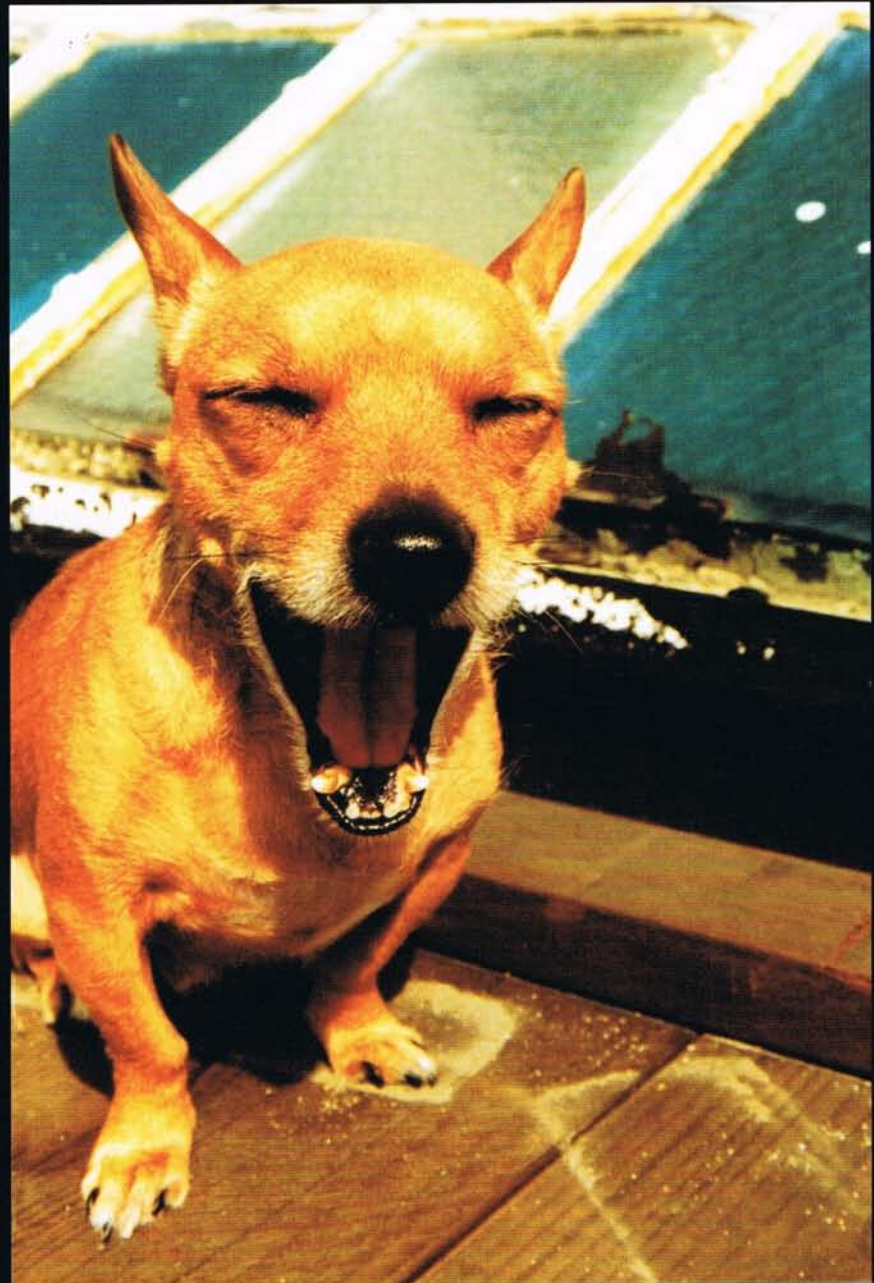




# FIGHTING CHANCE

Last Chance for Animals' Quarterly Magazine



Christian  
School  
Slaughters  
Steer

Showtime's  
*Chromium*  
Cruelty

Are California's  
Cows Happy?

Actress and  
Activist  
Alexandra Paul

World Week for  
Laboratory  
Animals

Help All Animals Enjoy  
the Dog Days of Summer



# A Letter of Thanks



Dear Friends:

I adopted my first companion animal a couple of months ago – two actually – white male rats that I named "Badda" and "Bing." People are always surprised that I've never had animals of my own, but my lifelong struggle for animal rights has always stemmed from an abhorrence of injustice rather than a particular love for animals. However, when a friend brought Badda and Bing to me, I knew I had to keep them. They had been used in a scene for a movie and were to be taken back to the pet store they came from (probably to be sold as snake food or the like) until my friend Laura, a stuntwoman, intervened. I decided that keeping them would prove to visitors and members of the media who come to interview me that rats and mice really do make great companions and don't deserve the bad wrap they have been given.

Badda and Bing's cage sat on my desk, and I would often find myself playing with them when I was supposed to be tending to my e-mails or returning phone calls. It didn't take long for our office volunteers to dote over them relentlessly, checking the room temperature to make sure they were comfortable and bringing them special treats. They became LCA's official mascots.

After a couple of weeks, Badda fell ill. He couldn't eat, and the medicine the vet had prescribed wasn't working. Badda's eye grew large and swollen, and I knew Bing wondered what was happening to his only friend. Within a few days, Badda died.

Badda's death came as no surprise to the vet who treated him, nor to those familiar with animal experimentation. Rats are bred to perish. They are bred to live and die in the laboratory, to suffer and succumb to any illness we choose to inflict upon them. They are intelligent, playful, and affectionate creatures who now live only three years on average, frequently contracting cancer or other ailments no matter how well they are cared for. Holding Badda's lifeless body in my hand, I vowed to continue my struggle for those who seem to have been predestined to suffer, those who cannot fight against the cruelty and callousness of scientific inquiry. Thank you for helping me do so.

For the Animals,

Chris




Bing

## Home Shopping Network Sells Live Animals



The Home Shopping Network has begun selling live frogs and live war fish online through their website, [www.hsn.com](http://www.hsn.com). Customer service representatives stated that the animals (item #009147) are "Fed Ex-ed" to customers' homes. They are shipped in plastic containers and

are not fed during transport. Generally, animals transported for days at a time suffer from extreme temperatures, inadequate ventilation, and an absence of veterinary care.

 Please contact the Home Shopping Network and ask them to stop selling live animals immediately.

Home Shopping Network  
P.O. Box 9090  
Clearwater, Florida 33758  
(800) 933-2887, Fax: (727) 872-7327  
E-Mail: [customerservice@hsn.com](mailto:customerservice@hsn.com)

## NEW!

## LCA Introduces Our NEW E-MAIL ALERT SYSTEM

Please join LCA's E-mail Action Alerts and help animals in your state. E-mail us at [info@lcanimal.org](mailto:info@lcanimal.org) or call (310) 271-6096 ext. 25 to be added to our list.



