



# Wild Life Lines

## The Vixen of North Haven

-Valerie Van Houten-Hausch



The morning of May 28th was the same as any other at the Center. Hungry mouths wanted feeding, cages needed cleaning, meds were waiting to be given and wounds required treatment. For a young, yearling red fox in North Haven, it was anything but a normal morning. She had been struck by a car on Route 114 just a half mile from the South Ferry terminal. She was lucky she was alive but she was severely injured. Unable to even lift herself up, she laid there on the side of the road. Fortunately, Wendy Chamberlin, one of our rescuers, was quick to arrive at the scene. Wendy transported the fox to the Veterinary Clinic of East Hampton.

Once there, Dr. Turetsky triaged the fox finding that in addition to suffering head trauma, the humerus in her right foreleg was fractured. Radiographs were taken and the x-rays confirmed her humerus had broken into two pieces that were now positioned side by side. The injury required a pin to align and stabilize the humerus so it could heal. Unfortunately, this foxy little lady would have to wait to undergo surgery as she wasn't stable enough to be placed under anesthesia. She was bleeding mildly from her nostrils and had blood in her mouth as well. Her lungs showed on the radiographs to have some fluid in them which Dr. Turetsky suspected to be blood. The safest course of action for this fox would be to wait. An injection of Convenia, a long lasting antibiotic was administered and she was transferred to the Center.

*(Continued, Page 3)*

### POSITIVES OF PINNING

- ◆ Bandaging material and splints can be chewed off, displacing bone alignment
- ◆ Hard casts can cause the animal to self-mutilate
- ◆ Less handling of the animal for bandage maintenance means less stress





**Eastern Long Island's  
ONLY Wildlife Hospital**

*Evelyn Alexander*

**Wildlife Rescue Center**

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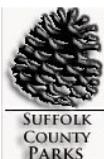
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The Evelyn Alexander Wildlife Rescue Center Hospital is located at Munn's Pond County Park through a cooperative agreement with Suffolk County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation and the EAWRC, a private, non-profit environmental group. A financial report is on file with the NYS Attorney General, 120 Broadway NY, NY and on the web at [www.charitiesnys.org](http://www.charitiesnys.org)



## A MESSAGE FROM GINNIE

With heavy hearts, on Wednesday May 30, we gave up our years-long battle with the NYSDEC and transferred our beloved surrogate (foster mom) deer, Jane Doe, to the Holtsville Ecology Center.

A little background: As most of you know, in 2016, the NYSDEC changed the license conditions for all wildlife rehabilitators and rehabilitation facilities whereby we were no longer able to accept adult deer for treatment. This was done quite suddenly, with no warning and no input from the regulated community. The reason given was that adult deer can become too habituated to humans in captivity and will become a nuisance to the general public after release. Any experienced deer rehabilitator will tell you that you simply can never tame or habituate a healthy adult deer. It is more likely, they do not want us rehabilitating a "nuisance" species.

With the assistance of a loyal supporter, we initiated a lawsuit against the NYSDEC, claiming that they violated the State Administrative Procedures Act by not accepting input from the general public nor the regulated community prior to making a change in a rule or regulation. Many of you donated to the legal costs incurred.

The problem surfaced in late 2012 when we received a juvenile female doe with head trauma. While waiting for the last of her neurological symptoms to abate; namely, the loss of sight in one eye and limited sight in the other, we noticed in early 2013 when orphaned fawns started arriving at our facility, that she took exceptional care of them – licking them, mothering them, providing comfort and familiarity. The fawns calmed down after arrival; they took to their rehabilitation setting, and remained incredibly wild, learning to fear us as humans and not associate us with being their caregivers. We named this incredible mom Jane Doe, and I immediately attempted to find out how to legally add her to our permit. I knew there were several wildlife rehabilitators that kept adult female deer as surrogates and the NYSDEC even encouraged keeping a surrogate in one of their attachments to our license called "Keeping Fawns Wild." I questioned our NYSDEC Special Licenses Unit and was told "The DEC hasn't made a decision on this issue yet, although we are aware there are other wildlife rehabilitators that keep surrogates."

So time passed. Jane Doe continued to live her quiet peaceful life in our large wooded pen, caring for "her" fawns year after year as we accepted the new orphans and kept them fearful of humans as they should be. We never heard anything else from NYSDEC.



