

Cottage Theatre holding auditions for 'Mama Mia'

Cottage Theatre is holding auditions for its spring musical, "Mamma Mia," on Sunday, Feb. 9 and Monday, Feb. 10, starting at 6:30 p.m.

Auditioners need only to come to one of those dates and no appointment is necessary.

Auditions will be held at the theater, located at 700 Village Drive in Cottage Grove.

Mamma Mia will have a four-weekend run from April 3-26 and will be directed by Tony Rust.

With music by Björn Ulvaeus and Benny Andersson, the story of Mamma Mia is told through a collection of ABBA's greatest hits.

The plot centers around Sophie, who is engaged to be married, and is planning her dream wedding on the Greek island Kalokairi. There is just one problem: she does not have a father to walk her down the aisle.

In order to find out who her mystery dad is, Sophie snoops through

her mother's old diaries for clues to her father's identity. Much to her surprise, the diaries reveal three possible dads!

Undaunted, Sophie invites Sam, Bill and Harry to her wedding, without telling either her mother or fiancé that she has done so.

When the three unsuspecting men arrive on the island for the nuptials, chaos erupts when Sophie still doesn't know who should rightfully walk her down the aisle.

A large cast of over 20 women and men (late teens through 50s) is needed for Cottage Theatre's production.

Those interested in auditioning should prepare a short selection (around 24 bars) of either an 80s pop song or ABBA song, come ready to sing karaoke in pairs or trios, and read from the script.

Additional audition details are available at www.cottagetheatre.org.



Pet Tips 'n' Tales

By Mary Ellen "Angel Scribe"

Buddy's Back Home!



Alice's 'Buddy' is back home.

Last year, a Pet Tips 'n' Tales article titled, "Rescuing a 'Buddy'" shared how Alice, an 83-year-old young house/pet sitter, sat for three weeks on the frozen winter's ground in order to earn the trust of a stray dog named Buddy who had been on the streets for over a year. The morning that she prayed for help, the dog came over and lay down next to her.

From that moment on, Buddy and Alice formed a deep bond. Sadly, with Buddy's large size and Alice's small retirement income, she made the heart-wrenching decision to surrender him to a Border Collie Rescue group.

Heartbroken and missing her Buddy, Alice phoned the rescue group and "talked to him" daily. Three weeks later, she phoned her daughter, Starr, who said, "I was waiting for your call. You and Buddy belong together."

They left at 11 a.m. and arrived home the next morning at 2 a.m. with Buddy peacefully sleeping in the backseat.

How had Buddy fared those long weeks without Alice? He was devastated, not eating and pulling out his fur. So, imagine his delight when his superhero arrived once again for him.

Alice's friends knew how strongly the dog and woman were bonded. One friend paid for a fenced 20-foot-by-15-foot doggy pen to keep Buddy safe when Alice is not home. Another friend bought him a bed and toys; Buddy is such a gentle animal that a feral cat lays next to him in the pen.

And if you are wondering about Buddy's homecoming...

"He walked in the house happy as a lark with his tail wagging," said Alice. "Our four cats woke up greeting us like a 'Welcome Home' committee from the animal kingdom."

"He loves his 'Tiny' three-and-a half pound Chihuahua brother," said Joy. "After every nap, once he realizes he is not dreaming about being home, he smothers Tiny with wet kisses. He also plays and cuddles with our youngest cat."

"Buddy is my second shadow. He won't let me out of his sight," said Alice. "I can't move without him being glued to me. When we are out walking, I don't need a leash because he is never more than two feet away. His adoration is deeply touching. We have been through so much and feel complete being back together. I have never seen a dog so attentive. I can't cough or sneeze without him jumping up to check on me."

Alice added that, for a once-homeless and starving dog, Buddy's manners are surprisingly refined. Tiny grabs the treats handed to him like a hungry crocodile — but Buddy takes his gently.

"He looks like a totally different dog now" said Alice. "He's healed and his fur coat is gorgeous. He is so handsome. I sleep better and feel safer having him home. He offers more protection than Tiny, that's for sure."

