

# **PetZ Gazette.com**

MARCH  
2026



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Santa Barbara  
Digital Edition



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*Did you know . . . !*

The first recorded parade honoring the feast day of St. Patrick took place on March 17, 1601, in St. Augustine, (Spanish Florida) and now known as Florida. Organized by the Spanish colony's Irish vicar, Ricardo Artur, this event predates the widely cited 1762 NYC parade, which was held by Irish soldiers serving in the British army.

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# Barks & Meow's Express!



SANTA BARBARA - MARCH 2026

**Brief History of Service Dogs**

Service dogs have a long history, with evidence of dogs assisting the visually impaired dating back to Ancient Rome and medieval China. The modern era of service dogs began after World War I to assist blinded veterans, leading to the first formal guide dog schools in Germany (1916) and the U.S. (1929). Since the 1970s, their roles expanded to include mobility and medical assistance.



## FUN TRIVIA



\*A 5-year-old Giant Schnauzer named "Monty" won Best in Show at the 149th Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show in 2025. Handled by co-owner Katie Bernardin, this victory marked the first time a Giant Schnauzer has won the top prize in the show's history.

\*Hamsters cannot swim and therefore do not need baths - they clean themselves without any difficulty.

\*The Dalmatian dog is named for the Dalmatian Coast of Croatia, where it is believed to have been originally bred.

\*Irishman Thomas Fitzpatrick successfully led the first wagon train across the prairies to California.

\*The famous Delorean car was built in Dunmurry, Northern Ireland. It was also featured in the movie trilogy 'Back to the Future' starring Michael J Fox and Christopher Lloyd.

\*The Canary Islands were not named for a bird called a canary. They were named after a breed of large dogs. The Latin name was Canariae insulae - "Island of Dogs."

\*The hummingbird, the loon, the swift, the kingfisher, and the grebe are all birds that cannot walk.

\*Dogs' noses can sense heat and thermal radiation, which explains why blind or deaf dogs can still hunt.

## IRISH JOKE

### Dark Journey

Farmer O'Neill had been invited to supper by his neighbor, Farmer Kelly. Expecting that his homeward journey would be dark, he had taken a stable lamp. The drink was not spared and the men sat long over their glasses. O'Neill, however, reached home safely, guided by his lamp. The next morning he received the following note from his friend:

"O'Neill, I am sending your stable lamp with bearer. Please return my parrot and cage."



## QUIZ



1. Which animal holds the record for the highest jump?
2. What is the heaviest tree-dwelling animal?
3. What country is the Labrador Retriever originally from?
4. What is the only breed of cat that is known for being hairless?
5. Which two continents do chipmunks occupy?
6. Where are the majority of a butterfly's taste buds located?

## Answers:

1. Puma. 2. Orangutan. 3. Newfoundland.
4. The Sphynx. 5. North America and Europe. 6. On their feet.

## PAW-SCOPES

### DOGS

Your pooch can be rather lazy and indulgent at times. And without lifting a paw, they make a beautiful display sprawled across the couch. When not resting, he or she needs to have interactive playtime, both inside and out as this is a must to keep their mental and physical agility intact.

### CATS

Your cat can be your true companion for life, bonding with you on many levels. Try not to leave home without leaving something of yours for them to snuggle up to. They will miss you less if a reminder of your essence is left behind.

## SILLY STUFF

\*Irish Scientists have discovered that birthdays are good for you...the more you have the longer you live.

\*'I'm the unluckiest person in the whole world,' moaned Betty McGrath. 'I bought a non-stick pan and can't get the label off.'

\*Did you hear Ireland's solved their unemployment problem? You don't leave school till you are 65.

\*Did you know says Murphy, there's twice as many eyebrows in the world as there are people!

## HORSE TRIVIA

\*The record for the highest jump made by a horse is held by a horse named Huaso who jumped 8 feet, 1 and 1/4 inches on February 5th, 1949 in Vina del Mar, Chile. He was ridden by Captain Alberto Larraguibel.

\*The record for the longest jump over water is held by a horse named "Something", who jumped 27 feet, 6 and 3/4 inches on April 25, 1975 in Johannesburg, South Africa. He was ridden by Andre Ferreira.

\*A mule is a cross between a male donkey (called a jack) and a female horse (called a mare). Mules are usually sterile.

\*A hinny is a cross between a male horse (called a stallion) and a female donkey (called a jenny). Hinnies are usually sterile.

