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APRIL 2026



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Did you know ...!

The earliest documentation of domestic rabbits in America was in 1840 when Lop ear and Angora rabbits were imported. If domestic rabbits resided in America prior to that time, their breeding was done quietly with no fanfare. By 1910, the National Pet Stock Association of America (later re-named American Rabbit Breeders Association) was formed to set standards for breeds developed and shown in America. To this day, rabbit fanciers continue to improve rabbit breeds and develop new breeds.

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Did you know . . . !

*Dogs' eyes have large pupils and a wide field of vision, making them really good at following moving objects. Dogs also see well in fairly low light.

*There are over 2000 stars on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, including such non-human characters as Bugs Bunny, Mickey Mouse, Kermit the Frog and Winnie the Pooh.

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SV-MPK - APRIL 2026

Oryctolagus Cuniculus

The first domestic rabbit was the Oryctolagus Cuniculus or European wild rabbit. Early French Catholic monks were the first to domesticate the rabbit back in the 5th century. The monks lived in seclusion and grew or made most of what they needed. During the Lent season, Catholics abstained from meat and ate fish. However, fish were not easy creatures to raise within the monastery walls. Rabbits on the other hand could be kept inside the monastery walls. Thus began the domestication of the rabbit.

FUN TRIVIA

- *Cats can get "age spots". These are black spots on the skin that are often seen around the lips, eyes, and nose; and usually start when the cat is three to five years of age.
- *Dragonflies are one of the fastest insects, flying 50 to 60 mph.
- *The first time a Beagle was mentioned in the cartoon strip, "Peanuts," was in 1960 when Snoopy denied being one.
- *A cat sees about six times better than a human at night because of the tapetum lucidum, a layer of extra reflecting cells which absorb light.
- *Goldfish have 94 chromosomes and can live (in captivity) for up to 30 years of age!
- *If you unfolded and laid out the delicate membranes from inside a dog's nose, the membranes would be larger than the dog itself.
- *The largest jellyfish ever found had tentacles that were more than 118 feet long.
- *In 1988, Olive Oyl, a Borzoi, set the world record for most consecutive jump rope jumps by a dog: 63 complete rotations.
- *Peter Rabbit, Benjamin Bunny, the Flopsy Bunnies, the Fierce Bad Rabbit, etc. are all stories created by Beatrix Potter.
- *The Island Fox can be found on six of the eight Channel Islands of California.

SILLY JOKES

A Game Show Host Talking to a Rabbit

The Game Show host looks at his question card. "Okay, here is your first question: What is 7 plus 5?"
"Twelve", replied the rabbit.
"That's correct! Now for question 2: What is 56 minus 37?"
The rabbit thought for a moment. "Nineteen".
"That's correct! Okay, now here is your grand prize question: How much is 1,297 times 142?"
And without skipping a beat, the rabbit immediately replied, "184,174, what else?"
The host is surprised. "That's correct! But tell me, how did you get the final answer so quickly?"
"Oh, that's easy," said the rabbit. "If there's one thing us rabbits can do, it's multiply!"

QUIZ

1. The hydrocoerus is what kind of animal?
2. What does Dachshund mean literally?
3. Who was Bambi's sidekick?
4. In which state would you be able to see a Kodiak Bear?
5. How many rows of whiskers does a cat have?
6. What famous Jeweler decorated Easter eggs for royalty?

Answers:

1. Capybara Rodent.
2. Badger Dog.
3. Thumper.
4. Alaska.
5. Four.
6. Peter Karl Faberge.

PAW-SCOPES

DOGS

Your dog likes a challenge that will stir it into action be it a ball to fetch or bone to bury. They love to run around and climb things and with their rashness, impetuosity and wholehearted physical commitment, he or she will keep you on your toes.

CATS

Your cat's straightforward approach to life will be easy to understand. He or she is steady and dependable...always where the owner expects this cat to be and doing what is expected of him or her. In short, your cat is a creature of habit and routine who will never do anything unpredictable and to whom catnaps are the breath of life.

