LITTLE MIRACLES

By Sanaz Norgard

Something is crying softly in the night. Although barely audible, I rouse to the sound of hunger. My eyes aren’t adjusted to the dark, but without sight, I mix the formula and warm it. I gather the supplies and pick her up. In my hands, I hold a little miracle.

She weighed less than 10 grams, a couple of paperclips, when a kind family brought her in. Dehydrated and hairless, she looked like death would be visiting soon. I bartered with fate, begging for a chance to let her experience life. But flying squirrels that fall out of trees, sometimes don’t make it. They try, but sometimes they can’t.

But that was weeks ago. Now, she’s beginning to see for the first time. I’m sorry, little one, that you don’t get a mother, you get me. But maybe in some distant memory, this isn’t a bad time for you, maybe you’ll remember a strange place in foreign hands, but with love. I watch her nurse and in the darkness, I realize, everything I wanted in life, it’s here. Watching her eat, I, myself, felt fed.

She’s fed and burrowing a nest in my palm, but falls asleep before completing the task. I slip her back into her makeshift pouch I weaved out of fleece. I ask the world for a little patience for this orphan. I have work in a few hours, so sleeping is just a fallacy, but I close my eyes thinking the world is a wonderful place.

I volunteer at a children’s hospital sometimes after work and the wildlife sanctuary on the weekends. I also attend graduate school and aspire to be a doctor for both animals and people. They say it just isn’t done. There are many obstacles ahead of me to achieve my dreams, and when I think of these I get discouraged.

When people bring in wildlife to the doorstep, sometimes they ask, how can we do this? It’s a full time, around the clock job and on top of it, doesn’t pay a dime. And if you’re listening, I’ll tell you how I can do this even when my body is tired and my mind disoriented.

You live through them, every little life, every tiny breath, every beat of a heart. They depend on you, and without you, they won’t make it. And I depend on them, this is my sanctuary. This is my reward, for all the inadequacy I feel everyday, I’m now at peace.

They may not remember me, they will grace the skies, or frolic in fields, never coming back to me, hopefully. But I will carry them with me for the rest of my life. You, who needed saving, have saved me. And to each of you, no matter how little or big... Thank you, thank you, thank you.

Gift Cards of any kind are always appreciated!

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

Visit us online at www.frisky’s.org
key terms:
Veterinarian (or vet) - a doctor for animals
Stethoscope - an instrument that makes the sounds inside a body louder. Doctors and nurses listen to the heart with a stethoscope.
Primate - any animal in the category of mammals that includes humans, monkeys, apes, and some smaller, simpler animals. Most primates have large brains and flexible hands.
Monkeys - a small mammal that is one of the primates. Monkeys have very flexible hands, feet, and tails. Different kinds of monkeys live in Central and South America, Africa, and Asia.
Vaccines - germs of a disease that are dead or not active. Vaccines are used to help the immune system protect against the disease.

Every year the monkeys at Frisky’s have to have a check-up by a veterinarian just like kids do when they go to the doctor. It really is not fun at all. Monkeys have to have their whole bodies checked out from head to toe to make sure they are doing okay. The vet listens to their hearts and lungs with a stethoscope, which helps him hear how their hearts are beating and how their lungs sound when they are breating. He puts them on a scale to see how much they weigh - and just like people, we have to make sure they don’t scratch themselves! All of the results are written down, and if there is any monkey that needs special attention, he will have a follow-up visit. During both the monkey physicals and their follow-up visits the vet will make sure all of the monkeys will be healthy until their visit with the vet next year.

FRISKY’S FUN FACTS:
Not all monkeys like bananas. One of our monkeys will just throw it right back at you if you try and give her one. Another of our monkeys will smash it on his cage floor or hide them. So the extra bananas we give to other animals at Frisky’s like the squirrels and fawns. Frisky’s does have primates, but only monkeys. Monkeys are primates that have tails. We do not have gorillas or chimpanzees, which are both types of apes.

FRISKY’S WORD SEARCH
CAP UCHI NJ YWXXNKQ
GLS OEDJ L WZT OJ NR
TPY L A T M Y O Y LC WA
J NOP I Z A URQ EOX M
HTF U NGXMU I T K R
XQU VU R P A P I VATAVF
AJ U NIP Q T M A R A M B S
GJ ZZ P HC U OCP KU F V
COCKATOOB R L CNT L
GVW QUEL GAE AVD OS Z
QUK Q Y CU X S Q C I J T
QZAX N G R H O G P
FerreT GROUNDHOOG MA CQUE PRIMATE SQUIRREL

QVUL H QHK R ROB I NT T
MAM MMJ U UG OBOMPR U
HHR B N M TC S FAO I KL K
E1 TWTEQ G O AK T WY

Duck Turtle Goat Hawk Monkey Mouse Rabbit Rat Robin

FRISKY’S WILDLIFE AND PRIMATE SANCTUARY’S THANKSGIVING
BY: COLLEEN LAYTON-ROBBINS

Hello Everybody, I cannot tell you how much it means to us all here that you also care. It means a lot to me that we’ve all connected on some level.

