

## ANIMAL VICTIMS OF WAR

By E.M. FAY



Charlie - the last chimpanzee in Lebanon

With near-constant conflict afflicting several countries in the Middle East, citizens are having a hard time just keeping body and soul together on a daily basis. As people struggle to protect their families and try to maintain a semblance of normal life, some things inevitably fall by the wayside. Unfortunately, this often includes animal welfare. Whether family companion animals, animals confined in zoos, or native wildlife, the innocent animals of strife-torn regions suffer terribly.

There are a few dedicated individuals doing their best to relieve this suffering. In Lebanon, they are represented by Animals Lebanon, a non-profit organization that protects animals through legislation, education, campaigns, and direct rescue. Believing that "our treatment of animals is a reflection of how we treat ourselves and each other," Animals Lebanon cares about all types of animals, and works to improve their lives through a variety of strategies: closing down abu-

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## NATURAL BURIAL GIVES PEACE OF MIND TO THE ENVIRONMENTALLY CONSCIOUS

By MARTHA SULLIVAN

Giving my husband a natural burial (or "green" burial) was the one comforting and redeeming event during an otherwise nightmarish time.

On a Friday morning in mid-June, Ed said goodbye and headed for work. Early in the afternoon, he sent me an email suggesting we get some fresh strawberries for dinner, a fruit both of us loved. We were both looking forward to a nice dinner and the weekend ahead. Two hours later he had a massive heart attack and never regained consciousness!

Several years earlier, as my aging parents were considering their burial plans, I had also begun to give the matter some thought. I knew more about what I didn't want than what I did: I knew I didn't want to be pumped full of poisonous chemicals and I didn't want to spend eternity locked in a steel box and concrete vault. I began to investigate natural burial options. A Google search yielded a place called "Greensprings Natural Cemetery" ([www.naturalburial.org](http://www.naturalburial.org)), located just south of the Finger Lakes region.

The more I learned about Greensprings, the more I was sure it was what I wanted for Ed and me. I loved the literal idea of going back to the Earth, of continuing the natural life cycle, becoming nourishment for the plants and grasses and flowers and trees that would, in turn, nourish and shelter the woodland creatures and



other wildlife that we both loved.

Greensprings itself sits high atop a hill between the southern ends of Seneca and Cayuga Lakes. It is 100 acres of meadow and woodland, bordered on three sides by 4,000 acres of the Arnot Forest and 4,000 more acres of the Newfield State Forest. Stewardship is at the heart of everything they do. Maintaining a healthy ecosystem, and restoring native plants and trees to the landscape is one of their top priorities. Occasionally, they schedule 'work parties' and enlist volunteers to help remove invasive species that crowd out the native plants and fail to provide food for

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## NATURAL BURIAL

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wildlife during the winter months. To foster biodiversity every few years they mow 30 acres of their meadow to benefit meadow larks, Henslow sparrows, northern harriers, bobolinks and other birds that require open meadow for their habitat. On a late summer day you can spot as many as 40 different types of birds.

Ed was buried July 1st, a sunny, hot and humid day. Just as we gathered and began making our way to the burial spot, a light breeze arose. It couldn't have been more perfect.

Ed had always been a traditional guy, so I included some things I knew he would like: his favorite reading from the Bible, a beautiful prayer of commendation and the Our Father, which we all recited as we joined hands and encircled the simple pine box that held him. We shared stories about him, recalled funny times, special memories, his quirks, his goofy expressions, all those things that made him who he was. And we read the Irish Blessing, a favorite of mine, and everything I wished for him as we said our final goodbyes. We ended by singing "When Irish Eyes Are Smiling", because he really did have Irish eyes. As we lowered him into the ground I covered him with flowers from our garden - marigolds, daisies and zinnias.

In the past decade, green burial cemeteries like Greensprings have sprung up all across the country, making this burial option much more available. I hope everyone considers it. During the difficult weeks of Ed's hospitalization and then passing, being able to take him to such a naturally beautiful and life-affirming place was the only thing that eased the pain in my heart.

