling their pet care needs while they are making other preparations.

Featured Rescue of the Month





Tom, featured below, with James Held of Tiny Cause Rescue

Tiny Cause started in 2014 in our family's kitchen with our 3 young boys baking natural dog treats to help animals. Who was Tiny? He was our 103 lb Pitbull (yes, named Tiny haha) who loved everyone and lived to end discrimination against his breed. We've donated \$37,500.00 to animal rescues and shelters in his memory. We have a Hip to Snip spay/neuter program that has successfully paid for 142 dogs and cats to be fixed when the owners couldn't financially afford to do so on their own. We hold affordable microchip clinics, Tiny's Fur Family shop in Vandergrift provides a free pet pantry for dog/cat food to those in need as well as full dog grooming services and tons of merchandise that benefits our rescue and is 100% non-profit. We became an actual foster based rescue ourselves since obtaining our

rescue kennel license in August 2018 and have taken in almost 100 dogs to date, most from high kill shelters along with owner surrenders. Our main goal is to help as many animals & their humans as possible by providing education, assistance and options to keep dogs/cats out of overcrowded shelters and ultimately being euthanized just for space.

Donations

Monetary donations are always in need for vetting/rescue expenses, spay/neuter program, refilling the pet pantry, transporting costs and so on. Every penny truly adds up and we greatly appreciate every single donation that is made.

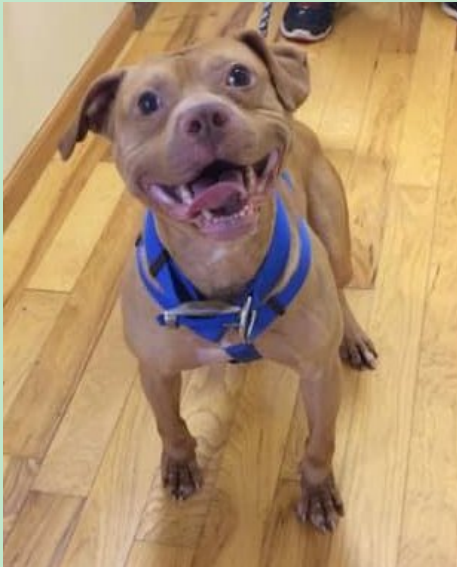
Our paypal is darlaheld65@gmail.com

Our mailing address for checks is –
Tiny Cause
131 Columbia Avenue,
Vandergrift, PA 15690.

We are blessed to have PAWSOME supporters, volunteers, fosters, transporters etc which is how we continue to make a TINY difference daily!!

During the month of March, Comfort at Home Pet Services will be collecting donations of blankets, toys, food, treats and cleaning supplies for Tiny Cause Rescue. If you have a donation, please mark it Tiny Cause and leave it out during your Comfort at Home Pet Services visit. If you need to schedule a pick up of items, contact Jen Sybol.

Tom



Meet Tom! Tiny Cause pulled Tom from a high kill shelter in GA in February, where he had lived for 3 ½ years due to a court hold! He is only 4 years old so he's spent almost his entire life in a shelter but that doesn't stop Tom from LOVING life, people, animals and everything he meets!! Shout out to the wonderful people at Macon-Bibb County Animal Welfare who cared and loved for Tom while in their shelter.

Tom is a medium sized, 40-45 lbs, Pit Bull mix. Tom gets along with cats, dogs of all sizes and temperaments and every single human he meets. He is a VERY excited boy and would prefer an active house with a large fenced in yard where he could run, jump & play until his heart is content. He's neutered, up to date on vaccinations, heartworm negative,

microchipped, dewormed and on flea/tick preventative. We are head over paws for Tom and everyone who meets this special one of a kind dog is too!

To learn more about this happy and loving guy, please contact [Tiny Cause Rescue](#).

Healthy Homemade Treats for the Season

Doggy Delights Spinach Balls

Ingredients:

- 2 cups whole wheat flour
- 1 tbsp baking powder
- 1/4 cup grated Parmesan cheese
- 2 eggs
- 1/2 cup chicken broth
- 1 cup water
- 1/8 cup unsweetened applesauce
- 1 cup chopped frozen spinach, thawed & squeezed dry



Preheat the oven at 400°F

In a large bowl, whisk together the flour, baking powder and Parmesan cheese.

In a blender, liquify the eggs, broth, water, applesauce and spinach.

Pour the spinach mixture into the dry ingredients.

Stir until combined.

Shape your biscuits

Bake for 13 minutes.

Remove the biscuits and let cool completely on a wire rack.

Chicken and Cranberry Cat Treats

Ingredients (200 cat treats)

1 heaping cup rolled oats
3 tablespoons UNSweetened, low-moisture, dried cranberries
4 ounces cooked, plain chicken (no salt or seasoning added), chopped small
2 tablespoons + 1/2 teaspoon olive oil
1 heaping tablespoon dried catnip
1 large egg

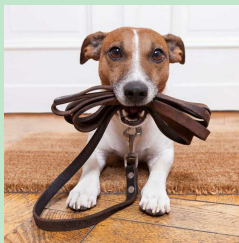


Place the oats in a food processor and whiz until you have a flour. Add the dried cranberries and whiz again until they are ground fine. Add remaining ingredients to the food processor and pulse until well combined. Turn out into a bowl.

Preheat oven to 350° F. Line two baking sheets with parchment paper.

Measure out 1/4 teaspoon-sized portions. Roll each portion into a ball and press flat using your finger. Line up evenly on the prepared baking sheets.

Check out our latest blog posts



[I'm Just a Dog Walker](#)



[Anyone can be a Pet Sitter, Right?](#)



[How to Find a Quality, Professional, Pet Services Provider](#)

