

Caring for wildlife
for 42 years!



Wildlife Matters

Quarterly Newsletter of the St. Francis Wildlife Association

St. Francis Wildlife is a local, nonprofit organization dedicated to the conservation of native wildlife through the rehabilitation of sick, injured and orphaned wildlife and public education since 1978.

Vol. 22, No. 2

Summer 2020

Florida's forest sentry

Raucous raptor scores frequent flyer status at St. Francis Wildlife

By Sandy Beck



This Red-shouldered Hawk's scream echoes across Okecheepkee Park in NW Tallahassee as it stands on and defends a bullhead catfish it caught at dawn.
ALBERT GREGORY

If Florida had a contest to choose a state hawk, based on sheer numbers the Red-shouldered Hawk would win, talons down.

The Red-shouldered Hawk and Red-tailed Hawk are our two "buteos," large, broad-winged hawks, that live year-round in Florida.

In the 2019 Audubon Christmas Bird Count, Florida birders counted 4,122 Red-shouldered Hawks and 568 Red-tailed Hawks.

Adult Red-shouldered Hawks are beautiful, colorful birds with dark-and-white checkered wings, reddish shoulders and a pale orange breast. Its tail is dark with narrow white bands.

A hawk sailing overhead, winging its way across the sky or slow dancing on a rising thermal,

is a thrilling sight. But hawks do most of their hunting from high perches where they can scan the terrain with their telescopic vision.

If you swapped your eyes for a hawk's you could see an ant crawling on the ground from the roof of a 10-story building.

Red-shouldered Hawks prefer moist woodland habitats — swamps, marshes and rivers — with nearby open areas that have scattered trees for perch-hunting their favorite prey: frogs, snakes and rodents. But they are not fussy eaters — one reason for their success — and will happily grab an unwary songbird or a fish sucking flies off the surface of a pond.

Once dinner is spotted, the hawk drops into a swift glide, and then, just before impact, thrusts both legs forward, grabbing and swiftly crushing its prey with powerful feet and sharp talons.

Like most raptors, they are monogamous and territorial and vocally stand sentry over their domain. Their loud, two-syllabled "kee-er" call makes them easy to spot.

At St. Francis Wildlife, we have another, albeit sad, way to determine which species is most numerous: Last year we received 60 injured and orphaned Red-shouldered Hawks and 23 Red-tailed Hawks.

Red-shouldered Hawks and Barred Owls share territory and hunt the same prey. With hawks taking the day shift and owls covering the night shift, they usually stay out of each other's way.

When we rescue an uninjured baby raptor,



Five of the 17 orphaned Red-shouldered Hawks we've received so far this year.

KAYLA GAINER-EDWARDS



We do a great job at raising orphaned baby raptors, but the natural mother is always best. When a baby raptor falls from its nest, after examining it for injuries, we work with a local tree service company to reunite it with its parents. This Red-shouldered Hawk is being fed by its parent.
THOMAS LYNCH

we always try to reunite it with its parents (see story on page 5), but when that is not possible, it becomes our very expensive guest, requiring weeks of TLC and consuming huge quantities of rodents, chicks and special supplements.

A Red-tailed Hawk or Great Horned Owl costs about \$400 to raise and release. Each Red-shouldered Hawk and Barred Owl costs about \$250. A small Screech Owl, Kestrel or Mississippi Kite costs about \$180. St. Francis Wildlife spends about \$9,000 every year feeding these raptors.

Please consider helping us by taking a young raptor under your wing (we've received 17 baby Red-shouldered Hawks so far) and making a donation earmarked for baby raptor food.

Thank you! ❤️



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We appreciate these thoughtful donations.