Where in the World

Q: Where would you find a mountain blue bird?

A: Alaska - They migrate as far south as Mexico.

Q: Where would you find Darwin's frog?

A: Chile - Tadpoles live and develop inside the fathers mouth.

Q: Where would you find a komodo dragon?

A: Indonesia - Komodo dragons are the largest lizard.

Q: Where would you find a toucan?

A: Panama - Their bills have a serrated edge to cut through fruit.

Q: Where would you find the star-nosed mole?

A: Canada - Star-nosed moles are really good swimmers.

What is the lifespan of Turtles?

The lifespan of a turtle varies greatly depending on the species of turtle. For example, a typical pet turtle can live between 10-80 years or so while larger species can easily live over 100 years. According to the "Guinness Book of World Records", sea turtles have the longest lifespan of up to 152 years. So please think carefully if you're thinking of getting one as a pet, as you might not always be around to care for its entire life time.

Pickles the collie who thwarted a robbery

In 1966, the Jules Rimet trophy (the precursor to the FIFA World Cup soccer trophy) was stolen from its supposedly-secure location in London's Central Hall shortly before the start of the World Cup. The British detectives on the case all came up empty. High-profile companies offered rewards to anyone who found the trophy. And then, a week after the cup disappeared, a man named David Corbett was walking his dog in a South London neighborhood when the pup, Pickles, started sniffing around underneath a bush. Corbett came over to investigate, and, sure enough, the Jules Rimet trophy was tucked underneath, wrapped in newspaper. For his find, Pickles received a silver medal from the National Canine Defence League and even appeared in a spy film called *The Spy with a Cold Nose*. It's especially incredible considering that Pickles wasn't a police dog, or specially trained in any way—he was a regular pet! That's definitely proof that dogs have some serious superpowers.

BIRD TRIVIA

*There are around 10000 different species of birds worldwide.

*The Ostrich is the largest bird in the world. It also lays the largest eggs and has the fastest maximum running speed (97 kph).

*Scientists believe that birds evolved from theropod dinosaurs.

*Some bird species are intelligent enough to create and use tools.

*The chicken is the most common species of bird found in the world.

*Kiwis are endangered, flightless birds that live in New Zealand. They lay the largest eggs relative to their body size of any bird in the world.

*Hummingbirds can fly backwards.
*The Bee Hummingbird is the smallest living bird in the world, with a length of just 5 cm (2 in).

*Homing pigeons are bred to find their way home from long distances away and have been used for thousands of years to carry messages.

Did you know . . . !

Famous rabbits in pop culture and folklore include iconic cartoon trickster Bugs Bunny, literature's mischievous Peter Rabbit, and the enduring mascot of the Energizer Bunny. Other notable bunnies include Roger Rabbit, the White Rabbit from Alice in Wonderland, Thumper from Bambi, the Trix Cereal Rabbit, and Judy Hopps from Zootopia.

*Cats were brought to the Americas by colonists to protect their granaries and as pets. As settlers moved inland, cats accompanied them.

*The rabbit is one of twelve animals in the Chinese zodiac, celebrated once every twelve years.

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

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From the Editor

Its Petgazette's 16th Birthday on April 1st, 2026 and we would like to take this opportunity to thank all our wonderful readers/followers and advertisers for their amazing support over the years. And also to our fabulous team who help make all this possible.

THANK YOU EVERYONE!

Did you know . . . !

The first official White House Easter Bunny made its debut in 1969 during the Easter Egg Roll, an initiative established by First Lady Pat Nixon. A staff member donned a white jumpsuit and a Peter Rabbit mask to greet children on the South Lawn, initiating the long-standing, beloved tradition.



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 for more information.**

JFLA The non-profit loan organization. | Go to jfla.org or email: contact@jfla.org.

