

WINGS from B1

ing, advanced training. Weather. Everything.”

Koester was hooked. He was ready to fly then and there until his dad, who had seen fellow cadets killed in planes during WWII, said no. This did not deter Koester who carried his dreams of flying with him to college at the University of Notre Dame. Renting a Cessna 150 for \$9 an hour, his roommate, who was licensed in flying, showed Koester the ropes.

Upon returning home to Missouri, Koester's father saw his son's joy and decided to

buy a plane. From there, things took off. Koester became an aerospace engineer in Silicon Valley and continued to fly around in his plane.

“For me it's always been for the exploration and the fun,” he said.

From Tennessee to the Grand Canyon to Alaska with stops at countless small airports in between, Koester has been around the block. And then to Cottage Grove where him and his wife decided to settle down into retirement.

Settle down but not stop the same spirit of adventure that his plane has provided.

“This has been my adventure machine,” said Koester.

Snapshots: CGHS boys basketball camp



Clockwise from top left: A camper cuts through the lane during the final day of camp. A group takes in the action on the court while enjoying slices of watermelon. A defender comes up with a steal for his team. An individual takes in his options while defenders attempt a double team.



Koester tells Boehringer all about his plane on Saturday.

Local fishing update

Cottage Grove Pond (Row River Nature Pond): trout, warmwater species

Was last stocked the week of April 2 with 1,800 legal- and 400 trophy-size trout.

Cottage Grove Ponds are open to year-round fishing and are accessed via an asphalt pathway behind the truck scales on Row River Road. In addition to fishing, these ponds also offer wildlife viewing op-

portunities and a fishing dock is available on-site.

Cottage Grove Reservoir: trout, warmwater species

Was stocked the week of April 16 with 4,250 legal- and 400 trophy-size hatchery rainbow trout.

In Cottage Grove Reservoir, you could catch a fish with a tag that could win you a \$50 gift card as part of ODFW's tag reward program. **Dorena Res-**

ervoir: trout, warmwater

Was stocked the week of April 16 with 4,500 legal-size and 500 trophy hatchery rainbow trout. Dorena Reservoir is a location where ODFW released tag reward fish last fall, so you could still potentially catch a fish with a tag that could win you a \$50 gift card.

Baker Bay boat ramp is accessible at the current reservoir elevation.

ODFW issues reminder: leave wild animals in the wild

SALEM, Ore.—Put it back. That's the advice you're likely to hear if you bring a young wild animal home to “take care of it”—and you might get a warning or citation from Oregon State Police, too.

Oregon's deer and elk give birth from May through July and many other wildlife species also bear their young at this time of year. It's natural for mother animals to leave their young alone for extended periods of time while they go off to feed, so never assume a young animal is orphaned when you see it alone. The mother will return when it's safe to do so—

when people, pets or predators aren't around.

Unfortunately, every year around this time, ODFW offices, licensed wildlife rehabilitators and even Oregon State Police are flooded with calls from people who picked up a deer fawn, elk calf, fledgling bird learning to fly, or other young animal they assumed was orphaned because it was alone.

Animals taken away from their natural environment 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. Usually this leads to a shortened life span for the animal.

Removing an animal from the wild and/or holding it is a violation of state law (OAR 635-044-0440 “Wildlife may not be captured from the wild and/or held...”) Doing so is considered a Class A Misdemeanor and a court could impose a maximum fine of \$6,250 fine and/or one year in jail. Last year (2017), Oregon State Police issued seven warnings and one citation to people who had picked up deer fawns, bear cubs, a baby turkey, a baby raccoon, nine baby opossums and an injured osprey.

If you are certain a young animal is orphaned because you saw its mother die, or if you see an injured animal or one in distress, call one of Oregon's licensed wildlife rehabilitators. Wildlife rehabilitators have the training and facilities to properly care for young wildlife and eventually return them to the wild. You can also call your nearest ODFW office during regular business hours, or Oregon State Police dispatch if an animal is in distress.

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