In Memory of

Marion Sadler Young

From
Deedi Eubanks
Peggy & Kevin
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Tara Tanaka
Russell & Nancy Frankel

Billie June Clark

From
David & Terry Fulcher
David Mobley

Janith Turner,

beloved sister who loved all God's creatures and enjoyed watching the raccoons, opossums and eagles that visited her.
From
Louis & Pearl Donaldson

Sir Galahad Rascal & Eddie Puss Rex

From
Joanne Harrington

Those who lost their battle with COVID-19

From
David & Regina Cochran

In Honor of

Dr. Jay Whitesell

From
Stan & Margie Tullos

Dr. George Simmons, N. FL Animal Hospital

From
Kris Shields

Rhonda Work

From
Richard & Margie
Arrington
Byron & Chris Work

All the front-line workers risking their lives on a daily basis

From
David & Regina Cochran

Judy Gillan's birthday & retirement from FWC

From
Jerrie Lindsey, Cyndi Volz, Sandy Beck, Peter Kleinhenz, Billie Blaine, Kelly Broderick, Pat Simmons, Melissa Thorpe, Lynn Badger, Gregg Morton, Joy Opheim, Beth Harrer, Deborah Kern Connell, Sally Renner Broom, Joan Doyle and Judi Breuggeman.



Painting by Jean Henriksen

New St. Francis Wildlife staff and intern residence purchased with artist's bequest

By Pat Simmons, St. Francis Wildlife board president and Louise Divine, estate executor

Jean Henriksen, a Tallahassee artist, was captivated by the natural beauty of our state. She painted nearly every Florida river because she recognized not only their beauty, but also the importance of their preservation.

Her paintings have been exhibited in galleries throughout Florida, including at FSU and the state Capitol.

At her death in 2016, Jean Henriksen left her entire estate, including 200 landscape paintings, to the St Francis Wildlife Association and the Nature Conservancy, to be sold to raise funds for their important conservation work.

Ms. Henriksen's generous bequest has recently enabled St. Francis Wildlife to purchase a new, double-wide mobile home, providing long needed onsite housing for wildlife hospital technicians and college interns.

Wayne Frier Homes worked with the SFW board and director to clear the land and purchase and install an adorable mobile home on the SFW property at a reduced price and haul off an old mobile home at no cost.

Apalachee Backhoe fixed various long-standing septic issues, and Talquin Electric replaced damaged utilities and ran new power lines. McNeil Plumbing replaced hundreds of feet of plumbing and installed shut-off valves and bibs throughout our wildlife sanctuary at a reduced cost.

The Furniture Bank, a division of ECHO, generously donated furniture for the new residence.

We are also grateful to attorney, John L. Brennan for his extensive pro bono work with the estate attorney on our behalf throughout the bequest process.



Jackson Shivers with St. Francis Wildlife director Kayla Gainer-Edwards.

BOBBY EDWARDS

For his Eagle Scout project, Jackson Shivers built us a new outdoor enclosure for recovering small mammals with funds he raised on his own. But because **Stones Home Center in Havana** gave him lumber at cost Jackson also wrote us a big check with the remaining money! Thank you, Jackson and Stones!



Talquin employees, left to right: Leon Gramling, Megan Smith, Stacy Stone and Dewey O'Conner.

SANDY BECK

Thank you, Talquin Electric Cooperative for inviting us to your annual company picnic and raising \$2,479 for St. Francis Wildlife at the picnic!

Sincere thanks to our community for caring about wildlife.

- **COSTCO** for weekly donations of produce for our animals.
- **Panhandle Pet Supply** for donating squirrel food and deep discounts on other supplies.
- **Wild Birds Unlimited** for donating bird seed, keeping a donation box for SFW Wish List items and including our newsletter with every curbside delivery.
- **Paws & Claws Veterinary Hospital** for keeping a donation box for SFW Wish List items.
- **Walmart in Quincy** for donating dog food and birdseed.

- **Robbie Estevez** and **IMARC-SGROUP.COM (IMG)** for hosting our website.
- **Havana Garden Club** for their support.
- **Donna Hansell** for her generous donation and exemplary volunteer work.
- **Stone's of Havana** for their donation of grass hay.
- **Katharine Gossman** for her tireless work caring for hundreds of orphaned nestlings.
- **Adam Starling** for removing trees.

- **Esposito's Garden Center** and also **AAA Tree Service** for donating mulch for our trails.
- **Stoney Thompson of Peaceful Pets** for cremation services.
- **Mary Bruner of Bruner's Computers** for donating hundreds of dollars of tech services for our computer upgrades.
- **Charities Aid Foundation of America** for their generosity.
- **Loretta and Leigh Norgren Foundation** for their generous grant.