\*A horse's age can usually be accurately determined by its teeth until the horse is about 9 years old. After that, a horse is known as "smooth mouthed" or "aged" and it becomes far more difficult or impossible to tell its age by its teeth.

### Did you know . . . !

The 54th Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race begins March 7, 2026, in Anchorage, AK, challenging mushers and dog teams to travel nearly 1,000 miles to Nome. Known as "The Last Great Race on Earth," this 10-14 day, 1,049-mile endurance event commemorates the 1925 serum run to Nome, featuring arctic temperatures and rugged terrain.

### Did you know . . . !

St. Bernard's Pass - At the turn of the 18th century, the monks of St. Bernard Pass, (a route in the Alps between Switzerland and Italy) were regularly training St. Bernard's dogs to rescue travelers who were lost in the pass. Marroniers, who were servants that accompanied people traveling through the pass, often brought dogs along with them and found their great sense of smell could help them find people trapped under snow falls. These marroniers used the rescue dogs often to save many lives in the pass. Between 1790 and 1810, more than 250,000 of Napoleon's troops trekked through St. Bernard's pass. Not one lost his life, and many of the soldiers told of how they were saved by rescue dogs, who dug them up when they were trapped under snow and laid on them to warm them until help came.

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### Did you know . . . !

Greyhounds can beat cheetahs in a race. While cheetahs can run twice as fast as Greyhounds, they can only maintain that 70 mph speed for about thirty seconds. A Greyhound can maintain a 35 mph speed for about seven miles. The cheetah may start out first, but the Greyhound would soon overtake them.

### Did you know . . . !

The most prestigious cat show is widely considered the CFA International Cat Show & Expo, hosted by the Cat Fanciers' Association (CFA), often called the "Rolls-Royce" of cat shows, attracting top breeders and judges globally and featuring pedigree cats, akin to the Westminster Dog Show for felines. While other organizations like The International Cat Association (TICA) also host major events, the CFA's annual International Show stands out for its scale, history, and status in the pedigree cat fancy.

### IRISH DOG BREEDS

There are nine native Dogs of Ireland,  
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# COMMUNITY DOG PARKS

## SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

### Arroyo Burro Beach Park

Located at 2981 Cliff Drive, this county park is the portal for the best known off-leash spot in the Santa Barbara area. Dogs are required to be on leash through the parking lot and bathing beach until, passing Arroyo Burro Slough, dogs are welcome to run free and cavort in the Pacific Ocean surf below the city's Douglas Family Preserve. Self service dog wash stations provided by County Parks.

Hours: Daily from 8:00am - Dusk

### TUCKERS GROVE PARK

Newly fenced off-leash area at Kiwanis Meadow is now open. The new play area is at the eastern end of the park, and is near ample parking and a public restroom. This area also provides easy access to the San Antonio Creek Trail, a mostly shaded 1.5-mile route that heads northeasterly to a trailhead at CA Route 154. Tucker's Grove County Park is located at intersection of Turnpike and Cathedral Oaks Roads.

Hours: Daily from 8:00am - Dusk

### TORO CANYON PARK

Located at the entry to this 74-acre wooded park, the off-leash canine play area consists of a fenced lawn area shaded by oak trees. Parking and restroom immediately adjacent. Address: 576 Toro Canyon Park Road.

Hours: Daily from 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM, and 4:00 PM to Sunset

