

HEART,

Continued from page A1

It's been like that for several months. Clendening, a Keizer resident and teacher in the Salem-Keizer School District's EDGE online program, felt she had to do something as the numbers of visible homeless people in the area skyrocketed during the past few years.

She's been basing the work on a quote from a prominent social worker, Brené Brown: "Connection as the energy that exists between people when

they feel seen, heard, and valued; when they can give and receive without judgment; and when they derive sustenance and strength from the relationship."

Her efforts have evolved into a website, caring-connections.org where visitors can find out how to get involved with efforts to relieve the strain on and restore dignity to local unsheltered people, and deeper involvement in a Salem-approved homeless community growing on Portland Road North.

"I went out to talk with some of the people who have moved in and asked what they needed. They said boredom was one of the big challenges, so I went out and collected crossword and word search books, coloring books, games, colored pencils, pens and markers,"

brainfood

Copy!

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14						15					16			
17						18					19			
20					21			22						
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25	26	27			28					29	30	31	32	
33				34						35				
36			37			38		39		40				
41							42		43			44		
45						46					47			
			48		49					50				
	51	52									54	55	56	
57							58			59				
60					61					62				
63					64					65				

CREATORS NEWS SERVICE

By Charles Preston

ACROSS

- 1 Humiliate
- 6 Soother
- 10 Gasp of relief
- 14 Ness and Lomond
- 15 ___ Ben-Adhem
- 16 Be literate
- 17 Pisces follower
- 18 Scoops
- 20 Played the hand over
- 22 Cambridge honors
- 23 Ionic, Bodoni, etc.
- 25 Shoots the breeze
- 28 Sand
- 29 Arab chief
- 33 Miscue
- 34 Maxie or Buddy
- 35 F. Scott's wife
- 36 Get a laugh
- 38 Hall or room: abbr.
- 40 Olympic swimmer
Kornelia
- 41 Actor Richard
- 42 Dovekies
- 44 Vane reading: abbr.
- 45 Take the tab
- 46 Participating
- 47 Gaelic
- 48 Hecht-MacArthur play,
with *The*

- 51 Uses dictionaries
- 53 Not ready for battle
- 57 Masthead title
- 59 Woody climber
- 60 Jewish month
- 61 Floral settings
- 62 Buck ___ Rides Again
- 63 Hog heavens
- 64 ___ dixit
- 65 Sections

DOWN

- 1 Wingèd
- 2 Tiresome chap
- 3 Biting
- 4 Ream units
- 5 Think piece
- 6 Tease
- 7 White House nickname
- 8 Kind of diet
- 9 Kind of critic
- 10 Some printers
- 11 Caloric output
- 12 Greasy spoon fare
- 13 Text: abbr.
- 19 Sailboat helpers
- 21 Golf gp.
- 24 Nasty tunneler
- 25 Lose one's cool
- 26 Protection
- 27 Do tree repair

- 30 Linksman Lee
- 31 Perfect spots
- 32 Street show
- 34 Crimson
- 37 Employees
- 39 Thief
- 43 Zen paradox
- 46 Foot part
- 47 More chilling
- 49 African antelope
- 50 Nero's successor
- 51 Unfinished
- 52 Abba, of Israel
- 54 Lion's pride
- 55 Sicilian spa
- 56 Doris and Dennis
- 57 Nerd
- 58 Theoretical magnetic
forces

crossword
answers pg A19

Feel-Good STORY

Saluting the people that make us proud of our community

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Clendening said.

Her latest focus is helping devise some communal activities.

"They had a bingo night that was really successful, but we could bring art workshops and other things that help emotional well-being. My hope is we could teach in such a way that the residents begin leading the activities themselves," she said.

In some ways, the experience working more closely with unsheltered people has brought her work as a teacher into sharper focus.

"We are seeing kids coming to school with bigger traumas in their background and traumas that result from not having their basic needs met.

Seeing how not having a place to sleep or knowing when you'll have your next meal is affecting some of our neighbors has been like closing the loop. It's getting to see what the possible outcome is if we can't help our students work through trauma," Clendening said.

As much as Clendening wants to assist those already experiencing homelessness, she also wants others to realize how close most of us are to being in the same situation.

"Most people aren't that far away from becoming unsheltered. I've had some real changes in perspective and the realization that if I didn't have a good support system, I could be out there with them," she said.

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Cat of the Week



Name: PRISCILLA
Age: 7

HISTORY: Priscilla is a domestic medium hair dilute who was brought in as a stray. She has previously given birth.

PREFERRED HOME: This cat needs a quiet home and consistent vet care. Priscilla will occasionally nip or swat if she is feeling overwhelmed but she doesn't use her claws.

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