Last Chance for Animals

8033 Sunset Blvd. #835

Los Angeles, CA 90046

Phone: (310) 271-6096

Fax: (310) 271-1890

Web site: [www.LCAAnimal.org](http://www.LCAAnimal.org)

E-mail: [info@LCAAnimal.org](mailto:info@LCAAnimal.org)

Chris DeRose, President and Founder

Steve Kropfleifer, Director of Investigations

Lacey Levitt, Campaigns and Media Director

Catherine Doyle, Development Director

Marty Bender, Office Manager

Last Chance for  
Animals is a national,  
nonprofit advocacy  
organization  
dedicated to ending  
animal exploitation  
and suffering.



# JUSTICE for Max the Cat

Members who receive LCA's e-mail alerts may remember reading about Max the Cat, who was brutally murdered on September 29th. James Lacy, Sr., a parole officer with the California Youth Authority, reportedly trespassed on Max's guardian's property with his two unleashed German Shepherds. The dogs attacked the two-year-old cat, and Lacy allegedly then bludgeoned Max with a golf club and a rock. Max did not die right away, but lay there for seven hours, while his guardian called to him. James Lacy, Sr. is being charged with 597-A P/C Felony Animal Cruelty and 4171- P/C Brandishing a Weapon.

Max's guardian, Denice, remembers Max: "Max never feared people; he loved life. He would sit outside in the morning and watch the sunrise and the quails and jackrabbits. He would never chase them; he just loved to watch them. We kept all of the cats inside the rest of the day. We live next to a wide open field and a levy. There is no vehicle traffic and all of the possible accesses are fenced and gated. We thought they would be safe in the morning. I should have known better. I am so upset. I wish I could go back in time."

Denice has started a website, [www.nuzzled.net](http://www.nuzzled.net), focused on fighting for justice for animals who have been abused, tortured, and/or murdered. It is dedicated to Max. To visit Max's personal website, go to <http://www.geocities.com/jillsarena/max.html>. To contact Denice, e-mail [dbaltrons@aol.com](mailto:dbaltrons@aol.com).

Please write to the presiding judge and ask that Lacy receive the most severe punishment allowable under the law.

The Honorable Judge Gerald S. Bacarick  
Department 4, County Courthouse  
720 9th Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
(916) 874-5527, Fax: (916) 874-5627  
E-mail: [pmeraz@saccourt.com](mailto:pmeraz@saccourt.com) (Please specify that the message is meant for the Judge)  
Case # O1FO1119 - State of CA. v. James Lacy Sr.

Also, please ask the California Youth Authority to discontinue Lacy's employment; animal abusers should not have authority over and act as a role model to troubled kids.

Superintendent Jeff Harada  
California State of Youth Authority Department  
201 Waterman Road  
Ione, CA 95640  
(209) 274-8104, Fax: (209) 274-4235



Max



## A Message from the Coalition to End Experiments on Chimpanzees in Europe

The Biomedical Primate Research Centre (BPRC) at Rijswijk in the Netherlands is the largest primate laboratory in Europe. Inside, behind locked gates and barbed wire, 120 chimpanzees and 1,500 other primates are housed in conditions which the Dutch Government has acknowledged "do not meet generally accepted standards."

Animal welfare experts have reported that more than 500 macaques are kept individually in cages so small they cannot stretch their bodies. Many female monkeys are used as breeding machines, their babies taken from them at birth. Chimps are often housed in solitary confinement for months on end, in cages that offer no stimulation at all. They spend their days banging on the bars of their cells, spitting at passers-by, and smearing their cages with feces. Many are no longer even used in experiments.

Across the world there is growing opposition to the confinement of primates for medical research, particularly Great Apes. The United Kingdom and New Zealand have already banned the use of Great Apes in experiments. In the European Union, BPRC is the only institution still to use them. Each year the centre receives grants of more than £1.3 million from both the European Union and the Dutch Ministry of Education. That's almost £3m of European taxpayers' money.

While the Dutch Science Minister recently announced that work on chimpanzees should cease, the BPRC will continue experimenting on other primates.

Please write to The Dutch Government and urge them to stop funding the BPRC:

Ministerie O.C. & W.  
t.a.v. dhr. L. Hermans  
Postbus 25000  
2700 LZ Zoetermeer, The Netherlands  
Email: [l.m.l.h.a.hermans@minocw.nl](mailto:l.m.l.h.a.hermans@minocw.nl)  
Website: <http://www.minocw.nl/>

Ministerie L.N. & V.  
t.a.v. dhr. Mr. L.J. Brinkhorst  
Postbus 20401  
2500 EK Den Haag, The Netherlands  
Online Form:  
<http://www.minlnv.nl/reageer/>  
Website: <http://www.minlnv.nl/>

Ministerie van VROM  
De Directie Stoffen, Veiligheid, Straling  
DGM/SVS/ipc 655  
Postbus 30945  
2500 GX Den Haag, The Netherlands  
Email: [csr.ggo@rivm.nl](mailto:csr.ggo@rivm.nl)  
Website: <http://www.rivm.nl/csr>

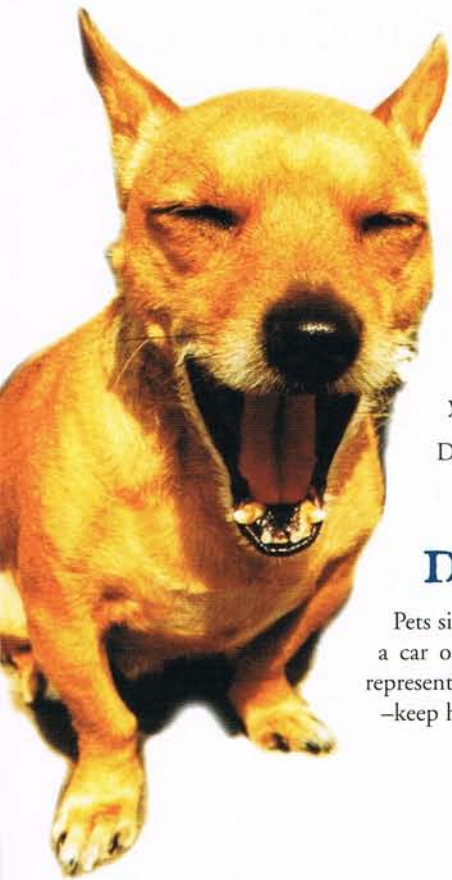
Also, please send a copy of your letter or e-mail to the European Commissioner responsible for funding experiments on chimpanzees at BPRC:

Mr P.B. Busquin  
Commissioner for Research Directorate F  
European Commission  
Rue de la Loi 200  
B-1049 Bruxelles, Belgium  
Email: [phillipe.busquin@cec.eu.int](mailto:phillipe.busquin@cec.eu.int)

For more information, visit  
<http://www.ceccc.org.uk>.



# Make it a Happy Summer for Your Dog...



## Don't Run Them Dog-Tired

Be aware of your dog's limits, especially on warmer days. When he runs behind you with a limply hanging tongue and heavy panting, he is exhausted and needs to rest.

Remember, dogs do not sweat as people can to help cool themselves. Dogs' body heat can escape only through their mouth and paws.

Running on hot cement or asphalt can be painful to dogs and also increases their body temperature. Dogs require water often and should never be exercised shortly after being fed.

Your dog is naturally devoted to you and may run with you until he can no longer run. He relies on you to keep an eye on him, and noting exercise limitations is very important.

