

PAW PRINTS:
Ear ailments are a constant threat

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massaging the base of his ears for 30 seconds.

However, even with routine ear cleaning, numerous things can work their way deep into your dog's ears and cause problems, including ear mites, cheat grass, tiny seeds and grass bits he collects as he romps around in the yard. And Rover won't be shy about letting you know that his ears are bothering him. You may notice him scratching and shaking his head in an attempt to alleviate the discomfort.

Ear mites are often found in puppies and young adult dogs. The mites are tiny

little bugs that live in the ear canal, and they bite through the skin to feed. The insides of his ears will appear red, crusted and scabbed. You may notice earwax that looks like coffee grounds (dried blood), and there may be an odor as well.

So if your dog appears to be in discomfort and is scratching and shaking his head, it's time for a vet visit.

Getting into the habit of regularly assessing your dog's ears will help you pick up any problems early on and get treatment if needed as soon as possible.

Ears are one of the biggest areas for vet visits in adult, otherwise-healthy animals, so routine checking and healthcare can help reduce the risks of your pet being one of these.



PHOTO BY JODI SCHNEIDER MCNAMEE

Abi's floppy ears make her prone to infection.

VOLUNTEERS: Workers have provided homes for 60 families

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or gold lapel pin. Bronze awards were given to individuals who volunteered 100 to 249 hours, silver was given to those who volunteered 250 to 499 hours and gold was given to those serving 500 or more hours. The two groups honored for working more than 250 hours during the past year were Heart of Oregon Corps and Deschutes County Community Justice.

In addition, Dennis Mills, a construction site volunteer since 2014, earned a spot in Sisters Habitat's 1,000-hour club, which is a cumulative award given to a volunteer once he has served 1,000 hours. The club was started in 2009 at the first appreciation picnic and with the induction of Mills, 96 people are members.

Sisters Habitat for Humanity was founded in 1991. This year they are celebrating 25 years. In that time, they have provided affordable homeownership for 60 families.

Volunteer orientation sessions are offered for those interested in volunteering on the first and third Wednesday of the month at noon at the



PHOTO BY JERRY BALDOCK

Dennis Mills joined the 1,000 hours club.

Habitat offices (above the Thrift Store), 141 W. Main Ave. To register email

Marie Clasen at marie@sistershabitat.org or call 541-549-1193.

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