



Betty Kaiser

Betty Kaiser: Chatterbox Dealing with Deer

went like this:
“Now, Dancer and Prancer, we are reasonable landlords. We are willing to share five of our six-acre meadow with you. The catch being that we maintain complete control over the one-acre that includes all of our flower and vegetable beds. The roses and all other edibles are mine! Got it?”

If, my ‘deer’ friends, you don’t agree, it’s time for you to move on. You need to dance and prance off to the nearby parks where the campers will appreciate you. Blackberry season is right around the corner so you won’t go hungry. And don’t forget to visit our neighbors. Some of them are very generous and probably still serving USDA approved deer food.

Despite our persistence, nothing worked to deter their destructive rounds. Not blood meal, deodorant soap, hair clippings, bright lights, clanging bells or barking dogs worked. They would even walk up our deck to devour hanging plants. Each

flower bed massacre really ticked us off!
Our dogs barking in the middle of night were of no help. The electric fence didn’t always work, automatic lights made eating easier and they seemed to like the sprinkler system. “Deer Away” was our best bet but putting it out nightly was a nuisance.

So, I proposed a truce. “We do have other offerings, you know. How about this: I’ll smell the roses while you munch the meadow. Deal or no deal? It’s your choice. (Signed) Your rosy landlords.” There was no answer.

This year, when the young Mama Deer with tiny spotted twins, started visiting us, they didn’t eat the roses! Instead, they would have breakfast next door and then jump the fence to our “deer forest.” Mom would leave her babies here while she went looking for food and then return to pick them up and all would disappear for the night.

It was a fine arrangement. Normally, healthy

fawns are left alone during the day by their mothers while she forages for food. Mom will stay away from them during daylight hours to avoid leading predators to her young. She will return and always gather her babies together unless she senses some kind of danger.

Last week, however, for several days in a row, one baby deer disappeared. And there were only 2 of them. We were terrified. After all, there are cougars and bears up the hill! Finally, last Sunday, the three of them surprised us in the middle of the day by tearing through the property and jumped the fence to safety elsewhere.

What a relief! They are all together again. It was a safe, mom leadership arrangement and they didn’t eat the roses! They must know how to read after all! Now I may now have to eat my words and let them have a few flowers to nibble on.

Contact Betty Kaiser’s Chatterbox at 942-1317 or email bhatty@bettykaiser.com

Free rides offered between Eugene and Roseburg

Umpqua Public Transportation District (UPTD) has started a new bus route called the Lane-Douglas Connector (LDC).

This new service offers safe, reliable, accessible transportation to veterans and the general public in rural communities for better access to healthcare services and shopping opportunities.

Lane-Douglas Connector operates from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays with scheduled stops at the Veterans Affairs Hospital in Roseburg, Ray’s Food in Drain, Walmart

and PeaceHealth Medical Center in Cottage Grove, and the Veterans Affairs Clinic in Eugene (LTD bus stop nearby).

The stop in Drain serves as a connection point for passengers of the North Douglas Betterment shuttle.

The route is operated by South Lane Wheels as a pilot project funded by the Rural Veterans Healthcare Transportation grant.

For service information and timetable go to: www.southlanetransit.com, or to schedule a ride, call UPTD dispatch toll-free at 888-232-8121.

London Road becomes ‘Safety Corridor’

The “Safety Corridor” designation on London Road became effective on July 4.

Both “Safety Corridor” and “Fees Double” signage have been installed. Public education postcards have been mailed to the entire Cottage Grove ZIP code inviting people to complete an on-line survey to help

develop a DUII prevention tool kit.

For more information, contact Lane County Senior Transportation Planner Becky Taylor by emailing becky.taylor@lanecountyor.gov or by calling 541-682-6932.

Visit the project website at www.lanecountyor.gov/LRSC.

summer safety

for Pets

Follow these tips to keep your pet protected in soaring summer temperatures.

NEVER Leave Your Pet in the Car

Even with the windows open, your pet can suffer from fatal heatstroke within minutes if left in the car. On a 75-degree day, the temperature inside a parked car can climb to 100 degrees in just 10 minutes. When it’s 90 degrees outside, the interior of a vehicle can quickly heat up to 160 degrees.

Starfire Lumber Company
www.starfirelumber.com

The Bookmine
702 E Main
Cottage Grove
541-942-7414

Avoid Hot Sidewalks & Pavement

Protect your pup’s paws by keeping walks to a minimum during the hottest hours of the day. Hot pavement can burn the sensitive pads of pet paws, and proximity to the hot ground will cause your pet’s body to heat up quickly.

Pinocchio’s Pizza
795 E Main St
Cottage Grove
541-942-5531

Brads Cottage Grove Chevrolet
2775 Row River Rd
Cottage Grove
541-942-4415

Keep Pets Cool & Hydrated

Make sure pets have access to plenty of drinking water, and avoid exercising your pet during the hottest times of the day. Keep pets inside during periods of extreme heat, and make sure they have access to shade when outdoors.

Hoyer Accounting
516 E Whiteaker Ave
Cottage Grove
541-942-8241

Adventure! Children’s Museum
490 Valley River Center
Eugene
541 653-9629

Some Pets Need Sunscreen

Pets with fine hair and pink skin can suffer from sunburn, and should be protected with a sunscreen product formulated for animals. Talk to your vet about which type of sunscreen is best for your pet. Keep in mind that shaving your dog leaves them susceptible to sunburn and overheating, and should be avoided.

Hitch Pro & Tow
4701 W 11th Ave
Eugene
541-434-2403

Cottage Grove Police Department
400 E Main Street
Cottage Grove
541-942-9145

Fireworks Frighten Pets

Booming fireworks scare many pets. Never use fireworks around pets, and keep them sheltered in a quiet, escape-proof area of your home during firework display times.

Fort Rock Construction
33100 Whetham Way
Cottage Grove
541-767-1611

Old Mill Farm Store
327 S River Road
Cottage Grove
541-942-3042

Protect Pets Around Pools

Many dogs can’t swim, and should always be supervised when in the water or around pools. Put a pet life preserver on your pet whenever boating, and be sure to rinse his or her coat of chlorine or salt after swimming!

South Willamette Veterinary Clinic
255 Emerald Pkwy
Creswell
541 895-5665

Companion Animal Clinic
5620 Main Street
Springfield
541-747-2307

Keep Away Edible Hazards

Keep alcoholic beverages away from pets at summer cookouts, and be mindful of toxic lawn and garden insecticides that may be harmful to dogs and cats if ingested. If you suspect your pet has eaten a poisonous substance, call your veterinarian or the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center at 888.426.4435 immediately.

Goldworks Jewelry
169 E. Broadway
Eugene
541-343-2298

Rogers & Son
1324 East Main St
Cottage Grove
541-942-0500

Know the Signs of Heat Exhaustion

Signs of heat exhaustion include heavy panting, vomiting, diarrhea, unsteady legs, bright red or blue gums and tongue, and excessive drooling. If your dog shows these symptoms, move to a cool spot and place cool, wet cloths on his or her neck, in armpits and between hind legs. Give your dog access to cool water, and gently wet ears and paw pads. Placing heat-distressed pets in ice water can lead to shock and should be avoided. Overheated dogs should be brought to a vet as soon as possible.

Cottage Grove Sentinel
1498 E. Main Street, STE 104
Cottage Grove
541-942-3325