Health care has been a hot topic recently, but even with all the confusion you know where to go and how to get help if you or a loved one is sick or injured. If you break your leg playing soccer, you go to the emergency room. If your dog swallows a chew toy, you take him to the vet. But what do you do when you find a poisoned Bald Eagle lying on your deck? Who do you call when you find a baby squirrel in your cat’s mouth still alive? How can a great horned owl recover from a broken wing from a recent storm? Do baby birds really get abandoned by mom if you touch them? What can you do to help local wildlife stay healthy and injury free in your area? How do you become a wildlife rehabilitator? Find out the answers to these questions and more in the Science Café: Tales from a Wild ER.

ABOUT OUR SPEAKER
Laura Hatmaker was an apprentice wildlife rehabilitator and intern for years at City Wildlife in Washington, DC and Owl Moon Raptor Center in Boyds, Maryland. As an apprentice, she assisted master rehabilitators and veterinarians with emergency care of patients ranging from baby opossums to snapping turtles to bald eagles and everything in between. She moved to Vermont this past June, where she is pursuing her second Masters at the University of Vermont as a member of the Field Naturalist Program. There, she is continuing to explore the natural world around her and contribute to its protection and conservation. In addition to being a wildlife lover and closet bird nerd, she is a budding botanist, emerging entomologist, and herpetofauna hunter. Her dearest wish is to one day be like Gerard Durrell and help improve standards and best practices for conservation and cultivation of wildlife and wild places.

What is a Virtual Teen Science Café? It is a free, fun way for teens to explore science, engineering and technology with local scientists, engineers and technology experts. Teens will “meet a scientist”, learn about their work, and be able to participate in informal discussions.

Questions? Contact lauren.traister@uvm.edu

To request a disability-related accommodation to participate in this program, please contact the 4-H Office at 802-888-4972 or lauren.traister@uvm.edu by May 5, 2021 so we may assist you.