

## OCAPA E-Alert April / May 2008



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#### **Recent OCPA Activities**

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- EarthWeek at Department of Toxic Substances Control – April 19<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> in Cypress
- World Lab Animal Liberation Week – April 21<sup>st</sup>
- City of Stanton Cinco de Mayo Fair – Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>
- Veggie/Vegan Luncheon Club – Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. at Avanti Café in Costa Mesa
- WorldFest 2008 – Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup> in Encino

#### **Action Items**

- Urge State Senators on Senate Public Safety Committee to Support SB 1775 to Punish Dog Fighters
- Tell Mars to Stop Funding Animal Tests
- Ask Do It Best and Target to Stop Selling Glue Traps

#### **Upcoming Events – OCAPA and Other**

- Veggie/Vegan Luncheon Club – Sunday, June 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at Native Foods in Costa Mesa
- Compassion in Action (CIA) Sponsors Dog Adoption Night at Newport Harbor High School – Wednesday, June 4<sup>th</sup> 4:30 to 7:30 p.m.
- Veggie/Vegan Luncheon Club (Picnic) – Sunday, July 6<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. at Col. Bill Barber Park in Irvine

**Special Note:** Spring and summer bring with them an increase in local animal-related events, tabling activities and demonstrations. If you would like to receive occasional email notifications of these special outreach and volunteer opportunities, please respond to [julie.meskell@ocpausa.org](mailto:julie.meskell@ocpausa.org) to have your email address included in a separate contact list. Thank you and we look forward to seeing you out and about this year on behalf of the animals.

## **Good News for the Animals!**

### ***Colorado Passes Legislation to Phase Out Gestation and Veal Crates***

Colorado passed landmark legislation to phase out gestation crates and veal crates, making Colorado the fourth state to prohibit gestation crates and the second to prohibit veal crates. SB 201 phases out veal crates within four years, and it phases out gestation crates within 10 years. It also jumpstarts a process that allows for ongoing deliberation about animal welfare issues in animal agriculture.

### ***Prevention of Farm Animal Cruelty Act Qualifies for California's November Ballot***

The Prevention of Farm Animal Cruelty Act officially qualified for California's November ballot. Californians for Humane Farms, sponsored by The Humane Society of the United States, Farm Sanctuary and other animal protection groups, family farmers, veterinarians and public health professionals, said the [Prevention of Farm Animal Cruelty Act](#) will provide the most basic protection to nearly 20 million animals confined in industrial factory farms in California: that they merely be able to turn around and extend their limbs.

When approved in November, this important Act will prevent California factory farms from confining animals in the most restrictive crates or cages—specifically, [veal crates](#) for calves, [battery cages](#) for egg-laying hens, and [gestation crates](#) for breeding pigs. The new law would take effect in 2015, allowing producers ample time to transition to more humane and environmentally sustainable systems.

### ***Vasquez-Circus Elephant Keeper Ordered to Leave L.A. for Animal Mistreatment***

The Los Angeles Department of Animal Services ordered a circus-elephant keeper to pack his three elephants and leave town for violating the federal Animal Welfare Act. The department, acting under new city rules for exotic animals, revoked a conditional permit for Will Davenport and his three Asian elephants, Boo, Jewel and Tina. The elephants had been performing at Circus Vasquez across from Panorama City Mall.

"By taking this stand, the city of Los Angeles puts animal handlers on notice that they will not be permitted in this city without long-term, proven commitment to the humane care and treatment of their animals," said Ed Boks, general manager of Animal Services.

### ***Yale Cancels Vivisector's Lecture for Kids***

Yale University is holding a series of Science Saturday presentations to remind "kids of all ages" that "science is fun." But they abruptly cancelled a lecture scheduled for April 5th by researcher Marina Picciotto after animal advocates protested that she tortures and kills defenseless animals in cruel addiction studies.

In Defense of Animals, Yale Affiliates Animal Rights Network (YAARN), PETA, the New England Anti-Vivisection Society, and other groups called for university officials to pull the plug on Picciotto, who deliberately gets mice and rats addicted to drugs and kills them to analyze their brains. The press release for Picciotto's presentation included a photo of her playfully holding a mouse in one hand -- a deceptive whitewashing of the gruesome realities behind animal experimentation.

