

## Happy Birthday from a distance



Gail Hoelzle, owner of The Bookmine, was surprised on her 70th birthday by a group of masked friends showing up at high noon on Thursday, April 23. The group, calling themselves the Cottage Grove Masked Social Distancing Caroling Society, sang a birthday song wishing her good health. The Bookmine also celebrated its 45th anniversary that week. From left, clockwise: A masked birthday wisher sings to Hoelzle; a friend shows Hoelzle song lyrics; and masked carolers gather outside The Bookmine for a socially-distanced performance.

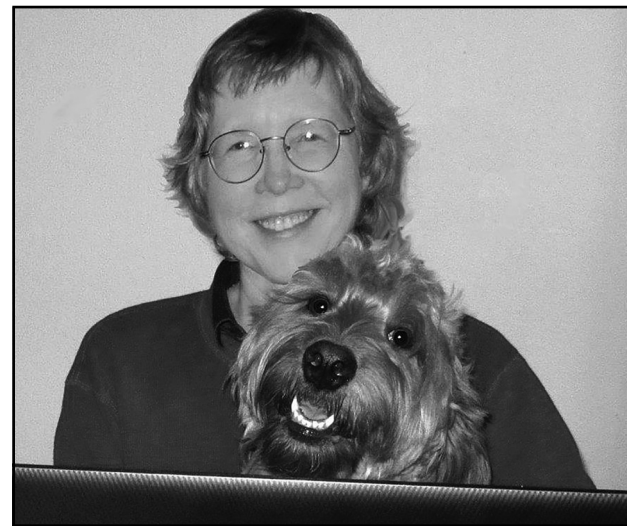
PHOTOS BY BRUCE KELSH



## Pet Tips 'n' Tales

By Mary Ellen "Angel Scribe"

### Sally the therapist



Child counselors Eve Peirce and her sweet, fluffy Sally love their clients.

It is not just humans who are adjusting to a new way of life.

Dogs are, too. Sally, a 2 1/2-year-old Labradoodle and her children's mental health therapist mother, Eve Peirce, have created a way to continue helping clients.

Sally has held her paws-ition with Miss Eve since her adoption. She takes her job seriously, assuming that Eve is her co-therapist. Sally loves looking into children's faces as they talk to her, winning hearts and calming 'her' youthful clients. Her favorite words before the epidemic were, "Let's go to work," when she'd run and bounce out to the car.

These days, her favorite words are still, "Let's go to work!" even though they don't leave their home.

During her off-duty time, Sally spends time in the dining room and hallway (though she sneaks into the kitchen searching for crumbs when no one is looking) but as soon as she hears "It's time to go to work," she gallops through the kitchen and into the bedroom which is their new office.

The two counselors have currently resumed counseling through video chats.

"Therapy dogs create a calm, friendly environment where it's easier for clients to open up and talk about feelings and problems," explained Eve. "Sally was sad when we suddenly had to stop going to work, but she perks right up when the video sessions begin."

Sally sits next to the computer and waits patiently for a child's (or teen's) face to appear on the computer screen. When she hears their voice, she puts her front paws on Eve's leg so she can look at the computer. Then, Eve takes a paw and they wave hello to the children together.

"Sally wags her tail," said Eve. "She's so happy to see and hear 'her' kids. Occasionally, her paw taps a computer key which interrupts everything, but we soon get back on track. Some clients proudly introduce their dogs to Miss Sally. Sally is not jealous. Rather, she is glad that her clients have a loving dog back-up when she is not able to be with them."

In her youth, Sally was a hero when a fellow crisis counselor and the police couldn't calm a child. Sally was called in to work her magic. As soon as the child saw the fluffy dog, they immediately calmed down. Petting the dog allowed the child to share what was bothering them.

Talk about "Puppy Power." Now that everyone is quarantined at home, Eve encourages her clients to make greeting cards for nursing home residents.

"Sometimes we feel like there isn't anything we can do to help in a difficult time, but learning to make someone else happy is a great way to help," said Eve. "The children draw pictures on the front of a folded piece of paper, write a cheerful message inside during their sessions, then, drop them at my office to send to nursing homes. Some parents are also making cards. One teen's mother works at a hospital, so the teen makes cards for her mother to take to work to thank and encourage the staff. She's also made brownies for Mom to take too."

In the last year, four counselor friends in town have gotten dogs from where Sally was born. It is obvious that Sally's loving heart is as contagious as the smiles she brings to everyone who meets her.

#### TIPS:

Eve Peirce's supportive children's pet books:

- "Summer Finds a Job" is about a goofy service dog failure who lacks confidence. Summer encourages children when she finds a job she loves.
- "Misty Finds Her Courage" is about her rescue cat who moves past her purr-vious fearful life to enjoy life with the help of a friend who doesn't look like her.
- "Rick's Hearing Ears" is about a rescued dog's progress from a shelter to becoming a hearing dog.
- "Friday and the Circus" is about a little white farm donkey who learns the importance of friendship from the dog, cat and horse.

Miss Pierce's books are available on Amazon.com

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

### LORANE NEWS

CONTRIBUTED BY LIL THOMPSON FOR THE SENTINEL

Many Loransians enjoyed a beautiful Sunday, working outside and enjoying our homes.

Numerous plants have burst into bloom in vivid colors this past week, helping to cheer people up.

• Another event that helped uplift our community was drive-in church at Lorane Christian Church parking lot. Everyone enjoyed the service sitting in their cars and we could wave at each other as we left. The drive-in service will continue at 10 a.m.

• After much discussion, Lorane Grange is postponing its Grange meeting scheduled for May 7. It will be held later in the month and the Grange will let you know.

As with all organizations, everyone is being cautious and safe.

• School district teachers and staff continue to work and communicate with students. Again, if you have any questions, check with the district website or email [cglazier@cal.k12.or.us](mailto:cglazier@cal.k12.or.us).

• A continued *thanks* go to the Lorane Family Store and Lorane Deli for all they are doing to help our community members. Everyone remember to be safe when going into either place. This will pass and you will be able to gather and visit again.

• As you drive over Stoney Point, you'll notice cones on either side of the road at the top as you head to Lorane. They have also widened it on the inside of that same section, for your safety. Just please slow down on those curves and watch for flaggers.

Have another good week with social distancing and staying safe with a smile.

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## 6-day weather forecast

FRIDAY

69° | 46°

Partly Cloudy

SATURDAY

66° | 45°

Showers

SUNDAY

58° | 41°

Showers

MONDAY

64° | 41°

Partly Cloudy

TUESDAY

70° | 43°

Partly Cloudy

WEDNESDAY

74° | 47°

Partly Cloudy

### CITY OF COTTAGE GROVE TREE LIMB PICK-UP

MAY 4, 2020 & MAY 18, 2020

The City of Cottage Grove Public Works Department will be conducting the annual Tree Limb Pick-Up the weeks of May 4, 2020 and May 18, 2020. **Property owners will be responsible for removing any branches or limbs placed in the street after May 18, 2020.**

All limbs must be put out **BEFORE** May 4, 2020 for the first pick-up and **BEFORE** May 18, 2020 for the second pick-up.

Residents can **NOT** place branches in the street where curbside parking does not exist or in bike lanes.

This is strictly a tree limb pick up, nothing other than loose tree limbs or branches will be picked up.

If you have questions regarding the Tree Limb Pick-Up Program, please call the Public Works Department, at (541) 767-4100 or see our Limb Pick-Up Brochure, located at City Hall, at 400 East Main Street, or on our website, at <https://www.cottagegrove.org/publicworks/page/tree-branch-pickup-program-0>

for additional information.



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