

# **PetZ Gazette.com**

MAY  
2026



**Your Local Pet Resource Publication**

# PetZ Gazette.com

Ventura/Oxnard  
Digital Edition



Your Local Pet Resource Publication

info@petzgazette.com | Tel: 805-905-9471

MAY  
2026

**Did you know ...!**

Veterinarians were instrumental in helping to create the Bureau of Animal Industry in 1884. This was very significant, as the Bureau of Animal Industry (an off-shoot of the Department of Agriculture) began to play a larger role in animal protection and thus assuring the safety of the food supply.

**Did you know . . . !**

Charles Dickens, Author (1812-1870) whose works, to name but a few, include Oliver Twist, Nicholas Nickleby, David Copperfield, A Christmas Carol, was a great cat lover. One of Dickens cats, Willamena, produced a litter of kittens in his study. Dickens was determined not to keep the kittens, but he fell in love with one female kitten that was known as "Master's Cat". She kept him company in his study as he wrote, and when she wanted his attention she was known to snuff out his reading candle.

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# Barks & Meow's Express!

VEN/OXN - MAY 2026



**Annie Oakley**

In the 1950s television series Annie Oakley, the famous female sharpshooter (played by Gail Davis) rode a white horse named Target. While the show was a fictionalized version of her life, the real-life Annie Oakley was renowned for her incredible, expert, and daring horsemanship within Buffalo Bill's Wild West show, often riding side-saddle. Target was a calm, steady white horse used for the filming. The historical Annie Oakley was known for performing horseback tricks, including riding side-saddle while shooting, often dangling off the side of her horse to pick up items. She was a highly skilled rider who performed dangerous feats in the arena, appearing to "float" on the horse's back.

**FUN TRIVIA**

\*Frédéric Chopin's cat walked across the keyboard one day and Chopin liked the melody so much that he created an entire piece called "The Cat Waltz" around it.

\*The Kiwi, national bird of New Zealand, can't fly. It lives in a hole in the ground, is almost blind, and lays only one egg each year. Despite this, it has survived for more than 70 million years.

\*The cheetah is the only cat in the world that can't retract its claws.

\*Goldfish lose their color if they are kept in dim light or are placed in a body of running water, such as a stream.

\*The cat's front paw has 5 toes and the back paws have 4. Cats born with 6 or 7 front toes and extra back toes are called polydactyl.

\*Of all known forms of animal life ever to inhabit the Earth, only about 10 percent still exist today.

\*Some of the oldest breeds of dogs are the Afghan Hound, the Chow Chow, the Lhasa Apso, the Pekingese, the Shar Pei, the Shih Tzu, the Tibetan Terrier, the Saluki, the Basenji, the Akita Inu, the Shiba Inu, the Samoyed, the Siberian Husky and the Alaskan Malamute.

\*Dogs drink water by creating a "ladle" shape with their tongue, curling it backward to scoop and pull a column of water into their mouth at high speeds (up to 4 mph).

**ONE LINER'S**

- I can't take my dog down to the local pond anymore, because the ducks keep attacking him. It's my fault for choosing a pure breed dog.
- What do you call a cat who loves to bowl? An alley cat.
- Why did the poor dog chase his own tail? He was trying to make both ends meet!
- Why was the cat sitting on the computer? He wanted to keep an eye on the mouse.
- Why do dogs tend to run in circles? Because it's really hard to run in squares.
- What do you give a cat with allergies? An anti-hiss-tamine.
- What kind of dog never throws anything away? A hoarder collie.
- Why did the cat go to a therapist? It had claw-strophobia.
- The secret to life is to handle every situation like a dog: If you can't play with it, eat it or bury it, just pee on it and walk away.
- Why did the cat have trouble writing his second novel? He only had one tail to tell.

**QUIZ**

1. What is the only animal that has four knees?
2. Where are Chinchillas originally from?
3. How many feathers are there in a peacock's tail?
4. What is the largest fish in the world?
5. How many eyes do caterpillars have?
6. Which animal's stripes are on their skin as well as their fur?

**Answers:**

1. Elephant. 2. South America. 3. 200 on average.
4. Whale Shark. 5. Twelve. 6. Tiger.

### PAW-SCOPES

#### DOGS:

If your dog was born in the month of May, he or she may display strong and attractive personalities and could fall into two types: one shy, sensitive, gentle and patient; the other exuberant, lively and exhibitionist, sometimes hiding the depths of their character under a cloak of playfulness and antics.

#### CATS:

This feline is very adept at fooling everyone who enters the kitchen into thinking that nobody has remembered to feed him or her. He or she is an amiable companion, well aware of which hand does the feeding to ensure that whoever owns that hand continues to be so generous.

#### Did you know . . . !

Deep sea divers exploring an underwater cave near Marseilles, France, in 1991 were surprised to discover prehistoric wall murals with drawings of humans and animals; but were astounded when they found depictions of Penguins!