Yale announced the cancellation of Picciotto's lecture after receiving numerous letters, emails, and phone calls from concerned citizens, and perhaps because animal advocates were planning to hold a protest at the presentation.

### ***American Apparel Joins Fur Free Retailer Program***

Born Free USA (united with Animal Protection Institute) reported that American Apparel has been added to the list of compassionate retailers recognized by Consumers for a Fur Free Society.

## ***Hugo Boss Phases Out Cruel Wool***

Designer giant Hugo Boss announced that it will phase out the use of Australian wool originating from lambs who have undergone either the standard mulesing mutilation or the new “clip mulesing” mutilation. This is fantastic news as yet another world-famous clothing company joins the international boycott of this cruelly produced wool, following in the footsteps of H&M, Matalan and others.

## ***Nearly 23 Million Americans Follow Vegetarian-Inclined Diet***

A just-released Vegetarianism in America study (published by Vegetarian Times) showed that 3.2% of U.S. adults, or 7.3 million people, follow a vegetarian-based diet. In addition, 10% of U.S. adults (or 22.8 million people) say they largely follow a vegetarian-inclined diet. The study also indicates that of the non-vegetarians surveyed, 5.2% (or 11.9 million people) indicated they are “definitely interested” in following a vegetarian-based diet in the future.

## ***World Kennels Puppy Mill Forced to Surrender Dogs***

Last Chance for Animals’ investigation into World Kennels – a puppy mill located in L.A. county – resulted in a surrender of its dogs. LCA’s investigation into the puppy mill uncovered 402 dogs found there living in inhumane conditions. The County ordered World Kennels to reduce the number of dogs to 100 or else be shutdown. LCA and Best Friends Animal Society are currently assisting in the rescue of over 40 dogs and accepting donations for the cost of medical bills. Visit <http://www.BanPuppyMills.com> for more information on puppy mills.

## **Action Items – Your Letters/Calls Needed**

### ***Urge State Senators on Senate Public Safety Committee to Support SB 1775 to Punish Dog Fighters***

SB 1775 is a bill before the California Senate that will punish dog fighters by allowing property, possessions and money used in or accrued by the commission of dog fights to be seized. The proceeds from the forfeited property would then reimburse law enforcement for prosecuting these cases and go to animal welfare organizations that rescue and rehabilitate fighting dogs.

It is important that those who force animals to fight be punished appropriately. Forfeiture of personal and real property is an effective means of punishing and deterring the criminal activities of dog fighters.

The future of SB 1775 depends on the state senators who serve on the Senate Public Safety Committee. Visit [ASPCA’s Advocacy Center](http://www.aspcadvocacy.org) to send an email.

### ***Tell Mars to Stop Funding Animal Tests***

Mars is a multi-million dollar company that funds the following types of gruesome, cruel experiments inside animal laboratories:

- Mice are fed chocolate ingredients and then forced to swim through a mixture of diluted paint, where they must find a hidden platform or drown. The terrified survivors are killed anyway.
- Rabbits are forced to eat a high-cholesterol diet before they are mutilated so that their blood vessels can be analyzed.
- Rats are fed through plastic tubes in their throats before they are cut open and their arteries clamped. Then they are killed.

Please join PETA’s campaign in putting an end to this nonsense. And please tell all your friends and family members about Mars’ funding of cruel tests on animals. Explain to them that one of the best ways to show Mars your disgust – and get them to change – is to let Mars know that you will never buy its products as long as the experiments on animals continue. Visit PETA’s site at [http://getactive.peta.org/campaign/mars\\_animal\\_tests](http://getactive.peta.org/campaign/mars_animal_tests) to take action on this matter.

## ***Ask Do It Best and Target to Stop Selling Glue Traps***

Following pressure from PETA and activists like you, CVS, Rite Aid, Albertsons, and Safeway have all made the compassionate decision to stop selling [glue traps](#)—notoriously cruel products that trap small animals using extremely sticky adhesive boards and immobilize them until they starve or suffocate to death.

Unfortunately, two major companies have yet to follow suit. [Send a letter](#) today to the top execs at Do It Best and Target urging them to do the right thing and get rid of glue traps once and for all.