Back to the lawsuit – unfortunately, we lost the lawsuit, however the NYSDEC did change the regulations allowing us to possess adult deer for 48 hours only. In fact, this is even worse! If we admit an adult deer, say hit by a car, we would perhaps arrange veterinary care, take x-rays, suture wounds, see it improve only to be forced to euthanize it two days later. This is how the regulation now stands, and all wildlife rehabilitators who accept deer are horrified and are working to see if we can get this regulation changed.

BUT – in blatant retaliation for us initiating the lawsuit, the NYSDEC suddenly decided that we could not keep Jane Doe. A Freedom-of-Information request revealed there are, indeed, several wildlife rehabilitators upstate keeping adult female deer for fostering purposes and they, in fact, were issued hand written licenses for them. When I requested the same license, they told me they are no longer giving them out and would not grandfather me.

So on May 30, we sadly said goodbye to Jane; and thanked her for her years of service in taking care of our orphaned fawns. Volunteers Cathy and Harry Springer offered their horse trailer, and after sedation and a long ride, she arrived at her new home at the Holtsville Ecology Center. Her enclosure is lovely, and she has bonded with another deer there. However, her life as a mom is over and instead of serving a purpose in a quiet atmosphere, she now has to adjust to a new life as an exhibit animal. Shame on the DEC.

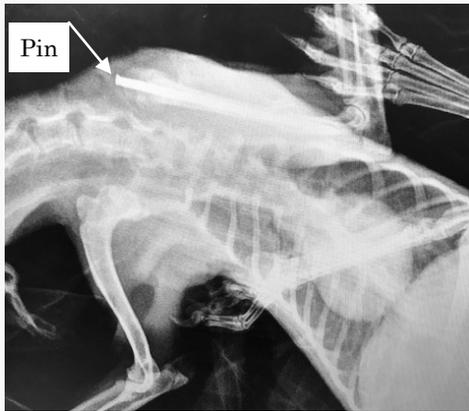
*-Virginia Frati, Executive Director*

*Whatever you do, don't play it safe. Don't do things the way they've always been done. Don't try to fit the system. If you do what's expected of you, you'll never accomplish more than others expect.*

*-Howard Schultz*

# STORIES FROM THE CENTER...

(Continued from Cover)



"Vixie," (as the hospital staff dubbed her) was handled as minimally as possible. She received medicine for her pain and subcutaneous fluids daily but was otherwise monitored without handling to reduce the risk of further injury to her fractured leg. After only a few days, Vixie had recovered well from the other traumas and was cleared for surgery. Dr. Carb of the Veterinary Specialty Center in Farmingdale volunteered to perform the surgery and he had an opening the following day. On June 1st, Vixie underwent surgery. The procedure went perfectly; Dr. Carb was able to align the two pieces of her bone and then inserted the pin to stabilize them in place. Vixie was transferred back to the Center and placed on one month of restricted activity to allow the bone the time it needed to heal.

The first week after surgery was a critical one. Extra care had to be taken when handling Vixie since her sutures were near her right shoulder and could easily tear. The suture site had to be gently cleaned and checked daily for any signs of infection. Vixie was also still receiving fluids and pain meds, as would be expected for a patient in her condition, which were administered at the same time to reduce her stress from being handled. But Vixie had the hospital staff on edge—she hadn't eaten since surgery. Not a single morsel in three days. Her weight was a healthy one upon intake but it was critical that she start to eat. Her body needed more nutrients and calories than usual or she wouldn't be able to heal. Vixie was offered all the normal fox favorites: canned cat food, fish, mice, mulberries & vegetables mixed with yogurt and dry cat food, but she wouldn't touch it. Sometimes if a patient is not eating and they get offered a super stinky, smelly food item it will get said patient to start eating. So that's what we did for Vixie. Our staff made a trip to

the store and purchased Friskies Concoctions canned food, the ones with the clam and crab sauces. And voila! Vixie ate it all the second it was in her cage. For the next few days it was the only thing she'd eat, but then she slowly began eating all the favorites.

After she started eating regularly, Vixie started getting more spirited. She no longer needed fluids to stay hydrated and her suture site was healing up nicely. In time, Vixie started putting the slightest amount of pressure on her right foreleg. We were ecstatic that she was doing so well and counting the days to her recheck appointment on July 1st. Less than two weeks to go!