#### World Records

\*The world record for the highest jump cleared by a dog is 172.7 cm (68 inches), achieved by 'Cinderella May A Holly Grey', owned by Kate Long and Kathleen Conroy of Miami, Florida, USA, at the Purina Incredible Dog Challenge National Finals, Gray Summit, Missouri, on October 7th, 2006.

\*Didga, a talented rescue cat trained by Robert Dollwet in Australia, set the 2017 Guinness World Record for "Most Tricks Performed by a Cat in One Minute" by completing 20 (and later 24) tricks, including riding a skateboard, jumping, and high-fiving. She gained fame for her remarkable agility, intelligence, and her ability to perform complex tricks on a skateboard.

#### Did you know . . . !

The smartest dogs are often thought to be Border Collies. They do very well in training. They can figure things out for themselves and also want to please their owners. However, lots of people think they have smarter dogs. Golden Retrievers, Labrador Retrievers, Poodles, Doberman Pinschers and German Shepherds are also breeds that repeatedly do well on doggy intelligence tests.

### CAT TRIVIA

\*When using a scratching post, cats aren't really "sharpening" their claws—they use them as a way to stretch.

\*Calico and tortoiseshell cats are almost always female. It's all down to the X chromosome, which is where coat color genes are carried. Only female cats (with two X chromosomes) can display both orange and black patches.

\*Cats were essential on ships (including Viking ships and colonial vessels) to prevent rodents from eating food supplies and spreading disease. Cats also helped control the London plague (and the wider Black Death) by preying on rats, which carried the plague-infected fleas.

\*Pablo Picasso had several feline friends throughout his life, including a Siamese named Minou. Picasso even wandered the streets of Paris at night, scavenging food for his strays during tough times.

#### Did you know . . . !

Although beavers often receive a bad reputation when their dams flood a farmer's field or block drainage from a busy highway, their dynamic and rapid dam construction makes them superheroes in natural watershed management. Beaver dams create cool ponds that foster biodiversity, improve water quality, and even limit the spread of wildfires. They frequently construct multiple dams within an area, creating a wetland network of surface water and vegetation known as "beaver wetland complexes."

#### Did you know . . . !

The sea otter (*Enhydra lutris*) is the hairiest animal in the world, possessing the densest fur of any mammal. They have between 500,000 and 1,000,000 hairs per square inch (roughly 100,000–160,000 per cm<sup>2</sup>) to stay warm in cold water, as they lack blubber. A single otter can have over a billion hairs in total.

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<a href="#">Larsen's Grill</a>	Oxnard	805-983-6600
<a href="#">Lazy Dog Restaurant</a>	Oxnard	805-351-4888
<a href="#">Andria's Seafood &amp; Restaurant</a>	Ventura	805-654-0546
<a href="#">Boatyard Pub</a>	Ventura	805-850-0202
<a href="#">Busy Bee Café</a>	Ventura	805-643-4864
<a href="#">Café Ficelle</a>	Ventura	805-941-3444
<a href="#">Crowne Plaza Hotel</a>	Ventura	805-648-2100
<a href="#">Dukes Griddle n' Grill</a>	Ventura	805-667-8411
<a href="#">Valentino's Pizza &amp; Deli</a>	Ventura	805-643-8802

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**Did you know . . . !**

Purring is part of every cat's repertoire of social communication, apparently created by the movement of air in spasms through contractions of the diaphragm. Interestingly, purring is sometimes heard in cats who are severely ill or anxious, perhaps as a self-comforting vocalization. But, more typically, it is a sign of contentment, first heard in kittens as they suckle milk from their mother.

**Did you know . . . !**

An elephant's trunk contains tens of thousands of individual muscles (many more than in the entire human body) and has quite obviously the biggest nose in the world.

**Where in the World**

- During the Renaissance, detailed portraits of the dog as a symbol of fidelity and loyalty appeared in mythological, allegorical, and religious art throughout Europe, including works by Leonardo da Vinci, Diego Velázquez, Jan van Eyck, and Albrecht Durer.
- In China and Hong Kong, cats are thought to bring good luck and are kept in shops as well as homes.
- The Inuit Eskimo of Northern Canada adopt bear cubs, foxes, birds, and baby seals.
- In 2007, the American Bald Eagle was taken off the endangered species list.