During your workout, please think of your dog's health and happiness.

## Don't Leave Your Pet Alone in a Hot Car

Pets simply cannot dispel heat as well as humans. Depending on how thick an animal's fur is, leaving him in a car on a humid July day is akin to a human sitting in a hot car with a winter coat on, according to representatives of the Humane Society of the U.S. Don't let your dog suffer brain damage or die from heatstroke—keep him indoors during those blistering summer days.

## No Bones... or Grapes... About It

The ASPCA reports that consuming large quantities of grapes or raisins can be deadly to your dog. To ensure your dog's safety, make apples and carrots his summertime treats.

"If ignorance is bliss, ours is indeed a blissful society when it comes to the disregard for the sanctity of non-human life that is so deeply ingrained in our society. Here's to all those animals who can't sleep tonight because they're frightened and suffering and awaiting God only knows what fate. And here's hoping we lose some sleep tonight over them."

-Brad Woodard, accepting a Genesis Award for best news feature for a piece on the suffering that pregnant mares endure during Premarin production.



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# ...and Animals Everywhere

## Save a Life – GO VEGAN This Holiday Season!

### VEGAN "FRIED CHICKEN"

courtesy of Deborah from VegSource

- 1/2 cup textured vegetable protein (TVP)
- 1 tbsp. vegetarian "chicken" bouillon powder
- 1/2 cup vegan pancake mix, dry
- 2/3 cups crushed cornflakes
- Salt, pepper, other seasonings
- Oil for frying

Put 1/2 cup hot water in a bowl. Stir in bouillon powder. Soak TVP in this liquid for 10 minutes. Mix in just enough pancake mix to make a cohesive mixture that can be formed into patties. Mix in salt, pepper, and other seasonings to taste. Put crushed cornflakes on a plate. Dip patties into cornflakes, covering them completely. Heat some oil on medium heat in a heavy frying pan. Fry patties in oil until crispy, turning occasionally. Serve with a creamy sauce, and mashed or oven-fried potatoes.

### VEGAN MACARONI AND CHEESE

courtesy of Vegsource's "Mama Julie"

- 1/2 cup nutritional yeast flakes
- 1/2 cup unbleached flour
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1/2 tsp. garlic powder
- 2 cups water
- 1/4 cup soy margarine
- 1 tsp. wet mustard

Mix dry ingredients in a saucepan. Whisk in water. Cook over medium heat, whisking, until sauce thickens and bubbles. Cook 30 more seconds. Remove from heat, and whisk in margarine and mustard. The sauce will thicken as it cools and thin when reheated (or add water to thin). Mix sauce with pasta, pour a little more on top, then broil it.

### APPLE CRISP

courtesy of Sam Destro

- 5 apples, sliced and peeled
- 1/2 cup raw sugar
- 1 tsp. cinnamon
- 2 tsp. lemon juice
- 1/2 cup oatmeal
- 1/2 cup sliced almonds
- 2 tbsp. melted vegan margarine
- 1/8 tsp. salt
- 1 x 7 greased baking dish

Combine apples, sugar, cinnamon, and lemon juice. Toss gently and place in greased baking dish. Combine oatmeal, almonds, salt, and vegan margarine. Stir well. Sprinkle on apples. Bake at 350 degrees for 1 hour or until brown.

## Labor Day Recipes

### TOFU "MOCK CHICKEN" SALAD

courtesy of Carolyn Goodman

block of frozen tofu, thawed and squeezed out  
chopped celery  
chopped onion  
chopped pickles  
egg-free mayonnaise  
salt and pepper to taste  
seasoning (a combination of sage, thyme, marjoram, etc.)  
Tear tofu into small shredded pieces. Add celery, onions, and pickles as desired. Moisten with mayonnaise to hold mixture together. Season to taste with salt, pepper, and seasoning. Tamari optional. Serve as dip or as a sandwich filling.



## The Humane Slaughter Resolution



photo: Farm Sanctuary

A recent *Washington Post* article entitled "They Die Piece by Piece" (April 10th, 2001) detailed the appalling cruelties rampant in modern slaughterhouses and the USDA's failure to enforce the Humane Methods of Slaughter Act of 1958. In response, Senator Peter Fitzgerald (R-IL) has introduced Senate Concurrent Resolution 45, the Humane Slaughter Resolution, which calls upon the Secretary of Agriculture

to fully enforce the Humane Methods of Slaughter Act and asks the USDA to resume tracking humane-slaughter violations and report its findings annually. Senators Daniel Akaka (D-HI) and Patrick Leahy (D-VT) have signed on as cosponsors of S Con Res 45, but more senators must join them.

### YOU CAN HELP

Contact your U.S. Senators and ask them to please sign on as a cosponsor of S Con Res 45; tell them that you wholeheartedly support the Humane Slaughter Resolution. Call the Congressional switchboard at (202) 225-3121 to be connected to your Senators' offices or mail your letters to:

The Honorable (full name)

U.S. Senate

Washington, DC 20510

To find your senators' names and contact information, visit [www.senate.gov](http://www.senate.gov).

You can read *The Washington Post* article online at:

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A60798-2001Apr9.html>



## Running for their Lives



photo: Grey2K

Grey2K, the Massachusetts-based grassroots organization that spearheaded the initiative to end the cruel "sport" of greyhound racing in their state, has succeeded in reorganizing as a national, non-profit organization. With LCA's help, the leaders of the group recently defended themselves against a \$10 million lawsuit filed by Massachusetts track owners four days before the November election. In April, Judge Maria Lopez dismissed the suit under a Massachusetts Anti-SLAPP law, ruling that they "had reasonable factual support for their message that greyhounds are needlessly killed and abused in Massachusetts by the racing industry." LCA president Chris DeRose now sits on GREY2K's advisory board and acts as a consultant in the coalition's campaign to fight the introduction of slot machines in Florida; the presence of casino-style gaming at Florida tracks represents a significant threat to the anti-racing movement in general. **For more information on GREY2K, please visit [www.grey2k.org](http://www.grey2k.org).**

## Mad Cow Means Trouble for Horses

Because of fear of Mad Cow Disease, beef eating has dropped substantially in Europe, leading to an increase in the consumption of horse meat. Horses, who are not affected by Mad Cow or Foot and Mouth Disease, have become an especially popular meal in countries that previously had a market for horse meat such as Belgium, Germany, Italy, and France. Beef consumption in France has decreased by more than 40% while the sale of horsemeat has risen by 30-60%. Beef sales in Germany are similarly down 50% while consumers turn to exotic meats such as crocodile, emu, kangaroo, and ostrich in addition to horse meat. Finally, in Italy, a rise in horse thefts is being blamed on the growing demand for horse meat.

Tens of thousands of horses are killed each year in the U.S. to be sold as red meat in other countries; many are healthy and strong. During the trip from the auction (where the majority are purchased by "killer buyers") to the slaughterhouse, they are packed tightly into small trailers. They receive no food and water. A number of them are injured by the time they reach the slaughterhouse. Because of improper stunning techniques, horses are often struck repeatedly, hung upside down by a hind leg, and have their throats slit while still alive.



photo: (GFA) Horse Aid

## Romanian Dog Slaughter

In the last issue of *Fighting Chance*, we wrote of Mayor Traian Basecu's program that entailed killing approximately 150,000-200,000 street dogs. Recent reports indicate that 100 dogs are "liquidated" daily, mainly through poisoning with strychnine. Ministry of Agriculture inspectors have allegedly stated that 1,700 dog corpses have been officially processed in the large "Protan" protein powder factory near Bucharest.