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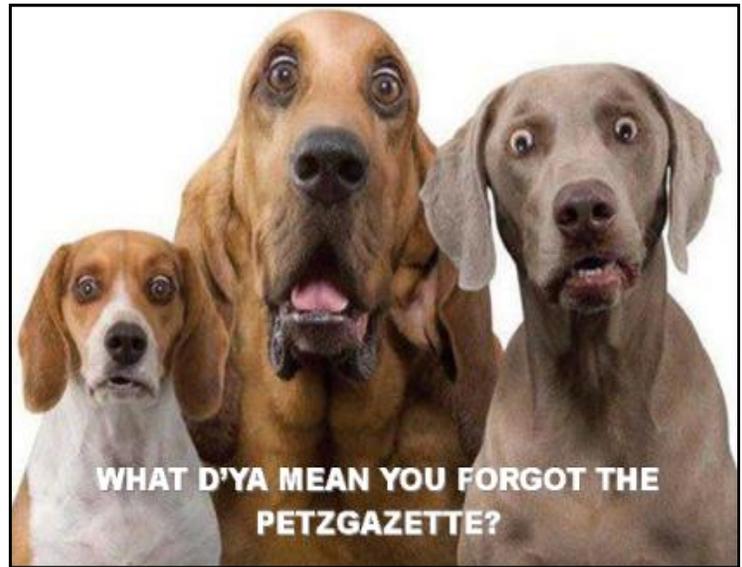
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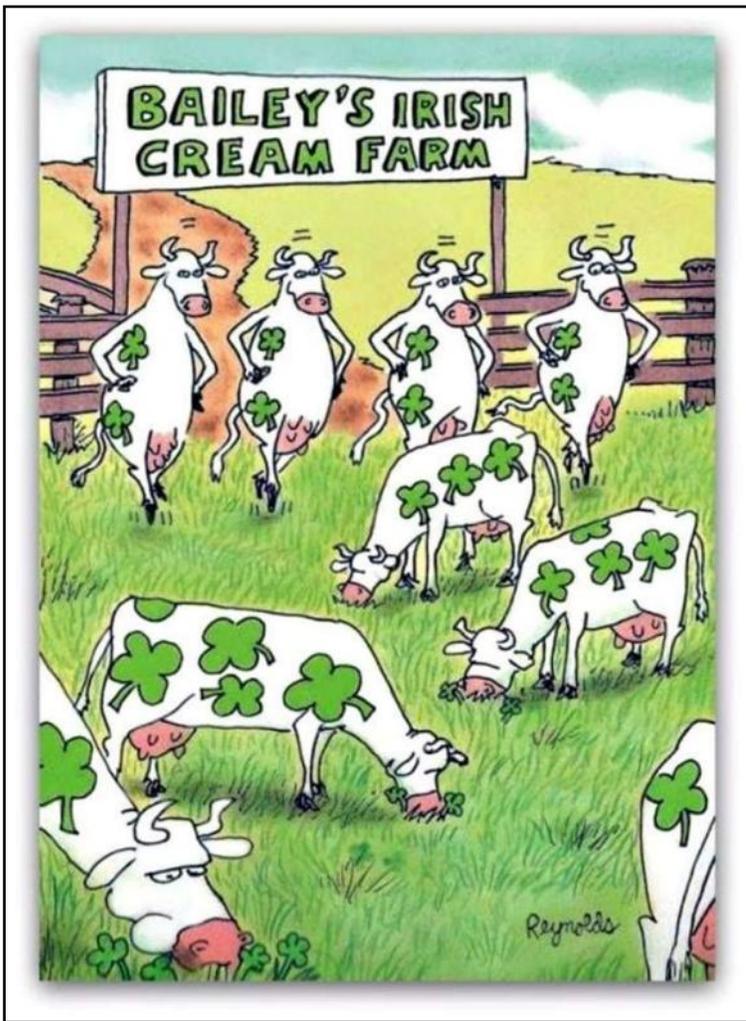
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# St. Patrick's Day

## Pet Safety Tips

**MARCH 17th, 2026**



### Be(er) Careful

Alcohol is toxic to pets and should never be left unsupervised. It can cause immediate physical symptoms and lead to potential kidney damage.



### Irish Goodbye

Keep your pet on a leash or in an enclosed area during parties to ensure they don't get spooked and run away



### Kilt- astrophe

Animals can become overheated when wearing costumes. If your pet is dressing up, then be on the lookout for signs your pet is too warm or may be uncomfortable.



### Party Animal

Make sure your pet has a safe refuge they can go to escape the noise and chaos if you are hosting the celebration



### Wear Green

If your pet insists on celebrating the day with some green, ensure that any dyes or coloring are pet-safe and won't affect sensitive skin or be harmful if ingested.



### Erin Go NO

Avoid giving treats from the table, instead provide your pet with their own safe snack away from potential dangers.



*Happy St. Patrick's Day*

## Irish Fun Facts

- ✚ Ireland's top-three symbols are the Celtic cross, the green shamrock, and the harp.
- ✚ 88% of Ireland-born citizens are Roman Catholic, and 45% of them attend mass every week.
- ✚ Ireland is free of snakes, moles, weasels and other species.
- ✚ 9% of Ireland's population are redheads.
- ✚ Cats are Ireland's favorite pet over dogs by a margin of 2 to 1.
- ✚ In Dublin, there's a pub for every 100 people.
- ✚ 900 years ago, Ireland's oldest pub - Sean's Bar in Athlone - was founded.



