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Frisky's is a 501 (c) 3 Organization. Frisky's **DOES NOT** receive any county, state or federal funding. Frisky's survives only by public donations. All proceeds and donations go directly to the care and welfare of the animals. Please donate an item from the wishlist, or send in your tax deductible donation!

www.friskys.org • friskyswildlife@yahoo.com

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If you are interested in collaborative opportunities or donating your time and expertise, please write us with your thoughts, call or email Frisky's.

We try very hard to use your contributions for the most urgent need at the time we receive them. If you would like to restrict this contribution for a specific project, please mark here. _____

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With a donation, your name will be placed on our mailing list to receive The Rescue Record.

SAVING THE LIVES OF WILDLIFE AND PRIMATES SINCE 1970

THE RESCUE RECORD

FRISKY'S WILDLIFE & PRIMATE SANCTUARY

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Christmas Issue

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*to find out what you can
do to help the many animals
in need at Frisky's*

Visit us online at www.friskys.org

It's Nice to Be Appreciated! BY COLLEEN LAYTON-ROBBINS

I am commonly asked how am I doing these days? Well I'm almost 64, although an older able-bodied strong woman, I am very capable of doing everything I need to do everyday. Yes I am having my staff go through preparation and training with the same or better knowledge to hopefully one day take on my part if needed. Now, I do not see that takeover in any very near future. Not because of their performance but because I am still here and pray I continue to be able to do so. According to the doctors I see regularly for preventive medicine and care, I'm of sound mind and body. I don't need or desire a vacation from what I love and enjoy doing. Although I do humbly ask for your support so I can focus all of my attention on animal care. That way everyone here can focus on the tasks that need to be routinely completed not only moment by moment, but every day of the year. Emergencies come in regularly from dogs, cats, window strikes, car accidents, swimming pools, and even from tree and lawn service incidents. Some critters even take a hard fall from their nest or get too wet to fly properly out of harm's way. And always remember pesticides, fertilizers, & ice melts resemble bird seed. I meet those of you who care and pay it forward by bringing in an animal and or supporting

the sanctuary.

I can also relate my compassion and empathy to a lot of the animals that end up here surviving what was supposed to be terminal or crippling, even I came from poverty and real hardships. Now, I get to pay it forward.

My husband/partner Scott Robbins recently retired from his paying job. When he's asked how do you like your retirement he says he works harder now than he did at his paying job, only without the pay. But he's trying hard to catch up on a lot of projects that needed to be tended to for the last several years or for a long time.

As Jane Goodall quoted "Only if we understand, can we care. Only if we care, we will help. Only if we help shall they be saved."

So to all of you, who care about animals. We make a wonderful team, being kind to animals. Myself and our staff wish you all continued good health and may all your hardships be small. Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and may you all have a wonderful New Year!!! All my love and hugs to you all.

Colleen of Frisky's Wildlife



Scott, Rose and Colleen



Colleen's Pet Peeves BY COLLEEN LAYTON-ROBBINS

We all have them. And we can all relate to those that don't use turn signals, cut in front, and the tailgaters. Even worse those on the cell phone and distracted drivers.

My big one is those who somehow can't follow simple directions. My hours are 8 to 8. I am up very early in the morning and I have to get up every 2 hours to feed or medicate something so my sleep is in hour-and-a-half increments. Even though we have dozens of surveillance cameras and alarms,

I find it very distressing to greet strangers after dark. What do the young people say, Just Sayin.

And please I know we all want to see distressed animals receive help as soon as possible. So take it to a licensed wildlife rehabilitator right away or as soon as possible! Not just because it is illegal, but as well as us humans and pets, they all can have internal or external parasites! Some parasite eggs can and do live through petri dishes of peroxide or bleach. Please don't

put yourself and family at risk. The worst thing you can do is nothing but the best thing you can do is take action. Of course we all hope you continue to be kind to animals in need of your help and Frisky's will always be here for you. We have several licensed Wildlife Rehabilitators here at Frisky's Wildlife Rehabilitation Center. Take care.

