

OUTDOORS



Lucy Urness goes night skiing at Hoodoo Ski Area. ZACH URNESS / STATESMAN JOURNAL

FRIDAY NIGHT SKIING AT HOODOO

Enjoy bonfires, live music, cheaper tickets

Zach Urness Salem Statesman Journal | USA TODAY NETWORK

When the daylight disappears, Hoodoo Ski Area becomes a different place. ● The stadium lights turn on, illuminating the white slopes in an eerie twilight while a man holding a flamethrower spits a reddish-orange stream of flame onto a bonfire just outside the lodge, prompting “oohhs” & “aahhs” from nearby children. ● The chairlifts lurch skiers and snowboards up into the darkness, and from the top of the mountain, it looks as though you’re dropping into an illuminated bowl surrounded by dark mountains. ● “It feels like this is a dream,” my 7-year-old daughter Lucy said on her first night skiing trip. ● After a few runs, we head inside the lodge for pizza and are lured upstairs by the sound of bluegrass music. It’s a fantastic Eugene-based band called “Daniel and the Blonde,” and they play a nice mix of covers — heavy on the Dylan — along with fun original songs, including one about growing up in a ski town. Groups of skiers sit drinking beer and tapping their boots before cheering and shuffling back to the slopes. **See HOODOO, Page 2B**

A big trout stock at a hidden gem, and three chances to be artistic



Fishing
Henry Miller
Guest columnist

Talk about a Valentine’s treat from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Rainbow trout are scheduled to be stocked for the first time in 2022 during the week of Feb. 14 through 18 at Sunnyside Park Pond on the east end of Foster Reservoir.

A visit to which provides an excellent opportunity to check out the family-friendly Linn County Park (online at Sunnyside County Park | Linn County Parks & Recreation (linnparks.com) before the campgrounds open for the summer.

To my lasting regret, I didn’t even discover this gem until I’d been here more than a decade despite numerous fishing, camping and hiking trips to Foster and nearby Green Peter reservoirs as well as Quartzville Creek and the South Santiam River.



In addition to stocked trout, Sunnyside Park Pond offers hot-weather fishing for warmwater fish such as bass and yellow perch. HENRY MILLER / SPECIAL TO THE STATESMAN JOURNAL

It’s an hour-and-change road trip from Salem. Take the Highway 20 exit just south

of Albany eastbound through Lebanon and Sweet Home, then look for the Quartzville Road turn on the left at the

east end of Foster Reservoir.

The turn to the park is about a quarter-mile past North River Road (fish hatchery sign). Watch for the park entrance sign on the right.

The parking area and pond are on your left, next to the playground, after you drive into the park.

According to the trout-stocking schedule, Sunnyside is scheduled to get 1,040 rainbows, including 40 “trophy” trout averaging about a pound.

PAGING ALL ARTISTS

Vincent van Gogh probably never had the biological accuracy of his depiction of the birds in his 1890 painting “Wheatfields with Crows” critiqued by an ornithologist.

For this art competition, though, it’s all about the accuracy.

Entries are open until Aug. 26 through Sept. 30 for three annual art competitions sponsored by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.

The winners will be featured on the 2023 Habitat Conservation, Waterfowl,

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