## **Recent OCPA Activities**

### ***OCPA's Earth Day High School Outreach – Friday, April 18<sup>th</sup> at Beckman High School in Irvine***

OCPA members Evelyn Oynebraaten, Lori Pellizari, Jeany Aguirre, and Julie Meskell joined the Veggie Kids at Beckman High School to celebrate Club Day and Earth Day on Friday, April 18th.

Generous plates of food were donated by the vegan restaurants, Veggie Grill, Au Lac and Native Foods. One World Vegetarian Bakery participated by donating a delicious, chocolate (Pina Colada) cake (yum!) with a coconut banana filling and Trader Joe's, Irvine, donated cookies. Soy chicken burgers, soy chicken nuggets with non-dairy ranch dressing, and a rice dish with tofu and vegetables were all sold to raise money for the Veggie Kids Club to purchase more leaflets like the ones we distributed, Why Vegans and the new brochure, Compassionate Choices.

*Note:* Veggie Grill will be opening a new restaurant this summer at the Spectrum in Irvine and Native Foods will be opening a new restaurant in Aliso Viejo this summer as well.

### ***EarthWeek at Department of Toxic Substances Control – April 19<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> in Cypress***

Maureen Gorsen, director of the Department of Toxic Substances Control, instructed her employees to work, travel, and live green. So in that spirit, the DTSC in Cypress, CA celebrated Earth Day with an entire week of activities.

- Saturday, April 19 - In conjunction with Earth Resource Foundation president Stephanie Barger, the Newport Beach "Hold on to Your Butt" beach cleanup was so successful that she ran out of bags and gloves.
- Monday, April 21 - DTSC invited the director of ecology at Seal Beach Naval Weapons Station to speak about the endangered wildlife on its preserve.
- Tuesday, April 22 - DTSC donated and participated in a native California Sycamore tree planting at SB NWS. In the afternoon, the US Coast Guard spoke about disaster relief for Hurricane Katrina and keeping our coasts, harbors, and waterways clean.
- Wednesday, April 23 - DTSC hosted Stephanie Barger from Earth Resource Foundation. Stephanie inspired everyone with her Zero Waste presentation. The first lunchtime movie showing of the week was Arctic Tale.
- Thursday, April 24 - DTSC hosted a full day of activities starting with a presentation from the Orange County Water District on water conservation. Dina Kourda, director of OCPA, coordinated a vegetarian potluck luncheon followed by an eye opening presentation on the impacts of the meat, dairy, and egg farming industries on the environment. She handed out Vegetarian and Vegan Starter Kits courtesy of OCPA and Mercy for Animals. Robb Mead followed with a moving presentation and short video on the plight of the Canadian Harp Seals.
- Friday, April 25 - DTSC's second and final lunchtime movie showing of the week was The Big Chill: The Little Ice Age.

## ***World Lab Animal Liberation Week – April 21<sup>st</sup>***

World Animal Laboratory Liberation Week occurs each year the week surrounding April 24th. To commemorate this, the Irvine Students Against Animal Cruelty (ISAAC) created a visual display to educate University of California, Irvine (UCI) students about the horrors of vivisection. Flyers were also posted across campus to bring attention to the fact that cat and rodent experiments occur at UCI.

The display consisted of six, 5 ½' x 2' wood panels (double sided) that feature pictures of animals used for experimental purposes on each side of the boards, and captions to describe the experiment being pictured. The boards were displayed from 9am-5pm on "ring road," the main throughway on UCI campus. This display was funded by the OCPA and was constructed by ISAAC members. An ISAAC member was always there to answer questions or provide more resources for passersby. To heighten the display, two of the days were spent with an ISAAC member sitting in an animal cage. This visual display, intended to parallel the caged conditions of laboratory animals, brought a good deal of attention to the display.

Throughout the week many, students and visitors (including several large groups of inquisitive middle school students) stopped to look at the display. Most were previously unaware of the amount of suffering these animals face during the experiments, that vivisection is typically (if not always) conducted for non-necessary medical experiments and commercial experiments or that UCI researchers regularly perform experiments on cats, rats, mice and other rodents.

To view photos of this event, visit <http://drop.io/cagephoto>.

## ***City of Stanton Cinco de Mayo Fair – Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>***

OCPA members, Evelyn Oynebraaten and Scott Reece, presided over an information table at the Cinco de Mayo Fair in Stanton on Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>. They handed out information in both English and Spanish on animal issues such as vegan diet, animals in entertainment, spay and neuter, and dog and cat care.

