



The Wild Side - Fall/Winter 2010

a newsletter from the Hope for Wildlife Society

They came from near and far...

When we tell people that we receive nearly 1,500 animals each year, one of the most common questions we get asked is "Where do all these animals come from?" There are the usual reasons: they fly into windows; they get hit by cars; they get trapped in people's garbage; the list goes on and on. Sometimes, though, even we're surprised by how some of these animals make their way to the Hope for Wildlife Society.

Earlier this summer we received a tip that a white-tailed deer fawn named Bella was for sale on a local classifieds website. Someone had tried to raise the deer, but as many have discovered, keeping a wild animal as a pet is never a good idea. The deer quickly outgrew the family home and became too much of a handful.



Peggy keeps a watchful eye as Bella approaches to greet her

Since owning wildlife is illegal in Nova Scotia, the Department of Natural Resources investigated and brought the deer to us. Not one month later, DNR arrived with a second deer – this one a three-year-old female. This deer had also been kept as a pet since it was a fawn but local residents were concerned about it and they contacted DNR. The deer was seized and brought to Hope for Wildlife to join the herd. In her new environment it didn't take Peggy long to start acting like a wild deer again. Bella, Peggy and the four other deer that arrived this year are awaiting release later this fall.

A rare visitor...

In early September when hurricane Earl blew up the shore, it swept along an uncommon visitor – a brown pelican. The pelican was spotted on Main Street in Dartmouth, and was quickly retrieved and brought to Hope for Wildlife. Brown pelicans rarely venture much further than Virginia during the summer, but combine a fall migration route with the strong winds of a hurricane and suddenly this poor guy found himself farther north instead of south!

Hope for Wildlife is working hard to



Ralph the brown pelican will stay at Hope for Wildlife until the proper paperwork to send him back is received

get the pelican, named Ralph, on his way home. The question is when? While all the paperwork is in order here in Canada, we're waiting for a permit from the United States allowing us to send him back on a plane.

One thing is for sure – no matter who they are or how they got here, the Hope for Wildlife Society will always do it's very best to help our wild friends.

Dear Friends:

It has been another busy summer for the Hope for Wildlife Society! As the season winds down, we would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our supporters for their generosity in helping us help injured and orphaned wildlife in Nova Scotia. Without your support, we would not be able to provide this service to our community and to our wild friends.

This was a year of firsts -- first day camp, first television series and the first book featuring stories from Hope for Wildlife is on it's way! Of course we can't forget the animals. Two of my personal favourites were Henderson, a young fisher that had been hit by a car, and Douglas, an albino red squirrel. The animals teach us so much and it is a delight to have them here. Please take some time to read our newsletter and see what we've been up to this year.

Once again we ask for your donation to ensure that injured and orphaned wildlife continue to have a safe haven to rest and recover in Nova Scotia. We only send out mail once a year, so you can be assured that your generosity will be greatly appreciated and not taken for granted.

On behalf of everyone at the Hope for Wildlife Society, I thank you for your continued support and wish all of our friends and supporters the very best in the year ahead.

Sincerely,



Hope Swinimer, CVPM
Founder and director
Hope for Wildlife Society

"Henderson"
Fisher



Make a Donation Online or By Mail

Donations may be made online through the secure donation link provided on the bottom of each page of our website at www.hopeforwildlife.net or by mail. A receipt will be issued for all donations over \$10. For donations made online, you will receive an immediate electronic receipt that you can print for your records.

Give a gift with meaning

The holiday season is fast approaching, and we've got the perfect gift for everyone on your list! Visit our gift shop online at www.hopeforwildlife.net. Show someone you care by supporting a local charity.

NEW! Sponsor an animal

As a sponsor, you will receive a sponsorship certificate, photo, story and information sheet about an animal in your chosen category and your name will be added to our sponsorship registry.

Show continuous support with United Way payroll deductions

In Canada, you may designate the Hope for Wildlife Society as your charity of choice through the United Way payroll deduction program by giving our registered charity number (885062448RR0001) to your employer.

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www.hopeforwildlife.net  www.facebook.com/hopeforwildlife  www.twitter.com/hopeforwildlife

“Wild Friends” summer day camp a huge success

What an amazing summer we had! This year we were proud to offer our first summer day camp program. *Wild Friends Summer Camp* was a five day program which ran from July 19-23 for kids aged 7-9 and from

August 16-20 for kids aged 10-13.

