



Walden's Puddle Newsletter

2019

Happy Blessed Holidays

**& Merry Christmas to
our Dear Puddle Friends
message from our CEO, Lane Brody**



Thank you to our volunteers!

A big heartfelt thank you to all our loyal volunteers, including the Catholic Heart Work Camp pictured, for giving their time and talents to help the animals!

We are looking for additional steady volunteers and Walden's Puddle offers volunteer training. Just go to our website, www.waldenspuddle.org, click on the volunteer page and follow the instructions.



We give wildlife a second chance providing care and treatment to sick, injured and orphaned native Tennessee wildlife.

Don't forget your holiday nuts in the shell are accepted as donations for our critters. Call our office at (615)299-9938 to setup drop off or send them our way.



We hope you have the best Holiday Season ever and that your New Year is prosperous, healthy and happy! Thank you for being there for us and helping us serve our mission of "Giving Wildlife a Second Chance". We could not do this work without you!

Because of the dedication of volunteers serving in so many areas, we continue to keep 92% of all donations going to the care of the animals!!

Walden's Puddle has served our community for over 25 exceptional years and we know the years ahead will be equally gratifying, challenging and exciting!! True to Vicky Carder Arney's vision, the original founder, our goal will always be to return as many injured and orphaned wild animals back to the wild as possible. This can only happen through the resources we are blessed to receive from generous donors like you, through the hard work of our animal care staff and all who serve the mission. We pray you will bless us with your charitable giving and give more hope to our wild ones in their time of need. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts!



Vicky Carder Arney



We are currently working to rehabilitate this stunning Northern Harrier. This unique bird of prey not only hunts by sight, but also by using acute hearing. Notice its owl like facial disc. This helps focus sound, which then helps this bird locate prey.



Please help us with much needed pre-release enclosure repairs.





Black Vulture

This beautiful juvenile black vulture came in skinny and weak. Note the few baby down feathers still present around his neck. Vultures are so crucial to the health of our ecosystem and are essential in keeping our planet clean. Of the 22 species of vulture known globally, the Turkey Vultures and Black Vultures are found here in Middle Tennessee.



Barn Owl

This gorgeous Barn Owl came to us with an eye injury. Their heart shaped faces are specifically designed to funnel sound towards their ears, which are asymmetrically located on each side of their heads in order to better pinpoint location of prey.



Mallard Duck

This poor duckling is currently in care due to the abscess on his beak. He is doing well with some antibiotics though! Mallards are dabbling ducks, meaning that they tip forwards with their tail feathers in the air to



nibble on aquatic vegetation and insects.



White-tailed Deer

This fawn is enjoying some natural browse for lunch! We ensure that our fawns have a wide variety of vegetation to supplement their formula bottles in order to encourage a healthy digestive system. This also teaches the deer what is tasty and edible so they can forage for it in the wild!



Red Fox >

This fox came in almost completely comatose. After a few days of touch and go, he has made a fantastic recovery and is feeling more and more foxy by the day! The Red Fox is the most widespread of the members of the order Carnivora. You can find them from the Arctic Circle to North Africa, North America and Eurasia.



Does the recent colder weather make you want to hide in your shell?

One of our education turtles, who is non-releasable due to the extent of his injuries, certainly feels that way! Turtles will soon be going into brumation, which is a hibernation like state that allows them to better deal with the cooler temperatures.



Virginia Opossum

Update on our snare trapped opossum: Her wounds are healing beautifully and she is using her front left leg quite well. This opossum is feisty and sassy. We love it! She is not out of the woods yet, but we have excellent hopes.

Remember, live snare traps are inhumane and cruel. This opossum is lucky the snare snapped and she was able to run away. Then even luckier to be picked up by a caring individual.

A Little Turtle Story



Remarkably, we have successfully harvested turtle eggs from their deceased mother.



It is very important that our pre-release squirrels have access to a nest box! This is a place for them to find protection and security, and once they are released, their nest box goes with them! That way they have a familiar place to enjoy while they are finding their way in new surroundings.