We've all seen that picture - beautiful, fragile, blue-green Earth being gently cradled by two human hands. Ed's burial at Greensprings felt like that. **Mother Earth was calling him back, and I knew he would be cradled in her love. I knew he was home.**

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**Martha Sullivan** is a member of Wildlife Watch and does extraordinary work for both animals and people. Martha is really a way-shower.

## DO YOU WANT TO BE BURIED WITH YOUR COMPANION ANIMAL?

Here are three models:

There are three states that currently allow companion animals to be buried with their human companion:

**Virginia** allows cemeteries to set aside sections of their property for both humans and companion animals to be buried together so long as the companion animal has his or her own casket.

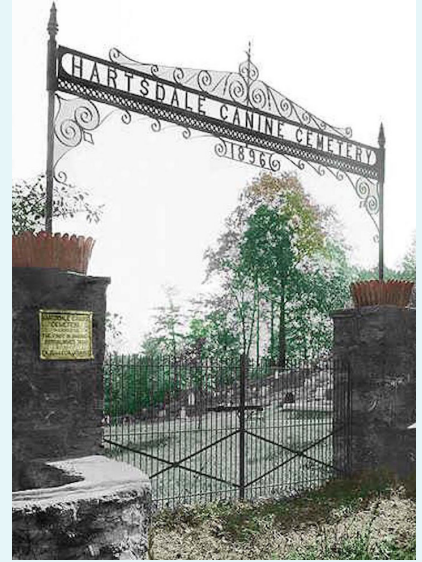
**New York** allows only pet cemeteries to take human companions, but the humans must be cremated. Hartsdale has opened up their cemetery to humans who wish to be buried next to their companion animal.

**Pennsylvania** seems the most advanced in that human bodies, not "cremains," can be buried in a human cemetery with their companion animals.

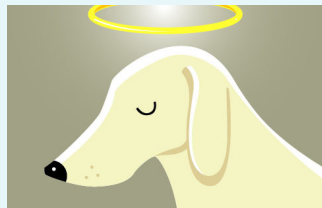
However, the cemetery has to have three separate sections as in Virginia.

If you desire to be buried with your companion animal, estate planning is important. You can Google to find the right attorney.

This information was obtained from various online sources, especially <http://www.recordonline.com/article/20141203/Business/141209744>



## DO ANIMALS HAVE SOULS AND WILL THEY GO TO HEAVEN?



On December 12, 2014, *The New York Times* reported that Pope Francis told a young boy who was mourning the death of his dog that, "One day, we will see our animals again in the eternity of Christ. Paradise is open to all of God's creatures." Traditional church doctrine does not attribute souls to animals. So Pope Francis's statement would be a major breakthrough of thought in the religious world. The NYT was quickly blamed for picking up on confused facts and timelines, and the dispute continues as to whether Pope Francis, in fact, uttered those words. Wildlife Watch has faith that Pope Francis will clarify this "confusion" in good time.

### TO KNOW ABOUT...

## BELIZE ECO-TOUR - July 9 to July 18, 2015

Led by **Save the Frogs!** Like many countries in Central America, Belize is a hotspot of biodiversity. Belize is home to 37 amphibian species, as well as an array of bats, birds, lizards, corals, howler monkeys, and other amazing wildlife. With nearly 600 species of birds in Belize, it is no wonder that bird-watching is such a common activity! The group tour will be lead by **Executive Director Dr. Kerry Kriger, Ecologist Kathlyn Franco**, and Mayan naturalists and field guides.





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sive zoos, exposing circus cruelty, getting humane legislation passed, establishing an adoption center for rescued companion animals, and investigating the smuggling of endangered animals. They are also striving to get Lebanon to join the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species.

Regarding the plight of zoo animals, **Jason Mier**, Executive Director of Animals Lebanon, told us that some time ago he managed to locate four zoos in the city of Damascus, Syria, that had some pitifully neglected animals in very poor shape, including some endangered species. Sadly, young bears and lions were being offered for sale, presumably because the zoos were strapped for cash and could no longer afford to feed their sad inmates. Jason

tried to keep up with what happened to these animals, but no updates were available, and he fears they probably came to a sorry end.