Colleen of Frisky's Wildlife www.friskys.org

Costs of Survival BY OMAR FAKHRI

Frisky's is a 501(c)(3), completely non-profit organization that relies solely on in-kind donations as we are NOT funded by state or federal government. Many wonder how our in-kind donations are spent at Frisky's. Much of the donations go to food and medicine for anywhere between 3,000 to 5,000 animals a year. For example, a single fawn can easily cost us \$35/day, we can get anywhere from 35 to 70+ fawns a year that stay for quite a few months. You may be asking what is included in the breakdown for some of these costs for the various wildlife? Food includes crates of fruit/vegetables (\$300/week), mealworms/night crawlers(\$50/week), feeder mice (\$500/3 weeks), fresh fish(\$20/week), bird feed (\$50/week),

special formula milk substitute (\$75/week), etc. Those are just some of the food costs, not taking into account many other staples we need to have at Frisky's.

Medicine includes cost of vet visits because many of our animals come injured to varying degrees (most we can handle, some we cannot), antibiotics, insulin for diabetic monkeys, flea/deworming medication (living in nature means it's almost certain they carry parasites) and various medical supplies. These animals are not covered by any sort of health insurance so everything is out-of-pocket cost, including insulin which is human grade insulin so when the manufacturers increase the prices we have no health insurance that covers the cost so we end up paying

\$300 every few weeks for insulin.

While that accounts the some of the costs we endure, we also have other expenses that are important in maintaining the sanctuary, such as gas and electricity. Many of the animals require certain temperatures to survive because some of them aren't in their natural habitat. Our BGE bills can be anywhere from \$800 to almost \$1,200 a month in the winter and that is not including gas.

All in all these are just some of the cost that Frisky's faces on a regular basis and thanks to your donations we survive and get through these things every year. Thanks to your kindness without you we wouldn't be here

Omar Fakhri

Coati...What? BY JOYCE DIETSCH

Cody is a White-nosed Coatiundi [koh-ah-tee-muhn-dee], he came to Frisky's in the summer of 2009 at the age of 4. Coatiundi are part of the raccoon family, however unlike the raccoon, Coati are diurnal. They are active during the day and sleep at night. They live 7-8 years in the wild and about 15 in captivity and weigh between 6-20 pounds. Males and females look exactly alike except for size, males are larger. Did you know that Coatiundi can be found in the United States? If you have been to Arizona or New Mexico you may have seen them. But, you are more likely to see them in Mexico, Central or South America.

Coati spend their days searching for food. Being omnivores, they eat eggs, birds, snakes, lizards, seeds, nuts, fruits. Lets face facts, they eat pretty much anything that come across their path. Coati have a pig like snout which they use to search out food and open soft fruits. Coati also have very long (non retractable) claws which they use for digging worms, grubs, beetles and other tasty treats that they can smell in the ground. Their long bushy tails are used for balance. Coati have very sharp, large canines, that along with their claws give them the ability to protect themselves if they feel threatened.

Even though Coati spend most of their day searching for food, they enjoy finding a nice shady location to take a nap on hot days. At night they take to the tree tops. They are good tree climbers and swimmers. Their hind legs have the capability to bend much like a bear so they are able to climb up and come back down easily.

Males live alone, except for mating. Females and their young live together in a group called a



Joyce with Cody during his annual physical as he comes out of sedation

band. After mating, the female will stay with the band until she is about to give birth (gestation is 77 days, average litter is 2-6). She will raise the pups alone until they are about 6 weeks of age, at that time she will rejoin the band with her young. Males stay with the band until they are about 2, at which time they will leave and go off on their own.

I have worked with the coatiundi at Frisky's for the past 10 yrs. In that time there have been 3, Cody is the last. All

3 were personal pets, raised from babies and the owners had to find a sanctuary for them. Each of them had their own personality. However, the one thing they all had in common, was that everything they allowed us to do with them, for them, or to them, was totally on their terms.

Cody is great with my husband and myself. He enjoys being brushed, he likes us to pet him, and most important, he allows us check his teeth and gums (he has had both tooth and gum issues that have required surgery). The one thing that he does not allow us to do is pick him up. That being said, we love him and enjoy the time that we get to spend with him.

Exotics take lots of work, tremendous amounts care, food, housing and many other special needs. These animals will never be like your domesticated dog or cat. Some individuals may say they have exotics and they are great, and maybe they are. They are the lucky ones, but more often than not things end differently. All of the joy turns into sadness when they realize that they will have to rehome their pet to a sanctuary. A home environment is no place for these animals and sanctuaries have limited space. Finding a sanctuary to accommodate an exotic animal will be a daunting task as many sanctuaries are now full.

