

OCAPA E-Alert May 2006



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- Veggie/Vegan Luncheon Club – Sunday, June 4th, 1:15 p.m. at The Wheel of Life, Irvine
- Ringling Brothers Circus Protest – Arrowhead Pond, Wed., July 26th – Sunday, August 6th

Hello everyone. We are currently seeking potential local volunteers for several upcoming events and activities. If anyone is interested in receiving animal activity announcements and volunteer requests for local demonstrations, tabling/leafleting and other events throughout Los Angeles, Orange and San Diego counties, please send an e-mail to pamela.kurp@ocpausa.org along with your name, city of residence, phone/cell numbers and possible days/times available. Come on out, have fun, meet other activists and get involved for the animals! Also feel free to forward this information to anyone you know who may be interested in volunteer activities.

Good News for the Animals!

SB 1806 (Dogs in Hot Cars) Bill Passes Senate Committee

SB 1806 passed the Senate Committee on Public Safety and has now been referred to the Senate Judiciary Committee – refer to **Action Items** below for more information on how you can help.

Spay/Neuter Ordinance Passes L.A. Board of Supervisors

Acting on a unanimous vote, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors gave preliminary approval to a new measure that requires all adult dogs kept in unincorporated Los Angeles County to be spayed or neutered and implanted with an identifying microchip. This measure is one of the first of its kind in the nation and will help reduce the numbers of unwanted animals flooding into shelters.

Chicago Bans Sale of Foie Gras

The Chicago City Council passed an ordinance prohibiting the sale of foie gras. Foie gras is a “delicacy” made from the diseased, fattened liver created by force-feeding ducks or geese. In 2005, the Illinois State Senate passed similar legislation banning foie gras production; the bill is awaiting passage by the Illinois House of Representatives some time this year.

San Diego Council Moves to Protect Seals

A school of about 200 harbor seals has emerged victorious in the battle between those who want to protect one of California’s top seal-spotting places and those who cherish the “Children’s Pool,” a cove built 70 years ago to give children a place to swim. San Diego officials roped off a prime stretch of the La Jolla shoreline to keep people from disturbing the harbor seals who have taken up residence there. The council voted to erect the barrier every year between January 1 and May 1 (pupping season) and have also installed a 24-hour surveillance cameras in the cove to watch for people in the area.

Action Items – Your Letters/Calls Needed

Urge Senate Judiciary Committee to Pass SB 1806

Leaving animals unattended is a dangerous and potentially fatal mistake – and the dangers increase during warmer weather when temperatures inside a parked car can reach above 100 degrees F.

SB 1806 would make it illegal to confine an animal to any unattended motor vehicle under conditions that could endanger the health or well-being of an animals because of heat, cold, inadequate ventilation, lack of food or water, or any other circumstances that could cause the animal to suffer or die. Anyone convicted of this crime could face up to six months in jail.

Please contact your state Senator to support SB 1806 today. For legislator contact information, visit the OCPA website at: <http://ocpausa.org/legislation>.

Ask Finance Committee to Support Pet Evacuation Bill

Having passed the House of Representatives by a landslide, the Pet Evacuation Bill (HR 3858/S 2548) now moves to the Senate. The PETS Act requires state and local emergency management agencies to take into account the needs of individuals with pets and service animals in the event of a major disaster.

Please contact your state senators and ask them to support this important bill. For legislator contact information, visit the OCPA website at: <http://ocpausa.org/legislation>.

Contact Reps/Senators to Support S 451/HR 5229, Postponed Pet Safety & Protection Act

If passed, this bill would save America’s companion animals from the hands of Class “B” dealers. This bill would amend the Animal Welfare Act and prohibit Class “B” dealers from selling lost or stolen family pets to research facilities. The government has known about this issue since the mid-1960s – and yet the Animal Welfare Act still does not protect our beloved companion animals.

Please contact your representative and senators and urge them to support S 451 and HR 5229. For legislator contact information, visit the OCPA website at: <http://ocpausa.org/legislation>.

Urgent: Contact Senators on SB 1578, Dog Anti-Chaining Bill

The Anti-Chaining Bill, SB 1578, would ban dog chaining as the primary means of confinement – and is up for reconsideration in the California State Senate Appropriations Committee at this time.

The practice of chaining dogs, also known as tethering, is cruel because it deprives dogs of proper socialization and often leaves them unable to reach whatever shelter, food, and water they've been provided. The dogs also grow aggressively protective of their small space and often attack children and other people who come near them.