Since conditions have worsened in Syria, Animals Lebanon has taken in many stranded Syrian dogs and cats, and they have also aided people who were fleeing from Syria with their animal family members.

Animals Lebanon travels far and wide to do their humane work. Executive Director Mier went to Iraq earlier this year to visit Iraqi zoos in an effort to rescue some endangered animals that had been smuggled into the country. It is frequently unsafe to do follow-up visits, and as he said, "Understandably, it's not easy to get updates from local people."

Animals Lebanon cannot be everywhere at once as resources are limited, but they do their best. Two recent

projects that bore fruit were these:

"Recently we were able to rescue Charlie, the last chimpanzee in Lebanon," Mier said.

"We are also now working to re-home two baby striped hyenas that we rescued from the south after their mother was killed. Hopefully, they will go to a sanctuary in France by the end of October."

You can read more about Charlie here:

<http://tinyurl.com/charlie-free>

If you'd like to learn more about AL, or support their vital work saving animals, go to:

<http://www.animalslebanon.org/#73>

**E.M. Fay** is an environmental reporter and the Associate Editor of the Wildlife Watch Binocular.

## EYE ON THE NEWS

### PUBLISHED BY ANIMAL RIGHTS IN ISRAEL



Today in Haifa: united against cruelty!

BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN SPIRIT:  
CONCERN FOR ANIMALS IS A UNIFYING FORCE.

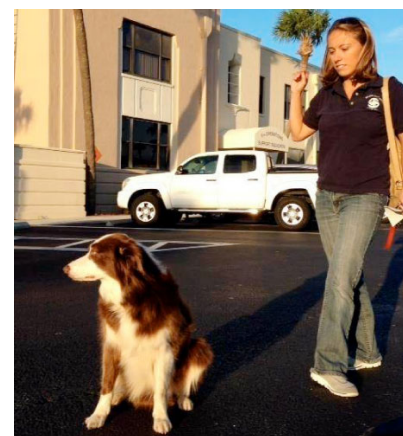
*Kudos to the Jews and Arabs who put aside their differences, and came together to speak out on behalf of the day-old chicks who are thrown away, the calves who are crammed onto ships for the horrific journey from Australia, the deformed chickens who are bred to grow too fast and suffer pain and disability, and all the other animals who are callously abused as if they were a mere commodity! Thanks to **Batya Bauman** for posting this news.*

## EYE ON THE NEWS

### SONIC, THE HI-TECH WAY TO KEEP BIRDS FROM MACDILL AIR FORCE BASE (near Tampa, Florida)

Meet Sonic: Sonic was rescued from a shelter and is between 6 and 9 years old. She works with her human companion, **Lindsey Garven**, to clear three airfields of birds of all types, and even a few mammals get cleared as well. Sonic is a border collie, of course! In spite of the U.S. military's multitrillion dollar budget, Sonic is as high-tech and effective as it gets!

<http://www.nbcnews.com/nightly-news/air-force-base-shares-secret-weapon-prevent-bird-strikes-n111296>



## EYE ON THE NEWS

### Monkey Revives Friend



shocked by wires at a busy train station

Recent video footage on YouTube shows an unconscious rhesus macaque monkey who was apparently

in India. A male companion monkey is then seen apparently trying to revive his friend by slapping and dragging him. After about 20 minutes, he revived the injured monkey!

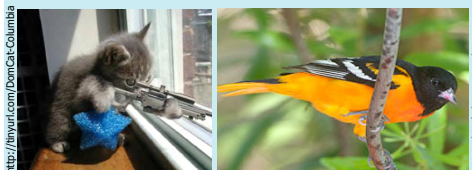
There's little research into how nonhuman primates deal with death, but scientists have occasionally seen primates

react to death, "in many cases by shaking the body of the dead animal, as if not accepting its immobility, and using rough behaviors seemingly to reanimate." The video can be seen at: <http://tinyurl.com/revive-monkey>

Please see "Two Skunks" on page 5 of this issue of the Binocular.

