

In my dog's world, who's training who?



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Community Editor Tammy Malgesini and the General, her 4-year-old German shepherd.

As time goes on, I'm learning to think more like a dog.

While watching "Dog with a Blog," sometimes I wish the General could just tell me what he's thinking. A 4-year-old German shepherd — he's the smartest dog I've ever had. I'm sure he doesn't think the same of me.

While I feel extremely safe and protected when I'm with him, it evidently took him awhile to feel the same with me. I know this because the first time we went on a trip without John and Lucifer, the General didn't do a duty for nearly 40 hours.

No matter how much I wanted him to take care of business, it wasn't happening. In addition to the multiple stops on the way to Klamath Falls, when I got to the hotel I took him outside numerous times. Seriously, nothing. I

found all kinds of great spots for him. Along the lines of you can take a horse to water — he was having none of it.

I later learned I was approaching it all wrong. I was thinking like a human — you know, turning my head and looking the other way to give him privacy.

Dogs feel most vulnerable when doing their business, so they look to their human for protection. Go ahead, Google it. I was supposed to stare at him — reassuring him that I had his back.

Now it totally makes sense the first time I brought him to work late one night. When I went to the restroom, he crawled underneath the stall door, sat down and gazed at me the entire time.

I'm like, "Dude, the door is locked, you can sit out there." Of course, he was probably thinking I

was being ungrateful.

There are things I still need to figure out. I don't get why the General shakes his head and tries to get out of the way when I blow in his face. This is the same dog that can't wait for me to roll down the window when I'm driving so he can stick his head out.

And, evidently the General was royalty in a previous life. When I'm getting treats in the kitchen, Lucifer comes running to get some. General, on the other hand, waits to have his delivered. I swear he has a look on his face like, "What took you so long?"

In his eyes, I may be the prehistoric canine goddess but there are still things I need to learn.

Tammy Malgesini is the community editor. Her column, *Inside My Shoes*, includes general musings about life. Contact her at tmalgesini@eastoregonian.com or 541-564-4539.



Tammy Malgesini
INSIDE MY SHOES

IN BRIEF

Band fundraiser features Krispy Kreme donuts

People can get a Krispy Kreme fix and help support the Stanfield High School band.

The group is selling the donuts to help raise money for an April band tour in Victoria, British Columbia.

The cost is \$12 per dozen and can be purchased Saturday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Wal-Mart, 1350 N. First St., Hermiston. For more information, call band director Deborah Wryn at 541-240-1513.

Food 4 Fines feeds area families

More than five boxes of food were collected in an effort by the Stanfield Public Library.

During the month of December, the library held Food 4 Fines. Patrons were offered an opportunity to reduce their late fees by 50 cents (up to \$5) for each non-perishable food item donated.

The Umatilla County

Special Library District reports food donated was given to the Stanfield Food Bank for distribution.

Open Table needs cook

The Hermiston First Christian Church is seeking a volunteer cook for its Open Table Ministry.

The program provides free meals each Monday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the church, 775 W. Highland Ave., Hermiston. A volunteer is needed each Monday every other month.

For more information, call Jodene at 541-567-3013.

The Arc seeks vendors for indoor sale

An indoor yard sale provides an opportunity for people to stay warm while shopping and support The Arc Umatilla County.

People can purchase table space for \$10 each to sell items during the event. The Indoor Yard Sale is Saturday, Feb. 18 from 9

a.m. to 3 p.m. at The Arc Building, 215 W. Orchard Ave., Hermiston.

For more information, call the office at 541-567-7615 or Jan Schroth at 541-567-6172.

Conversation Project seeks facilitators

People from all backgrounds and levels of experience are needed to facilitate conversations to get people talking, listening and connecting to one another.

Oregon Humanities' Conversation Project brings Oregonians together to talk about important and challenging issues and ideas. Facilitators are provided training by Oregon Humanities.

Conversation leaders receive a \$250 honorarium, mileage reimbursement and a meal stipend for each program they facilitate. The application is due Tuesday, Feb. 28.

For more information, including current Conversation Project topics, visit www.oregonhumanities.org.

org. For questions, contact Rachel Bernstein at 503-241-0543 or r.bernstein@oregonhumanities.org.

