

## A NOTE FROM THE CREATOR



'm excited to roll out the new design for the Casey and Kyle cartoon magazine! Everything is bigger now! The cartoons are larger so that they are easier to read. There's more room for the drawings that you've sent in, and there's a lot more room for one of my favorite parts: the special profile. It's one of my favorite sections because I enjoy getting to chat with other artists and writers... really anyone who is involved with reading or the arts in any way!

h i s time I got the chance interview Cyndi Mitchell, who works with an organization called Paws For Love. I met her last summer at the Ore-State gon Fair during Author Day. and couldn't wait for the chance



talk with her more about the exciting work that she and her dog, Meah Sen, are doing! You can read all about it in our new expanded profile section.

nother exciting thing I want to let you know about is that *Casey and Kyle* is getting ready to celebrate its 10 year anniversary! It's hard to believe that it was that long ago

that I started publishing the cartoons, but it's true! To celebrate, I'm hosting a party at the Newberg Public Library. The event is being held on February 24th from 3-5 PM. It's free, so I hope to see you all there. If you come, be ready to enjoy an afternoon of fun, games, and refreshments! Get your picture taken on the red carpet as we roll out the glitz. At the party, I'll also be releasing my next book. It's a special anniversary book, and it includes hundreds of my favorite cartoons from the first ten years of

Casey and Kyle as well as notes that I've written that talk about where the ideas came from and some of the interesting behind-thescenes parts of my life and how it affects the comics as I'm creating them.

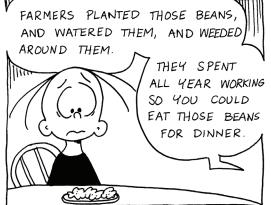
Finally, I want to give a special thanks to our sponsors. Several local businesses are proud supporters of this magazine. They love it when kids get excited about reading and the arts, and they want to help with the expenses

of creating this magazine so that you can enjoy it. If you enjoy these comics and you stop by any of their businesses, please give them a big "Thank You" for supporting this paper!

Enjoy the comics and have a great Spring!





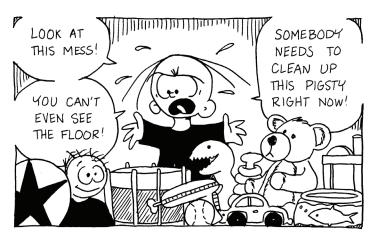




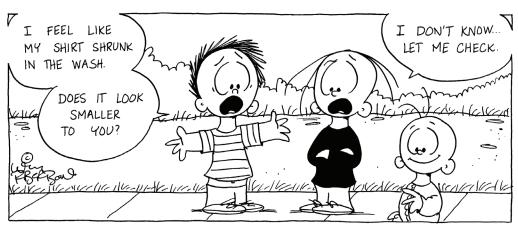


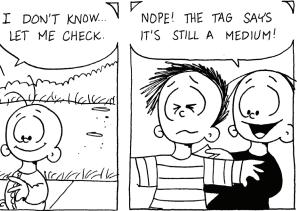


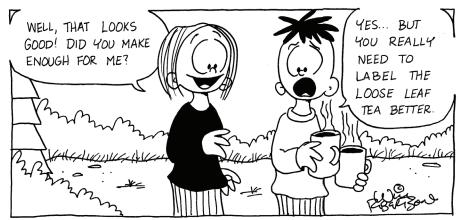










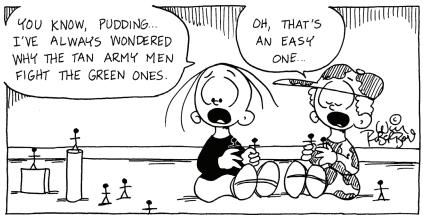


















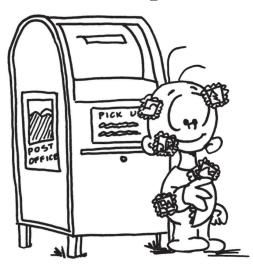






 $McMinnville \cdot Newberg \cdot Amity \cdot Carlton \cdot Sheridan$ 

## GOT YOUR OWN GREAT DRAWING or (perhaps) A FRIENDLY LETTER?



Please send all mail to:

Will Robertson Casey and Kyle PO Box 543 Newberg, OR 97132

Each issue we'll print some of the things you send in!