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• HAPPY •

*Mother's*

• DAY •

MAY 10TH, 2026

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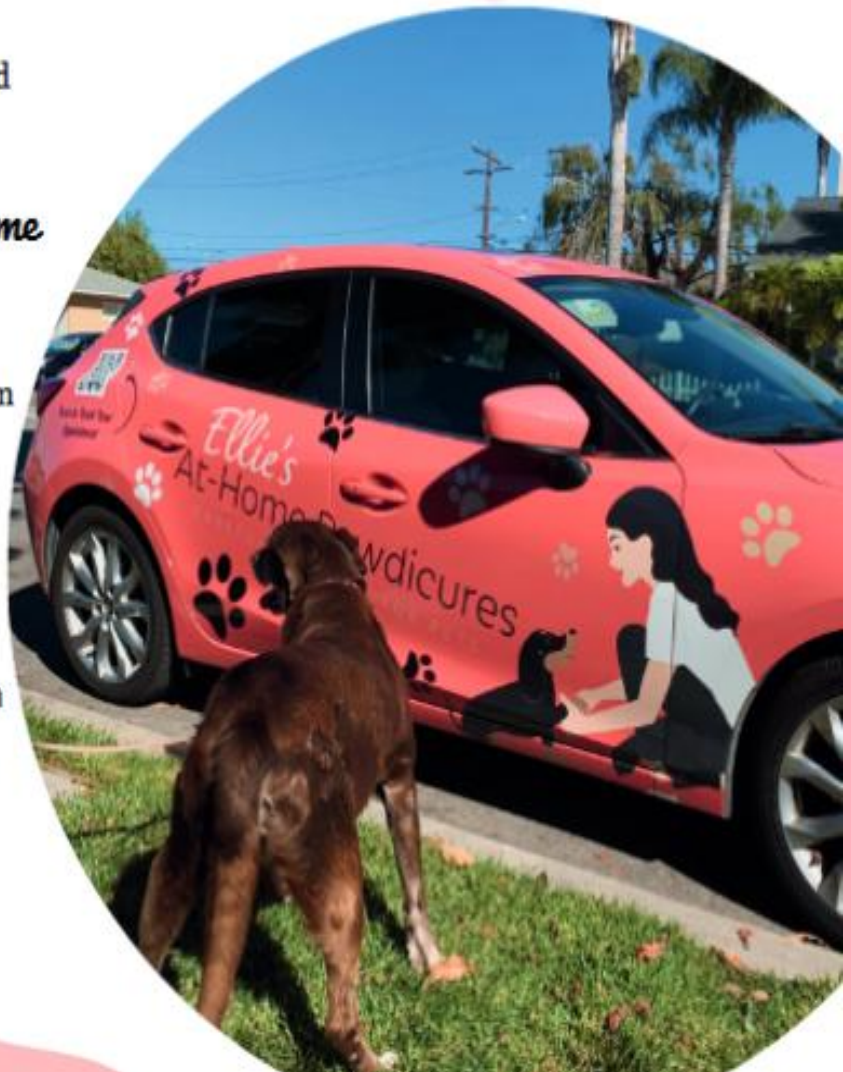
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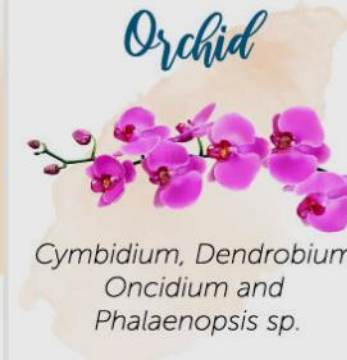








Questions? E-mail me at:  
books@sharonvaturi.com

## Mother's Day Bouquets: What's Safe for Pets?

We're grateful for the love and care of mothers every single day. And during these challenging times, we may not be able to reach out and embrace our moms, but there are various ways to say thank you for all that they do. One of the most popular gifts to send on Mother's Day is a beautiful bouquet of flowers!

If your mother is also pet parent, you should be mindful when choosing your Mother's Day arrangement. Not all flowers are safe for our pets, but do not fear, the [ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center \(APCC\)](#) has put together a handy list of pet-safe flowers you can use to make sure you're keeping your furry friends safe, healthy and out of harm's way. Talk to your florist and ask if they can accommodate your "Pet-safety" requests!

## 12 Pet-Safe Flowers for Mother's Day

 <p>Rose</p> <p><i>Rosa sp.</i></p>	 <p>Gerber Daisy</p> <p><i>Gebera Jamesonii</i></p>	 <p>Sunflower</p> <p><i>Helianthus sp.</i></p>	 <p>Orchid</p> <p><i>Cymbidium, Dendrobium, Oncidium and Phalaenopsis sp.</i></p>
 <p>Snapdragon</p> <p><i>Antirrhinum majus</i></p>	 <p>Freesia</p> <p><i>Freesia corymbosa</i></p>	 <p>Limonium</p> <p><i>Limonium sp.</i></p>	 <p>Madagascar Jasmine</p> <p><i>Stephanotis sp.</i></p>
 <p>Stock</p> <p><i>Matthiola incana</i></p>	 <p>Waxflower</p> <p><i>Etilingera cevuga</i></p>	 <p>Statice</p> <p><i>Limonium leptostachyum</i></p>	 <p>Lisianthus</p> <p><i>Eustoma grandiflora</i></p>



