

SUMMER 2025

FREE

STREET OGDEN

GUIDES:

**DINING
NIGHT SPOTS
SHOPPING
TATTOO SHOPS
PERSONAL CARE
HEALTH & FITNESS**

CALENDARS:

**ARTS MUSIC
EVENTS ENTERTAINMENT
DANCE THEATER
FUN TO DO:**

**FAMILY KIDS DATES SOLO
OUTDOOR RECREATION**

ART GALLERY PAGES

**FEATURES
LOCAL NEWS
HISTORY OGDEN LOCAL**

**OGDEN
COMMUNITY
RESOURCE**

Cover art by Tyson DeForest



**"WHERE THE PAST
MEETS THE PRESENT &
THE FUTURE IS NOW!"**

Wildlife Rehabilitation Center of Northern Utah

Receives Community Support for New Location



By Gabriella Hatch

If you encounter migratory birds and small mammals in places they should not be, or they are injured and clearly need help, Ogden has a rehabilitation center you can take them to. The Wildlife Rehabilitation Center of Northern Utah (WRCNU) is a great wildlife resource we have in Ogden where we can take these mislocated, injured animals to get the treatment they need.

WRCNU is one of the few centers in Utah licensed to rehabilitate wildlife. When DaLyn Marthaler was a young girl, she would take in wildlife and care for them as much as possible. This was before it was illegal for the public to take in wild animals. Now, wildlife rehabilitation requires licensing to do so. As she got older, Marthaler expanded her knowledge of rehabilitation by first teaching behavior modification to owners, then working at a conservation education center before becoming the Director of Raptor Care.

WRCNU opened in 2010 in its previous location by Dinosaur Park. The first thing one should do when they find a wild animal is to look at WRCNU's website under

resources for wildlife. There, you can find several links to flowcharts for specific animals, guiding you toward the appropriate solution without necessarily needing to speak to a rehabilitation specialist. Additionally, there is a step-by-step guide on what to do with the animal until you can get help. The catch is that skunks and raccoons, due to rabies and other transmittable diseases/parasites, cannot be sent to a rehabilitation center. WRCNU's website states that, "To 'test' an animal for rabies, they must be killed first, so when you intervene in the life of a perfectly healthy baby raccoon (or skunk, or other mammal) you are opening the door for it to be killed in order to be tested." They advise that unless the animal is acting abnormally or erratically, leave it alone so it has a chance to live a normal life.

In 2023, WRCNU was displaced from their previous location near Dinosaur Park so that the park could expand its parking space. As of today, WRCNU is at what they call a "transition facility," meaning they only plan to be there until their permanent center is built and opened. Buz Marthaler, DaLyn's spouse, said, "We spent almost \$60,000 on paint, fixing walls, new flooring, ceiling work, insulation,

replacing old plumbing fixtures, and repairing leaking pipes, upgrading to new energy-efficient lighting, etc." All that money, simply to operate in a temporary facility, causes great strain for an organization that is operating only for the love and compassion they have for wildlife. While WRCNU does not have a final idea on how much it will cost to build this final dream rehabilitation center, they are currently working with Place Collaborative, an architect firm in Park City, to draw up facility plans. This would give WRCNU a better idea of the cost it would take to build the facility and give potential or interested donors a visualization of this center. WRCNU's primary goal is to get the new facility built. Because they are still at their transitional facility, they are limited on how they can help wildlife and the public until they can open their "forever facility." They would love to have a hospital and education center as part of their new facility. They do not need volunteers at this time, and as the summer is their busiest time of year, they usually do not have many events planned. Programs and events are usually saved for the fall and winter months.

When asked if there is anything WRCNU would like Ogden to know, Buz Marthaler stated, "We are BACK! We are OPEN! We are still here ONLY because of the amazing support YOU have given us. We need your support now more than ever! Over the last couple months, a single Bald Eagle patient has cost us over \$6,000 just in veterinarian bills, not to mention food and housing. We have the cost of treating our patients as well as the need to raise money for the future costs of building our new facility." To learn more about WRCNU and to donate to one of the best causes in Utah for wildlife, please go to <https://wrcnu.org/>.