Please be aware that all submissions become the property of Will Robertson.













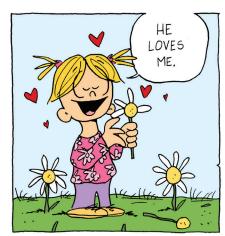


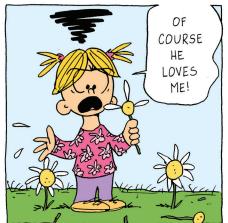


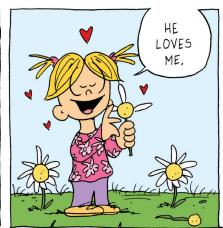
















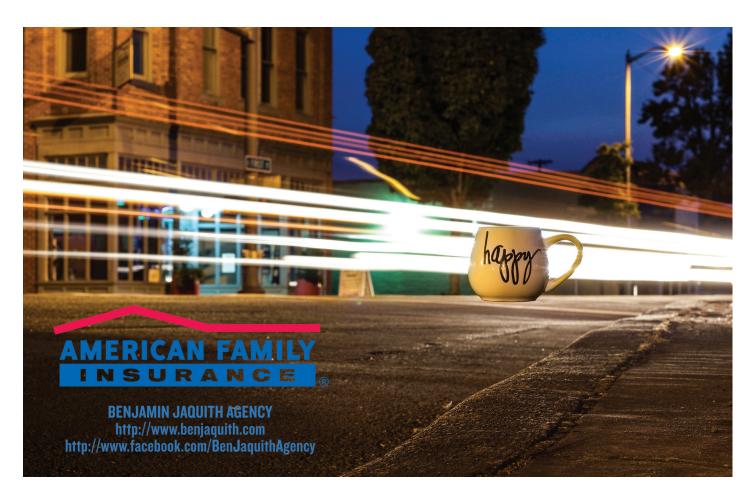
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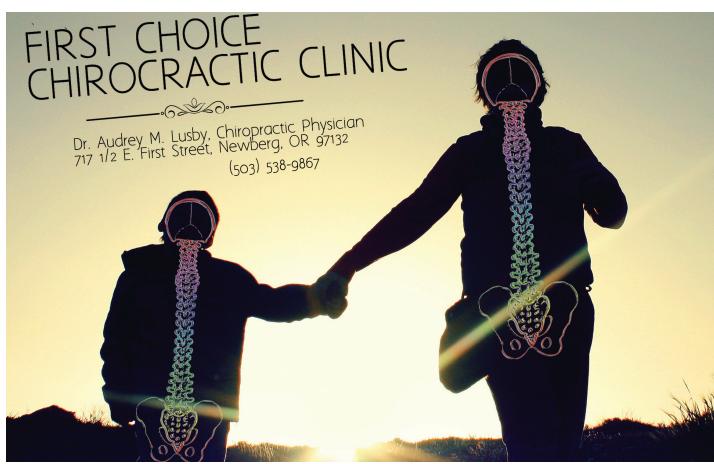
### Gallery Ballet & Tap

Sunday & Monday, December 17 & 18, at 6:30pm Gallery Theater 210 N Ford, McMinnville

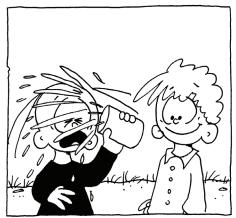
Tickets: Incahoots & at the door premium \$20; adults \$15; senior/student \$10



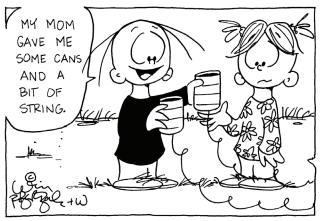


























# A FRIEND FOR READERS



eah Sen has been a *Paws for Love* dog for over eight years. She's had an amazing life and it all started because Cyndi Mitchell walked into a pet shelter ten years ago.

