

Award-winning work



Photo courtesy Jo Drummond
Malibu local Charlotte Drummond wins the eighth annual “Freedom Through my Eyes” art and essay contest.

Charlotte Drummond, a seventh-grade student at Malibu High School, won the eighth annual “Freedom Through my Eyes” art and essay contest, sponsored by the Los Angeles Lakers. Hundreds of students throughout Los Angeles County participated in the competition, with five winners selected in total. Drummond was the only winner from Malibu.

She is described as an avid reader, reading two to three books per week in addition to her schoolwork. She placed third in both the MHS Reflections Art Contest and the Malibu Optimist Club’s essay contest this past school year. As a reward for her hard work, Drummond celebrated with a trip to Disneyland.

Terrific trumpeter



Photo courtesy Dr. Maia Zander
Chris Armstrong, a Malibu High School junior, has been selected to perform in the National High School Honors Orchestra.

Malibu High School junior Chris Armstrong has been selected to perform in the National High School Honors Orchestra, which takes place during the American String Teachers Association’s National Conference in Kentucky. Armstrong is one of only a few trumpet players who has been chosen to participate.

He is currently a member of the Colburn Wind Ensemble and the Conejo Valley Youth Orchestra. Armstrong has studied trumpet since fourth-grade; he currently plays in the MHS band and takes music theory. He also studies trumpet with Darren Mulder at the Colburn School.

Birthday bash



Photo courtesy Marissa Hahn
Ms. Cronrod’s kindergarten class at Point Dume Marine Science Elementary School celebrates Dr. Seuss’ birthday. Pictured, from left: Ava Niccol, True Andersen and Tyler Baker



Photo courtesy Neel Muller
Former Pepperdine instructor Jim Wyllie celebrates his 95th birthday with Pepperdine President Andy Benton.

Big birthday

Former Pepperdine University equine instructor Jim Wyllie celebrated his 95th birthday with an event hosted by the university. The party took place on campus and was attended by approximately 100 of Wyllie’s former and present students and family members. Malibu filmmakers Jennie and Neel Muller screened their tribute film in honor of Wyllie, “Legendary Horseman,” at the party.

Wyllie developed the equestrian program when the Malibu Pepperdine campus began. Throughout his 30 years teaching at Pepperdine, he taught more than 65,000 people how to ride. Wyllie now teaches at his Equestrian Education Center, based at the private Saddlerock Ranch in Malibu.

Successful selling



Photo by Kym Shafai
Webster Elementary School Girl Scout Troop 4035 sold delicious girl scout cookies in Malibu.



By Pam Linn

Stroking Google may lower my blood pressure

Yikes! Google just landed in my lap. No, not that Google. This one is feline and presently kneading my legs, hopelessly entangling her claws in the green fleece tunic that keeps my temperature above freezing.

I have agreed to house-sit, dog-sit and cat-sit for my daughter Betty so she can join her sister and the rest of the family in California over spring break.

This promise was made before I broke my arm, which is now in a brace, two weeks into a six-week repair of the radius and ulna, both of which sustained hairline fractures while preventing a face-plant. And, no, I didn’t slip on the ice, which still clings to sidewalks and roadways where I live here in Bozeman, Mont. It was just your basic klutz move in the living room of my elder-safe apartment. Go figure.

Anyway, before leaving, Betty gave me the house tour because it had been almost two years since I had stayed with her animals. Same dog, different cat. She said at least 12 times, “Don’t trip on the cat.”

Google, it turns out, is sweet-natured if somewhat needy, with a disconcerting habit of lying down directly in front of one’s feet. Crouching silently and almost invisibly on the dark hardwood floor, she is a disaster waiting to happen. Before making a move I look both ways and repeat the mantra: Don’t trip on the cat.

Hershey, on the other hand, is as big as a donkey so the odds of tripping over him are slim.

I remember when Betty first rescued him from the local animal shelter. She was told his original owners had turned him in because, at 10 months, he had grown beyond their ability to cope. He’s brown, hence the name. It was either Hershey or UPS, and Betty was hoping for sweet.

For the first few months even she, who has trained dozens of animals for film work, thought she’d made a mistake. Obstreperous (“stubbornly difficult to control”) would be an understatement. That puppy nature, compounded by his size, made him a handful for Betty, who barely weighs a hundred pounds soaking wet after polishing off a five-course meal.

But with excellent training and a few years, Hershey mellowed out. In fact, he just returned from a week’s work on a movie job where he

proved to be a star. Who would have guessed?

Anyway, I don’t have to walk him or anything, so basically it’s just Google that I have to worry about.

She has her food, water and litter box in the laundry room, and a four-tiered climbing thing covered with carpet for clawing and hiding. And in the master bedroom she has a plush kitty bed that she uses during the day. At night, however, she feels free to join me on the king-sized bed, curling as close as possible to my wounded arm. This does make sound sleep a challenge.