OHSU professor to discuss rural healthcare

The director of the Family Nurse Practitioner Program at Oregon Health & Science University is the guest speaker for the upcoming AAUW meeting.

Cynthia Perry, who is also a professor at the OHSU School of Nursing, will share about health disparities for women living in rural areas. The public is invited to the no-host gathering Saturday at 11 a.m. at The Prodigal Son Brewery & Pub, 230 S.E. Court Ave., Pendleton.

The American Association of University Women works to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.

For more about the local affiliate, contact Kathy Chaney at cecil296@aol.com or 541-379-9997.

COMING EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1

TAI CHI: MOVING FOR BETTER BALANCE, 9-10 a.m., Good Shepherd Wellness Center, 610 N.W. 11th St. (modular behind hospital), Hermiston. Falls prevention program for older adults. Space limited to 15 participants. Free, but registration is requested. (541-667-3509)

BABY BOOGIE & TAPPIN' TODDLERS, 10-10:45 a.m., Hermiston Public Library, 235 E. Gladys Ave., Hermiston. (541-567-2882)

STORY TIME, 11:15 a.m., Hermiston Public Library, 235 E. Gladys Ave., Hermiston. (541-567-2882)

STANFIELD SENIOR MEAL SERVICE, 12 p.m., Stanfield Community Center, 225 W. Roosevelt, Stanfield. Cost is \$3.50 for seniors, \$6 for others. (541-449-1332)

DISTINGUISHED CITIZENS AWARDS BANQUET, 6-9 p.m., Hermiston Conference Center, 415 S. Highway 395, Hermiston. Hermiston celebrates its Man, Woman and Business of the Year, as well as Award of Merit, Spirit of Excellence, Fire Service, Altrusa Outstanding Young Citizen and Hermiston School District Educators and Administrator awards. Social hour at 6 p.m. followed by dinner at 6:30 p.m. and awards ceremony at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$30, available at the chamber office.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2

BOARDMAN SENIOR MEAL SERVICE, 12 p.m., Boardman Senior Center, 100 Tatone St., Boardman. Cost is \$4 for seniors 55 and over or \$5 for adults. (541-481-3257)

HERMISTON SENIOR MEAL SERVICE, 12 p.m., Hermiston Senior Center, 435 W. Orchard Ave., Hermiston. Cost is \$4 for adults, free for children 10 and under, \$4 for Meals on Wheels. Extra 50 cents for utensils/dishes. Bus service to Senior Center by donation. (541-567-3582)

SENSORY STORY TIME, 12:30 p.m., Boardman Public Library, 200 S. Main St., Boardman. For children

from birth to age 4. (541-481-2665)

TAI CHI: MOVING FOR BETTER BALANCE, 1:30-2:30 p.m., Hermiston Senior Center, 435 W. Orchard Ave., Hermiston. Falls prevention program for older adults. Free; no registration needed. (Helena Wolfe 541-561-5443)

UMATILLA COUNTY CHILDREN AND FAMILY GRIEF RECOVERY CENTER ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING, 6 p.m., New Hope Community Church, 1350 S. Highway 395, Hermiston. Meet-and-greet at 5:45 p.m. followed by meeting at 6 p.m. All those interested in volunteering are encouraged to attend. (Matt Terjeson 503-720-1620)

THE ARC UMATILLA COUNTY BINGO, 6-10 p.m., The Arc Building, 215 W. Orchard Ave., Hermiston. Doors open at 6 p.m., seats may be held until 6:30 p.m., then all seats first come, first served; games begin at 7 p.m. Proceeds benefit Umatilla County citizens with developmental disabilities. 18 years or older, must have proof of age and photo I.D. Basic pot \$20, prizes range from \$20-\$750. (541-567-7615)

FIDDLERS NIGHT, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Brookdale Assisted Living, 980 W. Highland Ave., Hermiston. Enjoy light refreshments, listen to some favorite oldies or join in the jam session. All ages welcome. (541-567-3141)

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3

HEALTHY FRIDAYS, 9:30-11:30 a.m., Good Shepherd Medical Center conference room 7, 610 N.W. 11th St., Hermiston. Free health screenings including cholesterol, blood sugar, BMI, blood pressure checks, weigh-ins and health information. For cholesterol and glucose tests, fast 10-12 hours prior to blood draw. Open to all community members. (541-667-3509)