Eastern Cottontail rabbits are lagomorphs, sharing this distinction with 87 other species. They're also coprophagous as they produce two different types of fecal pellets- one of which is consumed.

Exerpts from Facebook:

Mauna- Six were born in a nest in the middle of my herb garden this spring and I happened to be there when they first left the nest. They all still run around right there and they are a joy to behold.

Ashley- I just wanna say I love that y'all share info on an animal when you post a picture! Thanks for teaching us something with every update!

Carroll- Love the buns that visit my yard. They know they are always welcome.

Richard- You all do such an amazing and wonderful job. You are greatly appreciated!

Randy- I have a family living about 20 feet from my door.



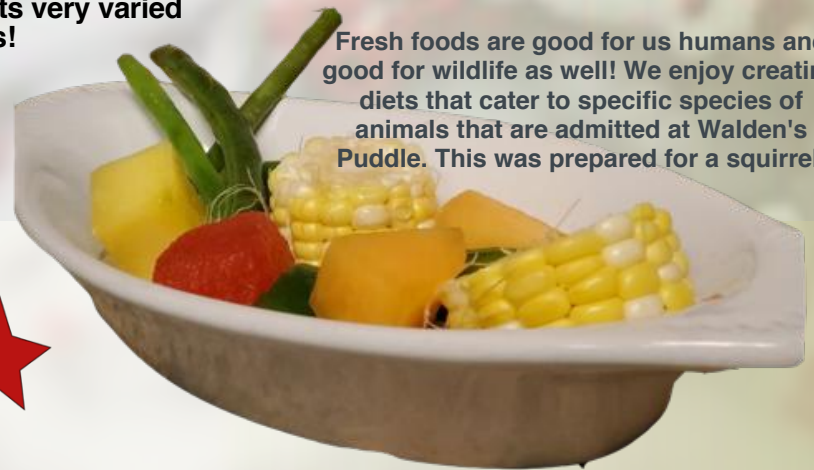
IN HONOR OF

VICKY CARDER ARNEY, we are launching our capital campaign to add on a new kitchen. Many of you may not know we operate inside a former house and the kitchen has seen far better days. We already have the concrete slab laid off the rear of the building, in faith that the funds will come to finish this very needed kitchen space.

To make a special extra donation for our project fund, please mark your check with "Kritter Kitchen" donation, and help create new space for preparation of the many diets we serve up for our individual guests very varied diets!



Fresh foods are good for us humans and good for wildlife as well! We enjoy creating diets that cater to specific species of animals that are admitted at Walden's Puddle. This was prepared for a squirrel.



Thank You ★

Special thank you to Brenda Walker Photography

- Phillips Family Foundation
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- Leanne Freas Trout Foundation
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- Veterinary Ophthalmologist Services
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- Wild Birds Unlimited
- Heritage Travel Center in Joelton
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- Network for Good
- Chris Kane
- Metro Animal Care and Control

Giving is Easy!

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<https://www.kroger.com/account/enroll-CommunityRewardsNow>

iGive

<http://www.igive.com>

Amazon Smile

www.smile.amazon.com

Online

www.waldenspuddle.org/donate/



Striped Skunk

This juvenile skunk has just taken his first few steps of freedom! Enthusiastic homeowners offered their beautiful land on which to release these juvenile skunks. They know that skunks are a crucial element of our ecosystem here in Middle Tennessee, eating pests like ticks! They get a bad reputation, but we love them!



Our Front Desk Team

Walden's Puddle educates the public regarding what should be done if you find an orphaned or injured wild animal in distress. We are grateful for our amazing front desk staff. They return thousands of calls and spend hours educating callers on the type of animal they have found. They make sure intervention is truly necessary so as to avoid taking a baby away from its parents. They run through protocols for the injured as well as scheduling and receiving admissions. We recognize the incredible dedication and hard work that goes into making sure the right action is taken, for each individual species in question, and thank our gracious and welcoming front desk team. Joane, Tammy, Trina, Meli and Carolyn thank you!



