

# Providing **preventative care** and a **full-service animal hospital**

John Carr had a friend in 9th grade who worked for an animal hospital. His friend's experiences sparked his own interest, and that's when he first realized he wanted to be a veterinarian.

"I was always interested in science, biology and medicine," says Dr. Carr. "My grandfather was a physician. I also liked animals and was attracted to veterinary medicine. From 9th grade on, I was very focused and just knew it was what I wanted to do."

Until two years ago, Dr. Carr worked out of an office on Battleground Avenue. But with a daughter at Northwest High, a son who graduated as a Northwest Viking, and with roots in the community, he decided to reopen his veterinary practice in Oak Ridge last month.

"I have always liked the Oak Ridge area and I thought this location (at 68 Place, off N.C. 68) was very accessible and visible for patients."

Dr. Carr believes that healthier pets mean healthier relationships between humans and their animals, and Carr Veterinary Hospital specializes in animal care for dogs, cats, birds and small mammals (but no "hoof-stock," i.e., farm animals).

"We do wellness and preventative care to extend the longevity of your pet

and to enhance the bond between human and animal," he says. "If they're scratching or have odors or skin disease – if we can do something to improve the quality of life for the pet, we can strengthen the relationship they have with their owner."

The veterinary practice focuses on more than just wellness or preventative care, however. As a full-service hospital, they treat injured, sick and diseased animals and offer hospitalization, surgical services and dental care.

Dr. Carr says he has always had a strong interest in dental and more involved procedures.

"It's fun to be able to fix something right away," he explains. "A

lot of times in medicine, you have to wait the course of a disease (like diabetes or hypothyroidism) to see if a treatment worked. But it's different with surgery – when you finish it, the problem has been resolved."

The office is equipped with an ultrasound, x-ray machine, in-house lab equipment, and supplies for routine check-ups.

"Most of the things we see are preventative issues," Dr. Carr says. "We try to be proactive and educate about life-stage care. Like human medicine, the better educated an owner is about

signs to look for, the better we can be to make a diagnosis – and the more successful we will be at treatment."

Dr. Carr is most excited about the opportunity that being in Oak Ridge gives him to meet new people and their pets.

"We want to provide them with care at a high standard," he says. "Our goal is to strive for excellence and to do our best to fulfill the needs of pet owners and provide a peace of mind."

"I've been doing this for 27 years and I'm still passionate about it," Dr. Carr says. "It's very rewarding for me to meet not only the animals, but the people and to help them with whatever problems they may have."



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*Dr. John Carr  
with his canine  
companions*

business  
profile

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as seen in our **November 30, 2012** issue