

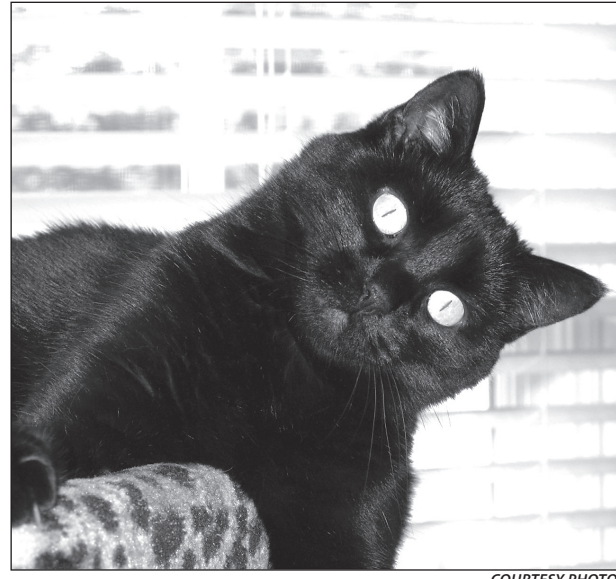
Pet Tips'n' Tales: What I learned about writing from my cat



By Mary Ellen "Angel Scribe"

- That tree outside is fascinating, I could stare at it all day.
 - Who doesn't love a good 'yarn?'
 - Head-butt: verb.
 - Butt-head: noun.
 As in: "When I'm hungry, all I have to do is head-butt Gary, the butt-head, and a plate of food appears."
 - A tail doesn't wag itself.
 - Everyone's only purr-tending to be impressed.
 - If you have a plot snag, go back to sleep.
 - Take care of your nails, and they'll take care of you.
 - In general, leave me alone.
 - Paws-itive reinforcement doesn't impress me.
 - Only you can lick yourself.
 - You can try to cover up writing mistakes, but they still stink.
 - If you're not sure about a character, go back to

sleep.
 - Baby talk only works in your head, not mine.
 - If you get writer's block and you're not sleepy, destroy the couch.
 - When you write something really stupid, blame the dog.
 - Some editors like kibbles. Others prefer bits.
 - Eating the parakeet only makes things worse.
 - When you have a good idea, pounce.
 - Never roll over for anyone.
 - Don't get emotionally attached to any character.
 - If you write a bad story, eat it.
 - If the phone rings, look at it, but don't answer.
 - Nobody ever died eating too much grass.
 - Some days you're the kitty; some days you're the litter.
Angel Scribe's cats also add in their writing purrs-pective:
 - We are the mews, you



COURTESY PHOTO

Gary Buslik's kitty, Babs, shares her purrs-pective on writing.

are the typist.
 - Scratch out spelling errors.
 - Purr-oof reading is for the birds.
 - Keyboards are cat beds.
 - When you find a pun, jump on it.
 - Readers are necessary,

especially those with good patting skills.
 - Never plagiarize from a parrot.
 - Writing transitions should go from naps to snacks.
 - Sleep on your typist's lap for attention.
 - Walking across an-

swering machine erases distracting messages.
 - The computer's mouse is no fun to chase!
 - Deadlines do not involve mice.
 - Re-prints do not involve our paws.
 - Look cute on Zooms to editors, publishers and media.
 - Cute cat internet videos deserve credit for hooking viewers.
 - Never confuse prose, paws and poop.
Fun summer reading
 Gary's books: www.GaryBuslik.com

What is your fur-avorite pet memory/adventure?
angelscribe@msn.com
 Pet Tips 'n' Tales on Facebook.
<https://www.facebook.com/PetTipsandTales>
 Adopt Loving Pets
www.PetFinder.com
 Humane Society for Neuter/Spay Assistance
 Program: 541-942-3130

U.S. Air Force Band cancels concert

Due to the increase in COVID-19 variant cases, the Aug. 25 concert of the U.S. Air Force Band of the Golden West in Cottage Grove has been canceled. The Department of Defense has established mask requirements for indoors and other restrictions to help prevent cases among the troops.

The U.S. Air Force has canceled or postponed all California and Oregon performances of the USAF Band of the Golden West. It is hoped the third scheduling will be successful as continuing contact with the USAF Band of the Golden West officials will secure a concert rescheduled in the community.

Startup Bootcamp with SBDC and RAIN

The Startup Bootcamp, an eight-week online program, will be held every Thursday night from 6 to 8 p.m. The program began on Aug. 12 and will run through Sept. 30. Robert Killen, Director of Lane Small Business Development Center and Ariel Ruben, Lane County Venture Catalyst with Oregon RAIN will be conducting the training for small businesses and solopreneurs. Participants can learn new skills to boost business in this 16-hour startup

training course. The program is catered for startups and young businesses alike — and it's free to Rural Participants in Lane County, including all businesses and startups in Cottage Grove (this does not include Eugene or Springfield). Even for those who have been in business for a while and would just like to refresh and sharpen business skills, this program will have plenty to offer. Register at bit.ly/startup-bootcampLANE.