# IF YOU CARE ABOUT THE BIRDS, THEN PLEASE CARE ABOUT THE CATS CASE MADE FOR TNR (TRAP, NEUTER, RETURN) AND TLC!

JOE MIELE



Sniper Kitty

Male Baltimore Oriole

Songbird populations are in decline in many parts of the country, and there are many factors for this, both known and unknown. **But one thing we know for sure is the species that has the greatest negative effect on songbirds and all wildlife.**

The Audubon Society has local chapters all across the country. Mostly comprised of birdwatchers, these chapters work on the local level to help raise awareness of the importance and beauty of songbirds and their habitat. **Their appreciation for some bird species causes them to fall into a state of myopia when it comes to the impact of feral cats on the environment, thus having devastating consequences for cats who are killed by the millions.**

An article, "Analysis of Proposed Animal Care Ordinance's Wildlife Perspective", in an issue of ROADRUNNER RAMBLINGS (the publication of the Las Cruces, NM Audubon chapter) scapegoats free-roaming cats and portrays them as a danger to wildlife, but the article lacks realistic solutions for either cat overpopulation or their supposed impact on wildlife.

In southern New Mexico's Mesilla Valley, you'll find amazing wildlife diversity – mammals such as javalinas, jackrabbits, coyotes and squirrels; birds like sparrows and swallows, hummingbirds, roadrunners, and Peregrine falcons. The Mesilla Valley is rich with tremendous diversity in flora and fauna. And yes, there are many feral cats living in the cities, towns, and rural areas. If cats were decimating wildlife populations there would not be such abundant birds and wildlife today.

**Let's be clear—the number one**

**threat to wildlife is humans. Cats barely even rank when compared to the real problems of habitat loss, urbanization, pollution and environmental degradation. Researchers estimate that in the U.S. alone, nearly 100 million birds die from collisions with windows and buildings every year. Eighty million birds die from collisions with automobiles. Another 67 million from exposure to pesticides on crops, a figure that does not take into account the millions more that die from pesticides applied to golf courses, lawns, and other open spaces.**

(Erickson, Wallace P., et. al. A summary and comparison of bird mortality from anthropogenic causes with an emphasis on collisions. US Forest Service General Technical Report, PSW-GTR-191, 2005).

**Here are some facts to consider:**

✓ The Audubon Society itself reports that declining bird populations reflect growing threats resulting from habitat loss and fragmentation caused by development and other human activities.

("Quarter of U.S. Birds in Decline, Says Audubon," National Geographic News, November 5, 2002).

✓ Conservation groups and government biologists estimate that communications towers (cell phone, television, radio) kill from 4 to 50 million birds a year — and at least 50 species are threatened or endangered. The construction of new towers creates a potentially significant impact on migratory birds

("Towering Troubles: Bird Collisions with Communications Towers." Journey North, 2002).

✓ Atlantic City, NJ — one of the nation's largest tourist destinations — has a



Photo credit:  
<http://birding.about.com/od/birdconservation/a/Discourage-Feral-Cats.htm>

healthy and successful feral cat TNR program with over two hundred feral cats living in colonies under its famous boardwalk

[www.atlanticcityweekly.com/news-and-views/features/Boardwalk-Cats-Celebrate-10-Year-Anniversary-98031804.html](http://www.atlanticcityweekly.com/news-and-views/features/Boardwalk-Cats-Celebrate-10-Year-Anniversary-98031804.html)).

