



## Yellow Cab Delivers... A Hero!!

As fall moves into winter, and the conditions outdoors become harsh seemingly unbearable... we keep our heat turned up and supplies stocked in anticipation of the flux in juvenile raptor intakes here at Turtle Ridge. These young birds of prey who were born in the spring, have been surviving on their own without help from mom and dad. Although they arrive sick, starving, and in critical condition; they are the lucky ones. They were found, rescued, and brought to us for life saving care.

We love the opportunity to make a difference for this special group of animals whose odds at surviving the first year of life can be as brutal as 1:75 during a harsh winter. Because of their condition, these patients typically require immediate and “around the clock” care. The call for “Cabby”, a Barred Owl, came in at 1:00am when I happened to be at the center administering fluids for other raptor patients; 3 other juvenile Barred Owls and 2 juvenile Red Tailed Hawks.



Marion County Sheriff dispatch was on the line asking that we “remove an owl from the middle of the road that was blocking traffic”. Explaining that the owl was in need of rescue, I asked to have the officer on scene capture the owl and bring it in. After relaying the message to the officer, dispatch returned to say they could not do that and would find another resource. Knowing they would not find another option, I stayed by the phone, waiting for them to call back. Sure enough, the phone rang; but, it wasn't the Sheriff's department. It was Dawn Curriston, a cab driver who happened to be “on scene”.

Even though traffic was being directed around the owl, Dawn pulled off the road. She was concerned for the creature, and asked if it was receiving help. She was told that they were making calls; but, she still wanted to help. She reached out to her Facebook friends, making a post about the stranded owl. Right away, people responded with “call Turtle Ridge!”

I explained to Dawn that I had spoken with dispatch, and that it sounded like they were not comfortable capturing the owl, and asked if she would. Without hesitation, Dawn agreed to help. I suggested that she cover the owl with her jacket, scoop it up, and place it in her trunk. I told her I'd be happy to wait at the center if she could bring it out to us. Dawn told me that she would have to ask her boss at Willamette Valley Yellow Cab for permission to transport; but, that she expected it would be okay.

Less than 5 minutes later, Dawn called to tell me that she captured the owl successfully, received approval from her boss, and would arrive in 17 minutes. I had just enough time prepare for the owl's arrival when the Yellow Cab arrived. You could see the appreciation on Dawn's face when I opened the door. After thanking me for waiting, she led me to the trunk where "Cabby" was still wrapped up in Dawn's jacket. As soon as I picked up the bundle of feathers, I could tell Cabby had been starving.

After getting Cabby set up comfortably, I returned to the lobby to thank Dawn. I reassured the concerned rescuer that although Cabby was weak and far too cooperative during the whole ordeal, the owl did not appear to be seriously injured, or hit by a car like she feared. After promising Cabby was "in the best hands", and explaining the care the owl would receive, Dawn felt very relieved. Cabby was not the first animal she's rescued; however, having a place like Turtle Ridge that she could take it to was a whole new experience.

We are happy to report that Cabby is doing great. After lots of therapy, Cabby is healthy and in good condition. Compared to average weight of Barred Owls, we can assume that Cabby is young man. And while he may not be ready to be a dad yet, he will at least get some practice this breeding season in wooing the ladies... perhaps even find a mate. With just a little more time in the aviary, building up muscle strength and stamina, Cabby will be ready for release.

Statistics show, that this second chance at life puts Cabby at the best of odds. Even though he had a little help, surviving the first year is the greatest challenge Cabby will face in his lifetime. Cabby will not only make it through this winter, he will come out in great condition. This young owl will learn so much more about life and surviving, and have opportunity to improve his hunting skills over this next spring and summer when food is plentiful and life outdoors is much easier all around.

A big thanks to all the heroes like Dawn, who respond to the needs of the animals in our community; bringing them Turtle Ridge for help. And a big thanks to our in house heroes - our volunteers and donors, for the opportunity to save over 2,000 animals who have come through our doors in 2018. Together, we are making our piece of the world a better place!

-Jessy Gill  
Director



Want to help cover Cabby's fare?

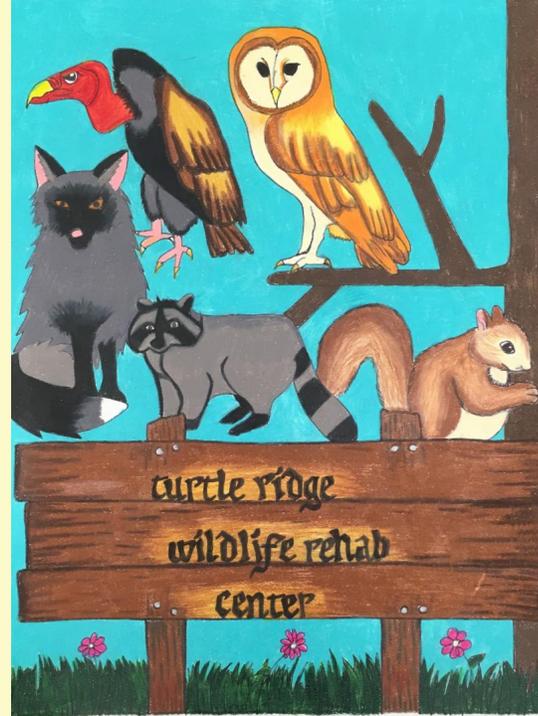
[Click here](#)

---

To all of the volunteers, donors and supporters- **THANK YOU** does not seem like a big enough word for how grateful we are for your compassion and caring for over 2,000 animals that came through our doors in 2018.

It is because of **YOUR** love babies without their mother are able to survive, broken bones are repaired, sickness is healed and lives are saved!

From all of us here at Turtle Ridge and all the animals served, THANK YOU and Happy New Year!



animals share with us the privilege of having a soul.

"Animals share with us the privilege of having a soul."  
Original artwork by Ayla Brown

## Out and About

Taps & Talons at Sparky's Brewing Company



Ark Angels, Our Savior's Lutheran Church



Taps & Talons at Sparky's Brewing Company

McKinley Elementary School



Taps & Talons at Sparky's Brewing Company

# Thank You!



Recently @GernaderJake hosted a fundraiser for Turtle Ridge through a live streaming gaming event.

The more viewers equaled the more funds raised!



Follow Jake on Twitch at [GernaderJake](#), and click below to find him on YouTube, Twitter and Instagram.



## You can also show your support by...

### Joining Our Family of Monthly Givers!

Be a brick in our foundation and sign up for monthly giving by clicking [here](#). Every penny counts and 100% of all donations go directly to Turtle Ridge Wildlife Center.



### Shopping at Fred Meyer!

Just by shopping and using your rewards card, Fred Meyer will donate to us. Click [here](#) and use code 88415 to link your rewards card to Turtle Ridge. You will still receive all your rewards, fuel points and rebates but will also be supporting the animals in care at Turtle Ridge.



### Recycling at BottleDrop!

Pick up the blue bags and special Turtle Ridge stickers from any [BottleDrop](#) location or stopping by our center. Deposits from all bottles returned will be donated to Turtle Ridge.



### Shopping on Amazon Smile!

When purchasing through Amazon, simply designate Turtle Ridge Wildlife Center to receive donations on your behalf. Same Amazon, same price, just your dollar goes a little further. Setup your account today by visiting [AmazonSmile!](#)



Turtle Ridge Wildlife Center | 503-540-8664 | [info@turtleridgewildlifecenter.org](mailto:info@turtleridgewildlifecenter.org)  
[www.turtleridgewildlifecenter.org](http://www.turtleridgewildlifecenter.org)

STAY CONNECTED

