

Wild Bird Rehabilitation
9624 Midland Blvd
Overland, Mo 63114



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A Dinner for the Birds



We're not suggesting a meal of bird seed and meal worms but here is a way you can enjoy a delicious dinner and help area birds! Invite your friends and family to enjoy food and creative cocktails in a charming setting at **The Purple Martin** on **April 21**. The staff plans to create special themed menu items just for WBR! The Purple Martin was voted the *Riverfront Times* **Best Neighborhood Restaurant** in 2014. A portion of the proceeds from this event will benefit Wild Bird Rehabilitation.

Thursday, April 21 6-9pm
The Purple Martin
2800 Shenandoah Ave.,
St. Louis MO 63104
www.thepurplemartinstl.com

To help with supplies for the upcoming busy season, the restaurant will collect guest donations of paper towels, trash bags (13 gallon), toilet paper (unscented), and bleach. The restaurant owner discovered Wild Bird Rehabilitation when she rescued a bird. See this event on our *Facebook* page and invite your friends!

A Special Thank You!

To our 2015 Trivia Night sponsors who helped defray many of the costs of this event and helped make it a success and thanks to all those who donated items, participated in the planning and execution and attended this event!

Silver Sponsor: Anheuser-Busch

Bronze Sponsor: Armstrong Teasdale and the Kenny Family

Patrick Kenny 314-621-5070

Armstrongteasdale.com

Like us on Facebook and visit our website www.wildbirdrehab.org for information about what to do if you find a bird, WBR events, bird rescue stories and more.



Wild Bird Chatter

Newsletter of Wild Bird Rehabilitation

Spring 2016

Wild Bird Rehabilitation

9624 Midland Blvd
Overland, Mo 63114
(314) 426-6400

*Please call before you bring
in a bird*

Hours of Operation

Daily
Beginning April 16
9am-7pm
Prior to April 16
9am - 1pm; 5pm – 7pm
www.wildbirdrehab.org



Our mission is to provide care for injured, ill and orphaned native wild songbirds and to release them back into their natural habitat. We also provide public education regarding the humane treatment of wild songbirds and the conservation of their habitat.

Spring is in the air!

At Wild Bird Rehabilitation we know spring is here when the baby birds begin to arrive. This timeframe is variable and often affected by weather and other environmental factors but things usually begin to happen in April and activity rapidly increases in May! Last year during a one week period in May we admitted over 150 birds, primarily nestlings who require an incredible amount of care especially since they need to be fed every 15-20 minutes.

Staffing Needs

Over 100 volunteers are required to staff the Wild Bird Rehabilitation Center and Call Center Team during the spring and summer months. There are a variety of jobs at the center which do not require “hands on” bird care. Volunteers are needed to do chores, set up cages, manage the front desk, admit patients, maintain patient records, and handle construction projects and building maintenance.

Work from Home

WBR volunteers staff a Call Center Team working from their homes. They respond to calls regarding “what to do” when a bird is rescued. The Call Center

enables the staff and volunteers located at WBR to devote 100% of their time to bird care. During 2015 the Call Center fielded over 1500 calls. Often the bird “rescuer” can be prompted to take action which saves the bird’s life and/or



Diane, a long term volunteer, explains the daily routine in the spring to new volunteers.

avoids hospitalization.

Training

Training is critical. All returning volunteers receive refresher training and new volunteers are introduced to the basics

and receive ongoing training from the more experienced volunteers.

Help Educate and Raise Funds

The minimum cost of care for an uninjured songbird for 5 weeks is \$57. If required, medicines and veterinary services raise the cost of care substantially. During 2015 we treated over 2000 birds. Therefore WBR needs help fundraising and educating people on the importance of songbirds to our community and maintaining a safe environment for them.

Also, you can help by using the *eScrip* card at *Schnucks* or shopping with *Amazon Smile* and designating *Wild Bird Rehabilitation* as your charity. Your donations are critical. WBR is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit agency funded totally by donations.

To volunteer, visit our website, select **Get Involved** and **Volunteer** and click on the **Volunteer Application** button.

Thank you for your continued support!

In Honor of...In Memory of

In honor of Aren Ginsberg
Marvin & Sandra Ginsberg

In honor of the marriage of Tavi Karpilow & Eric Fields
Geraldine Kessler

In honor of Garrett & Eliana Dubman
Julie Dubman

In honor of Amy Lewis
Eileen & Ken Keune

In honor of Betty Falkenbach
Barbara Wiggins

In honor of our little brother
Denise McCormick

In honor of Miss Peggy Sue
Laurence Rosen

In honor of Leslie & Nelson Wainwright
Sue & Neal Alexander
Mary Lou Mellon
David & Royal Robbins

