



Humane Society of Central Oregon

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**For Immediate Release:
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Pets May Be Frightened by Hot Air Balloons This Weekend

This weekend the annual Balloons Over Bend will be putting on a colorful display. Along with that display is the sound of the hot air balloons filling with air which may frighten pets. The unknown sight of a low flying balloon and its shadow can scare any animal.

The Humane Society of Central Oregon is advising people to secure pets indoors if living near Jewell Elementary, in southeast Bend off Murphy Road, during event hours. The hot air balloons will be taking off from Jewell Elementary School at **6:30 am this Friday, Saturday and Sunday.** **The balloons will be filled for the 'Night Glow' event at The Old Mill District Saturday beginning at dark to 10:00 pm.** **It is advised not to take your dog to the balloon events to avoid a potentially stressful environment.**

Every year the Bend animal shelter receives animals that have been frightened by the balloons. **The best way to protect your pet is to keep your pets indoors and wearing identification.** The balloon landings may be unpredictable so pets in the surrounding areas should also be secured in a safe place.

For more information call the Humane Society of Central Oregon at 541.382.3537.

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