☛ Please ask the following to stop this senseless slaughter:

Romanian Prime Minister Adrian Nastase at [guv@kappa.ro](mailto:guv@kappa.ro)

Petre Roman, the President of the Democratic Party, at [proman@unix1.senat.ro](mailto:proman@unix1.senat.ro)

Ion Iliescu, the President of Romania, at [procetatean@presidency.ro](mailto:procetatean@presidency.ro)

The Party of Social Democracy from Romania, the ruling party, at [pdsr@pdsr.ro](mailto:pdsr@pdsr.ro), [pdsr@cdep.ro](mailto:pdsr@cdep.ro), or [pdsr@unix1.senat.ro](mailto:pdsr@unix1.senat.ro)

Romanian embassies: <http://domino.kappa.ro/mae/home.nsf/HomePageEng>

Romanian National Tourist Office in New York at (212) 545-8484 or [ronto@erols.com](mailto:ronto@erols.com)

For more information, visit <http://asokha.tripod.com/bioethics/>.





# UPDATES



## Coulston

LCA's battle with the notorious Coulston Foundation wages on, in spite of a postponement of the summary judgment hearing that is now scheduled for July 10th. Whatever issues that are not resolved during that hearing will go to trial, which is set for October.

In other Coulston news, the National Institute of Health (NIH) took title to 286 chimpanzees "owned" by the Coulston Foundation over a year ago after determining that Coulston could not properly care for them. Now NIH is planning to award a \$42.8 million government contract to take care of those chimps to Charles River Laboratories, the largest animal dealer and breeder in the world and the largest primate importer in the U.S. The corporation would house the chimps at the Holloman Air Force Base in New Mexico and, although no experiments would be conducted at that location, NIH-funded researchers could arrange for the chimps to be sent elsewhere if they wished to experiment on them.

The NIH is also planning to purchase 14 baby chimpanzees from Coulston for approximately \$400,000 and ship them to a research laboratory. This decision is astounding given that most of the babies were bred in direct violation of a settlement decree between Coulston and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). Pursuant to that order, which was mentioned above, Coulston had to restrict the breeding of new chimpanzees.

Legendary primatologist Dr. Jane Goodall has asked Tommy Thompson, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, to intervene on behalf of the chimps. Dr. Goodall wrote to Thompson: "These 14 hapless infants are not needed for research, and must be sent to a sanctuary, where they can be given a chance at a full and enriching life in permanent retirement." She also noted that, given Charles Rivers' business interests and the fact that it has "reserved the right to 'transfer title' to the chimps at any time...I am gravely concerned about the future of these chimpanzees."

**Please ask Tommy Thompson to fulfill Dr. Goodall's request and give custody of both the baby chimps and the older chimps to a sanctuary instead of to Charles Rivers Corporation or a research laboratory.**

**Tommy Thompson**  
The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
200 Independence Ave., SW  
Room 615-F  
Washington, DC 20201  
(202) 690-7000  
Fax: (202) 690-7595  
E-mail: [hhs@mail@os.dhhs.gov](mailto:hhs@mail@os.dhhs.gov)



## Trader Joe's Declares Moratorium on the Sale of Duck Meat

Because of phone calls and letters from thousands of concerned shoppers, Trader Joe's supermarket has recently announced that once it has sold its existing inventory, it will no longer sell duck meat. However, the chain stated that it might once again sell the meat if their customers want it and if the duck "growers" they work with are able to create humane conditions. As we described in the Winter 2000 edition of *Fighting Chance*, factory farmed ducks live in overcrowded warehouses and suffer from infections brought on by de-billing and unsanitary living conditions.

**Please ask the following to stop selling duck meat immediately:**

**Lee Scott, President**  
Wal-Mart  
P.O. Box 116  
Bentonville, AR 72712-9956  
Customer Service: (800) 925-6278  
Corporate Office: (501) 273-4000  
Fax: (501) 273-4329  
E-mail: [hlsco@wal-mart.com](mailto:hlsco@wal-mart.com)

**Al Rowland, President & CEO**  
Winn-Dixie  
5050 Edgewood Court  
Jacksonville, FL 32254-3699  
(904) 783-5393, Fax: (904) 783-5294

**John Mackey, Founder and CEO**  
Whole Foods  
601 N. Lamar Blvd., Suite 300  
Austin, TX 78703  
(512) 477-4455 ext. 1010, Fax: (512) 477-1069  
E-mail: [rs.team@wholefoods.com](mailto:rs.team@wholefoods.com)



## The Animal Welfare Act

The House Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee has granted a \$4.3 million increase in funding for Animal Welfare Act inspections and enforcement. This increase would improve the inspection and oversight of puppy mills, laboratories, circuses, zoos, and other facilities across the country. However, it first must be approved by the Senate Agriculture Appropriations Committee; it will then be voted on in both the House and the Senate.

**Please ask Senate Agriculture Appropriations Committee Chair Senator Herb Kohl to approve an increase in funding for APHIS's Animal Care program and Investigative and Enforcement Services, as well as an increase for the Animal Welfare Information Center in order to help safeguard our country's animals.**

**Senator Herb Kohl**  
330 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510-4903  
(202) 224-5653, Fax: (202) 224-9787  
E-mail: [senator\\_kohl@kohl.senate.gov](mailto:senator_kohl@kohl.senate.gov)





# Are California's Cows Happy?

In April, LCA filed a complaint with the California Attorney General's Office against the California Milk Advisory Board (CMAB), the group responsible for the "Happy Cow" commercials. The ads feature healthy, cheerful cows who enjoy plenty of green grass, sunlight, and space, along with the slogan: "Happy cows make great cheese" and "Great cheese comes from happy cows. Happy cows come from California." The ads thus deliberately mislead the public, as they do not reflect the horrendous conditions in which California's dairy cows actually live.

LCA included with the complaint footage our investigator shot at several California dairies. The farms are members of the California Dairies, which is in turn a member of the CMAB, the group behind the commercials. The cows captured by LCA's cameras are anything but "happy." Knee deep in mud, feces, and urine and unable to graze, they do not have even a fraction of the space the "happy cows" in the CMAB ads enjoy. Moreover, many are dead or on the verge of dying. One "downed" cow, an animal too sick or injured to walk, is shown being dragged onto a truck, presumably headed for slaughter. California's dairies are full of such creatures, which cannot be said, by any stretch of the imagination, to be "happy." Thus, the CMAB deliberately deceived the public to induce them to buy California cheese.

