

Bike lockers now open



The Rotary Club of Cottage Grove and city officials gathered last Thursday (Sept. 12) afternoon for a special ribbon cutting of two bicycle lockers open to the public on Main Street across from City Hall and All-America Square. Visiting cyclists can request access to the lockers at Main Street establishments The Bookmine, Axe and Fiddle or the Cottage Grove Police Department. Funding for the lockers was raised by the Rotary Club of Cottage Grove with a matching Rotary district grant. (Photo courtesy of Reilly Newman)



Pet Tips 'n' Tales

By Mary Ellen "Angel Scribe"

Flashback 2018

Getting 'skunked'



Fred shares his smelly skunk experience over a cup of coffee.

Getting "skunked" is a nightmare that pet parents hope to avoid. Their pets feel the same, but it happens every day. If you think that "getting skunked" is when someone beats you at a card game or fails to make a payment, it also falls into the "I never want that experience" scenario.

"Our five-year-old, King Charles Cavalier/poodle mix rescue dog, Freddy, is the love of our life, along with our cat, Archie," said Lisa. "One morning at 6 a.m., I opened the door to let him into the backyard. That's when I saw it: a skunk. It was the characteristic cute black animal with two white stripes down its back."

Lisa took off running to save Fred ... but it was too late. The skunk spotted Fred innocently sniffing his backyard and — like in slow motion when you can see what is about to happen and are powerless to do anything about it — the skunk spun around and sprayed Fred in the eyes.

The smell was sickening and poor Fred was covered. He did the only thing he knew for safety and made a beeline through the open door, into the living room, rubbing his face on Lisa's new leather coach.

The skunk's oily spray dripped off Fred's fur onto the wood floor. "I grabbed a cloth and tried wiping his face, but instead the goo spread over his fur," Lisa said. "It is one thing smelling skunk odor from your bedroom window at night. But being next to it and having it permeate your home is nauseating."

Lisa's husband, Clark, jumped on the internet and discovered that using tomato juice to remove skunk spray is a myth. Luckily, the information offered a better solution: 1 quart of 3-percent hydrogen peroxide, 1/4 cup baking soda and 1 teaspoon liquid dish washing soap.

"We didn't have [the dish soap], so Clark drove to a 24-hour store," said Lisa. "We will never be without these products again."

They mixed the ingredients and, without getting Fred wet with water, applied it full strength as per the directions, making sure to keep it away from his eyes.

"We were all traumatized," Lisa said. "The first application removed most of the smell, so we applied it twice more and then bathed him in Nature's Miracle Skunk Odor remover. We also used the bio-enzyme product to remove odors from our clothes, floor and couch."

As Fred was recovering, curled up in his bed and covered in a towel, his best friend and family cat, Archie, walked up to him. Archie lovingly washed Fred's ear, letting him know that all is well and that he is loved even though he had a "date" with a skunk.

Lisa said Fred was not himself for days. "He would cautiously look outside and not want to go out."

Was he humiliated, scared or feeling vulnerable after his experience of being attacked by a cute cat-like creature?

Like Lisa, my friend Lynda had a similar experience. "As my elderly poodle, Silky, and I walked in our yard, a skunk surprised us, turned and sprayed Silky in her eyes," said Lynda. "I knew just what not to do: Not to let her in the house until I was ready. My sister's dog had recently 'met' a skunk and ran under her bed, smearing skunk oil all over her bedroom."

Silky immediately rolled in the dirt, rubbing the oil off her fur as Lynda raced into the house and prepared the skunk mixture. "I picked Silky up with a towel, put her in the tub and poured the mixture over her," Lynda said. "The skunk's green goo slid off her fur and went down the drain. And with it, 98 percent of the smell. I gave her a second rinse and the hydrogen peroxide whitened her white fur — so it was an adventure with a happy ending."

