

business

Offering a helping hand

By Paul Everest
Osoyoos Times

A new Osoyoos business is aiming to offer people the chance to spend more time with family and friends with the assurance that tasks that need to be done are being done right.

Ashley Schipholt has launched Angel Assistants, an enterprise she calls an "errand and personal assistance service" geared towards professionals, seniors, new moms and anyone else who needs a helping hand.

That service includes anything from senior care services to grocery shopping to house sitting to companionship check-ins.

Schipholt said she wants her business to help people in Osoyoos and Oliver find more personal and leisure time in their days.

The idea for the service came from the "great feeling" Schipholt said she had when writing letters to her grandmother.

"I started wondering how I could translate this feeling into a business idea," she said, adding that her father, a small business owner, has been mentoring her as she gets her enterprise off the ground.

So far, Schipholt is on her own but she already has at least three clients in Osoyoos.

She graduated with a business degree from

Okanagan University College this spring and has service experience from her time as a tour guide at the Osoyoos Desert Centre in the summer of 2008 and from conducting horseback riding tours in New Zealand.

With so much of Osoyoos's population enjoying the golden years, Schipholt is hoping to attract potential clients

from the Osoyoos Seniors Centre or the Mariposa Gardens care facility who may want a helping hand for errands or other daily needs.

The rate for the service is \$20 per hour with a one-hour minimum charge.

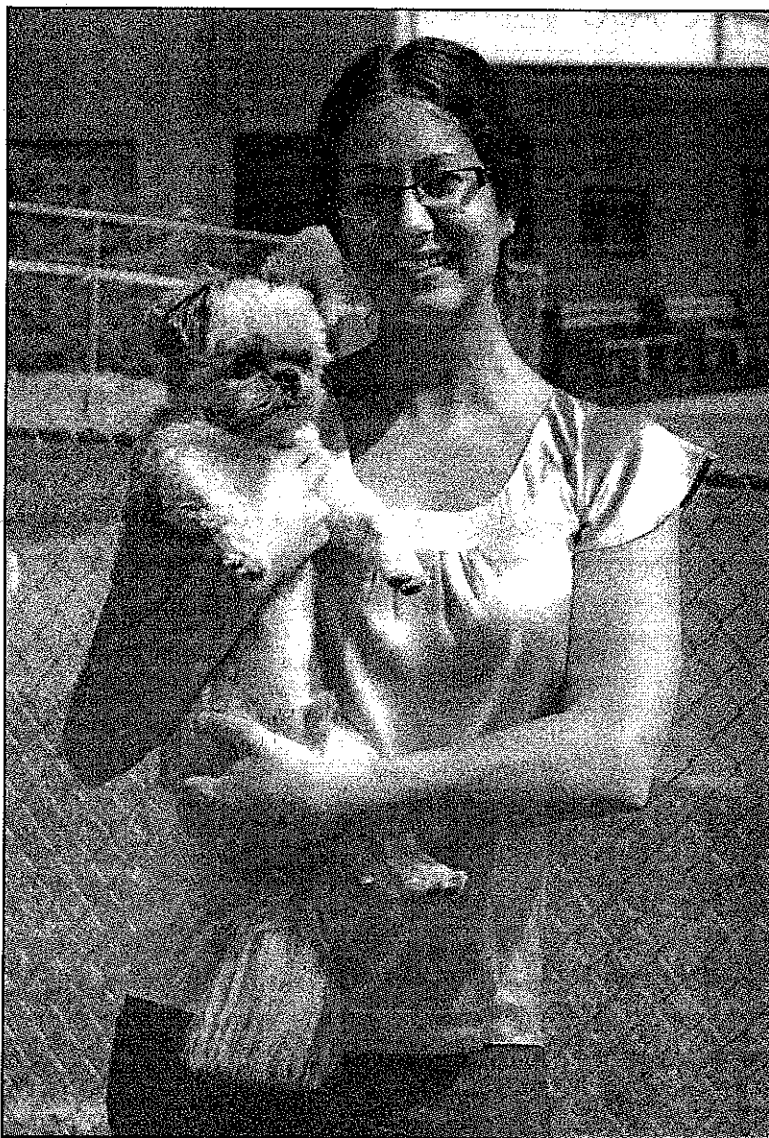
After the first hour, the rate can be applied in half-hour increments.

Schipholt also charges 50 cents per kilo-

metre after the first 20 kilometres if driving is required to carry out errands.

She said she offers packages and discounted rates for longer-term services such as home or pet sitting.

To get in touch with Schipholt, call 250-485-9935, email ashley@angelassistants.ca or visit www.angelassistants.ca.
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Ashley Schipholt, creator of Angel Assistants, and her dog Charlie.

Photo by Paul Everest