

# Wags and Purrs Comfort Corner

### **World Pet Memorial Day**



Every second Tuesday in June, we take a moment to remember and honor all our pets who have passed during World Pet Memorial Day.

A heartbreaking truth all pet owners must accept - we will most likely outlive our beloved furry companions. When that time comes, it's important to understand that grief is a very personal process and there is no wrong way to grieve. Many days will be harder than others like birthdays, gotcha days, holidays and even the dates of their passing. It's normal to go through the cycles of grief again during these days and a pet parent should allow themselves to process these emotions. World Pet Memorial Day may bring on some of these feelings, but it's also the perfect opportunity to celebrate the life of a pet and all they brought into our lives.

Pets can share over a decade of our lives with us and pet parents should never feel guilty for grieving a pet or deciding to honor, celebrate or memorialize them. How a pet parent decides to memorialize and remember their pets can be as unique as the pet themselves.

#### Health Tip for the Season

All pets should be visiting their veterinarian regularly for their yearly wellness exams. Many diseases have much better prognosis if caught in the earliest stages and yearly exams increase the chance of early diagnosis. If your pet is diagnosed with an illness, speak to vour veterinarian about nutrition, disease progression and medications and their side effects.

#### Training Tip for the Season

Some pets will put up a fiaht about takina oral medications. Instead of making it a stressful experience for both pet and parent, discuss different types of medications and delivery options with your vet. Some medications are available transdermally or in liquid form. If there is only a pill or capsule form on your pet's medications, try using a pill pocket or pill popper,

- If the pet had a favorite spot, a pet parent may want to go there to sit and remember the good times they had with their pets.
- Memorial services are a great way to share memories of your pet and grieve with others who also cared about your pet.
- If your pet was cremated, find a special place to put their ashes. Many pet crematoriums will offer urns or boxes to store the ashes in. Those can be set on a shelf or table with pictures of the pet and maybe a collar or favorite small toy.
- Making a scrapbook or shadow box can honor a pet's memory and help with the healing process as you look at photographs of all the wonderful memories that were shared with the pet.
- Companies now offer memorial stones or markers for a pet memorial, some are similar to gravestones with dates of birth and death and others are simpler with a picture or phrase. It's a personal preference which kind of memorial stone is chosen.
- Make a donation in the pet's name or volunteer at an animal rescue
- If you're having difficulty getting over the loss, try a pet loss support group and surround yourself with others who understand your grief.

World Pet Memorial doesn't have to be a somber time, it can be a celebration of life and a time to reflect on the amazing memories shared with a deceased pet.

If a pet parent is having a difficult time with the loss of a pet, there are online websites and support groups that can help without judgment.

Association for Pet Loss and Bereavement Pet Loss.com

such as those featured below, but never hide a pet's medication in fatty and salty lunch meat or hotdogs. Lunch meat, processed meats and cheeses can cause stomach and intestinal issues and raise the risk of pancreatitis.

## <u>Pet Sitter Tip for the Season</u>

If your pet has received a terminal diagnosis, or is on palliative or hospice care, please make your Professional Pet Care Specialist aware of any new needs, medications or changes in routines. Your Professional Pet Care Specialist may also be able to help you with endof-life care, companies that provide in-home euthanasia and arief support. As difficult as it may be, please remember to keep your pet's profile updated, even in the event of passing.

## Recommended Products









#### Pill Pockets and Pill Poppers

Whether for an illness or an ongoing need, there will be times in a pet parents' life that will require them to give their pet medications. Some pets will take pills without any issues, while others could find a pill hidden in the middle of a steak! For the latter pets, we recommend pill pockets or pill poppers to keep the process as stress-free as possible for all parties!

Pill pockets, such as the <u>Greenies Pill Pockets</u> featured above, allow a pet parent to hide their pets medication in a soft, chewy treat.

For those keen-nosed pets who still won't take a treat in a pill pocket, there are pill poppers. The use of a pill popper allows the pet parent to deliver the pill to the back of the pet's cheek and encourage swallowing. Delivering the medication with a pill popper will lessen the chance of a pet trying to chew the medication or spitting it out. Featured above is the <u>Lixit Pill Popper</u>.



June Birthdays

Heidi Allison Waffles Budilovsky Aiden Oslick

**Kyrie Robinson Bolt Buco** Jennie Comstock **Rosie Coates** Mona Lisa Greenberg **Rooney Miller Teddy Soles** Rosie Chapman Gage Wilmoth **Angel Creamer Lilly Creamer** Eliot Zurawski Cheese Dvorshock Bella Massarelli Ellie Nigro **Tulsa Adams** Mulligan Budilovsky Maverick McGill Luke Kelly Morticia Falk Elvira Falk

Happy Birthday, all! Paw-ty hard!

#### Healthy Homemade Treats for the Season

#### Frozen Yogurt Bites

#### **INGREDIENTS:**

- 1 large container (32 oz.) of low-fat, plain, organic yogurt
- 3 handfuls of fresh blueberries
- 1 banana
- 2 tbsp. of peanut butter
- Can be made with other fruits like apples, pineapples, watermelon, etc.



#### **DIRECTIONS:**

Chop up the banana in small pieces (or mash) and mix all ingredients together.

Place the mixture in ice cube trays and freeze for about 3 hours.

Once frozen, run hot water over the under side of the trays, pop out the bites, and serve.

#### Frozen Tuna Treats

#### Ingredients:

- Can of water-packed tuna (or canned salmon) Approximately ½ c water
- A mixing bowl or Magic Bullet
- A Ziploc bag

#### Directions:

Start by mashing up the tuna in your bowl Don't drain the tuna water as it helps with the freezing.

Add about half a cup of water to the mix.

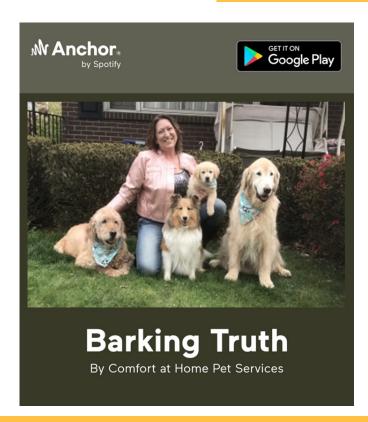
Then mix up that tuna in a magic bullet or food processor

Fill your Ziploc bag with the mix and cut a small hole in one end. This helps save you from making a huge mess while filling up the ice cube trays.

Fill your trays and place in the freezer for a couple hours.



#### Barking Truth



Clients, followers and friends have voiced their appreciation of our educational blogs and monthly newsletters and have urged us to release a pet care podcast. We are excited to announce that we have answered the call with Barking Iruth, a podcast exposing the truth in the pet industry to keep all pets safe, healthy and well.

We will be releasing a new podcast every Wednesday and hope you can tune in and support pets everywhere by uncovering the truth of pet care.

Be sure to follow us on Anchor, Spotify or your favorite podcast service.



Wags and Purrs Comfort Corner strives to provide educational, informative and fun content to our readers! We love hearing your feedback on our newsletters and blogs and want to know what you, dear reader, would like to see in future newsletters and blogs. Are there topics you are interested in that we haven't covered or you would like more specific information? Please feel free to let us know. We'd love to hear from you!

Please email suggestions to <u>Jen@comforthomepetservices.com</u>







Grief and Pet Loss Pet Care Specialists and Grief

**Cat Misconceptions** 









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