I have always worked hard, without complaint or labor even as a kid. Yet everything I did, from work to feelings, was in all ways always filled with passion. This includes my life here at Frisky’s.

And everybody who brings in wildlife talks about orphaned, injured, or displaced wildlife. Well it gets a little challenging when they say they care about animals; I usually want to tell them that they should care about the people who are caring for the animals at any facility. It is not glamorous. We work through holidays, cancel going to our family and friends’ gatherings, work through nights where we needed sleep, or took care of the animals before we took care of ourselves.

Of course, there are people who will go out of their way to try and take care of wildlife themselves. Although we know their intent is good, helping rescued critters get back to their natural habitat; an injured animal is very unpredictable, keeping it in captivity for rehabilitation even for a short period can be very stressful for all involved, as well as expensive. It is critical that any injured or orphaned wildlife is brought in ASAP!

There are perhaps a limited number of individuals suited for the life of a wildlife rehabilitator. The dedication can take a snowball effect on lives. Time alone stresses out everyone since they cannot put the animals’ lives on hold. Not to mention you seek out what is in your home to use for the welfare of the animals. Everything from bath towels, bedding, even food from your own kitchen.

Therefore, if you have a skill or any area that you would like to share or donate to the Frisky’s Team, please let us know, as this is the best way you can help.

The dedication I have always felt will continue with the staff at Frisky’s and everything we do depends on your contributions. At this time of Thanksgiving, please think about it. Thank you and Happy Thanksgiving!

Colleen Layton-Robbins

WHAT CAN I DO?
Frisky is a 501(c)3 Organization. Frisky does NOT receive any county, state or federal funding. Frisky’s survival only by public donations. All proceeds and donations go directly to the care and welfare of the animals. Please donate on line from the website, or send in your tax deductible donation!

www.friskys.org • friskyswildlife@yahoo.com

DONATION RECORD
FRISKY’S WILDLIFE & PRIMATE SANCTUARY, INC.
10790 Old Frederick Road • Rt. 99 • Woodstock, Maryland 21163
Your donation is 100% Tax Deductible
Retain this receipt for your records.

DATE ___________________
CASH $ ____________
GOODS $ ____________
CHECK # ____________

If you are interested in collaborative opportunities or donating your time and expertise, please write us with your thoughts, call or email Frisky’s. Frisky’s is a 501(c)3 organization and receives no financial support from federal, state or county government.

DONATION RECORD
FRISKY’S WILDLIFE & PRIMATE SANCTUARY, INC.
Please remember to detach this form and leave it with your donation
so we can thank you.
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DATE ____________
YES, You can count on me to help support your efforts to care for the animals of Frisky’s!

If you check/kift is enclosed. Donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law. Frisky’s is a 501(c)3 organization and receives no financial support from federal, state or county government.

CASH $ ____________
GOODS $ ____________
CHECK # ____________

Thank you for your Support!

DO YOU WANT TO HELP?
If you have any questions, call or email Frisky’s.

NAME ___________________
ADDRESS ___________________
PHONE ___________________

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

If you are interested in collaboration opportunities or donating your time and expertise, please write us with your thoughts, call or email Frisky’s. Frisky’s does NOT receive any county, state or federal funding. Frisky’s survival only by public donations. All proceeds and donations go directly to the care and welfare of the animals. Please donate on line from the website, or send in your tax deductible donation!

www.friskys.org • friskyswildlife@yahoo.com

As always, you can go to our website and safely donate through paypal!

PayPal

Thank you for your Support!

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

Check us out on Facebook

As always, you can go to our website and safely donate through paypal!

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Check us out on Facebook
Many of the animals brought to Frisky’s are the result of the animals occupying human homes and properties. In order to avoid animals being injured or orphaned, it is a good idea to prevent their entry into these areas. In addition, this also provides less damage to the house and surrounding vicinity.

During the fall season, as the days get colder, animals are looking for a place to stay warm for the winter. In addition, before they start seeking places to make nests for their young in the spring, it would be a good time to wildlife-proof your house. Before starting any projects to keep animals out, make sure there are no animals that can become trapped within any spaces. Although it unusual for the animals to have young this late in the fall, it is possible.

Chimney:
Raccoons: In the spring, or early summer, usually they will have young, so check for them first. Sometimes you can hear a soft rustling sound, which means the kits are 2-3 weeks old. If DO NOT frighten these animals away. Similar mild harassment techniques will keep them away, including beach balls tethered around the yard. Once the area is vacant, three foot folded hardware cloth can be applied to keep them out. Check chimneys and porches for signs of erosion and fill any gaps with one inch gravel if necessary.