**Atlantic City has not reported a problem with the loss of sea birds, whose populations thrive alongside the boardwalk's free-roaming and managed feral cat population.**

✓ Researchers at Columbia University recommended that we confront the cat population problem with a combination of methods: **"Enlist the 'trap-neuter-return' style of feral management and combine it with incentives for owners to sterilize their pet cats."**

("Introduced Species Summary Project: Domestic Cat" Danielle LaBruna, Columbia University, January 29, 2001. Available at [www.columbia.edu/itc/cerc/danoff-burg/invasion\\_bio/inv\\_spp\\_summ/Felis\\_catus.html](http://www.columbia.edu/itc/cerc/danoff-burg/invasion_bio/inv_spp_summ/Felis_catus.html). Accessed November 23, 2003)

**Since there will always be feral cats, the best we can do is limit their numbers humanely. Domestic cats should all be spayed or neutered and kept indoors. The best solution for feral cats is Trap-Neuter-Return; it is best for the cats, best for taxpayers, and best for wildlife.**

Municipalities where TNR is illegal need to revise their animal control codes to **decriminalize and encourage the practice of TNR**, as doing so will allow more citizens to spay and neuter feral cats without fearing the heavy hand of the law. **These caring people will be reducing the population of feral cats, and this reduction will be seen within six to twelve months by local animal shelters in the form of reduced cat intake numbers. This in turn will save the lives of more animals in the shelter, save taxpayer dollars, and reduce the relatively negligible effect that feral cats are having on wildlife.**



## EYE ON THE NEWS

### NOW HERE'S A GREAT IDEA FOR INCREASING ADOPTIONS: MEOW PARLOUR OFFERS COOKIES, TEA, AND CATS FOR ADOPTION!



#### Won't you share a cookie and tea with her?

Any customer who falls in love with a cat has the chance to adopt him or her. New cats will be rotated in as the previous ones hopefully get adopted.

Guests sign a waiver freeing

the parlor from responsibility in case they get scratched or bitten. "Cats will be cats. You never know what they are going to do," says the owner.



**Meow Parlour**, 46 Hester St. between Ludlow and Essex Sts., NYC, opens Dec. 15. Noon-8 p.m. Closed Wednesdays. For info, visit [meowparlour.com](http://meowparlour.com). (They work with **KittyKind** rescue group.)

### VEGETABLES GROWN IN NEW YORK CITY FOUND TO BE 'TOXIC'

On November 16, 2014, this online article came to our attention:

NYC HAS DISCOVERED THAT HERBS AND OTHER VEGETABLES GROWN IN THE NYC COMMUNITY GARDENS ARE LOADED WITH LEAD AND OTHER TOXIC METALS.

The root vegetables exceeded safe thresholds for lead, the most toxic was a carrot. It contained 1.95 parts per million of lead, 20 times the level considered safe! Herbs contained lead as well, and the amount was called

"off the charts."

A pharmacologist was quoted as saying **"You're playing Russian roulette with this. There is no known safe level of lead exposure."**

Lead can remain in the body for 30 years, cause permanent learning disabilities, behavioral issues, hearing problems, heart disease, kidney disease, schizophrenia, Alzheimer's, and death.

A division of Wildlife Watch looked at potential lead contamination of NYC's water supply caused by upstate hunt-

ing. According to the NYC Department of Environmental Protection, the filtering process for the water is so excellent that lead can not get into the water. Please visit:

[www.all-creatures.org/cash/cc2014-su-hunting.html](http://www.all-creatures.org/cash/cc2014-su-hunting.html)

**Wildlife Watch urges NYC to investigate this fully and to ban the discharge of firearms, fishing, and trapping from DEP owned waters and lands until a thorough and unbiased investigation can be conducted.**

## THE DEVOTION OF ONE SKUNK TO ANOTHER

BY ANNE MULLER

Wildlife Watch received a call early December reporting two skunks, one alive and one dead, on the side of a road in a residential area. There wasn't a lot of traffic but, as with most country roads, the cars whizzed along at high speed. The caller said that the live skunk would soon be hit by a car if s/he wasn't removed, and that she would not leave the side of her dead companion because she was obviously trying to revive her. **He described the utter grief on the face of the live skunk, the sadness in her face.** He was on his way to a job-site and couldn't leave.

We were not terribly far, so we stopped to get a large container with a lid. In our car, we always keep our trusty wildlife handling gloves that were a present from our dear friends, **Tony Ferrante** and **Donna Quiros**. The gloves look like plastic, but they are actually steel, and nothing can penetrate them. Even the bite of a large animal.