High temperatures create potential for cyanotoxins in water

PORTLAND, Ore.— With the extreme heat continuing in the Northwest and more people seeking relief in the many waterbodies around the state, Oregon Health Authority (OHA) reminds people heading outdoors to be on the look-out for cyanobacteria blooms that can produce toxins when recreating in Oregon lakes, rivers and reservoirs.

Cyanobacteria are beneficial bacteria found in all freshwater worldwide. Under the right conditions—when sunlight, heat, water temperature, nutrients and water chemistry are ideal—cyanobacteria can multiply into blooms in any water body. Many blooms are harmless, but some can produce cyanotoxins that make people and animals sick.

People should avoid swimming, high-speed water activities, such as water skiing or power boating, and other water activities where incidental ingestion

may occur in areas where it is believed a cyanobacteria bloom is present. Ingestion is the major route of exposure. Toxins are not absorbed through the skin. However, if those with skin sensitivities you may get a puffy red rash.

Drinking Water

Drinking water directly from areas affected by a bloom is especially dangerous. Toxins cannot be removed by boiling, filtering or treating water with camping-style filters. Contact campground management or the local health department with questions about water available at nearby campgrounds or day use areas.

Not all private treatment systems are effective at removing cyanotoxins. If not using a well or public water system and draw in-home water directly from an affected area, people are advised to use an alternative water source.

Children and Pets

Children and pets are

at increased risk for exposure because of their size and level of activity. Dogs can get extremely ill and even die within minutes to hours of exposure to cyanotoxins by drinking the water, licking their fur, or eating the toxins from floating mats or dried crust along the shore.

This is regardless of a recreational use health advisory in place.

Be aware that dogs can become ill and die from water intoxication after drinking excessive amounts of water while swimming or fetching objects for long periods of time.

Intoxication is a potentially fatal disturbance in brain function resulting from an imbalance of electrolytes in the body.

Water intoxication and heat stroke can cause similar symptoms as exposure to cyanotoxins.

Symptoms

Exposure to cyanotoxins can be serious and cause a range of symptoms.

Symptoms may be similar to food poisoning such as stomach cramping, diarrhea, nausea and vomiting. Symptoms may also be more serious, such as numbness, tingling, dizziness and shortness of breath. These symptoms may require medical attention.

Dogs can experience weakness, difficulty walking, seizures, lethargy, loss of appetite and more. If a dog exhibits symptoms, veterinary treatment should be sought as quickly as possible.

Fishing

Fish caught from areas where cyanobacteria blooms are present may pose unknown health risks. Fat, skin and organs should be removed before cooking or freezing. Toxins are more likely to collect in these tissues.

Fillets should also be rinsed with clean water.

For health information or to report an illness, contact OHA at 971-673-0482.

Lane County residents encouraged to monitor wildfires

The Lane County Sheriff's Office has asked that all Lane County residents and visitors carefully monitor the situation with the outbreak of multiple wildfires in east and south Lane County. Residents should also review their individual preparedness plans.

The following web sources are recommended:

- Bookmark the Middle Fork Complex Fire Inciweb page at inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/7745/.
- Follow the Middle Fork Complex Fire response team on Facebook at www.facebook.com/MiddleForkComplex.
- Bookmark the Knoll Fire Inciweb page at inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/7790/.

- Follow the Knoll Fire response team on Facebook at www.facebook.com/KnollFire.
- Register for emergency alerts at public.alertsense.com/SignUp/.
- Bookmark the County's wildfire evacuation and resources webpage at www.LaneCountyOR.gov/MiddleForkComplex.

- Bookmark the County's evacuation map at bit.ly/2021EvacMap.
- Review information about evacuation levels and emergency alerts at www.LaneCountyOR.gov/prepare.
- Double-check your plan for evacuating large animals and livestock at www.LaneCountyOR.gov/LCAID.

6-day weather forecast

FRIDAY 97° 65° Partly Cloudy	SATURDAY 94° 60° Mostly Cloudy
SUNDAY 90° 59° Mostly Sunny	MONDAY 82° 54° Partly Cloudy
TUESDAY 84° 56° Mostly Sunny	WEDNESDAY 90° 58° Sunny

60% of small businesses close within 6 months of a cyber-attack.

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ARE YOU AND YOUR PETS PREPARED?

- ★ **Have a backpack stocked for 10 days of food, water, extra collar/leash, medicines, stress relief formula.**
- ★ **Carry a clear and recent photo of your pet in your backpack and cell phone with emergency contact info.**
- ★ **Bring your dog licenses and any additional information along with pre-scented homely items for comfort.**

Give us a call, we'll chat.

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-Est 1870-

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