

OCPA E-Alert November 2004



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Good News for the Animals!

Santa Ana City Council Bans Animal Circuses

Orange County's largest city, Santa Ana, has formally adopted legislation that bans wild and exotic animals from performing there. In a unanimous decision, the mayor and council members agreed that circuses are inhumane and pose a public safety risk – and recently adopted provisions to an existing ordinance to ban traveling animal acts.

Britain Bans Fox Hunting

Great Britain banned the centuries-old pursuit of fox hunting last week, ending years of bitter argument. Finally, hunters can no longer participate in the barbaric sport of using hounds to chase and kill foxes. Naturally, supporters of hunting are preparing a legal challenge to the ban; let's hope their efforts fail...

New York Exotic Pets Bill Signed Into Law

New York Governor George Pataki recently signed into law a new measure that bans the private sale and possession of wild and dangerous exotic animals – including tigers, cougars, lions, bears, wolves, alligators and non-human primates. The actions of hundreds of New York animal advocates made a difference in helping to stop the suffering of wild animals.

Action Items – Your Letters/Calls Needed

Join Nationwide Effort to Save New Jersey Bears

For the first time in 33 years, New Jersey held a bear hunt in 2003. More than 300 bears were killed within six days, with more than half of those females and cubs less than a year old. Former Governor James McGreevy and the Department of Environmental Protection Commissioner Bradley Campbell have since reversed their positions and have advocated against another bear hunt this year. However, trophy hunting organizations have sued the state to force the Division of Fish and Wildlife to hold a hunt and it is scheduled to occur starting December 6th.

Please contact Acting Governor Codey before December 6th and ask him to support Commissioner Campbell by using an executive order to stop the hunt. Commissioner Campbell is an expert on wildlife and public safety regarding this issue and he should receive the Governor's support. Contact: Richard J. Codey, P.O. Box 001, Trenton, NJ 08625; phone: 609-292-6000; fax: 609-292-3454; e-mail: <http://www.state.nj.us/governor/govmail.html>.

Help Stop the Manufacture of Premarin

Premarin (*pregnant mare urine*) is manufactured as a hormone replacement therapy drug by subjecting pregnant mares and their foals to barbaric and cruel treatment. The male foals are an unwanted by-product of this practice (similar to that of calves in the dairy industry, subsequently killed for veal).

According to investigations, the manufacturer of Premarin, Wyeth Ayerst, does not provide adequate medical care, food or water to the pregnant mares in both Canada and the U.S. – and the horrendous treatment and mass slaughter of mares and foals continues.

Contact Wyeth and ask them to stop the production of Premarin – a drug that is not only unnecessary, but also harmful to women. Contact: Mr. Robert Essner, President and CEO, Wyeth, Inc., 5 Giralda Farms, Madison, NJ 07940-0874; phone: 973-660-6898; fax: 973-660-6900.

Urge L.A. D.A. to Prosecute Youths for Torturing and Killing Sharks and Ray at Long Beach Aquarium

Three youths recently tortured and killed two docile sharks and a cow-nosed ray at the Aquarium of the Pacific in Long Beach. Three 13-year olds and one 14-year old boys were taken into custody after admitting to the crime, and charged with counts of felony animal cruelty, conspiracy to commit felony animal cruelty and trespassing.

Please contact the L.A. County District Attorney and urge him to prosecute these youths to the fullest extent of the law. Remind him that many studies show that a connection between violent crimes committed toward animals and later patterns of abuse (including murder) toward humans.

Contact the Honorable Steve Cooley, Los Angeles County District Attorney, 415 W. Ocean Boulevard, Long Beach, CA 90802; e-mail: lada@co.la.ca.us; phone: 562-491-6301.

Upcoming Events – OCPA and Other

November 25th – Vegan Thanksgiving Celebrations/Potlucks

There are several local vegan Thanksgiving celebrations to enjoy this Thursday, November 25th:

~~RSVP~~ **Bob Linden/Go Vegan** – 12:30 meal (lunch feast) or 3:30 meal (dinner feast) including vegan turkey and gravy and vegan duck with orange sauce, stuffing, salad greens with fresh strawberries in raspberry vinaigrette dressing, mashed potatoes, sweet potatoes, green beans, roll, pumpkin/apple pie, vegan whipped cream and more. Also enjoy live music provided by Alec Marken. Location: The Onion, 9550 Haskell, North Hills (San Fernando Valley). Cost is \$35/adults and \$25/children 15 and under. **Note:** Advanced reservations were required by November 11th (final deadline). Call 818-623-6477 for more information.

~~RSVP~~ **The Gentle Barn** – 1:00 – 6:00 offering vegan food, live music, dancing and an opportunity to meet the animals at this sanctuary. Cost is \$50/person or \$150/family. For more information including location and directions, visit <http://www.gentlebarn.org> or call 661-252-2440.

~~RSVP~~ **OC Peace Coalition and other local groups** – 12 – 3:30 p.m. Bring a vegan dish to share; bring your own plates and utensils, literature or other information to share with others related to various forms of activism to make the world a better place. No RSVP necessary. Cost: Free. Location: Hart Park in Orange (70 South Glassell Street). For more information, contact Sabrina at reviveparis68@riseup.net.

November 26th – Fur-Free Friday

Join OCPA and IDA for the annual fur-free Friday demonstration against the making, selling and buying of fur this Friday, November 26th at 11:00 a.m., at the corner of Rodeo Drive and Santa Monica Blvd in Beverly Hills. Signs and flyers will be provided. Street parking is available.

Those in Orange County can meet at Native Foods, Costa Mesa (on Bristol south of Baker) at 9:30 a.m. to carpool north. Contact Julie Meskell for more information: julie.meskell@ocpausa.org.

December 3rd – OCPA Holiday Party

Join OCPA for our annual holiday party on Friday, December 3rd at 7:00 p.m., held again this year at the beautiful Ayers Country Inn & Suites Hotel in Costa Mesa. Enjoy a delicious vegan dinner, music provided by Alec Marken and Deep Stirrings, and a “Peace for Animals” community ceremony. Cost: \$35/members, \$45/non-members. Location: 325 South Bristol, Costa Mesa; hotel phone: 714-549-0300. Visit <http://ocpausa.org> for additional information and registration form. Hope to see you there!

Thank you for everything you do for the animals!

Orange County People for Animals is a Southern California-based 501(c)3 non-profit animal advocacy organization founded in 1988 to help create a compassionate, healthy and peaceful planet for all living beings.

For more information about OCPA, visit our web site at <http://ocpausa.org>. To become an OCPA member or to make a donation using a secure online form, visit <http://ocpausa.org/join.htm>.

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