

PetZ Gazette.com

DECEMBER
2025



Your Local Pet Resource Publication

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Simi Valley
& Moorpark



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Did you know . . . !

The first U.S. company to use Santa Claus in advertising was White Rock Water in 1915, which included Santa in an advertisement for the first time, depicting him with a sleigh full of toys and White Rock water bottles. But Coca-Cola was the first company to create a cohesive and enduring marketing campaign featuring Santa Claus, starting with a department store in 1930 and then popularizing the modern image of Santa with artist Haddon Sundblom in 1931.

Did you know . . . !

June 26, 1870 was when Christmas became a Federal holiday. At first, Christmas was only applicable to Federal employees in the District of Columbia. It wasn't until 1885 that Congress extended the Christmas holiday to the Federal employees outside the DC area.

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SV-MPK - DEC 2025

Victorian Postmen

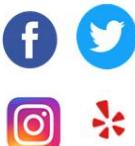
In Victorian times, the British postmen wore red-breasted coats resembling the much-loved British bird, the robin red-breast, earning these postmen the nickname: Robins. Around Christmas time, people would eagerly await the Robins' delivery of Christmas cards from near and far, and still do to this day!



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HOLIDAY TRIVIA



- *During the Christmas holiday season, more than 1.76 billion candy canes will be made.
- *A dog's New Year's Resolution: "I will not chase that stick unless I actually see it leave your hand."
- *In many Scandinavian countries they build a Christmas Goat in the center of the town. The Christmas goat is often called the Yule goat.
- *The Statue of Liberty was a Christmas gift to the United States from France in 1886.
- *Tinsel was invented in 1610 in Germany and was once made of real silver.
- *The official U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree for 2025 is a 53-foot red fir from Nevada's Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, named "Silver Belle". This marks the first time Nevada has been chosen to provide the tree.
- *Electric Christmas tree lights were first used in 1895. The idea for using electric Christmas lights came from an American, Ralph E. Morris. The new lights proved safer than the traditional candles.
- *Charles Dickens "A Christmas Carol" was first published on Dec 17th, 1843.
- *The Nutcracker phenomenon started as a story by E.T.A. Hoffmann in 1816.
- *Holly, Mistletoe, and Poinsettia plants are poisonous to dogs and cats. If you normally use these plants to decorate your home, they should be kept in an area where your pet cannot reach.

Pampered Feeding

When my daughter and I caught only one perch on our fishing trip—not enough for even a modest lunch - so we decided to feed it to her two cats. She put our catch in their dish and watched as the two pampered pets sniffed at the fish but refused to eat it.

Thinking quickly, my daughter then picked up the dish, walked over to the electric can opener, ran it for a few seconds, then put the fish back down. The cats dug right in!

QUIZ



1. In the movie The Holiday, what is the name of Kate Winslet's dog?
2. What is the chemical formula of snow?
3. What Christmas decoration is inspired by spiders?
4. How many Scrabble points do you get for the word 'Christmas'?
5. Who was the first U.S. President to light the National Menorah?
6. How many birds are there in the 'Twelve Days of Christmas' Carol?

Answers:

1. "Pip".
2. H₂O.
3. Tinsel.
4. Sixteen.
5. Jimmy Carter in 1979.
6. 23.



PAW-SCOPES

Dogs:

What could be waiting for you under that tree? There are countless presents with your name on it. Santa thinks you've definitely made the "nice" list. Play with your new ball, don your sparkly new collar, and treat yourself to a savory feast. Everyone will love you!

Cats:

Purr your heart out this holiday season, you're feeling incredibly sociable - more so than usual. This month, you better embrace this newly found courage, crawl out from under that bed and mingle with the rest of the family. Plentiful affections will be forthcoming.

CHRISTMAS TRIVIA

*St. Nicholas was bishop of the Turkish town of Myra in the early fourth century. It was the Dutch who first made him into a Christmas gift-giver, and Dutch settlers brought him to America where his name eventually became the familiar Santa Claus.

