

OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE BALLENSLES WILDLIFE FOUNDATION



BALLENSLES
WILDLIFE
FOUNDATION

NATURE MATTERS

DECEMBER 2014

See Page 7 for
Featured Article by
The Gator Guru

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Photograph by Marge Barham

In The Spotlight



Kristen Cowling devotes time to doing what she loves best-- "helping to transform lives - human and canine." It all began in childhood. Kristen can hardly recall a time when her family did not have a dog or some other pet. When her boys were young, she got her first "pound puppy," named Sandy. Shortly thereafter, her youngest boy brought home a rabbit at the end of the school season that needed a home "just for the summer." Fluffy became a member of the family, and Sandy and Fluffy ate from the same food bowl for several years.

Kristen and her husband Mike "believe in giving back to the community." During their years in Palm Beach County they have actively supported such charities as Place of Hope, the Salvation Army, and Els for Autism. One of the most meaningful experiences in her life was being a tutor to homeless men and women studying for their GED.

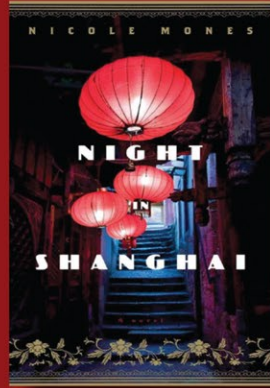
After Kristen and her husband Mike moved to BallenIsles, they decided to help walk the dogs at Big Dog Ranch Rescue (BDRR) in Wellington. When she saw the desperate need to find homes for the countless number of adoptable dogs, big and small, that were rescued by BDRR to save them from being euthanized, she knew immediately that this was where she would volunteer to "help the helpless."

Kristen expanded her BDRR responsibilities by taking rescue dogs to adoption events, communicating with the public to create awareness, and working on fundraising committees. In 2012, Kristen was appointed to the BDRR Board of Directors and now spends most of her time organizing fundraising events, communicating with donors, and reaching out to members of the community. Kristen's motto is that you should "bloom where you are planted," and she has certainly lived up to her commitment. She loves bringing people together, and this year was co-chair of the "Golf with the Big Dogs," a unique fundraising event that was held at Trump National Golf Club on November 10. She assisted in bringing legendary professional golfers, such as Greg Norman, Nick Price, Jesper Parnevik, Mark Calcavecchia, Ken Duke, Robert Allenby, Brad Faxon, Will MacKenzie, Jeff Overton, and nine others, together to raise much needed funds and increase awareness for the mission of Big Dog Ranch Rescue. The proceeds from Golf with the Big Dogs will provide lifesaving funds for thousands of homeless, adoptable dogs and community outreach and education about the importance of spaying and neutering and humane animal care.

To paraphrase Kristen, even if we can't make a difference to all, we can to some, and more often than not we are the ones impacted the most by those we think we are helping. Each one of us is blessed to be a blessing to others. When many people combine and give from their hearts, it makes a world of difference.

With the holiday season upon us, Kristen is hopeful that people will "open their hearts and homes" by adopting a rescue dog. "A dog is a truly a gift that keeps on giving." Anyone interested in finding out more about adopting a rescue dog can reach Kristen at kristen.cowling@bdr.org or 561-215-0351.

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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

As the month of December is a time of miracles, I'd like to share a few of our miracles with you. Since our previous issue of Nature Matters, with the assistance of our terrific security team and several kind-hearted residents, BIWF returned a 13-year-old lost cat to its owners, rescued a juvenile opossum and a large soft shell turtle, had a female feral cat spayed, and a male feral cat neutered. Both the opossum and turtle had sustained injuries and were taken by us to Busch Wildlife Sanctuary where they were treated and released. BIWF made donations to Busch Wildlife and to Caring Fields for their participation in our "miracles."

Whether you celebrate Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanza, or merely "the season," BIWF wishes you a joyous and safe holiday. *"If you have men who will exclude any of God's creatures from the shelter of compassion and pity, you will have men who will deal likewise with their fellow men."* - Francis of Assisi

Naturally yours,
Marianne Guerra

Thank You!

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About BallenIsles Wildlife Foundation

BallenIsles Wildlife Foundation (BIWF), a nonprofit 501(c)(3) charitable organization, is a group of volunteers who love and respect animals, both domestic and wild. Our mission is to preserve, protect, foster, and respect all animal life within the BallenIsles community.