The past decade is the longest I’ve ever been without a dog and I do miss them all. But cats, not so much. When I was a child I had a Siamese cat that was supposed to be my pet. One day it ran amok, screaming and running up the drapes. My mother called her friends to come and get it down from the ceiling. They took it home, and after a day or two it calmed down and so they kept it. This left me feeling slighted in some way and I developed an allergy to Siamese cats. From then on, it was just dogs for me.

Now, after just four days, Google thinks she’s my best bud or BFF (as the kids text, meaning Best Friends Forever).

Betty told me it was okay to let her out but until this morning I was reluctant to do that. Around 9 a.m., she sat in front of the door meowing so strenuously that I couldn’t resist her pleas for freedom. Then after bolting out, she sat directly beside the door where she remained an hour later. She just turned around, stared at me through the glass and made plaintive sounds so I let her back in. Where have I gone wrong?

Hershey has dragged his cushion down the front steps and is sitting contentedly on it contemplating whatever dogs think of when they’re not being asked to do something. The only trouble with that is a pending storm, which will soak the cushion until it weighs more than its occupant. I’m sure I won’t be able to drag it back up the steps. Oh, well.

When the snow starts to fall, Mutt and Jeff will curl up beside me wheezing and purring as I stroke their coats. I’ve read that cuddling pets can lower one’s blood pressure so it must be a good thing. At least for the rest of the week.

CROSSWORD

Edited by Will Shortz No. 0206

- ACROSS**

1 Report of a shooting

5 Brunch offerings, for short

8 Affected to a greater extent

14 Home of ancient Greek scholars

15 Google result

16 Civic alternatives

18 “Blubbered?”

20 What a nod may mean

21 “Wouldn’t miss it!”

22 Cone origin

23 Heartbreak, e.g.

24 Home of El Greco

25 “What happened after Mr. Onassis contacted A.A.A.?”

27 Reputation, on the street

28 Kind of sum

30 Aero- completer

31 Washington — (N.Y.C. neighborhood)

32 “That can’t be good!”

33 Malignant

35 “Imaginary overthrow of the government?”

37 Robin Hood and others

40 “Mad Men” star Jon

41 Jim Bakker’s — Club

44 Place to get clean

45 Title heroine described in the first lines of her novel as “handsome, clever and rich”

46 Not at all chipper

47 “Give a Dust Bowl migrant a ride?”

50 Director Christopher and actor Lloyd

52 1998 Sarah McLachlan song

53 First name in ice cream

54 Bank numbers

55 Not mind
- DOWN**

1 Enchant

2 Gravely ill: Fr.

3 Gets snug

4 Ripped with a knife

5 “Here we go again!”

6 Agree

7 Messy spot

8 PC data format

9 Major alteration of a business structure, for short

10 Old cable inits.

11 Warning to the unwary

12 Kind of set

13 Quickly sought safety, in a way

17 Fretted

19 Multivolume set, for short

22 Get too much sun, colloquially

25 Condition treated with Adderall, in brief

26 Theater

29 Red state handouts?

32 Words always preceding a date

33 Source of ill-gotten gains

34 Kind of shop

35 Exodus figures

36 “Alas!”

37 Business establishment where customers can make a killing?

38 Something taken from a meter

39 Teacher/ astronaut McAuliffe

41 Level off

42 Catches on the radio

43 Eases

45 One from Berlin

46 Boil for a short time

48 Extra-large

49 Typed (in)

51 “... close second”

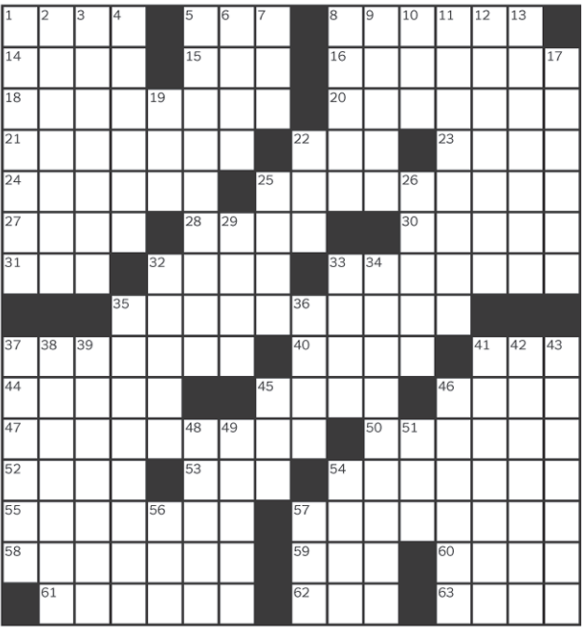
54 Zoo keeper?

56 Clear tables

57 Shock

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

P	I	S	M	O	B	U	R	Y	E	R	G	O		
A	M	P	E	D	A	R	E	A	P	E	E	K		
W	H	A	T	S	B	L	A	C	K	W	H	I	T	E
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			O	S	A	L	L	O	V	E	R			
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P	U	T	S		O	W	L	S		W	A	Y	N	E



PUZZLE BY JOE KROZEL

- 33 Source of ill-gotten gains

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