

Raptors

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Woods. Although completely healthy, Cody is now missing a talon (a claw) and her depth perception, due to the accident. That is why the audience had to be still, to allow her to concentrate.

The Woods receive disabled birds from wildlife centers throughout the country. They then train them to be "ambassadors of their species."

Fourteen animals in all made an appearance. In addition to Cody, there was Mr. Freeze, an Arctic snowy owl; Barney, the barn owl; a screech owl, a barred owl, Peregrine falcons, a prairie falcon, Desert Storm, the Harris hawk, and a sparrow hawk. The Woods have 60 birds on their ranch at home.

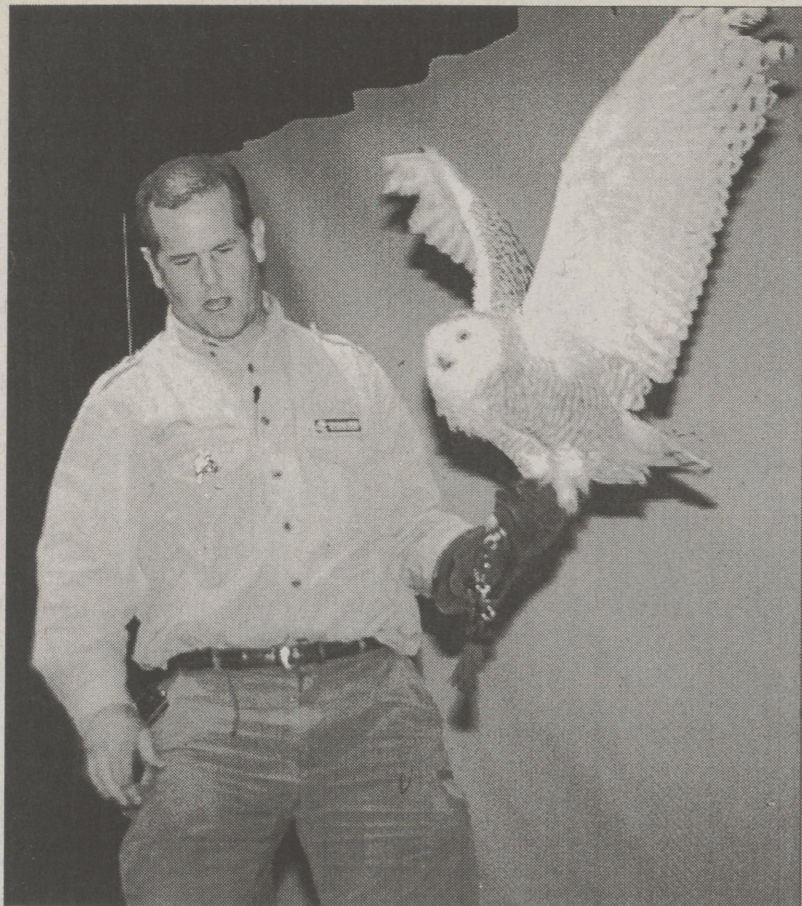
Jonathon Woods explained how many raptors were initially wiped out in the 1950's. "In the late 1950's Pennsylvania would pay people to shoot these birds. Why? Because they ate chickens and soon got a bad reputation," he told an audience full wide eyes.

He also mentioned the affects of DDT. The pesticide reduced falcons 80 percent by the 1970's. Smaller birds would eat the bugs killed by DDT and the falcons would eat those smaller birds.

Captive breeding programs have successfully restored the Peregrine falcon in many parts of the U.S.

"I didn't know they were endangered," said Amanda Anthony, 9, Centermoreland, who attended the event with her Girl Scout troop.

This is just what Mr. Wood likes to hear. "When people get tuned in to these birds, it opens them up to the environment (and all that comes with protecting it)," he said. "The charisma the birds have carries over into a lot of other



POST PHOTOS/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

Jonathon Wood held "Mr. Freeze" during a program on raptors at College Misericordia.

College Misericordia students hope to introduce Peregrine falcons into downtown Wilkes-Barre

things going on."

Mr. Wood said he gets hundreds of letters from kids telling him they want to be conservationists or wildlife managers. "And it all happens in a 45 minute program."

Leo Carr of Dallas, who brought his 6-year-old daughter, Andrea, was pleased with the program. "It gives her more exposure to wildlife," he said.

The Raptor Project not only educates more than four million people a year, it concentrates on conservation, rehabilitation of birds and propagation, captive breeding to re-establish wild populations to insure the survival of endangered species.

College Misericordia biology students are seeking permission from the Luzerne County Commissioners to allow them to raise



Did you know?