Joyce Dietsch

Oogie BY EILEEN STURGILL

When I came to Frisky's as a volunteer in 2010, I told Colleen that I didn't particularly like monkeys but love the wildlife. When Colleen first introduced me to the monkeys in the main house, Oogie threw some food at me that then reinforced my dislike of monkeys, especially Oogie.

Early this year when I was sweeping up one of the primate rooms I got too close to Oogie's enclosure. She latched her tail around my broom and she and I had a tug of war as I wrestled the broom away from her. Colleen had often

told me how good Oogie was, but I didn't believe her.

A few months ago (I don't



know why) I held out my hand and let Oogie wrap her tail around it. I petted her tail but didn't get any

closer. Oogie smacked her lips and moved her head side to side.

I then imitated her and it made her very happy. Often Colleen assured me Oogie wouldn't scratch me, I let her hold my hands awhile and I petted her tail and I also smacked my lips. When I said let go, she released my hand. Now I have to have a moment with her whenever I do my volunteer work. So much for my like not liking the monkeys.

Eileen Sturgill

Lucy and Bonnie BY EILEEN STURGILL

A few years ago, two baby goats (sisters) came to Frisky's from a petting zoo. A long-term resident goat, Dominic, had lost her friend and needed companionship. Lucy and Bonnie came to keep her company. Bonnie and Lucy were active goats and were much fun to watch. They had kept Dominic very amused.

Not long after that, Dominic died but Bonnie and Lucy had each other. As they grew, they developed their own personalities. Bonnies was shy, and Lucy grew up to love people.

If Lucy hears a strange noise, she'll jump up on one of her igloos and look around to find the source of



the disturbance. When I try to clean the shed, Lucy gets in my way and

demands to be petted and have her head scratched. She loves the visitors. Bonnie developed her own friendship with the dogs (Bonnie and Clyde, Australian Shepherds) and horse (Beauty). When they hear my voice in the morning, they start calling me to come feed them. Friendships developed while working the animals.

Eileen Sturgill

Should I Feed Wildlife? BY JULIA DAGNELLO

Many people love to feed wild animals whether it's ducks in a pond, the deer that wander through your yard in the morning, even the raccoons who come to raid the cat food. It seems like a great way to see wild animals up close and help them survive right? Unfortunately providing wildlife with a human-supplied food source can do more harm than good. Here are some of the downsides:

1. **Teaches wild animals to depend on people for food.** With an easy source of food available, parent animals may not teach their offspring how to forage or hunt. If that supply of food is stopped then these animals may not have the skills to survive on their own.

2. **Causes animals to lose their fear of people.** This can be

deadly for wildlife who approach humans and end up killed when they are mistaken as aggressive. They also make easy targets for anyone who may wish them harm. In the case of large, potentially dangerous wildlife this can become a safety risk to humans as well.

3. **Attracts more animals to an area than there normally would be.** A higher density of animals can cause the spread of disease through the population. This can also affect reproduction causing a further increase in density leading to competition and overcrowding.

4. **The food is not nutritiously good for the animals and causes health issues.** Animals depending on human food sources will not get the varied, natural diet they require. This is most commonly seen in

waterfowl such as ducks and geese fed a diet of bread who develop a wing deformity known as "angel wing". Deer in the middle of winter may not be able to digest corn when it is suddenly added to their diet which can cause a lot of problems.

So what can you do? Try giving them a habitat instead of a quick meal. Plant native bushes, flowers, or trees. You can build nest boxes for birds and bats. Bring pet food inside at night and make sure you have a secure trash can. Remind people who feed ducks to stop with the bread and use healthier foods like shredded kale, romaine lettuce, peas, duck pellets, or oats. Although it may seem like they need your help, wild animals can take care of themselves. Enjoy them in their natural habitat as they are meant to be!

Julia Dagnello

Cheechy

Cheechy, our very elderly capuchin monkey, is still with us. She turned 48 on September 15th, making her one of the oldest monkeys in captivity. She loves her avocado and getting attention from all the volunteers here. We enjoy every minute we have with her.



Wildlife



Babee & Willie



Baby Hummingbird



Blue Jay



Brown Bat



Colleen and Famie



Snapping Turtle



Darwin



Eastern Cottontail



Eastern King snake



Eastern Screech Owls



Fawn



Gizmo



Great Horned Owl



Greater Scaup



Grecia



Grey Squirrel



Famie



Juvenile Peregrine Falcon



Juvenile Pileated Woodpecker



Juvenile Red Fox



Monk & Sophie



Opossum



Striped Skunk



Yellow-billed Cuckoo