



Bearers of badges

North Halton District has four more Wood Badge Leaders. From left, Troop Scouters Paul Alexander of 1st Georgetown, Barb and John Rothwell, both of 4th Georgetown and Gary Frei of 5th Georgetown, all completed Parts 2 and 3 of the Gilwell Wood Badge training. Photo by JEAN LAYMAN

Canine blood donor program looking for healthy dogs

If you're healthy, even-tempered, two to eight years old, weigh more than 20 kilograms and happen to be a dog, you may be a good candidate for the Veterinary Teaching Hospital's canine blood donor program.

To help maintain its blood bank, the hospital is looking for dogs who can donate four times a year. Among other things, the blood is used during surgery and for the treatment of bleeding disorders, acute trauma and poisonings.

Although the teaching hospital has nine resident dogs that regularly donate blood, it would be stressful for them to have to give enough to keep up with the hospital's need for about 20 units a month, says Shirley Inglis, a veterinary technician at the hospital. Using other dogs as blood donors helps relieve stress.

In exchange for the donations, the dogs in the program are supplied with yearly vaccinations, routine blood and urine examinations and tests for heartworm. Tablets are also supplied at low cost to prevent heartworm, a potentially fatal disease that is spread by infected mosquitoes. In addition, the owner walks away with a bag of dog food with each donation.

Donating blood for dogs is similar to donating blood for humans, says Inglis. The same amount of blood - 450 millilitres - is taken and even the same kind of blood bags are used. An intravenous catheter is placed in a vein to pump in replace-

ment fluids during the donation. Dogs are also sedated to keep them relaxed and to ensure they don't dislodge the needle or catheter.

Donor animals must be healthy and easy to work with, says Inglis. Before an animal is admitted to the program, it undergoes a full physical exam. This ensures not only that the animal's body will be able to handle the donation, but also that the recipient will receive healthy blood, she says.

Dog blood, like that of humans, is divided into blood groups; only dogs with blood type A-negative are taken as donors.

A-negative is the "universal donor" blood type and contains fewer factors that could induce a recipient's blood to make antibodies against it. Only male dogs or

spayed female dogs are considered as donors.

Donation times are staggered throughout the year. Inglis says most owners bring their animals into the clinic in the morning and pick them up after work, because the blood is drawn when clinic activities permit. A donation takes only about 20 minutes. The dogs are housed in a holding area in the hospital.

About 10 dogs are now in the donor program, but there's always a need for more as people drop out or move away, she says.

Joining the program is "a life-saving procedure that people and their pets can get involved in."

interpretation of basic principles of learning.

Sessions on March 27 will cover principles of learning, counterconditioning and systematic desensitization, canine aggression, and collars and training aids. March 28 topics include principles and use of punishment, effect of temperament on canine trainability, development of the puppy and interactions among the trainer, breeder, vet and behaviorist.

Proceeds from the course will support research in canine behavior at the University of Guelph. To register call 519-767-5000.



