WILDLIFE SANCTUARY OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA



1982 • CELEBRATING 35 YEARS • 2017

Volume 35 Issue 2

Receive • Rehabilitate • Release

Summer 2017



WILDLIFE SANCTUARY'S WISH LIST

PURINA Puppy Chow PURINA Cat Chow Tissues Fresh/Frozen Fish Bait Fish Sunflower Hearts (Birdseed) Sunflower Seeds (Bird Seed) Animal Crackers Latex, Box Gloves, Any Size Fresh/Froz Chicken Venison/Red Meat Berries Bottled Water Pine Straw Meat/Fruit Baby Food 1/8"(New) Hardware Cloth (very small wire squares) Meal Worms Bleach Amdro Paper Towels Carabiners Simple Green Clear Packing Tape We also welcome Walmart, Lowes, Sams, Home Depot, Tractor Supply, Butcher Shoppe gift cards.

Upcoming Events 2016

WILDfest 2017 Open House & Supply Drive Saturday, October 7, 2017, 12:00 to 3:30 p.m.



Dorothy Kaufmann Zack Fenton Rebecca Browning

Emily Holden Leah Vickery **Cody Sanderson**

Summer Interns

Staff

David Harrington Jenny Sublett **Flavia Purpura-Pontoniere**

Board of Directors

Debbie Barnard Sam Whatley **Larry Steimel Diane Wahlquist** Molly O'Connor **Mary Jones Bob Jordan Christine Burk John Kaufmann Ellen Odom Dana DeYoung**

> **Veterinary Advisors Dr. Tommy Knight Dr. James Zettler Dr. David Perrett**

Acknowledgements & Credits Volunteer Coordinators **Darleen Willis Statistical Coordinator Patricia Rhodes Printing Credit** Elite Printing & Marketing

TO TRANSPORT WILDIFE:

- Place in a box, basin or trashcan with a cover or lid
- Do not give food or water
- Keep in a guiet place
- · Keep out of extreme heat or air conditioning

TRANSPORT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE... **EVERY MINUTE COUNTS!**

Saturday, December 2, 2017, 12:00 to 3:30 p.m.

Thanks For Listening!

Thanks so much to those who are Special to us

Dr. Knight & Dr. Zettler, Westside Animal Clinic Gulf Power Team -Wes, Steve, Chris, Helen, our neighbors at the warehouse Duncan McCall - advertising & marketing Robert Turpin- going the extra mile to bring us fish Escambia County Directors, Staff and Commissions Frances Webb & ECUA employees - recycling program Stallion Road Recycling Club Bob Peck and all our friends that bring us fish Maria's Seafood- always ready to help us out The Harpers never ending supply drive GB United Methodist Church Seniors "Big" Supply Drive Pat Rhodes for always being there to keep us straight Larry, Bob and Sam our "go to guys" that can fix anything! Elite Printing who treat us like family Pam and Shannon Winchester- always ready to help! Corbin & Cadence Cooper, sharing their birthday gifts with us! Student Government, Ferry Pass Middle School Silas Bowles & Grace Kellams the bake sale for the critters The JOY club, Pensacola Beach Elementary Fundraiser Phil Kellam for his many trips with supplies Renfroe Pecans.....lots and lots of pecans! Barbara Judah Bait & Tackle, Minnows! Our Special Birthday Kids, who asked for supplies, rather than gifts Those foster Moms and Dads who work day and night to care for our babies Our great team of special events volunteers that make our day To the best Staff who go above and beyond all year! We couldn't do it without you!!!

Help support our mission by dropping off your aluminum drink cans! It's a great way to help, drop them by 7 days a week.



2017 recycled cans as of 7-31-17 totals \$889.10



Special Thanks to **Pensacola Beach Elementary's** Joy Club for their donation to the animals. Also shown is *Carol Loethen* who we say "good bye" to as the Administrative Assistant. We wish her great times with her new adventure!

Did You Know....

By Rebecca Browning

Florida is home to 13 of roughly 1,200 bat species in the world. Around 70% percent of bats are insectivores meaning their diet consists of insects and the remaining 30% are frugivores, fruit eating bats. All of Florida's bats are insectivores each consuming up to 1,100 bugs an hour. Of course, we must not forget our association with the bat in Western vampire lore. Only 3 species of the Chiroptera order can take credit for being bloodsuckers. They are the only mam-



mals in the world to live solely on blood.