Cyndi was on a mission: to adopt an older

dog as a companion. "I was looking, actually, for an older dog. One who wouldn't be easily adopted." But as she talked with the worker at dog control, her plans quickly changed. "She was just a little tiny puppy and she'd been dumped by the side of the highway. But the person who was working there said that someone was coming in to get her, and they didn't want them to have her. They'd had

some problems with those people... and, well, I couldn't let her go to a bad home. So, I filled out the paperwork, and she's ended up being the best dog ever!"

Cyndi named her new friend *Meah Sen*, which means "my friend." And Meah Sen quickly proved to be a friend, not just to her, but to her mother and father as well. "My mother had a brain tumor, and (before we even knew it) when we first got her, she was just a little puppy, and my mom would just hold her for hours, and she was just so calm. When you'd set her down, she'd tear around, of course, because she's part Aussie and part Border Collie, but she'd be gentle when she needed to be."

She just kept giving and giving: "My father had dementia, and she was just wonderful with him.

He fell and broke his hip and he had to use a walker, but she'd be right there with him the whole time."

And that was even before she was part of *Paws for Love*! "She was born to be a therapy dog. She's just kind of always known what to do. The



first time I took her to school, I had the kids sit in a semi-circle. I explained to them what a therapy dog was, and the kids were sharing their own stories about dogs. Then I took her around, one child at a time, to visit. The kids were all over her. And some kids were afraid of her, so she just turned around and didn't even look at them. And she was not trained to do that. She knew to do that all on her own."

Paws for Love is a non-profit organization that certifies dogs (and cats) as therapy animals. It was started in October 1999 by Patty Storkel and Laurie Jensens as part of Everything Pawsible because they saw a need for a community-based program that would provide trained dogs and handlers that would be suitable for various types of visitations. They left Everything Pawsible and became Paws for Love in October 2010.

Today, their certified therapy animals go into retirement homes, memory care centers, assisted living centers, and hospitals, as well as colleges and libraries, and preschools and elementary schools, where they work directly with children to assist them with reading.

n order to qualify as a *Paws for Love* animal, the dog, cat, or horse must each pass a vigorous process of training, but it's not the same as the training a service dog gets: "A service dog is trained for one specific task, whereas our dogs are trained to help many people by visiting them (as a therapy dog). Service dogs might be trained to help somebody with vision impairment, or to detect seizures. Service dogs will be trained for one job, like that. Our dogs are trained in how to be quiet and calm so that people can visit with them and pet them. They

have to be able to handle large crowds and to not be distracted by loud noises.

aws for Love works with more than just dogs. They also work with cats and... miniature horses! A miniature horse has to be at least two years old to join the program, but a lucky dog or cat can start their training once they are a year old. If it's a rescue dog, like Meah Sen, they have to be part of your family for at least six months before they

can start working to become a Paws for Love dog. Before applying to *Paws for Love*, the animal must complete obedience training which includes The Kennel Club's Canine Good Citizen Test (for dogs) or the Feline/Equine Good Citizen Test (for cats or horses). This makes sure that they will follow their handler's commands and listen to them. They have to be able to meet another handler with their dog, cat, or horse and not be distracted. They have to be able to accept a friendly stranger, walk through a crowd, sit, stay, and come when commanded. They also have to able to follow directions when their handler is not there to look after them personally.

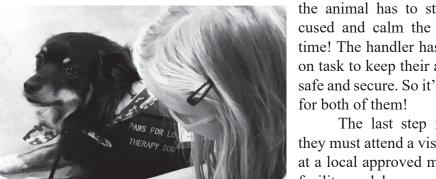
Once they've passed the test, the dog, cat, or horse must attend a workshop. It's five hours long, and both the animal and the handler must be there the whole time. The workshop is tough, and they have to stay calm the entire time.