Deck or Porch:
Groundhogs: During Winter, these animals hibernate and in the spring to midsummer, they will have their kits, so DO NOT frighten these animals away. Some methods include keeping a radio on that has human voices, having bright lights on in the area, scattering mothballs, and keeping vinegar in open bowls or jars. Once it is certain they have left, cover any gaps or entry points.

Ventilation:
Birds: As always, check to see if there are any young birds in the nest. Starlings tend to nest in areas such as stove exhaust and dryer vents. Wait until they have left the nest and once empty, clean out any debris, then cover the vent with half inch hardware cloth.

Garage:
Mice: Mice can enter under the door with ¼ inch gaps since they are very small. Check and replace any old weather stripping, caulk any cracks around the foundation and metal flashing can be applied along the door’s bottom edge. DO NOT poison or trap them, since other animals are also susceptible.

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Basement:
Snakes: Snakes can enter the basement through the openings around ducts, piping, or vents. Caulking around all openings and using steel wool with ducts, piping, or vents. Caulking around all openings and using steel wool with ducts, piping, or vents. Also, installation of a chimney cap will prevent reoccurrence.

Additional Checklist:
Keep grass short in order to be aware of rabbit nests.
Keep pet food indoors, or only during daylight hours.
Treat lawns with environment and animal friendly solutions to remove grubs.

Use heavy trash cans with locking lids. Place containers only on day of garbage pickup.

Trim branches and shrubs to be at least one foot away from the house.
Fix window screens and repair windows.

FRISSY'S ADOPTABLE:
We currently have two little female ferrets who need a home, one is a blaze silvermitt and the other is a beautiful cinnamon color. They’re both over a year old and come with 2 very large 5’ cages that are attached. They are wonderfully playful, very friendly, and sweet enough that volunteers can trim their nails without the use of ferretone.

Our newsletter is only published a few times a year, wanting to share all 3 spheres of our mission helping wildlife, exotics & domestics as well as informative education. If we can assist in educating the public about wildlife and animal issues, we feel we networked in some form. What skills would you like to contribute?
This year, on October 8th, 2013, the monkeys underwent their Primate Physicals to ensure their health and safety, as they do every year. We had over 27 people at the physicals this year, including veterinarians, veterinary technicians, and volunteers. The veterinarians, Dr. Keith Gold and Dr. Tamie Haskin and their staff from Chadwell Animal Hospital led the physicals this year. These annual physicals are very important for the well-being and fitness of our monkeys as well as our volunteers. Although we have 19 monkeys total; Angel, Willie and Oogie did not participate and will be done later this year.

All the testing and analysis is one of the most costly expenses seen by Frisky’s. Medical examinations, supplies, and laboratory work, make up the bulk of this price. In addition, all the volunteers donate their precious free time and effort. However, the generosity of our supporters has always been the key to this process.

The standard procedure for each monkey is to be caught with a Havahart trap. They are then injected with anesthesia depending on their weight and health. Once sedated, they are carried into the infirmary for their examination. The recovery room is a special place for all of the volunteers as they get to bond with the monkeys that they have cared for. As one of our volunteers, Diane states, “I had a great opportunity with Vito (weeper capuchin), who I have formed a special bond with during my time at Frisky’s. I was able to follow him from his sedation to his exam and through his recovery”

Once the monkeys are alert enough, they are returned to their enclosures. They are brought in kennel cabs to allow themselves a soft private place to finish recuperating. Usually, Colleen will open this once they are ready, but Willie decided to open Babee’s kennel for her.

Some of the volunteers had arrived at Frisky’s when it opened, and others came directly from work. Scott was gracious enough to have supplied pizza, snacks and drinks, since many of us had not had a chance to eat before the physicals. Peggy stopped by with Mexican food from Mi Casa of Ellicott City, which included a large platter of Mi Casa Nachos and vegetarian friendly nachos. Thank you both!

Overall, the monkeys were in good health as the results from their physicals have shown. Kiko had to have additional dental work done at a later date. Gizmo had polyps that were determined to be benign. Cheechy is the oldest at 44 years old, and has cataracts in both eyes. All of the monkeys were given clean bills of health, and for that we are all very thankful to Dr. Gold & the Chadwell Animal Hospital staff for coming out tonight and to the volunteers for making the night a success.

**Monkey Business—37 Better Business Practices Learned Through Monkeys** — Author, Heather Wandell, has observed thousands of hours of human workplace behavior and hundreds of hours of monkey behavior and has found there is a connection! Each chapter includes a mindfulness practice to increase possibility thinking, create harmony in relationships, and reduce unnecessary suffering. The monkeys of Frisky’s are the stars in this on-going fundraiser. A portion of every book sold will go to support Frisky’s Wildlife and Primate Sanctuary, Inc. in Woodstock, MD. The book is available now at amazon or through your local bookseller. Watch the book trailer on youtube by typing in the full title of the book.

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**PRIMATE PHYSICALS 2013** BY OMAR FAHRI

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Frisky’s does not participate in the sale of any wildlife.