- **Faye Davis & Felecia Elmore Perfect** for sewing hammocks and baby blankets for our orphaned baby mammals.
- **Betty Tap** for a gallon of Chlorhexidine antiseptic.
- **Chris Curry Plumbing** for generously donating his services in our wildlife hospital.
- **Donald Boyette of Circle B Contractors** for repairing our driveway.
- **Pam Flynn** for delivering two aquariums and a generous donation to our wildlife hospital.



We are grateful and proud to have the support of **Ann and Jeff VanderMeer**, known

both locally and internationally not only for their many best-selling books but also for their conservation efforts.

VanderMeer Creative, which manages the literary power couple, donated royalties from RDS Press and speaking fees from Jeff's "Borne" Big Reads NEA grant to St. Francis Wildlife. Thank you, Ann and Jeff!

Here are a few of this spring's wild patients

Just a snapshot of who your donations are helping



Eastern Screech Owls
KAYLA GAINER-EDWARDS



Great Crested Flycatchers
SANDY BECK



Downy Woodpeckers
SANDY BECK



Baby opossums
in injured mom's pouch
NICHOLAS PETRYK



Cottontail Bunny
SANDY BECK



Baby Raccoon
KAYLA GAINER-EDWARDS



2 Baby Northern Mockingbirds
and 1 Brown Thrasher

KAYLA GAINER-EDWARDS

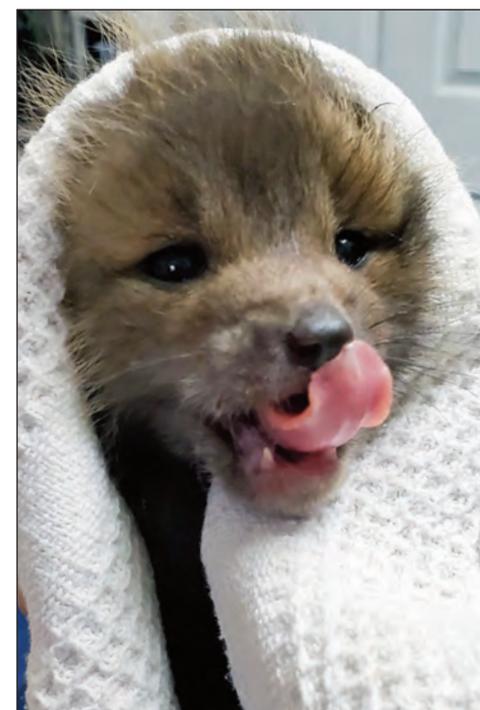
We feed a "ton" of mealworms and crickets every day in our Baby Bird Room. We greatly appreciated your donations of these food items from our Amazon Wish List: <http://bit.ly/stfranciswildlife>. Also available at armstrongcrickets.com. Please have them mailed to us at: 5580 Salem Rd., Quincy, FL 32352.



Mourning Dove nestling
KAYLA GAINER-EDWARDS



Box Turtle
returning home after injuries healed
SANDY BECK



Baby Grey Fox
KAYLA GAINER-EDWARDS



Barred Owl nestling
SANDY BECK

Adapting to a new reality

St. Francis Wildlife continues to provide our essential service while making changes to protect our community, but we can't do it without you.

By Sandy Beck



Adaptation. It's a word we use in our Wild Classroom education programs when we talk about how species change over time to become better suited to their habitat. The hooked beak that helps a raptor tear food, or the opossum's prehensile tail that carries dried leaves back to its nest are adaptations necessary to survive.

Now, it's a word we use, not in the context of the wild animals we work so hard to help, but rather how we, as a non-profit organization, can adapt to our new reality with COVID-19.

In 2019, we received 3,226 injured, orphaned and sick wild animals — an 18 percent increase over the previous year. Because many of us are at home now, more people are noticing backyard wildlife; consequently, this year our total intake

Thank you for answering our Facebook plea with donations of Wish List items, including lots of exam gloves and food for our baby birds!

