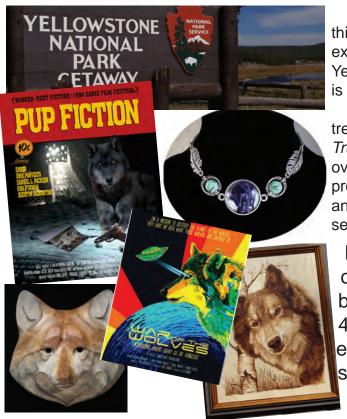


Remember to Reserve Your Seat at the HOWLLY WOOD Gala!



There are only a few days left to buy tickets to this year's HOWLLY WOOD Gala on May 11, 2019. With exciting auction items like a wolf watching adventure in Yellowstone National Park to one-of-a-kind artwork, this is an event you are not going to want to miss!

Our guest speakers include: Film, Television Actress & Animal Activist, <u>Kristin Bauer</u>, of HBO's series *True Blood* and ABC's series *Once Upon a Time*, the overseer of the Defenders of Wildlife wolf conservation programs in the Pacific Northwest, <u>Suzanne Asha Stone</u>, and founders of Yellowstone's premier wildlife guiding service, <u>Nathan Varley</u> and <u>Linda Thurston</u>.

Reservations are encouraged to be made online at www.wolfsanctuary.net/tickets, but may also be purchased by phone (970-416-9531) or mail using the form below. An e-mail address for each guest is required to secure reservations and receive the mobile bidding link.

Hurry! Ticket Sales End May 8, 2019!

name:					
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Please make checks payable to W.O.L.F.					
x \$75 per Guest \$	Number of Guests:				
\$750 Table for 10 \$	— Number of Meals: #1 #2				
Silver Table Phone Or	Please provide the names for all of				
Gold Table Phone Or	your guests with your reservation or				
Total \$	e-mail them to gala@wolfsanctuary.net				

Choose Your Entrée

Both entrées include fresh-baked dinner rolls, broccoli coleslaw salad and dessert.

#1: Vegetarian Option*

Roasted Vegetable Wellington with Creamed Spinach

#2: Vegan Option

Sesame crusted Tempeh with Rice Noodles served with Spicy Asian Créme

*If an entrée is not chosen, guests will receive the Vegetable Wellington entrée.

Send your reservation to W.O.L.F. PO Box 1544 - Laporte, CO 80535

Reservations also available online. Go to www.wolfsanctuary.net/tickets

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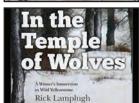
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Wolf Facts & Tracks...... 13

Enjoy our latest installment of "Facts and Tracks!" This quarter we are excited to introduce you to Loki and Nala.

Cover Photo: Tundra



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Mission: To improve the quality of life for wolves and wolf dogs through:

Rescue - Save captive-born wolves and wolf dogs who need sanctuary in order to survive;

Sanctuary - Provide a lifelong home at W.O.L.F. in a natural habitat that takes into account each individual's physical, medical & emotional needs;

Education - Provide the public with education about the plight of wolves and wolf dogs (both captive-born and wild) to help foster a greater understanding of them and their value.

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Letter from the Director

Dear W.O.L.F. Supporters,

By the time you read this letter, our 2019 Howlly Wood Gala will be just days away! But as I write this, Howlly Wood is still a month away. As always, we look forward to the Gala to connect with old friends, meet new ones, and spend an evening basking in all things W.O.L.F. I hope you enjoy the Gala, and I thank you in advance for your generosity! Special guests this year include a superb line-up with actress and animal rights supporter Kristen Bauer, Suzanne Asha Stone who has worked in wolf conservation for over 30 years, and wolf biologists Linda Thurston and Nathan Varley who operate one of the premier wildlife guiding services in Yellowstone National Park.

In this issue of W.O.L.F., you'll read an update about our new Red Feather Lakes property as we begin to promote a new campaign, "Wild Hearts at Home," which is launching later this Spring. We've set an ambitious goal of raising \$2 million to fund our move to the new W.O.L.F. Sanctuary near Red Feather Lakes, Colorado. Our Director of Development, Jessica Kole, shares an update on the project.

We are sad to report that we lost our beloved wolf JJ. We are grateful for the years we had with this beautiful wolf, and we miss her every day. You will get to know her the way we did when you read Michelle Proulx's moving tribute to our JJ.