Our inspiration comes from Mona Roberts, a resident of Bermuda Bay, who during her 18 years in BallenIsles, devoted herself to the rescue and rehabilitation of animals in need. When she expressed a desire to “retire,” several friends stepped in to continue her work and expand her mission. In January 2014, the BallenIsles Wildlife Foundation was born. Word of our mission drew other like-minded volunteers. In addition, we reached out to other communities and organizations with similar interests. BIWF is extremely gratified by the support from other organizations such as the Admiral’s Cove and Ibis Wildlife Foundations, Arthur R. Marshall Foundation for The Everglades, Busch Wildlife Sanctuary, Florida Fish and Wildlife, Furry Friends, Animal Hero Kids, Caring Fields, The Humane Society of the Treasure Coast and Peggy Adams.

Foundation Goals

- ◆ Educate and inform BallenIsles residents about various wildlife and animal matters.
- ◆ Establish working relationships with wildlife and rescue organizations.
- ◆ Assist with injured animals, stray animals and lost pets found in BallenIsles.
- ◆ Provide financial support to nonprofit agencies that assist BIWF with its wildlife and animal concerns.
- ◆ Humanely trap and neuter feral cats found in BallenIsles to avoid overpopulation.

BIWF is a member of:

- ◆ Busch Wildlife Sanctuary
- ◆ Audubon Society of the Everglades
- ◆ National Wildlife Federation



To learn more, visit the BIWF website at www.ballenisleswildlifefoundation.org or our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/BallenIslesWildlifeFoundation.

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For additional information contact info@ballenisleswildlifefoundation.org.



A Stamp To Protect Wildlife

The Save Vanishing Species stamp is now on sale at the U.S. Postal Service and on line at www.USPS.com. The semipostal (charity) stamp is designed to raise money to help protect endangered wildlife, including tigers, rhinos, and marine turtles. The stamp features an Amur tiger cub and is the result of a 10-year effort begun and led by the World Wildlife Fund in partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Postal Service, and other international conservation organizations.

On September 19, 2014, President Obama signed the stamp reauthorization bill into law. The Multinational Species Conservation Funds the Semipostal Stamp Reauthorization Act of 2013 passed in the House and Senate earlier this summer.

The bill is a result of true bipartisan leadership and persistent effort to ensure the stamp continues to support U.S. government programs that save vanishing species. The program has sold over 25 million stamps, raising over \$2.5 million dollars.



The stamp was initially made available for purchase from September 2011 through December 2013. The bill that President Obama signed last month makes it available for an additional four years through 2017. The first class tiger stamp costs 60 cents; all proceeds raised from the premium will go to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s Multinational Species Conservation Funds, which support efforts to protect wild populations of tigers, rhinos, elephants, great apes, and marine turtles.

According to Ginette Hemley, World Wildlife Fund Senior Vice President of Conservation, Strategy, and Science, “This is an easy way for individuals to use their purchasing power to help save vanishing species every time they mail a letter. By purchasing these stamps, anyone can play a direct role in protecting some of our most iconic and endangered wildlife.” These efforts include work to help combat poaching, habitat protection, disease prevention, and education for local communities about the value of conserving wildlife.



Arthur R. Marshall
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for The Everglades

What Is That Lizard in My Window?

Florida collects snowbirds, tourists, and native human inhabitant, but what makes us all love it so much is what makes animals love it and thrive—whether they belong here or not. Florida has more than 500 exotic species—some of which are a threat to the native species that they are outcompeting.

So what are those little guys you see on the window and the screen porch and riding with you to work on the windshield? Here are some of the most common lizards you will see.

Brown or Cuban Anole

Brown anoles are believed to be responsible for the reduction in the number of native green anoles. They drive the green anoles into the higher parts of the tree canopy and prey up them when small.



According to Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, “The brown anole is native to Cuba and the Bahamas, and it was first observed in the Florida Keys in 1887. It arrived in the major seaports of South Florida during

the 1940s, and males reach a length of 20 cm (8 in). The body is brown; males often have bands of yellowish spots whereas females and juveniles have a light vertebral stripe with dark, scalloped edges. The edge of the dewlap is white and appears as a stripe on the throat when not distended. The dewlap may vary in color from a bright red-orange to pale yellow.”

