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IN ONE EAR • ELLEDA WILSON

'NOBUNNY KNOWS'



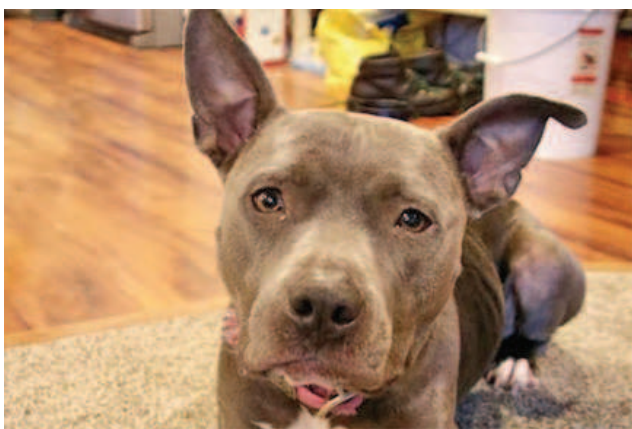
Well, it's time for the **Cadbury Bunny Tryouts**, i.e. here's your shot to feature your pet (no matter the species) wearing bunny ears and clucking like a chicken on a reboot of the Cadbury Creme Egg "Nobunny knows" commercial, which will run at Easter-time. Some previous contenders are shown, courtesy of Cadbury.

Just go to bunnytryouts.cadburyusa.com for all the instructions, photos of contestants that have already entered, and to read the nine pages (!) of rules.

The first phase is entering a photo of your pet in bunny ears (real or Photoshopped), and you'd better hustle, as the deadline is 11:59 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on Wednesday.

If you think that's a lot of trouble to go to, keep this in mind: The first prize is not just a starring turn for your pet in the commercial, there's a cash payout of \$5,000.

SAVING ROSIE



The **Tillamook Animal Shelter** (@TillamookAnimalShelter) recently posted on Facebook about the ordeal of **Rosie the dog**. It started when her owner got lost while driving his van in the snow in Tillamook State Forest.

He hiked out, leaving Rosie behind; fortunately, a paramedic happened to find him, and he wound up in a hospital. He was able to give a general area of where his van got stranded, and mentioned he had left his dog there.

The snow was too deep (2 to 3 feet) for law enforcement vehicles, so paramedic **Nick Watts** led the charge to rescue Rosie, and tried reach her twice. He was unsuccessful both times; the snow was too deep, and the weather iffy. He was worried he wouldn't get there in time to save her. Fortunately, he happened to come across **Elijah Arvin**, a Tillamook Public Utilities District worker, who had a Kubota side-by-side that could make the trip, and asked for his help.

By the time they were finally able to get to her, Rosie had been starving in the freezing van for two days. She was immediately transported to Nehalem Animal Healing, where she was treated for emaciation and dehydration. Rosie responded quickly.

But what to do with Rosie for the long term? Her old owner apparently didn't want her, so the shelter put out the word that she would need a foster family. But first, one thing needed to be checked.

"As we do with all dogs, we ran the microchip to see if it was registered," the shelter posted on Facebook. "Within a minute or two of posting the found dog notice on the microchip page, I got a call. Rosie's original owner."

"Things had happened, her dog ended up getting adopted by someone else. She hadn't stopped hoping that she would one day see her dog again. So, yesterday Rosie's family came to take her home."

"Rosie is one happy dog. It took her about a second to realize she wasn't just coming out to meet another person. You could see the wonder in her eyes as she realized her family had found her. Finally."

ORBITING ANGEL



Did you know Oregon has a famous **internet cat** named **Zee**? Yup, it's true; she has over 12,000 followers on her Twitter feed, @growingupzee, which also features her feline roommates.

Since Zee is not much of a typist, her fur-parent, **Steve Munt**, of Lake Oswego, does the honors for her, Oxford commas and all. He is pictured in a photo by Corey Buchanan, from his article in the Lake Oswego Review (bit.ly/muntcats)

Zee lives with chronic kidney disease, which was diagnosed in 2014, and is often fatal. "I've had a blood transfusion, stem cell therapy, and acupuncture," Zee professes. "I'm feeling great!" **Pikachu**, one of Zee's Twitter apprentices, was not as lucky as Zee, and died of kidney disease in January.