Please contact the Committee Chair, Senator Kevin Murray, and Senator Tom Toriakson, and urge them to vote "Yes" on SB 1578.

Contact: Senator Kevin Murray, phone: 916-651-4026; fax: 916-445-8899; e-mail: senator.murray@sen.ca.gov. Senator Tom Toriakson, phone: 916-651-4007; fax: 916-445-2527; e-mail: senator.toriakson@sen.ca.gov.

Recent OCPA Activities

Worldfest – Saturday, April 22nd in Encino – Volunteers Needed

The WorldFest 2006 Earth Day Festival was held on April 22nd at Woodley Park in Encino, CA.

OCPA sponsored a booth there and distributed pro-animal, pro-vegan literature to attendees.

The day was filled with great music, empowering speakers, environmental, humanitarian and many animal welfare non-profit organizations. The event also featured activities for children and a delicious food court.

Veggie/Vegan Luncheon Club – Sunday, May 7th 1:00 p.m. at Au Lac

The Veggie/Vegan Luncheon Club met again for the second time on Sunday, May 7th, at Au Lac Restaurant in Fountain Valley.

Everyone seemed to have a wonderful time and enjoyed the excellent Vietnamese vegan cuisine. Some people dined on raw vegan dishes that included a wide array of such choices as risotto and curry rice.

It was a diverse group of people of different backgrounds and ages, but all were like-minded in support of those making the switch to a healthier and compassionate plant-based diet.

Meatout/Earth Day Event at Foothill High School – May 23^d

OCPA was invited again to join the Students for Animal Rights at Foothill High School in celebrating Earth Day on May 23rd.

We served soy tacos, fresh corn tortillas, guacamole and other popular vegan goodies and distributed OCPA's brochure (that illustrates all major animal issues) and *Why Vegan?* brochures. The students were receptive to the food and message – and we look forward to encouraging more students to consider a plant-based diet in the near future.

Foothill High School Vegetarian Lunch Program (Ongoing)

The Vegetarian Lunch Program at Foothill High School is proving a success. The following article was published in the school newspaper, Foothill Knightlife, provides information about the program.

Cafeteria Provides Vegetarian Alternative

by Chase Cummins, *Staff Writer*

The immense effects of the US's obesity problem are well-known and widespread. Being overweight puts individuals at risk for developing high cholesterol, diabetes, and heart disease, not to mention it decreases life expectancy and increases medical costs. Because such problems become a major concern for children later in life, the Tustin Unified School District is implementing policies to restrict some non-nutritious foods and promote healthy alternatives.

Last fall, sodas disappeared entirely from vending machines at all TUSD high schools. All carbonated soft drinks were replaced by water, sports drinks or non-carbonated juices. This year the carts and the cafeteria counters have also undergone significant changes, now carrying apples, oranges, bananas and carrots as well as a wide variety of salads and vegetarian subs. These vegetarian options tend to be lower in fats, sugars and calories and thus are healthier.

Choices from last year's menu remain as options including pizza, doughnuts and chips. The school emphasizes that the changes that have been made are primarily additions rather than replacements. Freshman Max Jensen stated, "It's good to have a healthy alternative." Considering the loss of some delectable snacks on campus, students have complained little, if at all, of the change. This seems to imply that the new alternatives satiate the students' hunger. It seems that the District's transition to a healthier tomorrow has proceeded without much resistance.

The students of FHS are reacting very well to the change. Sophomore Kaitlyn Keller said, "I have friends who are vegetarian who now can have a complete meal."

Upcoming Events – OCPA and Other

Veggie/Vegan Luncheon Club – Sunday, June 4th, 1:15 p.m. at The Wheel of Life, Irvine

Our next veggie/vegan luncheon will be held on Sunday, June 4th at 1:15 p.m. at The Wheel of Life Restaurant, 14370 Culver Drive, Suite 2G, Irvine, 92604. Phone: 949-551-8222.

Everyone – vegetarian, vegan or otherwise – is invited to join us for lunch and we hope to see you there!

For more information, contact Wanda at 714-995-4889. And stay tuned for upcoming e-alerts for information about more of these types of gatherings in the future.

Ringling Brothers Circus Protest – Arrowhead Pond, Wed., July 26th – Sunday, August 6th

Plan ahead to come out and protest the Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey Circus with us at the Arrowhead Pond in Anaheim this summer.

Exact protest times, dates and other details will be announced in upcoming e-alerts. Contact Charlotte for additional information at 714-724-9114 or pinkslipgirl@sbcglobal.net.

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 or subscription@ocpausa.org for additional information.

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