Green Anoles

Green anoles are the cute ones. Because they are being driven further up into the trees by the brown anoles, they are seen less often. They can change color, so people often incorrectly call them chameleons. They can change from a bright green graded all the way to grey. When they are frightened or in duress, they turn a dark brown.



Curly Tail Lizard

The curly tail lizard is one of those animals brought in to help solve a problem but that created a new one. They are native to the Bahamas and were brought to Florida in

the 1940s to eat insects in the sugar cane fields. They can be up to 11 inches long and have an obvious curly tail that sticks up in the



air. The problem with them stems from the potential to eat the same food supply as the native green anoles, and sometimes eat the greens themselves.

Glass Lizards

Glass lizards are not seen as commonly as other lizards, but they are the prettiest! They are easy to mistake for a small snake (although they can grow to 3 feet in length), but you can typically tell they are glass lizards by the shininess of their skin, the ear openings that snakes do not have, and if you can get a very close peak—they have eyelids. There are four species of glass lizards in Florida, and they are all beautiful.



Jesus Lizard



This new lizard was only recently introduced to Florida but is becoming more and more common in our area. He is always surprising to see as he typically is running on his back legs. He is called

the Jesus lizard because he can walk on water.

Jesus lizards weigh up to 3 ounces and have long crest-like tails, and look like little dinosaurs. According to scientists “On water, the basilisk can run at a velocity of 1.5 meters (4.9 feet) per second for approximately 4.5 meters (14.8 feet) before sinking on all fours and swimming.”

A recent paper in National Geographic discussed using motion analysis video to analyze how exactly the lizards are able to run across water. The authors hope to apply their findings to vastly improve robotic walking technology.

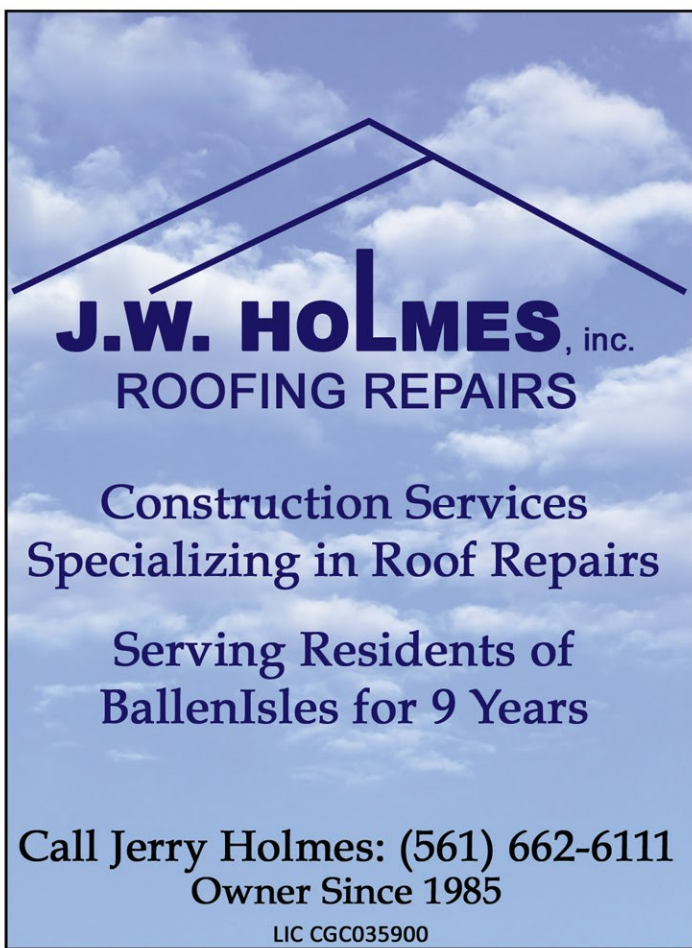
Geckos

Commonly, we see small mediterranean geckos, but they can be up to 12 cm. They have lumpy pink and grey skin, sticky toe pads, and large eyes. They also change color slightly, and although they are not native, they appear to be filling a nocturnal lizard niche as there are no other nocturnal lizards in Florida. They can also be loud—the males can sound like a bird chirping at night.



