

Cottage Theatre to hold auditions for 'Seeking Red'

Cottage Theatre will hold open auditions March 15 at 6 p.m. for the West Coast premiere of a gripping new drama about truth and identity. "Seeking Red," written by Chicago playwright Glenn B. Rust and directed by Kory Weimer, will be the third production in Cottage Theatre's 2020 season, running for three weekends June 5-21. Auditions will be held at the theatre, 700 Village Dr. in Cottage Grove.

The play centers around a young woman named Grey Rhodes, who has been raised by her Uncle Ty since she was a baby, when her single mother was run over by a semi-truck. Or so Grey has been told. Now in her early 20s, she works as an intern at *The Seattle Times*, where she's assigned to work on a story about the "Innocence Project." She interviews Cecil, who was

recently released from prison after DNA evidence proved him innocent of the murder of his two younger sisters. As Grey learns more about Cecil's ordeal, she is struck by inconsistencies in her uncle's account of her mother's death. She begins to wonder if there is far more to her mother's story than she knows. "Seeking Red" is an exciting new script from a playwright who grew up

at Cottage Theatre. This intriguing drama will cause audiences to question the "little white lies" told to protect those we love. Roles are available for five to eight actors, and the audition will consist of readings from the script. No appointment is necessary. Character descriptions and further audition details are available at www.cottagetheatre.org.



Pet Tips 'n' Tales

By Mary Ellen "Angel Scribe"

Cats, Camping and Miracles



Heavenly looking 17-year-old, Shaded Silver Persian Whyspurr looks like she is an Angel's cat.

Can you imagine the horror of taking a pet on vacation and losing it? Forty-four years ago, my groom and I loaded our shaded-silver Persian cats, Channel and Camelot, into the camper, caught the 90-minute ferry trip from Vancouver Island, BC, Canada and then drove seven hours to honeymoon in Lake Chelan, Wash.

As we set up camp, we put the cats into their harnesses and tied their leashes to the picnic table. Minutes later we turned around and Camelot's harness was laying empty on the ground. This shy, gentle cat had been raised by a breeder in a cage; he was not prepared to fend for himself.

From that moment, we spent our honeymoon walking around town calling, "Liver, liver, liver." It was Camelot's favorite treat, and he always came when we called it — but not this time. We wandered the streets day and night between the radio station, newspaper office, schools, searching and alerting people about our missing kitty.

In the three days since he "evaporated," we had done everything humanly possible to find him. Finally, our "vacation" had run out and it was time to return to our jobs. So, exhausted, on the darkened streets at 4 a.m. and knowing that it was our last chance to find him, it was obvious that locating him was out of our hands. So, I passed my heart into the hands of God and said, "Dear God, if you are really out there, if you really exist, please show me where my cat is."

Then the most unusual thing happened. I slowly turned in a circle like a human radar hoping for a miracle when all of a sudden, the invisible hands of God, or perhaps those of loving angels, were placed on my back.

The hands applied pressure directing me in the opposite direction from where we had been searching. The hands indicated at each street crossing which way to go. I followed their direction for a quarter of a mile. Then like in a movie; the sun rose and the guiding hands mysteriously lifted.

Now, in desperation, I called for the last time "C-a-m-a-l-o-t".

A cat meowed. Then Camelot emerged from under a bush 25 steps away. He blinked his huge, beautiful Disney aqua-green eyes, waiting to be picked up.

Is there a God out there? Are angels real? We all have to make that decision in our own way, in our own time. Taking the time to ask seems to be the key. Maybe if my cat had not slipped from his harness, I may never have discovered prayer, God or the angels. Maybe when something bad happens to us, it is just part of a greater plan that we do not see at the time?

We joyously carried Camelot back to the camper and placed him in front of the water bowl. His patiently waiting spouse, Channel, walked up to him and with her fuzzy paw smacked him on the head, with a look to say, "You sure caused a lot of trouble."

That was the first and last time we ever saw her strike him.

As upsetting as Camelot's disappearance was, during a vacation where we never got to have one, it appears that Camelot vanishing helped us understand that a divine power is at work.

Now, 44 years later, it is still an amazing memory. When you lose a pet or are going through a rough time, think of this story and know that you're not alone.