Whenever we lose an animal, we must rescue another to help the grieving companion. JJ's companion Takoda was lonely, and he missed the companionship of another animal. W.O.L.F. heard about another little wolf dog in PA who needed a home. Her name is Kira. Once she was DNA tested by the PA Game Commission, her fate was sealed. Since it is illegal to own a wolf dog in PA without a permit, Kira needed a sanctuary/rescue placement, or she would have been confiscated. W.O.L.F. rescued the small wolf dog and quickly introduced her to Takoda. The two have already formed a strong bond and can be seen racing up and down the mountainside in joyful play. We believe these two young wolf dogs will spend many, many years together as a strongly bonded duo.

We had special visitors at the Sanctuary earlier this year. The new Animal Planet show "Hanging with the Hendersons" filmed a day at W.O.L.F. The show follows the lives and veterinarian practice of Dr. Tony Henderson and his two sons Dr. Ryan and Dr. Ross. We got to spend the day with the young veterinarians Ryan and Ross as they helped our Sanctuary vet Dr. Valerie Johnson perform field ex-

aminations on several of our animals. The episode will air in June 2019 and we'll announce the exact date on our social media. Be sure to watch and see some of our amazing animals and the vets who care for them.

As we round the bend to summer, we continue to make good progress on the steps necessary to move the Sanctuary to our new land near Red Feather Lakes. We are working diligently to complete the massive infrastructure permitting and planning which includes water issues, road and parking construction, visitor pavilion, renovating the existing outbuilding for offices and a vet room and state-of-the-art habitats for our animals! We are very excited to begin this new era for W.O.L.F., and we hope you will join us as we build the rescued animals' forever home.

As always humbly and gratefully yours, Shelley Coldiron, Executive Director



Opposing Federal Grey Wolf Delisting

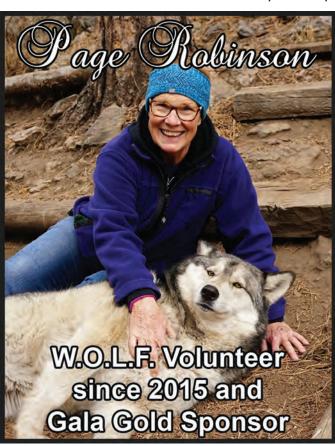
As many of you know, the Trump administration just announced plans to strip all federal protections for wolves across the lower-48 states, except for Mexican wolves in

I wanted to share the truth about

the Southwest.

why I am passionate about the Endangered Species Act and how it is essential in the protection of wolves across the United States. I hope that this motivates you to stand up for wolf recovery by opposing the national wolf-delisting plan.

Since a young age, wolves have always held a special place in my heart. On my first day of school in the first grade, I owned a wolf dress from K-Mart that showcased a neon pink stripe





By Jessica Kole

across the bottom, and two silver wolves spread smack dab across the middle for all to see. I was proud of that dress. My mother cringed at its gaudy details, but nonetheless, allowed me

wear it because it made me feel special on a very important day in the life of a child.

Fast forward, when I was 12 years old, I was cutting out newspaper clippings with headlines featuring the reintroduction of wolves to Yellowstone in 1995. When my mother came home from work, she asked my father why the clippings were hanging on display on our refrigerator, and his response was, "Your daughter did that. Not me. She's passionate about balance in the ecosystem and is motivated by the action biologists have taken. She believes wolves have a place in this world and wants to support the people who feel the same."

Some people say my admiration for wolves is an innate love that can't be explained. Regardless of how it originated, I am confident other people feel the same way, and I am sure each of you have a captivating story to share on how wolves have made a substantial impact in your lives, whether you've actually seen them in person or not.

There were once up to 2 million gray wolves living in North America, but the animals had been driven to near-extinction in the lower-48 states by the early 1900s. Wolves are the wild ancestors of all the domestic dogs we know and love today. These remarkable creatures are representations of our landscape and their presence is vital to maintaining the balance of their native ecosystems. Wolves regulate the behavior of elk and deer populations, keeping herds from overgrazing. This allows trees to grow in greater abundance, grasses to grow taller, and other animals down the food chain to flour-

ish, strengthening the resiliency of the entire ecosystem.

Specifically, the Yellowstone region has seen astounding ecological recovery since the reintroduction of wolves in 1995 and a 2005 study showed that wolf-related tourism contributes \$35 million to the local economy each year. That number is suspected to be much higher now! Did you know, with over 16 million acres of public land on the Western Slope, Colorado could follow suit with that ecological and economic success?

Thanks to the Endangered Species Act, wolves have now started to recover in the continental United States after human persecution brought them to the brink of extinction. But wolves are still functionally extinct in the vast majority of places where they used to live.

In Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming, where wolves have already lost federal protections, trophy hunters, trappers, and others have killed nearly 3,500 wolves since 2011. Federal protections are essential to help wolves return to still suitable parts of where they used to roam, just as the bald eagle was allowed to expand before its federal protections were removed.

TAKE ACTION!

The Trump administration is seeking to remove protections for wolves across the entire contiguous United States. The public comment period for this delisting opened in March.

My ask, is that each of you write to urge the US Fish and Wildlife Service to give the gray wolf

time to fully recover. It is up to us to share a voice for the voiceless and preserve wildlife for future generations, before it is too late.

You can submit your official public comments at www.endangered.
org/actforwolves by May 14th. After that date, please call your senator or Whitehouse official to share your support for wolves.

New Property Update

By Jessica Kole



As we approach Spring of 2019, we are busy preparing to break ground at our new property location in Red Feather Lakes. Many of you are aware that W.O.L.F. Sanctuary is relocating its existing head-quarters from Rist Canyon to a safer, more accessible location. The new 160-acre property will ultimately benefit the rescued animals in our care, as well as provide us with the opportunity to continue our Mission of Rescue, Sanctuary and Education more efficiently.

Additionally, the new sanctuary will eventually be open to the public for scheduled educational tours to learn more on the plight of wolves in the wild and hear the rescue stories of our wolves and wolf dogs who call W.O.L.F. their forever home.

We are working diligently through the arduous process of design, engineering, permitting and bidding, which has proven to be economically challenging for a small nonprofit, as we do not receive government funding and rely heavily on the support of our wonderfully dedicated donors.

In the near future, you will learn about our upcoming Wild Hearts at Home Campaign—an effort to raise awareness around the necessary funding to bring our vision of the new W.O.L.F. Sanctuary to fruition. Stay tuned, and thank you for your continuous support.

Kira: The Littlest Wolf Dog

By Susan Weidel & Michelle Proulx

Kira, W.O.L.F.'s newest resident, came to the Sanctuary after many months in foster care and a journey of over 1500 miles. Early in December 2018, Kira was surrendered as a stray to a shelter in Philadelphia. She was origi-

nally labeled as a Czechoslovakian wolf dog by the shelter. After identifying her owner using her microchip information, the shelter discovered that not only was the individual who surrendered Kira as a stray the actual owner but that the woman claimed to own wolf dogs. It was also discovered that Kira was said to have wolf content. As it is illegal to privately own wolf dogs in PA without a license, and the owner was unlicensed, the PA Game Commission quickly became involved in the matter.

While the information about Kira's background was coming to light, Pawsitively Purrfect Rescue, a PA rescue organization was able to pull Kira from the shelter and place her in foster care. Because controversy on social media was starting to swirl around Kira's wolf content, her foster Mom hurried to the Philadelphia shelter to bring her home. As she walked Kira to her car, Kira panicked and was terrified out on the street. She started rearing and choking herself with the leash, as well as "alligator" rolling. Her foster Mom quickly got Kira to her truck where she promptly jumped in – desperate for some peace and quiet.

Once it was determined that Kira could in-



deed have wolf content, the PA Game Commission ordered a DNA test to find out for sure. On December 19, Kira's foster Mom, who was also a vet tech, provided Kira's blood sample to a wildlife DNA testing laboratory in PA. As the results from a DNA test can take weeks to complete, Kira was able to continue living in foster care. Her foster

Mom bonded very strongly with the little girl and hoped that the test would show that Kira was a dog so she could be adopted. Unfortunately, the DNA results from the laboratory indicated that Kira was nearly 30% wolf. Her fate was now sealed. If she could not find placement out-ofstate or at a licensed facility in PA, the PA Game Commission



would confiscate and euthanasize her. Kira was now in serious jeopardy.

Pawsitively Purrfect Rescue tried local licensed facilities but they were all full and could not take her. Eventually they contacted W.O.L.F. to see if we could assist in finding Kira new placement. Because she was more than 1500 hundred miles from Colorado, W.O.L.F. tried to find placement for Kira on the East Coast or in the Midwest where she would not endure transportation that would take several days. No other sanctuary was able to take Kira since most wolf dog sanctuaries and rescues are at capacity all of the time. The situation for Kira was now becoming desperate.

W.O.L.F. had recently lost long-time Sanctuary resident JJ to cancer. She was a small wolf dog who was bonded with Takoda, a two-year old male who enjoyed JJ's company immensely. While giving Takoda the time he needed to grieve for JJ, W.O.L.F. had been searching for an appropriate companion. When no other placement could be found for Kira, W.O.L.F. decided to rescue her as a companion for Takoda. W.O.L.F. worked closely with Pawsitively Purrfect (continued on page 9)





(continued from page 6) and Kira's foster Mom to arrange her transport to Colorado.