A driver stopped to warn us that skunks spray and to be careful. Yet



our experience has been that when skunks are in distress, trapped and, now we see, in grief, they don't spray. But maybe we were just lucky. We got the live skunk in the box, and then separately took the dead skunk in a bag to be placed near the grieving skunk for as long as needed. The release site was 1.5 miles down the road in a wooded area. The caller knew that area and was working at an abandoned house across the street.

He told us that he had been a wildlife rehabber at one time, had worked with skunks, and said he could recognize grief. We set up an area for her near some fallen tree trunks, and scattered cat food around. There she was left with her dead companion. **She immediately crawled on top of the body**

**once again, nuzzling, poking, trying to burrow, crawling under and on top of the body, doing anything to nudge her friend, sibling, mate, or parent back to life. It had to be one of the saddest moments in my life, and certainly in hers.** That wild animals have strong emotions is not news for those who care about them as individuals but perhaps for some it will be a revelation to learn that skunks care about each other, they have strong familial bonds, they love and grieve.

The caller checked on her many hours later. He said she had left, the body was still there.

I imagined her walking alone in a strange wooded area, trying to make her lonely way back to perhaps other family members. From our perspective, she hadn't been in a good location, she would have been picked off by a predator, dog, person, or car. But the thought of her making her way alone in a desolate forest on a steel gray cold day haunted me. We can only pray for her.

# R.O.C.K. - Rehabbers Offer Care and Kindness

Wildlife Rehabilitators are aware of the many perils facing individual wild animals in their daily existence. Some can be avoided by personal steps that we can take - others need to be dealt with through education or lobbying efforts.

Wildlife rehabilitators are **licensed by state game agencies, yet they are given no support**, and they are **not allowed to charge for their "services"** (really a labor of love). Sadly, animals often come to the attention of rehab-

bers when they are found by people who either don't want them near their house or don't know how to help them. When the DEC's, DNRs or police are called, they normally recommend killing or letting the animals die; and most veterinarians cannot take time from their busy schedules. **Wildlife rehabbers are among the most noble people on Earth.**

## How to Help an Ailing Parakeet

**LINDA BRINK of SUNNYSKIES BIRD AND ANIMAL SANCTUARY** responded to one of Wildlife Watch's callers who had called about a sick parakeet. Linda offered this detailed information about how to help.

**The first thing you do for an ill bird is keep him warm.** If you don't have a ceramic heat bulb (which most of us don't have), then fill two plastic soda/water bottles or jars with hot water. Put them in a box on a towel, drape a small towel over them and put the bird between two of them. He should have the small towel as a buffer between his body and contact with the plastic, as it can get pretty hot. Then, close the top of the box to trap heat. Sick birds need a lot of heat.

With the bird warming up, get an eye dropper, try to get something like fruit juice into the bird, or even 5 drops of water. If you have 100% juice that's by far the best. **DO NOT use orange juice because it's too acidic.** Juice gets sugar into the bird, which helps the bird to fight. The juice should be warm, so place it in a glass and let it sit in hot water for a few minutes.

The symptoms you describe could be



a number of things, from basic starvation to one of the issues I've listed below.

- **Are you changing the water every day and are you changing the seed?** Often, people new to birds mistake seed hulls for seed, and the birds end up starving. This happens more frequently than you might think.

- How long have you had this bird? **Pet store birds are raised in extremely overcrowded conditions and then shipped, and they can have a whole host of infections from so much stress.** The medicine of choice for parrots is Baytril. It gets many of the bugs that infect them. But you will need to get this bird to an avian vet to get this medicine. It tends to work very quickly.

- How does the vent look? Is it matted, as from loose droppings? Also, can

you feel the line of bone that goes down the middle of the birds chest. Called the keel bone. If this is protruding, the bird is very starved. If you can barely feel the line of bone, this is much better. If you can't feel it at all, the bird is fat (not likely in this case).

