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## New, moving or expanding: Veterinarian opens Advanced Care Pet Hospital in Sartell

BY JANE LASKEY • [JLASKEY@STCLOUDTIMES.COM](mailto:JLASKEY@STCLOUDTIMES.COM) • JANUARY 23, 2010

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SARTELL — Advanced Care Pet Hospital has opened a 3,100-square-foot facility at 911 Scout Drive in Sartell.

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The hospital is owned by Pamela Gerds, a veterinarian with more than 16 years of experience. She's equipped her hospital with three examination rooms, a surgery room, an X-ray and ultrasound room, a pharmacy and an on-site lab. When the snow clears, the 1-acre lot will be landscaped with native grasses and walking trails for dogs.

The hospital has a staff of five and will serve cats, dogs and exotic pets including pocket pets and small birds. Gerds will offer both preventive care and urgent care.

"People don't need to have an appointment. They can just walk in," Gerds said.

The hospital features a high-tech database for storing patient information. It automatically updates with on-site lab and test results, including digital X-rays. Each patient record is personalized with the pet's photo. Gerds also creates pet identifications for her clients, complete with vaccination records and microchip information.

While Gerds enjoys preventive care, she said her favorite place is surgery.

"I enjoy surgery," she said. "It's always interesting to see the kinds of things cats and dogs will eat."

Gerds has seen some interesting cases over the years.



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Veterinarian Pamela Gerds works in the surgical center at the new Advanced Care Pet Hospital in Sartell. Gerds is the owner of the new facility which will serve cats, dogs and exotic pets. (Jane Laskey, [jlaskey@stcloudtimes.com](mailto:jlaskey@stcloudtimes.com))

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"I've performed a C-section on a guinea pig and fixed a squirrel's broken leg," Gerds said. "I'm not a huge snake fan, but I did help remove a snake that had gotten stuck inside a ring."

One of Gerds' focuses will be offering convenient and extended hours of care. Gerds hopes to add more staff and an associate veterinarian. Eventually the facility will be open seven days a week.

Gerds is assisted by her husband, Tom Gerds, who helps with bookkeeping and marketing, including designing the company Web site.

The hospital is open 7 a.m.–7 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday and 9 a.m.–5 p.m. on weekends. It's closed Wednesday.

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