Unfortunately, morning checks on June 20th revealed that Vixie had begun to chew at the suture site overnight. Hospital staff immediately tended to her self-inflicted wound, cleaning it and assessing how much damage was done. This new wound was deep and the top of her pin could be seen as it was cleansed. Dr. Carb was updated on her condition. It was surmised that with her beginning to use the leg, the pin must have begun to irritate and she tried to chew away the irritation. A course of antibiotics and pain meds were started and concern weighed heavy on everyone's mind. Once an animal begins to self-mutilate it is more likely than not to continue. The only hope that the hospital staff could see was that since the pin was exposed at the wound site, it should not be an irritant any longer, as there was no tissue covering it to irritate.

Vixie's wound required daily cleaning--an infection would be dire with such a deep wound. But she didn't make it easy to treat her. She was still becoming more active each day and with it more aggressive. Both of these signs would be a very good things unless you are trying to treat a wound that is located next to a

biting set of teeth. Patience, care and teamwork paid off and the tissue surrounding the wound continued to look healthy. And finally, much to the staff and I'm sure Vixie's relief, on July 8th she was given the go ahead to have her pin



removed, the bone had healed.

Dr. Carb was unavailable to perform the surgery in the following weeks so calls were made to the other veterinarians that work with us. It was imperative that the pin be removed ASAP. Thankfully, Dr. Turetsky had an opening on his next surgery day and volunteered to help. It is unusual for a different vet to remove the pin than who placed it but time was of the essence.

So with her pin removed and another injection of Convenia administered to stem off infection, Vixie is closing in on her release date. As her newly sutured wound heals, the use of her right foreleg is being evaluated. And with good possibility by the time you have read her story this vixen will already be back home, sleeping in her own den.

**VIXIE UPDATE ON PAGE 7**



# THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS AND STAFF!



## Helping Hands



Westhampton Beach Elementary School 3rd and 4th graders in the **W.A.V.E.S. Environmental Club** chose EAWRC for their 13th annual *Coins for Creatures* donation program and **raised \$146.00.**

**Evangeline Wallace** turned 7 years old on January 21st, and in lieu of gifts, she asked her friends to make a donation to the Wildlife Rescue Center. **They raised \$236.00.**



The staff at **Meeting House Lane Medical Practice** in Hampton Bays donated their services to administer **pre-exposure rabies shots** to our Rabies Vector Species certified hospital staff. We can now accept and treat RVS animals at EAWRC!

## Supporter of the Quarter

**MARTA HEFLIN**  
F o u n d a t i o n

Thank you for your generous support this quarter and throughout the years!

Thank you to attorney **Mark Murray of the Murray Law Group** for his assistance with a complicated legal matter, *pro bono.*

Special thanks to **Jim and Frank at Wild by Nature** in Hampton Bays for supplying us with produce almost every day for our recuperating wild patients.

Thank you as always to **Bob Eisenberg at East End Blue Print** in Water Mill for donating the printing of our newsletter.

## A BIG THANK YOU TO THE PEOPLE WHO ASSISTED US LAST QUARTER!

### RESCUE/TRANSPORT VOLUNTEERS:

*Jan Accordino, Linda Aldrich, Laurie Anderson, Patrick Bastible, Lee Blindenhofer, Ron Brack, Cassandra and Jay Butts, Theresa Cahill, Jeanette Caputo, Mike and Mickey Caputo, Denis Carpenter, Shane Carter, Allison Caserta, Kathi Cavanaugh, John Cerrato, Doree Cohen, Michael and Robin Colapietro, Julie Czachur, Keith Douglas, Janice Eaton, John Fabry, Jackie Farris, Cara Fernandes, Susan and Carl Ferrigno, Tammy Flannell, Jodie Flynn, Joni Friedman, Kelly Gang, Jane Gill, Molly Ginae, Jennifer Haagen, Missy Hargraves, Roger Herold, Priscilla Hoffert, Michelle Jansson, Debra Jolly, Sydney Jones, Leslie Kappel, Jenny Landey, Allison Landon, Noreen LeCann, Dion Lowery, Penni Ludwig, Jim MacDougall, John Mark, Melinda Markland, Gina Martin, Mike Martinsen, Kyle McCaskie, Susan McGraw-Keber, Mary Ann Mulvihill-Decker, Marissa Pfeiffer, Chris Plock, Debbie Pulick, Michael Quigley, Tom Ratcliffe, Pauline and Rob Rosen, Marina Sabatacakis, Susan Shepherd, Susan Siegel, Alice Simmons, Tom and Christine Sposato, Ethel SussmanMichele and Steve Tarolli, Valinda Valcich, Jackie Van De Mark, Louis Visconti, Nicole Wallace, Gina Webster, Jason Wen, Kathy Whittaker*