Although bats find food by echolocation (sound); they are able to see at night. They

play a very important role in our ecosystem. They are the only mammals who can truly fly.

The world's largest bat is the Giant Golden Crowned Flying Fox weighing up to 3lbs with a wingspan over 5ft! Maybe Batman exists after all.



We admitted a juvenile Red Footed Booby but here's a quick look at the adults beautiful birds!!





Lending A Helping Hand....

Well, it is that time again....BABY SEASON is upon us! To prevent unnecessary "rescues" (kidnappings) and to keep both wildlife and the community safe, here are some helpful tips and information on what to do if you see wildlife you think needs your help!

Raccoons, Skunks, and Foxes

These babies often play in the woods under their mothers care. Before disturbing them, observe from a distance to see if the mother is indeed watching over them. It's best to leave them alone unless there is an obvious problem. If the mother has been killed, the babies may wander out of the den because they are hungry. They may be crying, look weak or sickly. In this case, the babies need attention. Don't feed the baby! Don't pick these animals up with your bare hands! If you get bit, it is required by law that the animal will have to be destroyed in order to test it for rabies!!! Adults can be very dangerous and should only be handled by professionals. It is recommended to call the FL Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) or animal control for assistance.

Squirrels

If an immature juvenile squirrel approaches or follows you, its mother has most likely been killed and it's looking for its mother. These squirrels are generally starving and malnourished and need attention. If a baby (eyes closed) is found on the ground, it may have fallen from a nest (especially if there has been a recent storm). Check the baby for injuries. If injured, take it to your local wildlife rehabilitation center immediately. If there are NO apparent injuries, place the baby in a small plastic bowl with several holes punched in the bottom. Line the bowl with leaves or grass and place it about 5 feet off the ground in the lower branches of the tree closest to where the squirrel was found. Don't feed the baby. Monitor the bowl during the daylight hours. If the mother doesn't retrieve the baby in a few hours, take the baby to your nearest wildlife rehabilitation center.

Opossums

These animals are on their own when they are about 8-10 inches long (not including the tail.) If one is found smaller than that, it needs attention. The mother opossum carries her babies in or on her body and if startled or attacked, one or more babies may be left behind when the mother flees. The mother opossum will never realize that she is missing a baby and will not return for it. Check for others, as an average opossum litter is 13! Keep the babies warm with a heating pad set on LOW until you can get them into a rehabilitation facility. Orphans are often found looking for food near a dead mother, especially along roadsides. If you see a dead opossum by the side of a road, check it for babies. Baby opossums can survive on a dead mother's body for about 48 hours. You can detach the babies or you can just put the body in a box and bring it and the babies to a wildlife rehabilitator.

Rabbits

A young rabbit is on its own if the fur is fluffy, the ears are standing, and it is the size of a tennis ball. If not injured, put it back where you found it. If it was brought in by a dog or a cat, it is probably injured and needs attention. If the rabbits' nest is disturbed, replace the fur inside the nest and cover the nest well with dry grass. The mother should return to care for her young. The mother will not reject the babies if you handle them. If at all possible, it is best to let the mother rabbit raise her babies. Rabbits are hard to raise! If you can get near

an adult rabbit, something is certainly wrong. Carefully and QUIETLY place it in box and transport to a wildlife rehabilitator immediately.

Bats

Bat pups are usually found in May through early August. Many times bat pups will fall out of trees or housing during a storm. Babies that are furred look very much like the adults except they are smaller, and do not fly well. These babies need assistance. Don't pick these animals up with your bare hands because of the concern of rabies. Adult bats can't take off from the ground but must be hung from a tree or building. A grounded bat can often be made to crawl onto a towel which can be draped from a fence or tree limb so the animal can fly off. Adult bats found inside the house and are uninjured, can be released directly outside.

Bobcats and Bears

These animals can be very dangerous and should only be handled by professionals. It is recommended to call the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission (1-888-404-3922) (FWC) for assistance. Even babies can be dangerous. If the babies are newborn or they don't have their eyes open, they can be taken directly to a rehabilitator if it is certain the mother is not returning. Otherwise, it is best to call the FWC. They are much better equipped to handle these animals and take them to the proper facility.

Deer

Fawns are often found lying quietly in a field without its mother. This is NORMAL. If you find one and it is not crying, leave it there and check back in 12-24 hours. If one follows you, take it back to where it first saw you and leave as quickly as you can. Check the fawn again in 12-24 hours. If it is injured or crying, then it needs special attention. If small enough, transport to your nearest wildlife facility. If too large or it is an injured adult, call FWC.