Devastated, Munt decided to have a bit of Pikachu's ashes sent up to orbit the earth as a tribute. Accordingly, he contacted Celestis Memorial Spaceflights, who launch bits of human cremains "into near-space, Earth orbit, to the lunar surface or even beyond." Pikachu's would be the first cat ashes to go into orbit, and Munt (and Pikachu's followers) can track the satellite.

Pikachu's rise to the heavens won't come cheap, or soon. It's expected to be "sometime in the next 18 months," Munt said, and costs about \$5,000. There's even a GoFundMe account to help pay for it at bit.ly/PikachuFly

"When people ask why I am sending Pikachu to space, I ask why not," Zee and Munt posted on Twitter Feb. 3. "Pikachu will circle the globe as a guardian angel for this Earth, and shower the world with love."

A PASSION FOR SHEEP



The Ear bets you didn't know there was a woman in town recently who's on an unusual mission. She's **Jennifer Gunn** from Madison, Ohio, who's been traveling all over the U.S. and Canada for more than a year documenting different domestic sheep breeds, according to LancasterFarming.com in Pennsylvania (bit.ly/gunn-sheep). Gunn was at a "coffee shop near Astoria," when the writer interviewed her by phone for the story.

"I was storm-dodging" in Astoria, she told the Ear. She actually came to Oregon to see some Polled Dorset sheep in Scio, the last breed she checked on the North American segment of what she calls The Great Sheep Expedition (@jenfindingsheep).

In all, she set out to document all 21 breeds native to the U.S., and seven in Canada, according to her website (jenniferagunn.com). She's covered about 60,000 miles, and has submitted the sheep breeds' DNA, fleece, photos and data to several databases already. But she's not done, by any means, since there are over 1,000 domestic sheep breeds worldwide.

"... We have met the most amazing people with wonderful stories of how they became involved in the sheep world," she wrote. "Their passion for their sheep and their way of life is inspiring. I can only hope our little project can help them in some small way, even if only to share their stories."

ALL THAT'S LEFT



Ever wonder what a place would look like in the aftermath of a catastrophic subduction zone event? The Ear came across an old NewRepublic.com story (tinyurl.com/Otsuchipix) featuring images by Argentinian photographer Alejandro Chaskielberg taken a year and a half after the 2011 Japanese earthquake and tsunami.

He traveled to the fishing village of **Otsuchi** — where 60 percent of the residential buildings were damaged or destroyed, and about 10 percent of the population was killed — and took haunting photos of the residents sitting in what's left of their former homes (a portion of one image is shown).

If you ever think you need a reminder to "be prepared," just take a look at Chaskielberg's photos.

THE #PLASTICREVOLUTION



A 30-foot dhow called **The FlipFlopi** sailed over 300 miles down the east coast of Africa from Kenya to Zanzibar, Tasmania, last fall.

Which wouldn't make the news normally, except it's "the world's very first 100 percent recycled plastic dhow," according to the website, theflipfloi.com. Made out of 11 tons of plastic waste and 30,000 repurposed flipflops, its purpose is to illustrate the potential of reused plastic. The dhow is shown, courtesy of the website

With The FlipFlopi, "... we simply want to demonstrate that single use plastic doesn't make sense," founder of The FlipFlopi Expedition, **Ben Morison**, said. A much bigger oceangoing vessel is planned to make sure the message is spread worldwide.

"... We urge you all," he added, "to join the #plasticrevolution and make your voice heard!"

AN UNLIKELY SIGHT



Probably one of the last things you'd expect to turn up 50 feet inland on Marajó Island in Brazil is a 26-foot-long dead baby **humpback whale**. But yet, there it was (bit.ly/brazilwhale).

According to the wildlife nonprofit group **Bicho D'água** (bit.ly/bichowhale), which found it, no one knows what really happened, but the group thinks the whale got disoriented, then stranded, and was pushed ashore by high tides.

