

Cats

On Broadway

1st Quarter 2020

this issue >>

SouthPaw

Thank You

Sunshine Says

Cat Treat Recipe
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Cat Licks

Employee Of the Quarter

DIY Cat Toys

Is your cat a lefty or a righty?

Did you know it may depend on its sex. According to a study published in the journal of Animal Behavior, male domestic cats tend to be "southpaws," that is, they tend to preferentially use their front left paw for certain complex tasks, and females use their right paw. Dr. Deborah Wells of Queens University Belfast, Ireland, studied paw preference in cats in their homes with their owners present. Researchers gave cats three different tests of varying complexity and recorded which paw the cats initially used. Each test was repeated 100 times. Forty-two neutered adult cats (21 males and 21 females) participated in the study. In the most complex task, cats were presented with glass jars containing tuna that they were unable to retrieve with their mouth. The cats were observed as they attempted to extract the treat with their paws. Almost all the males used their left paw, and nearly all the females used their right. Statistically, in the less complex tasks the cats were ambidextrous. No age-related preferences were observed. You can try this test at home! Show your cat the morsel of food in the jar first, then place the jar directly in front of your cat, so that you do not influence which paw he or she chooses to use.



Sunshine Says...

Good Bye!

He has left the building!

If you've been to the Cat Clinic in recent months you may have noticed that Sunshine isn't in residence anymore. It's actually a really good thing! After years of dedicated service keeping the Cat Clinic in order, he has moved to his new forever home with one of our employees and is enjoying his retirement. Though we miss seeing him everyday, we are happy he is enjoying his new life.



Thank you...

to all of our wonderful clients who brought us all kinds of delicious treats this Holiday season! We appreciated (and devoured) them all!

Salmon Cat Treats

Homemade cat treats are a fun way to show your cats how much you love them! This fish-shaped 3 ingredient salmon cat treat recipe will be a hit with your cat babies. *(fish shaped cutters are available on Amazon).*

Ingredients: 10 oz canned salmon undrained, 1 egg beaten, 2 cups whole wheat flour

Instructions: Heat oven to 350°. Pulse 10 oz canned salmon (undrained) in a food processor to chop as finely as possible.

In a stand mixer, combine salmon, 1 egg (beaten) and 2 cups whole wheat flour until dough forms. If dough is too dry, add up to 1/3 cup water. If dough is too wet or sticky, add a bit more flour. Dough should be tacky but not sticky.

Roll out dough on a floured surface until about 1/4 inch thick. Use a 3/4-inch cookie cutter in the shape of your choice to create your treats.

Place treats on a parchment-lined baking sheet and bake at 350° for about 20 minutes. When they're slightly browned and crunchy, they're done.

Allow to cool before serving. Store in an airtight container for up to 2 weeks.



Come Join us at
*Galveston Island
Humane Society's
22nd Annual*

**Krewe of
Barkus & Meoux
Parade**

**Sunday, February 23rd,
1:30 PM**



Cat Licks!

If you've ever been licked by a cat, you may have noticed that its tongue felt like sandpaper

New research is helping to explain this natural curiosity. Cat's tongues are covered with tiny spines, called papillae, which are made of keratin, just like their claws and our fingernails. The papillae contain hollow scoops, and wick saliva from the mouth and help deposit it on the cat's fur as it grooms. This makes saliva delivery more efficient, helping with cleaning and cooling. The spines also help detangle cats' fur. The combined functions make them the key to deep cleaning. A domestic cat has nearly 300 papillae on their tongues. The spines are all angled in the same direction, backwards, making it easier for fur and debris to be removed. They normally lie flat, but muscles in cats' tongues make them stand up when needed. Georgia Institute of Technology created a 3D printed brush that mimics the shape and direction of the spines on cats' tongues.

Researchers say this could lead to tools to help effectively apply fluids or medicines. Researchers studied other cat species' tongues as well. Using preserved tongues from zoos, they determined that tigers', bobcats', and lions' tongues share the same trait. They also found that when you compress the fur, the distance to the skin is the same as the length of the spines. One exception is the Persian cat, whose fur is so long that it typically does need humans to brush it to help prevent matting. Other studies have shown that the shape of the papillae may help cats grip food, and may also help stimulate the cat's skin while grooming.



FUN DIY TOYS FOR THAT FAVORITE CAT OR KITTEN



A **ribbon cat wand** never disappoints. Add some bells for extra noise, and bunch the ribbons by tying them together with some twine. Attach to a stick, and you're good to go.

Here are the materials you will need:

- 1 Wooden Dowel
- 3 Jingle Bells
- Multiple Fabric Scraps (Ribbons, Shoe Laces, etc)
- 1 Roll of Baker's Twine
- Scissors
- Fabric Glue



Transform a plastic food container into a brain exercise for your cat! This **DIY cat puzzle** will be lots of fun for inquisitive felines.

What you need:

- Knife
- Scissors
- Marker
- Food containers



TP roll cat toy filled with some of their favorite treats. Just make sure you leave one end open enough for the treats to fall out while kitty whacks the toy around.

