

'Rise of the Queens' to premier Friday

A long time ago, the story goes, a king went missing on his way to visit another kingdom. When the king of the other kingdom got word his old friend had disappeared, he immediately organized a search party to find him.

In the meantime, the Messenger Girls from both kingdoms found a map rolled up in an old tapestry. The two meet and set out in search of the legendary Magic Village.

In their quest, they encounter the mysterious Prince Jack Daw of Jacklandia.

Want to hear the rest of the story?

The Opal Center for Arts and Education will present another original musical written by Hal Holbrook.

"Rise of the Queens" is a fun musical fantasy show for the entire family.

The whimsical musical play, with animal characters in a medieval setting, will open this Friday, Feb. 28, and will run for two weekends.

Friday and Saturday shows are 7 p.m., and Sunday matinees are 2 p.m.

The characters are kings, queens, princesses and others of the royal court. And then there's the mysterious



COURTESY PHOTO

Cast members of the new Hal Holbrook play "Rise of the Queens" will perform this Friday at the Opal, with additional performances the next two weekends.

Prince Jack Daw of Jacklandia.

Tickets are \$12 and can be purchased online at opalcentercg.org/events/rise-of-the-queens; at the box office inside Crafty Mercantile next to The OPAL Center; or at the door 30

minutes prior to showtime.

The cast and crew includes: Ivan DelSol, Bill Dowell, Carmen Dowell, Brittany Dreier, Raven Goings, Mckenzie Jarvis, Myla Julien, Ian Miller, Iylah Molyneaux, Matthew

Molyneaux, Ricky Orendorff, Hannah Pinkham, Isabella Pinkham, Shanti Rios, Betsy Smith, June Mane Smith, Roselyn Smith and Monica Venice.

—Submitted by Andrea Hummel



Pet Tips 'n' Tales

By Mary Ellen "Angel Scribe"

Prison 'soup'



Leigh's dog, Soup, is known for breaking into prison.

Most dogs that do something 'bad' lower their heads and look ashamed. Not Michael and Leigh's 3-year-old English Setter, Soup. He trudged off to jail for a rare prison break-in!

While quail-hunting in an Alabama pecan orchard, Soup raced into the woods after a deer's scent. When he did not return, his family posted his "lost" photo on Facebook.

"Five days into our search, Michael saw buzzards circling and felt that Soup was their dinner, until he found a deer's carcass," explained Leigh. "We had named the dog after my father, who inherited the nickname from his sister, Juleen, named after a popular 1940s soup. It was heart-wrenching believing we would never see [Soup] again."

Then a phone call from the prison six miles away gave them hope. A guard who was looking for his lost dog on Facebook saw Michael's post about Soup and recognized the picture as their new furry jailhouse "therapist." A few days earlier, the facility's maintenance supervisor had found a scared and hungry dog at 6 a.m. lying by a state vehicle. After he fed the dog a biscuit, it followed the staff everywhere.

Soup's tags had fallen off, so they named him Buddy, and the head guard donated an old mattress for his bed in the maintenance office.

The guard also installed a dog door for their buddy to come and go as he wished. He became a pampered-prison pooch living large at Kilby Correctional Facility while Leigh and Michael were worried sick about him.

Inmates donated their dinners to their friendliest inmate. He feasted on roast beef, chicken tenders, steak and fruit cobblers. He played with them in their outside field, chased their basketballs and tussled with the security's team of K-9 drug-sniffing dogs. While in their custody, the happy English Settler taught the staff that their inmates would benefit from a therapy dog after observing everyone's healing reactions and interactions of joy.

Immediately after the prison guard's phone call, Michael drove over to see if the dog was Soup or not. He pulled up in his truck and whistled hopefully.

Soup immediately trotted out from the maintenance shop and leapt into his arms before eagerly jumping in the front seat of the truck to go home.

Michael sat on the ground crying in relief. "You absolutely knew that it was his dog," said the guard. "The dog and I were inseparable for three days, and he wouldn't come to me once Michael pulled up. Everyone could see 'Buddy' is well-loved and loves Michael."

"I teach kindergarten and one of our parents is the prison's K-9 Officer," said Leigh. "He told me that his dogs had fun playing with their new friend and that 'Buddy' was living high on the hog. This explains why Soup was depressed after his return! He was missing all his cell mates' attention and treats. His separation from his prison friends will be brief," said Leigh. "We're going for a visit with a pecan pie for the warden."

Soup's adventure was published in the *Washington Post*, was shown on Alabama news stations and, believe it or not, aired on a New Zealand TV station.

"People now recognize us as Soup's parents, making us almost as famous as him," laughs Leigh. "It is good to have him home. We missed his funny antics like going, 'Wooooo Wooo' when he wants to play or announce that he is hungry. When he 'talks' he looks so funny because he sucks in his lips and looks like someone with no teeth."

"He loves my homemade veggie soup, but luckily I won't have to make it with hidden jailhouse keys to bust him out of prison."

TIPS:

- Soup's experience teaches us that even the 'ruff-ruff' moments of our lives can become rainbows for the future. He had such an impact at that prison, including the guards, that Leigh and her pastor are going to look into starting a prison dog program modeled after some she read about in earlier Tips 'n' Tales articles.

Share your fur-avorite pet memory or adventure at angelscribe@msn.com. Visit Pet Tips 'n' Tales on Facebook at www.facebook.com/PetTipsandTales

LORANE NEWS

CONTRIBUTED BY LIL THOMPSON FOR THE SENTINEL

• Everyone enjoyed the dinner and bingo at Lorane Grange last Saturday. The progressive blackout was still not won — so, the

amount will be even larger in March. The next dinner and bingo will be March 21 with a taco dinner.

• Come out this Saturday, Feb. 29, to enjoy the Crow High School alumni basketball games.

The games are from 4:30

to 8:30 p.m., with ladies tipping off first.

The men's team is still looking for a few more players. Anyone interested can contact Marissa at 541-517-6608 to play or for more information.

Even though you might not be able to play, come support your CHS alumni classes.

• The Crow High School boys basketball team played very well on Saturday, just missing going to the 1A state playoffs when they lost and placed fourth.

Good job Cougars for a great season!

• On Sunday, March

8, the Living Last Supper will be presented at Lorane Christian Church at 10:30 a.m. If you've never seen it, be sure to attend. It is inspiring, very moving and transports you back in time.

Our own Randy Eshleman is one of the disciples.

• It's Girl Scout cookie time again. Saw them almost everywhere we went this weekend. If you do not know a Brownie or Girl Scout selling cookies, be sure to go by several stores where you will find your favorites.

• Lorane Grange meets next on March 5 at 7 p.m.

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6-day weather forecast

FRIDAY 62° | 39° Partly Cloudy

SATURDAY 47° | 34° Rain

SUNDAY 51° | 35° Partly Cloudy

MONDAY 50° | 39° Showers

TUESDAY 49° | 35° Showers

WEDNESDAY 53° | 35° P.M. Showers

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