Fun Facts

1. Sea otters hold hands when they sleep to keep from drifting apart.
2. Squirrels plant thousands of new trees each year simply by forgetting where they put their acorns.
3. When playing with female puppies, male puppies will often let them win, even if they have a physical advantage.
4. Cows have best friends.
5. Gentoo penguins propose to their lifemates with a pebble.
6. Rats laugh when tickled.
7. Dolphins have names for each other.
8. Oysters can change gender depending on which is best for mating.
9. Japanese Macaques make snowballs for fun.
10. The closest relatives to the elephant shrew are actually elephants, not shrews.
11. A cat version of the corgi exists: the munchkin cat.
12. Seahorses mate for life, and when they travel they hold each others' tails.
13. Before chicks hatch, they can communicate with each other and their mother through a system of sounds.
14. Dogs' nose prints are as unique as human fingerprints and can be used to identify them.
15. Turrítopsis nutricula Immortal jellyfish is the only species known to live forever.
16. Long-time bird watcher and nature writer Candace Savage has observed that crows are so intelligent they can play pranks on each other.
17. Butterflies taste with their feet.
18. There have been studies that show that goats, like us, have accents.
19. Squirrels will adopt other squirrels babies if they are abandoned.



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"All of the birds in this book were photographed within BallenIsles. Some of the most wonderful birds to be found anywhere are to be found here. It is my hope that this small book will encourage the appreciation and preservation of all the wonders that are right here for all of those who are prepared to look."

- Rodney Cole



For information or to purchase **BallenIsles Birds**, please contact Rodney Cole at rodgers@bellsouth.net.

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All About Alligators: Ask Gator Guru

By Cy Hornsby

Question: Hi Gator Guru. I've heard that alligators from other countries look different from our American alligator. Is that true?

Answer: Essentially all alligators are American. Florida's popular state reptile is well travelled, but almost all alligators reside in the swamps and wetlands of the southeastern United States. The only other alligator in the world is a small species found in China's Yangtze River valley. However, it is severely endangered with only a few dozen left in the wild. In G.G.'s opinion, poachers should receive indescribable punishment.

Question: Hi Gator Guru. I see gators while I'm on the golf course. Are they dangerous?

Answer: Alligators aren't usually aggressive unless provoked. Crocodiles on the other hand are very aggressive.

Question: How does a concerned golfer tell the difference between the two?

Answer: A side-by-side comparison of the gator's u-shaped snout can easily be distinguished from the croc's v-shaped snout. However, lacking the side-by-side opportunity the astute golfer will know that the croc's bottom 4th tooth is visible when its mouth is shut. The alligator's bottom 4th tooth is not. Thus by today's social standards, the gator is much more attractive.

Question: If alligators aren't usually aggressive, can I show off for my golfing buddies?

Answer: That depends upon your behavior and the gator's mood. For example, the most recent alligator-related fatality in Palm Beach County was a 27-year-old man who was showing off by harassing some young gators. The mother gator, who watches out for her kids for about a year after they hatch, asserted her natural protective instincts and attacked the predator. He lost.

Question: Couldn't he have outrun her?

Answer: Only if he was faster than a horse. Think of alligators as large lizards. They aren't distance runners, but they can sprint faster than a horse at takeoff.

Question: Could zigzag running help? I've read that's a good idea.

Answer: I'd personally prefer to get as much distance between the alligator and me as possible. But if you like the zigzag idea, let us know how that works out for you.

Question: Can't we have alligators removed from the golf course lakes?

Answer: Yes, but any alligator that is removed is destroyed. Besides, all alligators are territorial. When one is removed, another will take its place. Bottom line is that there is little reason to go through a removal process.

Question: But what if my golf ball is near the gator?

Answer: Even the persnickety Rules of Golf provide relief, a free

drop - no closer to the hole of course. (Gator Guru finds your questions tedious. Let's move on to another reader.)

Question: Hi Gator Guru. How big are alligators?

Answer: A full-grown adult male is about 13 feet long and weighs about 790 pounds. The largest on record was over 19 feet long and tipped the scales at more than 1,000 pounds.

Question: How old are alligators?

Answer: This "living fossil" has been around for 37 million years. The gator seems to be an adaptable and efficient eating machine. (Like some people I know.)

Question: I meant their life span.

Answer: Oh, that's typically 30 to 50 years. There is one old codger in a zoo in Serbia who is 78.



Photograph by George Wicker

Question: What do alligators eat?

Answer: Pretty much anything they want. They are carnivorous, although they will eat vegetarians (a little G.G. humor). Small gators eat fish, insects, and small turtles. As they grow so does their appetite, which then includes birds, other reptiles, rodents, and the occasional dog, cat, or deer that wonders too close.