Feathered birds or fledglings

Baby birds are often seen fully feathered but trying to fly with the parents nearby. These are fledglings. If they are active and alert, it is best to leave them alone. If possible, keep cats and dogs away from the area for a few days in which time the birds will learn to fly. The parents will continue to care for them even though they are on the ground. If you are not sure the parents are nearby, you may put the bird in a nearby bush or on a tree branch and observe from inside the house for a few hours. If the mother sees you in the yard she will not come near.

Nestling birds (partially feathered)

If the baby bird is alert and opening its mouth for food, you can put it back in the nest. If it is not gaping or is cold, it may need special attention. If a bird is injured, it needs help and cannot be placed back in the nest. Birds that are cat caught are assumed to be injured although they may not appear to be. If a bird is featherless, it needs heat. Since some baby birds need to eat every 1/2 hour, it is important to contact a rehabilitator as soon as possible for instructions if it cannot be put back in the nest or the mother is gone.

WORKING HARD FOR SOMETHING WE DON'T CARE ABOUT IS CALLED STRESS. WORKING HARD FOR SOMETHING WE LOVE IS CALLED PASSION

4 | pensacolawildlife.com

WHY DID THE TURTLE CROSS THE ROAD?

By Karen Beach

Unlike the chicken...we know exactly why!

Most of us have seen a turtle crossing a road at one time or another. This time of year, turtles are wandering around looking for a place to breed or to lay their eggs. Unfortunately, they all too often need to cross very busy roadways to get to where they want to be.

The box turtle, which spends most of its life on land, is probably the most commonly seen crossing roads. Aquatic turtles, such as snapping turtles or pond sliders will travel for the same reasons and also to get from one body of water to another. Aquatic

turtles like to make nests further away from water in higher and drier places.

So, when it's time to lay their eggs... travel is in order!

Concerned citizens are often inclined to help... but BE AWARE turtles DO NOT wander aimlessly...they know exactly where they are going and what they are doing!





How can you help?

- Be alert and prepare yourself to avoid them in the road. 1. Slow down just a little, especially during their nesting months in spring and summer.
- If you see one in the road, and it is safe for you to assist, 2.

kindly help it to the other side. Be sure and take it in the direction it was going. Turtles have a very definitive purpose in their choice of direction. If you bring them back to where they came from, chances are they will turn around and head out across the road once again!

3. Unless the turtle is obviously injured and in need of medical

turtles to other areas or kidnap them. Most wildlife has very specific requirements to live in captivity and will thrive only when left in their natural environment.

If an injured turtle is found, the Wildlife Sanctuary is always available to provide any necessary care.

> Turtles of all kinds are very important to our environment and ecosystems. With just a little awareness, and occasionally a little assistance, we can be sure that these amazing creatures can live and travel safely!

What do wildlife rehabbers do?

rescue feed

comfort medicate clean rehabilitate release educate fundraise mourn & love

Admission to the wildlife sanctuary is free. Our Sanctuary is funded by tax deductible contributions. All donations go to the care, feeding and housing of our wild patients including pelicans, herons, owls, hawks, fox, turtles, raccoons, bobcats, otters, opossums, squirrels, songbirds and much, much more.

Consider giving a gift today through Pay Pal, direct deposit, wishlist items or gift cards today to allow us to continue our mission. Giving Wildlife A Second Chance!



What to do if you find a nest of baby bunni-



BABY PELICANS!

The Wildlife Sanctuary has taken in 7 baby pelicans from our friends at Wildlife Care and Rescue Center, Inc in Biloxi, Mississippi. Their facility got inundated with injured birds with Tropical Storm Cindy last month. These adorable pelicans should be ready for release by late August. Last week, we were contacted by the folks who produce the ABC show called Sea Rescue so who knows, our feathered friends could soon be TV stars!!!

Wish List

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In Memory and In Honor

IN MEMORY

Anthony J. Monti, Sr. (Tony) From Judy Monti

Tim Herring From Ellis & Joan Bullock

Betty Ann Villane From Paul & Debra Villane

Tom Cheek From Elizabeth Cheek-Jones

Anita Marcinski From Priscilla & Lamar Liddle

"Sasha & Cinnamon" From Robbie Gilkison

Tara Vassallo From Donna Vassallo

Theron Broxton We will miss you everyday From Christopher & **Yvonne Lewis**

"Blackie" We miss you From Jack Bonney

Tommy Clyatt He loved all animals And is missed so much From Hilda Klimach

Linda May We love you and will never forget, God Bless You! From Adrian Winstead

Don & Frances Willis From Mary Carboy

Dorothy March Tower From Jacqueline T. Berger

Elizabeth M. Shea From George M. Knefely, M.D., P.A.