But because we use 'tons' of these every day, we are again in short supply and would greatly appreciate:

- * **Live mealworms** and **crickets** for orphaned baby songbirds. Order on our Amazon Wish List, <http://bit.ly/stfranciswildlife> or at armstrongcrickets.com.
- * **Latex-free exam gloves**, M and L sizes. We need dozens every day to feed and care for babies. Order on our Amazon Wish List, <http://bit.ly/stfranciswildlife> or at eonpro.com or pine-environmental.com.

Please mail items to us at: 5580 Salem Rd., Quincy, Florida 32352

may be even higher.

To ensure that we can keep our essential service open while protecting the health of our staff and the public, St. Francis Wildlife is working during this Baby Season, our busiest time of the year, with only a skeleton crew and very few volunteers. Both we and our Tallahassee vets have a new no-contact drop-off system for injured and orphaned wildlife (see Page 8).

We're Zooming our Wild Classroom education programs (see Page 6). And we've cancelled our annual Wildlife Baby Showers and other community fundraisers.



♥ How you can help

- Please continue to take **our Wish List items** (see list below) to St. Francis Wildlife; Wild Birds Unlimited, 2098 Thomasville Rd.; Allied Emergency Veterinary Hospital, 2324 Centerville Rd.; and Paws & Claws Veterinary Hospital, 3819 Bradfordville Rd.
- Please consider making a **monetary donation** by sending a check with the donation form on page 7 or donate online with PayPal at www.stfranciswildlife.org/donate.html.
- Please check out our **Amazon Wish List**: <http://bit.ly/stfranciswildlife>.
- Begin all your Amazon shopping at <https://smile.amazon.com> and choose "St. Francis of Assisi Wildlife Association, Inc." (our official, legal name) as your charity. To date, AmazonSmile has donated \$1,554.86 to us!

We understand these are tough times for all. But, if you have a little extra to spare, it would help us so much. Thank you from the bottom of our wild hearts!

Wildlife Wish List

Please take items to **St. Francis Wildlife** or **Allied Veterinary Emergency Hospital**.

Gift Certificates

- Native Nurseries
- Wild Birds Unlimited
- Panhandle Pet Supply
- COSTCO, Stone's, Home Depot, Walmart
- squirrelsandmore.com
- foxvalleynutrition.com
- armstrongcrickets.com
- rodentsontheroad.com
- amazon.com

Food/Feeding

- Unsalted peanuts in the shell
- Raw, hard-shelled nuts, like walnuts, pecans, acorns
- Black oil sunflower seed
- Wild bird seed
- Keet seed
- Baby food: fruit, vegetables, beef, and chicken (no noodles)
- Eggs

- EXACT powder (baby bird formula)
- Plain and fruit yogurt
- Live or dried mealworms and crickets (live is more nutritious)
- Waterfowl maintenance pellets
- Waterfowl starter mash
- Plant pot saucers, plastic
- Heavy stoneware food bowls
- Latex-free exam gloves

Cleaning Supplies

- Laundry detergent, unscented
- Bleach, unscented
- Heavy-duty 39 & 55 gallon trash bags
- Paper towels
- Dawn dish soap
- Odoban, Mr. Clean, Fabulosa
- Scotch-brite heavy duty scrub sponges
- Rakes
- Heavy duty hoses

Animal Housing

- Baby blankets
- T-shirts, pillowcases, top sheets
- Soft toilet paper or soft tissue

Office

- Sticky notes
- Letter-size printer paper, white
- Dry erase boards and pens, Sharpies, pens and pencils

Misc.

- Non-toxic insect repellent for staff such as "Natrappel" (at Native Nurseries & Amazon)

Big Wishes

- 2-line phone system with 5 - 6 handsets.
- A long-term goal of ours is to move the St. Francis Wildlife hospital to Leon County. If you have acreage you would like to donate, please contact board president, Pat Simmons at (850) 339-5625.

North Florida's forests are rich with Barred Owls

Our most common owl species is also one of the most common admissions to St. Francis Wildlife. Last year we rescued 75 of these big, beautiful owls. Here are just two of our latest Barred Owl rescues that, thankfully, had happy endings.