Silly Rabbit Jokes/Puns

- ***What's the difference between a healthy rabbit and an odd rabbit?** One is a fit bunny, and the other's a bit funny!
- ***What do you call an arctic rabbit?** A polar hare.
- ***How do you catch a rabbit that is different than the rest?** Unique up on it.
- ***What's it called when a rabbit walks to its own beat?** Hip hop.
- ***What do you call a rabbit who is an anesthesiologist?** An Ether Bunny.
- ***Why don't rabbits like to play the drums?** They're afraid of getting caught in a snare.
- ***Where in Spain do rabbits go on holiday?** Bunnydorm.
- ***How do you know that carrots are good for your eyesight?** Have you ever seen a rabbit wearing glasses?
- ***What's the best way to groom a rabbit?** With a hare brush.
- ***What do you call a rabbit housekeeper?** A dust bunny.

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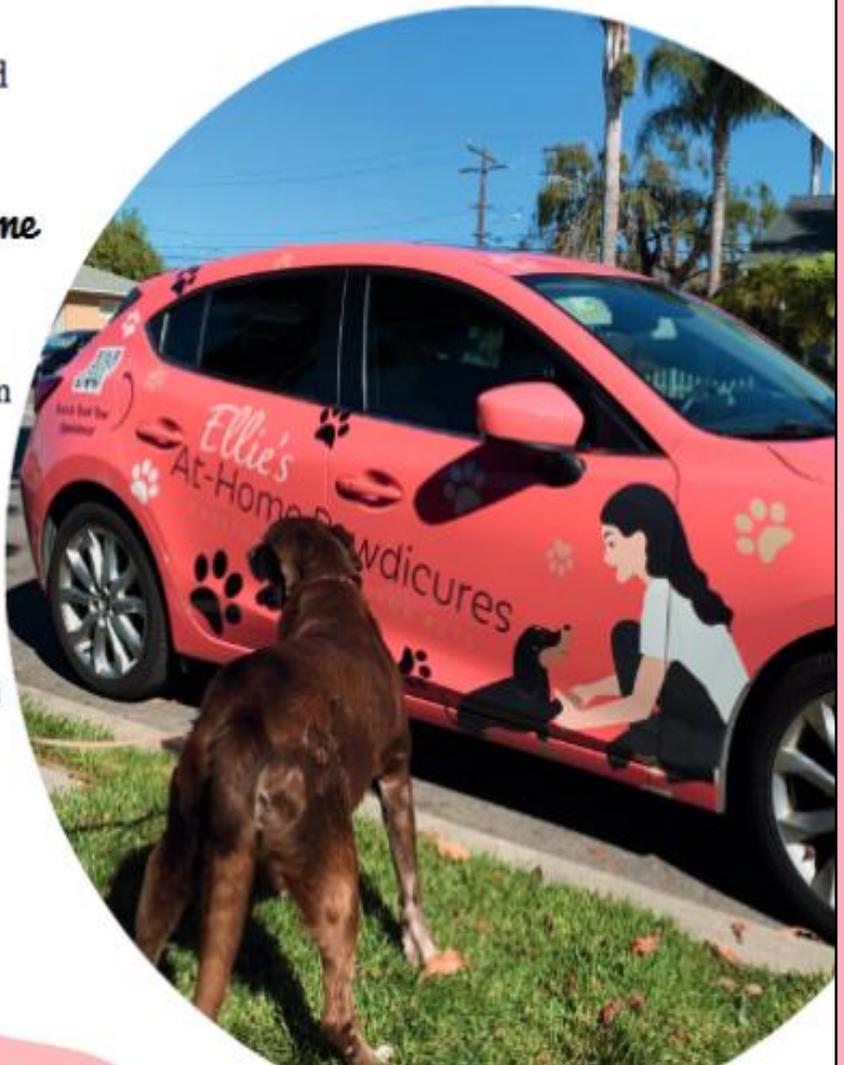
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WHY DO DOGS LOVE TO EAT GRASS?



Spring has arrived, which means the plant world is expanding, flowers are blooming, and grass is sprouting everywhere.