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# Irish Wolfhound - Origin and History

The Irish Wolfhound is one of the oldest recorded breed's of dogs. Records of the existence of Irish Wolfhounds go back to the 1st century in Ireland where they were bred for war. The Irish initially named these dogs Cu Faoil, or the Irish Wolfdogge. These large shaggy haired dogs were often used by farmers to protect their livestock and guard their homes.

Historically, Irish Wolfhounds have been seen as something of an enigma. Frequently references to these dogs have been found in books of historical saga's and romances, in the western world giving these dogs almost mythical properties and qualities.

Factual information of the Irish Wolfhound through historical documents shows that although never officially adopted as the Nation's breed the Irish do regard the Wolfhound as their official dog. In early Irish times, Wolfhounds were used to hunt boar and deer to provide much needed food.

They were also used to capture and kill predators like the coyote and now extinct Irish wolf from where it gets its name. In Roman times, these dogs were often so feared that they were transported like lion's in cages and used for entertainment blood sports by the Romans.

During the early historical conflicts in England , Wolfhounds were trained for war and their job was to catch armoured knights on horseback, and separate them from their horse. Once dragged to the ground, these knights, if not killed from the fall were killed by the Irish Wolfhounds, who were historically believed to kill their victims by breaking their spines.



Physically an Irish Wolfhound is a large animal weighing about minimum one hundred and fifty pounds for the males, and approximately one hundred and twenty pounds for the female. The male Wolfhound grows to an approximate three feet in height, and on going arguments between breeders, as to whether the Wolfhound should be classified as the World's largest dog, still exist.

A Wolfhound has a long slender body, with a rather square shaped head. Most commonly Wolfhounds are whitish in colour with touches of grey but may also be red, black, brown or tan colours. The most defining attributes of the Wolfhound are their amazing eyesight and strong necks, both of which were needed in days of conflict.

After the conflicts in England ceased, Irish Wolfhounds became known as the dog of royalty and were transported around the world to be the guardian dog's of Kings and Queen's. In fact the Irish Guard, the Queen's own army still uses Irish Wolfhounds in special civic ceremonies. These even tempered dogs have served both royalty and soldiers well for many centuries.

In the mid nineteenth century when the Wolfhound had all but disappeared from regular civilian life, a gentleman named Captain Graham sought to reintroduce us to these spectacular dogs. Of course in seeking to save this breed, Captain Graham did alter the genetics of the traditional Irish Wolfhound. The most noticeable difference of the modern day Irish Wolfhound are the variety of colours that now exist. This is believed to be a result of Captain Graham rebreeding the dog with the Great Dane, Deerhound and the Borzoi amongst others.

Traditionally a rather aggressive but loyal dog, this more modern species of Irish Wolfhound are more noted for their calm even temperament.

The Irish motto for the Wolfhound is as follows, "**Gentle when stroked. Fierce when provoked**".



# St. Patrick's Day Word Search

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<https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/2049701/march-madness/>

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

CLOVER  
LUCK  
HARP  
SHAMROCK  
EMERALD  
WISH  
MAGIC  
IRISH  
LEPRECHAN  
GOLD  
RAINBOW  
POT  
MARCH  
PATRICK  
IRELAND

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/2049701/>



# ST. PADDY'S PETS



NO REALLY,  
I'M IRISH!

I cacht you a leprechaun

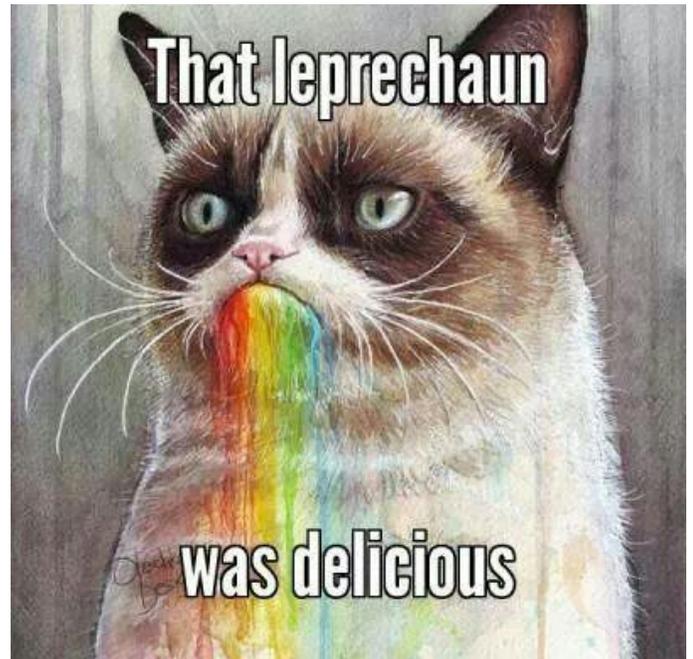


but I eated it



WHAT DO YOU CALL  
AN IRISH SPIDER?

