

To learn more about Wild Care, visit us online <a href="https://www.wildcarecapecod.org">www.wildcarecapecod.org</a>

# **Director's Message**

May 2020

Wild Care Friends, April showers have brought May flowers. Despite these trying times, positive things are happening at Wild Care.

- Renovations are underway in our old baby bird room, thanks to a generous donation. Mark Finocchio of Nauset Home Improvement will be finishing up the room just in time for an influx of baby birds to start arriving at our door. This additional space will allow us to provide social distancing for our critically important Baby Bird Volunteers, and provide more space for the birds.
- Let there be Yurts! On Giving Tuesday last December 2019, your donations enabled us to purchase materials to construct two portable yurts for our squirrels and songbirds. Jennifer Taylor has begun building our first yurt for squirrels. We can hardly wait to show our squirrels their new digs this season!
- We received an overwhelming response to our request for walnuts and puppy milk



Photo by Kerry Reid

#### **CURRENT ANIMALS IN CARE:**

Our staff are currently caring for many animals. We have dozens of orphaned squirrels, Virginia Opossums, four Northern Gannets, and our first baby birds of the season in our care - American Robins and Carolina Wrens.

Check our <u>Facebook</u> page where we continue to post updates and uplifting stories!

replacement formula on our Facebook page. Words cannot express how grateful we are for your donations and acts of kindness during this time. We are here for you through COVID, and you have shown us that YOU are here for us. We will get through this, *together*.

Executive Director, Stephanie



Please consider making a <u>Donation</u> today! We need you as much as you need us.

# **GIWINGTUESDAY**

COVID-19 has changed how we are all living & it created a void in our fundraising capabilities.

We are still taking in nearly as many patients as we did at this time last year - with fewer resources.

Last Tuesday, May 5th <u>Wild Care</u> Participated in #GivingTuesdayNow, an online fundraiser to help fill our fundraising gap.

We are thrilled to announce we raised over \$20,000!

Because of those who donated, we will be able to save, rehabilitate and reunite more wildlife this year!

We have ordered all of these items that we needed, thanks to YOU!



200 Watt Cozy Coop Heater



Self Regulating Heating Pads



Brooder Heating Plate





Two, Small Transportable Incubators

Large Incubator and Brooder

# Swan Saved Amidst COVID Confusion



Photos by Jennifer Taylor (top) and Leah Myrbeck



#### By Jennifer Taylor, Animal Care Coordinator

On March 20th, Wild Care staff called an unplanned meeting to address how we were to cope with the COVID-19 situation in anticipation of an Emergency Order from Governor Baker. We had a whirlwind of questions to face... Do we close? How do we take care of the current animals? Who would work? Do we continue accepting new patients? What new protocols will we need? Questions workplaces were asking themselves EVERYWHERE.

The phone rang. It was a welcomed interruption to the COVID discussion. Something I had control over. A swan had been hit-by-a-car in Dennis. Two women had stopped to help and pulled the bird off the front of the car. Its foot was stuck in the grill. The distressed caller said the policeman told her to leave the swan on the side of the road. (I am sure the officer was in the throes of the stress of COVID-19)...

**Full Story** 

# You Want Me to Check Out What??

Adventures of a Wild Care Volunteer by Amy Sanders



Many calls that one receives as a volunteer field rescuer are easy. Well, not necessarily physically easy to carry out, but easy in that I know what to do. Once in a while though, a call comes through that is scary for me because I haven't had the experience with it yet, or because it's a big and potentially dangerous animal. In that category for me fall Swans, Canada Geese, Great Blue Herons, Egrets, and... Common

Snapping Turtles. I didn't lack experience with snapping turtles when the call came through to rescue one, I just lacked positive experiences with them. My first experience with one came long ago, when I was perhaps 20 and encountered one blocking a road in Wellfleet. It was a good foot across, and I knew not to touch.

So I tried to encourage it to move a bit faster with a nudge from my sneakered foot, hoping I could pass and it wouldn't get hit by a car, but it swung around incredibly fast and took a chunk out of my sneaker (fortunately not my foot). Then, feeling a bit more humbled, I attempted a nudge with a large stick (easily an inch in diameter or more), which it promptly snapped. Turtle 2, me zero...

#### Full Story

# A Few Of Our Patients & Facebook Stars!



Eastern Gray Squirrel



Eastern Gray Squirrel by Kerry Reid



Northern Gannet by Kerry Reid



Eastern Cottontail

Kristine Beebe

American Robin Jennifer Taylor



Eastern Cottontails Kristine Beebe



Virginia Opossum Jennifer Taylor



Eastern Gray Squirrel Stephanie Ellis

**Donate Here** 

# 26th Annual Yard Sale - Cancelled

In a continued effort to keep our staff, volunteers and supporters safe, we have made the difficult choice to cancel this year's Wild Care Yard Sale.

If you are able, please consider making a donation to help us make up for the loss of this essential event which usually generates \$8,000. Wild Care Yard Sale





Want To Help While You Shop?

We would be grateful if you used our <u>Smile</u> account through Amazon! There is no additional cost to you, but there is a nice donation to Wild Care!

If you are already a customer of Amazon and have already registered us as your charity, don't forget every time you shop to go to <a href="https://smile.amazon.com">https://smile.amazon.com</a>, instead of their standard site.

And don't forget to take a look at our Amazon Wish List Here



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#### **About Wild Care**

Since 1994, Wild Care has treated injured, ill and orphaned native wildlife for release back into the wild, capable of independent survival. We have prevented wildlife casualties through public education and counseling, and engaged the community in conservation services through volunteerism. Wild Care does not charge the public for our services. We accept wildlife regardless of a rescuer's ability to make a donation; and we never compromise quality of care or the dignity of an animal's life for fundraising purposes.