Question: How do they eat?

Answer: In one gulp. They have no ability to chew their food so they just swallow it whole. If it's too large, they shake it (referred to as a "death roll") until bite-sized chunks

fall off. Think chicken nuggets alligator style. Any larger prey gets drowned, and then left underwater until it starts to decompose. Gators find that yummy. Now aren't you sorry you asked?

Question: Hi Gator Guru. Are gators gregarious?

Answer: Not after they are grown. Small gators tolerate others while they are maturing, but once they are grown they become solitary and territorial. A large gator, male or female (no discrimination here), will stake out a pond and attack any gator who wants a share. Should she/he be removed, another always seems to be in line to take over the pond.

Question: Speaking of gender, how does that happen?

Answer: The female has control of that, like so many things in nature. When she builds her nest of vegetation and mud, she selects a place that will be warmer or cooler to produce the hatchling's sex. Cooler temperatures produce females; warmer temperatures produce males. (Note that G.G. is diplomatically passing on the humor here.)

Question: Hi Gator Guru. How do alligator wrestlers avoid getting eaten?

Answer: The gator's jaw is designed to have crushing strength while closing but minimal strength to open. If you watch the wrestler, you'll see he holds the gator's jaw closed at the snout. Then he tries to keep the tail from thrashing him off. Once victory is declared, he runs away quickly. (See above comments regarding alligators' speed.)

The Wild Side of BallenIsles



- 1. Photograph by Rodney Cole
- 2. Photograph by Mary Kirby
- 3. Photograph by Fred Schulte
- 4. Photograph by Jack Robbins
- 5. Photograph by George Wicker
- 6. Photograph by Paul Goldstein



Growing Green

True Blue

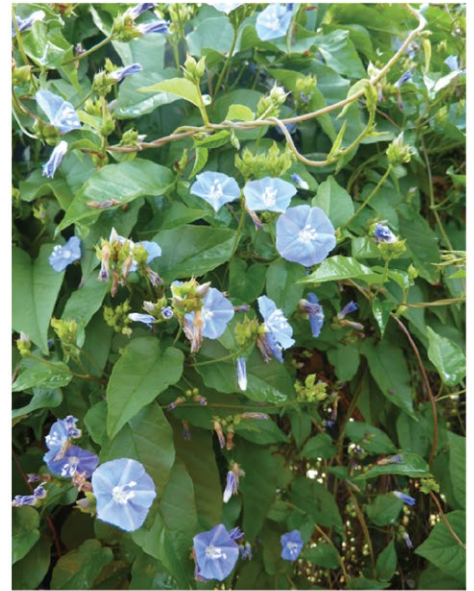
By Lucy Keshavarez



One of the few plants with a true color blue flower, *Jacquemontia pentanthos* is a lovely twining vine that is perfect for use on fences, trellises, and arbors as well as at the base of a Sabal Palm or other trees. A native Florida plant in the morning glory family, *Jacquemontia pentanthos* is less aggressive than other types of morning glories and is easy to cut back when necessary. The delicate sky blue flowers are $\frac{3}{4}$ " wide and bloom from autumn through late spring. The elongated heart shaped evergreen leaves offer a subtle texture to the garden year round and a beautiful backdrop for the blue flowers autumn through spring.

Jacquemontia pentanthos grows well in full sun to light shade; however, full sun will produce more flowers. It prefers moist/well drained soil. It will not tolerate wet soil and will need irrigation during extended drought.

It is a nectar plant for beneficial pollinators especially bees. Placement in the yard can take on many formats from a well-trained vine taking the shape of its fence, trellis, or arbor support to a fountain of green leaves and blue flowers carefully trained to cascade from a tree trunk or other support. The standard flower color for *Jacquemontia pentanthos* is sky blue, but there are times when you will find a plant that produces lavender-pink or white flowers. Make sure to specify the color you want when purchasing.



BIWF Bake Sale



Special Thanks to the Following:

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BIWF would like to extend special thanks to the City of Palm Beach Gardens for including us at its annual Fall Festival. Our bake sale was a successful endeavor thanks to our wonderful friends and supporters who contributed lots of delicious goodies for us to sell. We couldn't have done it without them.