TIPS:

- "The skunk odor took five days to leave our home," said Lisa. "We placed open boxes of baking soda and white vinegar in shallow bowls around the house to neutralize the horrible smell."
- Lynda added, "I placed cut onions in bowls of water to absorb the odor from the air in my home."

Share your fur-avorite pet memory or adventure at angelscribe@msn.com. Visit Pet Tips 'n' Tales on Facebook at www.facebook.com/PetTipsandTales Humane Society for Neuter/Spay Assistance Program. 541-942-2789

Silent auction to benefit Tucker's Cupboard program

On Friday, Sept. 20, a silent auction event will be held to benefit Tucker's Cupboard, a local nonprofit organization that provides

assistance to families with canines. The silent auction will be held at The Brew Station, 106 S. Sixth St. in Cottage Grove.

The auction will be from 6 to 8 p.m., with music provided by Tatiamo.

All proceeds from the auction will go to help fund

Tucker's Cupboard.

For more information about the program, visit www.tuckerscupboard.org/coastforkfeed.com.

The Grove listed among safest places to drive in Oregon

Recently, Cottage Grove recently received the 2019 Safest City Award in Oregon from Insurify.

Using the driving records reported by car owners who submitted over 1.6 million car insurance applications,

each city in Oregon was analyzed for the driving history of its citizens going back to 2010.

The data science team analyzed the percentage of drivers with one or more prior moving violations

(including but not limited to speeding, at-fault accidents, DUI, reckless driving and running a red light) against the total number of drivers as a whole in each municipality.

The city with the lowest

proportion of offending drivers was identified as the community with the safest traffic in their state.

This city was Cottage Grove.

Science Pub to discuss Oregon's ancient forests next week at Axe & Fiddle

"Exploring Oregon's Ancient Forests" will be the topic of the September Science Pub, which will take place Tuesday, Sept. 24, from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Axe & Fiddle, 657 E. Main St.

Chandra LeGue, author

and Western Oregon Field Coordinator for Oregon Wild, will discuss her recently published book "Oregon's Ancient Forests: A Hiking Guide." Her talk will illustrate the fundamentals of our ancient

forests, highlight a variety of hiking experiences and feature trails in and around the Coast Fork Willamette Watershed.

The CFWWC hosts a family-friendly monthly public meeting series called

the Coast Fork Science Pub on the fourth Tuesday of each month.

The Science Pub presentation begins at 6 p.m. CFWWC receives 10 percent of all sales from the evening between 5 to 7:30 p.m.

LORANE NEWS

CONTRIBUTED BY LIL THOMPSON FOR THE SENTINEL

• Tomorrow, Sept. 19, CAL School Board will hold its monthly meeting at Lorane Grange. Meeting begins at 7 p.m. with exec-

utive session prior to the meeting.

Come out, hear how well the schools are running and meet our new superintendent and principal.

• Half day school this Friday, Sept. 20. For those

taking part in the half-day art, join Zimbabwean performer John Mambira for an afternoon of body percussion, rhythms and African dance.

• CMHS 2019 Fall Homecoming is next week, Sept. 23-27. There are many interesting dress ups for the week; Pajama Day, Career Day, Class Color Day, Stop Light Day and Spirit Day. Be prepared to see many

interesting outfits at the bus stops.

• Pillow cases are still needed at CM/HS. Leave in the office.

• Lorane Grange is still gathering new socks, underwear and T-shirts for men and women veterans.

They are needed soon.

Anyone who would like to help can leave donations at the Lorane Family Store for Grangers to pick up.

6-day weather forecast

<p>THURSDAY 68° 49° Partly Sunny</p>	<p>FRIDAY 71° 51° Partly Sunny</p>
<p>SATURDAY 74° 54° Partly Sunny</p>	<p>SUNDAY 72° 47° Partly Sunny</p>
<p>MONDAY 71° 49° Partly Sunny</p>	<p>TUESDAY 70° 52° Partly Sunny</p>

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