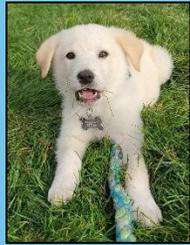


January 09, 2026

VET TECH FRIDAYS

Knowledge, News, and Updates



The Paws Behind the Faces Teacher and Faculty Pets

Murphy is Mrs. Miller’s family dog, a 75-pound, one-year-old Great Pyrenees and Lab mix with a huge heart and an even bigger personality. From the beginning, it was clear that Murphy loves fiercely and feels deeply.



As a puppy, Murphy struggled with severe separation anxiety. Being left home alone was extremely difficult for him, and his stress showed in very determined ways. Rugs were chewed, plants were destroyed, and in one memorable incident, he dug completely through carpet down to the wood floor while trying to escape a bedroom he accidentally trapped himself in. Even when placed in an anti-anxiety crate, Murphy would repeatedly paw at the door, sometimes hurting himself in his efforts to get out.

Despite those challenges, Murphy has grown tremendously. Now that he is older, and with the help of anxiety medication, he can be left home safely. While his family is gone, Murphy watches the windows, pants, and cries loudly for his people, a dramatic and hilariously sad routine that makes it very clear just how deeply he loves them. Even when left with his favorite treat, a brand-new ostrich bone, he will not touch it until his people are home.

Murphy is fiercely loyal and deeply affectionate. He follows Mr. Miller everywhere like a shadow, gives endless kisses, loves snuggling on the couch or bed, and is always ready to play. His favorite activities include digging in the dirt (preferably mud), tug-of-war, fetch, long walks, and playing with his “pack” at a nearby park almost every morning. He is still very much a puppy at heart and occasionally chews through straps in seconds, but Murphy is a handful the family would not have any other way. Goofy, loving, and loyal, he is the perfect addition to the Miller family.



Spotlight: Student of the Week Avery Hirt

We are excited to recognize Avery Hirt as our positive attitude and is incredibly helpful to every- During finals week last term, she was even over- was tutoring, a perfect example of her supportive



Student of the Week! Avery consistently brings a one around her, including her fellow students. heard cheering on and encouraging a student she nature.

Avery also serves as a Kennel Lead, where she leadership skills. She is always willing to jump in her positivity, and is fantastic with both dogs and

demonstrates maturity, responsibility, and strong wherever she is needed, helps boost morale with cats.

In addition, Avery is always willing to pick up extra tutoring hours to support students. She is personable, engaging, and genuinely invested in helping others succeed, making her an outstanding role model within our VTI community.

Congratulations. Avery. and thank you for all that you do!

What’s Your “Zombie Apocalypse” Survival Skill?

“I think my IV catheter skills are top notch. I also have very fast reflexes when it comes to sedating an aggressive dog. So, if I had to stab an aggressive zombie, it is basically the same thing, so I should be alright.”

- Mrs. Stout -

Tutoring Schedule 1/5-2/26:

Monday through Friday:

7:00 – 8:00 AM

Monday:

1:30 – 4:30 PM

Wednesday:

1:30 – 4:30 PM

Thursday:

3:30 – 5:00 PM

Student Song of the Week

Wonderwall

By Oasis

Photos Around Campus

11DV24 student Hannah Bachmann reviewing pre-operative lab work for her patient.



Smiles all around! 03DV25 student Lexi Lloyd with Ms. Lewis, Mrs. Kleiman, and Mrs. Stout.

11DV24 student Haylie Grimes checking her patient's drip rate.



11DV25 students Amy Brutkiewicz, Alexis Gregory, Allison Kunze, and Keysha Koors hard at work studying together in the student lounge.



Study buddies 07DV25 students Emily Dean and Erica Alvarado enjoying the peace and quiet in the library.

Surgery Term is officially underway for our 11DV24 cohort!
These students are learning critical, hands-on skills they'll use throughout their careers as vet techs.



Pet of the Week
Alaska!

Meet Alaska, a beautiful girl who has returned this term to see if she can beat her old record of two cage escapes. When she is not out roaming the halls, her favorite pastime is hanging her front legs out of her bed and playing in the tower room. Don't let her cute face fool you, this girl is a true thrill seeker!

Alaska is available for adoption and is hoping to meet her purr-fect BFF while she is here.