Adult Female Opossum

When admitted this summer, she had some head trauma and little joeys in her pouch. While she healed and recovered in our care, her joeys grew and slowly left the pouch. Shortly before she was released, her babies were large enough to move around on their own and hung on to her back. They were all released in good health. It was beautiful to see this wonderful mother raise her babies in our care.



Eastern Box Turtle

While heading home in Eagleville, I noticed a turtle in the middle of the road, like always I stopped to assist getting it to the other side. I picked her up and noticed an injury to the back end of her shell and two places close to her head. I sought medical attention. I was given the number to Walden's Puddle.

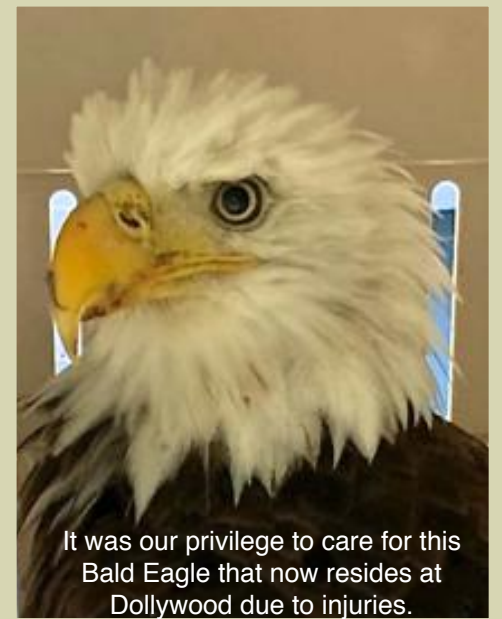
The receptionist set an appointment to bring in the turtle the next morning. I was so happy to find her help and hoped she would make it. I am glad she was treated and on her way to recovery. Without Walden's Puddle, I believe many animals would suffer or die without the medical help they need. This is the only one I have found that treats our Tennessee Wildlife in Middle Tennessee. Thanks to them they are treating and rehabilitating our animal friends. - God Bless, Sherry



Follow us on Instagram

to make sure you don't miss GREAT photos all year long. @WaldensPuddle

Show your support with our new uni-sex soft tees. We also have sweatshirt hoodies, designer hoodies, women's tees, hats, and more. Purchase your Puddle gear at waldenspuddle.org/shop



It was our privilege to care for this Bald Eagle that now resides at Dollywood due to injuries.



We recently admitted this beautiful warbler. Aren't those colors stunning? There are over 50 types of warblers in the United States, and they are known for making long migrations in the spring! Not often seen at feeders, these birds inhabit forested areas and are skilled insect eaters.

Melody and AC Staff at work





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Bobcat

Your generosity makes all the difference for the wildlife being helped at Walden's Puddle!

AS 2019 comes to a close, we glance back and see that every year presents its own unique challenges. Through the grace of God, we rise up and overcome. We are more dedicated than ever and continue to make improvements in all areas. We promise an even more professional, more efficient and wonderful experience for all who work for The Puddle and to do the very best we can for the many wounded and orphaned babies that come through our doors. We know you allow us the arena in which to work and we do not take it for granted.

We want you to be proud supporters of Walden's Puddle! From everyone at The Puddle the staff, the board, the volunteers and all the animals,

THANK YOU ALL SO VERY MUCH FOR BEING OUR SPECIAL LOYAL FRIENDS. - Lane



Stay Warm & Cozy



Walden's in the Workplace

The Walden's Puddle Marketing Team would like to be invited to your workplace! We are looking for businesses which would like to choose The Puddle as their charity. Whether it be *Hat Day* donations or a corporate donation, we would like to hear from you. Email waldenspuddlepartners@gmail.com today.

Not a creature was stirring... Thank you, Jim