*In Britain, eating mince pies at Christmastime dates back to the 16th century. It is still believed that to eat a mince pie on each of the Twelve Days of Christmas will bring 12 happy months in the year to follow.

*Hallmark introduced its first Christmas cards in 1915, five years after the founding of the company.

*The first Christmas cards created in England were commissioned by Sir Henry Cole and illustrated by John Callcott Horsley in London on 1st May 1843.

*The first Christmas Day message by a British Monarch was in 1932, when King George V broadcast live from Sandringham. In the speech, which was written by Rudyard Kipling, the King celebrated the power of the wireless to unite all the people of the Empire, and wished them a Happy Christmas.

The Grandmother

Just before Hanukkah, Miriam, a grandmother, was giving directions to her grown-up grandson who was coming to visit with his wife. 'You come to the front door of the condominium complex. I am in apartment 2B.' Miriam continued, 'There is a big panel at the door. With your elbow push button 2B. I will buzz you in. Come inside, the elevator is on the right. Get in, and with your elbow hit #2. When you get out I am on the left. With your elbow, hit my doorbell.'

'Grandma, that sounds real easy,' replied Samuel, the grandson, 'but why am I hitting all these buttons with my elbow?'

To which she replied: 'You're coming to visit me empty handed?'

Turkey Facts

- *The heaviest turkey ever recorded weighed 86 pounds in 1989.
- *Turkeys often sleep in trees for safety.
- *A baby turkey is called a poult, chick, or even a turklette.
- *A male turkey is called a tom, while a female is a hen.
- *Turkeys can swim.
- *Male turkeys are called "gobblers" and they can run up to 25 miles per hour.
- *Turkeys have excellent hearing and a 270-degree field of vision.



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Did you know

Legend has it that in 1670, the cane shaped candy became historical when a choirmaster at the Cologne Cathedral in Germany bent the sugar-sticks into canes to appear as shepherd's hooks. The all-white candy canes were given out to children who attended the ceremonies.

Candy can also be traced back as far as 2000 BC to ancient Egypt and it could be said that Egyptians were the first people who made candy. It was also used in ceremonies for worshiping their gods and goddesses. The Egyptians used honey to make candy by adding figs, nuts, dates and spices.

Christmas with Cinnamon

The smell of cinnamon at this time of year means Christmas cookies are in the oven. If there's one spice that nearly everyone has in their kitchen it's cinnamon. Cinnamon, from the bark of a tree, is one of the oldest known spices. Arab traders brought it from China in 1700 B.C. Its sweet, warm flavor makes it one of the most important baking spices of the holidays. And a definite 'comfort food' aroma!

Did you know

*Approximately 70% of people sign their pet's name on greeting cards and 58% include their pets in family and holiday pictures/cards.

*The Tibetan Mastiff holds the record for the most expensive dog ever sold. A red Tibetan Mastiff puppy was purchased in China for \$2 MILLION in 2014.

Editor's Note

A big **“THANK YOU”** to all our readers for supporting our local advertisers, and to all our wonderful advertisers, for being such great local resources for our readers!

Happy Holidays to you all!

The poinsettia is a traditional Christmas flower. In Mexico, the poinsettia is known as the "Flower of the Holy Night". It was brought to America by the diplomat Joel Poinsett in 1829. Among many other accomplishments, Poinsett also played an important part in founding the Smithsonian Institution.

Check out our on-line editions where there's even more fun content to enjoy!



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Silly Subtle Jokes

- *A man walked into a bar. He went 'Ouch'. It was an iron bar."
- *Two fish in a tank, one says to the other - you drive, I'll man the guns.
- *Two Aerials meet on a roof - fall in love - get married.
- The ceremony was rubbish but the reception was brilliant.
- *I went to buy some camouflage trousers the other day but I couldn't find any.
- *D'you know, somebody actually complimented me on my driving today. They left a little note on the windshield, it said "Parking Fine." So that was nice!
- *A man walked into the doctor's, he said 'I've hurt my arm in several places'. The doctor said 'well don't go there any more'.



