

# Florence racer makes top-10 list for Northwest

Florence sand drag racer Gary "Gee" Armstrong made the list in the "Heads-Up" Northwest's Top Ten Best race held at Albany Sand Drags in Albany, Ore., on May 6.

Armstrong raced some high-powered competition from around the Pacific Northwest in the Single Cylinder Class.

"I was a little surprised my 500cc-something Yamaha YFZ racer and I made eighth on the list since we were mostly battling competitors with motors in the 600cc to 900cc range," Armstrong said after the race. "But our new Redline Racing and RacersEdge motor and chassis setup this season have been laying down some very quick elapsed times on the track, and quite a few of my reaction times at the launch lights were low hundredths of a second."

Armstrong's local sponsors include Florence Yamaha and Polaris, Jack Smoot Welding and Red Artworks, Inc.



Gary "Gee" Armstrong competes in the Albany Sand Drags in Albany May 6.

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## Leave young wildlife alone, says ODFW

SALEM — May and June are the months when newborn animals are getting their start in the wild. Help them out by giving them space and leaving them alone.

ODFW and Oregon State Police remind Oregonians that taking young animals out of the wild isn't just against the law — it's also bad for the animal. These animals miss the chance to learn important survival skills from their parents like where to feed, what to eat, how to behave as part of a group and how to escape from predators.

Unfortunately, every year about this time, ODFW offices across Oregon get calls from people concerned about "orphaned" deer fawns, elk calves, seal pups and other animals they find alone. But the mother animal is usually just off feeding not far away.

She will return soon, so don't interfere.

"People often pick up animals they find alone out of good intentions, without realizing they may be sentencing the animal to an early death by removing it from its natural environment and its parents," said Julia Burco, ODFW district wildlife veterinarian.

"Never assume a young animal is orphaned unless you saw its parent killed," continued Burco. "In almost all cases, the parent will return once it is safe to do so, like when people and dogs aren't around."

If an animal is injured, or truly orphaned, it needs special care. Oregon's licensed wildlife rehabilitators have the knowledge and facilities to provide this care. They use special methods that limit human interaction and mimic the animal's natural lifestyle as much as possible, so the animal can eventually be returned to the wild.

Before picking up any wild animal, call ODFW, Oregon State Police, or a wildlife rehabilitator for advice. Removing or "capturing" an animal from the wild and keeping it in captivity without a permit is against state law (OAR 635-044-0015), as is transporting many animals.

Last year, seven people were cited for doing so (No wildlife holding permit/Take-hold young game mammal).

Follow these tips if you encounter young animals in the wild:

*Deer, elk and other mammals:*

- Never assume an animal is orphaned. Don't move it from the forest, or from your backyard. Female deer and elk and other mammals will often leave their young temporarily for safety reasons or to feed elsewhere. They will return when it is safe to do so (when people, dogs, or predators are not present).

- Call your local ODFW office, Oregon State Police office or a local licensed wildlife rehabilitation center when:

- 1) you see an animal that you know is orphaned because you observed the dead parent animal, or
- 2) the parent hasn't returned for several hours or even up to a day, or
- 3) if the animal is clearly injured or in distress.

- Bunnies are rarely orphaned; mother rabbits only visit den sites at dusk and dawn to feed her young.

- Keep your dog or cat away from young wildlife, especially in the spring.

- If you see a seal pup, young sea lion, or other marine mammal that appears stranded or in distress, contact OSP's hotline at 1-800-452-7888.

*Birds and turtles:*

- Leave fledgling birds

alone. It is natural for fledgling (mostly feathered) birds to be awkward while learning how to fly. If you see one on the ground, leave it alone and keep your distance.

- Bring your pets under control and indoors if possible. The mother bird will feed it for several days on the ground until it "gets its wings."

- Return nestling birds to the nest. Nestlings (baby birds not fully feathered) found on the ground can be gently and quickly returned to the nest. If the nest is out of reach, place the bird on an elevated branch or fence, or in a nest made from a small box, out of the reach of children and pets. Leave the area so the parent birds can return.

- Bring your pets indoors. Cats are a major cause of injury and death for all birds, killing millions of birds in the U.S. annually. Keep your pets away from fledgling birds learning to fly.

- Be careful when pruning trees as there may be a bird nest in the branch. Wait until birds are out of the nest.

- Beware of cavity nesters. Barn owls and other birds could be nesting in hollowed-out trees or logs and in haystacks.

What if a bird flies into a window and appears hurt? Birds can be confused by reflective surfaces and mistakenly fly into windows. If you find a bird that has been stunned as a result of a window strike, put the bird in an uncovered box with a towel on the bottom.

Keep it in a quiet place away outside, away from pets, and check back in a couple of hours. If the bird has recovered, it will have flown off.

If not, contact a local ODFW office or your local wildlife rehabilitator.

- Let turtles cross the road. In May and June, females begin searching for suitable nesting grounds to lay their eggs. If you see a turtle on the ground, the best thing to do is leave it alone and let it continue on its path.

It's fine to move it off a road (if it is safe for you to do so), but put it on the other side, where it was headed.

## Siuslaw News' garage sale GUIDE

**Sat 5/14**  
9am  
**Ocean Dunes HOA, Multi-family off Munsel Lake Rd.**  
Household Goods, and Furniture, Shop, Power Tools, Kayaks, Camping Gear, Etc.

**Fri/Sat 9am-4pm**  
Sun 9am-12pm  
**Huge 3 Family Sale!**  
121 Park Village Loop  
Furniture, Soft Tub, Womens bike w/helmet, Kitchenware, Clothes, Shoes, Etc. Rain or Shine.

**Fri/Sat 5/13-5/14**  
9am - 4pm  
**4020 Munsel Creek Dr.**  
Large sale, Furniture, Tools, Household, Gardening Tools.

**Simply Marvelous!**  
**Thurs 5/12 - Sat 5/14**  
10am - 3pm  
**4390 Hwy 101**  
In RV Sales Building, Furniture, Antiques, Collectibles, Crafts, Shells & household.

**One Day Moving Sale!**  
**Sat 5/14**  
10am - 3pm  
**87792 Limpit Lane**  
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Featured items: 2-piece oak/glass hutch, sleep number bed w/bedding & headboard w/storage, dark oak chest of drawers, nightstand, oak dining table & 6 chairs, green leather couch / ottoman, wrought iron patio table & four chairs, gardening tools, & Much more! Rain/Shine (sale in RV Garage).

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