- **Use only organic fruit and vegetables. Their tiny bodies cannot survive even small pesticide doses.**

- Have you used non stick cookware near this bird, or run your oven on the clean cycle? Birds are EXTREMELY sensitive to the gas produced by these things, and it will kill them.

Little guys don't last long without vet treatment in cases like this. Meanwhile, keep him hydrated and warm.

In the future, it's best not to buy into the pet trade (as adorable as the little guys are). There is much suffering in the capture, breeding, and confinement of animals. **Contacting rescue groups is a better way.**

If you have questions about parrots or parakeets, please contact **Linda Brink of Sunnyskies Bird and Animal Sanctuary:**

<http://www.sunnyskiesbirdsanctuary.org/home.html>

## ON-SITE INSTINCT PLAYS A VITAL ROLE IN DETERMINING WHETHER TO INTERVENE

Wildlife Watch receives about 30 calls a day during the height of what we call "baby season." That is spring through about mid-August. Many of the calls are about fawns. We ask the callers to tell us the situation: is the fawn alone, is s/he curled up in a ball? Is s/he hydrated (we ask that they do a skin test, which is to gently lift skin from the back of the neck and see if it

snaps back, or stands up or goes down slowly). We ask callers to check for flies, clear eyes, and clean coat. We ask how long the fawn has been bleating (calling out like a baby goat). **They should not bleat for more than an hour.** If they do, it means something has happened to the mother. When all of the responses seem to indicate a normal fawn, Wildlife Watch suggests

that they keep an eye out for the mother and not do anything to interfere with that relationship. **I recall that years ago we had a caller who confirmed that the fawn tested normal, s/he wasn't bleating, but he nevertheless felt there was**

### ON-SITE INSTINCT

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## ON-SITE INSTINCT

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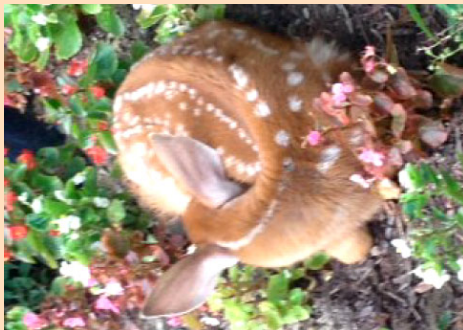
something terribly wrong. We suggested that he wait till the morning. In the morning he called to say the fawn had passed away. We were shocked, but I learned to take the intuitions of callers very seriously. A second call, years after that one, reconfirms that it's essential to go with the instincts of the caller.

**Sandy Bowron** of Ohio called to say that a fawn was on her family's property. As Ohio is a state that sadly does not allow the rehabilitation of deer, we were happy to learn that the fawn appeared to be healthy and suggested that they wait till the morning for the mother to come.



Here is a photo of the prancing, healthy fawn

Later she curled up; and in spite of the favorable results of the tests, Sandy's son felt otherwise. He sensed that something was



wrong, and he begged Sandy to get some goat milk. He was right, the little

fawn passed away during the night.

Lesson learned: keep asking questions when someone is adamant that something is really wrong. In a post-mortem, Sandy wrote that the fawn had been bleating for three days! Fawns should not bleat for more than an hour without the mother's coming. If the bleating continues, then something happened to the mother! **Does will not abandon their fawns.** Yes, something was definitely wrong!

Here is her final resting place.

**We so wish it could have turned out differently.**



## WILDLIFE WATCH NEEDS YOU!

Wildlife Watch needs your help more than ever to continue providing our vital services for helping injured and orphaned wildlife. In addition to our national hotline, Wildlife Watch lobbies for wildlife protection bills, does pick-ups locally, and contributes to local rehabbers for their care of the babies we bring to them. Through our publication, the **Wildlife Watch Binocular**, Wildlife Watch emphasizes the unique spirit of individual animals and promotes wildlife watching as a means of spiritually and ethically relating to other beings, and as an enhancement of the enjoyment of life.