What's Your Current Favorite Song?

[Click Here or Scan QR Code to Answer!](#)

We will share a random student's music pick each week!



Underrated Animals

Blue Whale: Why The Biggest Animal to Ever Exist May Also Be One of The Most Important

The blue whale is one of the most underrated animals on Earth, not because it is small or hidden, but because its importance is often overlooked despite its enormous influence on the planet. As the largest animal to have ever existed, even larger than any dinosaur, blue whales have been swimming through Earth's oceans for approximately 1.5 million years, evolving from smaller baleen whale ancestors into the giants we know today. They are living links to Earth's ancient past, and their presence continues to shape the health of the planet in profound ways.

Blue whales play a surprisingly important role in regulating ocean life and even Earth's climate. Their feeding and movement help circulate nutrients through the water, especially iron, which supports the growth of phytoplankton. These microscopic organisms form the base of the marine food web and absorb vast amounts of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. By supporting phytoplankton growth, blue whales indirectly help regulate global carbon levels and contribute to a large portion of the oxygen we breathe.

When a blue whale dies, its massive body sinks to the ocean floor, carrying carbon with it and locking it away for decades or longer in a process known as "whale fall," further helping regulate Earth's climate.



Despite their enormous size, blue whales are remarkably gentle, especially when it comes to raising their young. A newborn calf is already immense, measuring about 23 feet long and weighing 5 to 6 tons at birth, yet it is completely dependent on its mother. Blue whale mothers are intensely nurturing, providing calves with extremely rich milk that can be 30 to 50 percent fat, allowing the calf to gain up to 200 pounds per day. During this time, mothers prioritize staying close to their calves, guiding them along migration routes and protecting them during their most vulnerable months. Calves typically remain with their mothers for about a year, forming a strong bond as they learn how to survive in the vast open ocean.

Blue whales are also incredibly long-lived, commonly reaching 80 to 90 years, with some living over a century. Over their lifetimes, they consume vast quantities of krill, sometimes several tons per day during feeding seasons, helping maintain balance within marine ecosystems. Competition for females is subtle rather than aggressive, with males using powerful low-frequency vocalizations that can travel hundreds of miles underwater to signal size, strength, and fitness to potential mates.



Despite their size, blue whales have very few natural predators. The only known predator capable of posing a threat is the orca, or killer whale, which may target calves or weakened individuals. Even then, attacks are rare and risky, especially when a mother is present. Historically, the greatest threat to blue whales has been humans. Commercial whaling in the 20th century pushed them to the brink of extinction, and although populations are slowly recovering, they remain endangered and continue to face threats from ship strikes, noise pollution, climate change, and reduced krill availability due to warming oceans.

The blue whale is far more than a marvel of size, capable of reaching up to 100 feet in length and weighing as much as 200 tons. It is a quiet engineer of the ocean, a devoted parent, and a powerful ally in maintaining balance within Earth's climate and ecosystems. Protecting blue whales means protecting the interconnected systems that support life on this planet, making them one of the most important, and still most underrated, animals on Earth.



Food Pantry Information Drive-Thru!



Nearly 1 in 3 college students experiences food insecurity.

Why It's Okay to Use a Food Pantry:

- Normal: Millions of students do
- Saves money & helps you budget
- Healthy options, often fresh produce
- Private & respectful

Make the Most of It:

- Grab a few items for the week
- Stock up on pantry staples
- Use the money you save for rent, gas, or savings
- Try something new you haven't cooked before

If you live outside of Indianapolis, and need assistance locating a food pantry, please email me at amiller@vettechinstitute.edu and I will work to find a location near you!

1. Crooked Creek Food Pantry

Address: 6940 N Michigan Rd, Indianapolis, IN 46268

Phone: 317-399-7500

Website: <https://www.ccfpindy.org/>

Hours:

- Wednesday: 10:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m. & 1:00 p.m.–3:30 p.m.
- Thursday: 1:00 p.m.–3:30 p.m. & 3:45 p.m.–5:00 p.m.
- Friday: 10:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m. & 1:00 p.m.–3:30 p.m.

