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The World's Wealthiest Pets

Since humans first domesticated dogs almost 40,000 years ago, people have happily kept pets around. We feed them, groom them, and occasionally let them sleep on the bed. Some people love their pets so much they make sure their animals will inherit a vast fortune in the case of their owner's death. Here are a few pets who, thanks to their dedicated owners, are truly living the good life.

Gigoo

Fortune: \$15 million

When British publisher Miles Blackwell and his wife, Briony, passed away within weeks of each other, the childless couple left most of their fortune to a charity trust. About \$42.5 million went to benefit arts, music, and animal welfare causes. However, the Blackwells didn't forget about their favorite pet, Gigoo the hen. The \$15 million Gigoo inherited to ensure she was taken care of made her the only bird on Time magazine's "10 Richest Pets of All Time."

Gunther IV

Fortune: \$375 Million

German countess Karlotta Liebenstein left her entire \$80 million fortune to her German shepherd, Gunther III. Trustees for the canine's estate have made some excellent investments since



then, growing the fortune to \$375 million — a sum that was inherited by Gunther III's son, Gunther IV. Today, this top dog dines on steak and caviar, is chauffeured by limousine, and owns villas around the world, including a Miami Beach mansion once belonging to Madonna.

Grumpy Cat

Fortune: Between \$1-100 million

While most rich pets inherit wealth, Grumpy Cat, whose real name is Tardar Sauce, is a self-made millionaire. Born with a form of dwarfism, the world fell in love with Grumpy Cat when pictures of her perpetual frown circled the internet in 2012. The meme sensation soon made

the jump to real world celebrity, becoming the official spokescat for Friskies cat food and starring in her own movie, "Grumpy Cat's Worst Christmas Ever." Sources claim Grumpy Cat is worth over \$100 million. Her owner says this number is inaccurate, but one thing is certain — whatever she's frowning about, it's not her bank account.

This list is a clear reminder of how much people love their pets. Of course, instead of a vast fortune, most of us are content to show our affection with an extra treat before dinner. After all, our pets probably don't even know the difference.



NEWSLETTER

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LESSONS IN JERUSALEM WHY WE NEED STRUGGLE

A few months ago, my family flew to Israel to visit my daughter who's currently studying there. Yes, we were there during the uproar following President Trump declaring Jerusalem the capital of Israel. There were some protests going on in a few spots, but when you're in Jerusalem, you don't feel like you need to look over your shoulder at all. The IDF does an excellent job of making you feel safe. It's a remarkable place, and I can tell you, the week we spent there certainly wasn't enough time.

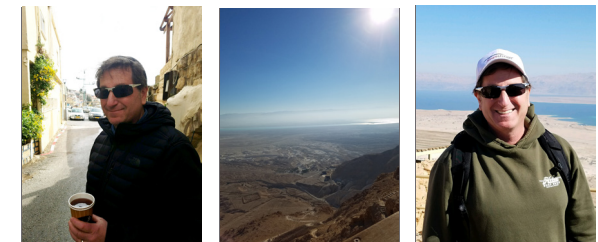
During this most recent trip, I was struck by the history of Israel and Jerusalem, and I don't mean the ancient history. Here in the United States, we are taught about the American Revolution, the bravery of our founding fathers, and our struggle for freedom from the tyranny of the British Monarchy, which finally culminated in our Declaration of Independence. Did you know Israel has a similar story involving Great Britain?

The history of Israel is complicated, to put it lightly. Near the end World War I, after the defeat of the Ottoman Empire, the British took control of a partitioned area which later became known as the British Mandate, granted to the British by the League of Nations in 1922. In 1917, during World War I, Lord Balfour of Great Britain had issued the Balfour declaration, declaring what was then called Palestine a homeland for the Jewish people and this was later upheld by the League of Nations. This decision wasn't popular with the surrounding Arab countries,

and later the British backed off from this declaration, restricting immigration of Jews and transfer of land. Walls and barbed wire divided Jerusalem into Arab and Jewish portions, and Great Britain ruled Palestine with an iron fist until 1948, when they gave up the British Mandate and the Jewish People finally declared their independence from British Rule with the creation of the State of Israel.