Dogs like chewing on grass, and some find it a part of their everyday routine. Although experts agree that grass ingestion in dogs may be natural, there are underlying medical conditions that may cause it. So why exactly do dogs like eating grass and should you be worried?



Typically Grass-Eating Is Harmless

Whatever the cause, most experts believe that allowing your dog to eat grass poses no danger.

In reality, researchers discovered that wild canids and felids consume grass, with leaves and grass found in a range of 2-74 percent of wolf and cougar droppings and stomach contents. It may be a natural behavior that was inherited from wild canids to increase the passage of intestinal parasites.

Can it be a Sign of Gastrointestinal Upset?

A dog will seek out a natural remedy for a gassy or upset stomach, and grass, it seems, may do the trick. If you notice that your dog has been eating grass, give your vet a call to discuss whether you should bring your dog in.

When To Take Your Dog to the Vet

Watch out for a sudden increase in grass-eating. It could be a sign of a more serious underlying illness that your dog is trying to self-treat, and that may require a visit to see your veterinarian. Other signs to look out for include:

- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Decreased appetite
- Weight loss
- Excessive drooling
- Lip-licking
- Changes to your dog's fur

Typically, some dogs have underlying GI disease with no other signs which is why veterinarians will recommend at least an anti-nausea medication trial for dogs who ingest non-food materials, including grass.



WHY DO CATS EAT GRASS?

Relieves Stomach Upset

Cats sometimes have undigested items in their stomach. These items may be their own hair or feathers and bones from their prey. These undigested items cause an upset stomach for their cat. Since, cats vomit after having vegetation, eating grass is a great way for them to ensure that they bring those undigested items they have swallowed back to their mouth. So, eating grass helps the cat to regurgitate its system and it also helps with an upset stomach.

Folic Acid (Vitamin B9)

Another theory for why do cats eat plants is that they eat grass to get folic acid. Folic acid is a substance that is found in the cat's mother's milk. The lack of this vitamin can cause anemia in cats. So, if the cat has vitamins in its system then chewing on grass is its way to counter that deficiency. This is one of the most talked-about theories of why do cats eat grass.

It is a type of Laxative

Just like us, cats too can get constipated. Sometimes the things a cat can't digest may cause problems in the bowel and its digestive tract which may result in those things being stuck. Eating grass would break those compounds and make it smoother to digest those items. So, if you were wondering do cats eat grass when they have worms, the answer is yes. Eating grass adds fiber and bulk to their diet and this helps them to pass worms or their own hairball through their digestive tract. So, grass for cats and helps them relieve constipation. However, a healthy cat should be able to digest items without the help of eating any grass at all.

Heredity

In the past, wild cats used to feed on the grass to get rid of unwanted parasites in their digestive tract. Grass munching increases the activity in their digestive tract which helps them expel the unwanted parasites. Even though these unwanted parasites are not around anymore, especially in the case of domesticated cats, their biological impulse to munch on grass has stayed with them that they have got from their wild ancestors.

Stress Eating

Yes, it can happen to cats too. Just like us, they may be subject to emotional eating. So, your cat may be nibbling on the grass to relieve anxiety or to satisfy an oral fixation. If you are seeing your cat do this accompanied by over-grooming themselves or by excessive vocalization, your cat may have behavioral issues. Seeing these symptoms in your cat can a good reason to be alarmed, and then the best action you can take is to the vet and find out different ways to make your kitty more safe and secure.



Spring Pet Safety



ALLERGIES

Seasonal plants can cause allergies
Talk to your vet if you notice irritation.



PLANTS

Lilies and other seasonal plants can be toxic.



SPRING CLEANING

Household cleaning products are a poison threat.