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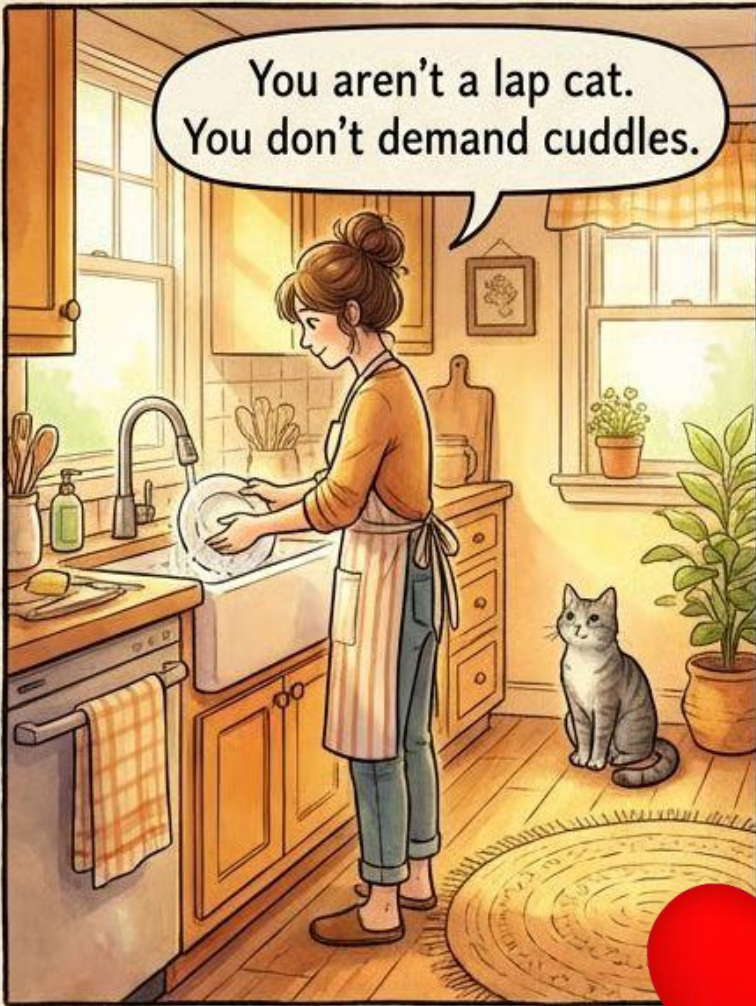
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# Fun Facts for the month of May