In the complaint, LCA requested that the Attorney General's Office issue an injunction against the CMAB, disseminate a retraction, and enforce a criminal penalty against the company. **Please urge them to do so. Contact:**

**Public Inquiry Unit**  
Office of the Attorney General  
P.O. Box 944255  
Sacramento, California 94244-2550  
(916) 322-3360, Fax: (916) 323-5341  
Website Form: <http://caag.state.ca.us/piu/mailform.htm>

## Animal Planet Ignores Pet Overpopulation

Animal Planet's new show *That's My Baby* promotes pet overpopulation by glorifying pregnancy and delivery in cats, dogs, and other animals. The program will feature "the joy and anticipation" of the births of "livestock" and "domestic" animals. When asked where those animals come from, one of the producers responded that the camel they are featuring is "from someone's private farm" but declined to say more.

After learning of the program, LCA President Chris DeRose called Animal Planet executive Matt Katzive, whom he knew from working on *Hollywood Animal Crusaders*, and expressed his concern. When Katzive suggested that the network insert a short disclaimer in *That's My Baby* stating that Animal Planet endorses spaying and neutering one's pets, DeRose responded: "It doesn't matter what you say for one minute when viewers are seeing cute and fuzzy animals for the other 44 minutes. We'll be watching the show. I hope you do the right thing. If not, LCA will launch a campaign against Animal Planet for exploiting animals."

**Please remind Animal Planet and the show's producers that seventeen to twenty million unwanted cats and dogs are killed every year because there are not enough homes for them.** As actress Alicia Silverstone notes, "The next time you want to see the miracle of birth, remember the reality of death." Also, please explain that they should not be encouraging individuals to keep exotic animals as pets, as the latter similarly end up unwanted after their "owners" realize that wild animals are not suitable house pets.



**William Graff, Programming Director, Animal Planet**  
7700 Wisconsin Ave., Bethesda, MD 20814-3578  
(301) 771-3604, Fax: (301) 986-5843  
E-mail: [bill\\_graff@discovery.com](mailto:bill_graff@discovery.com)

**John Crowley, Supervising Producer, *That's My Baby***  
Animal Planet c/o Discovery Communications  
10100 Santa Monica Blvd., Ste. 1500  
Los Angeles, CA 90067  
(310) 399-0768, ext. 129, Fax: (310) 399-3798  
E-mail: [babyanimalstv@yahoo.com](mailto:babyanimalstv@yahoo.com)



# The Bear Protection Act

The Bear Protection Act, legislation to end the import, export, and interstate commerce in bear parts such as the gallbladder and bile, is about to be reintroduced in the United States Senate by Mitch McConnell (R, KY). In the last Congress, this vital conservation legislation had 67 bipartisan cosponsors and was unanimously passed by the Senate. Unfortunately, the House never acted before the 106th Congress ended. **Please contact both of your U.S. Senators immediately and urge them to become original cosponsors of the Bear Protection Act.** You can reach all senators through the senate switchboard, (202) 224-3121.

A companion bill in the House of Representatives has already been introduced by Congressman Elton Gallegly (R, CA) and has 142 cosponsors. **Please call your Congressional Representative and urge her or him to cosponsor H.R. 397, the House version of the Bear Protection Act.**

For your elected officials contact information, visit [www.vote-smart.org/index.phtml](http://www.vote-smart.org/index.phtml). For more information on this bill, contact The Society for Animal Protective Legislation at [adam@awionline.org](mailto:adam@awionline.org) or visit their website, [www.saplonline.org](http://www.saplonline.org).

photo: Fisherman/WSPA

photo: Fisherman

## Teenager Shoots Chimp in Missouri

On April 19th, Suzy, a 28-year-old chimpanzee, and two other chimps escaped from their cages in the home of their "owner," Connie Casey; Casey used the chimps in her and her husband's business, Chimparty. The animals slipped through an open gate and wandered onto a neighbor's front lawn. As Suzy rested against a tree, Connie tranquilized her. Jason Coats, the seventeen-year-old on whose lawn Suzy was standing, then stormed out of his house with a gun. Though Connie begged him not to harm Suzy, he shot her first in the back, then in the face at close range. The other chimps gathered around Suzy's body as Jason climbed onto the roof of his house and threatened to shoot them. His friends reportedly encouraged him to do so while Connie and some construction workers gathered around the chimps to shield them from harm. Suzy was taken to the vet, who opted to euthanize her because of the severity of her injuries.



SUZY THE CHIMP

like him go through. In order to protect the animals we are so concerned about, we must also look at all of the causes of such barbaric acts in order understand why they are done. Then and only then can we do something about animal cruelty.

"Though I may not be a professional psychologist, what I do have to offer is my experience as a former troubled street kid who had to find my own way. I was given a big break by a judge when I was 17 years old and I never forgot that. Maybe now I

can use my experience directly to help this kid. I would even offer this kid an internship at Last Chance for Animals where he might learn about compassion and about helping others less fortunate than himself under my guidance...He could be of benefit to society by reaching out to his peers who may think it's cool to hurt others, whether they be animals or other kids in school that cannot defend themselves. I am willing to take the chance. It can't hurt, but maybe it can help."

After receiving letters from concerned citizens from across the country, the Jefferson County Prosecuting Attorney's Office charged Coats with misdemeanor animal abuse and felony property damage. The Caseys plan to seek federal action against Coats based on the Endangered Species Act.

LCA President Chris DeRose wrote a letter to Bob Wilkins, the prosecutor in the case, expressing his concerns: "I am considered a very strong animal rights leader, yet I also feel for what Jason Coats and kids

**Readers wishing to share their thoughts with Mr. Wilkins can contact him at the address below or sign the online petition at [www.chimpsofamerica.com](http://www.chimpsofamerica.com):**

**Bob Wilkins, Prosecuting Attorney  
Jefferson County Court House  
P.O. Box 100  
Hillsboro, MO 63050  
(636) 797-5321, Fax: (636) 797-5065**



# Close-Up:

Alexandra Paul, best known for her role as Lt. Stephanie Holden on *Baywatch*, and more recently as Terri O'Brien on *Melrose Place*, is a passionate environmentalist and a life-long friend to the animals. In spite of filming eight films in 18 months (she has starred in *Christine*, *Dragnet*, and *Spy Hard*, to name a few) Alexandra has managed to make two educational films about the environment. She was recently awarded The Green Cross Millennium Award for Entertainment Industry Environmental Leadership for her work on behalf of the environment.

## **When did you become a vegetarian? Why?**

I became a vegetarian when I was 14 after reading *Diet for a Small Planet*.

## **What about the book changed your outlook?**

The environmental and ethical aspects about why it was better to eat no meat or fish. Also, I was 14 so I wanted to irritate my parents.

## **Did it work?**

A little...but they're pretty open-minded.

## **Have you ever had to eat meat for a scene?**

When I'm at a dinner table in a movie, I never have meat on my plate. People can either assume that I finished it or didn't eat it. I never eat meat. I never would. I would just get a substitute.

## **Did you and your *Baywatch* costars Pamela Anderson and Gena Lee Nolin, both animal rights activists, discuss vegetarianism and animal rights on the set?**

No. Pamela wasn't active in it then. She has always been an animal lover. She has a dog named "Star" whom she adores.