PREVENTATIVES

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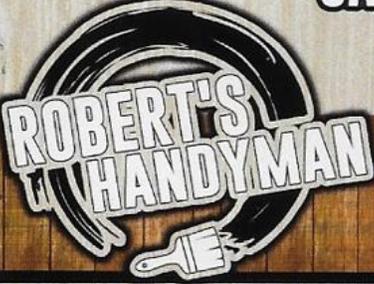
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ASSORTED ANIMAL FACTS

- **Giraffe Facts:** Giraffes have 18–20 inch tongues, communicate via infrasonic sound, and can run up to 35 mph.
 - **“April” the Giraffe** (2000–2021) was a famous reticulated giraffe at Animal Adventure Park in New York who became an internet sensation for her 2017 live-streamed pregnancy and birth. Over 1 million people watched her live birth, making it one of YouTube's top-viewed events. She passed away in 2021 due to arthritis.
 - **Unique Abilities:** Butterflies can taste with their feet, and sloths can hold their breath for 40 minutes..
 - **Beaver Behavior:** Known for engineering dams, beavers are active in spring, sometimes creating new wetlands.
 - **Brown Hares:** April is a great time to see brown hares "boxing" (social interaction/fighting) in open fields.
- Birds Returning:** Barn swallows return from Africa to the UK in April to build nests, often near water.

Highly Recommended Local Services

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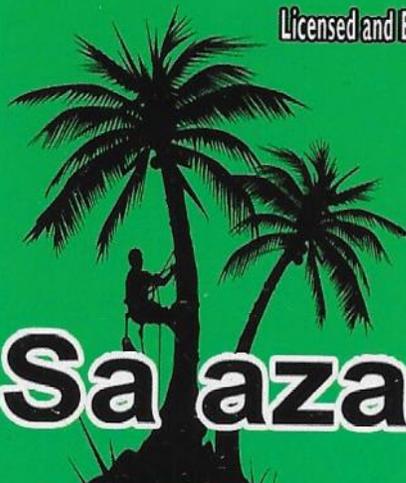
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APRIL FACTS

*Did you know April is named after the Greek goddess of love, Aphrodite, and the word "April" comes from the Latin word "aperire," meaning "to open," which fits the season of blooming flowers and new beginnings?

*April Fools' Day: The first day of April is known for pranks and jokes, with some believing the tradition started in France in 1564 when April 1st was still celebrated as the New Year.

*Earth Day: April 22nd is celebrated as Earth Day, a day to raise awareness about environmental issues and promote actions to protect the planet.

*Birth Flowers and Stones: The birth flowers for April are the daisy and sweet pea, while the birthstone is the diamond.

*The zodiac signs for April are Aries (March 21 – April 19) and Taurus (April 20-May 20).

*On 14th of April 1912 the Titanic, believed to be unsinkable, hit an iceberg and sank 2 hours and 40 minutes later. Unfortunately, there were too few lifeboats to save everyone and only about 700 of the 2,224 passengers were rescued.

*April 11, 1970 Apollo 13 launched from Cape Kennedy. Fifty-six hours later, she suffered a catastrophic explosion that crippled the ship. Fortunately, the astronauts were able to return home unharmed.



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:

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- 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 for more information.**



Go to jfla.org or email:
contact@jfla.org.

THE EASTER BUNNY

The Easter Bunny (also called the Easter Rabbit or Easter Hare) is a folkloric figure and symbol of Easter, depicted as a rabbit—sometimes dressed with clothes—bringing Easter eggs. Originating among German Lutherans, the "Easter Hare" originally played the role of a judge, evaluating whether children were good or disobedient in behavior at the start of the season of Eastertide,[1] similar to the "naughty or nice" list made by Santa Claus. As part of the legend, the creature carries colored eggs in its basket, as well as candy, and sometimes toys, to the homes of children. As such, the Easter Bunny again shows similarities to Santa (or the Christkind) and Christmas by bringing gifts to children on the night before a holiday. The custom was mentioned in a German text from 1572, which translated reads: "Do not worry if the Easter Bunny escapes you; should we miss his eggs, we will cook the nest" and in Georg Franck von Franckenau's *De ovis paschalibus* ("About Easter Eggs") in 1682, referring to a German folk belief of an Easter Hare laying eggs hidden in garden and bushes for children to find.