2. Gleaners Food Bank – Drive-Thru Pantry

Address: 3737 Waldemere Ave, Indianapolis, IN 46241

Phone: 317-925-0191

Website: <https://www.gleaners.org/>

Hours:

- Tuesday: 10:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m.
- Wednesday: 10:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m.
- Thursday: 2:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m.
- Saturday: 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

3. Boulevard Place Food Pantry (St. Vincent de Paul)

Address: 4202 Boulevard Pl, Indianapolis, IN 46208

Phone: 317-924-3461

Website: <https://www.svdpindy.org/locations-hours/>

Hours:

- Wednesday (drive-thru): 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.
- Thursday (indoor shopping): 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.
- Saturday: 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

4. Fay Biccard Glick Neighborhood Center – Drive-Thru Pantry

Address: 2990 W 71st St, Indianapolis, IN 46268

Phone: 317-293-2600

Website: <https://www.faybiccardglickcenter.org/food-pantry>

Hours:

- Tuesday: 12:00 p.m.–6:00 p.m.
- Thursday: 12:00 p.m.–6:00 p.m.
- Saturday: 11:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

5. Christamore House – Drive-Thru Pantry

Address: 502 N Tremont St, Indianapolis, IN 46222

Phone: 317-635-7211

Website: <https://christamorehouse.org/>

Hours:

- Please call to confirm current drive-thru pantry schedule (varies).
- Office open Monday–Friday: 8:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m.

6. Hunger, Inc. – Drive-Thru Service

Address: 1416 E Epler Ave, Indianapolis, IN 46227

Phone: 317-782-3321

Website: <https://hungerinc.org/>

Hours:

- Tuesday: 10:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.
- Thursday: 4:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m.
- Saturday: 10:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

7. Mt. Carmel Church Food Pantry – Drive-Thru

Address: 9610 E 42nd St, Indianapolis, IN 46235

Phone: 317-890-2740

Website: <https://www.mtcarmelindy.org/food-pantry>

Hours:

- Wednesday: 12:00 p.m.–2:00 p.m.

8. The Caring Place – Drive-Thru Food Distribution

Address: 30 N Johnson Ave, Indianapolis, IN 46219

Phone: 317-898-2096

Website: <http://www.thecaringplaceinc.org/>

Hours:

- Select Tuesdays: 2:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m.
(Recommended to call or check events page for exact dates.)

9. Westminster Neighborhood Services – Drive-Thru Pantry

Address: 445 N State Ave, Indianapolis, IN 46201

Phone: 317-632-9785

Website: <https://westmin.org/food/>

Hours:

- Monday: 9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.
- Tuesday: 9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.
- Thursday: 9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

(Drive-thru used during high-traffic days; indoor shopping also available.)

10. Pantry of Hope at Rise Church

Address: 6001 W. 52nd Street, Indianapolis, IN 46254

Phone: 463-263-4664

Website: <https://www.riseindiana.church/hope-worldwide/>

Hours:

- Drive-thru distribution on selected Saturdays (10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m., while supplies last)

WHO WANTS TO GET THE BAG?!!



EARN \$20/hr TAX FREE!!!



CONCESSIONS & BARTENDING

● PACERS/FEVER/BOOM ●

● COLTS/BENGALS ●

● FUEL/IGNITE ●

● INDIANS ●

● INDY 500 ● BRICKYARD 400 ●

● CONCERTS & SHOWS ●

Email us to Sign up & Get Started

FortheKidsinc5@gmail.com



Scan for More Information About Us



The Indiana Horse Racing Commission is Hiring!



Become part of the horse racing season this year!

NOW HIRING
Part-time Test Barn Attendant

Part-Time Positions Available:

Horseshoe Indianapolis (Shelbyville, IN)

• **Typical part-time work schedule:**

- ✓ Monday - Thursday | 1:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
- ✓ Occasional Saturdays | 10:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Day in the Life/Qualifications:

- The test barn attendants shall, in accordance with commission Standard operating procedure, procure a urine sample of each horse entering the test barn for post-race testing.
- The test barn attendants shall be responsible for identifying horse entering the test barn by verifying correct microchip, freeze brand, or tattoo.
- Responsible for maintaining the test barn in a clean and orderly fashion.
- Hands-on experience with large animals, preferably horses is desired.