## **You've said that your brother Jonathan, who runs [www.oceandefense.org](http://www.oceandefense.org), is your "animal rights inspiration." In what ways does he inspire you?**

Jonathan is a vegan. He is the founder of the Ocean Defense International, which seeks to protect whales from hunting. He spent five months in jail in 1994 ... basically for contempt of court because he refused to discuss animal rights activities with the authorities. He was asked to go before a grand jury.... They were trying to break animal rights groups, especially the more radical ones like the Animal Liberation Front, and he was called into court to discuss a break-in at a lab in Eugene. He was not a suspect but a friend of his was, and he refused to talk about anything because he felt that it was un-democratic and un-American and that it wasn't right to discuss other people.

## **Please explain your brother's organization Hunt Saboteurs and your involvement with it.**

When my brother ran Hunt Saboteurs, I went on a hunt sabotage with him down in the Mojave desert to try to sabotage the hunting of Bighorn Sheep. You get between the animal and the hunters so they won't shoot the animal. Or the saboteurs warn the animals by making noise, so they will run away. We followed hunters there, which was very hard as they were in trucks and I was just in camouflage. It can be very dangerous. My brother is now doing it with whales. He is currently on the ocean off Seattle, Washington, trying to stop the hunting of whales by the Makah Indians.

## **When did you swear off leather and other animal skins?**

Actually, when I met Chris DeRose. When I met Chris he wasn't preachy; he just did his own thing and I wanted to emulate that. I was always conscious and had "no fur" clauses in my contract, but after meeting Chris I cleaned my whole house out of all leather and so forth and got rid of all products tested on animals. I do not wear leather, wool or silk.



**"There is much more honor and courage to saving a life than to taking one. That's the bottom line. And when you're taking a life for the fun of it, there's no honor in there, and there's no courage whatsoever."**

**-Alexandra in the  
What's Wrong With Hunting video**



# Alexandra Paul

**You wore a non-silk wedding dress and served mostly vegan and vegetarian food at your wedding. Was that difficult to coordinate?** Yes, it was difficult. It's worth the effort, though. The designers only want to use silk. To ask for something else was...she had to cut it a little different. But she did it, and it was fine. I just would've gone elsewhere if she couldn't accommodate me.

**Do you have any advice for other vegetarians planning an animal-friendly wedding?**

I'd put it in the contract that the dishes have to be vegan or vegetarian.

**Do you have any pets?**

I have Henry, the one-eyed cat. He's 11. He had glaucoma and an eye infection so his eye had to be removed.

**Where did you get him?**

At the pound—the only place to get animals. I disapprove very much of buying animals, puppy mills, pet stores, and things like that.

**What are your thoughts on animal testing?**

I will not use any cosmetics or household cleaning products which have been tested on animals. I boycott Procter & Gamble and Gillette, among others, because they test their products on animals. I am repulsed by testing on animals for new medicines and medical procedures.... I believe that in a lot of cases (read: thousands and thousands) animal testing is unnecessary or counterproductive. Researchers get large sums of money in grants to do experiments, and this makes animal testing a big business—silly experiments are done just to keep the money coming in. Also, animals are not biologically the same as humans, so to experiment on them for human drugs is not always viable. The animals are often not given painkillers when they are being experimented on (because it may skew the results), and they are kept in tiny cages all their lives. It is unspeakably cruel. Do the ends justify the means? I have seen what is done to those lab animals and it is shocking. But, I also know that having Parkinson's Disease or being a quadriplegic is a kind of torture too, and I want those people to be helped. I deal with this dilemma by not giving any money to charities involved in animal research, no matter how noble the cause. Overall, I feel that if we abandoned animal research we would figure out more humane ways to do those same experiments.

**How do you feel about zoos and marine mammal parks?**

I will never go into one. I think zoos or wild animal parks of any kind are disgusting. *Baywatch* had written me into a scene where I was supposed to be in Sea World in San Diego and I told them that I would not be able to do a scene in there. They accommodated me and wrote me out of it. They knew I was concerned about animals because it had always been in my contract not to have any animal-tested make-up be used on me.

**In what way are environmentalism and animal rights connected?**

I think they're very connected because it is about not thinking that man is the center of the universe and the only thing that matters. It is about thinking that nature and other species are important. And also it is about respecting balance—restoring the balance of nature. Environmentalism is about respecting other beings and life forms.

**What is something each of us could do to improve the environment for ourselves and for the animals?**

The two biggest things are a). not drive a car—which is very difficult and b). become a vegetarian—better yet a vegan. And that means also not wearing leather or skin or supporting the factory farming that goes on in the world. But everyone draws a line in a different place and I respect that. I just think it's important that people draw lines.

**What upcoming projects do you have planned?**

I shot six films last year and one this year. I'm going to co-host an environmental talk show called Kaleidoscope with Peter Kreidler. He is a long-time environmentalist. It is on government cable stations across the country. I also host two shows on the Outdoor Life Network. One is a sports show about skiing and cycling and the other is *Loyal and Brave*, about dogs who make heroic rescues.

*Readers who wish to know more about Alexandra may visit her official website: [www.alexandra-paul.com](http://www.alexandra-paul.com).*



# Remembering Jerom Chimpanzee: Part 1

by Rachel Weiss, Laboratory Primate Advocacy Group

On February 13, 1996, Jerom Chimpanzee died from AIDS at the Yerkes Regional Primate Research Center, where he'd been experimentally infected with HIV as a baby. He was only a teen when he died –tall, dark and handsome. His aloofness made him seem so tough and self-reliant, and belied the fear I saw in his eyes when he daily demanded my attentions. I was Jerom's caretaker and nurse, and even now scarcely a day goes by that I do not think of him and how his life was created for and ended by biomedical research.

In the last six months of Jerom's life, the most accurate words to describe his character were "frustrated," "bewildered," and "afraid." During most of that time he was kept in isolation from his cage mates, and lived alone in an 11ft x 9ft x 9ft steel and concrete cell until the day of his death. More often than not, he could be found pressed up against the front of his cage, watching the chimps in the cells across from him, with his thumbs in his ears and his face twisted up in an unmistakable look of chimpanzee frustration. At times I found him bewildered by the changes happening to his body – when he was bloated, he'd poke questioningly at his distended belly; when he was anemic he'd inspect his gray tongue in the mirror. Other times he was scared by things I'd take for granted, like when I pulled up the sleeve of my tyvek suit to offer my arm for grooming – my skin so strange to him that jumped back in fear. More than once I saw him sob silently; many times I saw him in absolute terror, attempt to evade the dart gun pointed at him.

Jerome was at his most charming when we were having fun. Like many

chimpanzees, his favorite games were "chase" and "tickle." Every day I tried to make him laugh, and when I succeeded he'd turn away from me and shyly bite down on one of his fingers, as if to keep from losing his cool.

When the playing was over he'd sit down to be groomed. He always showed me which part of him I should work on, and watched my eyes intently as I worked, to make sure that I was really paying attention. He never groomed me back.

... I made a promise to Jerom, to remember him and to work to end the type of research that took his life. I do not celebrate the anniversary of Jerom's birth, because I do not feel that a life created by human manipulation, and then lived and ended in anxiety, fear, pain, and loneliness is a life to be celebrated. I remember his death because it was his death that made me know that humans do not have an exclusive claim to everything on our Earth, and that sometimes ethical decisions aren't always the ones that make our lives easier ...