The idea of an egg-giving hare went to the U.S. in the 18th century. Protestant German immigrants in the Pennsylvania Dutch area told their children about the "Osterhase" (sometimes spelled "Oschter Haws"[21]). Hase means "hare", not rabbit, and in Northwest European folklore the "Easter Bunny" indeed is a hare. According to the legend, only good children received gifts of colored eggs in the nests that they made in their caps and bonnets before Easter.





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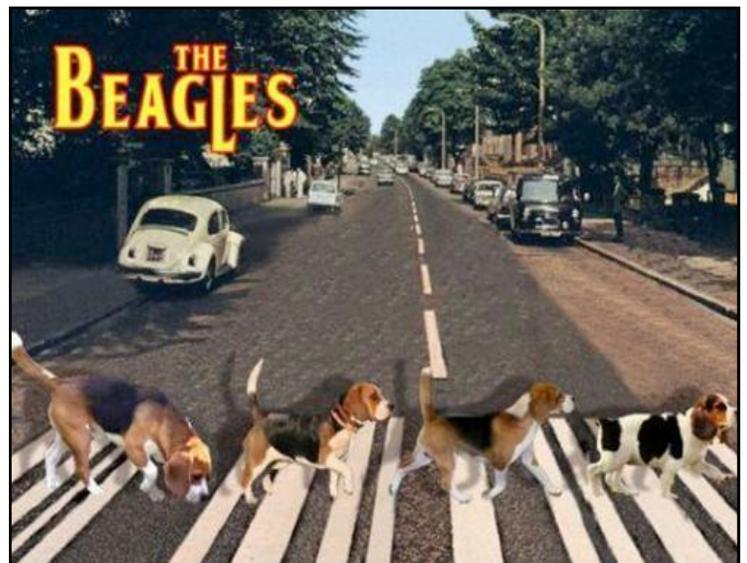
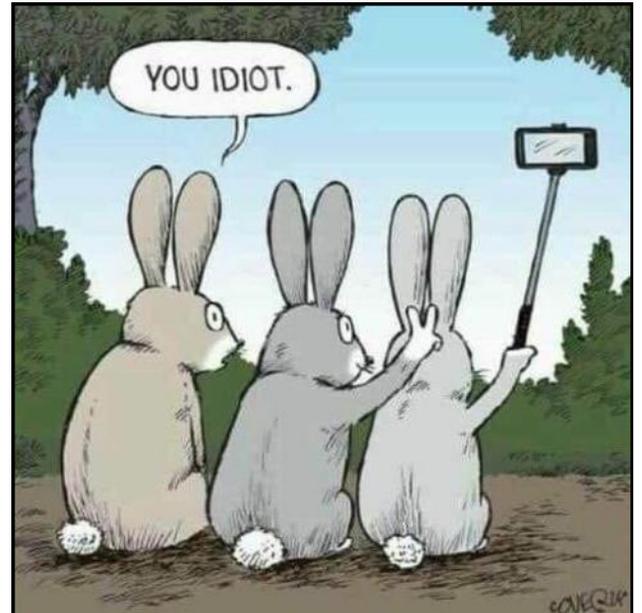
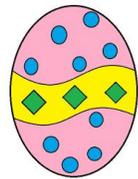
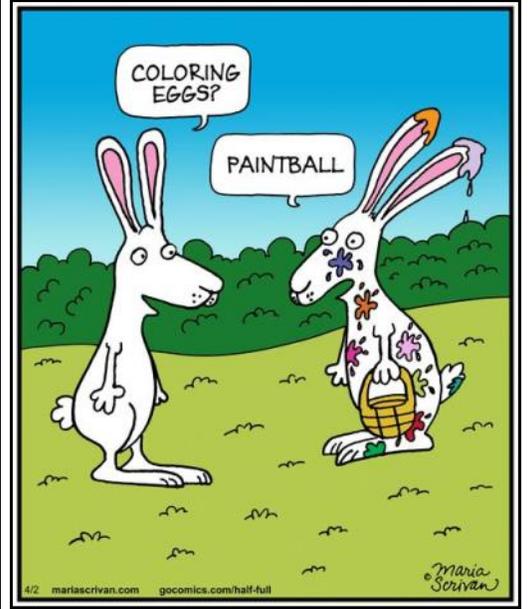
ANIMAL CLINIC OF THE OAKS

MOORPARK

FAMILY MASON
ANIMAL CLINIC



APRIL MEMES





HORSE TRIVIA



ONE-LINERS

What do you call a horse that likes to stay up late?