Featured PET



Meet Merry

Merry, a 5-month old Chocolate Chinese Shar-Pei, is co-owned by Linda Teitelbaum and a friend of hers, Deb Cooper of Nustar Show Dogs. Linda's kennel name is Ming Yu, which means renowned in Chinese. Merry is from two champion parents. Her dam is Ch. Kudzu and Shines Wearin The Ruby Slippers, aka "Ruby." Her sire is Ch. Shines Star Kissed, aka "Smooch." She is from a litter of 5, all named with a carnival theme. Three of the puppies went to pet homes. Merry (Merry Go Round) and her sister Tilta Whirl are in show homes. Linda and Deb chose Merry based on her show potential in the hope that she develops into a top show dog.

Merry has never met anyone she doesn't like. She makes a friend of everyone. She loves attention and is quite full of herself. When she is not getting the attention she feels she deserves, she will open her mouth and let you know--loud and clear!

The Chinese Shar-Pei dates back some two thousand years and originated in Kwangtung Province in China. The breed became almost extinct, and at one time was listed in the Guinness Book of Records as the most rare breed in the world. The Shar Pei is known for its blue-black tongue, its wrinkled skin, and its rough short coat. The name "Shar-Pei" translates to "sand skin." They are highly intelligent and clean dogs and extremely devoted to family.

Deb and Linda presently co-own the number one Shar-Pei in the country. They hope that Merry will follow in her dog show footsteps.

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BallenIsles Wildlife Foundation needs your financial support. Your charitable contribution will provide funds necessary to help us implement our mission to preserve, protect, foster, and respect the wildlife in our community and serve as an educational resource for our residents. We are a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization; therefore, your donation is tax-deductible as long as it qualifies for the tax deductions permitted by law.

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KIDS' NEST

By Diane Feldon

All About Cardinals

A cardinal is a type of bird found in North and South America. There are lots of types of cardinals. The type of bird cardinal that most people think of is the Northern Cardinal.

The Northern cardinal got its name from its bright red feathers. It is named after the Cardinal who is the Catholic leader and wears bright red clothing. It is a popular bird in the United States. It is the most popular state bird as it is the official state bird of seven of the US states including North Carolina, West Virginia, Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, and Virginia. The cardinal is also the team mascot for some universities (for example, Louisville and Stanford) and professional sports teams.

What does it look like?

The Northern Cardinal is found in North America. The males have bright red feathers, a black face, and coral or red beaks. The females are tan and may have slightly red wings or tail feathers. They both have strong beaks, long tails, and raised crests. They grow to 7 to 9 inches tall.



A pair of Northern Cardinals will nest together. They will both feed the baby cardinals. The male is territorial and sings a loud song that is meant to warn other male cardinals to stay away. The female cardinal builds the nest, typically in a low tree branch or a bush.

The male cardinal is very defensive of its territory and will fight off other males. It

is even known to start a fight with its own reflection!

How They Communicate

It is thought that the cardinal uses songs to communicate. The female and male will sing back and forth to each other. The typical song of the Northern Cardinal starts with a series of loud, clear whistles. Cardinals will sing sharp "chips" as an alarm song as well.

Baby Cardinals

Baby Northern Cardinals are all be tan like their mom. The males get their red feathers as they grow into adults.

The babies are born from white eggs with brown spots. The female lays between one and five eggs with a typical clutch having three eggs. The babies are helpless when born, and the mom and dad birds both collect food to feed them.



Cardinals like to forage for food at dawn and dusk. They eat insects, fruit, and seeds.

Fun Facts About Cardinals

- The Northern Cardinal is protected under the Migratory Bird Act. You can't have one as a pet, and it is illegal to take or kill one.
- Some people think the Catholic Cardinal got its name from the bird, but it was the other way around.
- Male cardinals may sometimes sing up to 200 songs in an hour. Sometimes the male and female will sing duets.
- They get their red feathers from carotenoids in their food.
- Cardinals are one of the most popular birds for people who put out bird feeders. It is thought that the birds are now able to survive in some snowy areas due to bird feeders.

After you have read all about the cardinal above, read the sentences below and fill in the missing words. Then find the answers hidden in the puzzle below. (Tip: Words could be horizontal, vertical, or even back to front).

