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Goofy Guide Dog

"God puts us all in each other's lives to impact one another in some way." - Helen Keller

"I knew that I was losing my hearing," said Linda, "when I had to ask people to repeat themselves. The surgery to stop the hearing loss left me with a lifetime of vertigo.

I like to work, so I made lemons out of lemonade with the disability by teaching others and earning a living from it!"

Linda works for Vocation Rehabilitation as a Hearing Loss Support Specialist, mentoring people with hearing loss helping them adjust to hearing aids and demonstrates how to use the equipment.

Because deaf people are often reclusive, Linda started a beginners American Sign Language (ASL) class open to both hearing and hearing disabled. Her goal was to help everyone socialize and end the "stigma" of hearing aids. Her classes changed lives and they all became friends!

To keep their classes interesting, they created a choir.

That Christmas, while Alan sang and played guitar, the 10-member group signed "Silent Night" for an independent living group's party. The choir was hesitant to purr-form in public, so when the "entire audience" responded by crying, the group assumed that they were terrible and had failed in their mission.

Just the opposite! The audience's hearts were moved to tears of joy! The choir sub subsequently ended up performing all over Eugene and appeared on TV and in the newspaper.

"For people who rarely had anyone to talk to," said Linda, "they were tickled to became famous."

Linda's hearing assistant dog, Jake, is a seven-year-old Standard Poodle.

"I dreamed of Jake before we met," said Linda. "In the dream his name was Jingles and he loved to dance. When Jake arrived from Tennessee at seven months of age, we named him Jakey Jingles. And, he loves to dance! He also enjoys dressing up and showing off, especially during Bohemia Mining Days, when he wears his costume in the parade. And like most poodles, he is a

natural-born clown."

Jake senses when Linda has vertigo and alerts her with nose nudges and becoming

As her vertigo progresses, she lays on her bed, and this devoted dog lies on her legs so she does not feel alone.

"The worst thing is experiencing this alone," said Linda. "With Jake, I am not alone, and he heals my anxiety.'

Jake has an assisted dog harness, and when Linda puts it on him, he switches from his goofy character to totally focusing on guiding her. The harness allows him to legally accompany her into stores.

"When I become wobbly," said Linda, "Jake leans against me and waits, as steady as a rock, so that I can put my hand on him. No one should ever touch a dog wearing a guide dog jacket or harness because the dogs revert from serious working dogs to goofy fun dogs."

Jake takes his life's work of caring for others seriously.

Early one morning, while everyone was sleeping, Linda's neighbors' baby ducks waddled out of their fenced area and headed to the stream. Jake sensed that they were in danger. He exited through the dog door, came back in, and plopped something LIVE, wet, and unhurt on Linda and Alan's bed. He then nose nudged the couple awake. Jake had done his job and was asking them to do theirs. Like Lassie, Jake showed Allen where the rest of the endangered babies were and together they rescued the entire fluffy flock!

Sophie, a two-year-old Blue Lacy, is Jake's rescued dog sibling that their daughter, Sarah, saw on the internet! Amazingly Sophie was pulled out of a Texan dog death chamber when they phoned to adopt her!

Sophie had some learning to do. She chewed 17 shoes and Allan's favorite chair! Pieces of the chair littered the entire living room!

"You should have seen Jake's face!" explained Linda. "When these incidents 'kept' happening, Jake let us know HE was innocent. Thankfully, Sophie's behavior stopped once she settled into our lives and was no longer afraid."

Jake loves two things: balls and soft toys. He is a champion ball catcher, but his soft



Photo by Mary Ellen "Angel Scribe" Linda proudly shows off her "goofy" guide dog, Jake, and Sophie, "The shoe chewer!"

toys only last five minutes. He chews them up — everything except their little faces. Several times the family has entered a room to discover odd little faces looking up at

"Time for Signs" Class Beginners are welcome. Linda at lindiaz10@gmail.com or leave a message, 541-767-3707

During Linda's class I have made friends, learned, and laughed. It is an educational and social group welcoming both hearing and hearing loss "paw"-ticipants.

TIPS

Jake, like every dog on the planet, loves being petted. But as a service dog, "... he turns into a goofy dog," says Linda, "and stops paying attention. This is dangerous because I can lose my balance and fall. If you see any guide dog, your interaction with the dog may be dangerous to its person. It is important to let the dogs do their jobs. Talk to the handler, but not the dog unless the handler says, "OK."

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have identified it," she said. "It may well be a butterfly caterpillar, maybe a rare one that you didn't expect." To identify the caterpillar take it to your county Extension of-

Continued from page 2A

"If you see a weird worm

creeping along one of your

plants, don't kill it until you

fice where a master gardener will help. Or snap a good photo and submit it along with your question to the Ask an Expert feature. In addition to adding host

plants - and tolerating the caterpillars' nibbling – you'll need to plant some of the nectar plants favored by adults. Many of these - zinnias, various daisies, asters, goldenrod and milkweed

- may already have a place in the garden. Since butterflies are nearsighted, Stoven said, it's best to plant one color of one species in a swath; a block of blue asters for swallowtails or a yellow moon of goldenrod for red admirals.

Fragrance plays a part, too, so don't forget the sweet smells of lavender, mint, sweet William and honeysuckle. Around the nectar and host plants, it's important to provide taller plants to act as protection from wind. During winter, shelter becomes more important for hibernating adults and caterpillars, who like to live in crevices in trees, walls, under mulch or leaf letter, even in empty sheds.

And somewhere there must be

a sunny spot for the butterflies to warm their blood. They rarely take flight when temperatures are below 60 degrees, Stoven said. Water, too, is essential. Design a butterfly puddle by sinking a shallow dish right up to the lip in the ground and fill it almost to the top with wet sand, which they'll sip from.