The photo shown is courtesy of Bicho D'água. A normal high tide is more than 23 feet, and recently there were extra high full moon tides that could easily have pushed the whale that far inland. Fortunately, whale strandings are a rare event on the island.

COMMUNITY NOTES

SATURDAY
Sit & Stitch — 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Homespun Quilts & Yarn, 108 10th St. Bring knitting, crochet or other needlework to this community stitching time. All skill levels welcome.

Detachment 1228 Marine Corps League — noon, El Compadre, 119 Main Ave., Warrenton. For information, contact Lou Neubecker at 503-717-0153.

Columbia Northwestern Model Railroad Club — 1 p.m., in Hammond. Group runs trains on HO-scale layout. For information, call Don Carter at 503-325-0757.

Spinning Circle — 1 to 3 p.m., Astoria Fiber Arts Studio, 1296 Duane St. Bring a spinning wheel. For information, call 503-325-5598 or go

to astoriafiberarts.org
Whale Spirit Drum Circle — 7 to 8 p.m. in Seaside; check WhaleSpirit.com to confirm location each month and for information. Open drum circle. All are welcome, no drumming experience necessary. Drum indoors at the Bob Chisholm Community Center, 1225 Avenue A in Seaside when weather is bad; outdoors when the weather is good. A \$10 donation is asked to cover renting the venue. Extra drums may be available for those who don't have one. Drug and alcohol-free event.

SUNDAY
Seniors Breakfast — 9 a.m. to noon, Astoria Moose Lodge, 420 17th St. Cooked to order from menu, includes coffee. Cost is \$5 for seniors

62 and older, \$7.50 for those younger than 62. Breakfasts are open to the public. Proceeds after expenses help support local and other charities.

Line Dancing — 5:30 to 8 p.m., Seaside American Legion, 1315 Broadway. For information, call 503-738-5111. No cost; suggested \$5 tip to the instructor.

MONDAY
Chair Exercises for Seniors — 9 to 9:45 a.m., Astoria Senior Center, 1111 Exchange St. For information, call 503-325-3231.

Grace and Encouragement for Moms — 10 to 11:30 a.m., Crossroads Community Church, 40618 Old Highway 30, Svensen. GEMS group is a time for moms to relax and enjoy each other's

company. Free childcare is provided. For information, call Christina Leonard at 503-298-3936.

Senior Lunch — 11:30 a.m., Bob Chisholm Senior Center, 1225 Avenue A, Seaside. Suggested donation \$3 for those older than 60; \$6.75 for those younger than 60. For information, call Suzanne Bjaranson at 503-861-4202.

Columbia Senior Diners — 11:30 a.m., 1111 Exchange St. Cost is \$6. For information, or to have a meal delivered, call 503-325-9693.

AARP Potluck — noon, Peninsula Senior Activity Center, 21603 O Lane, Ocean Park, Washington. For information, call 360-665-3999.

Warrenton Senior Lunch Program — noon, Warrenton

Community Center, 170 S.W. Third St. Suggested donation of \$6 for seniors and \$7 for those younger than 60. For information, or to volunteer, call 503-861-3502 Monday or Thursday.

Astoria Rotary Club — noon, second floor of the Astoria Elks Lodge, 453 11th St. Guests always welcome. For information, go to AstoriaRotary.org

Knockers Pinochle Group — 1 p.m., Bob Chisholm Community Center, 1225 Avenue A, Seaside. Cost is \$1 per regular session per person. Players with highest and second highest scores split the prize. Game is designed for players 55 and older, but all ages are welcome.

Mahjong for Experi-

enced Players — 1 p.m., Astoria Senior Center, 1111 Exchange St. For information, call 503-325-3231.

Line Dancing for Seniors — 3 to 4:30 p.m., Astoria Senior Center, 1111 Exchange St. Not for beginners. For information, call 503-325-3231.

Astoria Toastmasters — 6:30 p.m., Hotel Elliot conference room, 357 12th St. Visitors welcome. For information, go to toastmasters.org or call Christa Svensson at 206-790-2869.

Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance — 7 to 9 p.m., Room A, Columbia Memorial Hospital, 2111 Exchange St. Open to all those diagnosed with

See Notes, Page B4