

PET TALES

Keeping the pooch occupied with tunes

Pets of the week

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These days it seems there's nothing high tech you can't get.

We can chat with folks across the globe and see them face to face with tiny cameras installed in our computers.

But the space age type gadgets and applications don't just end with helping human folks.

Pets are apparently high on the marketers' totem pole too. This is considering the fact we as pet lovers spend billions of dollars a year on cool stuff to pamper our pooches and kitties.

To name a few cool high tech items; doggie cell phones - yep you can actually ring your furry pal - and Web-based radio stations.

Now the fact that I can turn on a radio station for my Scottie Argyle and leave him for the day with some soothing tunes makes me one happy pet mom.

Argyle seems to like a variety of music including classical - hey it tames the salvage beast, soft pop and even some kicky stuff - depending on his mood of course.

But since I am gone for long stretches during the work day I

wanted to leave Argyle with some variety and music that would appeal to his doggie senses.

Then a co-worker told me about Web based radio stations that actually cater to pets.

Wow.

I kept imagining songs like "How much is that Doggie in the Window?" and Elvis' "Hound Dog" ditty playing to a huddle of pooches lounging on pillows. Hey no one ever said my imagination wasn't a tad strange.

But on www.DogCatRadio.com popular crooners such as Huey Lewis and K.C. and the Sunshine Band belt are just some of the performers you can expect to hear.

Web site reviews said the Internet radio station is a hit with both human and four-legged listeners.

And let's not forget about our feline friends. For those of you who fret about Whiskers being lonely and restless check out www.catgalaxy.com.

The Internet radio and TV station is specifically designed for cats to listen to and also watch. On this Web site pets can watch live Internet radio shows like *Morning Meows*, *Meow Mixing Monday*, *Tuesday Night Cat Club*, *Wednesday Night Cat Attack*, *Thursday Night Purr Party*, and the *Friday Night Feline Frenzy*. Cat Galaxy is based in Phoenix and broadcasts live 24/7 to a feline audience worldwide in 128k

CD quality stereo.

Check out days like Meow Mixing Monday where smooth jazz plays for the pleasure of your feline friend.

Now all we need is some good pet DJ's and funky contests and prizes for pets. But anyway you look at it we are on our way to making things more fun for our pets - if not ourselves - the ones who enjoy watching the furry ones chill to some tunes.

I would love to start a listing and review of popular pet radio stations. If any of you fellow pet lovers know any please let me know.

In the mean time happy listening. ■

Love Labs?

Anyone looking for a pet Labrador Retriever can contact the Labrador Retriever Rescue of Florida. The non-profit organization dedicated to placing purebred Labrador Retrievers in loving permanent homes. Check out the Lab rescue by visiting the Web page at www.labradorrescue.net or call 1-866-464-LABS.

Contact Ella
Readers are welcome to share their stories, information and needs with Ella Naylor at enayor@florida-weekly.com. Pet Tales is designed to provide entertainment, support and education to our pet lovers.



Tullulah
A 2-year-old mixed breed, Tullulah (ID #360429) is a sweet, outgoing girl who loves to play.



Casey
An Australian cattle dog, 6-year-old Casey (ID #361263) is smart and playful. Her moderate size makes her an ideal family pet.

To adopt a pet

These dogs and many more animals are available at Lee County Animal Services. Call 432-2083 or visit the shelter at 5600 Banner Drive, Fort Myers, off Six Mile Cypress Parkway in Fort Myers. Adoption hours are 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday and 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Saturday. The adoption fee is \$65 for dogs and \$50 for cats. The fee includes age-appropriate vaccinations, sterilization, flea treatment, worming, heartworm test for dogs, if six months or older, feline aids and leukemia test for cats, a county license and microchip ID. Pictures of pets available for adoption can be viewed online at www.leelostpets.com. ■

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