### HOSPITAL/EDUCATION VOLUNTEERS:

*Sarah Amblard, Laura Baldino, Gina Rose Berger, Paula Bullock, Denis Carpenter, Liz Chitkara, Toni-Lea Corwin, Susan Coseglio, Theresa Dietrich, Jackie Farris, Tammy Flannell, Bette Lou Fletcher, Jodie Flynn, Jane Gill, Patti Guido, Laura Gundersen, Jill Janiel, Ciarro Johnson, Sue Karcher, Amanda Kozakiewicz, Kendra Kunzer, Stephanie LaPuglia, Kyra Leonardi, Carol Lozano, Jim and Cheryl MacDougall, Christina MacDougall, Maria Magg, Gina Martin, Sarah Meyer, Edgar Millan, Allie Mirsky, Sharon Nelson, Ulrika Parash, Marissa Pfeiffer, John Premus, Nicholas Raffel, Ann Roche, Delma Schoeppler, Xylia Serafy, Susan Siegel, Shannon Simmons, Micaela Snyder, Cathleen Springer, Tom Vanarsdall, Sue Vaughan, Karen Weber, Lori Wilder*

### COOPERATING VETERINARIANS:

*Dr. Jennifer Katz, Dr. Jonathan Turetsky and Dr. Eva Cohen from the Veterinary Clinic of East Hampton; Dr. Justin Molnar of Shinnecock Animal Hospital; Dr. Gal Vataash and Dr. Robin Jeager of East End Veterinary Emergency Center; Dr. Robert Pisciotto of North Fork Animal Hospital, Dr. Karen Johnston of Hampton Veterinary Hospital, Dr. Claude Grosjean of Olde Towne Animal Hospital, Dr. John Andresen of Mattituck-Laurel Veterinary Hospital, Dr. Jonathan Mehroose and Dr. Noelle LeCroix of Veterinary Medical Center of Long Island, Dr. Dominic Gucciardo of Integrative Veterinary Therapies, and Dr. Arnold Lesser of NY Veterinary Specialty Center*

*Thank you to Shayna Carter, Adrienne Gillespie and Valerie Van Houten-Hausch for providing our animal photos, all of which were taken at the Center.*

## CHEERS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!



**SUSAN COSEGLIA** Huntington, NY  
Affectionately known as Sassy, Susan has volunteered for many years and drives weekly from Huntington to help in the hospital. Aside from the animals, Susan attends and works our fundraisers, plus picks up supplies and food for our patients.

## VETERINARIANS FOR WILDLIFE

**DR. ALAN CARB**  
**New York Veterinary Specialty Center,**  
**Farmingdale**

Dr. Carb performed surgery on a Red Fox (featured in our cover story) and placed a pin in her right foreleg. The fox made a full recovery.





Bernard Carl, Paul Keber, Joan Carl, Susan McGraw-Keber, Ginnie Frati, Beth Stern, Chuck Scarborough



Joan Carl with Chuck and Ellen Scarborough



Paul Keber, Susan McGraw-Keber with Don Lemon



Honorees: Susan McGraw-Keber and Jay Schneiderman



Beth Stern with Archimedes



Nikki Hilton



Chuck Scarborough

Photos by Rob Rich

## GETTING WILD

AT **CENTRO**  
PRESENTED BY DANIEL GALE ZICANA  
Daniel Gale Sotheby's International Realty Ancona | Levine Attorneys  
HAMPTONS MAGAZINE



Beth Stern with Sal Biundo



Marders Garden Shop, Bridgehampton



Shelter Island Green Expo



Longhouse Reserve, East Hampton



Duck Pond Day, Wading River



Stuff-the-Van Fundraiser Talmage Farm Agway, Riverhead



## From the Mailbag...



My mom spoke with you folks many times...Mom passed away at 90 last year...I know she is smiling down..knowing that the enclosed check can help her beloved wildlife.

