Upon writing this article I have been so impressed and humbled to see all of the donations, and the outpouring of support in response to our call for financial help with our Wildlife Rehabilitation efforts. We have had over 350 donations so far with more coming in by the minute, which again is so cool!

But there is one donor that stands out to me: His name is Jonathon, he is a middle school camper in our Day Camp program. Yesterday, Johnathon’s’ parents gave him $5.00 to spend in the camp store. Now our store is full of trinkets, candy, and other items that a middle schooler would have a great time spending every last penny!

However, that same day Channel 4 was out filming a segment about the need for financial help for the wildlife program. Jonathon saw the Channel 4 van, and asked what they were out for, when he was told their reason, he made a beeline for the store and deposited his $5.00 with a staff person to donate toward the wildlife fund! There are still many wonderful people in the world who give their talents, time and money to make a difference. In this case they also come in all ages, thank you Jonathon for making my day!

HEAL. GROW. BE WILD.

THANK YOU.
Richard Grant, CEO
Wildlife rehabilitation is a roller coaster in the best of times but this year has topped them all. Baby Season is always our busiest time when half of the year’s patients arrive in just 3 months. An army of college interns and volunteers are on hand to get all of the orphans cared for, mature and ready to release.

This year our numbers sky-rocketed! By the end of July we had taken in over 2400 animals, more than the TOTAL for any entire year previously. We will surely surpass 3000 by year’s end. The overload created an enormous strain on our resources and funding. With heavy hearts, we announced we would need to close our doors for at least one week in mid-August to cut costs and catch up. Would we need to limit the species we take? Would we be forced to charge a fee for their care? The very future of the rehab program was in question.

Then our prayers were answered. We put out the announcement that our expenses up to this time needed to be cut down temporarily. We needed to raise $15,000 just to get over this immediate hump. The media picked up the story and the response was overwhelming. Our supporters got the word out on social media as well and before we knew it, over $70,000 had been raised by all the kind-hearted wildlife lovers who know our work and appreciate what we do!

On behalf of all the Wildlife staff and volunteers, THANK YOU! We could not be more grateful to the amazing response in our hour of need! This is clearly a vital community service that is respected by the greater community. Unfortunately, it is also an expensive service that struggles every year. Not receiving any government funding, we do rely on the generosity of the public to continue our mission to help injured wildlife.

But there are so many ways to help us: attend our special events, donate an auction item for A Wild Wonderful Night, Adopt an Animal, volunteer or buy your Christmas tree here. All these actions go to support the Wildlife Program at the Howell Nature Center.

We are blessed by the tremendous public support for this program... Let’s keep it going for another 34 years!

Wildlife Director, Dana DeBenham
October 2016

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J.J. Jinkleheimer
And Company

God and Patti Shaw
The clearest way into the Universe is through a forest wilderness.
John Muir

HEAL. GROW. BE WILD.

SAVE THE WILDLIFE 5K Run/Walk
Featuring Wapi the beaver!
September 17th
Online registration open NOW!
Race day registration at 9AM with a live wildlife encounter!
5K Run/Walk at 10AM
Little Critter 1 mile 11:30AM

Christmas Tree Sales Begin!
9AM to 4PM

How to support the largest wildlife rehabilitator in the state of Michigan!
Donate risk free online at: howellnaturecenter.org/wildlife/wildlife-rehabilitation/
Or see our Wildlife Clinic Wishlist link at the bottom of the webpage!

Bob and Patti Shaw
Show your support for the largest wildlife rehabilitator in the state of Michigan!
November 12

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Promotional Items all under one roof
1862 Dexter-Pinckney Road - Pinckney, MI 48166
714.878.1606 www.econoprntics.com

Looking forward to the holidays?

Check out our website for upcoming Christmas events including Live Animal Displays, Critter Crafts, Breakfast and Hayrides with Santa and tons more winter wonderland magic than ever before!

Critter Crafts
Available at Woof for Wildlife and Howl-a-ween Celebrations!
It’s art, crafts, and collectibles made by our Wildlife Staff, Volunteers and Animals.
Always wanted a painting created by a Porcupine, or a pillow covered in owls?
Come out and peruse our goods in the Welcome Center to get a taste of what we’re all about!

Support the Nature News and SEE YOUR AD HERE!

Support the Nature News and SEE YOUR AD HERE!
Please email katelynl@howellnaturecenter.org for more information!

Special Thanks! On behalf of the people and animals that we serve, Thank You! Whether you’ve shared your time and talents as a volunteer, or your treasure as a donor/sponsor, we are grateful for your generous support.