STORY TIME, 10:15 a.m., Hermiston Public Library, 235 E. Gladys Ave., Hermiston. (541-567-2882)

STORY AND CRAFT TIME, 2 p.m., Echo Public Library, 20 S. Bonanza, Echo. (541-376-8411)

VFW BINGO, 6 p.m., Hermiston VFW, 45 W. Cherry St., Hermiston. Doors open at 6 p.m., games begin at 7 p.m. Everyone welcome. (541-567-6219)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4

PANCAKE BREAKFAST, 7-10 a.m., Stanfield Community Center, 225 W. Roosevelt, Stanfield. Costs \$5 for full breakfast/\$3 for light meal. (541-449-1332)

SATURDAY CRAFT TIME, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Hermiston Public Library, 235 E. Gladys Ave., Hermiston. Free craft projects for children in 5th grade and younger. (541-567-2882)

ORIGAMI CLUB FOR ADULTS, 1-4 p.m., Hermiston Public Library, 235 E. Gladys Ave., Hermiston. Classic Japanese paper craft for adults only. (Jodi Hansen 541-567-2882)

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7

PRESCHOOL STORY TIME, 10:30-11 a.m., Stanfield Public Library, 180 W. Coe Ave., Stanfield. (541-449-1254)

BOARDMAN SENIOR MEAL SERVICE, 12 p.m., Boardman Senior Center, 100 Tatone St., Boardman. Cost is \$4 for seniors 55 and over or \$5 for adults. (541-481-3257)

HERMISTON SENIOR MEAL SERVICE, 12 p.m., Hermiston Senior Center, 435 W. Orchard Ave., Hermiston. Cost is \$4 for adults, free for children 10 and under, \$4 for Meals on Wheels. Extra 50 cents for utensils/dishes. Bus service to Senior Center by donation. (541-567-3582)

BINGO, 5 p.m., Hermiston Senior Center, 435 W. Orchard Ave., Hermiston. Doors open at 5 p.m., games begin at 6:30 p.m. Everyone welcome. (541-567-3582)

INSIDE OUTSIDE THE LINES ADULT COLORING, 6-7:30 p.m., Irrigon Public Library, 490 N.E. Main St.,

Irrigon. Materials provided. Bring snacks to share. (541-922-0138)

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8

BABY BOOGIE & TAPPIN' TODDLERS, 10-10:45 a.m., Hermiston Public Library, 235 E. Gladys Ave., Hermiston. (541-567-2882)

CONVERSATION PROJECT: HOMELESS IN THE LAND OF PLENTY, 11 a.m., Blue Mountain Community College, 975 S.E. Columbia Drive, Hermiston. Ryan Stroud hosts. Free and open to the public. (Alison Timmons 541-289-2832)

STORY TIME, 11:15 a.m., Hermiston Public Library, 235 E. Gladys Ave., Hermiston. (541-567-2882)

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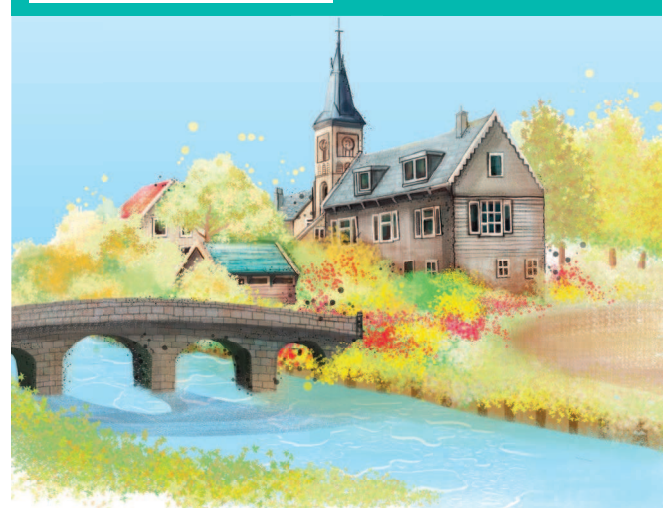
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