This is the fifth year I've written this material so that those of you who don't know can learn about Jerom and the 200 chimpanzees just like him who are infected with HIV in labs across the US. I've written so that those of you who have forgotten about them will remember. And so that those of you who care will work harder to see the end of biomedical research on chimpanzees. And so that those of you who do biomedical research on chimpanzees will think again about what you are doing. And so that I continue to honor my promise to an individual for whom I cared and for whom I still mourn.

## LCA Stages a Protest at the D.O.T.



Last Chance for Animals staged a protest at the Department of Transportation in honor of World Week for Laboratory Animals 2001, which fell on April 21-29. Each year, activists around the world participate in demonstrations to raise awareness about the suffering laboratory animals endure. We joined People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals in protesting the Department of Transportation because of the cruelty of their tests: D.O.T. researchers shave rabbits' backs and apply corrosive chemicals to their skin. These chemicals, which are left on for up to 2 weeks, burn through their skin and sometimes even corrode their internal organs. The rabbits are not given any painkillers. If they do not die from their wounds, they are killed days or weeks later.

The D.O.T. continues their horrific experiments even though there exists a federally approved, humane alternative. Corrositex™ uses synthetic skin to quickly and accurately predict the effects of potentially corrosive substances on human skin. **Demand that the D.O.T. start using Corrositex™ and stop using your tax dollars to fund cruel and unnecessary experiments.**

✉ **The Honorable Norman Y. Mineta**  
Secretary of Transportation  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
400 Seventh St. S.W.  
Washington, DC 20590  
(202) 366-1111  
Fax: (202) 366-3956  
E-Mail: [Norman.Mineta@ost.dot.gov](mailto:Norman.Mineta@ost.dot.gov)



# YOU CAN HELP STOP ANIMAL SUFFERING!

Without our donors, we wouldn't have a "fighting chance" in our struggle to alleviate the pain and suffering inflicted on innocent animals each and every day. To continue in our quest for true justice through investigations, campaigns and legislation, we need your continuing support. Please consider making a donation to LCA in one of the following ways:

## BE AN ACTIVE PART OF THE LCA TEAM

Become a member by simply sending a check or credit card information in the envelope provided in this issue of *Fighting Chance*. If you're already a member, please consider making an additional contribution to help us with our mission. Remember, we also accept gifts of stock certificates, real estate, or personal property. In-kind donations and frequent flier mileage are likewise appreciated.



## REMEMBER LCA IN YOUR ESTATE PLANS

If you share our vision of a world without violence against animals, please consider making a planned gift to LCA. There are many ways to give, including charitable trusts, lead trusts, and bequests. We'll be happy to send you a copy of our Planned Giving Catalog and discuss the many advantages that planned giving options hold for you. Simply check the box on the enclosed return envelope to receive a copy or contact our Development Department at 310-271-6096 ext. 26, e-mail [development@lcanimal.org](mailto:development@lcanimal.org).

## REMEMBER A SPECIAL OCCASION WITH A TRIBUTE GIFT

Honor a friend, relative or animal companion while providing key support to LCA. A tribute gift or gift membership is a great way to mark a special occasion, honor a friend or co-worker, celebrate a birthday and other special events. A personalized acknowledgement will be sent informing the recipient that a gift has been made on their behalf. The minimum contribution for a tribute gift is \$25.

## MEMORIAL GIFTS

Pay tribute to the passing of a loved one in a meaningful way. LCA will acknowledge your memorial gift of \$25 or more.

*At your request, memorial and tribute gifts will also be acknowledged in the next issue of Fighting Chance.*

## MATCHING GIFTS

Does your business offer a matching gifts program? Many companies will match your contribution to LCA, and some generous companies will even match your donation two to one or three to one. Ask your employer about their matching gifts program.

*If you have a question about donations or planned giving options, please contact LCA Development Director Catherine Doyle at 310-271-6096 ext. 26 or via e-mail at [development@lcanimal.org](mailto:development@lcanimal.org).*

## URGENT NEED!



Last Chance for Animals' Special Investigations Unit is in need of a donated vehicle to use in our animal abuse and pet theft investigations. We're looking for a reliable car, full-size conversion van, or SUV in good running condition, preferably with low mileage. If you can help us, please contact our lead investigator at (310) 271-6096 ext. 24 or e-mail [investigations@lcanimal.org](mailto:investigations@lcanimal.org).



## Help raise awareness by using LCA checks



Checks imprinted with LCA's logo, pictures of animals, and messages such as "Please don't buy from companies that test products or ingredients on animals!" can be purchased through Message!Products. To order, visit their website, [www.messageproducts.com](http://www.messageproducts.com), or call (800) 243-2565. Royalties from every order go directly to LCA.



# The Cruellest Show on Earth



On April 26th, *The Oprah Winfrey Show* spotlighted adults seeking "Another Shot" at fulfilling their dreams. One of those individuals, a middle-aged woman named Cheryl, dreamed of running off and joining the circus, and Oprah helped her do just that. Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus ringmaster Johnathan Lee Iverson came to Cheryl's office and surprised her with an eight-hour course in circus performance and the chance to perform in what Oprah's website calls the "The Greatest Show on Earth." Iverson seems to have left out of the lesson Ringling's horrendous record of animal abuse and neglect; USDA inspections have revealed that the circus has failed to comply with minimum federal regulations, and has been cited for causing animals unnecessary trauma, behavioral stress, physical harm, and discomfort. Reports also document the circus's failure to provide some animals with veterinary care, sufficient space, and exercise. Moreover, Ringling has opposed proposed laws banning cruel training methods and California legislation that would have limited the number of hours per day that elephants could be chained. **Please ask Oprah to promote only circuses that do not use animals.**



## *The Oprah Winfrey Show*

Harpo Productions

P. O. Box 909715

Chicago, IL 60607

(312) 591-9595

Website form: [http://www.oprah.com/email/tows/email\\_tows\\_main.html](http://www.oprah.com/email/tows/email_tows_main.html)

## One Person Can Make a Difference

By Rita Bernier

In October 1999, I learned of the plight of five pure timber wolves "owned" by the infamous William Virgis, an exhibitor. They had been living in a horse trailer for a couple of months in the heat of summer with temperatures of 100 degrees or higher. They were then put in small, filthy pens. I was determined that the wolves not go to Clark County Animal Control to be killed or turned over to another infamous collector, Jonathan Kraft, to be exhibited for the almighty dollar, as was the case with Virgis. The pack deserved a far better life than they had, starved and abused.

After numerous calls in several states, I found a great sanctuary, Candy Kitchen, in Ramah, New Mexico. Thanks in part to reporter George Knapp, who did a series of news bulletins on the wolves, I was able to raise \$1,500 for the transportation of Doc, Mandi, Cody, Oprah, and Whitney to Candy Kitchen. They were too malnourished to be spayed or neutered right away, and the sanctuary workers discovered that Cody had developed a severe urinary infection while under Virgis's "care."