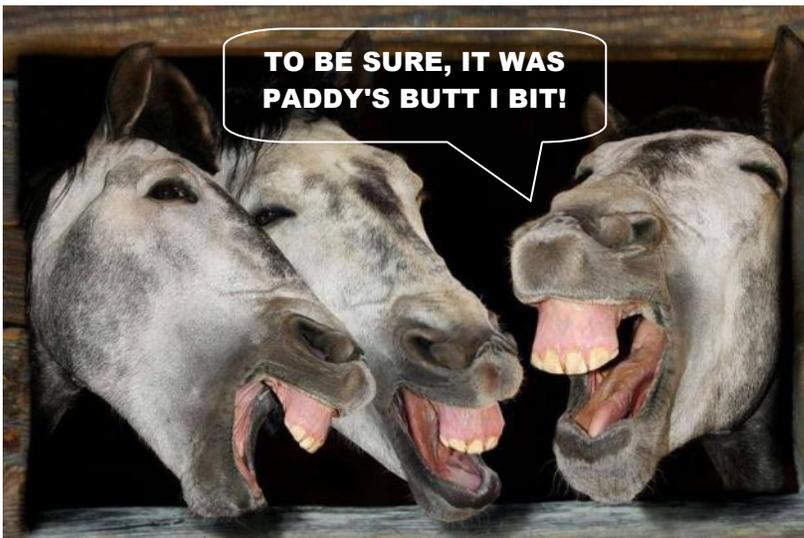
PADDY LONG  
LEGS!



That leprechaun

was delicious

*Kiss me I'm Irish*



TO BE SURE, IT WAS  
PADDY'S BUTT I BIT!





# Irish Dogs



## The Irish Setter

Bred from a mix of Irish Water Spaniel, Irish Terrier, English Setter, Spaniel, Pointer, and the Gordon Setter, this dashing beauty became popular with the Irish and British Aristocracy in the 18th century. An intrepid hunting dog, the Irish setter was admired for his stylish red coat, strength and stealth movements and distinctly clownish personality.

## The Glen of Imaal Terrier

Like many of his working Terrier kin, the Glen of Imaal Terrier was initially bred to rid homes and farms of vermin, badger, and fox. However, this rough and rugged little guy also had the unique culinary task of helping the cook by acting as a turnspit dog. Designed to paddle on a large wheel, the Glen of Imaal would rotate the turnspit by walking and turn the spit over the hearth, thus creating a canine propelled rotisserie.

## Irish Water Spaniel

Considered by many to be the comedian of the spaniel family, the Irish Water Spaniel has a twinkle in his eye that reflects his breeds noted intelligence. Possessing a curly, water repellent double coat and rat-like tail, the Irish Water Terrier can be traced as far back as the 7th and 8th centuries.

## Irish Wolfhound

The old Irish proverb, "Gentle when stroked, but fierce when provoked," best describes the loyal and athletic Irish Wolfhound. The tallest of all breeds, the Irish Wolfhound can be dated as far back as 391 A.D. Often given as a gift from one Lord to another, the Irish Wolfhound fulfilled many purposes including guarding the castle, hunting, and fighting beside his master in battle, in addition to being a gentle and loving family pet.



# SILLY IRISH JOKES



## Collect

Terms indicated in an Irish policy: "The total sum will be paid to you in one single figure at the time of your death, and must be applied for by post unless you wish to collect it yourself."

## Highest bidder

The Irish auctioneer shouted, "The highest bidder will be deemed to be the person or persons nominated as the buyer or buyers unless someone else offers more..."

## Can't diagnose

"Well, Mike," said the doctor. "I can't quite diagnose your case. I think it must be the drink."

"Sure, that's all right, doctor," said Mike.