Way Back When
Christmas Tree Fashion



In the year of 1850, Christmas trees started to be sold commercially in the United States. This started because images of the royal family of England with their Christmas tree were printed in English magazines in 1848. England had restored the celebration of Christmas in 1660 after one hundred years of reformation and Puritan restraint. This same print was then copied in the United States in 1850 because Queen Victoria was always copied for her fashion sense even in American society.

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If there are other Veterinary Services we may have missed, please let us know so they can be included in this list. THANK YOU

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Did you know

The robin redbreast bird has been appearing on our Christmas cards since the practice of sending cards began in the mid-Nineteenth Century. In those days postmen wore red coats and were nicknamed 'Robins' or 'Redbreasts' so this jolly-looking bird became forever synonymous with festive greetings.

European Robin redbreasts live in various habitats, including forests, farmlands, and urban areas, often preferring open lawns with nearby trees for nesting. Their diet consists mainly of earthworms and insects in the morning, supplemented with fruits and berries in the afternoon and evening. They also eat other small invertebrates and sometimes even small amphibians, fish, or shellfish.

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On the twelve days of Christmas my human gave to me...

12 bones for chewing



11 puppies playing



10 toys a-squeaking



9 balls for throwing

8 squirrels for chasing

7 lakes for swimming

6 beds for laying

5 golden sticks

4 belly rubs

3 long walks

2 mud puddles



And a cat stuck up in a tree!

Unleash the Joy This Holiday Season!

Wrap up something truly good – for
dogs who do only good.



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Hurry! Make their season bright -- offer ends soon.

On the 12th day of Catmess
my human gave to me

12 cardboard boxes

11 tins of of tuna

10 lizards leaping

9 lasers dancing

8 mice-a-squeaking

7 salmon swimming

6 catnip mousies

5 SHINY THINGS!

4 paper bags

3 scratch posts

2 belly rubs (because the 3rd I'll bite)

AND A PAWTRIDGE IN A PURR TREE





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HOLIDAY WORD SEARCH

CLICK ON LINK TO PLAY ONLINE:

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Christmas

S	E	R	E	E	D	N	I	E	R	I	H	C	U
E	L	L	G	I	N	G	E	R	B	R	E	A	D
M	I	S	T	L	E	T	O	E	Y	L	A	I	S
G	A	R	L	A	N	D	U	R	E	L	F	T	S
R	G	N	I	D	D	U	P	P	I	N	E	S	A
Y	R	P	O	I	N	S	E	T	T	I	A	C	N
U	D	E	C	D	A	S	Y	S	T	N	H	I	T
L	O	S	A	B	A	I	L	O	B	R	C	N	A
E	O	H	R	E	S	S	I	E	I	F	O	C	N
E	S	O	O	L	G	O	T	S	R	E	O	D	S
A	D	L	L	L	L	G	T	F	R	M	K	D	D
C	I	L	S	S	C	M	N	I	I	P	I	G	Y
D	R	Y	I	A	A	O	S	O	G	G	E	R	V
S	E	N	H	S	H	L	E	Y	G	R	S	R	I

EGGNOG
YULE
POINSETTIA
CHRISTMAS
REINDEER
CAROLS
GARLAND
GIFTS
IVY
HOLLY
ELF
PINE
MISTLETOE
SANTA
GINGERBREAD
PUDDING
COOKIES
BELLS

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/1668570/>

Holiday Safety Tips for Your Best Friend:

- * **Secure the tree** to prevent tipping.
- * **Avoid breakable ornaments** or place them higher up.
- * **Keep toxic plants** like poinsettias and mistletoe out of reach.
- * **Hide electrical cords** to prevent chewing.
- * **Skip tinsel and ribbons** to avoid choking or blockages.
- * **Watch out for toxic foods** like chocolate, alcohol, and bones.
- * **Use battery candles** instead of open flames or keep out of reach

These simple steps can help keep your pets safe and happy this holiday season!



Did you know . . . ?

*The iconic Christmas tree has a lot of roots (forgive the pun). Ancient Egyptians used to mark the winter solstice by decorating their homes with green palms, while the Romans celebrated Saturnalia with evergreen boughs. These green plants signified that the spring would return with new life. The first Christmas trees as we know them today started in Germany in the 16th century.