Patrecia A., Bayville, NY

We are so grateful that you are there to rescue all the beautiful wildlife in need...Thanks for all your help.

Simone M., Montauk, NY

You and your staff and volunteers are true "Wildlife Heroes!" Keep up the outstanding work!!

Frank and Carol V., Bronx, NY

Your compassion and care for the trapped deer [in] Southampton was beautiful, and I won't ever forget this. Thank you.

Mitch W., Amagansett, NY

We recently had a Great Egret in our backyard..You sent over one of your volunteers, Susan..Thank you very much for providing invaluable services to our wildlife.

Jen and Bill S., Hampton Bays, NY

My neighbor friends told me about..your wonderful work and facility...

Pam F., Rocky Point, NY

Thank you for all the work you do to help the wildlife in need.  
Nelly E., Syosset, NY

Thank you for all of the good work that you do.  
Tim C., Southold, NY

Thank you from our staff to yours! We appreciate all the help and assistance you provide to the wildlife we bring you from our area!

Animal Emergency Service

## Memorials

- |                     |                        |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| Russell C. Bird     | Agnete Ratcliffe       |
| Betty DiSunno       | George Schoeppler      |
| Jacqueline Hennelly | Carolyn G. Skiffington |
| Michael Hogan       | Eva Stern              |
| Katherine Kernan    | Gail Wadas             |
| Suzanne Lamantia    | Sasha Little Fawn      |
| Edna Lavey          | Bushytail Snowy        |
| Suzanne Obser       | Tigger                 |

# Hospital Happenings...

## PERFECT PATIENT AWARD



This Eastern Chipmunk came to the Center on June 15th after likely being struck by a car in East Hampton.

She fractured both her hind feet just below the ankle joints. She was successful rehabbed and released back to the area where she was found on June 26th.

## THE FACTS

	2018	2017
Total Patients Admitted as of September 1	1407	1113
Highest Number of Patients Admitted in a Single Day	5/25/18 27	6/14/17 29

*Meanwhile, back at the ranch...*

Total Patients in House as of Sept 1	192
Total Fledgling Birds in care for August (fed 1x/hr for 14hrs/day)	52
Other Patients being handfed or Nursed as of September 1	15



The  
Suzanne Obser  
Memorial  
Trauma Unit



With a generous donation from Fred Obser in memory of his daughter, Suzanne, we built a state-of-the-art exam room. Suzanne volunteered for years at the hospital and supported the Center at our fundraising events. She is missed by all tremendously.

A big thank you to the Milan family and their friends who donated their time and skills to the renovation and to Greg Matonis for designing and building the room.

*CHECK OUT OUR AMAZING BEFORE AND AFTER PICTURES!*



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## COPING WITH CAPTIVITY: SELF DESTRUCTIVE BEHAVIORS

### Why does it happen? What can be done?

Many studies have been conducted as to 'why' when it comes to self-destructive behaviors in animals (humans aside). All that can be said for sure is that it is an indication that something else is wrong. The animal is quite possibly lacking something—a necessity it would have in its natural environment. It can be nutritional, social or environmental (i.e. normally sleeps hidden high in a tree). Higher functioning animals can be lacking the stimulation they are used to. Stress and anxiety can result.

The feeling of being cooped up exists for our wildlife friends too. Feeling trapped or pain and irritation from an injury can result in self-mutilation. The animal tries to free itself from the irritant by chewing at the site. (This happens also in the wild; an animal that gets its leg stuck in a trap often will try to free itself by chewing the leg off. It is terrible and mostly results in the animal's demise.)

The good news is that even with only a little understanding of the 'why' we can often address issues before a problem occurs. This is done through feeding a proper diet for the species, supplementing with additional vitamins and nutrients when needed. Proper husbandry for each species is also considered when choosing a cage or pen and preparing it for the animal.

You'll often see staff collecting perches for songbirds and dragging tree limbs inside for the hawks or woodchucks in larger pens. Hides are always given to foxes, opossums and rabbits. Fawns get tree branches with edible leaves (browse) to hide behind and nibble at. Social animals are kept together after a parasite check. Crows are social birds and are capable of solving 3-step problems; they require stimulation. If we don't have a friend for them, a mirror is provided along with hanging toys. Waterfowl and shorebirds get baths to swim or wade in, and ducklings get crickets to chase, providing enrichment and a lesson on food for their release. We are constantly re-evaluating what can be done to reduce the stress of captivity and handling to make our patients as comfortable as possible.