Learn how dogs learn at vet course

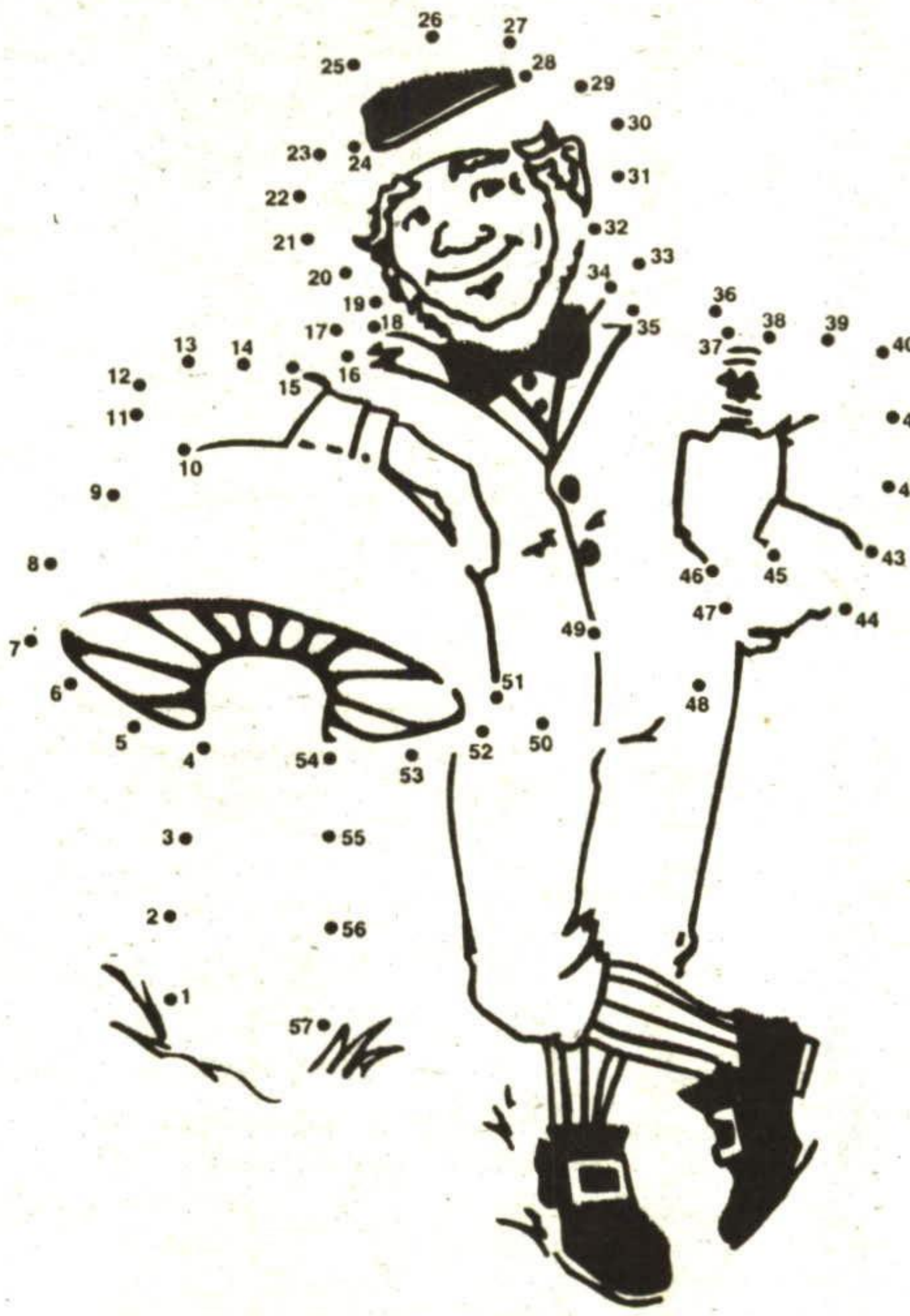
The Ontario Veterinary College at the University of Guelph will hold a two-day course March 27 and 28 on how dogs learn.

Course leaders are OVC ethology professors Don McKeown and Andrew Luescher and graduate student Jack Halip, a dentist who is doing a master's degree in animal behavior.

The course will be of interest to veterinarians, veterinary technicians, dog trainers, dog breeders, behaviorists and pet owners. It focuses on improving the efficiency and effectiveness of canine training through the proper application and

St. Patrick's Day

Connect The Dots



Kids Quiz

How much do you know about Saint Patrick's Day?

1. What was the first country to celebrate Saint Patrick's Day?
2. What color is usually worn on Saint Patrick's Day?
3. What symbol is used during Saint Patrick's Day festivities?

SEE BELOW FOR ANSWERS

Tim Hortons

Round the clock freshness

Donuts, Timbits, Muffins, Cookies, Cakes, Pies and More

5 Mountainview Road,
Georgetown

OPEN 24 HOURS 877-6493
7 DAYS A WEEK



LEARNING THROUGH
PLAY

DISCOVERY TOYS

Developmental Toys, Books & Games, For All Ages Home Demonstrations, Fundraisers, Catalogue/Phone Orders, Part Time & Full Time Career Opportunities

Glenda Taaffe: Manager
519-853-4765

STARRET STARRET & MacDONALD

Chartered Accountants

129 Main St. S.
Georgetown, Ont.

873-1601 846-2561



"We're One Better!"

BUY ONE, ALWAYS GET ONE FREE!

*Open 7 Days A Week, Sun.-Wed. 11 a.m. - Midnight
Thurs. 11 a.m.-2 a.m., Fri. & Sat. 11 a.m.-3 a.m.

184 Guelph St.
Georgetown, Ont. 873-7241



Georgetown
Parent-Child
Centre

A Family Resource Centre
for Parents, Caregivers
and Children.

Located at

89 Mountainview Rd. S., Georgetown

For more information

873-2960

ALMAND'S AUTO SERVICE

305 Armstrong Ave.
Georgetown

877-9981



PUBLIC BOWLING
MARCH BREAK

EVERY DAY FROM 12 NOON
RESERVATIONS ACCEPTED

GEORGETOWN BOWL 877-9922

Wildwood Manor
Ranch

9th line north of Georgetown
Horse Back Riding

877-6852



\$10. per hour with
this coupon until
end of March.

HEY KIDS ENTER OUR EASTER COLOURING CONTEST - See Page -11

ANSWERS TO QUIZ (1) Ireland (2) Green (3) Shamrock