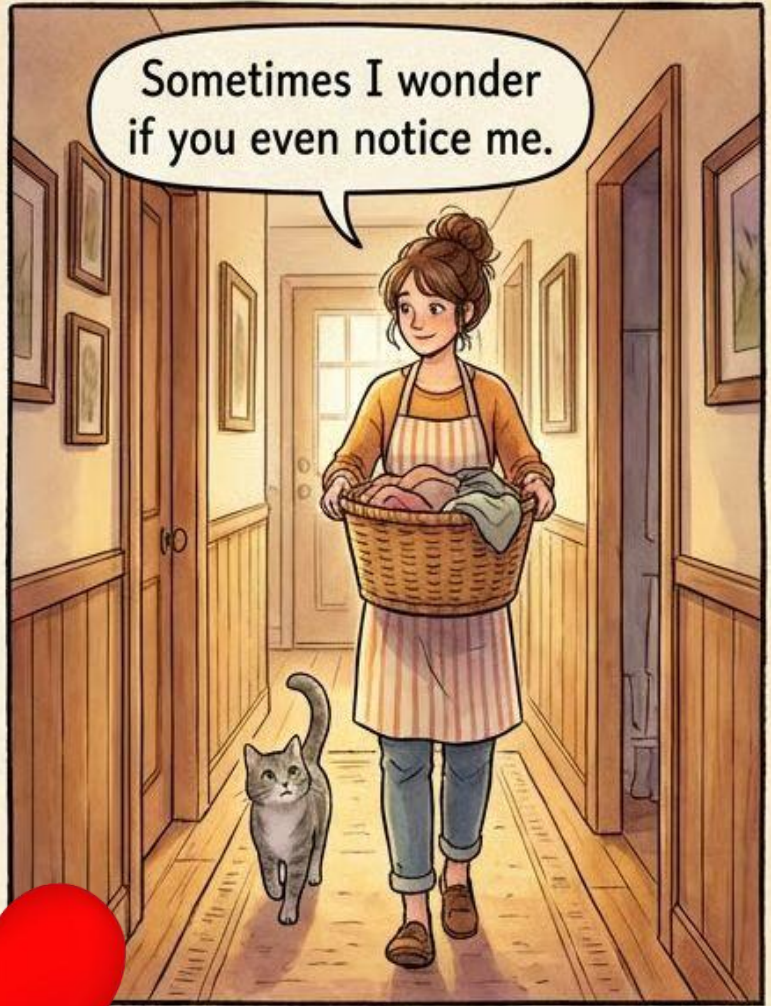
- **May** is the month of Mother's Day, Memorial Day, and all sorts of other fun designated days of celebrations and events.
- **May** is the fifth month of the year in the Julian and Gregorian calendars.
- The name **May** is the modern-day English adaption of the Latin word *Maius*, which has origins going back to the time of the ancient Greeks. They named the month of May (or Maius) after the Greek goddess of growth.
- The word **May** wasn't actually used until the middle ages were on their way out, around the 15th Century AD. Up until then, the Roman word Maius was still used.
- **May** used to have a very different name in Old English. Back then, the month was referred to as the "month of three milkings." Unsurprisingly, this meant that during this month, you could milk your cows up to three times per day! (*which might have been tough on both the poor cows and farmers!*).
- **May** was once considered an incredibly ill-omened time to get married. There's an adage for it actually, which goes: "*Marry in May - Rue the Day.*" It's not clear where exactly the saying comes from, but there must have been a pretty good reason not to get married in one of the most beautiful months of the year!
- **May** isn't just a bad time to get married, though. There's the Cornish superstition that buying a new broom in May is unlucky. Oh, and apparently, you shouldn't wash any blankets either!
- **May** is the month that the Eurovision song contest is held every year. For those not in the know, Eurovision is an international song contest that has been held every year since 1956. Some of the contest winners over the years have gone on to be incredibly successful groups, with the most notable being ABBA!
- The Empire State Building opened its doors on **May 1, 1931**. At the point of its construction, it held the record for being the tallest building in the world. Many other sky-high constructions have since dwarfed it, but it's still an awe-inspiring feature of the New York cityscape!
- Back in the day in Europe, it wasn't a good **May** if you didn't celebrate it with a maypole. In the UK, at least, they were present since at least 1350 AD. Celebrants would erect a long pole and attach flowers, garlands, and strips of fabric to it, around which certain dances would take place.
- **May** is a pretty good month for US presidents. Every other month of the year, at least one US president has died, but never in May! (to date that is!)
- Memorial Day is a federal holiday in the United States to honor and mourn the U.S. military personnel who have died in the course of carrying out their duties. The holiday is observed on the last **Monday of May**. The holiday was observed on May 30 from 1868 to 1970.
- **Cinco de Mayo** commemorates the Mexican victory over the French during the Battle of Puebla on **May 5, 1862**. Over time, it has evolved into a day of celebrating Mexican culture.
- The birthstone for **May** is the emerald. Emeralds are a type of stone called beryl and typically range from a deep-sea green to a lighter color. Emeralds are symbols of fertility and rebirth.
- **May** actually has two birth flowers – the Lily-of-the-Valley and the Hawthorn. The Hawthorn flower is a symbol of hope, while the Lily-of-the-Valley represents the return of happiness and sweetness. Caution to all pet lovers: Lily of the Valley is poisonous to dogs & cats.
- **May** also has two Zodiac signs, Taurus and Gemini. People born under the sign of Taurus are said to be ambitious and smart, yet trustworthy. Those born under the sign of Gemini are said to be passionate, adaptable, and smart.
- **May** has some pretty interesting month-long observances.
- **May is National Pet Month in the U.S. and it is the perfect time to take a pause in our hectic lives to celebrate the animals in our lives. Whether you live with a dog, cat, turtle or snake or even a whole menagerie, this is the perfect time to show your pet how much you love them.**
- **May** also has some pretty wacky days! Hawaii celebrates Lei Day on the first of May, which also happens to be May Day. Utah celebrates Golden Spike Day on May 10th after the First Transcontinental Railroad was completed. May 29th is celebrated as Put a Pillow on Your Fridge Day! (weird!)
- Many famous people were born in **May**, such as Mark Zuckerberg, Karl Marx, Clint Eastwood, Wes Anderson, John F. Kennedy, Queen Victoria, and Catherine the Great!

**Happy May Everyone!**

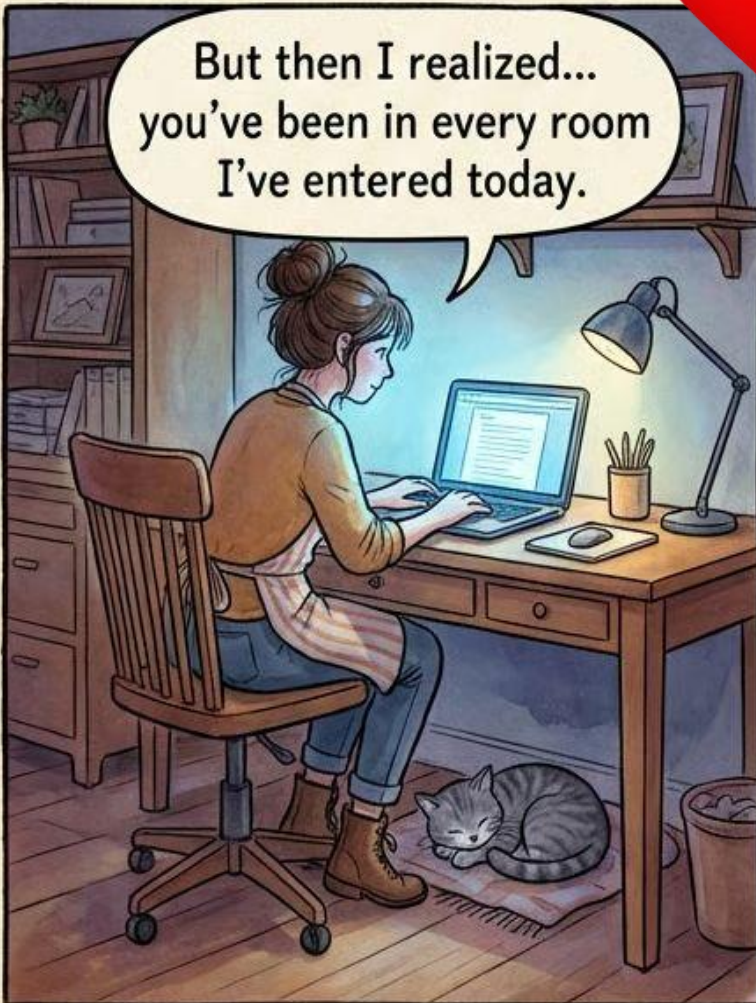
You aren't a lap cat.  
You don't demand cuddles.