Baby Owls reunited with parents thanks to local tree service

By Sandy Beck



Franklin Adcock, Operations Manager with Fielders Tree Service, holds one of the two baby Barred Owls he found in a snag his crew cut down. DARCY SALINAS

Wild baby season is in full bloom now, and the cute factor is palpable at St. Francis Wildlife. We always advise people to try to return a healthy, uninjured, downy baby bird to its nest, but re-nesting a tiny bird of prey is pretty tricky; its nest is usually higher than our tallest ladder. That's when St. Francis Wildlife calls in the cavalry — one of the local tree services that generously donates their expert tree climbers and cranes. But it's a two-way street; sometimes the cavalry calls us.

Fielder Tree Services had just cut down a dead oak when Operations Manager Franklin Adcock discovered two nestling Barred Owls in a hollow section. Owls don't build nests; they borrow other birds' nests or use tree cavities.

Franklin had helped us re-nest a baby Great Horned Owl two years ago when he worked for Armstrong Tree Service, so he knew just what to do. He called St. Francis Wildlife.

"I'll do whatever is necessary to save these baby owls," he said.

Franklin drove the owlets to our wildlife

hospital where director Kayla Gainer-Edwards gave them a head to talon exam and pronounced them uninjured and healthy.

After a few nutritious meals and TLC at St. Francis Wildlife, hospital manager Nicole Rivera packed up the babies and a laundry basket and met Franklin back at the nest site, about 15 miles east of downtown Tallahassee.

They chose a new nest tree, very close to the felled snag. Nicole placed a layer of soft leaves in the basket, and crane operator Jake McGowan carried it 40 feet up in the tree, secured it to a branch, and then returned for the owlets.

Later that day, when Nicole returned to check on the nestlings, she saw one of the parents swoop down to drop food off for them!

The next day, my husband Bob and I drove out to check on them once more. The property owner, Liberty Taylor, who was tending to her bee hives, told us she had seen one of the parents early that morning.

An hour later, we heard the adult owls calling to one another, and then one sailed silently overhead and landed near their new nest.

It is heartwarming to know that people will work together, giving freely of their time and resources, to help these precious wild animals.



Two nestling Barred Owls safe and snug in their new laundry basket nest. JAKE MCGOWAN

Owl saved from drowning

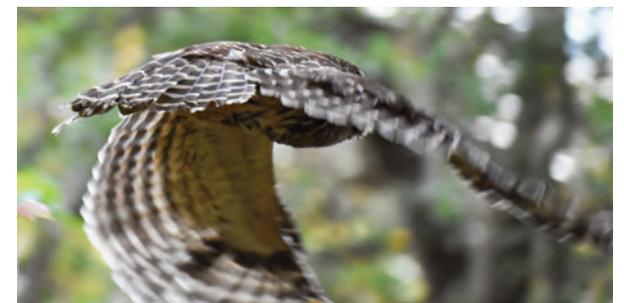
PHOTOS BY STEVEN WRIGHT



Steven Wright, one of our extraordinary wildlife rescuers, has rescued at least 350 wild animals in the last four years, but he says that a call he responded to recently in Woodville was one of his most unusual experiences.

When Steven arrived, the homeowner led him to a 10-foot long, vertical, cement pipe that was partially filled with rain water and a very weary Barred Owl.

Steven was able to reach the owl with a long-handled catch net, fish him out, and set him free (pictures of the happy owl below)!



♥ Meet our very capable wildlife angels ♥

So much has changed in our human world, yet wildlife continues to follow the routines established over millions of years—courting, mating and having young. Every spring and summer we rescue about 2,000 orphaned or injured wild babies. To keep both our staff and the public safe, this year our small staff is working around-the-clock, with limited volunteer assistance. PHOTOS BY SANDY BECK



Left to right, Kaden Haver assists Nicole Rivera, as she examines a Brown Thrasher that was attacked by a dog.



Wildlife technician, Bailey Black, with a baby opossum.

Kaden Haver, a wildlife technician, majored in wildlife biology with a concentration in wildlife rehabilitation. Before coming to St. Francis Wildlife, she worked at the May Wildlife Rehabilitation Center in western North Carolina as a wildlife rehabilitation intern, ambassador educator, and an administrator.