In honor of Donna Rothschild
Kelly Pickett Simms

In honor of Calvin & Dylan Holschen
Mary & Gerald Holschen

In honor of Todd Albert
Pat DeLaney

In honor of Mary Spangler, Leslie Wainwright & Michelle Redington
Karen Schmidt

In honor of my mother Ruth C King's birthday
Susan Burke

In honor of Christmas
Mark & Kim Smith

In honor of Bitsy
Rebecca Bowman

In memory of my best friend, Marie Manee
Nancy Cox

In memory of David Faintich
Carol Faintich

In memory of John A. Lesire
David & Mary Spangler

In memory of Sang In Han
Jessica Davis

In memory of Dick Rosenthal
Nancy Burke

In memory of Sallie Larimore Lynch
Ian & Angie Fagala

In memory of George & Markie McCleary
Denise McCormick

In memory of Greg Bohn
Denise Alexander

In memory of Barbara & Babe Pappas
Andrea Jackson

In memory of Jeannette Herr
Mary Ann Meola

In memory of George Kallas
Barbara Huether

In memory of Kathryn Dennington
Marilyn Hoffman

In memory of Lynn Davis
Jeanne & Eric Olson

In memory of Matthew Alan Wiese
Julie Wiese

In memory of Edith M. Junk
Ruediger H. Junk

In memory of Maria Blest
Cindy Blest

In memory of Ginny Nester
Mary Kriegshauser

In memory of Ina Mason
Jan Mason

In memory of Marilyn E. Nitsch
Philip Self

In memory of Kenneth E. Brune
David & Mary Spangler

In memory of Sang Han
Katherine Han

In memory of Larry Johnson
Rebecca Wallace

In memory of Emily
Michael Hannemann

In memory of Joan Gessler
Nancy Stewart

In memory of Gerry R. Bickel
William Bickel

In memory of Adele McAnany
Donna Short

In memory of Roger Olsen
Janet Jones

In memory of Max, Baxter & Drake Cage
Jonathan Cage

In memory of Roxanne, Our Loving Girl
Patricia Viamontes

In memory of Blue Boy
Richard Radford

In memory of Peeps
Anonymous

In memory of my cat Sissy
Mary Kerbler

In memory of Jitterbug
Judy Thompson

In memory of Cubby
Ruth Vlasak

In memory of our lovebird Butter
Antonia Baldock

In memory of Mary, our sweet African Gray Parrot & Pereko, our handsome Amazon Parrot
Stephanie Corley

In memory of Goosey, the Robin
Lisa Mueller

In memory of Chiquita
Linda Finkes



Calendar of Events

Monday, March 7 and Tuesday, March 8 (10 am), Story Hour at Whole Foods Town & Country. We will read [Don't Let the Pigeon Stay Up Late!](#) the story of a young pigeon who makes every excuse in the world why he doesn't need to go to bed; after the story we will make nestling baskets that will be used for baby birds at WBR.

Sunday, April 10, Spring Tails, (11 am– 4pm) Wildlife Rescue Center, 1128 New Ballwin Rd, Ballwin, MO 63021 (www.mowildlife.org). Celebrate spring and enjoy learning about various baby animals, including birds!

Saturday, April 16 (10am-3pm) Sunset Hill Earth Day. Visit us during this day of interesting exhibits and events.

Thursday, April 21 (6-9pm) Dine Out for Birds at The Purple Martin, 2800 Shenandoah Ave, St Louis MO 63104. Invite your friends and family to enjoy delicious food and creative cocktails in a charming setting. A portion of the proceeds will benefit Wild Bird Rehabilitation. See last page for more information.

Missouri Botanical Garden Native Plant School at Shaw Nature Reserve, various dates – learn about adding native plants to your landscape and attracting birds and butterflies.

Saturday, June 18, Native Plant Garden Tour, includes 10 gardens in the U City, Clayton, Creve Coeur area. See <http://stlouisaudubon.org/conservation/BCH/> for more information.

Saturday, November 12 Trivia Night & Silent Auction, Kirkwood Community Center. Save the date for a fun evening at this annual event which is WBR's major fundraiser of the year.

See www.wildbirdrehab.org/events for up-to-date information!

Here's what's going on at WBR...

At this time of the year we're taking care of injured adult birds – many as a result of window strikes and automobile injuries. We're also busy preparing for the spring rush and analyzing our policies and procedures in order to provide the best possible care for our patients.

Anyone who has visited the Center realizes we have very limited space and during the spring and summer months we are at capacity. **Since WBR is licensed to care for native wild songbirds, these birds are our focus.** This requires us to encourage rescuers to pursue homecare when they encounter European Starlings who are a nonnative invasive bird found in

our area who stress our resources at WBR. Starlings impair the recovery of the small native species because of their loud aggressive calls and must be kept in a separate area – space we don't have due to our small facility size.

The *Cornell Institute of Ornithology* states the European Starling is considered a "problem" bird since it competes fiercely for nesting cavities, ousting such native birds as bluebirds and various woodpeckers. It sometimes kills the original cavity-holding birds, and often destroys their eggs

and young. It is aggressive at feeders, keeping smaller birds away and quickly exhausting birdseed supplies.



Starling nestlings...notice the distinctive large orange mouth.

Since starlings, pigeons, English House Sparrows and Eurasian Tree Sparrows are non-native and therefore not protected by federal laws, you may care for them at home. Many types of native sparrows are, of course, protected species Refer to this link

wildbirdrehab.org/sparrows-and-starlings for more

information on raising starlings or contact WBR. We encourage rescuers to pursue homecare when they encounter nonnative birds, particularly starlings. Remember, baby birds require feeding every 15-20 minutes nonnative, invasive birds stress our resources at WBR and will no longer be admitted. Please call WBR to insure the birds that you found are non-native.

If You Find a Bird it's important to take action that results in the best possible outcome for the bird. In the case of a baby, the first choice is to have the baby remain with the mother. We have a guide on our website: wildbirdrehab.org/help-ifoundabird that takes you through the process if you find a bird. Call WBR if you find a bird and we can help you determine the correct action.