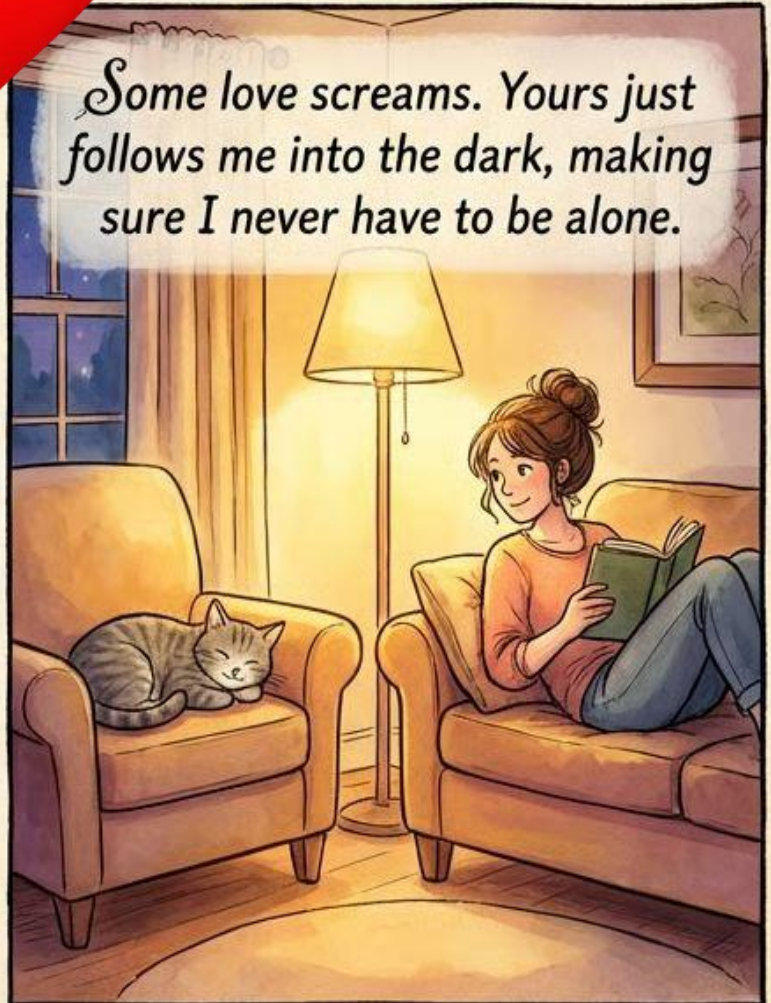
Sometimes I wonder  
if you even notice me.



But then I realized...  
you've been in every room  
I've entered today.



*Some love screams. Yours just  
follows me into the dark, making  
sure I never have to be alone.*



# FUN FACTS

Cats have over one hundred vocal sounds, while dogs only have about ten. A pack of kittens is called a kindle, while a pack of adult cats is called a clowder. An adult cat can run about 12 miles per hour, and can sprint at nearly thirty miles per hour.

Did you know that your yawning is contagious, even for dogs. Research shows that the sound of a human yawn can trigger one from your dog. And it's four times as likely to happen when it's the yawn of a person your pet knows.

\*Contrary to popular belief, dogs aren't color blind; they can see shades of blue, yellow, green and gray. The color red registers on a gray-scale in a dog's vision.

While lizards are not warm and fuzzy they do make good pets. But be careful not to sneak up on or frighten them or they will detach their tails.