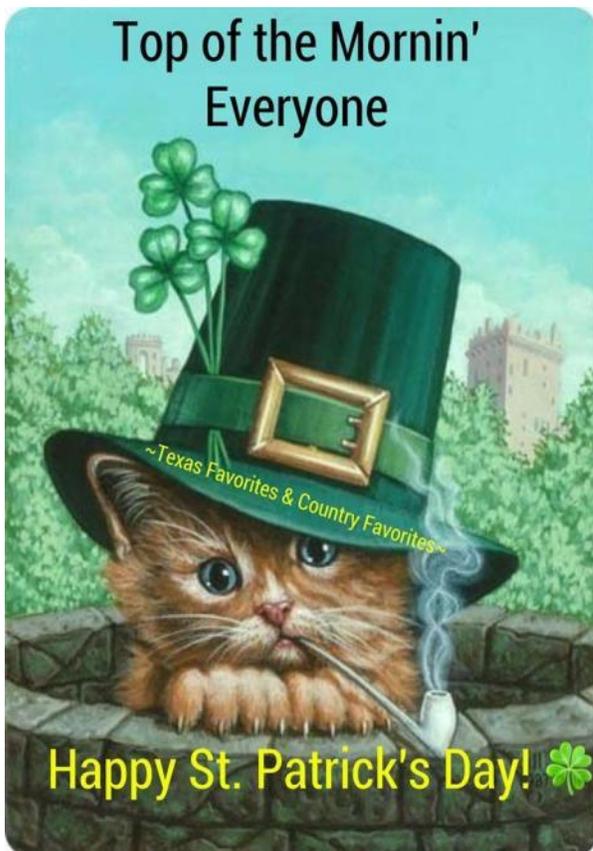
"I know how you feel. I'll come back when you're sober."

## Paddy's vest

"Have you seen my vest?" Paddy asked his wife. "Sure and you have the thing on, you old fool," said his wife. "Just as well you noticed," said Paddy, "or I would have gone out without it."

## Stretch Tights

Shamus joined a robber band and on the night of his first safe-cracking job the boss warned him, "Before we go through the window, you pull your pantihose right over your face." Shamus said, "Sure and you can see that the daft things will only stretch as high as me neck!"



# ANIMAL KINGDOM FACTS

## He'lo, I'm your chipmunk

✦✦ I don't hibernate fully – I wake up often:

- My stored food gets sealed under ice
- I shiver to survive cold snaps
- I lose weight easily in winter

What helps me:

Unsalted nuts and seeds help me make it to spring.



Opossums usually live only 1-2 years in the wild. They work through the night eating pests, rodents and even snakes. They are harmless to humans, so treat them with kindness, not fear.

## DID YOU KNOW?

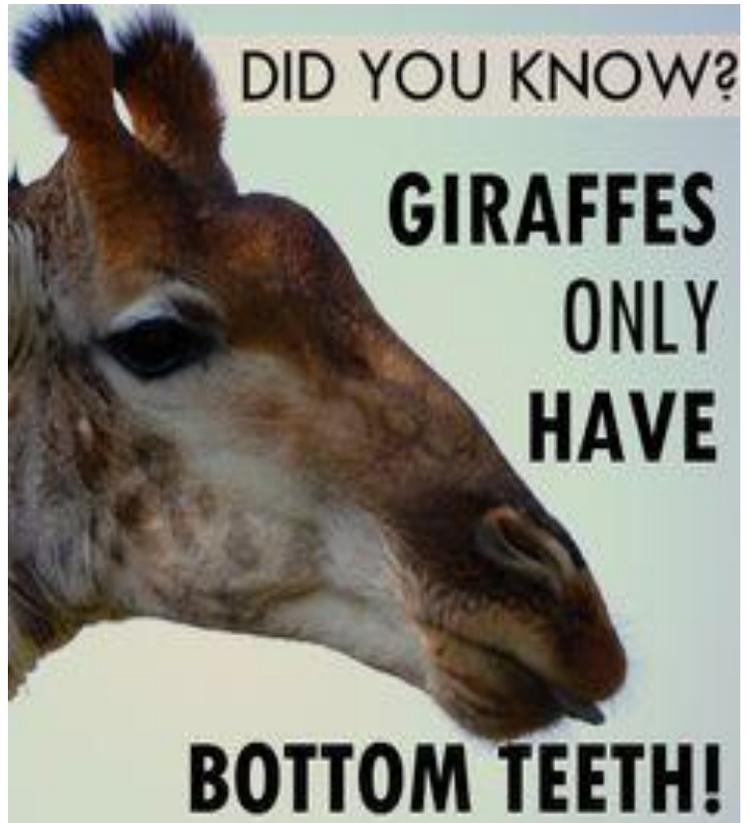
KANGAROOS HAVE THREE VAGINAS- WHICH MEANS THEY CAN BE PERPETUALLY PREGNANT.