On a winter afternoon in February, W.O.L.F.'s transport team met Kira's foster Mom in the middle of Ohio. Kira's foster Mom said a tearful and sweet goodbye to her beloved Kira as she was transferred from one vehicle to another. Kira's Mom turned back towards PA, and W.O.L.F.'s team headed for home. Because of impending snow and

sleet storms across the Midwest, the team made numerous changes to the route in order to avoid the storms. At long last, after a 24-hour drive, the transport team arrived with Kira at the Sanctuary.

Kira was quite shy as she made her way around her new habitat. She wanted nothing to do with her caretakers and avoided them whenever possible. She did have an excellent appetite and began to eat almost immediately after her long journey to safety. She would pace her enclosure constantly and howl mournfully throughout the day. We decided that it would be best to introduce her to Takoda as soon as possible.

Much to our shock, the first few introductions through the fence with Kira and Takoda did not go well. Takoda was aggressive or predatory while Kira was timid and fearful. After the third fence line introduction, we were starting to get



discouraged and began looking for other pairing options at the Sanctuary for the two. We did not like this option as we prefer not to have groups larger than three and dislike disrupting groups that get along well, but things were looking bleak. We decided to try one more time using a completely different method.

Kira was moved into a new enclosure and Takoda was brought in on a leash. There was no fence in between them and both Kira and Takoda were more interested in sniffing the enclosure than interacting with each other. When they did interact it was still standoffish and slightly aggressive but nothing like we had seen through the fence. Then all of a sudden, a switch seemed to flip for Kira and



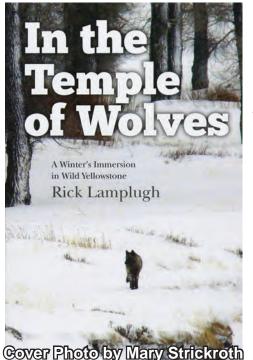
she started dropping into a play bow and racing around the enclosure. This caused a 180 degree turn in Takoda's behavior as well and he immediately wanted to join in the game. The change was so dramatic that the keepers felt it was okay to let Takoda off the leash and the two raced around the enclosure playing nonstop for the next 30 minutes before collapsing next to each other to take a nap.



Since that day the two have been inseparable balls of energy. They are constantly wrestling and playing chase around their habitat or running the fence line with their neighbors. Kira's confidence around her caretakers has bloomed and she is now one of the biggest cuddlers at the Sanctuary. We are so happy that the two of them became best friends.

A Book Review: In the Temple of Wolves by Rick Lamplugh

By Susan Weidel



Rick Lamplugh's book, *In the Temple of Wolves*, is a marvelous exploration of the Lamar Valley in Yellowstone National Park during the winter season. Lamplugh and his wife Mary spent several seasons working in the heart of the Lamar Valley at Yellowstone's Buffalo Ranch - a premier wolf watching spot. Winter is a time when much of Yellowstone is covered in snow and the crowds of summer are gone. The Park is a masterpiece of pristine wilderness, especially the Lamar Valley.

Lamplugh describes the Valley in all its majesty. But he also provides insights into the power of the natural world in the struggle for life and death among the wild residents of the Valley. Lamplugh takes the reader on a difficult journey by describing the death of a buffalo calf. He uses the death of the calf to describe how one animal can feed so many. The carcass is used by coyotes, ravens, magpies and even a bald eagle. It is not easy to read this passage, but Lamplugh's sensitivity takes the reader respectfully into the natural world where death is part of life.

Lamplugh writes beautifully about his experiences with the Valley, the wildlife, and particularly the wolves. Each chapter is a

meditation of sorts on the Valley which comes to life in so many unexpected ways. It is a joy to read and then re-read Lamplugh's ode to a Yellowstone legend -- Rick McIntyre – a National Park Service biologist who served as Yellowstone's biological technician in the Wolf Project for nearly 25 years. He describes McIntyre as the "Archbishop" of the "temple of wolves." McIntyre watched wolves in the wild for all those years and educated thousands and thousands of tourists on his beloved wolves. He has known many generations of the wolf packs in Yellowstone and provides interested tourists with astounding tales of

wolf family life, loyalty, skill, intelligence and warfare that compromise the dayto-day life of the wolf packs. Lamplugh captures the marvelous legacy of McIntyre and his life's work in Yellowstone as a preeminent wolf expert.