After extensive blood work, teeth cleaning, x-rays, and a heartworm check, the pack was up to snuff, and Cody's infection cleared up quickly after treatment. Soon the pack began feeling comfortable in their new surroundings and engaged in typical wolf behavior. Their muscles strengthened and fur glistened in the winter sun. Before long they were well enough to be fixed. By February, the pack's playful nature was apparent. They would leap upon and lick all who visited them, especially during feeding time. I spent the Spring raising the \$15,000 needed to build their new permanent enclosures, half-acre parcels in a heavily wooded area. I convinced a fencing contractor in Albuquerque that it would be excellent PR for his business to supply the material at cost. The enclosures were



Doc

completed in June, and the pack was in its new home on July 12th. It has been a long time since I have seen such happiness, chasing each other or playing a wolf game of "leapfrog."

Candy Kitchen's Laden, the wolves' primary caretaker, is very proud of his new "kids": "They are my absolute favorite animals here. Oprah has dug a den, and Cody is a 140 pound teddy bear. All of them are opening right up. They are so happy and friendly and fun –it's been wonderful!"

Tell us what YOU have done to help the animals.

E-mail LCA at [info@lcanimal.org](mailto:info@lcanimal.org) or write

*Fighting Chance*

Last Chance for Animals

8033 W. Sunset Blvd. #835

Los Angeles, CA 90046.





**Anjali Heble,  
the student who waged a  
fight for T-Bone's life**

# Christian School Slaughters Cow in Front of Students

By now, most of the country has heard of the slaughter of "T-Bone," the two year old steer who was slaughtered at the Carbon Canyon Christian School in Brea, California in May. Most people do not know the story of 15-year-old Anjali Heble, the tenth-grade student who waged a fight for T-Bone's life. The night before it was scheduled to take place, Anjali heard of the planned slaughter from a friend who attends the school; she quickly contacted LCA and other animal rights organizations. Anjali then organized a group of approximately 12 young protestors and made signs which read "Inhumane and Insane" and "Animal Cruelty is a Sin," among others.

The group stood in front of the school and tried to block the butcher's truck but were soon made to move. The butcher then proceeded on to the school grounds where he reportedly shot the cow with a stun gun, then slit its throat in front of children as young as four. Though Anjali had never participated in a protest before, this activist, who has been a vegetarian since she was in the third grade because of her love of animals, knew she had to act: "I was just so appalled that the school would be doing that. We knew right away that it was wrong and decided to do something about it."

**"Studies have shown that when children view violence against animals, it desensitizes them to animal cruelty and makes them more aggressive."**

-LCA Campaigns Director Lacey Levitt in the *Atlanta-Journal Constitution, Baltimore Sun, CNN.com, Chicago Tribune, Chicago-Sun Times, Daily Bulletin, L. A. Times, Las Vegas Star*, and others

**To express your opinion of the steer slaughter, contact:  
David G. Kincer, Principal and Pastor  
Carbon Canyon Christian School  
5600 Carbon Canyon Road  
Brea, California 92823  
(714) 524-5433, Fax: (714) 524-8710**

## LCA Confronts Showtime with Images of Animal Cruelty

In May, LCA anonymously received unedited footage from the filming of *Chromium Blue*, a Showtime series directed by Zalman King. The recordings, which show King's staging of a bullfight, features live bulls being stabbed by a picador and matador and bleeding profusely as a result. LCA confronted Showtime with the tapes and received a letter from Executive Vice President of Business Affairs and Production Melinda Benedek, who wrote: "*Chromium Blue* is produced by a third party, and Showtime had no idea that footage of this nature was being produced. Showtime abhors animal abuse and has never condoned it for any purpose.... We are therefore deeply troubled by the images depicted on the *Chromium Blue* tapes and the possibility that animals were abused in filming them. To that end, we are actively looking into the circumstances behind this footage."

LCA President Chris DeRose, who is a former television and film actor, is "shocked at what was produced for mere entertainment." Since there are no laws that govern the care, abuse, or exploitation of animals in foreign filming, he hopes that Showtime will set new standards for all networks to follow. We will keep you updated as to what Showtime decides.



## Don't Be Cruel

Campaigns Director Lacey Levitt and former Development Director Scott Byrd visited Indian Springs High School as part of LCA's Don't Be Cruel Campaign. The two showed the short documentary *In Your Hands* to students, all of whom have been transferred from ordinary schools to Indian Springs because of behavioral problems or other difficulties. Scott and Lacey then discussed factory farming, vivisection, and the use of animals in entertainment, and handed out LCA brochures. The students were quite receptive to the presentation and especially enjoyed the animal-themed stickers Scott and Lacey brought them. If you would like LCA to visit your child's Southern California school, please contact us at (310) 271-6096 ext. 25 or e-mail [campaigns@lcanimal.org](mailto:campaigns@lcanimal.org).



# The Story of Trooper

On March 28th, 1999, LCA member Saul Markowitz and his mother Rose brought Trooper, their red female chow, to the vet. Trooper, who was 9 1/2, had been unable to hold down water for two days, and the two decided to take her to an animal hospital in Sherman Oaks, California because "our regular vet was closed and referred us to the hospital on the after hours phone message." When Saul and Rose visited Trooper the next morning, she was gasping for air. The next day she was even worse. "Nobody there knew why and we couldn't get a straight answer," says Saul. He reports that hospital workers "stapled a small tube to the tip of her nostril and the bony part of her nose." Worried, Saul and Rose visited Trooper the next day and noticed that her I.V. bottle was empty, even though she was in a feverish, dehydrated state. Saul questioned the veterinary technicians but was told that they had everything under control. The next morning, Trooper died.

Unfortunately, cases like the Trooper's are not all that uncommon, and agencies that regulate veterinarians rarely take severe disciplinary action. In California, where Trooper died, the state Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners receives approximately 500 grievances per year.

Of the 420 complaints that the agency received last year, they issued citations in only 53 cases, placed just six vets on probation, and revoked the license of a mere four. "They don't do anything," laments Saul, who contacted the Board regarding Trooper and was told that they had found nothing wrong with the treatment she received. "They're funded by the vets, and they protect each other."

Gina Baylyss, the California Board's Enforcement Program Manager, says this is not the case. Though she concedes that the agency is funded by veterinarians' exam and renewal fees, she argues that there is no conflict of interest because members have no choice but to join the Veterinary Board: "They have to pay us, and they have to belong. It's not like an association." Baylyss claims that "the consumer doesn't understand that we don't have a lot of power. It's very difficult because we can't take action unless we can prove wrongdoing." Saul isn't sympathetic: "[Veterinarians and examinary boards] are put in positions of trust. Trooper was like my daughter. They ripped my heart out."



**Trooper**

**To file a vet complaint or express a concern, contact the California Board at the following address:**

California Board of Examiners in Veterinary Medicine  
1420 Howe Avenue, Suite 6  
Sacramento, CA 95825  
(916) 263-2610, Fax: (916) 263-2621  
E-mail: [vmb@dca.ca.gov](mailto:vmb@dca.ca.gov)

For more information on veterinary malpractice and guardian rights, visit [www.geocities.com/amorchien2000](http://www.geocities.com/amorchien2000).

**Coming in the next newsletter, an insider's report on LCA's investigations of animal cruelty.**



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President

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