

Zoo offers kids winter day camp

Winter break at the zoo is sure to be an adventure for kids four years of age through fourth grade when they attend Winter ZooVenture Day Camps December 20-23 and 27-30. The Oregon Zoo's winter camp program is designed and led by the same professional staff that oversees the summer program. Proceeds help fund the zoo's conservation and education programs.

Each day's activities focus on a unique animal theme. During "How Do They Do That?" children discover how animals climb, fly, glide, dive and survive in the wild world. "Some Like It Cold" has campers examining how animals (like polar bears) are built for winter. During "Short Days, Long Nights" campers discover the differences between nocturnal animals (tigers and bats) and daytime animals (elephants,

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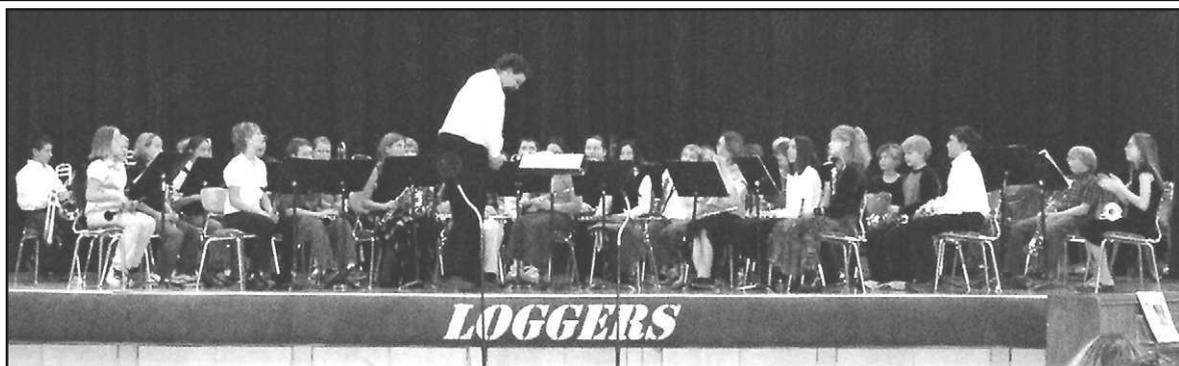
Report flying reindeer sightings

Flying reindeer expert and Oregon Zoo Director Tony Vecchio is asking children around the world to e-mail their reindeer sightings to him by visiting <<http://www.oregonzoo.org/#reindeer>>. Vecchio has studied flying reindeer for nearly ten years and will talk about his theories during a book signing for "Flight of the Reindeer" on Dec. 21 from 6 to 7:00 p.m. at the zoo's Cascade Outfitters Gift Shop.

Vecchio is currently gathering new data to hone his theories on the elusive creatures. "The science of reindeer flight continues to evolve as new data pours in every December 24th during their once-a-year migration," said Vecchio. "I'm asking anyone who sees flying reindeer to e-mail me the details such as where they saw the reindeer, what time it was, how high they were in the sky."

All reported sightings will be documented on a map located

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Top, the 6th grade band performed four musical selections at the Winter Band and Choir Concert held December 8 at Vernonia High School.

Middle, the High School Choir presented the audience with six songs, starting with Jabberwocky and finishing with the Carol of the Bells at the Dec. 8 concert.

Bottom, the High School Band also performed at the Winter Concert, entertaining the crowd with five selections. They started out with Prelude and Fugue in Bb Major by J.S. Bach and finished their program with a Christmas "Pop" Sing-Along, including a selection of popular Christmas tunes.