

## Pet Tips Tales unbelievably took a gulp of air, and revived! Five hours later by Mary Ellen "Angel Scribe"

ife is unpredictable with ✓animals. They open our eyes to what is important, gift us laughter and remind us to "paws" and value the small things. Enjoy the following four tales that illustrate how crazy life can become when you open your door to an animal.

Franck has been hand-feeding peanuts to a squirrel, Coco, since 2015 at his home in mountainous Sunshine Valley, B.C.. Recently the little animal did something extraordinary illustrating its intelligence.

Franck Ph. D., works long into the night creating high level software for worldwide business applications. Afterwards, he sleeps well into the morning. Sometimes, Coco comes in through his bedroom window looking for him when he does not appear early enough, so Franck keeps a few peanuts

handy for such occasions.

One very cold morning, when no windows or doors were open, the squirrel wanted his treats, but the bedroom window was closed.

Franck was slowly brought to consciousness by several light touches to his face. He opened his eyes, and there was Coco, sitting inches from his eyes. The bright squirrel had found a way to get in, through some unknown gap, found his way to Franck, and awakened him by gently touching his face with his paw. If there is one thing Franck relates to, it is a "calculating" intelligence that is used wisely. Naturally, Coco received several extra nuts as a reward!

More along the lines of a crazy miracle is the tale about Franck's wife's (Ila) friend, Victoria, who is a vet specializing in animal pathologies in the farming community of Abbotsford, B.C.. Victoria was given a rooster that fell in love with her little white hen. "Many people have documented," said Ila, a naturalist and bird expert, "that birds fall in love." The enamored feathered couple were always together, until the one night when Victoria was especially concerned that the hen was missing. As darkness fell, Victoria searched, but sadly, found the hen drowned in the horse's trough.

"Feeling terrible," said Ila, "my friend took the wet bird home where she noticed that the icy cold hen was still flexible, even though she must have drowned a good while before.

Victoria proceeded to give her rooster's best friend little mouth-to-beak breaths. She also moved and massaged its spindly legs. After five minutes, the hen the hen was back to normal, and the next day, the love affair between her and the rooster con-

The next cute tale is from Cottage Grove's city employee, Russ's, granddaughter, Gracie. She proves that "kids say the darnedest things!"

"When Gracie was fouryears-old, we took her to the circus," said Grandpa Russ. "When we returned home to the farm, she marched over to a large tree stump, climbed up on it, and waved her arms wide to her invisible audience proclaiming, 'Ladies and gentlemen... today we have a cat, a dog, and a chicken for your viewing pleasure,' as she pointed to the animals clustered around her."

This next startling tale happened to Christine in Central Point, Oregon as she was folding laundry. "Twin fawns walk into our yard from the woods," said Christine. "As I gazed at them, I randomly thought,

'Don't fall into the pool.' As soon as I thought that, one of the babies walked over to our 'cement pond', peered in, and SPLASH!

I ran to the sliding doors to assist in a 'fawn-ectomy', but the momma deer beat me to it. The little one was already out of the pool nursing. Its twin was gawking at its wet and embarrassed sibling as if to say, 'What in the world was THAT all about, doe-

Submit your pet's crazy antics so readers can giggle along with your family! And if you love Pet Tips 'n' Tales then mention it on my Facebook page: https://www.facebook. com/PetTipsandTales

**TIPS** 

Does your pet fear your vacuum? Many pets purr-ceive that the machines are growling at them. Sonja, in Cottage Grove, admits, "My cattle dog, Ben, pretends not to mind the vacuum, but he doesn't trust it either,



so he 'safely' observes it from the couch when it is in opera-

And for a final giggle. Animal advocate and comedian. Elavne Boosler, admits that she and her dog were soul mates for the following reasons; "We both took naps, we both skipped lunch, and we both hated the vacuum."

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## Celebrate Mother's Day by giving to charity



newborn baby is a mother's most precious gift. The moment that baby is put in your arms you are flooded with an inexpressible, eternal love. Nothing will ever be more important than the child you are holding. You will love, cherish and protect that child forever. But sometimes life intervenes to make life hard for little ones and they need more than our love to save them

Last week the faces of mothers and their children facing starvation in Somalia again broke my heart as I witnessed their struggle to live. ABC News anchor David Muir and Caroline Miles, CEO, of Save the Children, introduced viewers to Somalia a land of 20 million people all on the brink of famine and starvation including the chil-

As the cameras scanned the landscape, the reality of years without rain was revealed in pictures of parched earth, animal carcasses and bone-thin adults. Desperate villagers line up every morning for food and water. Trucks dispense water through hoses at \$4 a gallon. Each family hoped to get two buckets full. Enough to last two days.

The faces of emaciated children brought me to tears. The hollow-eyed babies with tiny frames had no flesh on their bones. They were limp and didn't even cry during the final stages of malnutrition. Their loving mothers were stoic as their babies suffer with diarrhea and pneumonia as their bodies shut down. Even the doctors are helpless to save these precious little ones.

The situation is dire. Their lives are in God's hands but there are questions ...how can we possibly help these children from such a distance? How much money do we give to support the agencies that are serving them? And how do we know the money will buy what is needed for the children and their families?

I don't have all the answers. But I do want to address the money donation amount. I have a dear

friend who is on a limited income. He regularly sends \$5 a month to his favorite charities. It's not much but he can afford \$5. It makes him feel good that he's helping others and if a thousand people do the same thing, the benefit to the charity would be \$5,000! Think about it. Give what you can af-

I am always skeptical of organizations soliciting money. So I checked out the rating for Save the Children at this webisite: www.charitynavigator.org. I have used this reliable source for many years. You might want to bookmark it on your computer. It gives you organization addresses, telephone numbers, how they spend their money, an overall score and rating for the charity.

Save the Children's rating was 3.1 stars (out of 4) with 89.6% going to program expenses and services. In the comments section there was some chatter about salaries and other expenses. My favorite comment about the money being spent: "I look at it this way. I'm doing what every human should be doing and that's helping children."

I don't need to tell you there are a lot of scams out there. Be careful before you impulsively give. If you are unsure of a charity, check out such international agencies as the Red Cross and the Sal-

vation Army. The United Nations Children's Fund is another option.

UNICEF was created in 1946 to provide emergency food and health care to children after WWII. It claims to have helped save more children's lives than any other humanitarian organization. They internationally provide health care, clean water, nutrition, education and emergency relief. https://www.unicefusa.org/mission

One of my favorite charities—Heifer International—has a different approach. Founded in 1944, its mission is to empower and feed the poor. They donate livestock to families who raise them and breed them; children can drink the milk and eat the eggs. Eventually they sell the excess but they must pass on one female (goat, heifer, chicken or whatever) to another family. It is an amazing program and has a 3 star rating. https://www. heifer.org/gift-catalog/index.html

P.S. As of this writing, ABC viewers have donated \$800,000 to Save the Children! Because of them, thousands of lives will be saved. This Mother's Day consider doing the same for your favorite charity.