Our goal with these camps was to teach children how human actions affect local habitats and wildlife, and to foster a connection between the kids and their natural environment. Campers participated in a wide range of fun activities, from scavenger hunts to obstacle courses and crafts. They were shown how to grow their own window gardens and planted seeds in recycled containers to grow at home. They also helped tend to our new rooftop vegetable garden by building scarecrows to keep the birds away and harvesting vegetables to feed the animals at the farm. During the oceans theme day, the kids attempted to clean oil-soaked feathers so they could understand first-hand the effects of oil on birds and



Participants enjoy a day at the beach learning about ocean wildlife and habitats.

other wildlife. They even made some exotic new friends when Bluenose Reptiles visited!

Our camps were so successful this summer that we plan on launching the project as a regular program for 2011, with the addition of one-day workshops for families.

Information on how to register for camps and workshops will be available on our website this spring.

THANK YOU! The Hope for Wildlife Society would like to thank the following for their support of the day camp pilot project and the rooftop vegetable garden: Nova Scotia Habitat Conservation Fund, Walmart-Evergreen Green Grants, Mountain Equipment Co-op, Eastern Shore-Musquodoboit Community Health Board, Southeastern Community Health Board, Shell Environmental Fund and, of course, our amazing camp leaders, Meredith and Rebecca.

Hope for Wildlife premieres on Oasis HD; Season 2 set for spring



A Rare Sight: Staff and volunteers trade in their scrubs for some more formal attire at the premiere screening of 'Hope for Wildlife' at Empire Park Lane Theatres in Halifax.

If you enjoy seeing *Hope For Wildlife* on TV, we've got great news for you: *Hope For Wildlife* is coming back to OASIS HD in 2011!

There are new animals, new faces and new stories – but some things never change. Allison still gets down and dirty searching for orphaned animals; Tiffany still loves her babies; the raccoons still crawl all over the place and Hope remains a beacon to

those who want to help animals.

“Working on *Hope For Wildlife* is a real thrill for everyone at Arcadia Entertainment. We feel privileged to share the good times and the not-so-good times, see some amazing creatures and meet some wonderful people” says Craig Ferguson, writer and director for the television series. You can watch *Hope for Wildlife* Tuesday nights at 8pm ET/PT on Oasis HD.

Book deal signed



Patrick Murphy (left), senior editor of Nimbus Publishing, and author Ray MacLeod sign the contract for a book of stories based on the work of the Hope for Wildlife Society. More than 20 past and current Hope for Wildlife volunteers were interviewed for the book.

“These are incredible stories that practically wrote themselves.” MacLeod said. “They cover both the success and tragedy in the society’s work, with details that will even surprise those who think they know the history of Hope for Wildlife.

Hope for Wildlife: True stories of wildlife rescues is scheduled for release this spring.

Take a walk on the *Wild Side* with Hayley Inkpen, HFW volunteer



Hayley the white-tailed deer hides in the tall grass of the deer enclosure

The summer of 2010 will go down as my favourite summer working at Hope for Wildlife.

I had so many favourite animals this year, but two really stand out as highlights: Hayley the deer and Murray the mink. This year, we decided to name the orphaned fawns that arrived at the farm in alphabetical order after the volunteers of Hope for Wildlife. One tiny little fawn that came in was called Hayley, after me. We had very hard luck with our fawns this summer, and many that came in were too sick or injured to be successfully rehabilitated. Luckily, Hayley was one that was able to pull through. She is now almost fully grown and just waiting to be released. The deer are always my

favourite animals of the summer, but having one named after myself and watching her grow up was an amazing experience.

Murray the mink came in as a very young orphan, with his eyes still closed. He instantly became the favourite of almost all of the volunteers. My most memorable moment with Murray this summer was when he was old enough to take his first swim. Watching him for the first time in his pool and seeing him jump out soaking wet looking so proud, was amazing.



Hayley has been a volunteer with the Hope for Wildlife Society since 2007



Now that his eyes are open, Murray the mink is filled with curiosity.

Wildlife Rescue Volunteers Needed Province-Wide!

Rescue volunteers must meet the following criteria:

- be at least 18 years of age
- have your own vehicle and valid driver's licence
- be willing to travel to Dartmouth to attend a volunteer training session (dates TBA)

E-mail
volunteer@hopeforwildlife.net
for more details!

10th Annual Open House Fundraiser

Sunday, August 28th, 2011, 12 - 4 pm

5909 Highway 207, Seaforth

Join the fun and help support our efforts to help injured and orphaned wildlife in Nova Scotia

Admission is always FREE!