This is a brief version of events, but the history is really fascinating. If you have the chance, I encourage you to read up on it. For now, what's important is that like our forefathers in the American Revolution, the Jews in Israel never gave up the fight to live free from British Rule. They wanted to live in a democracy where they could govern themselves. While visiting Israel, I toured the Akko Prison, where some of the people who fought for their ideals were imprisoned and even hanged by the British for the crime of seeking such freedom.

Life is a struggle, and we shouldn't wish it was otherwise. Recently, I read "New Earth" by Eckhart Tolle. In it, he talks about why obstacles are necessary and says, "On all levels, evolution occurs in response to a crisis situation, not infrequently a life-threatening one..." What Tolle means is without struggles, we will not grow. If there's nothing for us to overcome, there's no need for us to get better.



Israel has faced a lot of struggles, but look at it now. Today, all of the world's major religions — Jews, Christians, and Muslims — can come and pray freely in their respective houses of worship in Jerusalem. The country is surrounded by oppressive dictators and regimes, but Israel is a free democracy and a world leader in medicine, cybersecurity and many other areas of industry. Arabs serve in the Israeli Parliament and have the right to vote. The challenges are far from over, but Israeli Jews fought hard for it, and you can see how Israelis now cherish the amazing country that with G-d's help, they have built together and continue to build.

I believe we all need to remember that many things in life are worth fighting for. No matter how impossible the odds may seem, there is something good waiting on the other side. And if you have the opportunity to go Israel, don't let scary stories on the news turn you away. It is an incredible, beautiful, spiritual place, and I promise you'll be very glad for the experience.

-Joseph Miller

If you belong to a union or other labor-related group and want to schedule my presentation at your group's speaking arrangement, you can do so by calling 888-694-7994. The presentation is free of charge, offers important information for taking appropriate action in Virginia workers' compensation cases, and everyone in attendance gets a free copy of my book, "10 Traps and Lies that Can Ruin Your Virginia Workers Compensation Case." Education is the best way to protect yourself from making a mistake. So call now, before it's too late.



The Importance of SPRING CLEANING YOUR UTILITY ROOM

The start of spring brings everyone's favorite seasonal chore — spring cleaning! As you dust, vacuum, organize, and declutter, don't forget about the one room that often gets neglected. This year, give special attention to the utility closet.

The utility closet houses your furnace, boiler, water heater, A/C junction, and other similar large appliances. Homeowners often forget about these appliances because they are out of sight and out of mind, and this can cost a lot in the long run.

Like all the other rooms in your home, this space needs to be kept clean. Dust, for instance, can be hard on HVAC systems. Over time, it accumulates in the HVAC intake and clogs the air filter, reducing its effectiveness and efficiency. This results in a short lifespan for your system, higher power bills, and a poorly heated or cooled home.

How Often Should You Replace Your Air Filter?

Homes with minimal foot traffic (single or double occupancy) and no pets or allergies: 6 to 12 months.

Family homes (three or more occupants) with no pets or allergies: 3 to 6 months.

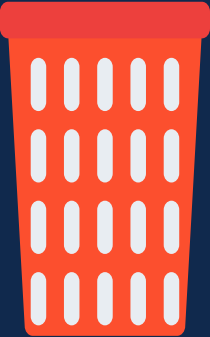
Family homes with at least one pet or minor allergies: 2 to 3 months.

Family homes with multiple pets or allergies: 1 to 2 months.

In addition to changing the air filter, it's important to schedule a routine inspection of your home's HVAC system. This includes an inspection of the appliances themselves and any connecting ducts. Dust, dander, and mold can accumulate in the ducts and

spread throughout the home, which can lead to health issues, including respiratory problems.