For those who have injuries—swollen tissues, wounds and broken bones alike—the appropriate pain medications are given. The veterinarians we work with are top-notch and they make sure our animals are comfortable, whether it be an NSAID (think Advil) or something a bit stronger. Treating the pain from the start has been shown through studies to help the animals recover faster, just like us.

-Valeric Van Houten-Hausch



*Fawns being housed together in a large indoor pen are provided with natural cover and browse for supportive comfort*



*Juvenile opossum given tree branches to climb, blankets to borrow in and an igloo house for a dark hiding place*

**Staying up to date is important as there is always new information available in all areas of wildlife rehabilitation. The internet is great if you know where to research; however, networking with other wildlife rescues and veterinary practices always provides valuable insight.**

**That's why, when our budget as a non-profit allows, we like to attend the New York State Wildlife Rehabilitation Council's conference held annually in the fall. There, we make new contacts and listen to presentations from wildlife vets from across the nation. There are always plenty of hands-on workshops to learn new techniques for splinting songbird wings, treating bat wounds and waterproof bandaging for water birds.**

**The goal this year is to send two of the hospital staff to the NYSWRC Wildlife Conference and the hospital's Vet Technician to the New York State Veterinary Conference at Cornell since the conferences do not overlap.**

### **WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

*Continuing education is a vital part of our mission to rescue, rehabilitate and release injured sick or orphaned wildlife. If you or your business would like to sponsor a staff member to attend a conference, please contact the Center 631-728-WILD or write "Conference" on the enclosed donation envelope. Any amount is helpful and, as always, we are so grateful for your support!*

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On August 22, just under 3 months after her arrival, Vixie went home. Her leg healed fully and her looks and attitude were perfectly foxy!

She was returned to the area where she was found. She leapt from the container as soon as the lid opened, hopped a few yards away and looked back at us. (We like to think she was happy to be home and couldn't believe it was all over!)

After a moment, she turned and trotted deeper into the woods like she knew the way home. Good luck, little fox!

*See our Facebook page for a video of Vixie's release*



## HAVE A HEART: Don't Half-Heartedly Rescue

- Danielle Sheehan  
& Amanda Daley

Under ideal circumstances, when a person finds an injured animal, they will either contact us or bring it to the Center immediately for medical attention. Unfortunately, due to extenuating circumstance or people not knowing where to go, this does not always happen. Over the course of the summer so far, we have seen many circumstances in which animals are either delivered to us too late or not at all. We find animals being dropped off by our gates without a phone call to alert us or worse, left on the sides of roadways.

Time is of the essence when it comes to trauma. The sooner an animal makes it to us, the better its chances of survival. Just this week, a bird was hit by a car. While the people who found the bird tried to help by putting it in a box, they waited more than a

day before calling the Center, meaning that over twenty-four hours passed without medical attention, food, or water. Swelling to the brain and spinal cord peaks twenty-four to forty-eight hours after the initial trauma occurs. If an animal with such an injury is not treated before this peak occurs, the chance of survival drops drastically. The bird died shortly after arriving at the Center. Had it been brought to us the day of the accident, the bird's chances of surviving would have been much greater.

The Wildlife Rescue Center runs a twenty-four-hour hotline for just this purpose. After hours, the hotline is manned by our trained hospital staff and they are happy to offer advice on stabilizing an animal, where to take the animal and proper care if the animal needs to be housed overnight. If the situation involves an animal that may be unsafe for the public to handle, the staff can send an alert to our trained volunteers for help.

Another situation that occurs is when a potential rescuer finds an animal, puts it into a box or a bag, but then leaves the animal on the doorstep of a vet or even at the gate here at the Center. Recently, a

rabbit was found in a paper bag outside of our gates by a staff member. If not for her curiosity, the poor bunny could have died of starvation, suffocation, heat exhaustion, or even could have been run over by a vehicle exiting or entering the Center. A box of baby raccoons was found in a similar fashion. The raccoons survived, but the rabbit passed not long after being found due to its severe spinal injuries. We have no idea when or how it was injured, nor do we know how long it was sitting in the paper bag.

