

# Ramona Home JOURNAL Julian JOURNAL



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## FEATURES



**PONY Teams Compete in End-of-Year Tournament**



**'A Great Community' Supports Youth at Junior Fair**



**Fair Marks the Height of Summer Fun**



**Ramblers Seek Fellow Travelers**

## Nature News: Entering Newborn Season

FEATURES

By Angela McLaughlin Ramona Home Journal Thu, Apr 04, 2019 Thu, Apr 04, 2019



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New life is sprouting up all around us — songbirds and hawks are nesting, skunks are nursing their kits, opossums are giving birth to little joeys, coyotes are denning with puppies, bobcats are caring for kittens, and many other animals are experiencing what it is like to raise their young.

This influx of animals often increases encounters between wildlife and humans.



Most residents who encounter a baby animal have the best intentions. But this is a busy season for wildlife rehabilitation centers, and not every case is in need of assistance. In many situations, nests of animals stumbled upon are not threatened or abandoned, and are best left alone.

Many animal mothers will leave their young for periods of time while searching for food, only returning periodically to check on them. A prime example being rabbits. This can lead many folks to believe the young have been abandoned. And while our first instinct may be to step in, this is not always best for the animals themselves.

Deer are another example of animals that will leave their young unattended for brief periods. The young fawn will bed down in long grass, as its mother looks for food nearby. Nearly invisible in the landscape, the fawn is typically fairly safe. This may appear to an outsider as abandonment, when in reality, the mother may only be a few steps away.

Many different species of birds are nesting and hatching their young.

However, there are instances when human intervention may be beneficial, and it is important to recognize the difference. Coming into this season, it is vital for the public to know where the local resources are and to contact those resources with questions about wildlife care or intervention.

One important reminder is never to offer food or water to a wild animal without being instructed to do so by a professional. Depending upon the situation, this could cause more problems than it solves.

The Fund for Animals Wildlife Center, located on Highland Valley Road, is a great resource for those who have questions about wildlife they encounter. FFAWC has trained staff and volunteers available to answer questions regarding many different encounter situations.

While the center specializes in predatory species, it is available to offer help for many different cases. The organization partners with Project Wildlife, located in San Diego, to care for many different species of animals. Project Wildlife specializes in the care of non-predatory species.

Not every situation is something the average person is capable of or willing to dive into, and that's when Emergency Animal Rescue comes into play. Founded in 1993, the organization aids in rescuing animals from a wide range of dangerous situations, bringing their expertise to assist both animals and humans alike.

If you are looking for ways to help wildlife, reach out to one of these organizations and ask what volunteer or donation opportunities are available. They are often looking for more hands, especially during this season.

This time of year often brings excitement, joy and a sense of renewal, and the experience of observing newborn animals in the wild is unforgettable.

To ensure your enjoyment and safety, as well as the well-being of nearby wildlife, keep in mind the support organizations that are available to help. These resources will help everyone go through this season with as little difficulty as possible.

### **Wildlife Rescue Contact Information**

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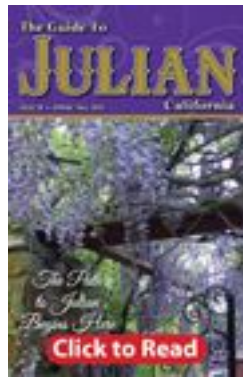
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