

Doggone good (gluten-free) treats

By CRAIG MURPHY
Of the Keizertimes

When Tena Northern got her husband Dawayne a puppy for Christmas 2013, she also got herself a ticket to a new business venture.

Buddy the weimaraner is the first pet the couple has had in 30 years. When Tena found herself unemployed for the second time due to company downsizing, the Keizer resident was pushed towards becoming self-employed.

That led to her new business: Buddy and Friends, which makes gluten-free gourmet dog treats.

"I found I had to go gluten-free in April," Tena said. "I feel so much better. I did research on how much wheat is in foods. I wondered if any pets were going through this. I did some research and was astounded by how many pets have itching or skin issues due to their diet. That's where this whole thing came about. The employment office is giving me a chance and I'm running with it."

Buddy, who was far too excited to sit still for an interview, didn't just lend his name to the company. He also has his own Facebook (Dogbook?) page and gets to try the treats.

"Buddy is going to eat anything I give him," Tena acknowledged. "Buddy doesn't have a favorite flavor. He likes them all. I always try the treats on friends' pets as well."

Tena started the business in August and has three flavors so far: A Taste of Autumn includes peanut butter, molasses and pumpkin; A Taste of Winter has fresh chopped apples, honey and fresh mint while Cheezy Chicken has grated cheddar cheese and chicken broth.

"People are really open to it," Tena said of early reaction. "This doesn't have any grains in it. We can make them dairy-free. We can make whatever the customer needs. They are packaged as six ounces. We want to keep them affordable, not too heavy on weight. We have gotten great feedback."

Tena runs the business along with daughter Ameer — she figured if she had a common name with an unusual spelling, she would pass that along — as well as her four-legged friend.

"My daughter was eager to come on board," Tena said. "She is my person who is good at talking to people, customer service, explaining what treats we have."

The mother-daughter com-



KEIZERTIMES/Craig Murphy
Buddy gets a treat from Tena Northern as her husband Dawayne watches.

bo started selling the treats the first weekend in October at the Salem Farmer's Market. Things have been somewhat up and down, varying by the weekend.

"I hope at some point to get a small space and a store, where people can come in and get the treats, pick and choose how much they want," Tena said. "Before Christmas business was going great. I knew it was going to be solw. It won't be an overnight success."

Ameer has found education

being important for potential customers.

"They usually go 'Oh' with a puzzled look or 'I didn't know dogs need gluten-free,'" Ameer said. "We bake the treats and work the markets together."

Ameer feels a difference will be noticeable in dogs.

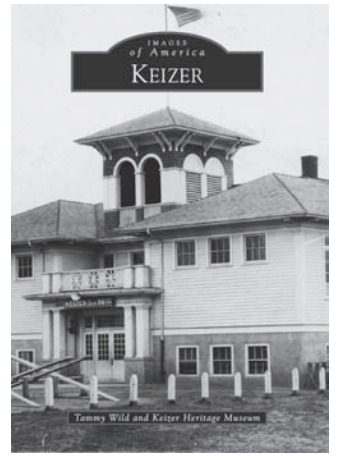
"Over time there can be a major difference in their attitude and how they act," she said. "It's just treats right now, not the main part of the diet. The dogs seem to really like it."

Pre-order Keizer history book

The Keizer Heritage Museum is taking early orders for *Images of America: Keizer*, a book chronicling Keizer's history through the early 1960s. The book will be published by Arcadia Publishing which has printed hundreds of similar books for small towns and downtowns across the country.

The Keizer book was headed up Tammy Wild as a project for the museum. Dozens of photographs from the museum's collection as well as photos submitted by the public paint a picture of the history of Keizer from the late 19th century to the early 1960s. Wild is an instructional assistant at Forest Ridge Elementary. She authored the book as well as curated the photo submissions.

Though the book will



not be available until April Keizerites can order copies early for \$20. Only 90 pre-sold books will be available. Contact the Keizer Heritage Museum at 503-393-9660 or visit the museum 2 to 4 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday or 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday.

Keizer teen selected for Extreme Mustang Makeover

Elisabeth Burleson, 13, has been selected to compete in the Extreme Mustang Makeover taking place in Norco, Calif., in May.

Burleson will be tasked with picking a young, wild mustang from the Bureau of Land Management pens in Burns, in February and have about 100 days to gentle and ground train it.

She will have to tame the youngster to walk and trot calmly on lead, approach and execute a number of obstacles with confidence, safely travel in a horse trailer and be ready to become a lifelong partner for someone who wishes to adopt it.

grads & grades

Alex Moxley and Hannah Raschko, both of Keizer, were recently named to the dean's list at Arizona State University. Students with a GPA 3.50 or greater are eligible.

Lydia Nichol, of Keizer, was recently added to the Harding University dean's list. Students earning a GPA of 3.65 or greater are eligible.

At Oregon State Univer-

sity, the following Keizer students were added to the fall term Scholastic Honor Roll for GPAs greater than 3.50: James H. Bonar, Rachel E. Campbell, Emily R. Dickson, Evan L. Dishion, Alexis R. Garcia, Kenneth J. Hafdahl, Victoria M. Hittner, Wyatt R. Hoag, Kevin J. Hudson, McKinzie F. Isaac, Junior, Katherine E. Janssen, Nissa C. Johnson, Taylor M. Keeker,

McKenna C. Kuhns, Jonathon I. Lopez, Alamjit K. Nagra, Alexander A. Putnam, Andrew L. Trowbridge, Aaron M. Wening, and Ivory A. Williams. Keizer students who earned a straight-A average were: Benjamin J. Asay, Tara N. Bonar, Taylor L. Norby, and Alexis M. Prinslow.

Keilah Uhre of Keizer earned dean's list recognition

at George Fox University for a GPA greater than 3.50.

The following students recently received their degrees from George Fox University: Jessica Sokoloff, bachelor of arts in music; Carolyn Wheaton, B.A. in social and behavioral studies; Nicole Milstead, B.A. in social and behavioral studies; and Teresa Jaramillo, bachelor of science in elementary education.

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