1. Cardinals have beautiful _____ feathers
2. They live in the _____ United States only
3. They eat _____, _____, and fruit
4. They rely on _____ for food during cold, snowy months
5. Male cardinals _____ their territory
6. They raise as many as three groups or _____ of eggs each summer
7. They are brilliant _____
8. Females _____ to tell the males when they need _____

D	E	R	E	M	U	S	I	C	I	A	N	S	P	A	S
B	C	D	A	E	F	G	R	A	I	N	H	I	R	J	E
K	L	M	S	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	O	W	H
X	G	Y	T	Z	I	I	N	S	E	C	T	S	T	L	C
O	N	V	E	E	Y	O	D	O	O	F	U	V	E	E	T
R	I	Y	R	M	U	S	D	E	E	S	C	H	C	I	U
C	S	A	N	R	E	A	B	O	U	T	Y	O	T	U	L
B	I	R	D	F	E	E	D	E	R	S	A	B	C	D	C

BallenIsles Action Alert

What To Do If You See an Injured Animal

For your safety and that of the animal, do not try to “rescue” it. Immediately call Security at 561-625-5709 and Marianne Guerra at 410-703-9786 or 561-625-0390. It would be extremely helpful if you would stay with the injured animal until help arrives. If that is not possible, please describe the location of the injured animal as precisely as you can.

Attention Cat Owners



BIWF urges all cat owners to keep your cats inside your home. Letting your cat outside puts it at great risk. The obvious risks are cars, golf carts, and wild animals such as raccoon, bobcat, snake, bufo toad, etc. The not so obvious risks are disease such as feline leukemia and feline AIDS, exposure to pesticides, and being caught in a trap meant for a feral cat. The latter is not only stressful for the cat but also diminishes our chances of catching a feral cat in order to neuter him/her. Whether or not you let your cat outside intentionally, he/she could slip out inadvertently.

You will find the Pet Registration form on the inside back cover of this magazine. Please complete it ASAP for your cat's safety and to help us quickly reunite you with your cat; we also encourage you to have your cat chipped (BIWF will provide a free chip upon request when you turn in the registration form). Security has established a database into which all your pet's information from the pet registration form is input, which enables them to locate the pet's owner easily and quickly. The longer your cat is lost, the more danger it is in. Keeping a collar on your cat with your phone number imprinted on it is a good idea. These can be purchased at most pet stores. Trying to locate a lost cat's owner without access to any identifying information is sometimes impossible and always consumes an inordinate amount of our time as well as that of Security.

Attention Dog Owners



BIWF urges all dog owners to complete a Pet Registration form (found on the inside back cover of this magazine) ASAP. Often dogs slip out of a house or a yard because a door wasn't closed properly or a gate was left ajar, putting them at risk from cars, golf carts, alligators residing by one of our lakes, other wildlife, bufo toads, exposure to pesticides, etc. Also, dogs frightened of thunderstorms often bolt. Security has established a database into which all your dog's information from the pet registration form is input, which enables them to locate the dog's owner easily and quickly. We also encourage you to have your dog chipped (BIWF will provide a free chip upon request when you turn in the registration form). Keeping a collar on your dog with your phone number imprinted on it would also be very helpful. These can be purchased at most pet stores.

HOW TO HELP

BALLENISLES WILDLIFE FOUNDATION

Donations

1. **Financial** - BallenIsles Wildlife Foundation depends upon your generous financial gifts to continue operating our organization. Advertising support found within this magazine only helps cover publishing costs. We welcome your continued financial support of our organization.

2. **Supplies** - We will gladly accept any gently used linens and pet supplies that we will donate to our partnering organizations. Popular items include bedding, towels, pet toys, pet food, cat litter and other household items that can be used by rescue organizations.

Time

1. **Volunteer** - We are always looking for volunteers to serve on our various committees: Rescue, Education, Finance, Fundraising.

2. **Kitten Fostering & Adoption** - From time to time we rescue abandoned kittens found within BallenIsles and need both temporary and forever homes.

3. **Content** - We have an ongoing need for articles and photos of animals and plants for both our website and magazine.

4. **Expertise** - There is always a need for veterinary skills to help the animals we rescue and foster and for volunteers with computer skills.

Online Support

1. **Amazon Smile** - Amazon donates 0.5% of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable organization of your choice. Please register for this great program at smile.amazon.com and select **BallenIsles Wildlife Foundation** as the organization you support!



2. **Facebook** - Follow our progress by simply "liking" our Facebook page for easy access to news, articles and photos.



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