The handler also has to pass a written test that helps them learn what they need to do to keep their animal safe, what's expected of the animal, and how to keep them clean and calm.

Once they've passed the written test, they must pass a difficult Certification test, and the handlers must demonstrate that they have a good working relationship with their dog, cat, or horse. This part is really a fun challenge since anything can happen. Someone might have a bag with food in it. There might be distracting smells or loud noises. Someone might start acting crazy, and start bothering the animal and handler to try to get the animal

> to act out. In order to pass, the animal has to stay focused and calm the whole time! The handler has to be on task to keep their animal safe and secure. So it's a test for both of them!

> The last step is that they must attend a visitation at a local approved medical facility and be supervised. This lets their supervisor see them in action and make sure that they can do what they need to do in the real world!



ne of Meah Sen's favorite things to do is spending time with kids as they read her books. Often, kids will read her books about her favorite topic: dogs!

The idea is simple: children are much more comfortable reading to a dog, because if they make a mistake, the dog is not going to correct them. It makes reading more fun, and it allows the young reader to learn from their mistakes on their own, without getting corrected all the time.

Today, she's at the State Fair and she's enjoying the story of Clifford, the Big Red Dog. She snuggles next to a girl as she sounds out the words one at a time. She may not look like she's smiling, but Meah Sen is happy. She's doing what she loves; it's her life's work and she's not ready to quit yet!



# GET YOUR SMLE ON!!!

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Newberg Kids Dentist believes that every child deserves quality dental care. We work hard to ensure that all the children in the communities that we serve have access to specialized dental care and strive to become an integral part of the community that we serve.

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### YOU'LL BE GLAD YOU FOUND US!!!

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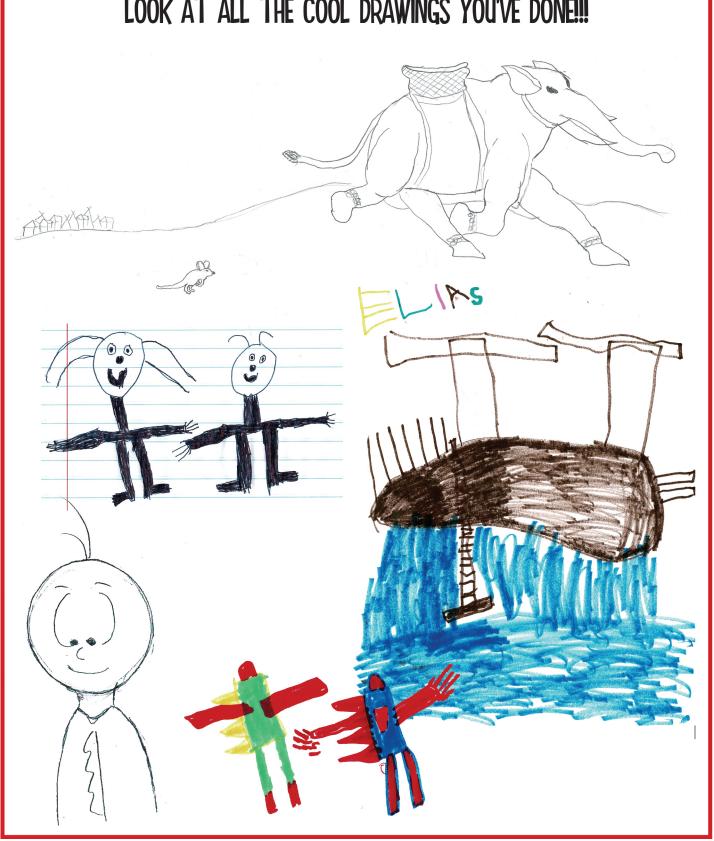
(503) 538-4289

## COLORING SHEET



## READER'S ART SHOW

LOOK AT ALL THE COOL DRAWINGS YOU'VE DONE!!!





to our 10th
BIRTHDAY
CELEBRATION!!!

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Saturday February 24th 3-5 PM FREE Admission