**Will you become a part of our team?**

**YES**

<http://wildwatch.org/join/join.htm>

## Let's Go Wildlife Watching Bear Mountain State Park



Beaver

Bear Mountain State Park is located 1,200 feet above the west bank of the Hudson River. It has 52,000 acres of mostly forested area, and 235 miles of trails. The Appalachian Trail traverses the northern section of the park. It has an inn for people who want to stay more than one day; the inn, however, fills up very quickly during the summer season.

However, it is also a nice, relaxing day-trip from New York City. Drive across the George Washington Bridge



Nesting bald eagles

on the upper level, make the first right on the other side of the bridge; this takes you directly to the Palisades

Parkway. Enjoy the ride to exit 19; it's a beautiful 45 minute drive! Then just follow the signs to Bear Mountain State Park parking lots.

It's a great place to watch bald eagles, osprey, blue herons, migrating hawks, snapping turtles, beavers, otters, coyotes and many other bird and mammal species.

There is a pleasant nature trail and viewing platforms from which to do wildlife watching.

Many areas are wheel-chair accessible.

**The Trailside Museum and Zoo** exhibits plants, **unreleasable** reptiles, birds and other animals native to the area.



Otter

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Anne Muller - Editor;  
E.M. Fay - Assoc. Editor

We welcome letters/articles/photos for consideration. Contributions are tax-deductible.

Wildlife Watch  
PO Box 562,  
New Paltz, NY 12561



**NEED HELP FOR  
INJURED OR  
ORPHANED WILDLIFE?  
CALL THE WILDLIFE  
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(1-877-945-3435)**

Wildlife Watch maintains current lists of wildlife rehabilitators around the country. Our hotline helps us to help hundreds of people and animals annually.

Please help us by becoming a Wildlife Watch member for \$25 annually and please make an additional contribution for the R.O.C.K. Project that will be put into a fund and used to help a rehabber help wild animals. R.O.C.K. Project funds will be distributed at our discretion up to the amount available.

You can contribute by PayPal by clicking here

[www.wildwatch.org/join/contrib.htm](http://www.wildwatch.org/join/contrib.htm)

✓ Contribute by phone with a credit card. 845-256-1400

✓ Contribute by mail: Wildlife Watch, P.O. Box 562, New Paltz, NY 12561



## **IF YOU'RE CONCERNED ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE, SEEING COWSPIRACY IS A MUST!**

*Cowspiracy: The Sustainability Secret* is a groundbreaking feature-length environmental documentary following intrepid filmmaker Kip Andersen as he uncovers the most destructive industry facing the planet today – and investigates why the world's leading environmental organizations are too afraid to talk about it.

**Animal agriculture is the leading cause of deforestation, water consumption and pollution, it is responsible for more greenhouse gases than the transportation industry, and is a primary driver of rainforest destruction, species extinction, habitat loss, topsoil erosion, ocean “dead zones,” and virtually every other environmental ill. Yet it goes on, almost entirely unchallenged.**

As Andersen approaches leaders in the environmental movement, he increasingly uncovers what appears to be an intentional refusal to discuss the issue of animal agriculture, while industry whistleblowers and watchdogs warn him of the risks to his freedom and even his life if he dares to persist. *Cowspiracy* is as eye-opening as *Blackfish*, and more inspiring than *An Inconvenient Truth*. **This shocking yet humorous documentary reveals the absolutely devastating environmental impact large-scale factory farming has on our planet, and offers a path to global sustainability for a growing population.**

### **COWSPIRACY WILL BE SHOWN IN NEW PALTZ, NY**

Place: Town of New Paltz Community Center, 3 Veterans Drive

Date: Saturday, February 7 Time: 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. Free.

Please RSVP to [wildwatch@verizon.net](mailto:wildwatch@verizon.net) as seating is limited

**Dr. Will Tuttle**, author of the *World Peace Diet*, and a cast member of COWSPIRACY will join us by Skype for Q & A with the audience following the showing.

Hosted by **Anne Muller** ([wildwatch.org](http://wildwatch.org)), and **Nava Atlas** ([VegKitchen.com](http://VegKitchen.com)).