And the usual reminder: Using chemicals in the garden is counterproductive when trying to attract wildlife.

Though the focus recently is on the monarch, Stoven noted that not much is known about the western monarch and its migration, which could be why not many are seen on the west side of the Cascades. That doesn't make planting native milkweed, monarchs' only host plant, any less important.

"I certainly doesn't hurt to plant milkweed just in case," she said. "But it makes more sense to plant it for other types of butterflies that are native to this area as well."



Worship Directory

DRAIN: Gateway Family Fellowship

Church of the Nazarene 337 "C" St. Drain, OR Sunday School 9:30am Worship 10:45am Living Hope Free Lunch Wed. at 12:30pm 541-836-7051 www.drainnaz.org

HOPE U.M.C. 131 W "A" St. Drain, OR 541-315-1617

Pastor: Lura Kidner-Miesen Bible Study: 10:45am Potluck Lunch: Noon Worship: 12:45pm

COTTAGE GROVE: 6th & Gibbs Church of Christ

195 N. 6th St. • 541-942-3822 Pastor: Aaron Earlywine Youth & Families Pastor: Seth Bailey Services: 9am and 10:30am Christian Education Nursery for pre-k - 3rd Grade www.6thandgibbs.com

Calvary Baptist Church

77873 S 6th St • 541-942-4290 Pastor: Riley Hendricks Sunday School: 9:45am Worship: 11:00am The Journey: Sunday 5:00pm Praying Thru Life: Wednesday 6:00pm

Calvary Chapel Cottage Grove 1447 Hwy 99 (Village Plaza) 541-942-6842 Pastor: Jeff Smith Two Services on Sun: 9am & 10:45am Youth Group Bible Study Child Care 10:45am Service Only www.cgcalvary.org

Church of Christ 420 Monroe St • 541-942-8565

Sunday Service: 10:30am

Cottage Grove Bible Church 1200 East Quincy Avenue 541-942-4771

Pastor:Bob Singer Worship 11am Sunday School:9:45am AWAŃA age 3-8th Grade, Wednesdays Sept-May, 6:30pm www.cgbible.org

Cottage Grove Faith Center 33761 Row River Rd. • 541-942-4851 Lead Pastor: Isaac Hovet

www.cg4.tv Summer Schedule: Sunday Service 10am Full Children's Ministry available

Covered Bridge Nazarene Church 152 S. M St.

541-942-4422 Pastor: Cindy Slaymaker Sunday School: 9:30am Worship 10:30am

Delight Valley Church of Christ

33087 Saginaw Rd. East 541-942-7711 Pastor: Bob Friend Two Services: 9am - Classic in the Chapel 10:30am - Contemporary in the Auditorium First Presbyterian Church

3rd and Adams St • 541-942-4479 Pastor: Karen Hill Worship: 10:00am Sunday School: 10:00am

www.cgpresbynews.com

Grove Community Church 77820 Mosby Creek Rd.

Cottage Grove, OR 97424 541-942-0123 Pastor: Bryan Parsons Worship: 10:30 a.m. Nursery: Infant - Pre-K Kid's Church: K to 5th grade

Hope Fellowship United Pentecostal Church

100 S. Gateway Blvd. • 541-942-2061 Pastor: Dave Bragg Worship: 11:00am Sunday Bible Study: 7:00pm Wednesday www.hopefellowshipupc.com
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Living Faith Assembly 467 S. 10th St. • 541-942-2612

Pastor Rulon Combs Sunday School All Ages 9am Worship & Children's

Church 10:00 am Sat Evening Service 6:00pm Youth 180 Mondays 5:30-8pm

Non-Denominational **Church of Christ**

1041 Pennoyer Ave * 541-767-0447 Preachers: Tony Martin & Robert Evans Sunday Bible Study:10:00am Sunday Worship: 10:50am & 5:30pm www.pennoyeravecoc.com

Old Time Gospel Fellowship 103 S. 5th St. • 541-942-4999 Pastor: Jim Edwards Sunday Service: 10:00am Join us in Traditional Christian Worship

Our Lady of Perpetual Help and St. Philip Benizi

Catholic Churches 1025 N. 19th St. 541-942-3420 / 541-942-4712 Pastor: Roy L. Antunez, S.J. Euch. Liturgies; Sat. 5:30pm Sun. 10:30am St. Philip Benizi, Creswell: 552 Holbrock Lane • 541-895-8686

St. Andrews Episcopal Church 1301 W. Main • 541-767-9050 Rev. Lawrence Crumb "Church with the flags."

Sunday: 8:30am

Worship: Sunday 10:30am All Welcome Seventh-day Adventist Church 820 South 10th Street 541-942-5213

Pastor: Kevin Miller Bible Study: Saturday, 9:15 am Worship Service: Saturday, 10:40 am Mid-week Service: Wednesday, 1:00 pm

6th & Quincy • 541-942-2373 Pastor: Jamés L. Markus Sunday School & Adult Education 9:15am Sundway Worship 10:30 am Comm. Kitchen Free Meal Tue & Thur 5:00pm TLC Groups tlccg.com

United Methodist Church

Trinity Lutheran Church

334 Washington • 541-942-3033 Pastor:Lura Kidner-Miesen Worship: 10:30am Comm. Dinner (Adults \$5, Kids Free) 2nd & 3rd Monday 5-6:00pm cottagegroveumc.org

"VICTORY" Country Church 913 S. 6th Street • 541-942-5913

Our Worship

Pastor: Barbara Dockery Worship Service: 10:00am Message: "WE BELIEVE IN MIRACLES"

Directory is a weekly feature in the newspaper. If your congregation would like to be a part of this directory, please contact the Cottage Grove Sentinel at 541-942-3325.