Finding an injured animal can be disconcerting and, often times, frustrating as not all veterinarians take wildlife and finding a rehabilitator is not always easy. Leaving an animal is never ideal, but if no other way is available, please leave a note with circumstances, injuries, area where found and when, time of drop off--any information is valuable. Also, placing a phone call to alert the staff that an animal is outside could be the difference between life and death for the animal. Don't let the effort of rescuing and transporting an animal be in vain!

*Continued page 9*



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# STORIES FROM THE CENTER...

Frequently, people will call about an injured animal and then leave the scene. We understand that handling some animals can be dangerous, but when the animal can be safely transported to the Center or to a cooperating vet, these delays lead to precious time being lost. If a person chooses not stay with the animal until help arrives, the animal could potentially be subjected to further harm. Left unsupervised, any number of scenarios could unfold where it could be hurt further, or even killed, as a result. It can also make it more difficult to find without a person keeping an eye on the whereabouts of the animal.

On a heartbreaking attempted rescue, staff members, including myself, went to retrieve an injured fawn that had been hit by a car only a few miles from the Center. We

arrived to the scene, searching from the van for sight of the caller, only to see a tiny, lifeless body on the side of the road; it was the fawn. The body was small enough to be lifted by one person, so we could only guess as to why the person who called was unwilling to transport it. All we knew was that this poor, defenseless baby was abandoned, left to die in direct sunlight on an eighty-degree day.

We understand that everyone has a busy schedule and we appreciate that people take the time to do anything to help, even if it's just the phone call for rescue. We know that taking that extra step is not always convenient, but that small amount of time sacrificed to help can make a world of difference to another creature. Do not abandon animals in need. The Wildlife

Rescue Center runs a free hour-long class monthly to teach the specifics of rescuing and transporting sick, injured and orphaned animals. After the class, you have the option of becoming part of our rescue team. Either way, the class provides information on when to rescue and how to do so in the safest manner.

As always, the Center is here to help. Someone is always available to answer your questions, day or night, to direct and guide you as to what to do with the animal or to send help your way. Information is also available on our website with species-specific tips pertaining to rescues. Please, have a heart; don't half-heartedly attempt a rescue. If you care enough to do something, follow through so the animal gets the help it needs from a licensed rehabilitator



When possible, raccoon kits should be re-nested rather than rehabbed

## Major Spinal Cord Injury Concerns:

- ◆ Paralysis
- ◆ Pain
- ◆ Spasticity of muscles
- ◆ Muscle wasting



- ◆ Circulatory issues

- Blood Pressure Instability
- Heart Arrhythmias
- Blood Clots



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*Every Problem has a Solution!*

## The Trauma Is Real

Head and spinal trauma commonly occur when wildlife has been struck by a car, suffered a terrible fall or even as the result of a window strike. These injuries aren't always immediately obvious. It is critical for treatment to begin in the first few hours after the incident to reduce the risk of permanent injury and death.

Swelling and bleeding at the site will increase pressure on the brain and/or spinal cord which can cut off blood flow to the affected tissue. When blood flow is cut off from the spinal cord it results in a possibly dramatic decrease in the animal's blood pressure.

*This major reduction in blood flow can become progressively worse and not peak until 24-48 hours after the initial trauma. A songbird that is incurring injury can potentially become completely non-responsive 12 hours after. Swelling within and around the brain and spinal cord usually eases 7-10 days after the injury occurred.*

The animal can then be reassessed for neurological function and their need for continuing treatment is decided.

- Valerie Van Houten Hausch

# Eastern Long Island's *ONLY* Wildlife Hospital



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## Our Education Family

Millennium was found on the side of Delphi Street in Montauk on October 21, 2016. He suffered an open fractured of the ulna at the elbow of his left wing. Because the damage was so severe, the focus for Millennium quickly became saving the wing. After much care and a lengthy



**MILLENNIUM**  
Peregrine Falcon  
*Falco peregrinus* - Male

rehabilitation at the Center, he was stable and the wing healed well enough to avoid surgery. Because he lost flight capability and, with it, the ability to hunt for food, he was deemed non-releasable.

However, his demeanor allowed a chance for glove training. With the patience and consistency of Education volunteer, Jim MacDougall, Millennium learned to be comfortable around people and to trust his handlers. Now, he is a favorite among our Education Raptors.