In the Temple of Wolves is a book for all who have experienced Yellowstone first hand and for those who have never visited. It is a love letter to the wildness that still exists in Yellowstone, and the reader can savor every chapter of this compelling little book. The word pictures that Lamplugh paints provide insights into one of the great and unique places in America -- Yellowstone's Lamar Valley and the wild animals who call it home.







In Loving Memory of JJ

By Michelle Proulx

JJ came to W.O.L.F.'s attention in 2006 when a wolf dog breeding operation in Wisconsin shut down after the unexpected death of the owner, leaving the animals in horrible conditions and in desperate need of rescue. The local animal control contacted W.O.L.F. and we agreed to rescue the animals that could be saved, including JJ, but when they arrived to get the animals ready to be transported, she was missing.

The Wisconsin Animal Control had a pretty good idea who may have taken JJ and a search and seize warrant was obtained. Fortunately, JJ was exactly where they thought she would be. Unfortunately, the conditions she was being kept in were horrible. A chain had been wrapped around her chest and neck before being secured to a tree. The weight of the chain and her constant pacing had caused the links to cut into her skin. On top of that she was also being deprived of food and water. Luckily they were able to get her out and send her on her way to Colorado.

When she first arrived, she was housed with an older male from the same rescue named Atlantis. While they got along, they never really seemed to bond and behaved more like roommates than friends. In early 2012, the age difference and the indifference with which they treated each other prompted the decision to separate them and put JJ in with a new rescue named Odin.

It was love at first sight between the two of them and within a few months JJ was a completely different animal. Before she had been scared and avoided her caretakers. After meeting Odin, she became confident and bold, often soliciting pets or food from her caretakers. Odin and JJ where inseparable and always playing with one another.

Tragically Odin passed away unexpectedly in 2017. JJ was devastated and started to revert to her pre-Odin self. We wanted to help her so we placed her with an older male named Tonka. While Tonka did seem to help comfort JJ, there relationship was once again like that of roommates and JJ became more and more reclusive as time went on, avoiding her caretakers and spending most of her days sleeping in the sun. When Tonka passed in late summer of 2018, we knew we didn't want JJ to be alone for long and rescued a young male named Takoda as her companion.

Takoda was wonderful for JJ and she started to engage with life again. She would chase after him, trying to play, and started interacting with her caretakers again. Her appetite, energy and attitude were steadily improving every day. Her spark was back! Her increased activity level was helping with her arthritis and everything looked good on her physical in November 2018, so it was shocking to find JJ shivering and uninterested in food on January 30, 2019.

She was immediately bundled up and rushed to the CSU Veterinary Teaching Hospital for emergency treatment. What they found devastated everyone. JJ had developed a hemangiosarcoma in her heart that had ruptured. The only thing they could do for her was to make her comfortable until she passed away. Because of this, the decision was made to help her pass. Caretakers returned to the Sanctuary to bring Takoda to the hospital so he could be with her when we all had to say goodbye.

JJ was almost 15 years old when she passed away and we miss her dearly. But we are honored to have been able to care for her for over 12 years and take joy in the fact that Takoda brought such happiness to JJ for the last five months of her life.

Wolf Facts & Tracks

By Michelle Proulx



LOKI - Male

Birthday: May 30, 2010
Given Sanctuary: January 17, 2012
Companion: Zoey
Guardian Angel: Marie Olagnero

Likes: Being the center of attention. **Dislikes:** Not being fed promptly. **Favorite Food:** Everything.

Fun Fact: Loki's favorite vocalization is whining, earning him the nickname Sir Squeakerton.

Personality: Loki is an energetic and outgoing high-content wolf dog who is always interested in what is going on around him. Whenever someone walks down the road he is always at the front of his habitat waiting to see what they will do and if it will involve him. Of course he is always hoping for a treat and loves to partake in training. Loki is one of the quickest animals to pick up a new behavior, often learning it on command within only a few sessions.

NALA - Female

Birthday: February 1, 2016 Given Sanctuary: July 16, 2017 Companion: Akela Guardian Angel: Sierra Larson

Likes: Destroying toys and trees. **Dislikes:** Sudden movements. **Favorite Food:** Everything.

Fun Fact: Nala's tongue seems to be too long and is always sticking out off to the side of her mouth. Personality: Nala is an energetic young wolf dog who enjoys racing around her habitat with her brother Akela. While they are both curious, neither are interested in directly interacting with their caretakers. Nala is the braver of the two and prefers to follow her caretakers around her habitat watching what they are doing. With a few of her caretakers, if they sit very still, she occasionally will get close enough to sniff them. However, if they make any kind of movement she will usually take off running.



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