Critter Creek Chronicle Animals for Education

#### **CIRCLE OF SUPPORTERS** MEMBERSHIP FORM

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Membership Annual Categories

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Student	\$ 15
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Members receive our guarterly newsletter Visit CritterCreek.org to see back issues of the Chronicle Critter Creek Chronicle

Newsletter of Critter Creek Wildlife Station

# **Critter Creek Wildlife Station's Spring Open House**

Enjoy the wildflower display on your way to Critter Creek. The Open House will be unguided, so the pace is leisurely offering more opportunities to take pictures. Our volunteers will be on hand to answer questions. Visit our gift shop. A picnic area is available so bring a lunch. For more information or directions to Critter Creek, call (559) 338-2415 or look online at www.crittercreek.org



Gate will close at 1:30 pm to allow you enough time to tour. Entrance is by donation and tour takes about 1 ½ hours. Our field parking is free. Country Store has refreshments for sale next door.





Spring 2022

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## Saturday, March 26th 11:00 AM until 2:00 PM

#### Pooh Bear's New Indoor Cage





As winter set in with temperatures near- freezing we acted quickly to get the Kinkajou, Pooh Bear, moved indoors. That required a new cage designed just for a nocturnal arboreal mammal. She is quite messy so the floor had to be covered in a material that was easy to keep clean. The walls had to be constructed with heavy-duty wire since she is very strong. The inside of the cage needed limbs for her to climb on, a shelf to lie on and toys capable of being stuffed with food. We put branches in various areas where we can skewer food to add to her enrichment. The result is one happy kinkajou.



#### Familiar Face Has Died



Sadly, our last remaining permanent deer, Olive, has died this January. She was confiscated from people who turned her into a pet. She was completely comfortable around people. As a result, we were unable to place her back into the wild. For years she lived with three other permanent adult deer. Then with each passing few years each of the others died. She lived out her life in our 4,000 square foot enclosure with its unhindered view of the creek area where indigenous deer often passed in the evening. Visitors could view her through the one-way glass in the viewing shed. We have always believed she could hear people coming and would come right up to the glass like she could see them.





Planks drying in stacks.

### New 100-foot Flight Cage to Become a Reality

We have found a builder willing to tackle the flight cage project. It involves preparation of all uprights, pouring concrete, framing, truss installation, and ceiling framing. We still do not have a start-date but we are hoping they can begin soon. The good news is that, with a crew, it can be completed in a week or two. We have also found someone to build the pipe trusses needed to hold up the wood plank ceiling. Our builder will then lift them on top of the structure and secure them in place. It has been several years to get funding for this project, only to have covid cause a two-year delay, but it looks like it is finally going to happen.



Before

## Beginning to Come Together

Slow movement on the flight cage. We are sealing all the wood with water protective sealant. We dip each piece of lumber in a bath and stack it to dry. We rolled the sealant on the largest timbers. This is hours of work, but it is necessary before building the structure.



Planks in water sealant bath.



After (we hope)