It was obvious to everyone how devoted Alice and Buddy were to each other, so they are thrilled that Alice has her Buddy back — and Buddy has his Alice back.

TIPS:

- Florida Pet Tips 'n' Tales reader Jo said, "Dogs are heaven-sent. When we went to look at seven-week-old pups. Mr. Bean waddled across the room and fell asleep on my feet when I told my husband, 'We need to pick one of the three puppies.' You should have seen the breeders face. She said she never seen a puppy adopt its own people before! She forgot that there are no accidents in the universe."

- Do you know seniors with pets who may be struggling to care for them? Offer to volunteer by taking them food donations, pay for veterinarian bills, walk their pet or watch the animals when the senior has an appointment.

35th annual Oregon Asian Celebration Feb. 15-16

The annual Oregon Asian Celebration returns for the 35th year Feb. 15 and 16 at the Lane Events Center.

This annual event celebrates with nonstop cultural entertainment and performances on three stages, a fine arts exhibit, an Asian food court and market-place, demon-

strations of Asian crafts, cooking, martial arts, children and youth activities and special events.

Tickets and a schedule of activities are available at www.AsianCelebration.org or at the door.

The event is produced by the Asian Council of Oregon and made possible with support from

Oregon Community Credit Union, Imagination International, Kikkoman USA, Sunrise Asian Market, City of Eugene, Lane County, University of Oregon, McDonalds, KVAL-TV, Get Found, and the Oregon Health Insurance Marketplace.

On Saturday, Feb. 15,

the event will be from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. On Sunday, Feb. 16, the celebration is from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The Lane Events Center is located at 796 W. 13th Ave. in Eugene.

For admission information, visit www.AsianCelebration.org

Father-daughter dance, mother-son video tourney

Come support the Lincoln Middle School wrestling program during a unique fundraiser taking place Saturday, Feb. 15, from 7 to 10 p.m. at the

Cottage Grove Armory. That night, there will be a father-daughter dance along with a mother-son video gaming tournament. Refreshments and

concessions will be available, along with a night of dancing and gaming for the whole family.

Tickets prices to the event are \$10 per stu-

dent and \$12 for general admission, with tickets available at the door (no re-entry).

LORANE NEWS

CONTRIBUTED BY LIL THOMPSON FOR THE SENTINEL

- Last week's homecoming showed quite the competitive and school spirit.

For the first time in four years, the seniors won. Then all three teams won, adding to the joy. There is a half-day this Friday, Feb. 7 for conferences.

- This Thursday, Lorane Grange meets for its regular monthly meeting at 7 p.m. Their next spaghetti dinner and bingo is scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 22, starting with dinner at 5:30 p.m.

- Crow High School will be presenting a two-day production of "Bedtime Stories" this weekend, Friday, Feb. 7 at 7 p.m., and Saturday, Feb. 8, at 6 p.m. There will be one-hour performances both nights. It's dad's turn to tell his three rambunctious kids bedtime stories, but he gets fuzzy on the details and gets creative.

The play is written by Ed Monk and produced by Crow High School. Tickets are \$4 for adults,

\$2 for children or \$10 families.

Come out for a fun and interesting show on either night.

- Mark your calendars for the Open School Board meeting at Lorane Grange on Thursday, Feb. 13 at 6 p.m. Food will be served. It is community members' chance to be heard on how the district best uses the Student Success Act (SSA) money from the state to the school district.

They are gathering information from both ends of the district and students.

- Rural Art Movie night is this Saturday, Feb. 8, starting with a soup dinner at 6 p.m. As always in February, bring your favorite chocolate dessert in honor of Valentine's Day.

Door prizes are prior to the 7:30 p.m. movie. Come enjoy a delightful evening out in Lorane.

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6-day weather forecast

FRIDAY 57° 42° Showers	SATURDAY 50° 39° Showers
SUNDAY 52° 34° Showers	MONDAY 53° 37° Mostly Sunny
TUESDAY 48° 37° Showers	WEDNESDAY 48° 34° Showers

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