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www.SafeHavenAnimals.org

Safe Haven Screech

Safe Haven & Educational Adventures, Inc.

Volume 4, Issue 1

Special points of interest:

- Join us for our first volunteer meeting on Feb 26th at 2:00 PM.
- Now that our Kaytee Bird food supply has run out we could use donations of parrot seed mix.
- See our new *Animal Highlights* column on page 2 that will bring you in depth information on our featured animal.
- This issue's feature is Keila.
- Thank you to Janet Arnold and Mary Fancher for contributing articles for our newsletter.



Keila, Moluccan Cockatoo

We provide educational programs for schools, scout troops, birthday parties and many other events. If you are having an event or know a teacher, troop leader or anyone else that might be interested please contact us for more information.

Recycling; Every Bit Helps by Janet Arnold

I thought I was doing my part to help the world by recycling for many years but I did not know as to how far you could take it until I met my current husband 5 years ago. In the past I recycled paper, cardboard, cans, plastic bags and vegetable waste but after I met Keith - I realized I was just a novice in the recycling world.

We are lucky in that our house has a small storage shed in the back where we keep the sorted items until I get a carload to carry over to our city's recycling center, but you can always designate part of your pantry/garage/carport to house the items. We started off by designating one trash can in the house for recyclables and one for the "real" trash. Our goal is to not have anything in the trash bag if possible and here is how it goes.

We have a small pail to put our vegetable trimmings, eggshells, coffee grounds (and filter), and fruit trimmings. This goes onto our compost pile in our back yard. We built a large box of landscape timbers and left the front open so we can turn the pile when needed. We basically do not have to do anything to it - usually our yard litter/leaves are layered over the items from the kitchen so the odor has been minimal. The resulting compost is used in our yard for our veggies and plants.

We make it a policy to not accept plastic bags from stores and carry around about a dozen tote bags in the car so we have a ready supply. There are times when I slip and get a plastic bag or two but those are quickly delegated as our trash bags or cat litter bags. Our biggest "trash" is cat litter as I've heard that there is an organism in cat poo that is not removed from processed water that gets into other wildlife so

felt it was okay to bag this and dispose of it in the landfill - but I'm still cringing when I do this.

We have the usual categories of cardboard, paper, cans (both aluminum and other metal), glass, plastic, etc. and thanks to Publix we can carry Styrofoam and our extra plastic bags there for recycling. Our recycling center also takes car oil, cooking grease (which we store in glass jars which we put out in the sun before dumping into the container at the recycling center) and computers, tvs, and certain other electronic devices. Keith goes through his office and gathers all recyclables there to process here and I'm lucky in that my workplace is now recycling on a thorough basis.



We also use Goodwill and Habitat for Humanity to help us recycle our used clothing, old doors/windows that were out in the shed, and we pass along any furniture we have no use for to consignment shops or Goodwill. We make a point of if an item can still be used to either give it to someone or sell it. We repurpose wherever we can.

Right now we only have to have trash pickup about once every 3 months and it is mostly cat litter. We are now working on trying to cut down my use of paper towels and maybe one day we can flush cat litter but until then, I'm a little proud of our efforts to make our little corner of the world a little better. Start thinking about what you can do - the wildlife and Mother Nature will appreciate it!

Recycling helps keep products out of landfills, keeps plastic out of the environment and helps us use less oil in making "new" plastics.. I found the following from

www.epa.gov:

Animal Highlights: Keila! By Mary Fancher

Keila is a Moluccan Cockatoo who came to live at Safe Haven in June 2007 after having had at least three different owners. Her sad story became obvious to us when she arrived with permanent damage to her wings and a verbal repertoire that testified to an environment ridden with abuse.

The Moluccan Cockatoo (*Cacatua moluccensis*), the largest of the white Cockatoos, is a magnificent bird with white and salmon colored feathers. They are native to the island Seram in the Indonesian archipelago where their habitat has greatly dwindled due to human development. As a result, it has been categorized as a

“vulnerable” species by the International Union for Conservation of Nature, and its import into the United States has been banned.

For those who would like one of these wonderful birds as an addition to their family there are a number of domestic aviaries who breed and raise Cockatoos for the pet trade. But, buyer beware: the Moluccan, like other parrots, is extremely intelligent and needs plenty of daily human interaction and mental challenges, along with an assortment of toys available in order to keep its active mind occupied. Failure to do so can result in feather loss and aggressive behavior. This, combined with a

hefty price tag, the need for an expensive, large cage commensurate with the bird’s size, vocalizations that can peel wallpaper, and a lifespan that can reach 80 years, mean that only the most committed individual should even consider one as a pet.

The happy end to Keila’s sad story is that, at long last, she is in a safe environment with plenty of stimulus and other parrots to keep her company. And despite her traumatic beginnings, she is the most flirtatious of all the birds at Safe Haven; she loves to have her neck scratched and welcomes attention from everyone who comes near.

Check us out on

Facebook at:

www.facebook.com/safehavenanimals

Safe Haven will be having a volunteer meeting for all past, current and future volunteers. If you or anyone you know is interested in volunteering please join us on Sunday, Feb 26th at 2:00.

Who’s New

Animal Control from one of the local counties confiscated 12 animals from the same household in November. The collection included a Leopard Gecko, Sand Skink, Bearded Dragon, Fence Lizard, (2) Tiger Salamanders, Ferret, Gerbil, (2) Dwarf Hamsters and (2) Hedgehogs. We also received 5 Ring-necked Doves a Yellow-naped Amazon Parrot, and a Blue-fronted Amazon Parrot this fall.

Thank you!

We would like to thank our families, friends and volunteers for all of your hard work and support. Without you, Safe Haven would not be possible.

Honorable mentions:

Eddie and Bryson Dunan

Mary Fancher

Truston Carter

Christine Freeman

Trivia Questions

How did the Hedgehog get it’s name?

Answer will be given in the next newsletter.

Answers from previous question:

The bobcat is the most abundant wild cat in the United States. It also has the largest range of any native cat in North America.

Recycling cont’d

Benefits of Recycling

Recycling protects and expands U.S. manufacturing jobs and increases U.S. competitiveness.

Recycling reduces the need for landfilling and incineration.

Recycling prevents pollution caused by the manufacturing of products from virgin materials.

Recycling saves energy.

Recycling decreases emissions of greenhouse gases that contribute to global climate change.

Recycling conserves natural resources such as timber, water, and minerals.

Recycling helps sustain the environment for future generations.

If you are not ready for a full recycling program in your home – don’t worry – just take it one step at a time. Every little bit helps! A good source on recycling tips/rules in the Greenville, SC area is:

<http://www.greenvillesc.gov/PublicWorks/AboutRecycling.aspx>. Check with your local community’s

websites to see what they offer and if you cannot find anything – start lobbying your city/county to beef up their recycling program – you can make a difference!

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