DID YOU KNOW?

GIRAFFES ONLY HAVE

BOTTOM TEETH!



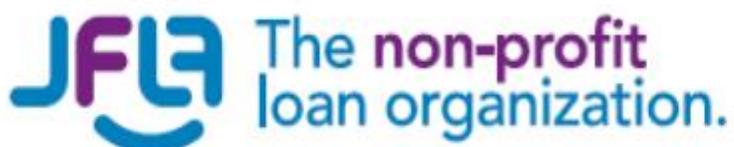


# Nonprofit Loans for Pet Care with 0% Interest and \$0 Fees

JFLA is a local nonprofit that provides personal loans with **zero interest and zero fees** for a wide variety of purposes, now including pet care! Our four-legged fund offers loans up to **\$5,000** to help cover the cost of:

- Routine care such as checkups, vaccinations, and dental cleanings
- Preventative treatments including flea, tick, and heartworm medication
- Unexpected emergencies like injuries, illnesses, hospitalization, or surgery
- Loans from the Four-Legged Fund may not be used for cat declawing or dog de-barking procedures.

To be eligible for a loan with JFLA, applicants must live in LA, Ventura, or Santa Barbara county, be 18 years or older, submit all required supporting documentation, and have at least 1 guarantor to sign on to the loan. **Please see [JFLA.org](http://JFLA.org) for more information.**



Go to [jfla.org](http://jfla.org) or email:  
[contact@jfla.org](mailto:contact@jfla.org).



## HORSE TRIVIA



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



FOR THIS TRAVESTY



YOU WILL PAY DEARLY

imgflip.com

### HORSE TRIVIA

\*The record for the highest jump made by a horse is held by a horse named Huaso who jumped 8 feet, 1 and 1/4 inches on February 5th, 1949 in Vina del Mar, Chile. He was ridden by Captain Alberto Larraguibel.

\*The record for the longest jump over water is held by a horse named "Something", who jumped 27 feet, 6 and 3/4 inches on April 25, 1975 in Johannesburg, South Africa. He was ridden by Andre Ferreira.

\*A mule is a cross between a male donkey (called a jack) and a female horse (called a mare). Mules are usually sterile.

\*A hinny is a cross between a male horse (called a stallion) and a female donkey (called a jenny). Hinnies are usually sterile.

\*A horse's age can usually be accurately determined by its teeth until the horse is about 9 years old. After that, a horse is known as "smooth mouthed" or "aged" and it becomes far more difficult or impossible to tell its age by its teeth.

## SANTA BARBARA Local Pet Rescue Groups

Name	Phone #
<a href="#">ASAP, Anim Shelter Assistance Program</a>	805-683-3368
<a href="#">Bunnies Urgently Needing Shelter</a>	805-683-0521
<a href="#">C.A.R.E.4 Paws</a>	805-968-2273
<a href="#">S.B. Humane Society</a>	805-964-4777
<a href="http://www.resqcats.org">www.resqcats.org</a>	805-563-9424
<a href="#">SBC Anim. Serv. Foundation</a>	805-260-2386
<a href="#">Santa Barbara County Animal Services</a>	805-681-5285
<a href="#">SPARC Rescue</a>	805-225-8045



### PAGE SPONSOR OF THE MONTH



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# OPERATION BLANKETS OF LOVE



## OPERATION BLANKETS OF LOVE

We Rescue the Rescuers

[Donate Today](#)



### What sets OBOL apart from other animal welfare organizations?



#### We rescue the rescuers

We deliver immediate, item-specific relief the moment a rescue, shelter, or partner organization calls. Our approach eliminates delays that can cost lives, ensuring support reaches animals exactly when and where it is needed most.



#### We help pet owners

Our struggling pet owners relief program offers a helping hand to the homeless, veterans, seniors, disabled, and low-income families.



#### OBOL is on-call for emergency relief

When natural disasters like earthquakes, fires, and floods strike, we are there to support.