*The original Santa Claus was actually St. Nicholas, a Christian bishop in the 4th century. He didn't wear the red suit that's so famous today, but he did give all of his inheritance to the poor and needy. In Holland, his name is Sinter Klaas, which later morphed into Santa Claus.

*Eggnog originated in medieval Britain as a medieval posset, a warm, milky drink with ale or wine and spices. It became more accessible in the American colonies, where rum was commonly used instead of more expensive sherry. Over time, it evolved into a holiday staple, with regional variations and a potent history that includes being served by George Washington and causing the West Point Eggnog Riot of 1826.

*During World War II, the United States Playing Card Company joined forces with American and British intelligence agencies to create a very special deck of cards. They distributed them as Christmas gifts to soldiers, but they also helped Allied prisoners of war escape from German POW camps. When wet, individual cards peeled apart to reveal maps of escape routes.

3 DOG TREAT RECIPES

YOUR DOG WILL ACTUALLY EAT!



PEANUT BUTTER

- 1 cup smooth peanut butter
- 1 tbsp molasses
- 1 cup milk
- 2 cups whole wheat flour
- 1 tbsp baking powder

BACON

- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup creamy peanut butter
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup beef broth
- 2 extra large eggs
- 2.5 cups whole wheat flour
- 1 cup old fashioned rolled oats
- 3 slices bacon

PUMPKIN

- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup creamy peanut butter
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup beef broth
- 2 extra large eggs
- 2.5 cups whole wheat flour
- 1 cup old fashioned rolled oats
- 3 slices bacon





DECEMBER HORSE TRIVIA



LEAVE ME
ALONE
I'M
ONLY
SPEAKING
TO MY HORSE
TODAY

What horse people want for Christmas!!



Gift Cards- feed store, tack
store, fast food, Amazon...

Call their vet and make a
payment on their account!

Chocolate or their favorite
snack or drink!

Items for their horses
or farm!

Cash is always good!

And of course a
covered arena, new
truck, new trailer, farm
upgrades or a new
horse works too!!



Horse Trivia

*A horse can see better at night than a human. However, it takes a horse's eyes longer to adjust from light to dark and from dark to light than a human's.

*A horse is an ungulate, which means it is a mammal with hooves. Horses have one hoof at the end of each leg, which makes them odd-toed ungulates. Cattle have two hooves at the end of each leg, which makes them even-toed ungulates.

*Adult horses have teeth that are several inches long. Most of the tooth cannot be seen because it is below the gum line. Little by little the teeth erupt through the gum to replace the surface of the teeth as they are worn down.

HORSE JOKES

*Why did the man name his horse Flattery?
Because it got him nowhere!

*What kind of horse walks around at midnight?
A nightmare.

*How does a horse from Kentucky greet another horse?
With Southern Horspitality.

*What disease was the horse scared of getting?
Hay fever!





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Animal Rescue Volunteers	805-579-8047	Simi Valley
Bubbles Dog Rescue		Los Angeles
C.A.R.L.	805-644-7387	Call for Details
Cassie's Cat Cafe	805-232-4228	Ventura
Cats at the Studios	818-341-8936	Call for Details
Cat's Cradle Rescue	805-485-8811	Ventura
DaisyLu Ranch		Camarillo
Dobies & Little Paws	805-524-5102	Fillmore
Dog Days Search & Rescue	805-551-9706	Simi Valley
Eastwood Ranch Rescue/Adoption Ctr	818-338-1551	Agoura Hills
Friends of Milo Foundation		Simi Valley/LA
Furry Funding	855-777-7007	Westlake Village
Healthcare for Homeless Anim.	818-483-4228	Ventura County
Herman Bennett Foundation	805-445-7171	Ventura County
Humane Society of Ven. Co	805-646-6505	Ojai
Karma Rescue	310-512-7833	Los Angeles
LIFE Rescue	818-707-2007	Westlake Village
Lucy Pet Foundation	805-499-5829	Thousand Oaks
Mad Love Animal Rescue	213-364-2353	Los Angeles
Military Animal Project	805-551-1168	Ventura County
Paw Works	805-852-1744	Ventura/Oxnard
Petcare Foundation	213-403-0129	Los Angeles
Pink Paws	805-492-1885	Thousand Oaks
Pivot Educational Outreach	805-889-4800	Ventura County
Purrmaid Café & Adoption Center	805-419-6116	Camarillo
Purrrlandia Cat Lounge & Cafe	818-230-2724	Thousand Oaks
Save A Rescue	888-440-6467	Nationwide
Shelter Hope Pet Shop	805-379-3538	Thousand Oaks
Serenity Place Rescue	818-999-4022	Call for Details
Simi Valley Missing Pets	805-522-7867	Simi Valley
SPARC	805-525-8609	Santa Paula
Surfcat Café & Adoptions	805-500-7125	Ventura
The Little Angels Project	818-515-5461	Agoura Hills
Valley Cats, Inc	818-883-5252	Westlake Village
Ventura Co. Animal Services	805-388-4341	Camarillo/SV