LOST PET TIPS:

- If you lose a pet, visualize a pink ribbon from your heart to the pet's. Apparently, lost pets follow this vibrational lead back to you ... or lead you to them whether they are alive or dead. Possibly this is the link some pets follow for thousands of miles to return home.

- Tina, a Tips 'n' Tales reader in Bellingham, Wash., said, "Several years ago, our cat was lost for a week. I used the pink ribbon technique, and he came home that night. I put a photograph of him and a pink ribbon on our bulletin board. He was skinnier and scared, but he was home — that's all we cared about."

Share your fur-avorite pet memory or adventure at angelscribe@msn.com. Visit *Pet Tips 'n' Tales* on Facebook at www.facebook.com/PetTipsandTales Humane Society for Neuter/Spay Assistance Program. 541-942-2789

Community recycling workshop in Elkton March 7

Defy Industries will be hosting a free recycling education workshop to teach participants the proper way to break down plastics for recycling.

Bring cleaned plastics (1, 2, 4, & 5) to ECEC Greenhouse Patio on Saturday, March 7, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This is a one-time drop-off at the ECEC. All

future drop-off locations will be discussed at the workshop. The Elkton Community Education Center is located at 15850 Highway 38 in Elkton.

For more information, contact Alan Mooney by calling 541-529-9193 or email info@elktonbutterflies.com

Elkton to host Spring community dinner fundraiser

Come celebrate a spring community dinner in Elkton on Thursday, April 2, with host Americorps NCCC while enjoying a meal at the Elkton Community Education Center

(ECEC). Dinner will be \$10 a person, with kids age 12 and under eating for \$5 each. Guests will get their choice of margarita, veggie or balsamic chicken

pizza with honey biscuits on the side served with a spring salad and chocolate chip meringue cookies. Money raised through the community dinner goes to support ECEC

programs. RSVP before March 30 by calling Alan Mooney at 541-529-9193 or email info@elktonbutterflies.com.

Third, final City Tree Giveaway set for March 7

Mayor Jeffrey Gowling and the Urban Forestry Committee invite residents of the City of Cottage Grove to attend the last of three tree giveaways this Saturday, March 7. Attendees can

receive a free tree to be given to area residents to replace those that were damaged during the "Great Snowmageddon" of 2019 — or to those who just want a new tree. The giveaway will take

place at Coiner Park, 1313 Main St. in Cottage Grove, from 9 a.m. to noon. Among the trees being given away will be: Vine Maple, White Alder, Douglas Fir and others.

To receive a free tree, participants must show proof of residency within the city limits of Cottage Grove. One tree will be provided to each residence.

LORANE NEWS

CONTRIBUTED BY LIL THOMPSON FOR THE SENTINEL

- Crow Middle and High Schools enjoyed a great turnout for the men's and women's Alumni Basketball games last Saturday.

Everyone had a fun time complete with fantastic door raffle prizes. Plan on playing or watching again next year.

- Lorane Grange meets this Thursday, March 5 at 7 p.m. Their next dinner and bingo is scheduled for Saturday, March 21, with a Taco Dinner. The progressive blackout has continued to grow.

- Friday, March 6, is half day at school for progress reports.

- The presentation of "The Living Last Supper" will be at Lorane

Christian Church this Sunday, March 8 at 10:30 a.m.

Whether you've experienced it or not, it is a must see. The performance is inspirational, very moving, and transports you back in time.

Our own Randy Esleman, both Lorane Granger and Church member, is one of the disciples.

- Be sure to mark your calendars for the last RAC Movie night of the season on Saturday, March 14. Lorane Grange is hosting.

- Remember, daylight savings time begins at 2 a.m. this Sunday, March 8. Be sure to set your clocks ahead one hour before bedtime so you won't be late for church or work for those who work on Sunday.

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6-day weather forecast

FRIDAY 45° 36° Showers	SATURDAY 46° 29° Rain
SUNDAY 51° 30° Mostly Cloudy	MONDAY 57° 32° Partly Cloudy
TUESDAY 60° 36° Showers	WEDNESDAY 63° 38° Partly Cloudy

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