#### We provide animal humane education (PRE K-12)

Our Humane Education Learning Program (HELP) is one of the few programs in California teaching children how to love animals and be a responsible pet owner. Humane Education is a California state educational requirement (51540 Sec 233-233.5)

To donate or learn how you can help, please visit:

[www.OBOL.info](http://www.OBOL.info) or call (818) 402-6586

The animals will be pleased you did!

# LOCAL PET STORES

## CONEJO VALLEY & MALIBU

[Canine Castle II](#)  
[Healthy Pet](#)  
[Theresa's Country Feed & Pet](#)  
[Pacific Coast Pets](#)  
[Pet Food Express](#)  
[Wild Birds Unlimited](#)

## SIMI VALLEY/ MOORPARK

[Kahoots Feed & Pet](#)  
[R&R Pet Lifestyle and Supply](#)  
[Theresa's Country Feed & Pet](#)

## CAMARILLO

[Healthy Pet](#)  
[Petropolis](#)  
[Pet Supply Camarillo](#)  
[Pet Supplies Plus](#)

## VENTURA/OXNARD

[Pet Food Express](#)  
[Protein for Pets](#)  
[Sailor & Friends](#)  
[The Wharf](#)  
[Ventura Pet Barn](#)

## SANTA BARBARA

[George](#)  
[Lemos Feed & Pet Supply](#)  
[Montecito Pet Shop](#)  
[Pet House](#)  
[Sensational Pets](#)

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# Pet Boarding / Day Care

www.petgazette.com



## Conejo Valley



**Barks N' Rec**  
29348 Roadside Dr,  
Agoura Hills, CA 91301  
818-532-7022

[www.barksnrecagourahills.com/](http://www.barksnrecagourahills.com/)



## Simi Valley/Moorpark



**Double T Kennels**  
All Breed Dog Boarding  
5040 Barnard St,  
Simi Valley, CA 93066  
805-583-8280



[www.doubletkennels.com](http://www.doubletkennels.com)

## Santa Barbara/Goleta



**Camp Canine**  
803 E Montecito St  
Santa Barbara, CA 93103  
805-962-4790

[www.campcaninesb.com](http://www.campcaninesb.com)



**Dioji K9 Resort & Athletic Club**  
5076 Chesebro Rd.  
Agoura Hills, CA 91301  
818-851-9077

[www.dioji.com](http://www.dioji.com)



**Simi Valley Pet Resort**  
1655 E Los Angeles Ave,  
Simi Valley, CA 93065  
805-522-3294

[www.simivalleypetresort.com](http://www.simivalleypetresort.com)



**Dioji K9 Resort & Athletic Club**  
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805-485-0691 [www.dioji.com](http://www.dioji.com)



**Dioji K9 Resort & Athletic Club**  
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[www.dioji.com](http://www.dioji.com)



Petgazette's list of Pet Boarding/Day Care  
locations that are available in your area.

All of these facilities are compliant with the  
Coronavirus procedures to assure the health  
and safety of their customers and staff.



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805-905-9471

## IRISH DOG STORIES

Heartwarming Irish dog stories often revolve around loyalty, rescue, and the deep connection between people and their pups. Examples include a shy Irish wolfhound finding love in a new home, a brave dog saving a lost child in the woods, and an Irish entrepreneur saving stray dogs in Thailand. These tales highlight the joyful, caring nature of dogs.

- **The Second Chance Irish Wolfhound:** A massive, gentle Irish Wolfhound pup was adopted, initially timid and heartbroken, but soon transformed through love, becoming a loyal companion who "saved" his new owner just as much as he was saved.

- **The Heroic Irish Setter/Mix:** A loyal dog named Buddy in an Irish town became a local hero after tracking down a lost young girl, Lily, in a dense, stormy forest, proving his immense courage and love for his community.

- **Niall Harbison's Mission:** An Irish entrepreneur moved to Thailand and dedicated his life to feeding and caring for thousands of stray dogs, giving them a second chance at happiness and a safe, loving life.

- **Pub Dog of Galway:** A friendly, local Irish dog wandered into a Galway pub, bringing smiles and joy to everyone there by mingling with patrons for a few moments before happily trotting back out into the night.

- **A "Soul Dog" Story:** Stories exist of dogs, particularly Irish Terriers, who bring immense happiness to their owners, with tales describing them as bringing "joy, laughs, and lots of love" and being "the best dog in the whole wide world".

These stories reflect a deep, enduring, and loving bond with dogs across Ireland, often featuring them as beloved, loyal family members.

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