# SPRING PET SAFETY

## **ALLERGIES**

Things like grass and seasonal plants can cause allergies

## **SPRING CLEANING**

Household cleaning products are a poison threat

## **PESTICIDES**

Lawn care and gardening products can be hazardous to your pet

## **LOST PETS**

More outdoor time means an increased risk in lost pets

## **PLANTS**

Lilies, Azaleas, Tulip bulbs, and other seasonal plants can be toxic





# 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.

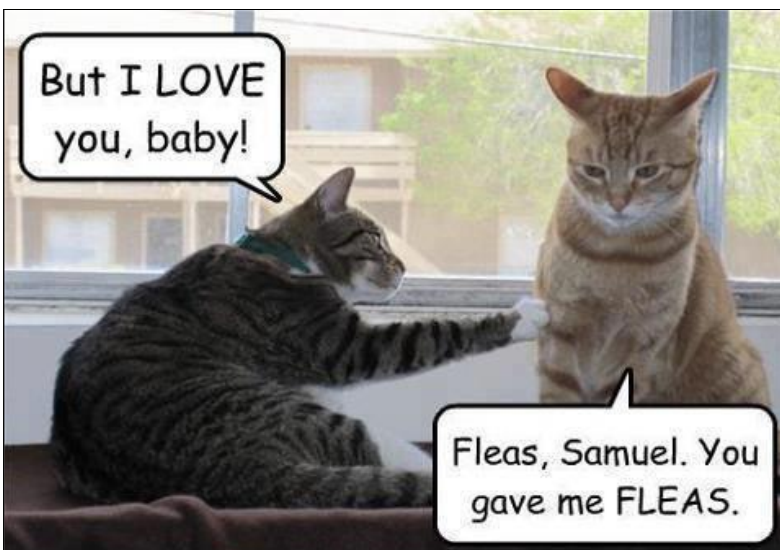
To be eligible for a loan with JFLA, applicants must live in LA, Ventura, or Santa Barbara county, be 18 years or older, submit all required supporting documentation, and have at least 1 guarantor to sign on to the loan. **Please see [JFLA.org](http://JFLA.org) for more information.**



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



# MAY MEMES





# VENTURA CO. RESCUE GROUPS



## Local Pet Rescues

Clickable Links	Phone #	Location
<a href="#">Agoura Animal Shelter</a>	818-991-0071	Agoura Hills
<a href="#">All for Love Animal Rescue</a>	805-445-3535	Call for Details
<a href="#">Animal Foundation of America</a>	805-905-9951	Thousand Oaks
<a href="#">Animal Rescue Volunteers</a>	805-579-8047	Simi Valley
<a href="#">Bubbles Dog Rescue</a>		Los Angeles
<a href="#">C.A.R.L.</a>	805-644-7387	Call for Details
<a href="#">Cassie's Cat Cafe</a>	805-232-4228	Ventura
<a href="#">Cats at the Studios</a>	818-341-8936	Call for Details
<a href="#">Cat's Cradle Rescue</a>	805-485-8811	Ventura
<a href="#">DaisyLu Ranch</a>		Camarillo
<a href="#">Dobies &amp; Little Paws</a>	805-524-5102	Fillmore
<a href="#">Dog Days Search &amp; Rescue</a>	805-551-9706	Simi Valley
<a href="#">Eastwood Ranch Rescue/Adoption Ctr</a>	818-338-1551	Agoura Hills
<a href="#">Friends of Milo Foundation</a>		Simi Valley/LA
<a href="#">Furry Funding</a>	855-777-7007	Westlake Village
<a href="#">Healthcare for Homeless Anim.</a>	818-483-4228	Ventura County
<a href="#">Herman Bennett Foundation</a>	805-445-7171	Ventura County
<a href="#">Humane Society of Ven. Co</a>	805-646-6505	Ojai
<a href="#">Karma Rescue</a>	310-512-7833	Los Angeles
<a href="#">LIFE Rescue</a>	818-707-2007	Westlake Village
<a href="#">Lucy Pet Foundation</a>	805-499-5829	Thousand Oaks
<a href="#">Mad Love Animal Rescue</a>	213-364-2353	Los Angeles
<a href="#">Military Animal Project</a>	805-551-1168	Ventura County
<a href="#">Paw Works</a>	805-852-1744	Ventura/Oxnard
<a href="#">Petcare Foundation</a>	213-403-0129	Los Angeles
<a href="#">Pink Paws</a>	805-492-1885	Thousand Oaks
<a href="#">Pivot Educational Outreach</a>	805-889-4800	Ventura County
<a href="#">Purrmaid Café &amp; Adoption Center</a>	805-419-6116	Camarillo
<a href="#">Purrlandia Cat Lounge &amp; Cafe</a>	818-230-2724	Thousand Oaks
<a href="#">Save A Rescue</a>	888-440-6467	Nationwide
<a href="#">Shelter Hope Pet Shop</a>	805-379-3538	Thousand Oaks
<a href="#">Serenity Place Rescue</a>	818-999-4022	Call for Details
<a href="#">Simi Valley Missing Pets</a>	805-522-7867	Simi Valley
<a href="#">SPARC</a>	805-525-8609	Santa Paula
<a href="#">Surfcats Café &amp; Adoptions</a>	805-500-7125	Ventura
<a href="#">The Little Angels Project</a>	818-515-5461	Agoura Hills
<a href="#">Valley Cats, Inc</a>	818-883-5252	Westlake Village
<a href="#">Ventura Co. Animal Services</a>	805-388-4341	Camarillo/SV

# 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](#)

**If you have a Pet Store in  
any of our areas and want  
to be included, please  
contact us:  
[info@petzgazette.com](mailto:info@petzgazette.com)**



# 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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Oxnard, CA 93036  
805-485-0691 [www.dioji.com](http://www.dioji.com)



**Dioji K9 Resort & Athletic Club**  
7340 Hollister Ave.  
Goleta, CA 93117  
805-685-6068

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



Petzgazette'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.



