Pet of the Week



Hi, my name is Chito. I am a male Chihuahua-mix available for adoption at the Humane Society of Eastern Oregon Pet Rescue in Hermiston.

I was surrendured by my owner, who couldn't keep me. My sister has already been adopted, but I need a new home. I am 10 months old, and I have been neutered and am current on my shots. I am good with children and other dogs. I can be adopted for \$150. I come with a free vet exam and a threeday return policy. If you are interested in welcoming Chito into your home, please stop by the humane society at 1844 N.W. Geer Road, Hermiston, or call 541-564-6222.



PHOTO COURTESY MISTY BALTAZAR

Hermiston Junior Academy and Hermiston Christian School students and teachers, including Darla Hanson, right, tried their hand at indoor kite flying at a Dare to Dream assembly. presented by indoor kite flyer Connor Doran and his mother, Amy, Thursday. Connor Doran, who competed on America's Got Talent in 2010, spoke to the children about following their dreams and never giving up, in a presentation that also touched on bullying.

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because someone says you can't."

Amy Doran said she

learned to fly indoor kites 10 years ago, but the skill took some work. "It was fun, but it

wasn't as easy as I thought it looked at the time," she

As her kite flying took off, she said Connor wasn't interested in the sport, but after he saw a team fly indoor kites, his interest sparked. After becoming proficient at it, he told his mom he wanted to try out for America's Got Talent. Amy Doran said she was doubtful at first. Connor. however. didn't stop pressuring her, and Amy Doran said

VOLUNTEERS

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Connor, she had often been told he couldn't do things in his life because he has epilepsy, a condition that causes people to have seizures. He also has an anxiety disorder stemming from epilepsy, and was bullied in school by other students who didn't understand his challenges. Amy Doran said indoor kite flying gave Connor confidence and helped him believe in himself, and, after her son continued to pressure her about America's Got Talent, she didn't want to stand in his way.

"Sometimes you have to let kids teach you what life is all about," she said, adding it is easy for adults to forget what it's like to have dreams when they

important it was to her responsibilities, such as paying bills.

Amy Doran said, to please her son, she submitted a video of him to the contest but didn't give it another thought until both she and Connor were stunned when they received an email inviting Connor to try out for the show in Portland.

In the audition, Connor performed for the America's Got Talent judges who, inspired by his performance and story, gave him thumbs up and advanced him to the Vegas Round. Although he was eliminated in Las Vegas, his story opened up other opportunities, beginning with an invitation to speak at an epilepsy awareness event in Washington, D.C., and the Dorans' Dare to Dream campaign was launched.

Connor Doran, how- wanted to draw zombies, with America's Got Talent. He was asked to perform again in the wild-

> nals in Los Angeles. "It's important to never stop dreaming," Connor Doran told the students Thursday after performing the same routine he had on America's Got Talent. "Never stop accomplishing your goals. I still have goals I'm working towards."

> card round before getting

eliminated in the semi-fi-

Amy Doran echoed those sentiments, telling the students it is important for them to never stop believing in themselves or pursuing their dreams.

Before getting to try their hand at flying beginner indoor kites made out of garbage bags and wire, the children shared their own dreams. One said he be a "food tester" other a firefighter. They all wanted a turn

of their own and were delighted when they received the chance. Junior Hermiston Academy freshman Mo-

at flying an indoor kite

nique Flores, 15, said the experience was amazing. "It felt like it was my-

self, like I was flying, she said.

She was also inspired by Doran's message and performance, which she

said was breathtaking.
"It was beautiful," she said. "He shows so much passion."

Connor Doran said after the performance that indoor kite flying isn't difficult and anyone can do it, although it does require practice.

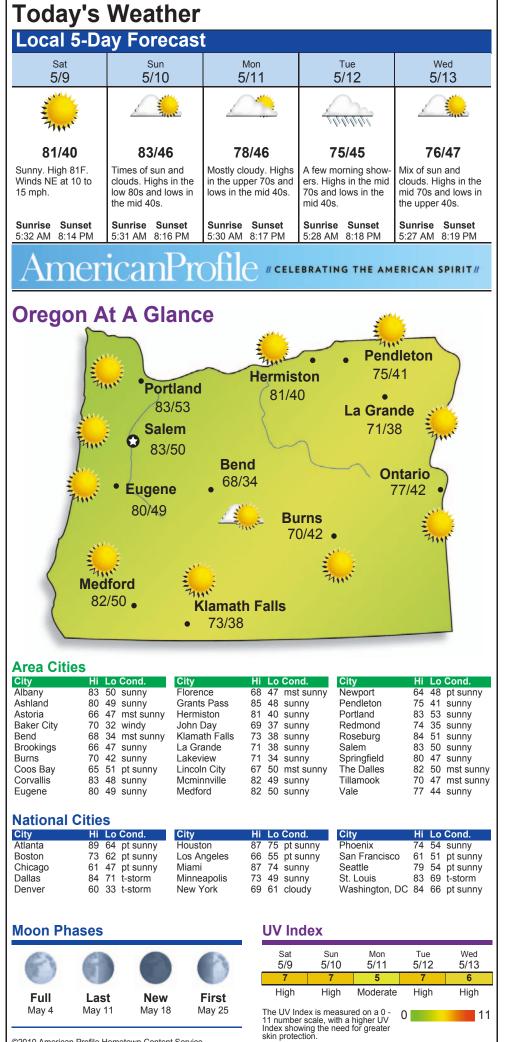
"It is really good exerever, wasn't quite done while another wanted to cise, but you don't have to be Mr. America to do it," he said.

Doran said he also enjoys speaking to children and sharing his Dare to Dream message.

"First of all, I love flying kites anyway, and secondly, I would say I feel like I'm doing my job if I can change one kid's life by doing this," he said.

Between speaking performances and indoor-kite flying events, which will take Doran and his mom to a number of states and Canada this summer, Doran, 22, is concentrating on college classes at the University of Puget Sound.

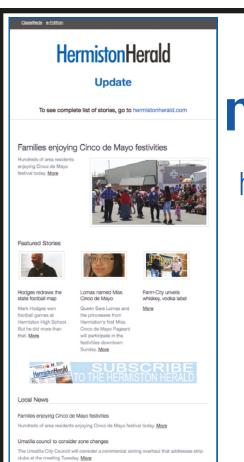
To learn more about Doran or the Dare to Dream campaign, people can visit his website, www.connordoran.com.



she finally realized how are focused on everyday Columbia United Soccer Club AYSO Region #887 PO Box 472 · Hermiston, OR · 541-701-9128 REGISTRATION WILL BE CLOSED ON JULY 6, 2015 2015 Registration Dates! Players must be at least 4 and no older than 13 by July 31, 2015 All Registrations (player and volunteer) MUST be done online starting this year. You can also pay online if you choose to. ALL registrations need to be brought to an onsite registration so you can also choose uniform sizes and get player photos for player cards in U10, U12 and U14 ALL REGISTRATIONS WILL BE HELD AT BUTTE SOCCER FIELDS **CONCESSIONS STAND.** There will be internet access available for those that do not have it. Tuesday, May 19 - 5pm-7pm Saturday, May 9 - 12pm Thursday, May 21 - 5pm-7pm **Monday, May 11 - 5pm-7pm** Saturday, May 23 - 9am-12pm Wednesday, May 13 - 5pm-7pm Registration Fees: FEE: \$65 1st child; \$60 each additional child FEE AFTER JUNE 1ST: \$75 1st child: \$70 each additional child Fee includes: Uniform (jersey, shorts, socks); Participation Medal at end of the season; AYSO accident insurance for duration of season

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