

PET LOSS SUPPORT GROUP

**offered by
The SPCA for Monterey County
and
the Central Coast VNA & Hospice**

August 19, 2008

Starting on Tuesday, September 9th, The SPCA for Monterey County and the Central Coast Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice will partner to offer a Pet Loss Support Group. The Pet Loss Support Group will give mourners a healthy outlet for the legitimate sadness that comes with losing a cherished pet.

Led by Joseph Lumello, a professional counselor from the Central Coast VNA & Hospice, the Pet Loss Support Group will meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month from 12:00-1:00 pm at The SPCA's Education Center. The group is open to anyone at no charge. Drop-ins are welcome.

“When your companion animal dies, it's natural to feel grief and sadness, even depression,” Lumello said. “This support group is designed to offer comfort to anyone grieving the death, loss, or terminal illness of a beloved companion animal.”

The SPCA is located at 1002 Hwy 68, across from Laguna Seca Raceway. For more information, please contact Joe Lumello at 831-758-8243 or visit www.SPCAMc.org.

The SPCA for Monterey County is a nonprofit, independent, donor-supported humane society that has been serving the animals and people of Monterey County since 1905. They shelter homeless, neglected and abused pets and livestock, and provide humane education and countless other services to the community. The SPCA is the local agency you call to investigate animal cruelty, rescue and rehabilitate injured wildlife, and aid domestic animals in distress. Online at www.SPCAMc.org.

Since 1951, the nonprofit Central Coast VNA & Hospice has provided in-home skilled nursing and hospice care, and operates a number of bereavement groups throughout the Central Coast for those who are dealing with a difficult loss, Lumello said, and who would like to talk about their loss and meet with others who have something in common with them. The groups provide support, companionship and community to people learning about loss and dealing with it. The bereavement groups are listed on the VNA website at www.ccvna.com.

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