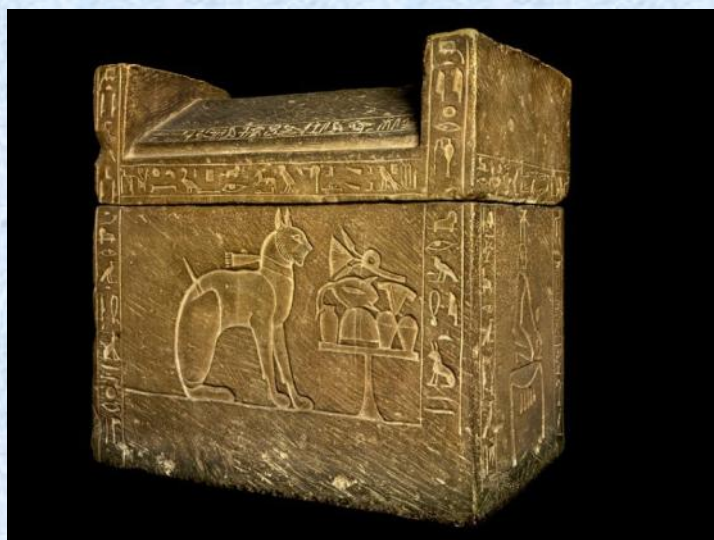
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805-905-9471

## Sarcophagus of Prince Thutmose's Cat Ta Miu

Prince Thutmose is best remembered for the limestone sarcophagus of his beloved cat, Ta-miu (she-cat). The body of this sarcophagus is completely decorated with scenes, while the lid is inscribed with hieroglyphs. It shows the cat sitting before an offering table heaped with goodies for the afterlife.

It seems that her owner, Crown Prince Thutmose, wanted her to enjoy her time after death as much as she had appreciated being a cosseted royal pet in life. The back of the sarcophagus shows a cat at a table laden with offerings and a lotus flower, the sign of resurrection and rebirth.



*Sarcophagus of Prince Thutmose's Cat Ta-Miu (front & back)*

Little is known about how Ta-Miu met her end, but after her death, she was mummified. Her sarcophagus tells us most of what we know about the short life of Crown Prince Thutmose.

The sides of the sarcophagus are decorated with scenes of the goddess Isis kneeling on a stool in the shape of the Nebu or gold symbol in hieroglyphs. On the left, a god holds two Nu jars for pouring libations.

There are two reasons to mummify a cat, the first of these is to provide a pet with a caring burial (like Ta-miu), and the second, more common reason is for ritual purposes.

The front of the sarcophagus depicts a large cat standing in front of a table heaped with different kinds of offerings including bread, beer, beheaded geese, and the foreleg of an ox. Behind the cat stands the cat goddess Bastet, completely wrapped.

## The prince who loved his cat

Ancient Egyptians were serious cat people, they often buried with mummified animals and animal statues. It was seen as a way for the dead to bring pets with them to the afterlife.

Djhotmose (Thutmose) was so fond of his cat Ta-miu (she-cat) that he had a fine limestone sarcophagus carved for her, had her body mummified and then carefully buried.

Crown Prince Thutmose, was the eldest son of Amenhotep III and Queen Tiye. He was designated as king Amenhotep III's successor but pre-deceased his father. His younger brother, Amenhotep IV or Akhenaten, assumed the throne instead.

Cats played an important role in Egyptian religion. They were also household pets and could be valuable in controlling snakes and rodents.

The ancient Egyptians were drawn to felines' hunting prowess and their ability to protect their young. Egyptians believed cats were magical creatures, capable of bringing good luck to the people who housed them.

To honor these treasured pets, wealthy families dressed them in jewels and fed them treats fit for royalty. A number of animals including cats were mummified to serve as ritual offerings to the gods. Cats were often offered to the cat goddess Bastet as votives, with the practice of mummifying animals peaking in the 1st Millennium BC.

Votives in ancient Egyptian culture were items gifted to gods within temples to secure divine favor, express gratitude, or make personal requests. Huge numbers of animals were often stored en-mass in underground galleries. As this was done on such a large scale, most of the mummified cats which were offered as votives were kittens, this was so that the temple could continue to produce these votives without spending unnecessary time raising an adult cat.

-----  
Not to confuse which Thutmose is which:

### Reign and Timeline

1. **Thutmose III:** Ruled for roughly 54 years (1479–1425 BC), initially co-ruling with Hatshepsut.
2. **Crown Prince Thutmose** (which is the above storyline): Lived during the reign of his father, Amenhotep III (18th Dynasty, c.1360s BC), dying well over a century after Thutmose III's death.

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