- Bald Eagles are named from the old English word "balde" or white.
- An eagle's skeleton weighs only about as much as a large apple.
- Raptors have eyesight 8-10 times sharper than people.
- Falcons have been electronically clocked at over 200 mph in a vertical dive or "stoop."
- Owls can see in almost total darkness and rotate their heads 270 degrees.
- Harris hawks, found in PA, are the only avian hunters that work together.

and release falcons in downtown Wilkes-Barre in spring 1999. The process is called "hacking." The idea is to get a nesting pair of falcons to establish themselves permanently in the city.

The students say the city is a safe environment for the birds and their presence in the area will help control the pigeon population. Their goal is to hatch three chicks per year.

Harveys Lake

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Residents of Hemlock Gardens also spoke at the meeting. Joe Miscavage asked where the road paving issue stood. "We have met with Ruckno and residents over the past few years," said Charles McCormick, borough solicitor. "The Rucknos have expressed interest in helping the residents, but there hasn't been a consistent resident group."

Hemlock Gardens was developed by Ruckno and Associates, but as the roads in that development have deteriorated, a debate as to whose responsibility it is to maintain those roads has been continuing.

Hemlock Gardens resident Millie Monk said, "When we bought our land, we weren't told the truth. We did not know it was a private road. We didn't buy a road. We bought a lot. It is

Ruckno's road. They need to take care of it." Council explained that meetings are still going on to resolve the issue.

The board also voted to accept American Asphalt's bid for repaving Baird Street subject to review by the engineer. American Asphalt had the low bid at \$45,967. In other repaving news, the board voted to advertise for bids for Hillside Avenue, Rood Avenue, Dudley Street, Orchard Street, and Hickory Spruce Street.

The board also voted to allow the Diabetes Association to hold their Walktoberfest on Sun., October 4 around the lake and to allow the Irish Heritage Run on Sat., June 20. Both approvals were granted pending a special committee meeting with walk organizers to go over plans.

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Cleanups

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large appliances. Household garbage, recyclable materials, commercial construction debris, or medical waste will not be accepted. Tires are limited to two per residence. No toxic substances such as paint, solvents, fertilizers, or automotive fluids will be accepted.

Residents with passenger cars or other vehicles not described above must show proof of residency to police officers on duty at the entrance to the cleanup. Police officers will also collect the admission coupons at the entrance.

Questions about Spring Cleanup 1998 may be directed to the Kingston Township Municipal Office at 696-3809.

Other township schedules:
• **Dallas Borough** will hold its cleanup May 4-9 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Sat. 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the collection site located behind the borough garage, 25 Main St. Acceptable items will include

washers, dryers, stoves, water heaters and refrigerators. All refrigerators must have freon and capacitors removed professionally. Residents unable to bring large appliances to the site may make arrangements to have curbside pickup by the borough Public Works Department by calling the Borough office at 675-1389 9 a.m. to noon, weekdays.

Unacceptable waste includes acids, farm machinery, asbestos, gasoline, tires, waste oil, vehicle batteries, ashes, caustics, drums, explosives, flammable or volatile liquids, hydraulic oil, infectious and biological waste, kerosene, motor vehicle parts, radioactive materials, sealed containers, sewage, tar, turpentine, loads consisting primarily of leaves, residual handling waste which has not yet been approved by DER and hazardous waste.

• **Dallas Township** will hold its cleanup May 4-9 from 7:30 a.m.

to 5 p.m. at the rear of Dallas Township Municipal Building. Proof of Dallas Township residency is required at a time of drop off. In addition, there will be a service charge of \$5 for large items such as carpets, overstuffed chairs, couches, dressers, stoves, washers, dryers, T.V.'s, refrigerators, water heaters, tanks, freezer, etc. Tires: \$2 each, only two per household. There will be a charge for the following vehicle loads: pickup with 6 ft. box \$15, mini pickup \$15, tag-a-long trailers \$20, larger trucks according to size.

The following items will not be accepted for disposal: hazardous wastes, chemicals, brush, tree stumps, cinder blocks, animal or human waste, shingles, sheet rock or other building materials, leaves, grass, garbage or newspapers.

• Harveys Lake Borough will hold its cleanup June 9-12. For more information call the borough at 639-2113.

Carverton UM to hold dinner May 8

Carverton United Methodist Women will hold the Mother and Daughter cover dish supper May 8 at 6 p.m.. Free will offering.

Kingston Twp. class of '49 to plan reunion

The Kingston Township class of 1949 will hold a planning meeting for the 50th reunion on Sun., May 3 at the home of Sheldon MacAvoy, 321 Overbrook Road, Dallas. All class members are invited to attend.

Vincent Peck celebrates 80 years

Vincent Joseph Peck of Trucks-ville, celebrated his 90th birthday April 28. He has a daughter, Preshie, grandson Jack Peck and three great-grandchildren Vincent, Nicholas and Dominick.

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