A routine inspection will identify potential problems in your HVAC system. On top of that, you can get these systems professionally cleaned and maintained. These are simple steps that will keep your home's air systems running smoothly for years to come. Plus, you'll be ready for the summer months ahead!



TESTIMONIAL

"I was injured on the job in 2015. At first, it was just one of those things ... what doesn't kill you makes you stronger, right? The insurance adjuster and my employer assured me they would take good care of me. Then reality hit — I needed surgery to repair the damage to my knee. I was assigned a new adjuster who said he was working for me, but his words and his actions were on different planets. "I'm not one of those people who see dollar signs; but early on, I started thinking ... my employer and the insurance company both have lawyers, so maybe I need someone on my side. After contacting Joe Miller Law, I received a call from paralegal Lisa Hancock, who assured me that she was there for me. She explained my rights and urged me to contact her with any issues. Knowing that I was one of many clients, I was skeptical, but when I did have an issue and needed her, she was available! Lisa's professionalism and enthusiasm for her job are second to none. She guided me through the entire process (two years), easing my anxiety and stress level, and allowing me to concentrate on myself. She has an uncanny intuition that picked up on my personality and matched it, making me feel like I had a friend and not just an attorney. She was relentless when I hit a wall, and she dealt with every issue that I just couldn't deal with anymore. "I would strongly recommend anyone who is injured on the job to contact Joe Miller Law. Their fees are reasonable, and they get results. I never spoke with Joe directly, but through communications with Lisa, he always answered my questions promptly. This has been a long-drawn-out and potentially stressful experience for me. But — and there's always a but — throughout it all, Lisa has been my rock, guiding me along the way and calming me down when necessary. And for this, I thank you, Lisa, for being so good at what you do!"

-Tam V.



DID YOU KNOW?

Do Not Miss Your PT Appointments!

We have had some of our clients tell us (after the fact) that they didn't make it to their physical therapy or other doctor's appointment for one reason or another.

It might be a sick child. It might be that the client didn't feel well. Or perhaps the person's ride fell through at the last minute. We've even heard clients say, "Well, I just didn't feel like they were helping me, so I quit going."

You must understand that when you are in a workers' compensation case, especially when you have an accepted claim where you are under an award, it's a lot like being in a fishbowl.

The workers' comp insurance company has a defense team that is watching your every move. They're just waiting, like a cat standing

over that fishbowl, for the right moment to pounce and wipe out your case.

We understand that occasionally there may be events that interfere with your ability to get to a physical therapy appointment. But habitual absence from scheduled appointments will only give the carrier the ammunition they need to stop your checks.

All the insurance company has to do is file a simple paper that says you have not been complying with the medical treatment plan by not attending the PT appointments prescribed by your treating physician. And from that day forward, as long as that is true, your weekly workers' compensation checks will stop.

So, please do not let this happen to you. Make every effort to attend all of your appointments.



If therapy is not helping, then by all means, tell your doctor, but do not decide to stop going on your own.

Joe's Monthly 'SOUL SNACKS'

"There are no problems, only opportunities for growth."

-Rebbetzin Dena Weinberg

"Everyone has inside of him a piece of good news. The good news is that you don't know how great you can be! How much you can love! What you can accomplish! And what your potential is!"

-Anne Frank



Braised Chicken and Spring Vegetables

Ingredients

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 tablespoon olive oil | 1 tablespoon sugar |
| 8 small bone-in chicken thighs | 2 tablespoons fresh chives, chopped |
| 1 cup low-sodium chicken broth | Salt and pepper |
| 12 radishes, halved | |
| 4 large carrots, cut into sticks | |

Directions

1. Heat olive oil in a large saucepan or Dutch oven over medium-high heat.
2. Season the chicken with salt and pepper. Brown in pan for 6 to 7 minutes per side.
3. Remove chicken from pan and scrape off excess fat. Add broth and stir in radishes, carrots, and sugar.
4. Return chicken to pan, placing on top of vegetables. Gently simmer with lid on pan for 15 to 20 minutes. Finish with chives.

[Recipe inspired by Real Simple]