

She needed one with ample cockpit space, no rudder pedals and, ideally, a throttle on the control panel. After several failed attempts, she finally found a leased plane at the San Manuel airport that fit the bill. She did her first solo flight on Mother's Day 2008.

Since the sport pilot license does not require a medical exam-only a valid U.S. driver's license- Cox had to prove only that she could fly and pass an oral exam.

"It's still unnerving to me," her father, Bill Cox says as he watches the blue plane take off from the runway."When you get Jessica in an airplane, you have a hard time getting her out. She's very mechanically inclined," instructor Parrish's father, Jack Traweck, says as he watches the plane move north.

When Cox earned her license on Oct.11, she gained a lot of notice. She travelled to Los Angeles and made an appearance on "The Ellen DeGeneres Show." DeGeneres also gave the family a trip to Hawaii. "Inside Edition" picked up Cox's story, and so did in Touch Weekly magazine. Her web site had 10,000 hits in one day.

Cox recently moved back home with her parents, who live on the Northwest side. She had been living on her own for three years, but her speaking

engagements were decreasing as the economy slumped. She is eager to have her own place again soon.

She sees herself one day travelling the globe as a motivational speaker, making a great living and flying herself to some of her events.

There are those who have told her that she's too young to be a motivational speaker, that she needs more life experience, and maybe a master's of business administration. Cox hasn't ruled out those options, but she says she trusts herself and not others to make the right choices. She wants to inspire others to do the same.

She points to the "Captain Hook" prosthetic arms that everyone thought she should be wearing.

"People other than myself were telling me how to live, and finally I just said, 'This is not who I am,' she says.

"As soon as I took them off, I felt lighter, freer and more empowered than I ever had before.

"It's the same way I feel when I fly. I am empowered and it's incredible."

This is an article from the Arizona Daily Star
by Stephanie Innes Published 02.15.2009

On Starnet:

See a video about Jessica Cox at www.azstarnet.com

The everyday adventures of **LOUIE** and **LEGGO**

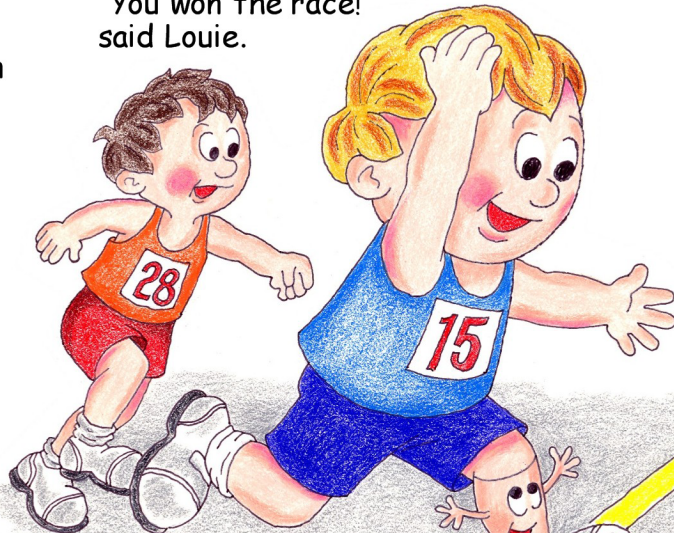


It was the day of the BIG RACE for all the kids in the local schools. Louie and Leggo and their friends, were on the starting line.

The Referee blew his whistle and the race started. They ran for a very long time. Louie and Leggo were in front most of the way.



They came up to the Finish Line and Leggo stepped over it first! "You won the race!" said Louie.



"No, Louie, we both won. I couldn't have done it without you." said Leggo. "We're a team!"

Schmerling