



Breakfast at the Brewers in Limestone. Notice the gray squirrel and several chipmunks practicing social distancing measured in chipmunk feet.

Charley's Strays, Inc.

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Limestone, July 30, 2020

Dear Friends,

I hope this letter finds you all in good health. All is okay at the Shelter and at the home front: we are practicing the social distancing, dogs included. So far all is well. I read the news that the first dog, who had been diagnosed a couple of months ago with the Corona 19 virus, just died. It's kind of scary. Hopefully this was a single case, not something we have to worry about now, too, about our own animals.

Since there is nothing new to write about the Shelter, I will go straight to our supporters: We very grateful for your help; your monetary donations, the food we have been receiving from a couple of private people and from Loyal Biscuit, the stamps, coupons and letters. Without you there would be no Charley's Strays.

Al Smith, Belmont
Bonnie Buckmore, Waterville
Carmen Daigle & Dale Oben
Dale Critchley, S. Weymouth
Donna Bering, Wakefield
Iris Martinello, Tewksbury

Jackie & Kellee Lowney
Jean & Ralph Catignani
Joe D'Alessandro, Tuftonboro
Judy Rohweder, Northport
Kate Ahrens, Aberdeen
Linda Merriam, Dresden

Marlene Kaplan, Melrose
Michael Kane, Greenwood
Patricia Thibeault, N. Andover
Sally Sawyer, Albany Twp

We received a donation from Karen Tobias and Marc Voyvodich, in memory of their dog Riley. Karen volunteered many years at Charley's Strays, and adopted Riley. She and Marc took care of Riley the Coyote, Dingo, Chihuahua Australian Cattle dog for many years. Sadly Riley died in the middle of July of liver and spleen cancer. What is it with spleen cancer in dogs? Jim and I have lost three dogs to spleen cancer.

The dog we have now has a non-working spleen and needs enzymes with her food in order to digest it, so that makes me wonder if it's a good thing that her spleen does not work. We hope maybe no cancer on the horizon?

Karen and Marc, we are very sorry for your loss, and we thank you very much that you have given Riley the great life he deserved!

Patrick Linehan from "Modern Woodmen" had a fundraiser for us and mailed us a check. Patrick came across our Shelter via John Wells, when John had set up a table in front of a local store advertising for us, and educating people about animals.

Thank you very much to all of the above, who made sure our animals have all they need for a happy everyday life.

We received the Tax-bill from the Town of Benton, and we would appreciate a little help with that. We owe \$706.50 to them.

I found an interesting article online and I would like to share that with you:

People

Man Saves Coyote Pup from Drowning Before Taking It on a 10-Day Rafting Adventure

By Gabrielle Chung

July 23, 2020, 4:58 PM

An outdoorsman in Canada befriended the most adorable adventure companion when he rescued a drowning coyote pup during a 10-day rafting trip.

The heartwarming story about the unlikely friendship surfaced on July 14 when Wildlife Rehabilitation Society of Saskatchewan shared photos from their excursion on its social media accounts, writing that a man named Justin a recently saved a coyote pup while out on his raft in Saskatchewan.

"While he was fishing, he heard something in the water squeak - and that's when he saw some sort of animal swimming in the river! It's nose was barely above the water and the water was so dark and murky that Justin couldn't initially tell what kind of animal it was," the post read.

"Justin tried to reach for the animal but ended up falling in the freezing cold water as well. Luckily, Justin was somehow able to locate the animal - a coyote pup! - in the water AND catch his raft before it floated away for good!"

The coyote pup was unconscious when it was brought aboard the raft, according to the wildlife organization, but Justin immediately performed CPR on the animal and "was able to do a modified Heimlich manoeuvre [sic] by pushing on its belly."

"After a few pushes, water squirted out of the coyote's nose and he was breathing again! Justin and his new friend were both soaked so they ended up back on land again where Justin made a fire and tried to warm the little guy up."

As Justin was in the middle of a solo rafting trip along the Red Deer and South Saskatchewan rivers and had limited reception, he brought the pup along his 10-day adventure before finding help for his furry friend, the WRSOS said in its post.

"The little pup would eat with Justin, cuddle in his jacket, and sleep in his backpack while they rafted down the river. Justin ended up naming the little guy YipYip and took really good care of him throughout the trip," the organization wrote, explaining that Justin eventually "was able to find a place where he could get service and call his wife for advice."



According to WRSOS, the couple contacted several animal shelters in neighboring provinces before connecting with an SPCA chapter out in Swift Current, Saskatchewan. In turn, the rescue contacted WRSOS for help.

YipYip is now in a rehabilitation center, where the pup will remain until it's old enough to be released back into the wild, according to the organization.

"If it wasn't for the wonderfully caring Justin, little YipYip would have perished in the river," WRSOS said. "Thank you Justin!"



Another photo of the little Coyote. Its beyond me that dog owners actually go out there and shoot these beautiful animals. I have a neighbor with 2 dogs, and years ago he said to Jim: the only good coyote is a dead coyote. I can't even look at the man's face when I see him. I detest him with a passion.

That's it for July's newsletter. Wishing you a happy and SAFE month of August.

***Gabriele
Mary, Ted, Eric and Jim***

CAT REPORT – JULY 2020

Yet another peaceful and – so far, knock on wood – healthy month for our little cats. These hot humid days continue to bother me, but not particularly them. Most of them sleep in apparent contentment on the porch with the thermometer in the 80s and the air barely stirring. Tang, the deaf and blind one, sometimes is smart enough to spend the day indoors; overnight he too moves out. When –if – the house cools down in the evening, the four lively brothers wake up and tear around, while Ryan watches wide-eyed and Tang ignores them.

The cats' friend in New Jersey is having bags of cat food sent monthly. They arrive in a large cardboard box; the cats get the box first, the food as the month goes on. If you were to look on my porch you'd see remnants of two earlier boxes that have been turned into flattened scratching pads, with cardboard shreds scattered among them, plus the newest one, still in one piece, lying on its side with a cat drowsing inside. Two boxes in the dining room are both scratching pads; one is more shreds than pad, & bit by bit I'm getting it transferred to the trash.

Lots more coupon donors this month, including – as usual, I hope I've not forgotten anyone – Suzanne Belisle, Emile Jorgensen, Iris Martinello, Malcolm Newell, Teresa Parent and Al Smith. The lines at the entrance to Walmart (which has the least expensive cat food in Waterville) have gone away, so using the coupons doesn't take as long as it did back in March and April. Many thanks and best wishes to all our supporters from me and the cats.