For more info: (517) 546-0249 www.howellnaturecenter.org
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December 2016

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If you have any questions, feel free to call (517) 546-0249 or visit www.howellnaturecenter.org

YES! I would like to support the Howell Nature Center with a tax deductible gift to:

☐ Wildlife Rehabilitation
☐ Wildlife Education
☐ Campership
☐ Facility Maintenance and Improvement
☐ Endowment Fund
☐ Please contact me about Planned Giving Opportunities

Name (18+): ___________________________  Address: __________________________________
City: __________________ State: ______ Zip: _________________
Phone: __________________ Email: ___________________________

Enclosed is my check for $_________.
OR Name as it appears on card:______________________________________________
Account # _________________________ Exp. Date mo.___ yr.___ CVV2 code:____
Signature of Cardholder: __________________________________ Date: ___________

For more info: (517) 546-0249  www.howellnaturecenter.org  www.facebook.com/howellnaturecenter

Endowment Fund

When I hear the word wild, many things come to mind. Here at the Howell Nature Center we not only have wild animals but we have wild children as well. Not chaotic, crazy wild children but children wild about nature, wild about discovery and wild about camp. September marks the end of summer where we just finished up 12 weeks of Day Camp and 8 weeks of Overnight Resident Camp. At times, it was pleasantly wild, with most days having well over 180 children at camp, at times it was a bit wild but most importantly fun. It was truly an amazing summer filled with wild adventures and self-discovery.

Speaking of self-discovery and self-growth, we had a camper this summer who came last year, she was in middle school and was terrified of heights. I sat with her group as she stared down the wild 60-foot climbing tower. I asked her if she had done it before, and she replied with “I did, but I was too scared and only got a few feet off the ground”. I asked her what her goals were on this day and she said “I’m going to overcome my fear and get all the way to the top”. I smiled and turned my gaze to a couple other campers, and after about 10 minutes I heard a swelling of loud noises and cheering. I turned to look at the wall and the camper that I had just previously talked with about her fears was touching the very top of the climbing tower, she had done it! She came down with a big smile on her face, and with a whole crowd of fans that knew she had overcome something that has possibly been on her mind all school year.

Camp is full of these wild amazing moments, and there were hundreds of moments this summer. Camp can be wild, but through the energy and enthusiasm one may just find there is more to camp and that it can truly shape and mold the lives of those who attend.

A WONDERFUL PLACE TO WORK

Katelyn Lewis, Wild Wonders Supervisor

The Wildlife Department at the Howell Nature Center oversees the Wild Wonders. We are home to 75 permanently injured animals who are unable to survive in the wild, many of which were once patients in our Wildlife Clinic. The Clinic is responsible for the care and rehabilitation of over 2000 injured and orphaned animals every year. These two departments which feed, medicate, clean habitats, and organize wildlife releases operate with less than ten full or part time staff. We depend on our volunteer base to function. Hundreds of people volunteer every year to be a part of our mission. Those who can’t volunteer their time offer supplies or cash donations to help us keep our doors open. Without these people we would not exist.

From work camp crews, to cage adopters, to volunteer feeders, clean-up groups, Eagle Scout projects, and wildlife fosters, we have found there is almost nothing our volunteers wouldn’t do to help.

One of our more recent volunteers, Andrew, began volunteering in our Wildlife Rehabilitation Clinic after finding an opossum who had been hit by a car. He thought if he could help this individual, why not give four or five hours of his Saturday each week helping hundreds of other wildlife in need. Autumn, a high ropes facilitator at our climbing courses, volunteered to help in Wild Wonders to feed the animals after spending a semester interning here and falling in love with our permanent residents. Judy, who now serves on our board of directors, started twelve years ago, feeding owls in Wild Wonders after a visit with her niece and an almost instant desire to be a part of these animals’ lives. She now helps to train our interns and volunteers to feed and clean enclosures, she loves our birds of prey the best but has a special place in her heart for every living creature we care for.

We are so grateful for the connections we have made and the many faces that make up the Wildlife Department at the Howell Nature Center. Without these individuals, we could never Heal, Grow and Be Wild.

For Volunteer Opportunities please contact Laura Kniffen at Laurak@howellnaturecenter.org

The Wild Wonders Mark Grant, Program Coordinator
You're Invited!

A Gala Event
Thursday, Nov. 1st, 2016

A Wild Wonderful Night

Johnson Center, Cleary University, 3750 Cleary Dr., Howell, Mi. 48843

6p.m. Thursday, November 1st, 2016

- Live & Silent Auction
- Live Jazz
- Gourmet Food Tasting

Join us as we celebrate local cuisine and support local wildlife. Cocktail attire & cash bar.
All proceeds benefit wildlife education and rehabilitation programs at the Howell Nature Center.

Our Wildlife Mission
is to rehabilitate injured and orphaned wildlife in order to return physically and socially healthy birds, mammals, and reptiles to their natural environment and to educate area citizens about the wild animals that share our world.

In Memory of Pico
April 2006 - September 2016

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