



Pet Tips 'n' Tales

by Mary Ellen "Angel Scribe"

An adult Barred owl is 25 inches tall with a four foot wingspan, "Who-Woo" have an adorable baby-face with dark rings circling their nickel-size brown eyes, and a yellow beak. Their chest feathers are mottled gray-brown and barred horizontally hence the name "Barred owl". Their legs and feet are covered in feathers and sharp 1 1/2 inch talons.

February, 10 years ago, Sid arose at 5 a.m. to make a European business call. Still in his maroon bathrobe he turned on the kitchen lights, which shown out onto his Koi fish pond, where he saw someone trying to steal his expensive fish.

On a closer look he realized it was a huge bird

in trouble. The year before, Herons had been stopping by to "steal" his fish for a meal, so he strung fishing line to reflect in the sun to keep them at bay and his fish safe.

Apparently the bird, he now saw, was a night fisher and had failed to see the crisscrossed lines and had become dangerously entangled.

"I ventured outside," said Sid, "and saw an owl with its wide wings extended over the pond and his body resting in the frigid water. His round eyes were closed into thin slits. I figured he had been thrashing, entangling himself, in the fishing line for a long time and now he was suffering from hypothermia and/or almost drowned. He was in bad shape and lay exhausted and motionless."

Once I realized that he was "almost done for", I ran back in and woke my wife, Nola, to come and help. I used the pool's leaf skimmer to scoop the bird out of the water. Nola concentrated on cutting the fishing line from his wings and body. He was in bad shape, close to our faces and yet he did not attack us or try to."

Once untangled, Nola was afraid to pick him up from the skimmer, (rightly so), so she held the net that he was resting on, and Sid plucked the bird from it and carried it into their home.

It was too early to phone a wildlife rescue center, so



Nola found a big box and Sid put the bird into it wrapped in a thermal blanket. They placed "the hospital" on their kitchen table. The couple was hoping that the owl would soon recover and fly away on its own.

Four hours later, the owl jumped up onto the box's edge and shook off the blanket. Sid picked the bird up and put it on the back of a cloth chair, so it could balance with his talons. The owl's eyes were now wide open.

"Once recovered from his cold bath," said Sid, "the bird let me touch and pet him. I slid his chair over to the open sliding door. The look in his eyes was heart warming. I could telepathically see and understood that he trusted me to do anything with him. I just knew he would not hurt me.

His feathers were like silk, so, as crazy as it was, I put my face against his head and bumped it like my cats do to me. It was not a bright thing to do as they can swizzle their head, but he looked at me as his long lost friend and let me do it. Res-

cuing that bird was one of the biggest thrills of my life."

For another 30 minutes, the bird peacefully sat on the chair, then it extended its wings and powerfully flew away.

TIPS

Wildlife expert and bird rehabber Judy Hoy said, "Sid and Nola did the right things cutting the fishing line off of the owl and quickly warming it up. Wildlife easily become entangled in fishing line, so when you see it, pick it up and dispose it. Also, lead weights should be picked up, disposed of, or reused, so waterfowl and mammals won't ingest it and die of lead poisoning."

Tell us your wildlife story.
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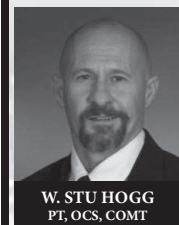
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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

912 project

Michael Pungercar of Honor Flight fame will discuss the air war over Europe during World War II at the next meeting of the Cottage Grove 912 Project on Monday, June 19th, 6:30 PM, at Stacy's Covered Bridge Restaurant, 401 E Main. This meeting is open to the public.

Kickin' it with Cops

Head down to the police station behind city hall on June 23 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. for the kick-off to summer. Meet the police department personal, take a photo in a police car, dunk a city councilor or the police chief. Bike helmets available for kids and Mayor Jeff Gowing will be grilling hot dogs.

Baha'is in CG

The Cottage Grove Baha-is will be hosting a devotional gathering on Friday, June 16 at 7 p.m. at 640 S. 3rd St. The program will include music, prayers and readings of scripture from the world religions, following by a discussion about how religion can be a motivating force for love, unity and peace in our world today.

Chronic illness classes

An evidence-based curriculum developed and licensed by Stanford University School of Medicine, Living well and Chronic Conditions is a six-week workshop series designed for adults with any type of chronic health condition. No cost. Classes held Tuesday from

3 to 5:30 p.m. at the Community Center in Cottage Grove from June 13 to July 25. For more information, call (541) 682-3349.

God of Carnage

The Opal Theatre will be showing God of Carnage on June 16 through June 18. The Tony-winning play revolves around two sets of parents meeting to discuss a fight between their 11-year-old boys. For more information, call (541) 514-0704.

Relay for Life

The 20th annual relay for life will take place on Friday, June 16 from Friday at 6 p.m. to Saturday at 10 a.m. Closing ceremony Saturday at 9:30 a.m.

Cemetery presentation

The Cottage Grove Historical Society will give a presentation on McFarland Cemetery on Saturday, June 17 at 10 a.m. at the Cottage Grove Community Center.

Father's Day

Father's Day is Sunday, June 18.

Concert in the Park

Chamber Concert in the Park kicks off on June 28 with Jerry Zybach and the Blues Kats in Bohemia Park beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Relief Nursery

Family Relief Nursery Annual Sigh of Relief Luncheon held June 20 at 12 p.m. For more information, call (541) 942-4835.

Student of the Month

London School



Daniel LeCount

The London School June Student of the Month is Daniel LeCount. Daniel is a 6th grader in Mr. Flagg's Middle School Class. Daniel is a great helper and lends a hand to adults and students. He has a wonderful sense of humor and is a good friend. Daniel helps the younger students out on the playground and during PE. He is always encouraging them and willing to help them out which is very sweet. Daniel is respectful to adults and notices the people around him. He is very kind and perceptive to people's needs. Daniel comes to school with a positive attitude that he spreads to all around him. Daniel has the potential to do great things in life and we are proud to have him as a London Knight. Congratulations Daniel!

•CORRECTION•

In the June 7 edition of The Sentinel, the story "We are a Village" identified CG Market as a location whip-its can be purchased. Whip-its can be purchased at the location locals refer to as CG Market on 5th St. However, owners Connie and Jerry Pifer sold CG Market in 2008 and have no affiliation with the new owners. Additionally, the Pifers did not sell whip-its during their ownership of the store. The new location is registered as Cottage Market. The Sentinel regrets the error. Please bring all errors to the attention of the Editor by emailing cmay@cgsentinel.com or calling (541) 942-3325 x 212.

The Cottage Grove Historical Society would like to invite you to the dedication of the new interpretive sign kiosk for the historic McFarland Cemetery located on the corner of Holly Ave. and Kalapuya Way Saturday, June 17 at 10 a.m.



Featured will be Kalapuya Elder, Esther Stutzman, to talk about how cultures merged between the Kalapuyas and the early settlers in this area.

The Historical Society would like to thank the following for their help in getting the interpretive center built: Cottage Grove Lions Club, Kyle Kishen Construction, Gary Lind, Geomax Engineering, Ric Christian, Cascade Home Center, Stocker Construction, and special thanks to: Oregon Historic Cemeteries for their grant that has helped make the project a reality.