Melba Henderson From Karen Christakos

Dan Forster From Marilyn Milek From Mary Jones From Cheryl Greene Dorothy Kaufman

Tom Cheek From Elizabeth Cheek-Jones

Colonel William & Erica Woolley From Phillip Woolley

Barry Brown From Nicole Milazzo

Wayne T. Smith From Joanna Beyer From Ann Ardehl Smith

Mary Carden From Nathan, Neely, Shuford, Susan McDowell

Betty Villane We miss you! From Paul, Tappie, Kaycee Villane

Rhonda Kellam From Phil Kellam From Mildred Willams

Tom Cheek From Elizabeth Cheek-Jones

William 'Bill' Hual From John & Linda Cheek Hall, Jr.

"Bonnie, Boomer, Lady" From Jack & Dona Siler

IN HONOR

My Grandchildren Who share their Mommy's love of animals From Sally Lee

Dan Dunn

From Nan Harper

Wildlife Sanctuary For your good works From Charles & Shirley Reddick **Beverly Julien** From Etta McDonald

Christine Burk "Happy Birthday" From Frances & Paddy

Patric Hamann From Gina Buchanan

Brittany Neff "Nursing All the Baby Critters" From Tim & Patty Neff

Miss Charlotte Borras "Happy Birthday To Me"

"Stanley" Africian Grey Parret From Fred & Cathy Aaron

Mrs. Barbara Martin "Happy 90 Birthday" From Pauline H. Scruggs

Dr. Joseph R. John From Dawn & Alison John

BEQUESTS

To those friends and supporters of the Wildlife Sanctuary of NW Florida who wish to help us by means of a provision in their will, the following general form of bequest is suggested.

"I give, devise and bequeath to the Wildlife Sanctuary of Northwest Florida, a Florida nonprofit, 501C(3) Corporation located at 105 North "S" Street, Pensacola, Florida 32505, the sum of \$ (or specifically described property

The Wildlife Sanctuary of Northwest Florida welcomes any inquiries about bequests, we will try to assist you in any way possible. (850)433-9453

Be Wild, Be A Volunteer!!

We need volunteers to help care for injured and orphaned wildlife as well as landscaping and handyman tasks. See our website and click on "Volunteer" to become part of our amazing team.



"Giving starts at an early age and everything helps! Thank you so much."



Wildlife Sanctuary of NWFL 105 North "S" Street Pensacola, FL 32505

NonProfit Organization U.S. Postage PAID Permit No. 154 Pensacola FL

We are a non-profit 501c3 or	ganization that relies on and receives 100%	% of your donation.
100% of each donation is ta	x deductible. CH1402	
Name:		
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Zip	Phone:	
In Memory:	In Honor:	
Ackowledgement card and n	ewsletter mailed to:	
Name:		
City:	State:	
Zip	Phone:	
Special Notes:		

Check desired level of non-voting annual membership entitling you to receive newsletters and special mailing. Our mailing list is never sold to others.

ı	🗖 Squirrel	\$10	🖵 Owl	\$50	🖵 Fox	\$250	🗖 Deer	\$1000	h
I	🗖 Pelican	\$25	🖵 Beaver	\$100	🗖 Alligator	r \$500	🗖 Eagle	\$1500	

Please make checks payable to: Wildlife Sanctuary of Northwest Florida 105 North "S" St, Pensacola, FL 32505



Name on Card Card #

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For your convenience you can now use PayPal to set up automatic payments for your donations

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Sanctuary Data

Animal Drop-offs:	8:00am - 5:00pm, 7 days a week
Self Guided Tours:	Wed - Sat, Noon - 3:30pm
	FreeAdmission
Guided Tours:	Reservations Required
	15 People Min \$3 per person
Phone:	850.433.WILD (9453)
Fax:	850.438.6168
Email:	ws@wildlife.gccoxmail.com
Website:	pensacolawildlife.com
Facebook:	Wildlife Sanctuary of Northwest Florida, Inc.

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