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Christmas Movie Trivia



- 1. In The Polar Express movie what is “The First Gift of Christmas?**
a. A bell from Santa’s sleigh! b. A Horse c. A Santa’s Cap
- 2. What was the little girl in Frosty the Snowman’s name?**
a. Sharon b. Kyle c. Karen
- 3. What was Dr. Seuss’ real name?**
a. Dixon Diesel b. Theodor Geisel c. Edward Measle
- 4. What is the name of Rudolph’s dad?**
a. Dixon b. Dasher c. Donner
- 5. Who wrote “The Nightmare Before Christmas”?**
a. Alfred Hitchcock b. Martin Scorsese c. Tim Burton
- 6. Why was the Grinch so nasty? Because he had**
a. Broken Leg b. Small Brain c. Small Heart
- 7. What city did “Miracle on 34th Street” take place in?**
a. New Jersey b. New Orleans c. New York
- 8. What is the name of The Kid in Bad Santa?**
a. Logan Lerman b. Thurman Merman c. Uma Thurman
- 9. What is Father Christmas known as in The Nightmare Before Christmas?**
a. Sandy Claws b. Mandy Shaws c. Handy Jaws
- 10. Which one of these is NOT one of the four main food groups among elves in elf?**
a. Candy floss b. Candy canes c. Candy coms

ANSWERS: 1A 2C 3B 4C 5C 6C 7C 8B 9A



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The Night Before Christmas



*T'was the night before Christmas, when all through the house
Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse.
The Stockings were hung by the chimney with care,
in the hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there.*

*The puppies were nestled all snug in their beds,
While visions of meaty bones danced in their heads.
When out on the lawn there arose such a clatter,
They sprang from their beds to see what was the matter.*

*Stars and moon shining bright on the new-fallen snow,
Lit up for their amazement what was below.
A gold and red sleigh with Santa to fly,
Pulled not by reindeer - instead dogs - Oh My!*

*And then in an instant, they heard from above,
The unmistakable sound of paws landing with a thud.
With a bang and a crash, he appears so quick,
Soot on his head - it was good old St. Nick!*

*He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work,
Filling each little stocking, and turning with a jerk,
With a tiny wry smile and a top to his nose,
He gave a quick nod and up the chimney he rose!*

*Away to the window they flew like a flash,
Barking and yapping, on guard with a crash.
With ears raised alert and noses in the air,
They just couldn't wait to see what was there.*

*Gliding through the air and moving with such pace,
Santa gave a shout with a smile on his face.
What was to come next surprised even I,
As the sleigh suddenly reared and shot up to the sky.*

*His eyes - how they twinkled! His dimples so merry!
His cheeks were like roses, his nose like a cherry!
With tails a'wagging the excitement grew and grew,
What gifts had he brought for these lucky few?*

*He sprang to his sleigh, to his team gave a whistle,
And away they all flew like the down of a thistle.
But I heard him exclaim, 'ere he drove out of sight . . .*

*Merry Christmas to all,
And to all a good-night!*

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