Nicole Rivera, hospital manager and licensed wildlife rehabilitator, has degrees in both animal science and animal ecology. She began her wildlife rehabilitation adventure at the Wildlife Care Foundation in Oklahoma. She also worked as an intern at the Rolling Hills Zoo in Salina, KS, and was a veterinary assistant in Puerto Rico, Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands.

Wildlife technician **Bailey Black** has a degree in environmental studies from Eckerd College in St. Petersburg, where she helped monitor a Black Skimmer nesting colony for the American Bird Conservancy.

As an intern at the Southern African Foundation for the Conservation of Coastal Birds, Cape Town, South Africa, she helped raise African Penguin chicks.

Bailey also worked at The Center for Wildlife, a wildlife rehabilitation center in Cape Neddick, Maine, and was a veterinary assistant in Rockport, Maine.



Kayla Gainer-Edwards, St. Francis Wildlife's director and chief wildlife rehabilitator, is pictured here with one of the 17 orphaned Red-shouldered Hawks we've received so far this year. Kayla has a degree in zoology from UF. She moved here from the Florida Keys where she was wildlife rehabilitation manager at the Wild Bird Center in Tavernier, Florida.

Wildlife Release Site Program

St. Francis Wildlife seeks large tracts of privately-owned land for wildlife release sites.

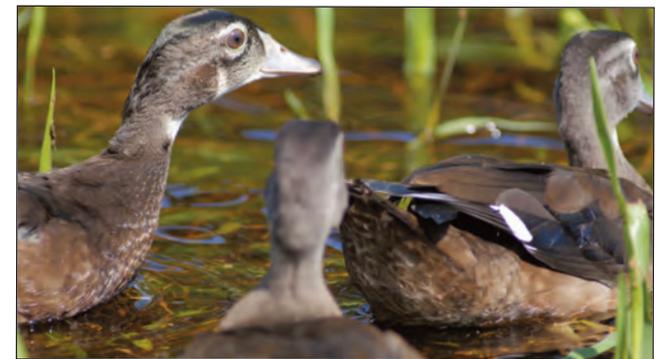
By Kayla Gainer-Edwards

Every year, we receive more than 3,000 animals. The goal of our dedicated staff and volunteers, throughout the rehabilitation process, is ultimately to return and release each animal to a suitable, natural, wild habitat.

Are you a wildlife lover with a privately owned large acreage tract who would like to share the final step of our mission: releasing rehabilitated wildlife?

If you would like for us to release wildlife on your property, here is your chance. The size of your property and the habitats it supports are two of the factors that will determine which species we are able to release.

If you are interested in participating in our Release Site Program and would like more information, please fill out our Wildlife Release Site Questionnaire at stfranciswildlife.org/releasesite.pdf.



Tara Tanaka and her husband Jim Stevenson have invited St. Francis Wildlife to release aquatic birds, including these Wood Ducks, and a beaver at their 45-acre cypress swamp in Northwest Tallahassee that they manage as a wildlife sanctuary.

TARA TANAKA

OWLS

ARE THE
TIGERS OF THE SKY

Four native owls —our Great Horned, Barred, Barn and Screech Owl ambassadors— help Sandy Beck explain the unique adaptations that make them spectacular nocturnal hunters, the challenges they face and how we can help them.

Produced by Kris Bass-Peterson

Schedule this virtual wildlife program for your classroom, home school, camp or organization.

with
Sandy Beck
Education Director
The Wild Classroom
St. Francis Wildlife Association
wildclassroom@comcast.net

Wild Classroom Update

Because of the pandemic, we will not offer our live wildlife programs the rest of this year. However, this virtual wildlife program has already received rave reviews from teachers and the Leon County Public Library. For more details or to schedule Owls Are the Tigers of the Sky, please email us. Post-program lesson plans also available.

A Taste of Spain Fundraiser for St. Francis Wildlife

Treat your senses to authentic Paella prepared by one of Valencia's finest chefs.