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## Have You Seen Me???

In New York State, over 90 different animals have been placed on the Endangered or Threatened List, which encompasses mollusks, insects, fish, reptiles, amphibians, birds and mammals. Do you know which of these animals is **Extirpated, Endangered, or Threatened?**

Draw a line to match the animal with its status. Check your answers below to see which ones have been impacted most.

Source: <https://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/7494.html>

### Endangered -

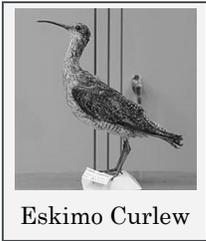
Any native species in imminent danger of extirpation or extinction in New York State.

### Extirpated -

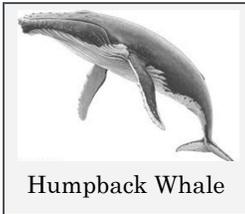
Species is not extinct, but no longer occurring in a wild state within New York, or no longer exhibiting patterns of use traditional for that species in New York (e.g. historical breeders no longer breeding here).

### Threatened -

Any native species likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future in New York State.



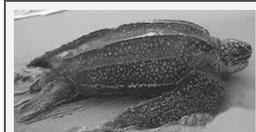
Eskimo Curlew



Humpback Whale



Bald Eagle



Leatherback Sea Turtle



American Burying Beetle



Loggerhead Sea Turtle



Karner Blue Butterfly



Northern Harrier Hawk



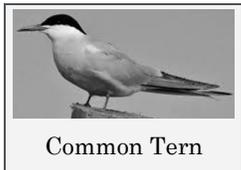
Golden Eagle



Short-eared Owl



Eastern Cougar



Common Tern



King Rail



Peregrine Falcon



Mud Sunfish

### GET INVOLVED

#### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

- \* Hospital help
- \* Fundraising and events
- \* Rescuing animals
- \* Education animal team

#### RESCUE TRANSPORT CLASSES

Learn how to safely handle sick, injured and orphaned animals in this free one-hour class given monthly.

CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR UPCOMING CLASS DATES AND APPLICATIONS!  
[www.wildliferescuecenter.org](http://www.wildliferescuecenter.org)

### EAWRC DAILY NEEDS

- \* Tissues
- \* Flea Combs
- \* Bleach
- \* HE Laundry detergent
- \* Epsom Salt (unscented)
- \* Distilled Water
- \* EVO grain free dry Cat Food (NOT indoor)
- \* Natural Balance dry Cat Food (NOT indoor)
- \* Timothy Hay (bag or bale)

### Puzzle Solution

Threatened	Endangered	Extirpated
Bald Eagle	Leatherback Sea Turtle	Eastern Cougar
King Rail	Whale	American Burying Beetle
Northern Harrier Hawk	Short-eared Owl	Golden Eagle
Loggerhead Sea Turtle	Karner Blue Butterfly	Mud Sunfish
Common Tern	Peregrine Falcon	Eskimo Curlew

#### Advertise with us!

Please contact EAWRC to learn more about sponsorship, advertising, and upcoming events!

#### Advertising Rates

SIZE	ONCE	ANNUAL
1/8 Pg	\$50	\$15
1/4 Pg	\$100	\$300
1/2 Pg	\$200	\$600
Full Pg	\$400	\$1200

Insert	(1/2 Pg)	\$300 (B&W)
Insert	(1/2 Pg)	\$500 (Color)

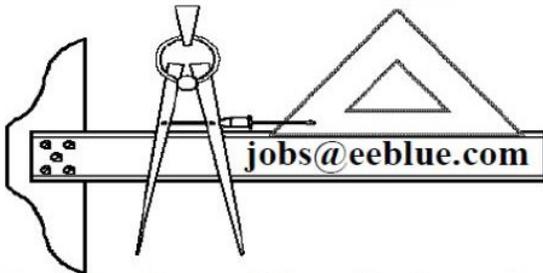
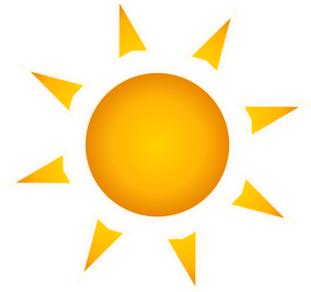


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