A night mare.

What kind of bread do horses like to eat?

Thoroughbred.

Why do cowboys like to ride horses?

Because they're too heavy to carry.

What did the mother horse say to her foal?

It's pasture bed time!

Why do most horses look so fit?

Because they're on a stable diet.

How much money does a bronco have?

A buck.

What makes a horse sneeze?

Hay fever.

What kind of horse travels all around the world?

A globe trotter.

What kind of food do race horses like to eat?

Fast food.

FAMOUS HORSES

Sergeant Reckless achieved the military rank of sergeant for her bravery and service in the service of the military.

This humble warhorse came from humble beginnings as a packhorse in the Korean war, to become a decorated veteran by the end of her tenure.

Honored for her faithful service, she not only delivered supplies to soldiers on solo missions but also evacuated wounded soldiers from battle-torn areas.

Man O'War was named Outstanding Horse of the 20th Century and has been featured on such high profile periodicals as The Blood-Horse, Sports Illustrated, ESPN, and the Associated Press.

Man O'War was only beaten once in a highly debated victory by a horse named Upset, which some say is not a valid race due to a faulty start.

He has sired more successful progeny than most other racehorse stallions, and his bloodlines extend to such greats as Seabiscuit, Secretariat, War Admiral, Hard Tack, Battleship, and more.

Frankel has been called "The Unbeatable Wonder Horse" thanks to his perfect record on the racetrack. He was rated the highest of any racehorse in the world in 2011, and dubbed the equine version of Usain Bolt.

At 16.1 hh, he is an iconic British racehorse, and undefeated European champion. Some have even compared him to the great Secretariat.

Bucephalus was the famous horse owned by Alexander the Great. He was tamed by young Alexander when no one else could break him.

He was known for his courage and stamina, riding into many battles undaunted. It is believed that Bucephalus died from injuries sustained in battle.



SPRING CLEANING TIPS FOR PET OWNERS

Indoor air pollution can be up to 100 times worse than outdoor air pollution. Household cleaners and air fresheners are a big reason why, which means spring cleaning is an easy way to introduce noxious chemicals into the home. Please use pet-friendly or natural cleaners.



CLEANING TIPS



1. UPGRADE YOUR CLEANERS & SKIP THE CHEMICALS!

Because toxins can be inhaled, inadvertently ingested and absorbed through the skin - causing hormonal and neurological problems and even cancer in both pets and people, it is suggested switching to more natural cleaning alternatives.

2. CLEAN TOYS & FOOD/WATER BOWLS

Pet toys and feeding bowls are magnets for bacteria, so make sure they're cleaned regularly. For hard rubber and plastic toys and bowls, soak them in a 50/50 mixture of vinegar to water for at least 30 minutes. Thoroughly scrub after soaking, and then air dry. Soft toys can be cleaned in your washing machine's gentle cycle, so long as you use a natural detergent that won't harm your pet. Because these toys can be fragile, skip the dryer and hang or towel dry instead. Lastly, donate or recycle any extra or unwanted toys you find in the cleaning process.

3. DON'T FORGET TO CHECK THEIR COLLAR

While most pet parents routinely bathe their pets, many forget to routinely clean their pet's collar. It doesn't matter how clean your pet is, if their collar smells they're going to smell too. Simply submerge the collar in hot water with a few drops of natural pet shampoo. Soak for roughly 30 minutes, rinse with water and hang to dry. Lastly, use this opportunity to double check the condition of your pet's collar and tags. Make sure they still fit snugly, are not fraying or close to breaking, and that all identification info is legible and up to date. Replace as needed.