HOURLY SALARY:

Part-time: \$17.36/hour

RACING SEASON:

MARCH - NOVEMBER

To obtain a copy of the job description or information on how to apply, please contact:

savhudson@hrc.in.gov



IT'S TIME TO COMPLETE YOUR

26-27 FAFSA

FINANCIAL AID WILL BE AVAILABLE TO ASSIST YOU IF YOU WOULD LIKE HELP COMPLETING THE APPLICATION.

If you have any questions, please see Kesia immediately. We look forward to helping you complete your FAFSA for the 26-27 academic year!



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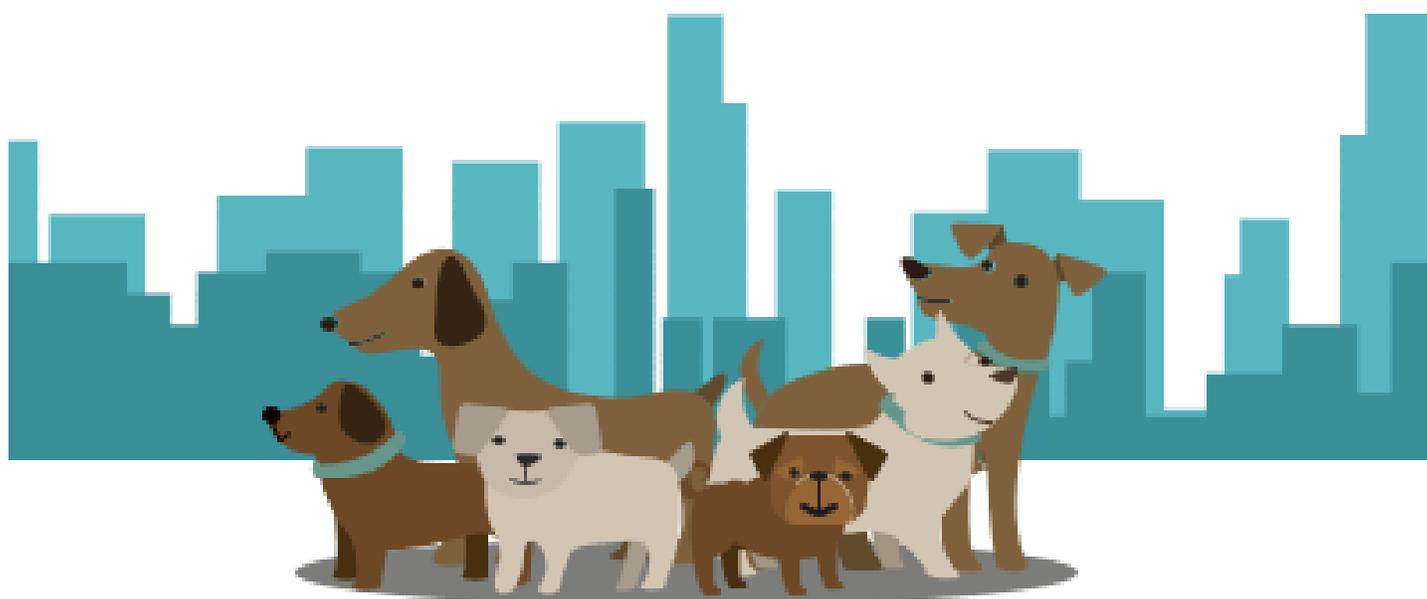
APRIL

Deadline

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO COMPLETE THIS ON YOUR OWN, YOU AND YOUR PARENT(S) CAN FILE YOUR FAFSA AT HOME.

Please Join Financial Aid for

26-27 FAFSA WORKSHOPS



DEADLINE IS APRIL 15TH

Please have your FSA ID ready! Parents are welcome to join, BUT if they cannot make it, please have their email address available so we can invite them to your FAFSA.

[FINANCIAL AID WILL BE AVAILABLE TO ASSIST YOU IF YOU WOULD LIKE HELP COMPLETING THE APPLICATION.](#)

If you have any questions, please see Kesia immediately. We look forward to helping you complete your FAFSA for the 26-27 academic year!

2:30 PM TO 4 PM

RM: 104

Time & Room

TUESDAYS &

THURSDAYS

Days

[IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO COMPLETE THIS ON YOUR OWN, YOU AND YOUR PARENT\(S\) CAN FILE YOUR FAFSA AT HOME.](#)