



YOU & YOUR PET

There are two means of refuge from the miseries of life: music and cats.

Albert Schweitzer
French physician & philosopher

Many problems can be avoided if pet brushed frequently

Many problems can occur if people don't groom their pets frequently, says one professional groomer. Dogs and cats should be brushed every other day and at least once a week, says Paula Perini, owner of Groomingdale's in Uxbridge. If people make the time to brush their pet, they should take it to a professional groomer, otherwise skin conditions and other problems can occur.

"When I see dogs that look like they are in good condition, they are not," says Perini. "We have saved many dogs because we see a tumor or a change in color."

Brushing a pet removes dirt and spreads oils throughout the coat, keeping the skin healthy. It also removes loose hair. "The skin revives itself. Without brushing, there is a real buildup of flaky skin. It creates a skin condition."

Not only does grooming improve the coat, it also helps by relieving some of the pain of twisted fur. "Hair left itches," and twists the skin underneath. Owners have to make brushing a positive experience for the animal, Perini.

"Animals are not born knowing English and they don't come with instructions. You have to teach your dog that this is a fun thing to do and they will enjoy it."

Paula will be involved in the Flyball Dog Competition at the Stouffville Country Market March 15-16 from 8 am to 5 pm. O teams, including the top teams of the world, will be participating.

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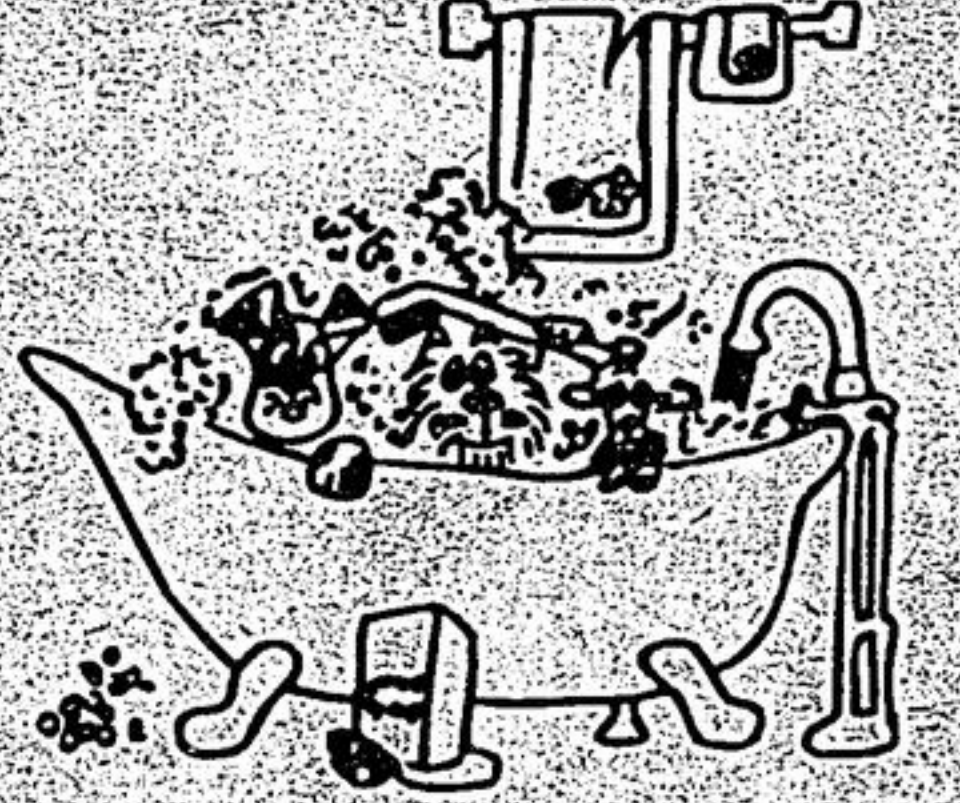
CATS AND CAT NAPS

A nine-year old cat has slept a total of 6 years. About 16 hours in any given 24 hour period is reserved for sleeping.

Yawn!

By LISA CARTWRIGHT Advertising Features

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