The entire month of July, Real Paella will donate 15% of home delivery orders to St. Francis Wildlife!*

<https://realpaella.com/delivery>



If you attended our 40th anniversary party at Goodwood Museum and Gardens, you will certainly remember Juan Ten, owner and head chef of Real Paella, standing over his giant pans, delighting guests with incredibly delicious paellas created with fresh, local, organic ingredients and spices, rice and oil imported from Spain. Or perhaps you have had the good fortune to attend one of the hundreds of other events he has catered in North Florida.

Like all of us, Juan Ten is adapting to the times. Instead of catering big events, he is now offering personal contactless, home delivery using disposable aluminum containers. He does not use a delivery service. Place your online order at least 24 hours in advance for 5 or more people.

Invite friends to your socially-distant garden party, or just treat your family. Delivery is available every day, but it is free Wednesday and Sunday.

Choose from Paella Mixta, Classic Paella, Vegan Paella, and Spanish Salad. View the menu and order online at: <https://realpaella.com/delivery>.

* Write "I support St. Francis Wildlife" in the Order Notes section of the online order form, and Real Paella will donate 15% of your bill to help local orphaned, injured, and sick wildlife.

St. Francis Wildlife Donation Form: Please renew your annual support.



Mail your check to: St. Francis Wildlife Assoc., P.O. Box 38160, Tallahassee, FL 32315. Or donate online with PayPal at www.stfranciswildlife.org.

Name _____ Date _____ E-mail Address _____

Home Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

How would you prefer to receive our quarterly newsletter, *Wildlife Matters*? Mail a printed copy to my home. I prefer to read it on-line.

To make this donation in honor of someone (for a special occasion, memorial, etc.) please include a note with the honored person's name and the name and address of the person to receive acknowledgement of the gift. Your gift will also be noted in our next "Wildlife Matters" newsletter.

Please check the appropriate box and return this form with your tax-deductible donation.

Donor Levels: Angel \$35 Hero \$50 Friend \$100 Sponsor \$250 Guardian \$500 Steward \$1,000 Patron \$2,000 Saint \$5,000 Other _____

Please contact me about: Volunteering Your "Wild Classroom" wildlife education programs.

New COVID-19 safety procedures to follow if you find injured, orphaned, or sick wildlife

Call us so we can help you assess the situation.

- 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.: (850) 627-4151
- After 5 p.m.: (850) 933-2735



If it is injured, sick or truly orphaned, please do the following, and then choose one of three options:

Get a box, and punch air holes in the lid. Place a t-shirt or pillowcase in the box (not a towel — claws or teeth get caught in the loops). Put the animal in the box and tape securely. Keep babies warm with a sock filled with rice or water bottle heated and wrapped in a t-shirt. Do not give it food or water.

Keep it quiet, in the dark, and handle as little as possible. Do not blast AC or play the radio in your car.

1. 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. Take it to St. Francis Wildlife, 5580 Salem Rd. Quincy, FL (4 miles NW of Havana), directions at: www.stfranciswildlife.org. Call us at (850) 627-4151 when you are on your way (cell service is spotty at SFW). There is a table on our covered front porch. Fill out a form on the table, and then knock on the front door. A staff member, wearing a mask and maintaining her distance, will come outside to pick up the animal and your form.

After 5 p.m., we lock our gate on Salem Rd., so please call us, and then leave your box in the metal drop box next to the gate.

2. 24/7, take it to Northwood Animal Hospital, 1881 N. Martin Luther King Blvd., Tallahassee. Call (850) 385-8181 when you arrive. Someone will come out to get your box and give you a form to fill out. Please have your own pen.

3. 24/7, take it to Allied Emergency Veterinary Hospital, 2324 Centerville Rd., Tallahassee. Call (850) 222-0123 when you arrive. Someone will meet you at the door. Please have your own pen.

If you call us about a large, injured animal or a rabies vector, please stay nearby to monitor its movement until we arrive. If possible, we will send a rescuer who will wear an ID badge and remain six feet away from you.

Never handle rabies vectors such as raccoons, foxes, or bats (even babies). Call us. Birds and reptiles do not carry rabies. Squirrels, opossums and rabbits are rarely rabies vectors; it is still wise to use gloves.

For more information about wildlife rescue:
www.stfranciswildlife.org

Wildlife Matters

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