4. REFRESH BEDDING

Pet bedding and beds usually don't get cleaned nearly enough, and there's really no excuse because it's super easy. Washing bedding and beds is as simple as throwing them in the washing machine with a natural, pet-friendly

detergent. To keep bedding fresh between washes, reach for a naturally sourced pet bedding deodorizer.

5. CLEAN THE CRATE, TOO

It's easy to forget to clean crates and carriers, especially if you don't use them often, but doing so is really important as they can house loads of germs and bacteria. Using a pet-safe all-purpose cleaner, scrub both inside and outside the crate, making sure to address all nooks and crannies. If your crate/carrier includes a removable liner, remove and thoroughly clean that as well.

7. TACKLE HAIR AND SHEDDING

There are two types of pet hair: The type that's still attached to your animal, and the kind that's already jumped ship. When spring cleaning, you'll need to tackle both. Many cats and dogs shed more throughout spring, so extra brushing might be required. (Because the right brush depends on your pet's breed and unique coat, check with a vet or pet store for help finding one that's appropriate for your cat or dog.) Regular vacuuming will help address shedding throughout the home, but for the tough task of removing hair from linens and upholstered furniture, reach for a rubber glove. Moisten but do not soak the glove in water, and run it over surfaces to collect unwanted pet fur. Repeat as needed.

8. PREVENT MUDDY PAW PRINTS

As pet parents, it's easy to dread spring's rainy days and the muddy paw prints they can leave throughout our homes. An easy way to tackle this problem is to keep a bucket of warm, soapy water and a towel by the door during stormy weather (use only pet-safe soap, of course!). Clean paws with a quick dip and towel dry to finish. It might take some time for your pet to get accustomed to waiting by the door before coming inside, but with repetition they should pick it up fairly quickly.





VENTURA CO. RESCUE GROUPS



Local Pet Rescues

Clickable Links	Phone #	Location
Agoura Animal Shelter	818-991-0071	Agoura Hills
All for Love Animal Rescue	805-445-3535	Call for Details
Animal Foundation of America	805-905-9951	Thousand Oaks
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
Purrlandia 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
Surfcats 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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BRIEF HISTORY OF USA DOG POSTAL STAMPS

The history of USA dog stamps spans over a century, starting with early depictions like a Newfoundland around 1877-1880, evolving to feature specific breeds, famous dogs (like Laika or Lassie), and roles such as military working dogs and postal mascots like Owney, showcasing dogs' diverse cultural significance through various themes like welfare, art, and popular culture.

Early Beginnings & Breeds:

First Appearance: Dogs began appearing on stamps as early as the late 1870s, with a Newfoundland being one of the first examples in the US. Over time, stamps celebrated specific breeds, from Basset Hounds to Siberian Huskies, appealing to breed enthusiasts.



Iconic Figures & Missions:

Owney the Postal Dog: A terrier mix who became a beloved mascot for the Railway Mail Service in the late 1880s, he traveled the world with mailbags and was honored with his own stamp in 2011.



Military Working Dogs: Stamps have honored these heroes, featuring breeds like German Shepherds and Labradors, recognizing their service in the armed forces. These Forever stamps were released in 2019 to honor military working dogs.



Famous Dogs: Characters like Disney's Pluto and scenes from *101 Dalmatians* have also been featured.



Themes in Dog Stamps:

Animal Welfare stamps have promoted humane treatment, animal rescue, and spaying/neutering. The 1966 Humane Treatment of Animals stamp was the first to feature a dog as the main subject.



Cultural & Artistic Depictions:

Dogs appear in cartoons (McGruff the Crime Dog in 1984). The first USPS Lunar New Year stamp was issued on **December 30, 1992**. This inaugural stamp featured the Year of the Rooster and kicked off the first series which ran from 1992 to 2004.



Significance:

Dog stamps reflect societal values, from military service to pet ownership, providing collectors with a rich history of canine companionship and work.



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