Evelyn handed out coloring books about the circus and Scott was able to use his Spanish skills to speak to the Spanish speakers in the crowd.

## ***Veggie/Vegan Luncheon Club – Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. at Avanti Café in Costa Mesa***

The Veg\*n Lunch group met on Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. at Avanti Café in Costa Mesa, 259 E. 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Costa Mesa, CA 92627; phone: 949-548-2224.

We commemorated United Poultry Concern's Kindness to Chickens month by passing out literature about the horrors of factory farming and the unhealthiness of eating chickens.

Please help encourage Avanti to offer more vegan dishes on their menu: <http://www.avantinatural.com>.

## ***WorldFest 2008 – Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup> in Encino***

Worldfest 2008 took place on Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, at Woodley Park in Encino, California.

Worldfest 2008 was hosted by cartoonist, comedian and artist, Dan Piraro. It featured bands on multiple stages, empowering speakers, an EcoTent, Healthy Hut, poetry festival, Kids' World, food court, animal adoptions and over 110 great exhibitors. For more information, visit: <http://www.worldfestevents.com>.

OCPA sponsored a booth at this event and educated festival attendees about the organization, animal rights and other topics.

## **Upcoming Events – OCPA and Other**

***Veggie/Vegan Luncheon Club – Sunday, June 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at Native Foods in Costa Mesa***

Join us at our monthly veggie/vegan club on Sunday, June 1<sup>st</sup> at Native Foods in Costa Mesa for dinner at 6:30 p.m.

Native Foods is located at The Camp, near the corner of Baker and Bristol at 2937 Bristol Street, Costa Mesa, CA 92626; (949) 751-2151; <http://www.nativefoods.com>.

We hope to see you there! Everyone – vegetarian, vegan, or otherwise – is invited to join us for lunch/dinner. For more information or for carpooling, contact Wanda at (714) 995-4889 or Evelyn at (714) 846-7081. And stay tuned for upcoming e-alerts for information about more of these types of gatherings in the future.

***Compassion in Action (CIA) Sponsors Dog Adoption Night at Newport Harbor High School – Wednesday, June 4<sup>th</sup> 4:30 to 7:30 p.m.***

The Compassion in Action (CIA) Club is sponsoring a dog adoption evening of compassion, fun, prizes and celebrities on Wednesday, June 4<sup>th</sup> from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Newport Harbor High School, 600 Irvine Avenue, Newport Beach, CA.

The event will feature dog adoptions and a special appearance by “Baby,” a puppy mill survivor, and book signing by Jana Kohl, the author of *A Rare Breed of Love*. It will also offer raffle and silent auction prizes, live music, food, a video presentation, dog training demonstrations, and book signings by Rory Freedman, author of *Skinny Bitch*.

For more information about this fun event, visit <http://www.theCIAClub.com>.

***Veggie/Vegan Luncheon Club (Picnic) – Sunday, July 6<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. at Col. Bill Barber Park in Irvine***

OCPA will have a potluck picnic on Sunday, July 6<sup>th</sup> starting at 5:00 p.m. at Col. Bill Barber Park in Irvine.

Please join us and bring a prepared vegan dish to share. (No meat, fish, fowl, dairy, eggs, whey, honey, or other animal-derived ingredients, please.) Dogs are welcome.

Col Bill Barber Park, 4 Civic Center Plaza located at the corner of Barranca and Harvard in Irvine.

The picnic shelters are located at the park set back from Harvard Avenue between San Juan and San Leon/Civic Center Plaza. Parking is located in the parking lot near the intersection of San Juan and Harvard.

Look for the OCPA banner.

Directions to Bill Barber Park in Irvine:

- **From the I-5 Freeway:** Exit Jamboree and go southwest (from I-5 northbound turn left; from I-5 southbound turn right). Barranca (left). Harvard (right). San Juan (right into park)
- **From the 405 Freeway:** Exit Jamboree and go northeast (from 405 northbound turn right; from 405 southbound turn left). Alton (right). Harvard (left). San Juan (left into Park).

We look forward to seeing you there!

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## **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>, e-mail [donations@ocpausa.org](mailto:donations@ocpausa.org) or [subscription@ocpausa.org](mailto:subscription@ocpausa.org) for additional information.

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